



Club Notes – 05 September 2010

A week of mixed fortunes at senior level with success for the senior team in the championship and defeat for our Division 4 side in their quest for outright honours in Division 4.

Senior Championship

Our quest for championship honours continued when we travelled to Carrickcruppen to take on Armagh Harps in a quarter-final fixture. Conditions were far from ideal for the game with rain all day and a strong breeze. These conditions contributed to make it very difficult for both sides. It is a credit to the host club that the pitch was in great order, playing into the breeze it was Rangers who made the early running and after ten minutes had two points on the board one from play and the other from a free. In a couple of isolated runs our opponents were awarded a couple of frees which they duly converted.

The next fifteen minutes we dominated scoring four points from play. We also spurned a couple of goal chances by poor finishing and not giving the ball to the best placed player. Half time score Rangers 0-6 Harps 0-2. On the resumption it was Rangers who were first into their stride, quickly followed by a well taken goal which effectively ended the game as a contest.

Our opponents responded with a point from a free. Over the next ten minutes we scored another three points, two from frees and one from play. It was after this that things began to go wrong, our opponents upped the ante with a more physical approach and in an attack they shot for goal and with our keeper beaten one of our defenders made a brilliant diving save on the goal line and the referee, who was standing over 50 yards away, awarded a penalty. I was standing much closer to the play and could not be sure whether it was or not. These fifty, fifty decisions never seem to go our way. The spot kick was duly converted and our opponents were back in the game. We refused to panic and two well struck points from play against the Harps on left us in a comfortable position against the Armagh side. With less than five minutes left to play as conditions deteriorated, disaster struck again we were adjudged to have conceded another penalty which was also converted. Worse was to follow when we conceded another goal to leave only two points in it at the final whistle. While a win is a win management will be concerned how we happened to squander a substantial lead. On reflection we did not display the same team work as in previous games. We also allowed our discipline to drop when we had won our free, we allowed ourselves to be involved in confrontations when we should have walked away.

Division Four

This team's quest for League honours came to a sudden halt when at home they went down to a determined Killeavy side who themselves were seeking promotion. Our cause was not helped by the concession of a goal in the first minute we also conceded a point just after this. After ten minutes we began to find our feet and playing some excellent football we scored a goal and five points without reply. With about five minutes left to play in the half we seemed to lose our way and our discipline. A slick goal and the concession of two needless frees allowed the visitors back into the game and the sides went in at half time level instead of us having a comfortable lead. On the resumption exchanges were still as keen as each side struggled for supremacy. We had the first three scores of the half all points and looked to be on our way. However, Killeavy had other ideas and hit back with two points of their own. The next ten minutes were played out at a frantic pace with each side scoring two

points, we had a number of chances to consolidate our lead but poor finishing and wrong options kept the visitors in the game with time almost up and hanging on by a point we conceded another slack goal. There was only time for the kick out before the referee blew the full-time whistle. Final score Rangers 1-12 Killeavy II 3-8 while the final result was disappointing the team could not be faulted for efforts. I know some decisions did not go our way but at the end of the day we have only ourselves to blame. The concession of three goals and a couple of frees approaching half time left us with a mountain to climb. We still have three games left to play and hopefully will get the point required to claim league honours.

Under 14 Development Squad Success

Congratulations to Aidan Rushe, Ryan Smylie and Stephen Feeley who were part of the South Armagh U14 Development Squad team that won the U14 Inter County Blitz at Burren on Saturday. The team beat Louth, North Armagh, South Down as well as Antrim in the Final to take the title in their section.

Under 8's

There is a presentation of medals and a light supper for the under 8 players this Friday the 10th September at 7 o'clock in the Rangers Hall. All parents are welcome to attend.

Lotto Jackpot

The Lotto Jackpot was not won last week and now stands at £2,000 stg or €4,000. The lotto provides much needed funds for the day to day running of the club and your support is much appreciated. A club the size of ours requires a huge amount of money to keep us going and despite the slowdown in the economy, expenses such as insurance, travel and equipment have increased dramatically. I would ask all our members to support our lotto and if you could sell five or ten tickets to your neighbours we will be only too happy to provide you with a book.

Social Club

More help is required for the club. As with every organisation it is left to a few to carry the responsibility. Increased usage has placed a great strain on the voluntary workers. If you feel you can help out by giving a couple of hours a month please give your name to any member of the committee. It would be much appreciated. If you wish to book the hall contact any social club member.

Social Entertainment

Bingo continues in the hall on Monday nights.

Vodafone Support Your GAA Club

Vodafone Ireland has launched a new initiative which will enable members to support our club, with the recession funds are scarce and this scheme will enable members to support the club at no extra cost to yourself. When a member registers with Vodafone Support Your G.A.A. Club the company will donate 5% of your monthly bill or top up to our club. To sign up or switch to Vodafone visit www.supportyourgaclub.ie or contact Caroline Brady 08766730233 or Charmaine Rushe 0870674888.

Cairde Raonaithe Na Croise

Membership costs £20 per month for three years. This can be done by direct debit or cash and can be donated monthly, quarterly or yearly. For further information contact any member of the committee.