



# Kinvara United FC Quarterly Newsletter

## March 2025

### A Message from Chairman Paul O'Donnell

*Kinvara United is a small club with big ambitions. Our ability to create a club with facilities to match our ambitions is currently hampered by the lack of a permanent home. We want much more for our players, coaches and parents. That is why the KUFC committee is throwing their full weight behind the South-Galway/North-Clare Community Sports & Recreational Complex project which was set up to provide essential multi-purpose community facilities for a wide range of under-resourced sports in the region. We believe KUFC can find a permanent home within this complex so we back and support the initiative fully.*



*A survey has been released into the community this month to assess the appetite in the region for the project. If you want to lend your support, please start by completing the survey, which can be found on [www.sgnc.ie](http://www.sgnc.ie)*

*KUFC also needs volunteers! We are short-handed in several areas. There is lots we can do to improve the club, but we need support. If you can lend a hand or want to discuss more please get in touch with me directly on 086 788 6553 to talk about how you can contribute to helping our club rival any club in Galway!*

### Academy News

All our Academy players & coaches have been working really hard this season and have appreciated the excellent support from Galway United's Community Coach, Gary Traynor.

Our U6 and U7 boys and girls have been learning a brilliant range of ball-mastery skills. Their confidence on the ball is growing, they are loving their small-sided games at training & have been scoring goals galore.



Our U8 and U9 boys & girls have taken their skills to the pitch this season, and have been playing at the MOFC Invitational Tournament & other blitzes. Along with improving their on-the-ball skills, our players have



been building an awareness of attacking & defensive play in a 5v5 format against other Academy teams. The thrill of the teams scoring goals & enjoying matches has been a real joy for both coaches & parents to see.



The future is looking very bright in Kinvara, our Academy ballers are a fantastic bunch. Thanks to our dedicated team of coaches for their help in developing these young players: Michael Mullins, Martin Machaba, Nigel Phelan, David & Catherine Hawkins, Laura Flood, Lily Johnston, Mike English & James Hastings.

## Development League Update

Each year KUFC U10 and U11 boys and girls teams get the opportunity to play in the Galway Development League. The league has almost 150 teams competing from 31 clubs across the whole of County Galway. It's an amazing opportunity for our 80+ kids to participate in regular organised games against teams at a similar level. At these age grades KUFC has 40% girls and 60% boys participating, compared to the Galway club average of 33% girls & 67% boys.

The Development League was set up to prepare children for the more competitive setting at U12 level, and is organised and run by a GFA subcommittee including our own KUFC coaches Ger Ryan and Sean Carr. Our participation in the Development League would not be a success without the amazing commitment of our coaches, parents and in particular our players. These kids are blossoming, using their technical skills, learning to "give a good line" and understand the concept of "space" - skills which they are continuing to develop through the KUFC academy.

A shout-out to all our amazing coaches including Jana Keogh, Nóra Cassidy, John McGinley, Oliver Ó Cadhla, Aisling and Eoin Sammon, John Gallagher, Nigel Conneely, John Farragher, James Hastings and James Cox.





## Kinvara United - County Representatives!!

Well done to Róise Gallagher and Conor Carr from our U12 teams and Aimee O'Halloran from our U15's who represented Galway at county level earlier this year!! Doing their club, teammates and families proud 🙌🙌



## Team Spotlight - U14 Girls

A huge congratulations to our U14 Girls squad who were recently crowned Division 1 Champions!! Fantastic season from an incredible group of players - proud coaches and families all round 🙌🙌



## Men's Team Cup Final!!

Best of luck to our Men's Junior Team led by manager Paul Canning who will contest the Division 2 Cup Final on Tuesday 8th April at Eamonn Deacy Park!! Kick-off at 7.30pm - come along and show your support!!

## U17 Boys Trip to Spain

Best of luck to all 21 of our U17 Boys squad along with their 4 coaches and 2 parents who will travel to Salou in Spain to take part in the Copa Daurada tournament from 21st - 25th April!! We know they will make their club proud overseas and we look forward to seeing lots of photos from their adventures!!





## Over 35's Women's Team

Kinvara United are considering entering an Over 35's Women's Team this summer. If you are interested in joining, please contact Ger Ryan on 087 982 3033.

## KUFC @ St. Patrick's Day

A huge shout-out to everyone who took part in our St. Patrick's Day celebrations!!! 🍀🍀🍀



## Fundraising Update

Thank you to all who supported our fundraising day at Burkes Eurospar Kinvara, particularly our volunteer coaches & players representing teams from U6-U18 and to everyone who kindly donated to KUFC on the day.



## KUFC in the Community

A huge thank you to our U15 Boys for their fantastic help in securing 15 points for Tidy Towns! Their hard work played a key role in Kinvara becoming Ireland's Runner-Up in Pride of Place & Climate Action - an incredible achievement! All groups are welcome to help make a difference together - contact Clare on 087 653 7898 if your group would like to help.

