



# BLARNEY GAA NEWS

APRIL 2005



## LUCEY CUP WINNERS



Back Row: Brian Sheehan, Stephen O' Donoghue, Brendan Sheehan, John Hurley, Peter Nodwell, Ronan Byrne, Julian O' Donoghue, Eugene McCarthy, Brian Hurley.  
Front Row: Danny Cronin, Donal O' Leary, Dave McCarthy, Niall Murphy, Denis O' Donovan, Mark McCarthy.



Julian O' Donoghue (Intermediate Captain 2004) receives the 2004 Lucey Cup.

# INTERMEDIATE HURLING

**BLARNEY 1-7**

**INNISCARRA 1-6**

Blarney travelled to Ballincollig on Sunday, the 10<sup>th</sup> of April to play Inniscarra in the final of the 2004 Lucey Cup, which also doubled up as the final group game in the Liam Breathnach cup. Blarney emerged victorious by the slightest of margins after a tough, physical encounter. Inniscarra opened the scoring in the first minute with a point but Blarney were soon in the lead when Niall Murphy tapped the ball into the net after the Inniscarra goalkeeper had saved to deny Mark McCarthy a certain goal. Inniscarra, who were playing with the benefit of a strong wind, started picking off their scores and were soon on level terms midway through the half. Inniscarra tagged on two further points but two frees from John Hurley and Donal O'Leary ensured the sides were level at the interval, 1-2 to 5 points.

Blarney were first to score in the second half when Niall Murphy split the posts with a fine individual effort from out on the left wing. Blarney, with the wind at their backs, were now beginning to get to grips with their opponents. Blarney's goalkeeper, Ronan Byrne, got in on the scoring act with a monstrous point from a free from his own 45m line. However disaster then struck when Inniscarra's full forward punished some slack Blarney defending and dispatched the sliotar to the Blarney net. Blarney responded with a Donal O'Leary point from a free to tie the scores. Inniscarra took the lead with time almost up and it looked like that they would be celebrating their first win over Blarney at intermediate level since the championship encounter of 1994. Blarney had other ideas, however, and when Johnny Hurley gained position on the left wing, he left the Inniscarra defence for dead and slotted the ball between the posts from an acute angle for the equalising score. Brian Hurley gained possession from the resulting puck out and dispatched the ball to Donal O'Leary, who coolly slotted the ball between the posts for the winner. The Lucey Cup was presented to Blarney's 2004 captain Julian O'Donoghue. Best for Blarney: Denis O'Donovan, Dave McCarthy, Johnny Hurley and Niall Murphy.

**Blarney Team:** Ronan Byrne (0-1(free)), Brendan Sheehan, Julian O'Donoghue, Denis O'Donovan, Danny Cronin, Brian Sheehan, Stephen O'Donoghue, Dave McCarthy, Brian Hurley, Donal O'Leary (0-3 (2 frees)), Johnny Hurley (0-2 (1 free)), Mark McCarthy, Peter Nodwell, Eugene McCarthy, Niall Murphy (1-1).

**Substitutes:** Damien McSweeney, Eamonn Kennedy.

**BLARNEY 1-8**

**BISHOPSTOWN 1-11**

The Blarney Intermediates continued with their league programme taking on the home side in Bishopstown on Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of April. Playing against a slight breeze in the first half, Blarney were soon in their stride with points from Ger O'Donovan and Damien McSweeney which were matched by their opponents. Then, in the eighth minute came the highlight of Blarney's afternoon. Damien McSweeney controlled well from a Ross McNamara pass and blasted the sliotar to the roof of the Bishopstown net. For the remainder of the half, there were lively exchanges with the teams going tit for tat on the scoreboard. Points from Mark McCarthy and James Hughes from a free left Blarney leading at the interval, 1-4 to 0-6.

Unfortunately, the second half failed to live up to expectations from a Blarney point of view. Although, Colm Sheehan scored a nice point from play, Bishopstown were soon on level terms. Then, in the fifth minute the Blarney defence failed to clear a loose ball and were punished when it ended up in the Blarney net. Blarney responded, however, through a James Hughes' point from a 65. At the midway point of the second half, Blarney had a number of goal chances but failed to capitalise although Colm Sheehan pointed accurately from the right wing to cut the Bishopstown's lead to two points. Then, with five minutes left on the clock Ger O'Donovan latched on to a loose ball and pointed setting up the match for a grandstand finish. However, Bishopstown finished the stronger with two points to kill off the Blarney challenge.

**Blarney team:** Ronan Byrne, James O'Sullivan, Julian O'Donoghue, Denis O'Donovan, Danny Cronin, Brian Sheehan, Darragh McSweeney, Brian Hurley, Mark McCarthy (0-1), James Hughes (0-2, 1 free, 1 65), Dave McCarthy, Colm Sheehan (0-2), Gerard O'Donovan (0-2), Damien McSweeney (1-1), Ross McNamara.

**Substitutes:** Brendan Sheehan, Peter Nodwell, Paul O'Leary.

**BLARNEY 0-10**

**NECESTOWN 1-7**

The Blarney Intermediates completed their preparation for Championship with an outing in the league against Necessstown in Necessstown on Saturday, the 30<sup>th</sup> of April. Eugene McCarthy opened Blarney's account immediately after the throw-in with a point and Johnny Hurley with three points (two frees and one from play) had Blarney two points to the good after ten minutes. James Hughes put Blarney further ahead with a 65 before Darragh McSweeney pointed a massive point from play from his own 65 metre line. Although Necessstown kept in touch, two further frees from the accurate John Hurley ensured that Blarney went in leading at the interval, 0-8 to 0-5.

Unfortunately, Blarney found it difficult to find scores in the second half particularly in the descending fog. Necessstown, on the other hand, tagged on a goal and two points with only a Colm Sheehan point in reply for Blarney. With time up, Blarney were awarded a free and Johnny Hurley duly obliged to earn Blarney a hard-fought draw.

Best for Blarney: Julian O'Donoghue, Denis O'Donovan and Darragh McSweeney.

**Blarney team:** Ronan Byrne, James O'Sullivan, Julian O'Donoghue, Denis O'Donovan, James Hughes, Darragh McSweeney, Danny Cronin, Brian Hurley, Mark McCarthy (0-1), Johnny Hurley, Dave McCarthy, Eugene McCarthy, Gerard O'Donovan (0-2), Colm Sheehan, Damien McSweeney.

**Substitutes:** Brendan Sheehan, Peter Nodwell.

# UNDER 21 A FOOTBALL

**BLARNEY 1-13**

**AGHABULLOGUE 0-7**

Blarney tasted sweet success in the first round of the Under 21 A Football Mid-Cork Championship against Aghabullogue in Ballyanly on Saturday evening, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April. Despite a number of injuries, Blarney fielded a strong side and in the near-perfect conditions for football started brightly with a free from Dermot Crowley. The impressive Stephen O' Regan then scored a great point after racing from his half-back berth before Dermot Crowley added a further free. Aghabullogue, however, responded with a number of points of their own and were leading when in the 25<sup>th</sup> minute they had a man sent off for a foul on Ross Lynch. Dermot Crowley pointed the resultant free and Blarney were never to look back after that. Stephen O' Regan scored another well-worked point before Blarney's ace scorer, Dermot Crowley, added another two points from play to leave the score at the interval 0-7 to 0-5 in favour of Blarney. On the resumption, Blarney slowly pulled away from their much-fancied opponents with points from play from Dermot Crowley and Sean O' Grady. Then in the 17<sup>th</sup> minute, Blarney killed off the game as a contest when a James O' Sullivan shot was saved by the Aghabullogue but rebounded off the same player and into the Aghabullogue net. Further points from Dermot Crowley, one from a free and one from play, and from Eoin Hallahan and Conor Foley ensured a comfortable victory for Blarney on the impressive scoreline of 1-13 to 0-7.

Best for Blarney: Paul O' Leary, Ross Lynch, Stephen O' Regan, Dermot Crowley.

**Blarney team:** Michael Crowley, Colm Kiely, Paul O' Leary, Ross Lynch, Stephen O' Regan (0-2), Daniel Cronin, Mark McCarthy, Michael Barry, Conor Foley (0-1), Sean O' Grady (0-1), Dermot Crowley (0-8, 4 frees), Brian Hurley, Rory Goggin, James O' Sullivan (1-0), Eoin Hallahan (0-1).

**Substitutes:** Shane Brickley.

**BLARNEY 1-7**

**BALLINCOLLIG 1-10**

The Blarney U21 footballers faced much-fancied Ballincollig in the semi-final of the U21 Mid-Cork football Championship in Ballyanly on Saturday, the 16<sup>th</sup> of April. After a convincing win over Aghabullogue in the previous round, Blarney appeared somewhat overawed by the pedigree of the opposition at the outset of this contest and found themselves 1-4 to no score in arrears after twenty minutes of the first half. During this period, Blarney did have plenty of good possession but did not convert it into scores. Dermot Crowley got Blarney off the mark after 21 minutes with a free after a foul on the hard-working James O' Sullivan but Ballincollig added to their tally with two further points. Brian Hurley replied with a sweet point from the right wing and James O' Sullivan brought Blarney closer with a well-worked point on the stroke of half-time leaving the scoreline at the interval 1-6 to 0-3 in favour of Ballincollig.

Blarney's bid to get back into the game received the perfect tonic immediately following the resumption. A free from Dermot Crowley after three minutes dropped short into the Ballincollig square and was fielded by Conor Foley who promptly finished it to the net. Ballincollig responded with a point but Dermot Crowley kept Blarney in the contest with a pointed free. Again Ballincollig responded with a point to keep Blarney tantalisingly at bay. Blarney were battling hard at this stage but didn't succeed in reeling in the opposition. In the last ten minutes, Dermot Crowley pointed a forty-five and two frees but each time Ballincollig replied with points. Blarney bravely sought an equalising goal in the dying minutes, bringing in the injured Darragh McSweeney at full-forward, but to no avail. Nevertheless, there was much to be proud of in this courageous Blarney performance.

Best for Blarney: Paul O' Leary, Ross Lynch, Brian Hurley.

**Blarney team:** Michael Crowley, Colm Kiely, Paul O' Leary, Ross Lynch, Stephen O' Regan, Daniel Cronin, Mark McCarthy, Michael Barry, Gerard O' Donovan, Sean O' Grady, Dermot Crowley (0-5, 4 frees, 1 45), Brian Hurley (0-1), Rory Goggin, Conor Foley (1-0), James O' Sullivan (0-1).

**Substitutes:** Darragh McSweeney.

## ATTENTION ALL JUNIOR, SENIOR INFANTS AND FIRST AND SECOND CLASS BOYS

Outdoor hurling training continues every Friday evening in the Blarney GAA pitch - 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
For further information contact St. John Cremin on 087 6354739. **ALL NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.**

## TRAINING TIMES FOR UNDERAGE

UNDER 10 – Monday & Thursday at 5 p.m.  
UNDER 11 – Monday & Thursday at 6 p.m.  
UNDER 12 – Monday & Thursday at 5 p.m.  
UNDER 13 – Tuesday & Thursday at 6 p.m.

## SPORTS AND LEISURE WEAR

Club clothing available Friday evenings between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.  
Contact Jim O' Leary on 0868212331

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Joe Jordan on his selection at centre-back for the Cork Minor Hurling Team against Kerry in the Minor Hurling Championship.

# UNDER 14 HURLING

Blarney

4-8

Killeagh/Ita's 1-8

The Blarney Under 14 hurlers travelled to St. Ita's Pillmore venue to take on the home side in the County section of the Under 14 Championship on Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April. The windy conditions by the sea's edge made it difficult for both teams. Blarney struck the woodwork twice in the early stages allowing Killeagh/Itas to race into a three point lead. Blarney responded, however, when Arron Maguire found the net following a good ball in from Mark O' Leary. Colin Murphy then pointed for Blarney to take the lead. Killeagh/Itas replied with two pointed frees before Cian O' Shea pointed a 65 for Blarney which left the sides tied at the interval, 1-2 to 0-5.

The Blarney mentors made a number of positional changes for the second half which reaped the desired benefits. Blarney opened the scoring with a fine point from Ciaran Daly before Tomas Barrett sent in a high ball which deceived the Killeagh/Ita's goalkeeper and found the net. Killeagh/Ita's responded with a goal but Blarney kept their opponents at arm's length when Colin Murphy, now playing at full-forward, goaled for Blarney. From then on Blarney never looked back and with a second Arron Maguire goal and further points from Tomas Barrett, Colin Murphy, Arron Maguire and two from Cian O' Shea, Blarney cruised to victory. Blarney now advance to the Premier Grade with twelve other teams competing for the ultimate honour of County Champions.

Best for Blarney: Cian O Shea, Shane Fitzgibbon and David Walsh.

**Blarney Team:** Richard O Shea, Tommy D. Looney, Shane Fitzgibbon, Damien Ronan, Barry Phelan, David Walsh, David Waterman, Cian O Shea (0-3), Ciaran Daly (0-1), Mark O Leary, Craig Sykes, Arron Maguire (2-1), Colin Murphy (1-2), Ciaran Buckley, Tomas Barrett (1-1).

**Substitutes:** Glen Moynihan.

Blarney

3-13

St. Finbarr's 6-4

The Blarney Under 14 hurlers showed great spirit to force a draw with St. Finbarr's in the second round of the Premier County Hurling Championship in Togher on Saturday, the 30<sup>th</sup> of April. Blarney started brightly and raced into a 1-3 lead with a goal and a point from Colin Murphy and points from Tomas Barrett and Cian O' Shea. St. Finbarr's stemmed the tide with a goal but Blarney replied with an Arron Maguire goal and a pointed free from Colin Murphy. However, St. Finbarr's raced back into contention bagging three goals with Blarney's only response being points from Colin Murphy and Tomas Barrett. This left the scores level after an exciting first half, 2-7 to 4-1.

St. Finbarr's upped the ante in the second half and raced into a six point lead, with a Craig Sykes' point all Blarney had to show for their efforts for the first fifteen minutes. Blarney cut the deficit to four points with a point from Colin Murphy and three from Cian O' Shea. Blarney now sprung into life and played their best hurling. Following a foul on the impressive Mark O' Leary, Colin Murphy stepped up and billowed the St. Finbarr's net from the resultant free leaving the bare minimum between the sides. As the minutes ticked away, Shane Fitzgibbon was fouled and Cian O' Shea pointed the free to level the game. An all-round excellent performance from Blarney with Shane Fitzgibbon, David Walsh and Barry Phelan strong in defence and Cian O' Shea, Mark O' Leary and Colin Murphy excelling in the forward line.

**Blarney Team:** Richard O Shea, Tommy D. Looney, Shane Fitzgibbon, Damien Ronan, Barry Phelan, David Walsh, David Waterman, Cian O Shea (0-5), Craig Sykes (0-1), Arron Maguire (1-0), Mark O Leary, Owen O' Conner, Colin Murphy (2-4), Ciaran Buckley, Tomas Barrett (0-2).

**Substitutes:** Paul Kearney.

## UNDERAGE OFFICERS CONTACT NUMBERS

Chairman: St. John Cremin	087 76354739	Assistant Secretary: Ray Buckley	0872100400
Vice-Chairman: Michael Horgan	087 2629557	School Liaison Officer: Dermot McSweeney	(021) 4385507
Secretary: Jim O' Leary	086 8212331		

## UNDERAGE TEAM CONTACT NUMBERS

Under 16: Derry McSweeney	(021) 4385507	Under 11: Seamus Mulcahy	(021) 4381159
Under 15: Denis O' Donovan	(021) 4381279	Under 10: Paul Lenihan	(021) 4385753
Under 14: Jim Barrett	087 2508996	2nd Class: Michael Mc Namara	(021) 4385811
Under 13: Ray Buckley	087 2100400	1st Class: Ray Coleman	(021) 4381094
Under 12: Michael Horgan	087 2629557	Junior/Senior Infants: St. John Cremin	087 6354739



**Downey Mc Carthy Murphy**  
Auctioneers Valuers Property Consultants & Mortgage Brokers

Grafton Mall,  
39 Grand Parade, Cork.

Tel: 021 490 5000 Fax: 021 4905005  
Website: [www.abetterchoice.ie](http://www.abetterchoice.ie)

**A better choice for mortgages & property**