

Secretary's Report 2021-2022

Let's look back at the main events since September 2021.

Our Club membership for 2021/22 stands at 52 fully paid up members.

The Club President Liz Mc Keown, presided over a number of Committee meetings during the past year during which the following matters were discussed, amongst others:

Continuance of On-Line Bridge:

The club's on-line game on the BBO platform continued for September, October 2021 and January and February 2022.

Resumption of Live Bridge:

The club made two attempts to resume live bridge. The first in November 2021. Every effort was made by the Committee to ensure that the bridge game was taking place in a safe environment. Only vaccinated members were allowed to play. We provided table screens, hand sanitisers, the bridge tables were placed 2 metres apart and we ensured as best we could that the room was well ventilated.

However unfortunately the dreaded Omicron variant of Covid struck and we were forced to discontinue the live game for a while.

We made our second attempt to resume the live game in March 2022 and despite fluctuating low numbers turning up we are managing to continue playing the live game.

Not all Bridge Clubs have re-opened for Live Bridge and those that have are all struggling with low numbers. We are lucky in Ashbourne to be able to resume our live game, however it will take us some time before we get back to where we were pre-covid.

Rebate on Membership Fee:

It was decided that a partial rebate of €7.50 will be allowed to members who paid the €20 membership fee for 2021/22. This rebate will be off set against their 2022/23 membership.

Donation to the Ukraine Relief Fund.

It was decided to donate €100 from club funds to Unicef for the Ukraine Relief Fund in place of providing Easter Eggs to members

Meath Co Co Grant

The club was delighted to receive a grant of €152 in 2021 which assisted with the purchase of a new laptop for the club this year.

Rent Increase: The Board of Management of the Donaghmore Ashbourne GAA club have increased the rent per night for the hire of the room from €40 to €50 from January 2022. This is the first increase that has been imposed by the GAA and is a very good rate in comparison to other venues.

Bereavements:

Sadly Gerry Monaghan our dear bridge friend and Committee member passed away in April. Gerry will be sadly missed. May he rest in peace.

Back to the Future:

The Committee have agreed to continue with Summer Bridge for the month of May and into early June. If there is sufficient interest we hope to continue to the end of the summer.

We hope that the Novice players who have been taking lessons will come to the club and put into practice what they have learned. We hope that some of our lapsed members will join us for Summer Bridge.

And we hope to welcome lots of visitors from other clubs to our Summer Bridge.

Miriam Moyles
Club Secretary
10th May 2022