

Naomh Bríd CLG Your Club Your Future

325

Responses

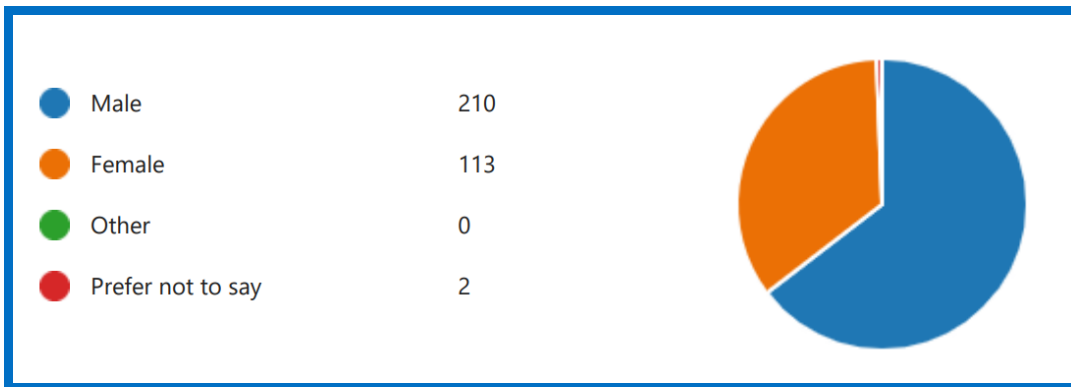
28:45

Average time to complete

26%

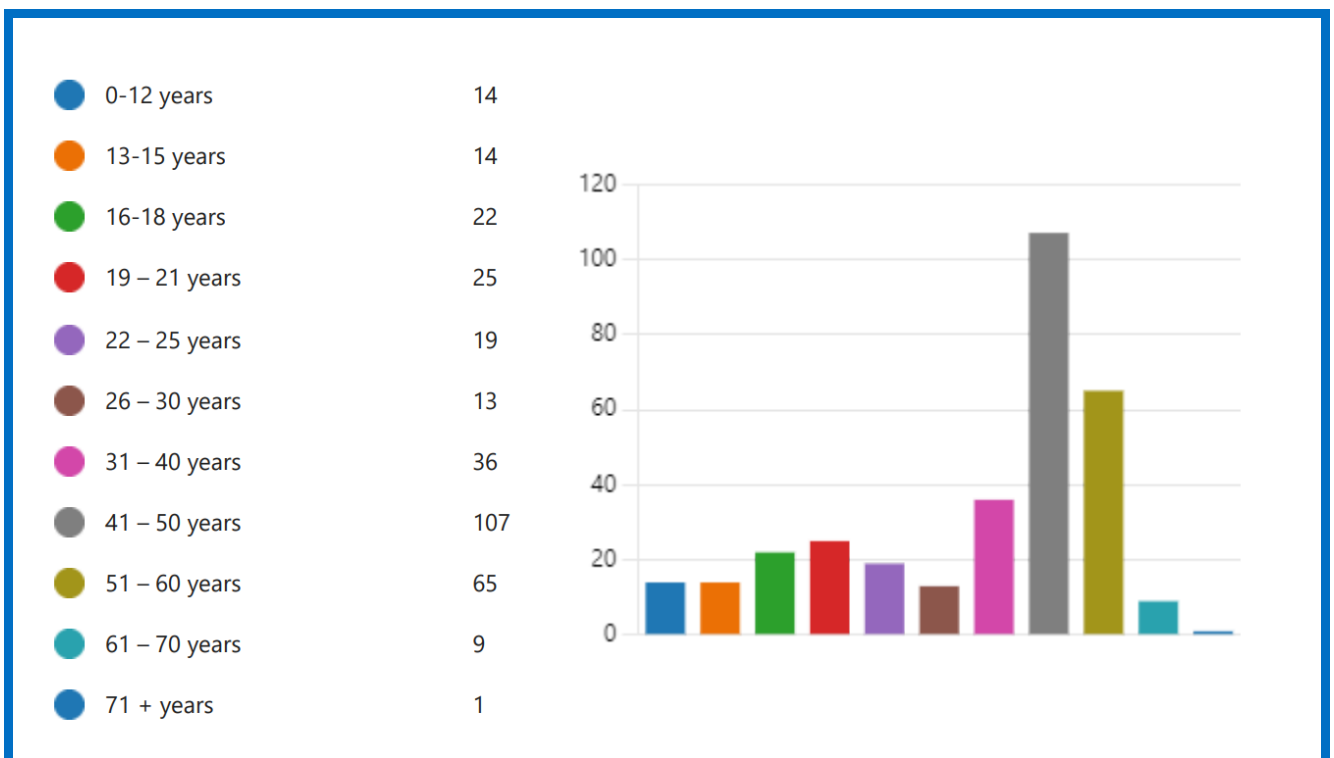
Response rate of members

Q1. Gender identity - please tick the relevant box:



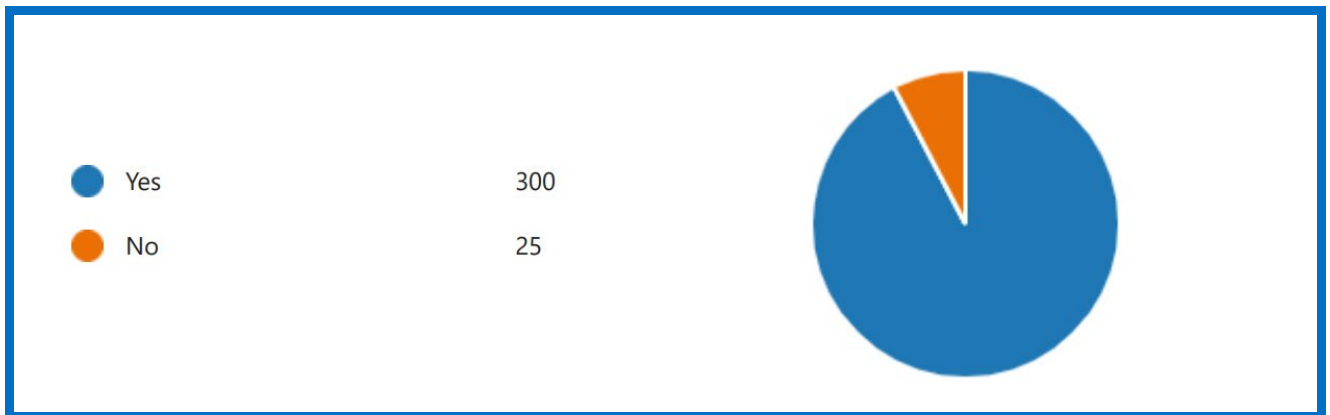
Almost two thirds of all respondents identified as male, just over one third identifying themselves as female.

Q2. Age Profile - please tick the relevant box:



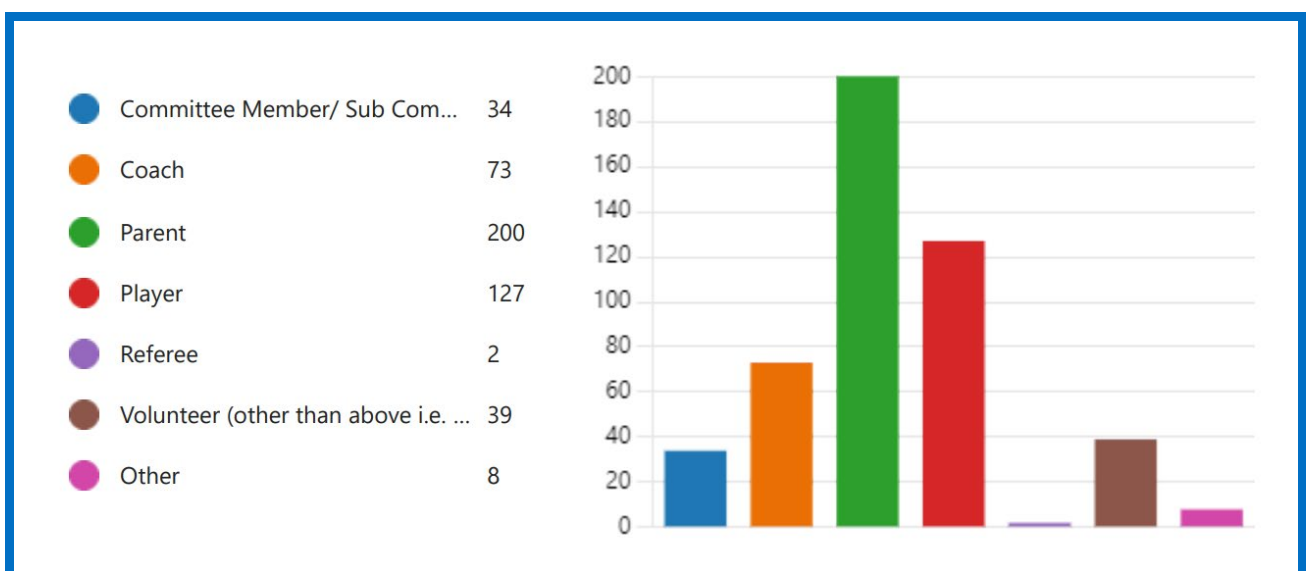
Almost 70% (67.7%) of all respondents were at least 31 years old. The majority of all respondents were in the 41-50 years age bracket (32.9%), closely followed by the 51-60 years age bracket (20%). Interestingly, only 6.8% respondents were in the 16-18 years category which has been identified as an age group we have difficulty retaining.

Q3. Are you a member of the club?



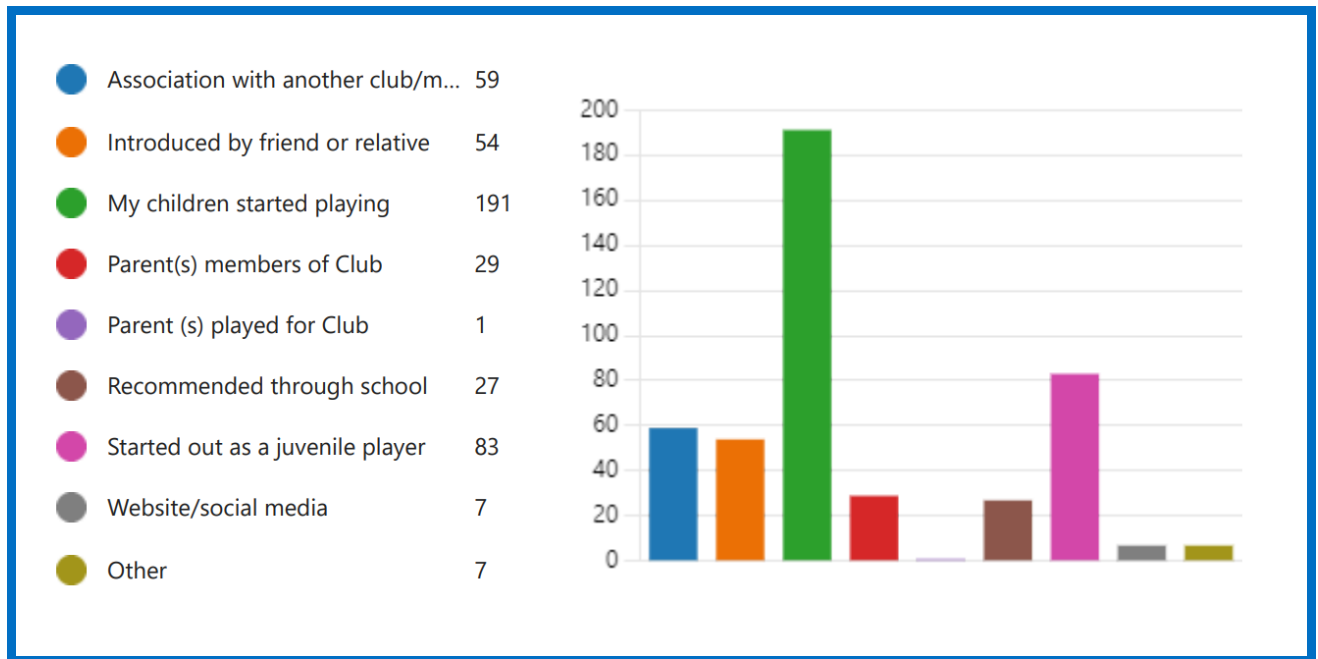
The majority of respondents (92.3%) were members of the club. Therefore, the response rate of members was 26% (current membership = 1146).

Q4. In what way are you connected with the Club now or in the past? Tick all that apply.



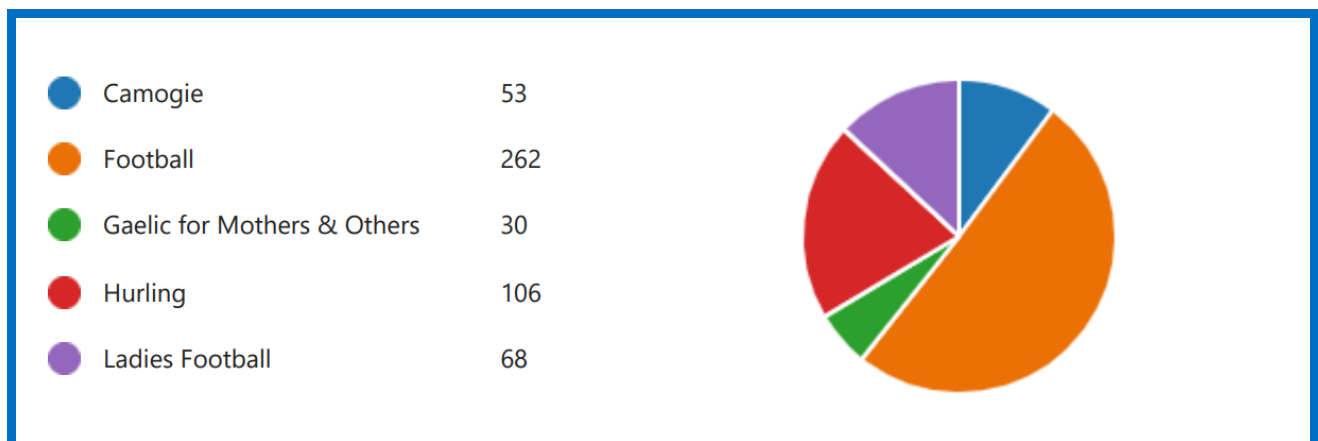
The majority of respondents are Parents followed by Coaches and Players. The proportion of respondents from volunteers was low when compared with other categories.

Q5. What are the reason(s) for your association with the club? Tick all that apply.



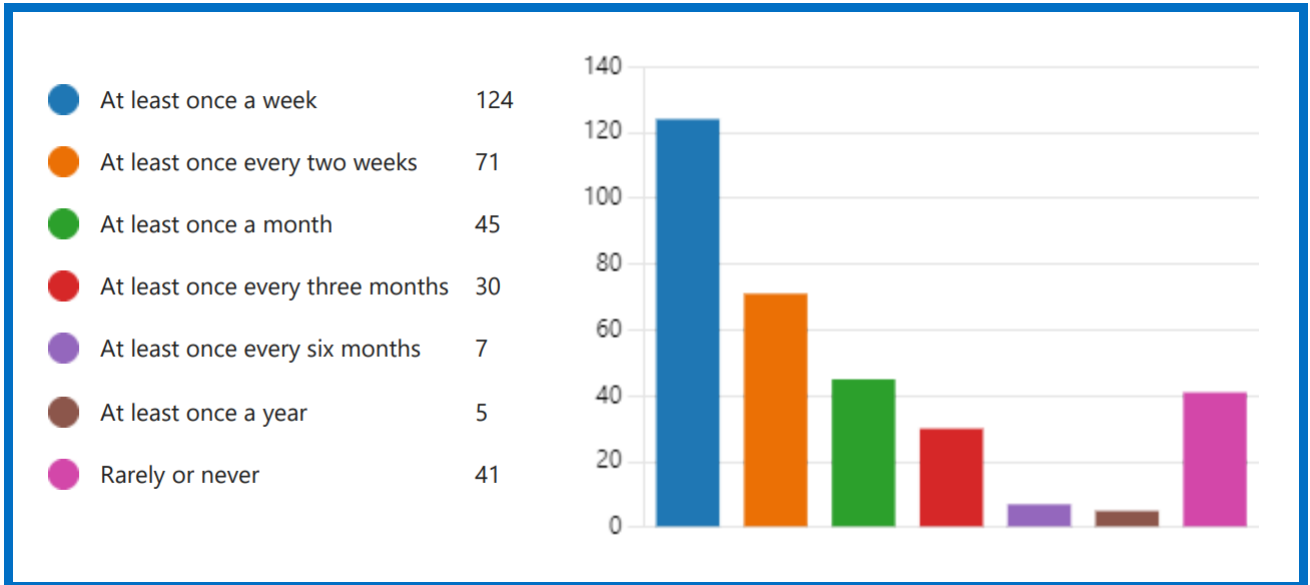
The majority of respondents are associated with the club due to children playing. This was followed by players coming through juvenile teams. A similar proportion of respondents indicated their associated with the club was due to an introduction by a friend / relative or due to an association with another club.

Q6. Which of these Gaelic games are you involved in, in any capacity through the Club (including spectator, player, parent etc.)? Tick all that apply



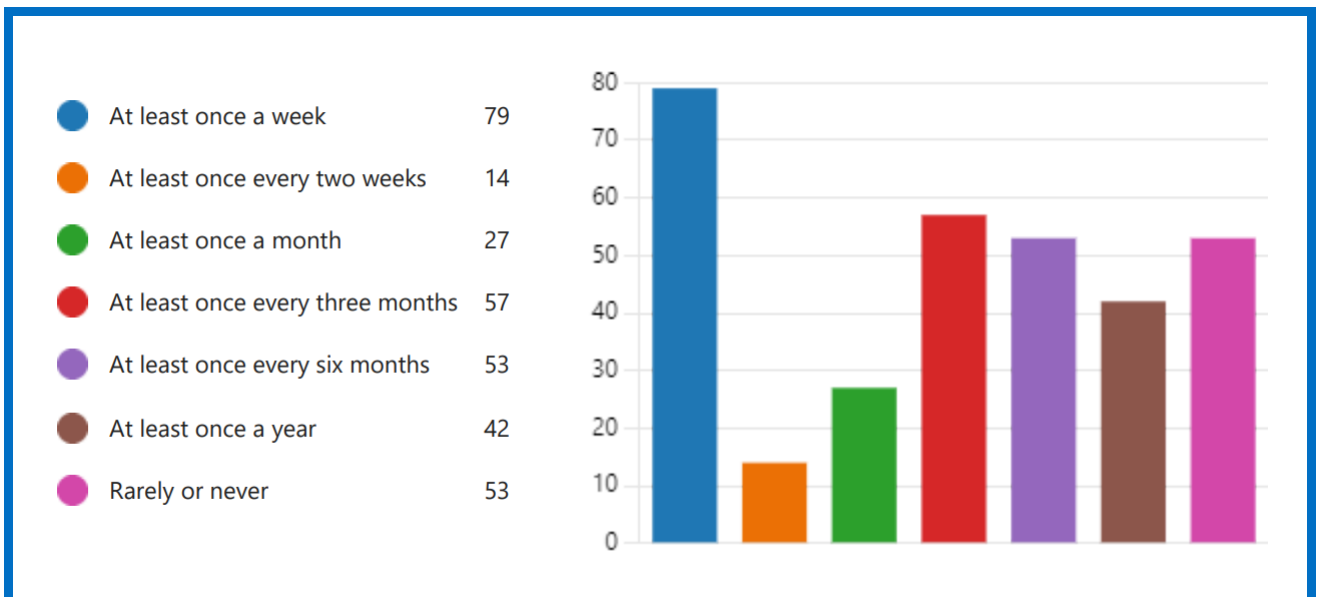
Most respondents are involved in football, followed by hurling and ladies football.

Q7. On average, during the GAA season, how frequently would you spectate at a club game?



It was encouraging to see that over a third (38.4%) of all respondents reported they spectated at a game at least once a week during the GAA season, with almost two thirds (60.4%) of all respondents reporting they spectated at least once every two weeks. 12.7% of respondents rarely or never spectate at a club event.

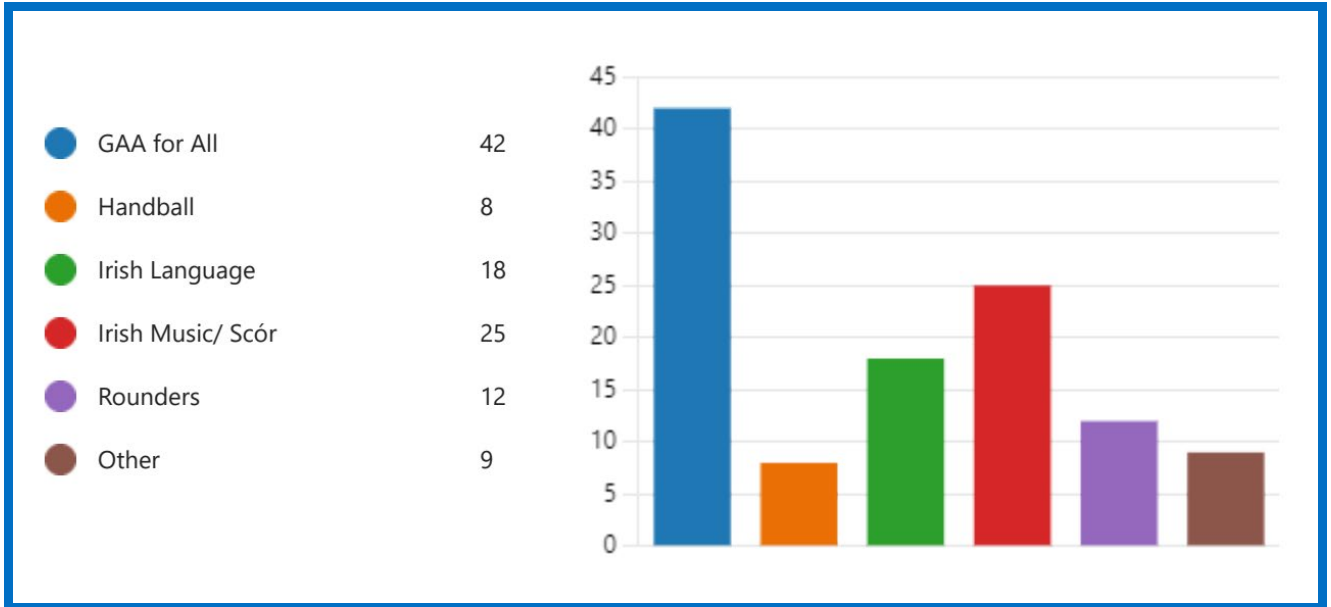
Q8. On average how frequently would you attend a club event?



24.7% of respondents attend a club event at least once a week. 17.5% attend once every three months, with 16.3 % attending at least once every 6 months. 12.9% attend once a year, with 16.3% rarely or never attending a club event.

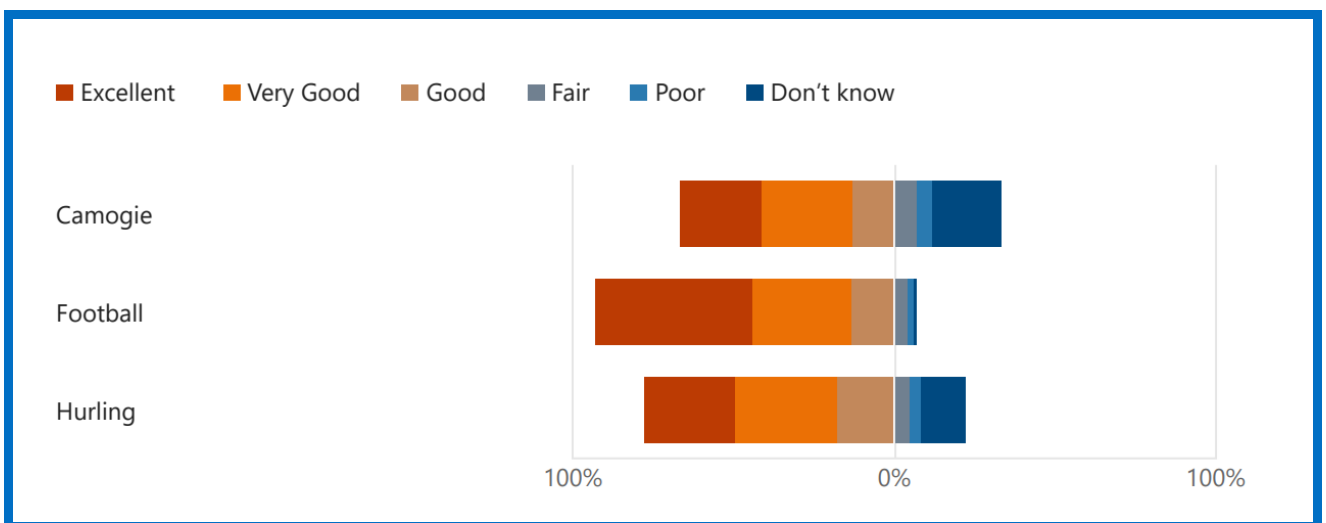
Q9. If you have no children or if all your children are involved in the club, please move to Question 10.

If you have children who are not involved in the club, what would encourage them to become involved?



Of those who answered this question, over one third (36.8%) of respondents would like to see 'GAA for All' offered by the club. Approximately, one fifth (22%) would like to see Irish Music/Scór and 15.9% would like to see Irish Language offered by the club. One tenth (10%) of responders would like the club to offer Rounders.

Q10. From your experience, how would you rate the club's commitment to providing the opportunity for all players to enjoy games?



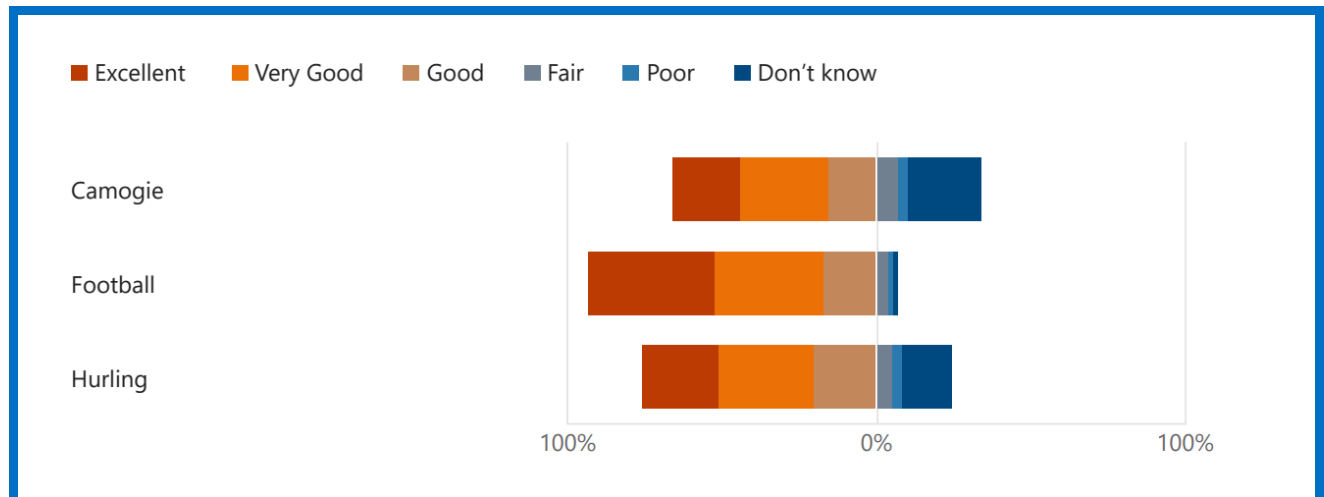
Camogie: 16.9% & 18.8% consider camogie offered excellent / very good opportunity. However, 14.5% don't know and 33.5% of respondents left this blank.

Football: 48% & 30.5% consider football offered excellent / very good opportunity. 12.9% consider

the offering 'good'.

Hurling: 20%, 22.5% consider hurling offered excellent / very good opportunity. 10% don't know and 28.6% of respondents left this blank.

Q11. From your experience, how would you rate the club's support to enable teams to perform at their best?



Camogie: 14.1% and 18.2% rate the clubs support as excellent and very good respectively. Over 50% of respondents 'don't know' or left this blank.

Football: 40.3% and 34.8% rate the clubs support as excellent and very good respectively.

Hurling: 16.9% and 20.9% rate the clubs support as excellent and very good respectively. Approximately 42% of respondents 'don't know' or left this blank.

Q12. Where could improvements be made in participation and/or performance

(Total of 158 responses)

Respondents felt that improvement in participation and/or performance could be made through improvement in the facilities (n=28):

"Greater access to pitches mid-week"

"Availability of an all-weather pitch"

"Need our own floodlit pitch for winter and clubhouse to include gym"

"Club owned and operated all-weather (Astro/4g) pitches with floodlights to allow year-round involvement"

"We need a ball wall as a matter of urgency"

The importance of timetabling training to avoid clashes and facilitate all players to play all codes, as well as equality across codes featured strongly (n=21):

“As a dual player the under 14 gaelic and camogie training is on at the same time so I'm only able to train once a fortnight”

“Dual players should be better accommodated”

“Club recognition for football still outweighs that given to hurling and camogie, balance it out, give all codes equal support and visibility”

Respondents felt that providing greater opportunity for less competitive games and allowing all players increased game time would improve participation:

“Not streaming by ability from very young”

“Mixed weaker & stronger players to improve playing of all children”

“Ensuring game time for all children”

“Giving all players (including weaker) chance to play in games”

Respondents felt that there needed to be more equality of effort into girls/ladies teams and greater promotion within the club (n=15):

“More promotion of girls within the club”

“More awareness and effort being put into the ladies with equal opportunities”

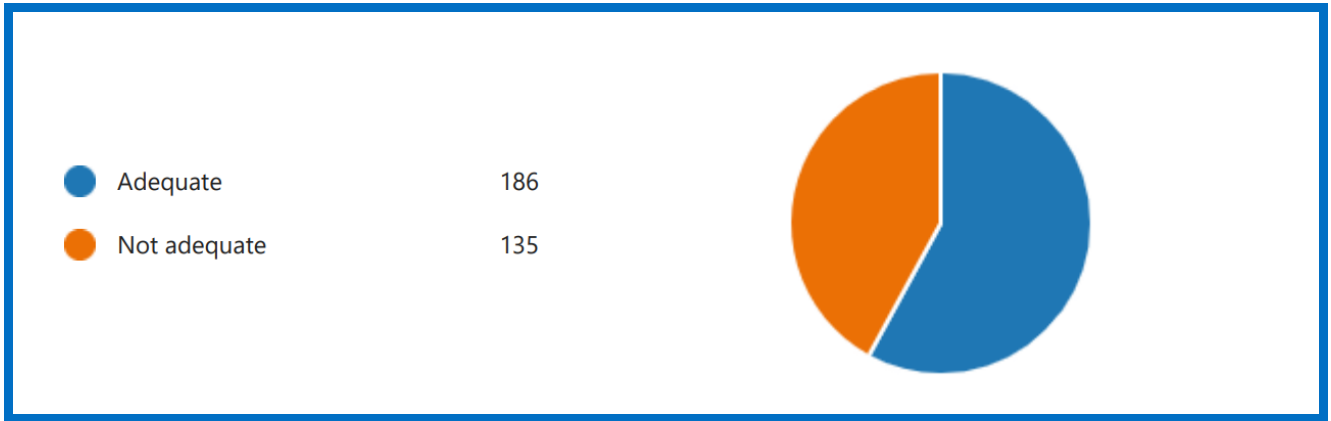
“better support for young female Gaelic football”

“More training sessions for underage girls, one a week not enough”

Q13. To facilitate games and training, there are a number of arrangements necessary to accommodate all teams:

- Harlequins - rented and subject to an annual fee
- Musgrave- has a Facilities Management Agreement with Belfast City Council, with renewal underway currently
- Other – ad hoc rental of Cherryvale, Dub, Falls Park, Newforge, Olympia Leisure Centre, Ozone, Sally gardens, Stranmillis College, Woodlands etc.

What is your view about the current facilities provided- tick the best option below.



Of those who answered this question, 57.2% felt current facilities were adequate and 41.5% of respondents considered current facilities to be inadequate.

Q14. What are your views about facilities required for the future e.g., Security/ ownership of pitches/ facilities?

(Total of 225 responses)



Many respondents were passionate about owning their own club land and facilities (n=114), including a clubhouse (n=58):

“secure ownership of permanent home ground”; “Would love our own clubhouse so we can have a central hub for our club”.

However, some respondents recognised the difficulty in purchasing and maintaining land in South Belfast and suggested strengthening/extending the existing leases (n=16):

“The council lease is too short which creates uncertainty. I appreciate the challenges with land in the area but with a club this size couldn’t we get some politicians onside to release funding or land.”; “A long lease of Musgrave - donated by the City Council”.

The need to gain greater access to more pitches, coupled with the need to improve the quality of

Harlequins (and to a lesser extent Musgrave) featured strongly (n=27):

“We need more pitches generally.”;

“..but the need for more pitches is essential”

“Harlequins is good location but the holes in the ground aren’t safe and the surface is uneven”;

“... Harlequins needs to be improved or an alternative found. Areas cordoned off. Holes temporarily filled with sand. A proper fence around the back pitch at Musgrave is needed to prevent people using it as a public pitch”

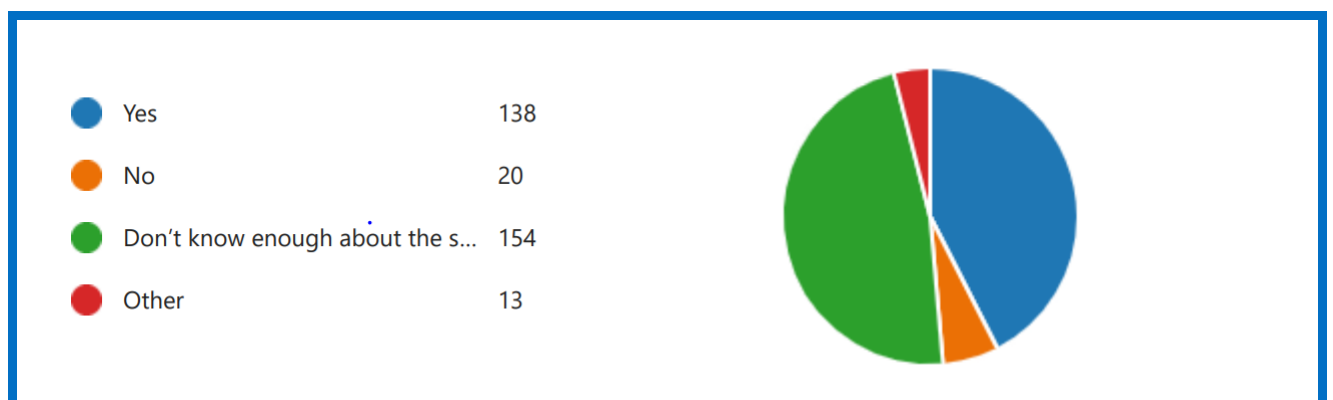
“Back pitch at Musgrave is a mess. It needs to be fixed up so that it isn’t looked at as the “back pitch” but a pitch that is just as good as the current main one...”

Respondents wanted the provision of floodlights (n=21) and access to gym facilities (n=16):

“Get flood lights for musgrave”

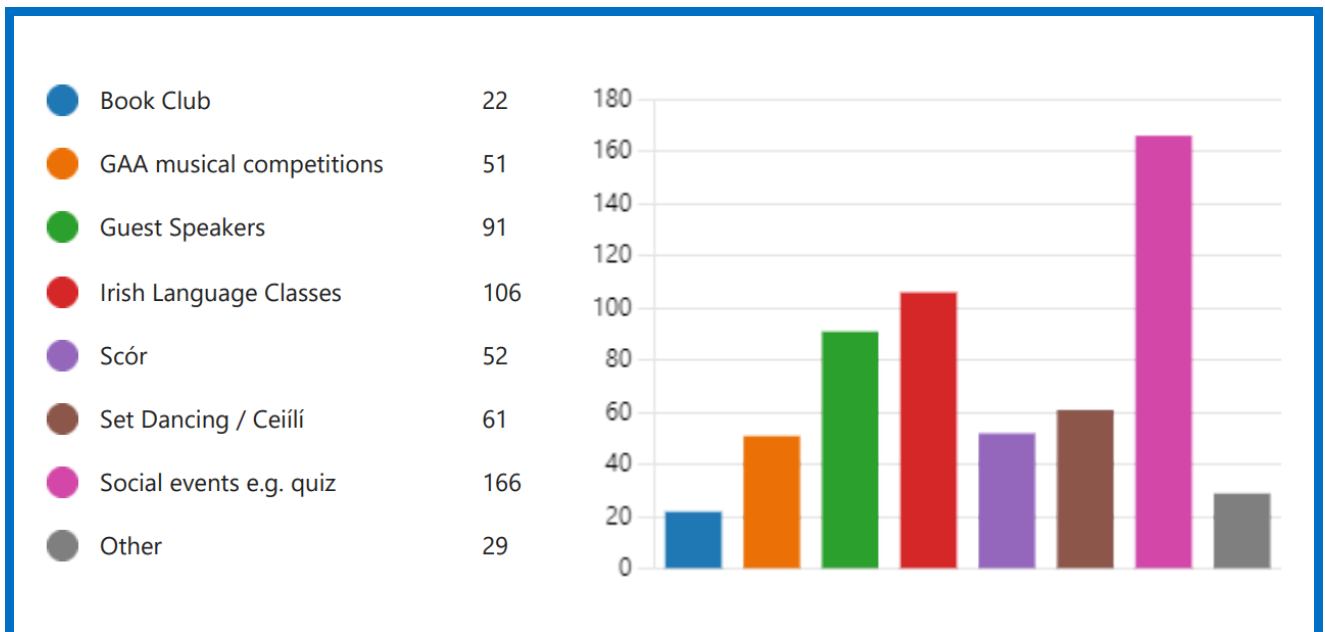
“There needs to be a concerted effort to improve the facilities to a standard which is expected of the modern GAA club including gym facilities for members”.

Q15. Naomh Bríd CLG has an Executive Committee comprising of 19 members (including Chair, Treasurer etc), as well as 5 sub-committees (fundraising/games/physical development & facilities/governance & safeguarding/strategic planning). Do you think that the club is appropriately structured to support its current and future activities?



Almost half (47.4%) of respondents felt don't know enough about the structure of the club to answer this question. However, 43.1% of respondents consider the club is appropriately structured to support its current and future activities. 6.2% of respondents don't think it is appropriately structured.

Q16. Are there any social or cultural activities that you would like to participate in or would like to see taking place in the club?



Responses in order of preference: Social Events, Irish Language, Guest Speakers, Set Dancing / Ceili, Scor, GAA Musical Competitions, Other (unspecified), Book Club.

Q17. Do you think that Naomh Bríd CLG is an inclusive club? Specify any cultural/social groups within the wider community where collaboration with Naomh Bríd CLG would be mutually beneficial?

(Total of 182 responses)

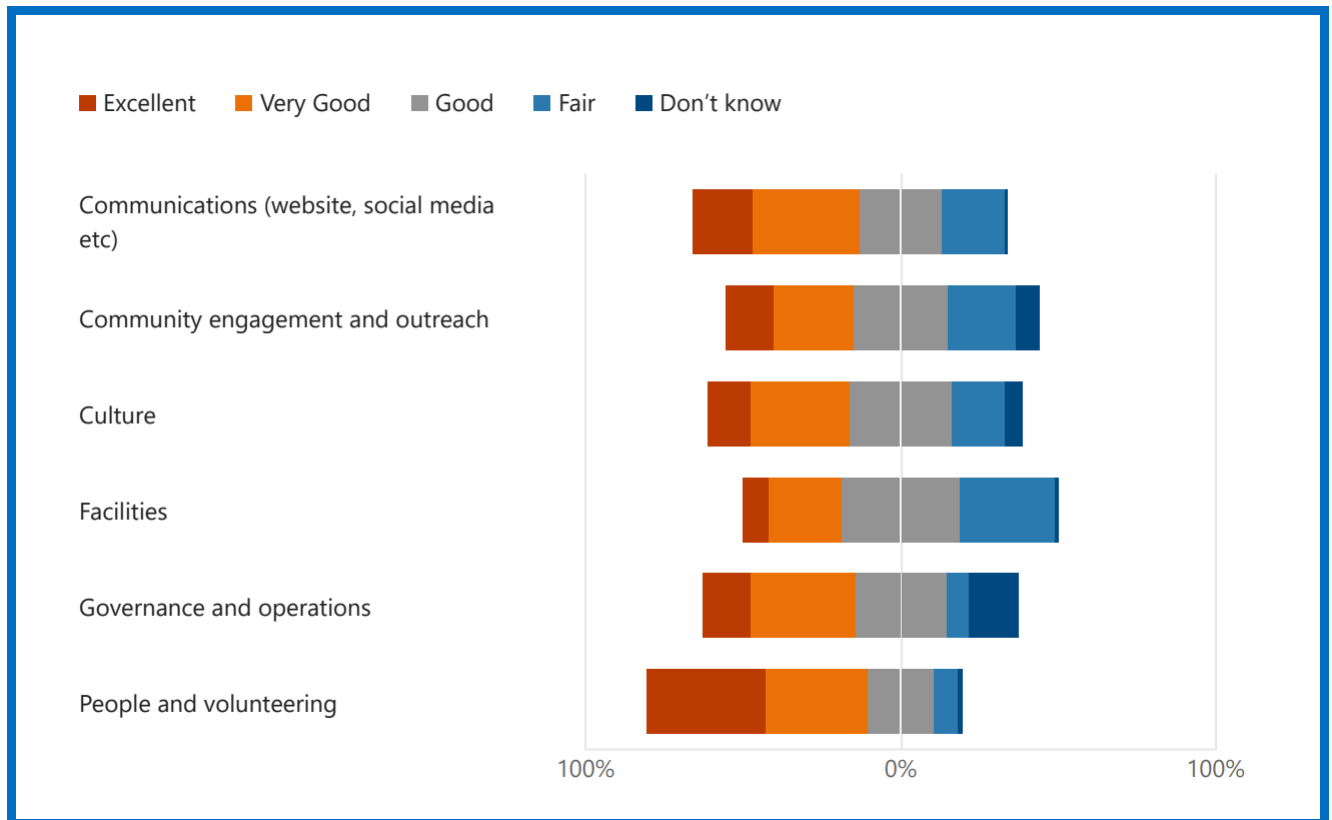
Respondents reported wanted greater outreach to minority ethnic groups, other culture and faiths (n=32), with a suggestion to promote more widely in schools particularly non-Catholic schools (n=26):

“Could be doing more to engage with people not from GAA backgrounds and from wider cultures”

“It would be interesting to outreach to the other side of the community. There is clear separation between those (us) taking part in GAA related culture and those in the hockey/rugby culture in NI. Minimal cross over.”

“We have very few ethnic minority children playing. The make up of our childrens' school classes are not replicated on the football field. We also need to make more effort to engage with non-Catholic schools in South Belfast”

Q18. How would you rate the club in the following areas of activity?



Communications: 18.8%, 33.5% of respondents considered communications to be excellent and very good, respectively. Approximately 20% of respondents considers communications to be poor across the club.

Community engagement & outreach: 14.8%, 24.9% of respondents considered communication & outreach to be excellent and very good, respectively. Approximately 20% of respondents considers community engagement & outreach to be poor across the club.

Culture: 13.5%, 30.8% of respondents considered of respondents considered culture at the club to be excellent and very good, respectively. Approximately 20% of respondents considers culture to be fair across the club.

Facilities: 8%, 22% of respondents considered facilities to be excellent and very good, respectively. Approximately 30% % of respondents consider facilities to be fair across the club.

Governance & Operations: 32.3%, 27.7% of respondents considered governance to be very good and good respectively. Approximately 15.3% of respondents 'don't know' enough about governance across the club.

People and Volunteering: 36.9%, 32% and 20% of respondents considered volunteering to be excellent, very good and good respectively.

Q19. What do you think should be done to increase our retention of players in the 16+ age group?

(Total of 202 responses)

Respondents felt that creating more opportunities for social mixing (n=45) would improve retention of this age group. The need for a clubhouse/own premises (n = 19) to facilitate social events was highlighted.

“Create more of a social scene for older group (I.e. youth club type set up with pool/snooker tables and computer games) with chill out spaces to meet up within club environment at a club house”

“More social events to make them feel more included”

“More underage events such as presentation nights and team building days.”

“More social opportunities. Make the clubhouse the centre of the community.”

Offering more games, as well as more game time for everyone (n= 38) was also seen as another way to address the retention issue in this age group:

“Get more games for that age group”

“offer more casual games to keep them connected”

“Arrange more friendly games so they get game time”

“Make sure all players play in the matches”

Q20. Is there anything Naomh Bríd CLG could do better to attract more volunteers/ maximise parental involvement?

(Total of 170 responses)

Respondents suggested that more people or parents should be approached directly and asked (n=35).

“Ask them”

“Less cliques - have a formal volunteer platform”

Respondents wanted to be given a clear outline of what they would be committing to as a volunteer and would then be more likely to agree (n=16):

“Have small jobs for those short on time and also make it clear not every job in a team involves taking sessions. E.g logistics”

“Perhaps an ‘open’ event before start of each season highlighting roles needing done etc. I think people just sometimes need to know that the club needs help and people are often happy to help if asked”

“Provide information to the members of projects and activities which need their input.”

To facilitate this there should be greater presence of club committee personnel at Fun Sunday particularly when new members join and/or greater opportunity to meet other club members (n=16).

“More social, family events”

“Provide opportunities for them to meet.”

“Club personnel attending games interact more with parents who they don’t know. There is a sense of clique culture which is off-putting to new members and existing members who don’t know these people.”

Increased communication to all featured strongly, highlighting the need for volunteers, and in particular increase the use of social media (n=26):

“Offer wider, make calls on team communication channels. Quite clicquey at present.”

“Advertise it. Put it on social media. Encourage engagement”

“Better use of communication channels, especially social media.”

“Communicate with parents”

“More awareness about events - big matches etc. Improve social media and have daily updates on days leading up to matches of both girls and boys, senior and underage.”

Q21. What do you think are the three biggest challenges facing Naomh Bríd CLG in the next three years?

(Total of 208 responses)

Overwhelming concerns around ownership of ownership of pitches or securing enough facilities for continued growth of the club emerged as the biggest concern amongst respondents (n=124):

“Secure our own ground and clubhouse”

“Finding more places to play”

“Having enough facilities”

“Need certainty around longer term plan for pitches / facilities etc”

Retention of players (n=74) was considered to be the second biggest concern, including teenagers, females and older players:

“Player drop out”

“Retaining players after minor and making this an attractive prospect for players”

“Taking the very many players 14 to 17 through to adult games”

The appreciation of the financial difficulties in running a voluntary organisation, as well as a lack of fundraising were raised as concerns (n=31):

“cost of running the club”

“holding it all together financially”

“Need for more active fun raising to ensure club has finances to continue to support all teams”

“and more events to raise money for the club”

Q22. What solutions would you suggest to these three challenges?

(Total of 170 responses)

Solutions were proposed to address current lack of own premises (n=69), including engaging politicians to help:

“Buying own premises or co-ownership with harlequins”

“Property strategy to acquire premises/fundraising”

“Strategic planning to obtain better facilities”

“Engage with Belfast City Council to secure playing field”

“Pressing Ulster GAA to assist in securing pitch/club facilities due to unique challenge of being in South Belfast - priority access to grants - selling club size/achievements/potential for contribution to county”

“Engage council / political support”

“we need to ask our members to be vocal with political parties”

The quality of the coaches was recognised as one of the strong points of the club (Q24). However, respondents felt that further support and development of coaches was needed to retain the coaches

we have and build upon that (n=12):

“More support for coaches”

“funding for professional coaching experience”

“More coach education and encouragement to get involved with teams their kids don't play with”

“consistent coaching ideology across the board within the club”

Q23. What are the two best things about Naomh Bríd CLG in your opinion?

(Total of 231 responses)

Respondents felt the best thing about the club was undoubtedly the people and the community spirit it engendered (n=90):

“The sense of being part of a community”

“Strong sense of Community”.

This could, in part, be due to the make-up of the club with many moving to the area, not growing up here and therefore seeking out the club to find community spirit in a city. This is something the club should strive to maintain and build upon.

The quality of the coaches (n = 28) and commendation for the commitment of volunteers (n=17) featured strongly:

“great mentors”

“enthusiasm of coaches”

Alongside this, the friendships established also emerged as one of the most positive aspects of the club:

“all of my friends are in the club”

“The club craic and the people”

“opportunity to build lifelong connections”.