


Newtonmore Camanachd Club

Newsletter

August 2018

1] On the field The 1sts have extended their unbeaten run for a third month with the only blip being a dropped point away to Lovat. We retained the Sir Tommy Macpherson Memorial Trophy, so Kingussie are yet to win it.

It's a tough end to the season as we play all the other top teams. In another change to the fixtures the Kinlochshiel game is now at the Eilan at **noon** on 8th September.

1 	<u>Newtonmore</u>	15	12	1	2	54	13	41	25
2 	<u>Lovat</u>	15	9	3	3	33	20	13	21
3 	<u>Kyles Athletic</u>	14	8	4	2	39	15	24	20
4 	<u>Oban Camanachd</u>	15	7	5	3	40	19	21	19
5 	<u>Kinlochshiel</u>	13	8	3	2	38	22	16	19

Congratulations to the 2nd team for adding the Sutherland Cup to the league title. It was a thoroughly deserved win although despite dominating the match we managed to fall behind, but there was only going to be one winner in extra time. I think we probably broke the record for hitting the post with Calum Stewart alone hitting the woodwork four times.

There has only been one defeat this season to Fort William and they are our opponents at the Strathdearn Final which is on 8th September at **1500** at the Bught Park in Inverness. This is the opportunity to do the treble which would be a fantastic achievement for a team which is a great mixture of experience and emerging talent.

2] Camanachd Cup Final This is at **1400** at Mossfield Park Oban. Added interest off the pitch this year is the launch of *Throwup2018* the Art Project organised by Highland Print Studio. One of the exhibitors is Deidre Nelson who has been Newtonmore's artist in residence for the past year. In a recent video Deirdre explained that she has focussed less on the field of play and more on all the other people that keep the club going.

3] Dinner dance This will now take place on Friday 30th November at the Balavil Hotel. The annual Xmas sale will be in the village hall the following day Saturday 1st December.

4] 1st team sponsorship Aberdeen Considine have been the 1st team sponsors since 2010 so have been associated with almost all our recent success. They have intimated to us that they are drawing their sponsorship of

shinty to an end so we are now on the hunt for a new 1st team sponsor.

Apart from their direct financial support to us Aberdeen Considine organised the Aberdeen fundraising dinner in 2015 for our 125th anniversary which enabled the purchase of the field. They have also provided us with free legal advice and services which has been really helpful. The Committee wants to record our thanks, particularly to Harvey Aberdeen.

5] Highland Games Fundraiser Apologies that the hill race by the players had to be postponed due to numerous injuries. We will be organising it again probably for early October so there will be an opportunity to buy a guess time if you have not already done so.

6] New sign Hope everyone is impressed with it. Many thanks to John Begg for the organisation of the installation which saved us a lot of money. Thanks too to Tom Robertson for supplying a new flag.

7] Road safety measures Still no progress with the Council!

8] Highland Folk Museum 10th October The Folk Museum is hosting a seminar to help celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Camanachd Association from 0930 – 1630. The cost is £30 and £25.50 for students.

9] Dr Johnny Cattanach Field It's looking good. There was a lot more stone to take out than we thought [estimated at 300 tons] so there may be some residual stone picking to do. Its a pretty level surface at a gradient of 0.08% and as of the beginning of the week the grass seed had started to germinate. We will need to consider whether it can be used next year or not in due course.

A hopefully short term problem is that the new pitch it is under rabbit attack. Appropriate counter measures are under way!

10] Eilan pitch It has been much better this year partly through the weather but also the sanding and fertilising at the end of last season helped. We will not be sanding again this year but we will repeat the second application of fertiliser at the end of September.

11] Still wanting more volunteers! Flyers were handed out at a recent game asking for additional volunteers for match days as well as during the week. There are lots of things help is needed with. Volunteering can be regular as well as occasional, during the day or in the evening. Please contact me to discuss, without obligation!

12] New grass cutting equipment There will be double the area of pitch grass to cut next year and we need to have reliable equipment to take care of it. Our current large machinery is near the end of its useful life.

The Committee is looking at the options open to us as this is the next top priority to resolve, and we need a long term solution.

13] Badenoch Shinty Memories promotional walk An event involving both Newtonmore and Kingussie will take place on 30th September. Details to follow.

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