

Na Gaeil Notes Monday May 6th 2019

Premier Junior Championship Final Na Gaeil were crowned Kerry Premier Junior Champions on Sunday in Austin Stack Park, Tralee after a near flawless display against North Kerry side St Senan's. It was a historic day for the club winning their first ever title at this grade. Na Gaeil's Diarmuid O'Connor opened the scoring on four minutes with a fine point from play and Mike Griffin added another a minute later. Sean Weir pointed for St. Senan's on seven minutes but this was quickly cancelled out with another fine effort from the in-form Mike Griffin. Kieran O'Donovan was denied a goal by the woodwork but a minute later Diarmuid O'Connor made no mistake when he collected a pass from Jack Barry and rifled the roof of the St. Senan's net for a spectacular goal. This score came from a great turn over by Dan Goggin around the middle of the field moments earlier. Senan's did pull back two points through Conor Kennelly and Donal Hunt but Na Gaeil's full forward Jamie Lowham's neat touch again found the back of the St. Senan's net to put us two clear goals ahead at the end of the first quarter. But on seventeen minutes a high ball broke in the Na Gaeil square into the path of Jason Browne and he goaled for the North Kerry side from close range. They quickly followed with a point from Donal Hunt to make it a two point game entering the final ten minutes of the half. Dara Devine pointed a free after a foul on Jamie Lowham and then scored one from play shortly afterwards. On thirty minutes Kieran O'Donovan was almost through on goal when he was pushed to the ground and collided with a St. Senan's defender. After consulting with his umpires referee James O'Sullivan gave Kieran his marching orders and the Killeen side were reduced to fourteen men. But just before the stroke of half time Jack Barry cut through the St. Senan's rearguard and scored a great goal to put us six points clear again at the interval. Half time score: Na Gaeil: 3-05; St. Senan: 1-05.

Na Gaeil had the aid of the breeze in the 2nd half but St. Senan's Conor Kennelly scored the first point after two minutes of play. But Na Gaeil with a man down stepped up to the plate and were dominant in all sectors of the field. They reeled off the next four points, two from the boot of Mike Griffin, one from Jack Barry and a pointed free from Dara Devine. Sean O'Connell replied for St. Senan's on 43 minutes but Jack Barry and Mike Griffin added two more for Na Gaeil. St. Senan's scored another point on 55 minutes but this was followed by a Mike Griffin pointed free, his sixth of the game. Diarmuid O'Connor who had an excellent game at midfield scored a good point on 61 minutes. St. Senan's pulled one back and Na Gaeil's Mr. Consistent Andrew Barry scored the last point of the game before referee James O'Sullivan blew the full time whistle. Final score: Na Gaeil: 3-13; St. Senans: 1-09. A historic day for the club and a fantastic victory for these Na Gaeil players and mentors. Having come so agonisingly close on a number of occasions it was great to finally win the Premier Junior Final. The Tom Keane Memorial Cup was presented to delighted captain Eoin Doody by Kerry County Board Chairman Tim Murphy amid rapturous applause from Na Gaeil's huge band of loyal supporters. Jack Barry was presented with the Man of the Match Award for his outstanding performance in the middle of the park. But it has to be said that every player on the field yesterday performed to a very high standard. The full back line of Ryan O'Neill, Kieran Dineen and Damien Bourke didn't put a foot wrong all day. Kieran O'Donovan, Andrew Barry and Eoin Doody attacked from the half back line at every opportunity. St. Senan's had no answer to the surging runs of Jack Barry and Diarmuid O'Connor at midfield.

Half forwards Ian McCarthy, Eoin O'Neill and Mike Griffin were on top of their game over the hour winning all a good supply of breaking ball around the middle while inside the full forward line of Dan Goggin, Jamie Lowham and Dara Devine were a constant threat. Subs Fergal Barry, Dan O'Connor, James O'Connor, Shane Fitzgerald Jordan Murphy and Paul Daly all contributed handsomely to this victory. Well done to the entire panel for their commitment during the campaign and to the management team of Donie Rooney, Richie Barrett, Kieran O'Shea Eoin Joy and Niall O'Meara for the huge amount of time they have invested in this group of players. They got their just reward on the day. A great night was had by all in the clubhouse on Sunday night. A big thank you to Sean and all his bar staff and to the wonderful Na Gaeil women for cooking and serving hot food to all the players after each championship game and indeed for providing sandwiches and other goodies for all the supporters each night. It is much appreciated by all in the club. Finally a big thank you to St. Senan's for a fine sporting game. They have had a great last twelve months winning the North Kerry Championship in December 2018 for the very first time and reaching the Premier Junior Final this year and being trained by our very own Na Gaeil clubman Mark Bourke. We wish you every success for the remainder of the year.

Team: Timmy Culloty, Ryan O'Neill, Kieran Dineen, Damien Bourke, Kieran O'Donovan, Andrew Barry(0-01), Eoin Doody, Diarmuid O'Connor(1-02), Jack Barry(1-02), Ian McCarthy, Eoin O'Neill, Mike Griffin(0-06), Dan Goggin, Jamie Lowham(1-0), Dara Devine(0-03). **Subs:** Fergal Barry for Kieran Dineen; Dan O'Connor for Ian McCarthy, James O'Connor for Dara Devine; Shane Fitzgerald for Ryan O'Neill; Jordan Murphy for Dan Goggin; Paul Daly for Jamie Lowham.

County League Na Gaeil play Templenoe in Round 3 of the Division 1 County League this coming Saturday evening May 11th in Templenoe at 7pm.

Na Gaeil Golf Classic We are holding our Golf Classic this year in the scenic O'Mahony's Point, Killarney on Friday May 31st. Once again there is a very special prize on offer for one lucky golfer. A Toyota Yaris Hybrid will be presented to the person who gets a hole in one on the par three 18th green. Tim Kelliher of Kelliher's Toyota Garage in Rathass, Tralee said at the launch that Toyota is very happy to sponsor this wonderful prize. If you are interested in taking part in Na Gaeil Golf Classic this June Bank Holiday weekend contact Donal Lucey on 087 257 7729; Tim Lynch Junior on 087 418 4239; Morgan Sheehy on 087 647 6803 or Pat O'Connor on 087 938 4808. Teams of four are €400 and a tee box sponsorship is €100. A meal will be provided in the clubhouse in O'Mahony's Point for all the participants. All funds raised will go back into the club to improve its facilities.

Coiste Na nÓg Quiz A quiz to raise funds for Coiste Na nÓg will be held in the clubhouse on Friday May 17th commencing at 8.30pm. Teams of four are €40. Please come out and support.

Free Digital Skills Course Our Club are looking for members who are interested in participating in a Free Digital Skills Course. Topics covered include: surfing the net, email, social media, shopping and banking online. If interested drop into the club house and sign up. Course duration is 10 hours and will be run over a couple of evenings in the clubhouse. Dates and times will be scheduled depending on

demand. This is a great opportunity for anybody wishing to brush up on their computer skills and it's free. So please come along and sign up as soon as possible and we will get the course up and running.

Na Gaeil Cycling Club Na Gaeil Cycling Club summer schedule: Saturday mornings at 9.00am from the clubhouse. ALL ARE WELCOME, High Vis essential.

Fir Na Gaeil Light Football Training for Men who have retired from playing football and for those that have not played and would like to try it out. Very little skill is required. This is a great way to keep fit with light training, ball games and a bit of a laugh. Training is on Monday and Friday nights in Na Gaeil. Contact Eddie at 0876791460 for more info

Mná Na Gaeil We are a Gaelic for Mothers and Others team who come together and do a bit of exercise, football training and socialising. Anyone who would like to join are most welcome, No skills are required, just a good attitude and a sense for fun. Training is on Wednesdays and Sunday evenings. Contact Eddie at 0876791460 for more info.

Lotto The draw for the jackpot of €2,700 took place on Thursday evening last. Numbers drawn were 9, 10, 12, 27. There was no winner. €50 winners were Mossie Lane, Abbeyfeale and Catherine O'Connor, Lissanearla. €25 winners were Tony Milner, Currovough South, Par & Geraldine McLoughlin, Meadowlands, Jim O'Kelly, Woodlands and Ger McElligott, Acres, Ballyduff. Next week's jackpot is €2,800. All are welcome for the draw in the club each Tuesday night at 10.30pm.

Bingo Bingo is on every Monday night at 8.30pm sharp. We have prize money of over €1,000 guaranteed every week with a mini jackpot that increases fortnightly when not won. A door prize and a half-time raffle with lovely prizes will also take place every week. A bus service is available at 087 2817577. You can ring this number for pick up and drop off. 100% of the funds raised go back directly into the club. The bingo is run on a totally voluntary basis by our club members. A huge thank you to all the parents who offer their time to run this vital fundraiser for the club. If anyone wants to donate a spot prize for our weekly bingo raffle, please leave it at clubhouse and mark it "Bingo". Thanks to all our patrons who support this event on a weekly basis.

Cards A card game is held every Wednesday night in the clubhouse. This is a very sociable occasion where you meet your friends for a great night's entertainment and relaxation. Starting time is 9.30pm and everyone from novice to senior will enjoy a relaxing game of 45.

Clothes Collection There is now a Clothes Collection Bin situated in Na Gaeil car