

Navan Hockey Club Newsletter





GENERAL INFO

Welcome to the Fifth Edition of the Navan Hockey Club Newsletter!

e're excited to share another month of **updates** and **highlights** from across **Navan Hockey Club.** November brought strong **performances**, **great teamwork**, and **fantastic progress** from all of our teams.

Our Ladies Team earned their first point of the season in a hard-fought 2–2 draw against Corinthians, showing real resilience and determination.

Our **Men's Team** faced two challenging fixtures, including a brilliant **1–0 win** over **North Kildare**, with standout moments across the pitch.

Our **Juvenile Section** enjoyed another **successful** month, with superb wins from the **1st Years**, a well-earned victory for the **Inter A squad**, and continued improvement from **Inter B** as they grow in confidence each week.

In **Club Stories**, we share exciting news about our upcoming **January Walk Fundraiser** and extend our sincere thanks to all the **parents** and **volunteers** who helped **restore the pitch** after the recent storm, as well as to **John Dooley** and **Helen Heaney** for their ongoing hard work behind the scenes.

Thank you to our **players, coaches, parents,** and **supporters** for another great month at **Navan Hockey Club** - onwards to December!

GENERAL INFO - TEAMS

Mens

N

ovember proved to be a month of **resilience** and response for our **Navan Men's XI**, who faced two very different challenges on the pitch and showed impressive **character** throughout.

The **first match** of the month took the squad to **Serpentine Avenue** on the **8th** of November, where they faced a strong **Pembroke** side under the evening lights. Navan struggled to settle early as Pembroke displayed their trademark **fast, expansive play**, but an inspired performance from **Shane Dooley** in goal prevented the score line from getting away from them. **Dooley** pulled off multiple **crucial saves**, keeping **Navan** within reach throughout the game.

Despite the pressure, Navan produced moments of real quality. Matheus Costa-Wallace, debutant Ben Deasy, and Philip Garry all impressed, with Garry delivering a spectacular solo goal - picking up the ball inside Navan's half, sprinting more than 50 metres, outpacing two defenders, and skilfully rounding the keeper to tap home. Navan created more chances late in the game, with Costa-Wallace hitting the post from a drag flick and Jack Linke and Garry both nearly adding to the score, but Pembroke held firm to take the win. One week later, Navan returned to action at home against North Kildare on the 15th of November, determined to build on the promising elements of their previous performance. After a respectful moment's silence in honour of North Kildare's coach's father, the match got underway in calm conditions. Navan approached the game cautiously but grew stronger as the match progressed, with Linke and Deasy applying pressure high up the pitch and disrupting the visitors' build-up play.



The **breakthrough** came in the second quarter after **Dooley** cleared danger with a brilliant soccer-style save. **David Deasy** sent a driven pass toward **Ru Clarke**, who delicately redirected the ball into the path of **Rob Andrew**. With advantage played by the umpire, **Andrew** clipped the ball past the keeper for the opening - and ultimately decisive - **goal**.

North Kildare surged forward in the latter stages, but Navan's defence stood firm. **Dooley** and the back line managed a series of short corners with confidence, while **Costa-Wallace** forced a stunning save from a drag flick bound for the top corner. **Linke** eased the pressure with a fantastic solo run from his own 21m line into the opposition circle, showcasing his pace and determination.

When the final whistle blew, **Navan** celebrated a deserved **1–0 victory**, a testament to their improved **structure**, **teamwork**, and **belief**. It was a hard-earned and important win that signals strong momentum as the season continues.

GENERAL INFO - TEAMS

Women

ovember brought a well-deserved **breakthrough** for our **Navan Ladies**, who earned their first point of the season with a hard-fought **2–2 draw** against a strong **Corinthians** side on the **8th** of November.

Corinthians took the early lead from a short corner that Navan couldn't quite clear, but our ladies showed **tremendous composure** and **fight.** Working the ball forward with pace and precision, **Bronagh** won a **short corner** which she pushed out to **Christine**, whose powerful strike was heading just wide before

Bronagh read it perfectly and deflected it into the back of the net to level the score.

From there, Navan's defence, led by **Mags in goal**, put on a superb display. Mags produced multiple reflex saves-often two or three in quick succession to keep **Corinthians** at **bay**, while **Rhona's** calm control under pressure and smart clearances kept the team on the front foot. In attack, **Helen, Eppie**, **Nicolene, Christine**, and **Bronagh** all tested the opposition keeper as Navan continued to press.

The third quarter saw **Corinthians** regain the lead through another well-worked short corner, but **Navan** refused to back down. The final quarter was all about determination and teamwork, with **Belinda** shutting down the right wing with strong defensive play and **Roisin** holding firm in the centre to break up Corinthians' long passes and turn defence into attack. **Danielle, Sinead,** and **Penny** worked tirelessly to push play wide and ease the pressure.

In the final minutes, **Sarah** made a **fantastic run**, linking up beautifully with **Christine** for a one-two at the **top of the D**. Christine unleashed a brilliant shot into the left corner of the goal to make it **2–2**, sealing a hard-earned draw and a valuable first point of the season.

An incredible display of **grit, teamwork,** and belief from start to finish-well done to all the **Ladies** on a well-earned result!

The match scheduled against **Genesis** on the **15th** of November was postponed and will now take place on Tuesday, **2nd December at 8:00pm.**

GENERAL INFO - TEAMS

Juveniles

ovember was an **outstanding** month for our **Juvenile teams**, with **brilliant performances**, big **wins**, developing **skills**, and tremendous **spirit** shown across all age groups. From our energetic **1st Years** to our **determined Inter A** and **Inter B** squads, the future of **Navan Hockey Club** continues to shine brightly

1st Years

Navan 9 – 3 Weston

Goal Scorers: Liliana x4, Tessa x2, Moya x1, Poppy x1, Lauren x1

Navan 7 – 1 Botanic

Goal Scorers: Liliana x4, Lauren x2, Eleanor x1

Our **1st Years** had an outstanding month with two **superb performances**. Their match

against Weston showcased sharp attacking hockey and excellent teamwork. The midfield worked tirelessly to support the defence and feed clever passes through to the forwards. **Liliana** led the scoring with four goals, supported by **Tessa (2)**, **Moya, Poppy,** and **Lauren.** The Weston keeper made several impressive saves, but Navan's pressure was relentless. At the back, **Blaithin** produced multiple brilliant saves, keeping Weston from closing the gap. The

defence remained calm and organised, shutting down repeated attacks and

linking beautifully with midfield.

A week later, the **1st Years** delivered another commanding performance, beating **Botanic 7–1**. While individual skill was on full display, it was the team play that stood out most. **Liliana** added another four goals to her tally, **Lauren** scored two excellent finishes, and debutant **Eleanor** crowned her first ever match with her first ever goal.

Botanic fought hard and created chances, but **Blaithin** was inspired once again, stopping everything that came her way. The squad played with **confidence**, **structure**, and **maturity** - a whole-team performance to be proud of. Coach **Helen** is delighted with the group's progress and teamwork this season.

Inter A

Navan Inter A 1 – 0 Suttonians

Goal Scorer: Eleanor

The **Inter A** squad delivered a fantastic display to take a well-deserved win against a very strong Suttonians side. Suttonians dominated early on, holding most of the first-half possession thanks to

their **powerful defensive** line. Navan, however, regrouped at halftime and came out transformed - **structured, composed,** and using space **brilliantly.** Their winning goal was a perfect example of team play: built from the back, transitioned through midfield, and finished clinically by **Eleanor** in the D.

Defensively, **Niamh** made crucial saves when Suttonians pressed, **Sophie** had her best game of the season with several outstanding tackles, and **Zoe** stayed solid and composed as sweeper. Coach **Bronagh** couldn't be prouder of the squad's determination and teamwork.

A special thank you also goes to **Mags** for umpiring, the **parents who set up the nets**, and all **supporters** who cheered the girls on.

Inter B

Navan Inter B 0 – 4 Bray Navan Inter B – Strong Performance vs Clontarf

The **Inter B** squad continued their season with two competitive matches, showing **great growth** and commitment throughout **November**. Against Bray, Navan were caught early and trailed 3–0 at

brilliantly, earning several attacking chances - including a near miss from Leah, whose shot went narrowly wide. There were excellent runs up the wing from Penny and Lauren, while Roisin delivered a standout defensive performance, repeatedly clearing danger and even stopping a certain goal right on the line. Their follow-up match against Clontarf showed even more improvement.

Although it wasn't a win, the girls displayed **strong** team spirit, **better positioning**, and **greater confidence** in challenges. Coach **Margie** is thrilled with their development and is confident their hard work will soon turn into results.

Upcoming Matches

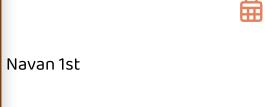
Inters B Matches



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Weston 4th

1st Years Matches





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Malahide Fingal 3

Men Matches



Clontarf 3rd



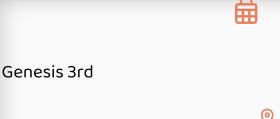
Mercy Navan



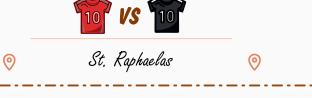
Navan 1st

St Columbas College 0

Women Matches









Navan 1st

Navan 1st

Club Stories

ovember has been a month that truly highlighted the **strength**, **spirit**, and **teamwork** at the heart of **Navan Hockey Club** - both on and off the pitch.

We are excited to share that the club is planning a Fun Walk Fundraiser this coming January! Full details will be announced soon, but we encourage all players, families, and supporters to keep an eye out. It promises to be a great community event to kick off the new year, bring members together, and raise valuable support for the club.

We would also like to extend a **huge thank you** to the **parents** who **volunteered** their time to help clear the pitches after the recent storm. The storm left the surface unsafe for play, but thanks to the **fast response** and **teamwork** of our **parent volunteers**, the pitches were restored quickly and safely. Your willingness to step in and support the club is deeply appreciated - it's the involvement of parents that helps our club grow stronger each season.

A special word of appreciation also goes to **John Dooley** and **Helen Heaney**, whose ongoing efforts ensure that our pitches remain safe and playable. Their hard work behind the scenes, particularly after challenging weather conditions, keeps our training sessions running **smoothly** and plays a vital role in keeping the club operating at its best.

Thank you to everyone who continues to give their energy, support, and time to Navan Hockey Club.

Together, we are building a vibrant, resilient, and connected hockey community.

MEET YOUR COMMITTEE



Shane Dooly Chair

As Chairperson, Shane Dooley leads the club by guiding the committee, supporting coaches, and helping the club grow both on and off the pitch.

His role ensures everything runs smoothly and that Navan Hockey Club continues to thrive each season.

Helen Heany Vise-Chair Hi, I'm Helen (55), living in Kilberry just outside Navan. I first joined Navan Hockey Club in 1989, took a long break to raise my family of three, and returned to rejoin the madness and mayhem.

I am a dairy farmer in partnership with my husband Martin and daughter Tara. I still play (despite my advanced years) with the ladies' team. I also coach one of our juvenile teams and I'm a member of our committee.

I enjoy mixing with all the different age groups in the club, especially our junior members. My greatest pleasure is spending time with my four grand kids, reading books, singing songs, jumping on the trampoline and generally living my best life.





John Dooly Treasurer

As Treasurer, John Dooley takes care of the club's finances, making sure everything adds up behind the scenes. But his contribution goes far beyond the numbers — John also helps keep the Aura pitches clean and ready for play, and makes sure the club has the equipment it needs to thrive. His hard work and dedication play a big part in keeping Navan Hockey Club running smoothly.

Roisin Byrne Secretary
Playing on the ladies' team since 2021, I really enjoy being part of the team and look forward to this coming season. Outside of hockey,

I enjoy farming and arts and crafts





Venny Vunne Assistant Secretary

Hi. I'm Jenny (51), I live in Trim. I joined Navan Hockey Club four years ago. I'm married to John.

I enjoy watching soccer and I'm a huge Liverpool fan.

My other interests are singing, reading, baking and just enjoying life.

Our Lovely Sponsors

PCI Pharma Services

avan Hockey Club would like to give a big shoutout and thank you to PCI Pharma Services for their generous sponsorship of new jerseys for the younger girls' team.

The players were absolutely delighted to receive their fresh kit, and they wear it with pride every time they step onto the pitch.

Your support helps us grow the sport and inspire confidence in our younger players — and they're now looking sharper than ever! Thank you for being part of our hockey journey.





The Central Navan

avan Hockey Club would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to The Central Navan for their incredible support and generosity. From sponsoring events and providing vouchers, to hosting a previous ABBA Disco Bingo night and celebrating with the lads after their previous league wins — you've been there every step of the way and deserve a massive thank you from everyone in Navan Hockey Club!

52 For You

avan Hockey Club would like to extend a warm and heartfelt thank you to 52 For You for their generous jersey sponsorship. While some time has passed, we haven't forgotten your support — and we're truly grateful!

The jerseys you provided have been worn with pride by our players, adding a real boost of team spirit and unity. Your contribution has made a lasting impact, and we're so glad to have you as part of the Navan Hockey Club family.





Bannon Auctioneers & Valuers

heartfelt thank you to Bannon Auctioneers & Valuers for their generous and ongoing support of Navan Hockey Club. Not only did they sponsor a fantastic prize for our family fun day event, helping to make the day even more memorable, they also provided jackets for the ladies' team — which are still proudly worn to this day!

Your support has made a real difference to our club, both on and off the pitch. We're incredibly grateful to have you as part of the Navan Hockey Club community.

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Thank You For Reading!



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Written By: Nicolene Marais Proof Read By: Kaitlin Claire Whelan

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newsletter@navanhockeyclub.ie 🔀

