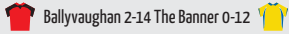


FOOTBALL > DIVISION 5 FINAL

Bally boys claim honours

 Ballyvaughan 2-14 The Banner 0-12

At Ennistymon

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BALLYVAUGHAN'S dream of Junior A glory may have perished a couple of weeks ago at the quarter-final stage at the hands of Killimer but league glory was some measure of compensation for them on Saturday as they eased away to a eight-point victory over The Banner.

A brilliant display by Jonah Culligan inspired this victory, with the countyman plundering 1-8 over the hour as the physically stronger and more mobile North Clare side won the game from the front.

The Banner were game, clinging in there for most of the contest only for Ballyvaughan to finally put the game beyond doubt with three minutes remaining when Adrian Nilan rattled the net to put real daylight between the sides.

They'd got off to the better start with points by Culligan and Nilan, while a 12th minute goal from the former helped them into a 1-2 to 0-1 lead – an advantage they should have added to significantly before the break only for a resurgent Banner to really get to the pitch of the game in the second quarter.

Their revival was led by the impressive full-forward Danny O'Halloran, who hit two fine points from play, while Dara Walsh landed a couple of frees and an effort from play which ensured they were only two adrift by half-time at 1-5 to 0-6.

And when John Collins and Walsh landed good points after the break to keep the gap at two after Ballyvaughan had raided for points from Nilan and James Howard it seemed as if a real arm-wrestle was in store for the remainder of the hour.

And it was just that for much of proceedings, until Ballyvaughan re-

ally upped their game entering the last ten minutes with two Culligan frees and good efforts from play by Sean McNamara and Lorcan Mahon helping them move five clear coming down the stretch.

The Banner kept battling away and were rewarded with points before the end through Davie Keenan and James Coakley, but any hope of bringing the game to the wire was crushed three minutes from time when Nilan rattled the net to ensured silverware was heading Ballyvaughan and Fanore the first time since they beat neighbours Michael Cusack's in the 2007 intermediate championship final.

Ballyvaughan Damien McNamara, Adam Walsh, Ciaran Casey, John Mooney-Hynes, Lorcan Mahon (0-1), Mark Walsh, Ronan Fahy, Sean McNamara (0-1), James Hynes, Jonah Culligan (1-8, 2f), Donncha Mahon, James Howard (0-1), Adrian Nilan (1-3),

Thomas Francis, Raymond Casey. **Subs** Scion Flanagan for Donncha Mahon, Philip Queally for Francis, Martin Howard for Raymond Casey, Neil Walsh for Lorcan Mahon, Cormac McGann for Fahy.

Banner David McElligot, Oran Rynne, Damian Rynne, Marcus Duffy, Martin McCormack, Cian Rynne, Milo Collins, Jonathon Martin (0-1), Tola Coote, Michael McCarthy, Colm Duffy, Darragh Gleeson, James Coakley (0-2), Danny O'Halloran (0-2), Daire Walsh (0-5, 3f). **Subs** Andala Flynn for Gleeson, John Collins (0-1) for McCarthy, Davie Keenan (0-2) for Coote, Daniel Daly for Oran Rynne, Ronan Collins for Duffy, Kevin Kennelly for Walsh.

Man of the Match
Jonah Culligan (Ballyvaughan)

Referee Wayne King (St Joseph's D-B)

Right: Ballyvaughan captain Adam Walsh raises the Division 5 trophy;
Below: Ballyvaughan panel celebrate their win. Natasha Barton



FOOTBALL > INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND 3

Derby game abandoned over injury

 Kildysart 0-6 Coolmeen 0-5

At Lissycasey

A SERIOUS leg injury suffered by Coolmeen forward Sean McMahon resulted in this intermediate championship game at Lissycasey on Saturday evening being abandoned nine minutes into the second half.

The injured player lay on the pitch being attended to by team mates and mentors for over half an hour until the ambulance arrived to take him to hospital.

This was a tie Coolmeen needed to win to keep their hopes of continuing in the championship alive. Killrush have topped the group thanks to their win over Naomh Eoin on the same evening. A win for Coolmeen

will leave them level on 2 points each with Naomh Eoin and Kildysart and it will then come down to score difference to separate the sides. The team with the best score difference will go through to a championship semi-final clash with Shannon Gaels while the team with the worst score difference of the three will be bottom of the group and will face a relegation play off.

From an early stage on Saturday it was clear that there would be little between these neighbours. Veteran Ger 'Bobby' Kelly gave Kildysart the lead before Aidan Corry levelled from a free.



by Seamus Hayes

Keith O'Connor and Kelly stretched Kildysart's advantage to three but Coolmeen landed the next three scores through Kevin and Aidan (2) Corry to take the lead early in the second quarter. A Diarmuid O'Don-

nell free levelled the tie for the third time and the teams went to the break locked together at 0-4 each.

Coolmeen struck first in the second half when Cian Murphy kicked them into the lead after four minutes but Kevin O'Brien replied within a minute and tied up the game for the fourth time before Kieran Ayers kicked a great score from a free to put Kildysart back into the lead seven minutes into the half.

Two minutes later McMahon fell to the ground after winning possession and immediately players close to him realised the seriousness of the injury and called for help.

Kildysart Robert Eyers; Kieran Leahy, Brian Eyers, Stephen Sheehan; Rory McMahon, Shane McNeils, Michael Eustace; Keith O'Connor (0-1), Kieran O'Brien (0-1); Seamus Casey, Neil O'Connor, Kieran Eyers (0-1f); Ger Kelly (0-2), Keith Murphy, Diarmuid O'Donnell (0-1f) **Sub** John Guinnane for Leahy (25)

Coolmeen Aidan Carigg; Martin McMahon, Kevin 'Val' McMahon, Kevin McMahon; Mark Meaney, Brian Markham, Cian Murphy (0-1); Micheal Brooks, Cathal O'Connor; Gary Meaney, Eoin O'Connor, Sean McMahon; Kevin Corry (0-1), Thomas Coffey, Aidan Corry (0-3) **Sub** David Neenan for K. Corry (half time)

Referee Fergal Gray (Feakle)