



## PRESS RELEASE

### **On Track For Late Night Football Success** **Gardai to take on Late Night League winners**

The recent experimental FAI Late-Night Football League in Balbriggan came to an exciting finale with ABC team winning the younger section (age 13-15) and The Track team victorious in the older section (age 16-19). The Track's semi-final was suitably nerve-wracking, coming from 3-0 down at one stage, through to a penalty shoot-out and emerging as winners. They will now represent Balbriggan in the upcoming FAI Dublin Finals, where they will face stiff competition from teams from Swords, Ballyfermot and Finglas.

The Late Night League took place over six weeks at the all-weather pitch in Glebe North on Friday from 9pm-11pm, and was open to boys and girls aged 13-15 and 16-19. Providing a genuine social alternative for teenagers on Friday nights, the League was welcomed by Balbriggan Community Gardai, with Garda Dave Sheeran and Garda Kate Daly Ni Bhroin looking forward to working with the FAI and Fingal County Council in a similar LNL during the summer months.

Paul Keogh, FAI/Fingal County Council Development Officer explained "The FAI ran a pilot Late Night League in Ballymun last year and it was so successful that we decided to roll it out across Dublin. The League is run in conjunction with local authorities, youth groups and Community Garda policing units and aims to provide a safe, fun and healthy social alternative for Friday nights." He continued "This League has been a great success, and with over 140 teenagers taking part every Friday the support and efforts of the local Community Gardai, Garda Dave Sheeran and Garda Kate Daly Ni Bhroin were invaluable. A sincere thanks to both for their assistance, as their presence each night and efforts ensured the league ran smoothly for the enjoyment of all."

Both winning teams received their trophies from Sgt Enda Grogan of Balbriggan Garda station, and the Track will take on local Gardai in a 5-a-side challenge match shortly.

For further information please contact FAI/Fingal County Council Development Officer Paul Keogh at 086 044 4435 or email [paul.keogh@fai.ie](mailto:paul.keogh@fai.ie)

**ENDS 19/04/10**