



# Antrim Coaching & Games Development Newsletter

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**Upcoming Events:**

- National Coaching Conference, Croke Park, Sat 12th Jan
- NAntrim U12 Hurling GG 12th Jan x 3 wks
- U14 Ladies football blitzes 12th 10-a-side, x 5 weeks (mckenna@lorag.com)
- Games for Indoor: Hurling, 17th Jan St. Brigids Sch B'mena
- Award 2 Child, 18-20th Jan
- Games to Develop Football w/shop, 23rd Jan at Casement Park
- Ulster Coaching Conference, Glenavon, 26th Jan
- Award 1 Child H/F/C/LF in Belfast, 1-3rd Feb
- NAntrim U10 Hurling GG 2nd Feb x 3 wks
- Hurling Attacking Play w/shop, 21st Feb
- U8/10 Indoor hurling Belfast Feb (TBC)



## Antrim Blitzes Hit the Target



Antrim Coaching and Games have recently hosted a number of Go Games & Supertouch blitzes for clubs and schools aimed at getting kids playing games over the winter months in a bid to develop their skills for next year's set of games. First up was the Indoor U8 Hurling Go Games Blitzes in October (13th, 20th, 27th) at Andersonstown Leisure Centre. A total of 10 clubs, 12 teams and 118 players participated. St. Pauls were represented with 3 teams and Lamh Dhearg and Sarsfields have two teams at the blitz. A special mention to McDermotts

in attending their first hurling blitz.

U8 Go Games Football blitzes were over 3 weeks at Woodlands, 7 clubs, 12 teams and 94 players participated.

For the U10s there were indoor hurling blitzes on Saturday mornings in Andersonstown leisure centre with large turnouts from the city clubs and also appearances from Larthna Og and Glenavy. 10 clubs, 12 teams and 100 children played with Rossa, Sarsfields and Lamh Dhearg fielding two teams.

After the U10's it was the

U11's turn in Andytown. 9 clubs attended with Brid Og fielding two teams. 77 players played their hearts out. Moving on to the teens of Antrim. Woodlands hosted U13 football & hurling Supertouch blitzes on alternative weekends for 6 weeks. 4 clubs/50 players contested the football and 9 clubs/90 players battled in the hurling blitzes. The Coaching and Games dept would like to thank all the clubs, mentors, players and young whistlers who took part and made the blitzes a success.



## Camogs get into the swing of things at Woodlands

On Friday the 12th Oct, 5 schools took part in the inaugural Yr 9 Supertouch Camogie Blitz at Woodlands Playing Fields. Pupils from Slemish College, St Patricks Ballymena, Victoria College, Fort William College and St Dominic's represented their schools superbly on the day.

Also on the 29th of Nov a Y8 blitz was arranged with St Genevieve's, Victoria College, Fortwilliam College and Slemish Integrated College contested fiercely on the day. This blitz was hosted by Antrim Coaching

& Games staff to allow these schools, where camogie coaching initiatives have been put in place an opportunity to play the sport which is not a mainstream activity in the schools sporting curriculum. Each school played four games on the day. Thanks to our referees on the day, PE student Christina Darragh, Antrim Camogie Secretary Siobhan Poulter. Kieran Megraw, Ross Corbett who played their part in making the blitz run efficiently.

There will be future blitzes and hopefully more of the schools will be able to participate as the Super Touch Games are designed to encourage players to play rather than focusing on who wins.





Kickhams Creggan Og Sport Winners '12



St Pauls & Lamh Dhearg U8 indoors



Mt. St. Michaels Staff with their Award



Children's Club Coaching Workshop



St. John's Captain, Winners of U14 "A"

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## Club Coaching Workshops attract large numbers

The month of November has been a busy time for Coaching Development staff with a number of workshops being held in the county to educate our club coaches and mentors. First up was a 'Nursery Hurling Workshop' delivered by Kieran Megraw in O'Donnells clubrooms up in Whiterock with 27 in attendance.

A super 50 coaches from all over the county descended to pick up some tips from Ulster Fundamental coaches Roisin Keenan & Catriona McGahon. The attendees were given dem-

onstrations & even got the chance to play in the games they will deliver to the players (U6-U12) in their own clubs. Next up was an Indoor Hurling Games workshop with Dominic McKinley at the helm. This was held in the function room at Sarsfields GAC. Again 30 eager coaches attended & were prepared to roll their sleeves up and break sweat to learn the benefits of the games demonstrated.

Lastly was a workshop delivered by Terence McWilliams & John Morrison on "Systems of Play". 40 coaches knuckled down to

tease our systems that work for them. Thank you to all the coaches who attended, the players, tutors & the clubs for the use of their venues.

Videos of two workshops are uploaded & available to watch on

[www.antrimgaagamesdevelopment.ie/video-gallery/](http://www.antrimgaagamesdevelopment.ie/video-gallery/)

Keep an eye on the website for future workshops in 2013.



## U14 Hurling 7s a huge success



St Marys Ahoghill played host to the floodlit finals of the inaugural U14 hurling 7-a-side competition kindly sponsored by Scullion Hurlis. The 8 competing teams had come through tough qualifying rounds to reach the finals which didn't disappoint. The 'A' section saw St Johns, Ballycastle, Cuchulians Dunloy and Shamrocks do battle and the 'B' section had Kickhams Creggan, St Pauls, All

Down outfit Ballyvarley compete for the title of champions. The semi finals in both sections were extremely tight with Creggan and St Pauls reaching the 'B' final and the Kickhams men gave a strong second half display to run out 5pt winners against a hard working St Pauls outfit. In the 'A' section St Johns and Dunloy made the final after battling wins over dogged Ballycastle and Shamrocks outfits in their respective semi finals.

In a tightly contested game the impressive St Johns team rallied late on to win by 6pts, capping off a successful year with another crown. Congratulations to all involved for a very sporting and smoothly run finals series at Ahoghill.



## Antrim Cumann Na mBunscol Update



The pupils and staff of St. Brigid's P.S., Ballymena and Mt. St. Michael's P.S. Randalstown have been celebrating as they were awarded recently runner up spot and 3rd place respectively in the prestigious Allianz Cumann Na mBunscol National GAA Awards. Central to both school's success was their work to promote Gaelic games at all levels among their pupils.

Antrim Cumann Na

mBunscol went one step further when they were crowned 1st place winners in the Public Relations category. This award recognises the efforts made by the Antrim Cumann Na mBunscol committee and schools to promote primary school Gaelic Games in the media.



Dunloy indoor Academy hosted a North Antrim Cumann na mBunscol Gaelic Football Blitz. 6 schools participated & there were fantastic footballing skills on display from all teams right from the off. All games were played in a fantastic spirit and the children from all the schools agreed that they had thoroughly enjoyed their day of sport.

