

Navan Hockey Club Newsletter





GENERAL INFO

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

e're excited to share another round of **updates** and **highlights** from across **Navan Hockey Club.** October has been full of **energy, effort,** and **progress** - both on and off the pitch!

Our **Ladies Team** battled through a challenging month, showing **great teamwork** and **determination** across their fixtures. Despite narrow losses, the squad continues to grow stronger and more connected each week, laying the foundation for the success ahead.

keep Navan Hockey Club moving forward - Every stick, Every step, Every season.

The **Men's Badgers** put in strong performances too, with a thrilling last-minute win against **Avoca** and a competitive clash in **Kilkenny**, showing the team's grit and passion. Their hard work and persistence are starting to pay off! Our **Juvenile Section** continues to **thrive**, reaching a proud milestone by fielding **two Inter squads** for the **first time**. Both teams played superbly against **Botanic** and **Avoca**, while our **U-14 Boys** shone at the Leinster **5-a-side Blitz**, earning praise for their skill and sportsmanship. The future of Navan hockey is looking bright!

In **Club Stories**, we're calling for new **volunteers** and aspiring **coaches** to join our growing community. The club is covering official **coaching courses**, and anyone interested in helping with **training** or **umpiring** is welcome to get involved. Our pitch hires are also going strong, with several clubs training on our grounds from Monday to Friday, keeping the Aura pitches buzzing with activities. Thank you to all our players, coaches, parents, sponsors, and supporters for your continued enthusiasm and dedication. Together, we

Mens

ctober proved to be a turning point for our **Navan Men's XI**, who battled through two tough away fixtures that showcased both their determination and growing **team chemistry**.

The month began on 11th October with a trip to Kilkenny for a hard-fought Division 4 clash.

Kilkenny started strong, putting early pressure on **Navan** and taking a **2–0** lead in the opening quarter. **Navan** regrouped and showed their resilience, tightening their defence and finding more rhythm in midfield. The adjustment paid off in the third quarter when **Ru Clarke** drove down the right, linking up with **Matheus Costa-Wallace** before slotting home a rebound to make it **2–1**. Despite pressing hard for an equaliser, Kilkenny's late penalty corner sealed the result at **3–1**, but the performance reflected a team beginning to find its stride.



Just over a week later, on **21st October**, the **Badgers** travelled to **Blackrock** for a **re-fixed** match against a tough **Avoca** side—and this time, they delivered their best performance of the season. The match was an intense **end-to-end contest**, with **Philip Garry** stealing the spotlight by scoring twice and providing an assist in a thrilling **3–2** win. After conceding early, Navan rallied through **Garry's** composed equaliser and a well-taken finish by **Ru Clarke** from **Garry's clever setup**

The closing moments were pure drama: with the score level and just seconds remaining, **David Deasy's** pinpoint through-ball found Garry, who calmly swept it into the goal as the final whistle blew. The team **erupted in celebration**—securing their **first win** and points of the season in memorable fashion.

It was a well-deserved result built on **teamwork**, **persistence**, and **focus** from start to finish. With strong performances from **Alan Davis**, **Deasy**, and the returning players adding depth to the squad, the **Men's XI** are looking ahead with renewed confidence. If they carry this form into the next round of fixtures, there's plenty to be excited about for the months to come.

Women

ctober was a busy month for our **Navan Ladies**, filled with strong performances, determination, and plenty of progress on the pitch.

The **first match** of the month took place on the **4th** of **October** away to **Railway Union 4ths** at **Park Avenue, Dublin.** Despite a tough journey with road closures and protests delaying arrival, the team showed great resilience. With little to no time to warm up, they still delivered a solid performance, narrowly losing 0–1 in a closely contested match that could have gone either way.



Next up was a **home** game on **11th** of **October** at St. Joseph's Mercy Secondary School against a strong **Bray 3rds** side. Navan fought hard throughout, creating several great opportunities.

A standout moment came from **Bronagh**, who scored a superb short corner goal that

was unfortunately disallowed due to an earlier foul. The team pushed right to the end but fell short with a **0–2 result**, showing great teamwork and spirit.

Their final match of the month saw **Navan** travel to **Rathdown School** on **18th October** to face **Monkstown 5ths**. This was arguably their best performance yet, with fantastic **link-up play** and smart passing across the pitch. **Bronagh** opened the scoring after capitalizing on a rebound from a short corner, but despite

strong defending and several near misses, **Navan** narrowly lost **1–2**. Throughout October, the Ladies showed continuous improvement and growing confidence as a team. The communication on the pitch, **quick transitions**, and **composure** under pressure have all come together

to create a more connected and dynamic squad. It's been brilliant to see new players step in seamlessly and the experienced players leading by example, building a strong foundation for the season ahead. Beyond the results, what truly stood out this month was the team's spirit—both on and off the pitch.

Whether it was rallying each other after setbacks or celebrating the small victories that didn't appear on the scoreboard, the Ladies have demonstrated the **heart** and unity that define **Navan Hockey Club**. Their **dedication**, **camaraderie**, and **passion** for the game are setting the tone for an exciting season to come. Special mentions go to **Eppie**,

Danielle, Sarah, Zuzanna, and **Andrea**, who continue to impress in their new roles, and to the entire defence for their composure and leadership under pressure. While the results didn't quite fall our way this month, the standard of hockey and team cohesion continue to grow each week. The Ladies are showing **real promise**—proving that a well-deserved win is only a matter of time!

Juveniles

hat a proud month it was for our little club as not one, but **two** Navan Inter squads took to the pitch for their first matches of the season!

It was a fantastic milestone for the **Juvenile section** and a **testament** to how much the group has grown over the past year. Our Inter squad pictured to the left, travelled to **Botanic** for their **opening game**, while our **second squad** faced **Avoca** at **home**.

Both matches were true **nail-biters**—each a tale of two halves. One team raced ahead with an early **2–0** lead, while the other kept things level with a strong defensive display and great teamwork. As the second half unfolded, **Botanic** managed to pull one back, and **Avoca** found the net late in the game, leaving both matches evenly poised until the final whistle. In the end, the day finished with one **win** and one **loss**, but the **performance** and **sportsmanship** shown by both squads made us every bit as proud as if they had both won.

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Hanna and Andrea found the back of the net for the winning side, securing those all-important early points, while **Katie**, in goals for the home squad, put on an incredible display between the posts to keep Avoca at bay for most of the match. Coaches **Bronagh** and **Niamh** were thrilled with the teams' efforts, noting the **skill, teamwork**, and **enthusiasm** shown by every player.

It's clear that all the hard work during **Sunday** training sessions at Aura is paying off! A big thank you also goes out to our **umpires Mags** and **Helen** for their time and dedication, and to all the parents who turned up to cheer on the girls—your support means the world to the players and coaches alike. The **Inters** also recently played a friendly match against a **strong Boyne side**, and while the competition was fierce, the smiles on the players' faces said it all.

It was a wonderful day of hockey and friendship, reminding us all what the sport is truly about. A massive thank you to **Boyne Hockey Club** for the warm welcome—we're already looking forward to many more friendlies in the future!

Juveniles

t was an exciting day for our **U-14 Boys**, who took part in the first **Leinster 5-a-side Blitz**—and what a **fantastic success** it was!

The boys played **four** great matches, finishing with **one win, one draw,** and **two losses**, but more importantly, showing tremendous **effort, teamwork**, and **sportsmanship** throughout. Teams from **Laois, Galway, Dublin,** and **Meath** all participated, making for a competitive and energetic day of hockey.

Our **Navan** boys impressed both on and off the pitch, earning plenty of compliments for their **skill**, **determination**, and **positive attitude**. Every player gave their all, and the progress they've made over recent months was

clear to see. A huge thank you goes to **Kenny Carroll** for organising such a well-run event and giving these young players an opportunity to experience fast-paced, small-pitch hockey in a fun, supportive environment.

With spirits high and plenty learned from the day, **Navan Hockey Club** hopes to host its own underage **5-a-side blitz** in the new year, continuing to grow youth hockey and give our young players even more chances to shine!



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Upcoming Matches



Navan 1st

Botanic 1



Mercy Navan



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Navan 1

Mercy Navan

Men Matches

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Pembroke 4th 10 1/5 10 Navan 1st

Serpentine Avenue

15h November 2025 🛗

Navan 1st 10 1/5 10 North Kildare 1st

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Dublin North 1st 10 1/3 10 Navan 1st

NSC - Abbotstown

Women Matches

Weston 2

Navan 1st

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Navan 1st 10 1/3 10 Corinthians 4th

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iii 15th November 2025 iii

Genesis 3rd 10 VS 10 Navan 1st

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29th November 2025

Navan 1st UCD Ladies 6th

Mercy Navan

Club Stories

t Navan Hockey Club, we're always looking for ways to grow and strengthen our hockey community — and this month, we're reaching out for new volunteers and future coaches!

We're currently putting together a group of enthusiastic individuals who are interested in helping out our coaches during training sessions and matches. Whether you're a parent, player, or supporter who just wants to get more involved, this is a fantastic opportunity to contribute to the club and support our young athletes.

The club will be **covering the costs** of official **coaching courses**, so if you've ever wanted to learn more about **coaching**, this is the perfect time to start. **Volunteers** who are also willing to assist with **umpiring** from time to time would be especially welcome — we're always grateful for an extra **whistle when needed!** To get involved, please send an email to **secretary@navanhockeyclub.ie**, and we'll provide you with a **Garda Vetting Form** to get the process started. Your support, no matter how small, makes a huge difference and helps keep our club running smoothly.

In other great news, our **pitch hires are thriving!** We're delighted to share that a few clubs are now renting our pitches during the evenings from Monday to Friday. This steady use not only helps **sustain** the **maintenance** of our **facilities** but also creates a **lively, active** atmosphere throughout the week — a wonderful sight for anyone passing by The Aura Pitches!

Thank you to everyone who continues to give their time, energy, and enthusiasm to **Navan Hockey Club.** Together, we're building something truly special both on and off the pitch.

MEET YOUR COMMITTEE



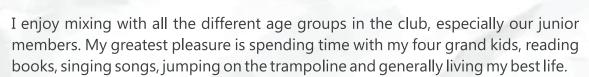
Shane Dooly Chair

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

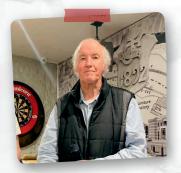
His role ensures everything runs smoothly and that Navan Hockey Club continues to thrive each season.

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.







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





Jenny Dunne 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.



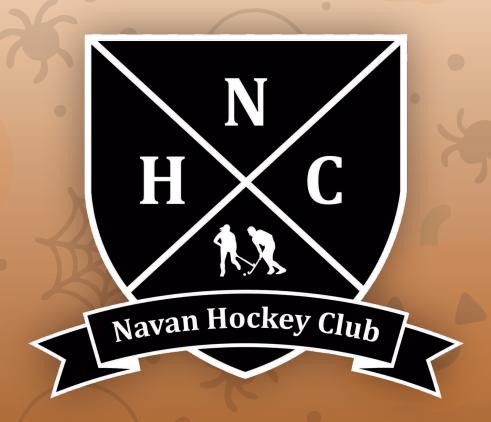


Bannon Auctioneers & Valuers

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.

NAVAN HOCKEY Club Newsletter



Thank You For Reading!



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Proof Read By: Stephen Tormey & Kaitlin Claire Whelan



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