

There were Community Games in Killeely as far back as the mid 70's. In the early years Brother Cyril who was attached to De Le Salle School in Hospital and was then Chairman of Limerick Community Games encouraged Mary Jo Bolger to start Community Games in Killeely. In 1975, both Mary Jo and her late husband Paul carried a bus load of children from the parish to participate in the Limerick County Athletics Finals at the Gaelic Grounds. From information we can make out there were participants at the Athletics finals from the parish for a number of years. David Bolger set a new Community Games record in 1975 in the U14 Shotput with a throw of 9.8metres. We understand that the local children participated in the Limerick Basketball competition around that time also. After that period, Community Games became dormant in the parish but anybody interested were eligible to compete with Hospital/Herbertstown. During that period, Jim Hennessey of Coole had great success representing Hospital/Herbertstown and Limerick. In 1990 and 1991 he won the U14 Limerick County Final Shotput for both years. In '91 he went on to win the gold medal in Mosney and in '92 he won the U16 discus in Limerick and went on to win the bronze medal in Mosney.

Towards the end of 2001, the late Gretta O'Connor spoke to Mary Jo Bolger about the possibility of getting community games started again in the Killeely area. Mary Jo then contacted Robert O'Dea of Ballyphilip whose children were at an age that would benefit alot from Community Games. With alot of local encouragement we got an area established in January of 2002. The elected officers were Presidents-Fr. Tom Egan and Mary Jo Bolger, Chairman-Robert O'Dea, Vice Chairperson-Angela Murphy, Secretary-Mariette O'Riordan, Assistant Secretary-Anne O'Dea, Treasurer-Jacinta Rodahan, PRO-Eamon O'Dea, Development Officer-Trish Jones.

One of our first activities was the County Cross Country which went very well for us, and we had a number of prize winners and incidentally the same has happened every year since, we always have prize winners and each year we always had somebody that qualified to represent Limerick at the National Cross Country Finals.

Amongst the activities we participate in Quiz, Boys and Girls Outdoor Soccer, Indoor Soccer, Tag Rugby, Gaelic football, Art and Model Making, Talent Competition, Athletics, Photographic Competition, Badminton, Futsal, Choir, Table Tennis and Swimming. Our main emphasis is on participation but we have also had success from time to time, amongst those would have been our U14 Tag Rugby team, who in 2005 won the Limerick County Final and qualified for the Munster Finals where they narrowly lost, the U12 Girls Soccer team in 2006, won Limerick and Munster County Finals. This entitled them to represent Limerick in Mosney in which they had a thrilling win in the National Semi Final, but unfortunately narrowly lost the final to Lakeview of Wicklow. It was a great honour for the girls to bring home All Ireland silver medals to our Area, and they all had a memorable weekend in Mosney. We had many successes over the years in the Limerick County Athletic finals and many children had the honour of representing their area and Limerick at the National Finals in Mosney.

Each year we run a very successful Open Sports Day. As well as the huge participation from the local community we also get alot of support from outside the area. For the past few years we have run a very successful barbeque to celebrate the years achievements.

Robert O'Dea
Chairman