

Na Gaeil Notes Monday July 27th 2020

Seniors Na Gaeil took on Glenflesk in their first group match of the Intermediate Championship in Desmonds GAA pitch in Castleisland on Saturday evening. Playing against a slight breeze, Na Gaeil got off to a good start with Darragh Carmody firing over a 40m free after two minutes for a foul on Jamie Lowham. The same player obliged again four minutes later with another pointed free after James O'Connor had been hauled down. Full forward Dara Roche opened the scoring for Glenflesk on the eight minute mark when he kicked over a 30m free. Captain Eoin Doody finished off a good move by the Killeen side to fist over the bar for Na Gaeil's third point. This was followed by a good score from Glenflesk's no. 12 Jeff O'Donoghue from all of 40m. Darragh Carmody and Dara Roche pointed frees at either end to leave Na Gaeil one point ahead after 20 minutes of play. Jack Barry made a good run through the middle and scored a great point to put them two ahead. Na Gaeil was having the better of the exchanges through most of the half and spurned a great goal scoring opportunity two minutes before the short whistle. But the Glenflesk defence cleared their lines which resulted in Dara Roche scoring a good point at the other end. But Na Gaeil worked the ball up the field once more and Jack Barry scored his 2nd point on the stroke of half time. This left the Killeen side leading by two points on a score line of 0-06 to 0-04 but they probably should have been further ahead had they taken a higher percentage of their scoring opportunities.

In the 2nd half Diarmuid O'Connor won the ball from the throw in and raced through the middle. He was pulled down by a Glenflesk defender and Darragh Carmody pointed the resultant free. Dan Goggin who was working his socks off on the forty pointed for Na Gaeil minutes later to put them four ahead. But five minutes into the half Glenflesk's Dara Roche won a long through ball and blasted it to the Na Gaeil net from close range giving keeper Devon Burns no chance. This score brought it back to a one point game. However, Na Gaeil didn't panic and drove forward again forcing a 45 which goalkeeper Devon Burns duly slotted over. Darragh Carmody unerring from frees all through, slotted home his fifth of the evening after Jack Barry had been pulled to the ground by Glenflesk captain and wing back Kieran A. O'Donoghue. Unfortunately for Glenflesk he received a second yellow for this offence and had to leave the field of play, thus reducing them to 14 players. Dara Roche pointed a free at the other end but this was cancelled out with a good point from play by Diarmuid O'Connor for Na Gaeil. Dara Roche brought the margin closer again with his fourth pointed free of the evening. Now it was a two point margin and the outcome was in the melting pot with four minutes of normal time left to play. But the game was turned on its head when a Glenflesk player in possession was turned over while clearing his lines. The ball was fed into Na Gaeil

substitute Darragh Reen who had just been introduced and he coolly slotted the ball into the bottom right hand corner of the Glenflesk net. Worse was to follow for Glenflesk a minute later when Jack Barry was put through the middle and he sent a bullet of a shot, this time to the top right hand corner of the opposition's net. It was all Na Gaeil now and they finished strongly with Diarmaid Herlihy and Darragh Reen slotting over the last two points of the half to leave the score at the final whistle: Na Gaeil: 2-14; Glenflesk: 1-06. It was a good overall display by Na Gaeil with Glenflesk's cause not being helped by having a player sent off early in the 2nd half. The game was much closer than the eventual scoreline suggests. However Na Gaeil was the better side on the night. Devon Burns kick outs were excellent all through the game. The full backline was rock solid, with Niall O'Mahony ably policing Dara Roche over the hour. The half back line was superb with Andrew Barry in top form at the centre of defence. Jack and Diarmaid were well in control in the midfield area and the half forward line of James O'Connor, Dan Goggin and Eoin O'Neill worked their socks off to the end. Inside Darragh Carmody is back to his best after his sojourn in the U.S.A. while Jamie Lowham's physical presence caused the opposition problems throughout. Debutant Tomás O hAiniféin can be very happy with his display, working tirelessly and covering every blade of grass on the pitch. All the substitutes when introduced more than played their part also. Well done to all involved. Next weekend Na Gaeil will host Currow in Killeen, in round two of the competition

Team: Devon Burns(0-01), Ryan O'Neill, Niall O'Mahony, Damien Bourke, Fergal Barry, Andrew Barry, Eoin Doody(0-01), Diarmuid O'Connor(0-01), Jack Barry(1-03), James O'Connor, Dan Goggin(0-01), Eoin O'Neill, Darragh Carmody(0-05), Jamie Lowham, Tomás O'hAiniféin. Subs: Diarmaid Herlihy(0-01) for Jamie Lowham; Darragh Reen(1-01) for Tomás O hAiniféin; Kieran O'Donovan for James O'Connor; Jack Sheehan for Darragh Carmody.

Intermediate Championship Round 2 Na Gaeil wil play Currow at home in Killeen in Round 2 of the Intermediate Championship on this coming Saturday August 1st at 7pm.

Tickets Our ticket allocation for Round 2 of the Intermediate Championship will be the same as last week. If any club member would like their name entered in a draw for a match ticket they can forward it to our secretary Eamon Browne at 087 989 2875 or email secretary.nagaeil.kerry@gaa.ie

Co. Minor Football Championship The County Minor Football Championship which is now an U17 competition kicks off on Monday August 3rd with our divisional side St. Brendan's playing St. Kieran's in Na Gaeil at 6pm.

U16 Na Gaeil U16 team in their first outing in the County League game came up against Churchill. Playing against a stiff breeze in the first half, Sean O'Connor scored six points and Sean O'Connell banged in a goal to give them a lead of two points at half time. With the help of the breeze their scoring improved in the 2nd half with Kieran O'Connor kicking four points, along with points from captain Jack Doyle, Sean Barrett, Cian Sheehan and great goal from Samuel Atidensangu ensured a great victory. Final score: Na Gaeil 2-16; Churchill: 0-14.

U14 The U14 boys trained as usual on Sunday in Killeen with the emphasis mainly on blocking down the ball and attacking play. Their first competitive game of the season is on this coming Wednesday July 29th away to John Mitchels. We wish them the best of luck.

U12 On Sunday our three Green, White and Gold U12 teams played in the County League. Two of our teams played Ballymac at home where we had a win and a draw. Our White team travelled to Brosna and put up a great challenge with Brosna running out eventual winners. There is great development going on in this U12 squad with every player getting lots of game time. Well done to all of them.

U10 The U10 boys had a busy week with many of them taking part in the Cúl Camps in Austin Stack Park. Then on Saturday they travelled to Kilcummin where they put on a great display of football and showed some great skill. We thank Kilcummin for hosting our team and we look forward to welcoming them to Na Gaeil in the future.

U8 U8's training on Sunday morning was under moderate to heavy rain but both players and coaches enjoyed every minute of it. The kids left the pitch soaked to the skin but with big smiles on their faces and are looking forward the next week already.

Co. Junior Football Leagues The County Junior Football leagues will commence in August. Na Gaeil is in Group D along with Dingle B, Kerins O'Rahillys B and An Gaeltacht. Round 1 will be played on Friday August 14th, Round 2 on September 4th and Round 3 on September 11th.

Sympathy We extend our sincere sympathy to the Browne and Spring families of Listowel and Tralee and to Rachel and Mike Moynihan on the recent death of Anita Browne. May she rest in peace.

Clubhouse Open The clubhouse is open for food on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings from 6.30pm to 10.30pm. Club members can order a toasted sandwich, chips and salad plus a couple of more options for €9. Last food orders are at 8.45pm. This weekend went very well and there is very positive feedback from club members that availed of the service. Hope to see you there next weekend.

Na Gaeil Volunteers The demand for this service has reduced since the restrictions on shopping for the elderly have been lifted but Na Gaeil volunteers are still available to help. So do not hesitate to contact us.

Clubhouse The clubhouse is closed for all outside activities and the gym will also be closed until there is further clarification from GAA Headquarters as to when they can re-open. This means that our Monday night bingo, Tuesday night lotto and Wednesday night card playing are suspended until then as well as all other activities that normally took place there on a weekly basis.

Clothes Collection There is now a Clothes Collection Bin situated in Na Gaeil car park for use by all members of the public.