

Moate Community School Hurlers Begin the Season



The U16 boys of Moate Community School had their first encounter of the season against a very strong Kilbeggan side. The match was played in Hogan Park with a 1:30 throw in on Thursday last. Kilbeggan started the better of the two teams, getting off the mark with two quick points from play. After a long puck out from the MCS goalkeeper Jamie Colgan, Eoghan Kelly plucked it beautifully from the air and gave a wonderful cross field ball to Andrew McCormack. The centre forward shrugged off the challenge of the Kilbeggan full back and finished it neatly in the top corner. It looked as if Moate would push on from this goal but a quick break from Kilbeggan saw their full forward drive a shot into the top corner, out of reach of goalkeeper Jamie Colgan. Kilbeggan took control of the game and a defensive error from the Moate defence allowed Kilbeggan in for a second goal. Kilbeggan added another four points from play to gain a healthy advantage. With the wind at their backs, Kilbeggan looked unstoppable and added a goal and a point in quick succession. Andrew McCormack sent the ball right between the posts after a great pass from Robert Hickey to bring his tally to a goal and a point for the day. It looked as if the Moate boys would finish the half well, but Kilbeggan with great team play down the wing added another goal just before the interval. And so Moate had an almost impossible task of catching Kilbeggan with a score line of 4-7 to 1-1 at the break.



Even though Kilbeggan were playing against the wind in the second half they had a great start when their corner forward slotted the ball into the bottom corner of the net. Although they were trailing by so much, Moate's commitment had to be admired and when substitute Kevin Cuffe got onto the end of a great ball from the Captain, James Langan, he side stepped the onrushing goalkeeper and embraced the open goal. This goal gave Moate hope and they began a lovely passing phase of play which resulted in many good chances. Moate gave a run to many of their substitutes with Eoin Dunne replacing Mark Fallon at wing back, Eoin Fagan replacing Robert Hickey at full forward and David Falsey replacing Simon Geoghegan at wing back. The substitutes made an immediate impact and when Eoin Dunne provided a great ball to Eoin Fagan he was in on goal. It looked as if they had a certain goal but the ball rebounded off the post and was cleared. Kilbeggan took control again and added a goal and three points in the final ten minutes to kill off Moate's challenge. The final score line, Kilbeggan 6-10, Moate 2-1, favoured the impressive Kilbeggan side. However, the passion and commitment of the Moate players evident in the game gives great hope for the future of this developing team and their manager Mr Iain Hatton.

Moate Team:..Jamie Colgan, Theo Watts, Ian Malynn, Pdraig Nestor, Simon Geoghegan, James Langan, Mark Fallon, Denis Hackett, Cathal Daly, Eoghan Kelly, Andrew McCormack, Keith Malynn, Cormac Palmer, Robert Hickey, Plunkett Maxwell, Sean

McCabe, Ronan McLoughlin, Kevin Cuffe, David Falsey, David Stone, Eoin Fagan, Eoin Dunne.