

## **Excellent second half display sees Moate past Edenderry**

Moate Community School 3-9

St. Mary's Edenderry 2-9

**By Ciarán Kelly**

On a calm winter's evening in ideal conditions for football, the Moate Senior Boy's football team made the short trip down to Hogan Park in Moate to face St. Mary's Secondary School of Edenderry. The game began at a frantic pace with neither team giving the other an inch. Darragh Kelly scored two well taken frees inside the first seven minutes to give Moate a two point advantage. Edenderry struck the back well, however, to get back on level terms through two excellently worked team points. Charlie Hayes was beginning to cause problems for the Edenderry rearguard and he brilliantly curled the ball over the bar after an excellent team move resulted with the ball in his hands to put Moate in the lead again. The Offaly boys responded finely once more with another point to equalize. The two teams swapped points to leave the score tied at four points each going into the interval.

Moate burst out of the starting traps for the second half with Patrick Holloway making a surging run through the heart of the Edenderry defence before passing to Lorcan Dolan who calmly tucked the ball home. The momentum was now firmly with Moate and they tagged on further points through John Maguire, Lorcan Dolan and James Ganly. The decision to switch David McCormack to midfield was now paying dividends as the boys from Westmeath were now beginning to assert themselves in the middle of the pitch. A high ball driven into the danger zone beat all Edenderry defenders and found its way towards Lorcan Dolan who nonchalantly flicked the ball with his hand into the net. Eamon McCabe added another point and at this stage it was looking ominous for Edenderry as the Moate lead was all of ten points. Edenderry hit back with a couple of consecutive points and a goal following a goalmouth scramble, but then, a fine team move with some fantastic interplay between the Moate forwards resulted in James Ganly rifling the ball into the Edenderry net to seal the win. Edenderry did stage a late rally, scoring a goal from the penalty spot and a point, but Moate had the victory wrapped up at this stage and they emerged triumphant by a goal as the referee's whistle sounded for the final time. This was a valuable workout for Moate as they prepare for the first round of the Leinster Championship in mid-December.

Team:

Joe Kinahan, Robert Gorman, Lee Colgan, Jack O'Meara, Cian Bradley, Eamon McCabe(0-1), Paddy Holloway, John Maguire(0-1), James Ganly(1-1), Sam Lawler, David McCormack, Jack Linnane(0-1), Darragh Kelly(0-2), Charlie Hayes(0-2), Lorcan Dolan(2-1)

Substitutes: Ronan Farrell for James Ganly, Eric Fallon for Lorcan Dolan, Sam Moran for Sam Lawler, Chris Maguire for Darragh Kelly, Tom Farrell for Cian Bradley, Jamie Madden for Jack O'Meara, Jack O'Kelly Lynch for Robert Gorman, Daniel Kelleher for Charlie Hayes, Eamon Boland for Paddy Holloway, Ryan Browne for John Maguire, Dwayne Farrell for Jack Linnane, Ciaran Allen, Adam Scanlon.