

Villa Social Presents

# VILLA FC NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

December Review | 2023



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## THE COAD-BYRNE ERA HITS 100 GAMES



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## A Word from Villa Social

Happy New Year and welcome back to our second newsletter!

The reception of our inaugural newsletter was amazingly received by so many within the Villa community and outside of it. Words cannot express how appreciative we are of each and every one of you for adopting this overview of the club and hope to continue publishing it for as long as there is a demand for it.

We have been very lucky that word of the newsletter has reached the ears and eyes of past members who are spread across all four corners of the globe and everywhere in between and still have a massive interest in keeping up to date with all things Villa related.

We are looking to take the next steps in improving our digest and events committee as time goes on. All of this is to ensure that members of the Villa Social are getting more value for their participation in the club, so please stay tuned.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

## The Overview

People have enjoyed the November newsletter and how it's shining a light on all aspects of the club. We aim to have this Newsletter be used in improving our club community aspect by increasing numbers at events which in the near future would allow us push for rewarding Villa Social members going forward.

Coffee morning on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December saw a great turnout come to support it. Lots of people loved reconnecting with those they have not seen about the club for years so thank you for making it a success. Thanks to Kai of Hatch21 for the coffee discount, Conor McDonald for sponsoring the cakes, as well as friend of the club, Erti Art, who showcased his prints down in the club.

Christmas night out on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December had us restart the night out tradition after years of missing out on it.

In house coaching workshop on "*Match Day Preparation*" was held on a monsoon like Monday evening on the 11<sup>th</sup>/Dec with a great turnout by coaches looking to improve their craft.

A Villa coaches only Safeguarding course was held Friday evening on the 15<sup>th</sup> Dec in our drive to get FAI Club Mark Award with a decent attendance from our coaches.

Junior league teams are back from their Christmas break on the 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Schoolboy league teams are back from their Christmas break on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January.

We look to improve our Villa Social Events & Newsletter subcommittee over 2024 so anyone interested please get in touch.

We are looking to improve our Villa Sponsorship subcommittee over 2024 so anyone interested please get in touch. The sponsorship subcommittee will also be publishing its newest sponsorship package in the next newsletter edition.

Our events calendar is to be published sometime in January which will see 2024 be broken into two halves to allow members get to as many events as possible.

Can managers and coaches please keep an eye out for correspondence regarding some administrative and operational housekeeping in the managers chat please and thank you.

We look to get some new merchandise in the New Year with Villa scarves to be available for purchase within the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. We will try to have them in stock before our Junior Cup game against St. Peters to create a sea of Green and White to make the Villa twelfth man an asset to the boys. When the scarves are gone, they're gone.

The academy has seen a very festive and fun Christmas period for all the kids involved with blitzes played in the run up to Santa arriving.

The former player tracker has started with our lads abroad. Our League of Ireland representation will begin in the new season.

National Competition front our Premier team won their 100<sup>th</sup> game in the current era in style with a comprehensive 11-0 win against Cork Intero in the Munster Junior Cup in Mayfield. They played Peake Villa in the Munster Champions Cup a week later which saw them win 2-1 in extra time putting them through to the Munster Champions Final, so a big turn out by our 12<sup>th</sup> man is needed to help the boys bring it home. Our U15s bowed out of the SFAI cup with a tough 2-0 loss to Bagnelstown of Carlow. The U14 girls were due for SFAI cup action against Peake Villa of Thurles but given a walkover thus move on to the next round.

Our U12A team are going abroad to Bergues, France in May to compete on the international stage in the Bergues City Tournament. Our U13A team are going abroad to Malgrat de Mar, Spain in May to compete in the international Whitsuntide Cup Tournament.

## Team Spotlight



This majority of this group have been together for the past 3 seasons. Having missed out on a lot of SSG's tournaments due to Covid when they were in the Villa Academy this group were entered into the U'11C League in their first season of competitive football to get them used to playing games. They reached the Cup final that season but were beaten 2-1 by Carrick Utd.

Last season they had a really strong showing in the U'11A League finishing second to eventual winners Southend Utd and beating Piltown in the cup final on a score line of 2-0.

So far this season they have not played any league games due to the consistent wet weather conditions. They have won all 4 rounds of the South East Region SFAI Cup competition and qualified for the regional semi-final. They have been drawn at home against our great rivals Southend Utd in the national last 32 open draw which is due to take place early in the New Year. The boys in this squad have an excellent attendance record at training sessions and are always eager to work hard on improving their game.

### France Trip May 2024:

This squad have been entered into the U'12 Bergues City Tournament that takes place on the May Bank Holiday weekend 2024. Bergues is a historical town located close to Dunkirk in Northern France. This is an excellent opportunity for the boys to travel away together for a tournament and to test themselves against teams from France.

The group are planning some fundraising events in the New Year to help in some way towards the cost of the trip.

## Coach Spotlight



L-R: Iuri Anecchiarico, Paul Breslin, Dylan Breslin, Johnny Dunphy and Rafal Bacela

Our main focus with this group since we took them from the academy has always been to educate them on the basics of the game and improve them as footballers.

Rafa joined our coaching team last season and has done tremendous work with both of our goalkeepers. This season Iuri volunteered his services to work with the squad on improving their fitness levels. A portion of each training session is now dedicated to fitness, endurance and speed work.

We have followed the Villa FC Football Development Programme when compiling our training sessions throughout the last 2 seasons. This is a modular programme that covers different age related principles of the game in 4 to 5 week blocks. This season we also designed a position specific playbook for each member of the squad that they can use as a reference.

## Events for the Diary

- **In House Coaching** | Monday 15th January | 19:45 – 21:00
- **FAI Junior Cup** | vs St. Peters (Athlone) | Connors Park | Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Jan | TBD
- **Munster Junior Cup** (event link) | vs Regional | Connors Park | Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan | 14:00
- **Munster Champions Cup** | vs Newmarket Celtic/Killarney Celtic | Place and Time TBD
- **Couch to 5K** | Get the New Year off right – Join us in our Couch to 5K | Starting Soon
- **SFAI Boys** | U12A v Southend Utd | Connors Park | Weekend of the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> February
- **SFAI Girls** | U14A v Coole FC | Connors Park | Weekend of the 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> January

## Members Notice Board

**We hope** you have had peaceful and relaxing Christmas break & we wish everyone a prosperous 2024.

We would like to wish our u16 player **Jack Jones** a speedy recovery from his ACL injury and let him and his family know we are all thinking of him and can't wait to see him on a football field soon.

A shout out to u13 player, **Hugo Thompson**, who is helping out with match day graphics for all our teams in big games.

We are having our **annual bucket collection** SuperValu Kilbarry (Fri 5<sup>th</sup> & Sat 6<sup>th</sup> of Jan) and Ardkeen Stores (6<sup>th</sup> of Jan). Time slots 10-12, 12-2, 2-4, and 4-6. Please let your team coach know if you are interested.

**IMPORTANT:** The New Year is a new start. Please make sure you have registered properly (use link below) and please ensure that you conduct and represent yourselves as befitting the club.

## Club Shop & Sub Links

[Club Shop](#)

[Subscription &  
Villa Vision Link](#)

[Gear Pack  
New for  
23/24  
Season](#)

## A Centenary in Numbers



GAMES 100



WINS 80



DRAWS 8

LOSSES 12

GOALS SCORED 336

GOALS CONCEED 96

WIN % 80%



## What the first 100 Games in Charge Looks Like

Special Report Page 15



VILLA FOOTBALL CLUB  
&  
VILLA SOCIAL

Wish to Highlight our

APPRECIATION  
&  
SINCERE THANKS

To All Who Attended our

VILLA FC  
CHRISTMAS GATHERING

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You Are the Ones  
Who Make Our Community Great

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## Month in Review

We had a quiet start to December, as on the first weekend of the month a lot of our lads were involved in the Waterford Oscar Traynor Squad who were in action against the Munster Senior League's Junior Selection, in which the Waterford League ran out 2-0 winners.

We then began a busy period of 3 games in 7 days where we first travelled to Cork for a Munster Junior Cup last 32 tie where we faced Helio Inter Cork. The game was played on a tight Astro pitch in Mayfield but the lads had their shooting boots on and hat tricks from Alex Phelan & Regix Madika along with goals from Conor Whittle, Conor Kilgannon, Eoghan Rea, Nils Lukaku and Shane O'Brien made it a comfortable afternoon in an 11-0 win. This result puts us into the last 16 of the Munster Junior Cup where we host last year's holders Regional Utd on Sun Jan 7th in what should be a cracker of a game.

Portlaw travelled to Connor's Park on Wednesday the 13th Dec where we played our first game in over 12 months on the grass pitch which our groundsman Decky Purcell had in fantastic condition as always. A hat trick of assists from John Fred Tamen was the highlight of the game, slipping Alex Phelan in for the first, crossing for Conor Kilgannon for the second and winning the penalty for the third which Dean Walsh converted to complete a 3-0 win.

It was great to get a league game played during what's been a busy cup schedule and this important 3 points puts us back on the top of the table heading into the New Year.

A quick turnaround from Portlaw on the Wednesday night to Sunday afternoon which brought about our biggest game of the season to date, away to Peake Villa in the Semi Final of the Munster Champions Trophy.

Peake Villa, who last season saw off serial winners St. Michaels to win the Tipperary League, were also unbeaten so far this season heading into this game.

A soft pitch in Thurles with a strong wind made it a tough day to play good football and Peake scored a couple minutes before half time to lead 1-0 at the break.

We showed more composure and bravery on the ball in the second half, created some chances and had Peake reduced to 10 men but it didn't look as if it was going to be our day. However Conor Kilgannon had other plans and his low drive from 20 yards in the 93rd minute levelled the game and brought it into extra time.

We had the majority of possession within extra time but Craig Dunphy was called into action to make a big save from a Peake counter attack. Into added time in extra time the tie looked destined for penalties, but one final attack saw the ball fall to the edge of the box to Conor Whittle who's trademark finesse finish to the top corner had the Villa team and supporters erupt with celebrations and puts us through to the Munster Champions Trophy Final.

The draw for the FAI Junior Cup last 32 was also made last week with us receiving a home tie against St. Peters of Athlone, to be played Sun Jan 21st at 2pm.

## Coaches Notes

"Another strong month for us with 3 really important results picked up along the way."

"We've had a number of trips down to Cork this season already and made light work of what was a potential banana skin against Helio Inter. They were a very aggressive team who left the foot in so it was great to come out of there with no injuries along with the result."

"Our game v Portlaw was a tricky encounter for the first half hour until we made the breakthrough. Portlaw came and sat in a low block and they were a threat on the counter early in the game, but once we scored the first goal it settled us down and it was great to keep another clean sheet and pick up another 3 points."

"We were expecting a tough test away in Peake Villa, which is probably one of the toughest games in junior football at current. We were down a few bodies too which never helps on days like that but huge credit to the lads who put in a monumental shift in tough conditions. Scoring two late goals is a great pointer towards the character within the group. I was delighted to see the two Conor's (Kilgannon and Whittle) share the headlines as it was exactly what their individual performances on the day deserved."

"We'll face the winners of Newmarket Celtic or Killarney Celtic in the Final in early 2024 and that's one that we'll really look forward to"



VILLA FOOTBALL CLUB  
**AWAY DAYS**

**VILLA SOCIAL NEEDS YOU**

The Villa Social Events Sub-Committee is searching for a volunteer to join us as the **Villa Away Days Co-Ordinator.**

The Role will be to **ONLY** do the following;

- Gauge numbers in advance of an away day for big games
  - Contact and ensure bus hire for the day
- Book a venue for the returning supporters and team

**Contact if interested**  
**Information on page 28**



# VILLA FOOTBALL CLUB

A MASSIVE THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT AT THE

# VILLA SOCIAL COFFEE MORNING

We would like to thank each and every person who attended our Coffee Morning on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December. The popularity of the morning will see another happen in a few weeks.

We look to make the next one bigger and better in a show of appreciation for our community.



Coffee & Tea by  
**Hatch21**

Cakes Sponsored by  
**Conor McDonald**



JOIN THE **VILLA SOCIAL** WHATSAPP GROUP FOR  
EVERYTHING VILLA



### Boys Academy

Sat 09:45 – 10:45 | Wed 18:15 – 19:15

Villa FC Astro

December was as usual a busy month for our academy. We had the integration of new coaches Derek and Michael, a blitz for our group 3 boys Vs Park Rangers and we received some new signage to add as a backdrop for our player of the week photos. Thanks as always to put brilliant sponsors!

### Girls Academy

Sat 09:30 – 10:30

Villa FC Astro

We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Thank you to our sponsors for supporting us through 2023.







VILLA SOCIAL  
EVENTS &  
NEWSLETTER

KEEPING YOU  
UPDATED MONTHLY  
ABOUT EVERYTHING  
VILLA

Villa Social - Events & Monthly  
Newsletter  
WhatsApp group



SHOW TO YOUR FAMILY &  
FRIENDS

CLICK or SCAN TO JOIN  
& WELCOME TO VILLA SOCIAL





# Villa 9-a-Side Team News

U11 and U12



**11A** – We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

**11B** - We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

**11C** - December saw us return to league action after a weather laden layoff of 9 weeks, our first outing saw us on the wrong end of a 5-3 scoreline against Park Rangers B. Our next outing saw us more in our rhythm as we returned to winning ways by defeating Tramore 5-1 to end the calendar year on a positive, a just reward for the hardwork each week in training.

**11D** - We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

**11E** – 9 games in with 7 wins and a draw sees us top of the league. It’s all thanks to the hard work that goes in on the astro every week. We’ll keep the work rate up and stay improving.

**11F** - Our young lads only had 1 fixture home to Johnville in December which was a top of the table clash. Our lads acquitted themselves brilliantly and we ran out 6-1 winners to go top. Well done lads keep up the great work. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the lads and their families.

**11G** - We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

**11H** - We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

## 12A TEAM SPOTLIGHT FOR DECEMBER

**12B** – 3 from 3 league games won without conceding a goal this month. We faced Waterford Crystal A, Bohs B, and Tramore B, scoring 15 goals in the process. All squad members are getting game time and loving their football. Next game is at home to DLS. A big thanks to Lukas from Professional Polish Painters for everything he has done for us.

**12C** - We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

**12D** - We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.







## **100 games at the helm of Premier Football in Villa FC; the Coad-Byrne era has delivered us to the promise land and they aim to do it again.**

When it comes to dynamic duos, the likes of Batman & Robin, Sonny & Cher, Starsky & Hutch, Penn & Teller, and Simon & Garfunkel will all come to mind. However we are fortunate enough to have our own duo that has brought equal amounts of magic, excellence, and glory to Villa FC; that being the managerial pairing of Conor Coad and Paddy Byrne.

Both men have a rich history with the club bringing silverware to our doorstep as players, but the calling of managerial pursuits has led them to revitalise football within Villa FC and establish a beautiful style of play now synonymous with the famous Green and White of Villa. They have also been laying a foundation of footballing excellence while building, not just the most exciting team in Waterford Junior football at the moment, but the most extraordinary team and backroom staff to accompany it. A special mention to Paul Morrissey who was a vital source of experience and advice that is still with the squad to this day.

When Conor and Paddy took the reins of the Premier squad in August of 2018, it saw them install a new style of fluid play, keep the team together through 2+ years of a global pandemic, bolster the squad with ever improving players from the Villa rank and file, and not just compete but reach and win national finals to add the clubs name to a very prestigious roster of national teams we are delighted to be a part of.

The 2021-2022 season was the clubs most successful in its junior history by finally breaking the spectre that loomed over the club by never having won a junior league title. Not only did we win our first league, we also went on to win the FAI junior cup, becoming the fourth Waterford team to do so, joining the likes of other great Waterford teams such as Waterford Crystal and Carrick.

With entry into many other competitions for the 2023-2024 season, the Coad and Byrne era look to build on their legacy and collect as much silverware as possible with an even more experienced and improved squad.

## **The Coaching Unit and Backroom Staff is what keeps the Engine Roaring**

The success of the team would not have got to where it has been performing at without the massive help and commitment of the backroom staff that are involved with the team.

The work that Devan Morrissey, John Butler, Stephen Cleere, Paul Morrissey, and Johnny Arrigan put into the lads is behemoth in nature and thankfully it is paying dividends for the club as we are currently in our most successful period in history. Without them, the engine will stall or cut out at the most important times, so a massive thanks to all them for what they do.

## **Success - The Stats Speak for themselves**

In the first 100 games since taking over, there have been 80 games won, 8 draws, and 12 losses. This sees a win % of 80% for the tenure so far which is impressive for any team in any league. This highlights how the team have spearheaded what is being done within the club and to install and implement the correct fundamentals across all levels of the Villa football pyramid.

What is even more impressive across these 100 games, is that we have scored 330+ goals and conceded less than 100. That is an approximate 3:1 ratio which is testament to our defensive and attacking capabilities.

Our 100<sup>th</sup> game in this era was against Helio Inter Cork FC of the Cork business league in the Munster Junior Cup which saw the lad's record their biggest ever win margin with the game finishing up 11-0. Other games were played to carry the Coad-Byrne era past the 100 mark with our final home game of the 2023 calendar year playing host to newly promoted Portlaw (3-0 win) and a massive away day to Peake Villa in the Munster Champions Cup semi-final (2-1 win) that has set up a massive final for the lads with venue and time yet to be determined as of writing this.

## **What does the Future Hold?**

The question on everyone's lips within the club is what is the next chapter of this ever expanding tale? With the Coad and Byrne era not looking to stop anytime soon, with the full buy in from these mega talented players, with ever improving football pathways from academy to premier, more players using football as a vehicle to achieve academic and professional success, and a backroom team that attracts the best and brightest from within the county's football community, only the future will tell what will happen with the club.



## Villa 11-a-Side Team News



### U13 & U14

**U13A** - We at the 13A would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

**SuperValu**  
Kilbarry

**U13B** - We at the 13B would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

**U13C** - We at the 13C would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

**U14A** - We at the 14A would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

**SuperValu**  
Kilbarry

**U14B** - We at the 14B would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

**U14C** - We had a mixed month in terms of results. Our first game of the month saw us play away to Piltown on a cold Monday evening. The boys started slowly having not played for nearly a month. Once they found their feet they played some great football and came away with a comfortable 5 nil victory. Our second game was away to a very physical Dungarvan team. The boys stood up to the challenge and played probably some of their best football of the year. Unfortunately we conceded a late goal and a very late penalty as we pushed for an equaliser. We are still on top of the table going into the Christmas break and a huge thanks to all the boys and parents for their efforts throughout the year so far.







WE WANT YOU | WE WANT YOU | WE WANT YOU



Boys & Girls Academies | Schoolboy | Schoolgirl | Junior Men | Junior Ladies

COACHES



WANTED

**Has coaching football been something you have always wanted to do or be something to get involved with?**

Get your start with one of the biggest clubs in Waterford and the South East with an experienced and community focused ethos.

**You will;**

- Be given access to free coaching workshops from UEFA A licensed and title winning coaches,
- Have the opportunity to get your coaching badges,
- Footballs, training gear, and jerseys for the season,
- Help in the personal development of players (which also has positive off field effects),
- Join a community of coaches to share experiences and learn a variety of skills,
- Join a football community that will value you; for you,
- Improve your CV with frequent high level volunteering,
- Improve the wider Waterford community.

**Your Coaching Future Starts Here**

Contact Conor – 083 007 8079

#LIFETIMESOFOOTBALL



## Villa 11-a-Side Team News

### U15 & U16



**U15A** - Tough month for our 15s as we fell to 2 defeats in close games. A 2-0 loss away to an organised Bagenalstown team in the 4th round in the SFAI ended our cup run for the year. A 1-0 defeat away to high flying new comers De La Salle followed. Plenty to work on in the training ground over the coming weeks as we look to go back to winning ways.

**SuperValu**  
Kilbarry

**U15B** - After seven weeks without a game we were back in action with two tough away fixtures in December. The boys played very well in both games and were unlucky to concede a late equaliser in Kilmacow before being undone by two breakaway goals at Bohs. Their confidence on the ball is growing and the signs are encouraging for the rest of the season. Keep it up boys! Wishing our players and their families a very Happy New Year.

**U15C** - We've have had a quiet few weeks, with only 2 games since October. We had a great start in the league and despite some tough games recently, we are still 3rd in the table, with 9 games still to go. Off the field we've been busy. We took the lads to the FAI Cup final in November, and we're looking forward to bringing them to the Premier League clash of Man City versus Everton at the Etihad in February. It will be the first Premier League experience for a good few of the lads, and excitement is building!

**U16A** - Fairly quiet month for the U16A team with only 1 game played, a really good win way to newly promoted Portlaw. We are looking forward to a really exciting 2<sup>nd</sup> half to the season, all starting with a really good post-Christmas session. This group continues to work really hard in training both on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well as attending a Strength and conditioning session each Wednesday, the players are really seeing the benefit of this gym session. Special thanks to our Primary Sponsor SuperValu and our Team sponsor David Flynn Builder who kindly sponsored warmup T-Shirts and Tops for the players.



**SuperValu**  
Kilbarry

**U16B** - No game this month for the 16Bs, the lads continued to work hard over the month, but our lack of games saw us lose top spot to Ballinroad, who we play in our next game at home in the New Year on the 6/01/24 at 2:15. A win will see us return to the top of the table. We at the 16B would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

**U16C** - We at the 16C would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

# Villa Football Club Wall of Honour 2023

Currently Active Past Players \*As at time of Publishing

*#YourFutureStartsWithUs*

Player Name	Club	Competition
Ale De Sanctis	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Anthony Akendepo	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Baasit Ishola	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Callum McFadden	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Charlie Carroll	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Cian Browne	Cobh Ramblers	League of Ireland
Ciaran Houdanu	Longford FC	League of Ireland
Dara Keane	Dundalk FC	League of Ireland
Ethan Owens	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Fidel Pululu	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Fortune Daniels	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Jack Doherty	Cork City	League of Ireland
Liam Kervick	Cobh Ramblers	League of Ireland
Mark Imiren	Wexford FC	League of Ireland
Matas Grinius	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Mikey Carroll	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Nancy Edo	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Niall O'Keefe	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Noah O'Brien	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Ramsey Miller	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Richie Lapite	Wexford	League of Ireland
Shane Griffin	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Sultan Adenekan	Athlone Town	League of Ireland
Tony Ebhonuaye	Cobh Ramblers	League of Ireland
Zak Fenton	Waterford FC	League of Ireland
Cameron Power	Davenport	NCAA D2 America
Jayson Molumby	West Brom	English Championship
Lee O'Connor	Tranmere Rovers	English League 2
Owen Oseni	Derby County FC	English League 1
Tega Agberhiere	Floro SK	Norway 3 <sup>rd</sup> Division
Timi Subowale	Floro SK	Norway 3 <sup>rd</sup> Division
Tunimise Subowale	Shrewsbury	English League 1
Marcos Viladomiu	AGOVV FC	Dutch 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division



Niall O'Keefe



Dara Keane



Marcos Viladomiu



Liam Kervick



Jack Doherty



Lee O'Connor



Tunimise Subowale



Cameron Power



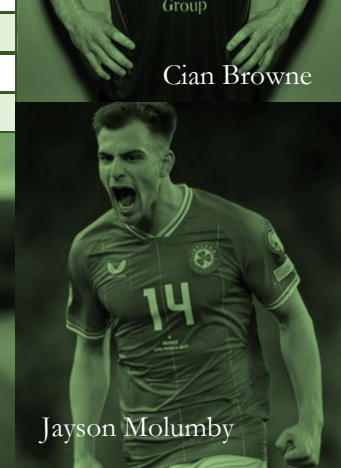
Ciaran Houdanu



Owen Oseni



Cian Browne



Jayson Molumby



## Women and Girls – All Teams

**10 Girls** - We made long trip down to Cappoquin and played in howling rain, strong winds and glorious sunshine all in one match. The team was backed up by some of the younger girls from the academy.

**11 Girls** - We would like to wish all our players and their families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

**12 Girls** - The girls put in another strong performance to put away Mooncoin earlier this month, scoring plenty of goals to stay top going into the New Year. They have developed a lot since the start of the season and we are happy with the progress made.

**U14** - Another quiet month for the U14A girls' team who had only one competitive match against Dungarvan in our 3rd league match this season. An evenly matched game with opportunities on both sides, unfortunately it ended with a 2-1 loss.

In January we are looking forward to a "last 32" SFAI home fixture against Coole FC of Galway. KO TBA on the weekend of the 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> of January.

**U16** - We at the 16 Girls would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

**U18** - The girls had a good December with a well-deserved 4-1 win away to Cappoquin. We just had the one fixture in the run up to Christmas and we ran out comfortable winners. We hope to build on this in the New Year. Most of these girls are also playing the senior women's league where we have also been in good form winning the last 2. We still have a number of them training with the Waterford U19 team so well done to all. Thanks for all the support and we wish everyone a great Christmas and look forward to the New Year.







## JUNIOR MEN & WOMEN U18 NEWS

### 1A

We finished up for the Christmas period on top of our league table with 6 wins & 2 draws under our belts after our top of table clash away to Piltown at the start of the month which finished 1-1. A tough couple of months of work have been put in and a brilliant marker put down in our league pursuit. We return early in the New Year on the 5th of January with a huge clash against Southend who will be aiming to return to the Premier League with us in their way. There is no better test to kick off 2024.

Thank you for all the support this year both 1B & now 1A throughout the club with some excellent numbers recorded at our home fixtures which hasn't gone unnoticed. Enjoy the holiday season, Merry Christmas & here's to a Happy New Year from the 1A staff & players.

### 1B

We finished the first round of our three round league late last month which sees us still sitting top of the league but only due to having more games played than our nearest competitors.

With no game being played this month due to the weather and also the Christmas break, we have had a few training sessions to keep the lads tipping over.

We are very proud of the effort and dedication the lads have been showing so far this season and look forward to continuing on with the remaining two rounds in our leagues and maybe even a decent cup run.

We at the 1Bs would like to wish a big Merry Christmas to everyone and we hope 2024 is a safe and prosperous one.

### Youth A

An up and down start to the season for this seasons Youth A team. Past three games have seen better consistency and performances from the squad without just reward.

We go into the Christmas break chasing league leaders Tramore before we welcome them to Connor's park on the 7th of January which is a massive game for the team. Thanks to all the parents and players for their support throughout the year.

Merry Christmas & here's to a Happy New Year from the Youth A staff & players.

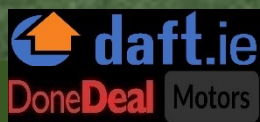
### 17A

Our month began with a hard fought win away to Piltown. On a freezing cold night we defended strongly and an injury time winner from JP Browne gave us a crucial three points.

This set us up for a top of the table clash with Tramore and despite another great performance from everyone, we just couldn't get over the line in a 3-3 draw.

There is loads for this group to look forward to in 2024 as we try to continue challenging at the top of the league.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.









## JUNIOR MEN NEWS

### 3A

We at the 3A would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

### 4A

We at the 4A would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

### 17B

Our lads had no game over the month of December due to the inclement weather that occupied the first half of the month and the second half of the month being the start of the Christmas break.

However, their appetite for football hasn't waned as high numbers and quality sessions has kept their appetite going for football over the break.

We look forward to getting back into the remainder of the season next year as all the lads have been exceptional with their level of professionalism shown.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and bet wishes to you all for 2024.

### Youth B

We at the Youth B would like to wish all our players, family, and friends a very Merry Christmas and we hope that 2024 is a going to be a very Happy New Year for you and everyone in the club.

2024  
3



All of us at Villa Football Club  
Would like to Wish All Our Members,  
Family, and Friends  
A Prosperous and Successful  
**NEW YEAR**



# MEET THE COMMITTEE

087 236 6945 | villafc53@gmail.com

**Liam  
Connors**

Vice-Chair/Schoolboys  
Liaison

**Shane Kehoe**

Chairman

**Derek  
Doheny**

Secretary

**Noel  
O'Connor**

Treasurer

**Sarah  
Hovenden**

Women's & Schoolgirls  
Liaison

**Dermot  
Halpin**

Committee member

**Christine  
Ellickson**

Committee member

**Derek Breslin**

Child Welfare Officer  
& Club Registrar

**Amy Bierry**

Women's/Schoolgirls  
Administrator

**Rosie  
Sherwin**

Women's/Schoolgirls  
Administrator



THANK YOU  
TO ALL COACHES WHO COULD  
ATTEND DECEMBERS  
IN HOUSE COACHING  
WORKSHOP SERIES  
ON  
MATCHDAY ORGANISATION

Our Next Workshop is on  
Monday 15th JANUARY | 19:45 – 21:00

Stay Tuned for Coaching Topic

## Club Special Mention



Our special mention this month goes out to player/manager Jack Ryan. Jack has been with the club since he was a child and like many before him has a special place for Villa and acts out the values of the club into the wider community.

He plays a pivotal role in our 3<sup>rd</sup> division team as well as improving lads in our Youth B set up. Jack is a stalwart of the Waterford First Responders where he and his comrades are always on the ground floor helping out members of the Waterford community whenever they can. This vocation to community has Jack look to follow in his father's footsteps by entering into An Garda Siochana and we at the club could not be prouder to have jack as a member of our club and community.

Thanks for all you do, Jack.

## Sponsorship Details

Villa FC is the largest football club not just in Waterford but in the South East with over 40+ teams; catering for 900+ active players, 120+ coaches, and support volunteers and families that make all of this possible.

If you would like to join the team as a sponsor or even get an information pack to see if being a part of the one of the biggest community clubs in the South East of Ireland is right for you, please contact Stephen Cleere at [Stephen.Cleere.91@gmail.com](mailto:Stephen.Cleere.91@gmail.com)



## Suggestions Box

Any ideas or improvements to bring to the committee's attention you may have? Please let the committee know by;

- Emailing the following [villafc53@gmail.com](mailto:villafc53@gmail.com) or
- Dropping a letter into the letter box inside the clubhouse.

## Get in Touch with Villa Social

Want to help get involved or have an idea for us?  
Please email;



Jonathan McEvoy

[j.mcevoy888@gmail.com](mailto:j.mcevoy888@gmail.com)

Jonathan O'Brien

[Jonathanob92@hotmail.com](mailto:Jonathanob92@hotmail.com)





## A Message from the Committee

### Player Registration – 2023/24 Season

This season the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) introduced a new player registration and match management system called FAI Connect and Comet. The system is based on an internationally established football management system used in several other European countries and further afield.

FAI Connect will be the central point for all football administration from the League of Ireland to the grassroots game and make football easier to manage for coaches, players, Club administrators, referees and volunteers.

Villa FC implementation was spearheaded by Derek Breslin. Derek lead the complex transition to the player registration element of FAIConnect. This involved a complete review of all current and incoming players across the three leagues - schoolgirls and women's league, schoolboy league and junior league players. The compilation of player information for several hundred players was a huge task. Supported by our team coaches, players and parents Villa FC now has almost 700 active registered players on the system - each one assigned to their individual team(s). Derek also coordinated the registration of our coaches on the system. We also had the expert guidance of our own Craig Dunphy in his official role with the FAI.

The benefits of this hard work will be long lasting as player registrations will now roll over from season to season and transfers between clubs can be managed online thus significantly reducing the administration burden. Additionally match day administration will reduce for coaches and team managers. Locally the Junior League and all local Clubs as well as the Referees Society have fully adopted the match management function for several divisions. This activity is operated via the linked "Comet" App. This allows team selection, live match updates such as goals, substitutions, cautions etc to be accessible to all via the FAIConnect App.

Many thanks to Derek and Craig for the great work on this project.

If you haven't already download the FAI Connect App it is available via the usual App Stores on Apple and Android devices - you can follow all Villa FC Junior League games live and as each league implements the match day functions all teams will be online.

You can log-in to FAI Connect through [faiconnect.ie](http://faiconnect.ie) and download COMET Football App from the App store here via your usual App Store or use the links below.

[Android App  
Download](#)

[Apple App Store  
Download](#)

GRACIAS POR TU  
APOYO

DANKIE VIR JOU  
ONDERSTEUNING

ХВАЛА ВАМ НА  
ПОДРШЦИ

感谢您的支持

HVALA NA  
PODRŠCI

TÄNAME TEID  
TOETUSE EEST

THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT

DANKE FÜR IHRE  
UNTERSTÜTZUNG

HVALA ZA TVOJO  
PODPORO

תמיכתך על תודה

MERCI POUR  
VOTRE SOUTIEN

GRAZIE PER IL  
VOSTRO  
SOSTEGNO

لدمکم شکرا



당신의 지원에  
감사드립니다

GO RAIBH MAITH

ご協力ありがと  
うございます

AGAT AS DO  
CHUID

OBRIGADO PELO  
SEU APOIO

TACAÍOCHTA

PALDIES TEV  
PAR ATBALSTU

AČIŪ UŽ  
JŪSŪ  
PALAIKYMA

СПАСИБО ЗА  
ВАШУ  
ПОДДЕРЖКУ

DZIĘKUJĘ ZA  
TWOJE WSPARCIE

СПАСИБІ ВАМ ЗА  
ВАШУ ПІДТРИМКУ