

# Ballyboden St. Endas GAA Camogie and Ladies Football Club CLG Baile Buadáin Naomh Eanna





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**Chairmans Message - Leinster Champions!** 



# Ballyboden St. Endas GAA Camogie and Ladies Football Club CLG Baile Buadáin Naomh Éanna

#### Dear Members,

December 6th 2016 will live in the memory of every Ballyboden St Enda's member as being one of the greatest days in our club's history. The manner of our narrow victory, played to the highest standards of sportsmanship by both teams, will forever be a jewel in the crown of our club. From the feedback that I have received from the management and players of our senior footballers, they will never forget the huge support that they received in Tullamore for the match itself and the joyous welcome that our members (young & old) gave to the team on their return to the club.

Over the coming weeks, the Executive and football committee will give serious consideration as to how best we can raise funds to support our senior football team as they prepare for their semi-final clash in mid February. As you all know it does cost the club a lot of money to support our teams, especially if they are successful, but we are not complaining! So in the meantime, there are ways in which you can support the club right now.

- (1) If you require a Christmas tree, purchase it from the club, details are on our website.
- (2) This week we shall have available in the club 2016 calendars which will contain fantastic photographs of members, especially juveniles from every section of our club. This calendar will cost  $\[ \epsilon \]$  7each or 2 for  $\[ \epsilon \]$  10.
- (3) If you do not do so already, buy your lotto tickets from the club. They can be purchased any evening from our bar staff and all funds raised will go directly towards supporting our senior football team for the coming months ahead.

Let's continue to support this great team of ours!

Brendan Moran Chairman

**Football News - Historic Leinster Championship Win** 



What a year it's been for the club and for our footballers in particular. The omens were good back in February when our U21'S won the 2014 Championship and this was followed by Joy Cup success for our Inters who also won promotion back to Div.3 at the first attempt just two weeks ago. Our Minors also reached the Championship final but it's the Seniors achievements which truly have made this a year to remember. To win a Dublin Championship against an excellent St.Vincents side, widely recognized as the toughest to

win, is no mean feat and they did it playing fantastic football. The provincial rounds began with no break for celebrations but our lads were up to the challenge of St.Pats of Louth and St.Lomans of Mullingar to set up a meting with Portlaoise GAA last Sunday in the Leinster Final. Storm Desmond threatened to disrupt the game and made the gound heavy and difficult but all who were there will attest that it was a fantastic final played in great spirit by both teams. With so much at stake and nothing between the teams it was no wonder captain Darragh Nelson didn't even realize at the final whistle that we had won! But win we did and Dec 6th will go down in Boden history as the day we won our first Lenister Senior Football title. There was great celebrations back in the club afterwards and it was great to see so many welcome the team home.

All we can say to the players, management and supporters is a massive **THANK YOU.** We will push on for a place in the All-Ireland final next February and I'm sure the Boden roar will be there too.

#### Report below.

Ballyboden land maiden Leinster title in thriller

By Shane O'Brien

Ballyboden St Enda's... 2-09

Portlaoise..... 1-11

Aran Waters' late point proved to be the match winning score as Ballyboden St Enda's claimed the club's first Leinster SFC after defeating Portlaoise by the narrowest of margins in a pulsating game.

A jubilant Aran Waters said that he "never could have dreamed of kicking a winning score" in a provincial final.

Goals from Andrew Kerin and Michael Darragh Macauley were also crucial in a game that easily could have gone either way.

Kerin's goal after seven minutes gave Boden the start of dreams, while Macauley's strike crucially cancelled out a Paul Cahillane goal for Portlaoise on the stroke of half time. Goal chances went a begging at both ends in what was the most open game that Ballyboden have been involved in this year.

Cahillane had the chance to send the game to extra time with a minute of injury time remaining. But he horribly miscued a 13 yard free to hand the title to the Dublin side. Sam Molony gave Boden the perfect start when he curled over a right footed effort after just 30 seconds.

Craig Rogers responded almost instantly for Portlaoise with an excellent score off his right from a difficult angle.

Then came a crucial minute in the game. First Cahillane saw his effort for a point rebound off the upright, and within a minute the ball was in the back of the Portlaoise net in slightly fortuitous circumstances.

Sam Molony was halted as he bore down on goal, and he somehow managed to poke the ball out to the unmarked Kerin from the melee that ensued, leaving the veteran forward one on one with Graham Brody in the Portlaoise goal. Kerin decided to dribble the ball soccer style towards goal and his mishit shot managed to squirm between Brody's legs and into the back of the net to give 'Boden a three point buffer.

Conal Keaney and Brian McCormack swapped points before Kerin scored his first point of the day to give Boden a fully merited four point lead after 10 minutes.

The midfield partnership of Michael Darragh Macauley and Declan O'Mahoney were completely dominating the Portlaoise kickout, giving Boden the perfect platform to launch attacks. They also secured the vast majority of ball from their own kickout with the aid of the pinpoint accuracy of Boden 'keeper Paul Durcan.

Boden, however, would not score for another 15 minutes as Portlaoise began to grow into the

game. Scores from Brian Smyth, Paul Cahillane, Brian McCormack and beautiful score from Eoghan Whelan had The Town level after 22 minutes.

Conal Keaney slotted a much needed point from a simple free to stem the Portlaoise tide and edge Boden back in front, but it could have been so much better for the Firhouse side. Molony and Kerin were both brilliantly denied by Brody within 30 seconds of each other before play was brought back for a foul on Colm Basquel.

But Boden's lead was short lived. With a minute remaining in the first half, a Brian Smyth effort seemed to be dropping harmlessly short when it deflected off Cahillane and into the back of the net to give the Laois side the lead for the first time. The goal was only the second three pointer that Boden have conceded in eight championship matches, a quite remarkable statistic.

Crucially though, Boden hit back just before the interval. Again the goal came after a Portlaoise effort for a point was missed; the ball dropping short into Durcan's hands. From the next attack Boden had scored. Colm Basquel did brilliantly to field a high ball amidst a number of challengers, and he did even better to smuggle the ball out to Molony. Molony sent Darren O'Reilly charging towards goal, and the half forward slipped a precise handpass to Macauley who coolly slotted past the onrushing Brody to give Boden the narrowest of half time leads.

The second half was a much more scrappy and tight affair. Keaney and Cahillane swapped early scores, before substitute Brian Glynn drew Portlaoise level with an excellent score with the outside of his boot.

A Craig Rogers point put The Town in front with 15 minutes remaining, but his effort was quickly cancelled out by a long range Keaney free.

Boden then had Paul Durcan to thank for keeping them in the game after he superbly denied Brian McCormack, pushing the ball onto the post with the tips of his fingers. In the end, Portlaoise had to settle for a Brian Smyth point to restore their one point lead.

Andy McEntee praised the performance of the Donegal net minder throughout the championship, stating he gives confidence to the other players.

It was then Boden's turn to pass up a glorious goal scoring opportunity when Kerin fired over as he raced through on goal.

Cahil Healy's stunning score from the tightest of angles saw Portlaoise hit the front with only three minutes remaining.

With time running out, Basquel brilliantly drew Boden level when he instinctively kicked a fabulous point following a scrappy period of play.

With the match poised to head to extra time, Aran Waters made himself a hero in Ballyboden when he curled over after being fed by Sam Molony.

There was still time for plenty of drama, however, and it seemed certain that Portlaoise would draw level when they were awarded a 13 yard free. Luck seemed to be on Boden's side though and Cahillane unluckily sliced his shot wide. Still there was time for Portlaoise, but midfielder Conor Boyle missed a good chance to bring them level with mere seconds remaining and Boden held on to seal a memorable and historic victory in the club's history. It is hard to argue against Boden deserving to win the game, but spare a thought for Portlaoise who came despairingly close to at least sending the game to extra time.

But at the end of the day there had to be a winner and this was Boden's day, just. Indeed, a 'relieved' Ballyboden manager Andy McEntee said that he "would have settled for extra time" when the free was conceded and he heralded the "unbelievable character" shown by his troops.

There were heroes all over the pitch for the Dublin champions. Paul Durcan was excellent in goals, while Michael Darragh Macauley and Declan O'Mahoney were majestic in midfield. Centre forward Colm Basquel was superb and was involved in almost everything good that

## Boden produced.

The decision to bring Keaney into a deeper role in the second half proved a master stroke from Andy McEntee. Keaney always took the right option and it was his ball into Sam Molony that led to the match winning score.

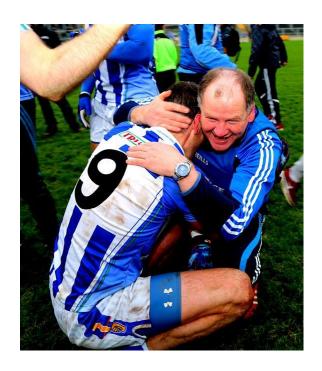
Boden have a two month break before the All Ireland semi final where they will play either Clonmel Commercials or Tír Chonail Gaels. McEntee said after the game that the players will have a break between now and the semi final, especially as they didn't have a chance to celebrate the Dublin championship win last month and no one can deny they deserve the chance to celebrate.

#### **Football section AGM**

Football AGM on Wednesday 9th Dec starts at 7.45pm. All welcome, thanks.

For all the amazing photos please click here.



















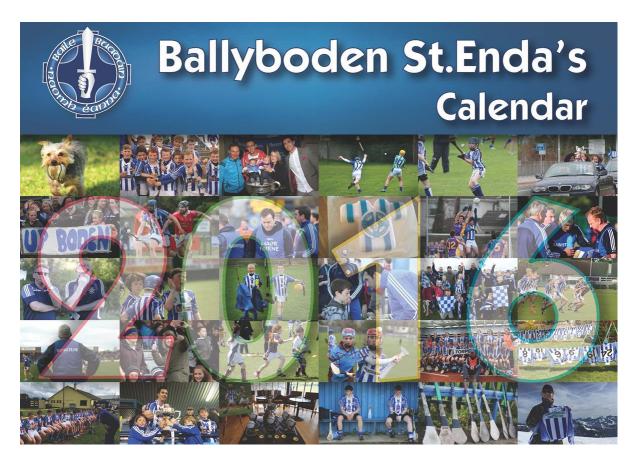


## Football Section AGM - Dec 9th

The Football AGM has been fixed for Wednesday 9th December at 7.45pm. Nominations for positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Registrar, Treasurer, County Board Football Delegate, Football Board Delegate and Motions for the Club AGM should be sent to *padraig.cullinane@gmail.com* not later than Wednesday 2nd December.

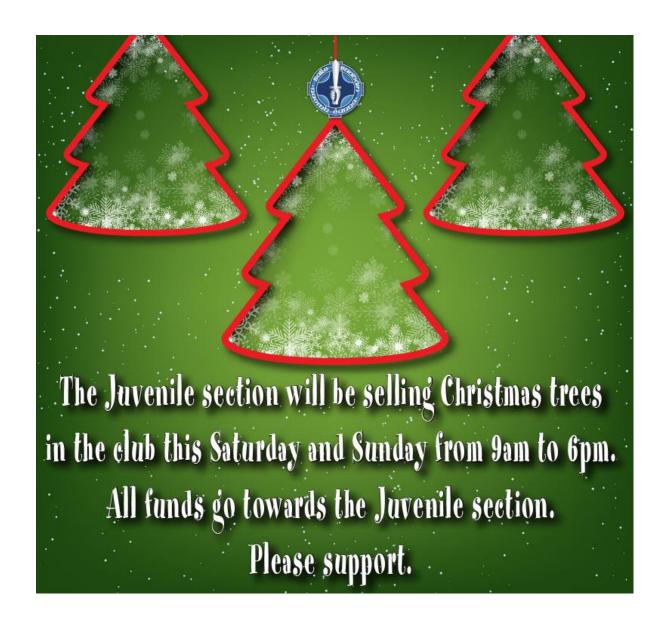
Anyone interested in position of manager/mentor for Football teams in 2016 should submit their name to the Football Secretary *padraig.cullinane@gmail.com* by Monday 14th December 2015."

## **Boden Calendar 2016**



The Boden Calendar will be on sale from the Club this weekend, for further details please check out the **website** .

**Christmas trees for sale** 



Santa is coming to Boden ho,ho,ho



**Lotto Results - 6th December** 



There was no winner of the Jackpot or Match 1st Three

Next Weeks Jackpot €8,000