



## **A Brief History of Watergrasshill Utd**

### *Off the Pitch*

The club was formed in 2004 with the amalgamation of 2 local junior men's clubs Hill Albion and Hill Celtic. The club has gone from strength to strength with membership trends constantly increasing particularly with the underage. This season we are currently running 2 Junior Men's, 1 Ladies, 2 U7, 2 U8, 1 U9, 1 U10, 1 U12, 1 U14 and 1 U16 underage teams.

Our pitch facilities are immaculate and are the envy of many AUL Clubs. This is down to the weekly maintenance & management by Dean Roche & John O Regan. Club facilities include 2 full size junior pitches, 2 underage pitches, floodlight training pitch and dressing rooms which are currently being fitted out for showers.

Since the summer, the Club's Underage Categories have been a revelation and in excess of 60 youngsters under 10 currently turn up for training every week. This year we'll be running our 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer Soccer School from August 18-22 for ages 5-16.

To fund all this, we hold a successful golf classic which will be held this year August 15th 2008 in Fermoy Golf Club

### Club Officers & Selectors 2007-2008

Niall O'Riordan (Chairman)

John Barton (Secretary)

John Sheehan & Morgan Foley (Joint Treasurers)

Paul Sharkey – P.R.O.

Under 7/8/9/10's – Derry Desmond & Paul Sharkey

Under 12's – Noel Prendergast & Declan Brady

Under 14's – Aki Stavrou

Under 16's – Ray "Razor" Murphy

WGH United Ladies – Emma Leady

Junior Men's A Team Selectors: Neilus O Mahony / Mark Looney

Junior Men's B Team Selector: Niall O Riordan



### *On the Pitch*

Since 2004, WGH Utd A have plied their trade in Div 1B of the AUL. Each year, the A team have finished in a comfortable mid-table position, occasionally going on memorable cup runs. The most notable of these was reaching the semi-finals of both the County Cup and Corinthian's Cup in 2005 but losing both. This will be the 1<sup>st</sup> final to be contested by the squad and is a major achievement for the team and the management team of Neilus O'Mahony and Mark Looney who only took over in the summer. With 6 new signings to gel in, including 2 (Michael John O'Sullivan and Gavin Daly) promoted from the previous year's U17 team, the expectation would have been that the 2007/08 season would have been one of rebuilding and progression. Instead, the team came agonisingly close to winning the league, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup>, while also reaching the County Cup final. Success in the league was built on the back of a strong defence, conceding the fewest goals in the entire AUL. A ding-dong battle with Dillon Cross carried on throughout March and April with the Hill in with a real chance of forcing a play-off. However, the 1<sup>st</sup> defeat of the season in the 2<sup>nd</sup> last game put paid to those hopes.

There is still one link surviving to the victorious Hill Celtic County Cup winning team of 1998 as the player/selector on that day, Moss O'Keeffe, still plays with the Hill. An outstanding midfielder in 1998, Moss now plays either centre-half or goalkeeper. Manager Neilus O'Mahony has also played in – and lost – a County Cup final to Leaside in 1994 when playing for Brooklodge

Squad: Aime Butsana, Moss O'Keeffe, Edward O'Connell, Eddie Moynihan, Michael John O'Sullivan, Kieran Foley, Aimable Mukomeza, Patrick Maroney, Paddy Regan, Ouattara Abdoulaye, John Dorgan, Jacob Moleli, Kieran Coakley, Morgan Foley, Nigel Dingivan, Mohamed Adam, Gavin Daly