

All important game sees MCS reach final GAA: Leinster Schools Under-16 'B' Championship



Moate CS: 3-16
Moyne: 2-7

By Robbie Holloway

Moate Community school's U-16 boys entertained Moyne Community College and in so doing, won their crucial knockout game on Tuesday January 18th in Hogan Park.

The boys in Black and Red were under great pressure on the cold but sunny Tuesday afternoon to beat Moyne, and continue their winning streak with the loss of star player Luke Kelly absent due to an unfortunate leg injury which occurred the previous week while playing with the senior team.

Eager from the throw in, Andrew McCormack won the ball and found Ciaran Allen who was then awarded a free, which was taken by wing back Robert Gorman. However, the Moyne defence cleared the ball, determined not to allow for the expense of any early scores. 1st minute point from a Sam Moran kick began the day's scoring from a free. Corbally's point followed having received the ball from Gorman. A great block from wing back Theo Watts (Rosemount) and teamwork up the field seemed to suggest there was to be another Moate score, however, the ref's whistle sounded to pull Moate for charging. This free allowed Moyne's centre forward to slot the ball over the bar for their first score of the game.

Great fielding from Adam Scanlon in the centre of the field created several scoring opportunities with the help of swift play from his team mates. Such play made it possible for John Corbally to get his name on the score sheet when he pointed his first score from play after twelve minutes. This was directly followed by another point this time from the boot of Scanlon. Corbally added once again another fine point mid-way through the first moiety.

The visitor's number 14 scored his first point after 23 minutes. Allen replied by firing the ball over the bar. As a result of hard work Moyne punished Moate with two goals one after the other taking the lead with little time left. Fortunately Lorcan Dolan (Castledaly) leveled the halftime scoreboard with his two scores, his point from a free and his other score blasted past the Moyne goal keeper. Two late great inputs to relieve Moate at halftime.

The Moyne boys took the second period's first score with a point from their corner forward in the first minute. Free taker Gorman allowed Lorcan Dolan to score Moate's first point of the half. Excellent catching on Corbally's behalf in the middle of the park, along with Dolan's assistance brought about another Ciaran Allen's well taken point. Moyne appeared to threaten the MCS net before solid corner back Peter Cunningham cleared the box. The game then grew quiet for a few minutes, each team exchanging wides despite Joe Kinahan's set ups and Joe O'Meara's (Clara) solid defending. That was until Stephen Woods finally spiced things up with a saucy goal directly followed by Corbally's third and final point midway through the second half.



Following Moate's persistence came another Moyne point showing their determination and grit. Moate's dominance grew and grew, however, with two points from Sam Moran in the 50th minute and an earlier point from Dolan which increased the margin to a seven point lead. It was looking like a win was on the cards for Moate with 10 minutes remaining. Allen managed to get another point to his name and Dolan added a further two fantastic points. Star sub

Louie Duffy replaced Woods with five minutes to go. As a result of smooth play along with good teamwork, he managed to score a brilliant goal to wrap up the match.

Moate CS: Dean Tyrell; James Farrel; Paul Henson; Peter Cunningham; Robert Gorman; Joe O'Meara, Theo Watts; Andrew McCormack; Joe Kinahan; Sam Moran (0-3); Adam Scanlon (0-1); John Corbally (0-3); Stephen Woods (1-0); Lorcan Dolan (1-4) and Ciaran Allen (0-4). Subs: Robert Hickey for Paul Henson (40 mins) Neil Young for John Corbally (52 mins) and Louie Duffy (1-0) for Stephen Woods (55 mins). Unused Subs: Dylan Fitzpatrick, Stephen Handy, Darren O'Connor, James Langan, James Pettit, Shane Colgan, Brian Sheridan, Gavyn Murray and Philip Ganly.

Referee: Declan Nugent.