

intermediate football championship



Kilmihil	1-7
Michael Cusacks	1-3
group 1	

by
James Murrelly

AUGUST Bank holiday weekend normally signals party time in Kilmihil and their intermediate footballers certainly didn't spoil the party as they took a big step towards in the semi-final in intermediate championship with a merited four-point win against Cusack's in Miltown on Sunday.

However, it wasn't until Shane Egan's injury time goal that they made sure of the points. Declan Downes opened the scoring in the second minute – it would take Kilmihil a further 15 minutes to register their second point through county player Timmy Ryan.

Ryan's point was sandwiched in between two Pat Davoran points for the north Clare men, after good work from Michael Hynes.

Timmy Ryan, who has been plagued with injury over the last number of years, was at the hub of everything that was good about Kilmihil's play. He again showed his class in the 20th minute with a point off his left foot from 35 metres, after good inter play between Enda O'Halloran and Derek O'Connell.

Kilmihil's other inter county player Mark O'Connell pointed on the stroke of half-time to give them a two-point interval lead. They stretched their lead early in the second half with points from Dermot Haugh and Paul Reidy.

However, it could have been so much different had it not been for Declan O'Halloran's point blank save from Diarmuid McMahon. Cusack's got the goal they were looking for in the 41st minute through Kenneth Hynes after a mistake by Ger Cahill in the Kilmihil defence.

This failed to spark Cusack's into life. The final 19 minutes saw both teams register just a point apiece until 17-year-old Egan's goal sealed the points for Kilmihil.

Kilmihil Declan O'Halloran (7), Ger Cahill (6), Leith Considine (6), Conor Crowley (8), Dermot Haugh (7) 0-1, Fergal Kiloughrey (7), Niall O'Halloran (7), Mark O'Connell (8) 0-1, Derek O'Connell (6), Paul Reidy (7) 0-1 Capt, David Ryan (7), Enda O'Halloran (7) 0-1, Timmy Ryan (9) 0-2, Declan Downes (6) 0-1. Subs – Shane Egan 1-0 (7) for Downes, Dave Lorrigan (6) for Enda O'Halloran.

Michael Cusack's Eoin Farrell (7), Oliver Conway (6), Gerry Conway (6), Michael Connors (7), Pat Connors (7), Enda Hehir (6), John Conroy (6), Michael Hynes (7), Conor Early (7), Kenneth Hynes (8) 1-1, Donncha Fahy (6) Capt, Gerry Hynes (6), Shane Lee (7), Pat Davoran (7) 0-2, Diarmuid McMahon (6). Subs – Hugh Kelly (6) for Diarmuid McMahon, Clive Early (7) for Fahy, Michael Shannon (6) for Conroy, Micheal Sheridan (6) for Kelly.

Referee Michael O'Reilly (Kilkee) 6

Man of the match Timmy Ryan (Kilmihil)

*Clarecastle notified Ennistymon on Sunday evening that they were unable to field a team for their championship clash scheduled for that evening.

group 1	P	W	D	L	GF	PF	GA	PA	Pts
Kilmihil	2	2	0	0	1	20	2	11	4
Corofin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clondegad	1	0	0	1	1	8	0	13	0
MI Cusacks	1	0	0	1	1	3	1	7	0



Clooney/Quin	1-10
Ballyvaughan	0-7
group 2	

by
Andrew Hamilton

A GOAL from Crissy O'Brien five minutes from time put an end to a spirited second half revival from Ballyvaughan and saw Clooney/Quin secure qualification from group two of the intermediate championship.

It should have been all over by half time but poor finishing from Clooney/Quin and resolute defending from the Burren men kept the result in question until the very end. Clooney/Quin started much the stronger in wet conditions in Ennistymon, and registered the games first score through Dave O'Brien after just three minutes.

Clooney/Quin were winning everything in midfield, with Fergal Lynch a dominant figure, but their forwards could not convert the possession into scores. Living off scraps the Ballyvaughan forwards looked dangerous on the few occasions that they saw the ball.

The impressive Nicholas McCarthy was introduced into the Clooney/Quin midfield after 20 minutes, with Rory O'Connor going into the full forward line, as they struggled to add to their 0-2 points to 0-1 lead. The change seemed to work and points from Lynch and two from John O'Brien were answered by one from John Martin to leave it 0-5 to 0-2 at half time.

Ballyvaughan came out fired up for the second half but it was Clooney/Quin who got on the score sheet first with a well pointed free from John O'Brien. With Clooney/Quin continuing to be wasteful in front of goal, a Ballyvaughan revival looked on the cards and duly arrived with quick points from James Hynes, Kevin Corcoran and two from John Martin.

When John Martin scored his fourth point to level the match after 50 minutes a grandstand finish looked on the cards, but five minutes of magic from Clooney/Quin ended the match as a contest. Adrian Fleming and John O'Brien scored two point in a minute before Crissy O'Brien scored a scorching goal after good work from Ciaran Quin and the impressive Fleming.

With the match over as a contest, John O'Brien scored the last of his five points to leave Clooney/Quin worthy winners.

Clooney/Quin Ronan Gallagher (7), Malacey Murray (8), Victor Lawlor (8), Eoin O'Brien (7), Conor Harrison (6), Cathal Egan (6), Adrian Fleming (8) 0-2, Rory O'Connor (6), Fergal Lynch (9) 0-1, John O'Brien (7) 0-5, Dave O'Brien (6) 0-1, Crissy O'Brien (6) 1-0, Ciaran Quin (6) 0-1, Declan O'Keefe (6), Shane McMahon (6). Subs: Nicholas McCarthy (8) for McMahon (20 mins), Patrick Cunningham (6) for O'Connor 44 mins.

Ballyvaughan James Callinan (7), Pat Donoghue (6), Damien Markam (7), Ciaran Casey (7), Mark Walsh (7), Setanta Moran (6), Sean McNamara (7), James Hynes (6) 0-1, Raymond Casey (6), Kevin Corcoran (7) 0-1, John McCormack (6) 0-1, Mark O'Loughlin (6), Pat McCarthy (6), John Martin (8) 0-4, Pat Hayes (6), Cain Walsh (6) for McCarthy half time, Stevie Hynes (7) for Pat Hynes half time.

Referee Michael Rock (Ennistymon) 7

Man of the Match Fergal Lynch (Clooney/Quin)

group 2	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PA	Pts	
Clooney/Quin	2	2	0	0	3	29	3	11	4
Ennistymon	2	2	0	0	3	10	0	7	4
Clarecastle	2	0	0	1	3	1	2	19	0
Ballyvaughan	2	0	0	2	0	14	4	20	0