

East Cork Soccer Notes

Carrigtwohill United AFC Awarded the June 2016 Carrigtwohill Sports Star and Community Award

by ALAN SHEEHAN

The Carrigtwohill United academy was founded in 2010 with 44 boys, but has expanded to 134 boys and girls. "It's been growing and growing," said current academy co-ordinator Raemonn Walsh, who represented the club during the award presentation. "We've four age groups: under-7s, under-8s, under-9s, and under-10s. And we've 27 coaches covering those four ages."

All but six of the 27 coaches involved with age groups from under-7s to under-10s are parents, and the six in question—Kevin

Coady, Alan Warren, David Grimes, Liam McCarthy, Shane O'Hanlon, and Darragh McCann—are all under the age of 17.

"Fourteen of those coaches did Kick Start 1 [the Football Association of Ireland's entry-level coaching course] within the last 12 months," said Walsh. "Our youth coaches play with the under-16s and -17s too, and they did the course too, so that's very good for them as well."

Stephen Moore was the first co-ordinator of Carrigtwohill United's academy, and remained so until this year. "Stephen Moore

was co-ordinator from 2010 until about 2014," said Walsh, "when he shared it with myself and Fred Adam. This is my first year of it on my own."

Presenting the award to the Carrigtwohill United academy was John McCann, Chairman of the Carrigtwohill Sports Star and Community Awards and a sponsor of the awards, Leo Spratt of Jack Spratt's Bar. "This is the third or fourth award that the club got," said Walsh, "but it's the first for the academy. It's grown a good bit all right and hopefully it'll only grow more."

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• Top row: Pat Dolan, Ian Kenny, Ivan O'Riordan, Philip Barry, John McCann; Bottom row: Reamonn Walsh, Leo Spratt, John O'Keeffe.