



# Éire Óg Club Stories



*Éire Óg stories is a new series where we will be chatting to members of the club and getting to know what makes Éire Óg special for them. Next up is Ladies Footballer- Erin Wyley*

## *Who supported you on your sporting journey?*

I was introduced to the world of GAA by one of Éire Óg's finest Oliver Leonard. Oliver came to St Brigid's primary school (each Wednesday if I remember correctly) and trained us in everything from the basic rules of ladies football to how to do a solo (which I still haven't mastered). I got the GAA bug and began training with the club every Saturday morning.

## *What are your stand-out GAA memories to date?*



The first major Éire Óg event I remember is when we qualified for the U14's feile in Carlow. It was an amazing weekend full of parades and matches where we were made to feel like professionals!

My next stand out moment is winning the Junior Championship in 2010. Finally, all the hard work we had put in over the years paid off! It was also a nice send off as in 2011 I left Ireland with a one-way ticket to Australia. The following year the ladies team disbanded like a number of other teams across the country due to the number of girls having to emigrate thanks to the recession.

## *What brought you back to football after a 5-year break?*

When I came back to Ireland in 2016, the captain at the time (and my good buddy) Aisling Leonard was recruiting to get the ladies team back up and running. Whilst I was initially told it was 'light training' and for 'fun', the sprints on the first night made me realise very quickly this was a competitive bunch (thanks Neil). The quality of young girls coming through, along with some more mature players made one hell of a team – winning the Junior 'B' in only the second year in 2017!

## *What was your happiest GAA moment?*



Easily my happiest memory in football was winning the Junior Ladies 'A' championship in 2018, an absolute thriller of a game which we finally pinched it by 1 point against Roundwood! For such a relatively new team, it was such an achievement for all the players and coaches and we were promoted to 'Intermediate'. We played our first season Intermediate in 2019, and whilst it was definitely a jump compared to Junior, the team rose to the challenge remaining in both the Intermediate League and Championship for 2020.



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## *What do you look forward to most about getting back to playing?*

I am really looking forward to getting back to training with all the girls and coaches. The friendships, craic and team spirit definitely keep me motivated. We have been really lucky to be doing some strength and conditioning online sessions with John Lane – but you can't beat being down the pitch, GAA ball in hand having a kick around with the team.



*Ní neart go cur le chéile*

*There is no strength without unity*

*If you would like to nominate someone to tell their club story, please contact Olive Farrell ([farrell.olive@gmail.com](mailto:farrell.olive@gmail.com)) or Daniel English ([englishdaniel@hotmail.com](mailto:englishdaniel@hotmail.com)).*