



BLARNEY GAA NEWS

MAY 2005



UNDER 14 COUNTY SEMI-FINALISTS



Back Row: Patrick Ryan, Paul Kearney, David Walsh, Shane Fitzgibbon, Craig Sykes, Cian O' Shea (Capt.), Barry Phelan, Mark O' Leary, Ciarán Buckley, Paul Hallissey, David Waterman, Glen Moynihan.
 Front Row: Thomás Barrett, Colin Murphy, Thomas Looney, Arron Maguire, Richard O' Shea, Owen O' Connor, Andrew McCarthy, Ciarán Daly, Sean Costigan, Damien Ronan.

BLARNEY 1-6 NA PIARSAIGH 2-9

The Blarney Under 14 hurlers' fantastic run in this year Championship came to an end at the semi-final stage against Na Piarasaigh at the Mardyke on Wednesday, the 18th of May. Blarney started brightly and led after the opening quarter by 0-4 to 0-1 with Colin Murphy scoring three points (two frees) and Cian O' Shea adding another from play. The Blarney forwards were causing difficulties for the Na Piarasaigh defence and Mark O' Leary put Blarney further ahead with a goal in the 20th minute. However, Na Piarasaigh fought back with a goal and two points before Craig Sykes replied with a point from play for Blarney to leave the score at the interval, 1-5 to 1-3 in favour of Blarney. Na Piarasaigh dominated the opening stages of the second half but did not level the game until the 45th minute with points from a free and one from play. Blarney then went ahead again with a point from Cian O' Shea. However, Na Piarasaigh upped the tempo with three further points from play without reply. At this stage the Blarney team tired visibly having had little time to recover following their two previous games against St. Finbarr's and the Glen and Na Piarasaigh tagged another goal and a point before the final whistle. Despite the defeat, Blarney can be very proud of themselves after their wonderful performances in this year's Championship.

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

INTERMEDIATE HURLING

BLARNEY 1-7

BALLINHASSIG 1-7

The Blarney Intermediate hurlers opened their Championship campaign with a hard-fought draw against Ballinhassig at Páirc Uí Rinn on Sunday, the 8th of May. Blarney got off to the worst possible start, conceding a goal after only two minutes. Blarney looked to respond immediately when Mark McCarthy got behind the Ballinhassig defence but his shot was saved by the Ballinhassig goalkeeper. Blarney had to wait until the 12th minute to open their account with a John Hurley free but Ballinhassig responded with two points of their own. Both sides were finding scores hard to come by although John Hurley did tag on another point from a free before Ross McNamara registered Blarney's first point from play after almost 25 minutes. One further free from John Hurley before the break left Blarney trailing at the interval, 1-4 to 0-4.

Ballinhassig extended their lead to four points soon after the restart before Blarney got the goal they craved: a Ross McNamara ball struck low across the square was finished to the net by Blarney's captain Dave McCarthy. Ballinhassig pointed twice to extend their lead back to three points but Blarney replied with two terrific points from Dave McCarthy and Colm Sheehan. Blarney were now dictating the play but could not find the equalising score. However, with two minutes remaining James Hughes stepped up and sent a 65 metre free between the posts to ensure that both sides would have to meet again.

Best for Blarney: James Hughes, Darragh McSweeney, Mark McCarthy, Brian Sheehan and Johnny Hurley.

Blarney team: Ronan Byrne, James O' Sullivan, Julian O' Donoghue, Denis O' Donovan, James Hughes (0-1(65)), Darragh McSweeney, Danny Cronin, Brian Hurley, Brian Sheehan, Johnny Hurley (0-3 (frees)), Dave McCarthy (1-1), Mark McCarthy, Gerard O' Donovan, Niall Murphy, Ross McNamara (0-1).

Substitutes: Damien McSweeney, Colm Sheehan (0-1), Eugene McCarthy.

BLARNEY 3-13

BALLINHASSIG 1-15

The Blarney Intermediate hurlers had a tremendous victory over Ballinhassig at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday, the 14th of May after the sides had drawn the previous weekend. Unlike the drawn match, Blarney got off to a flier with the aid of a strong breeze in the first half and registered 1-2 inside four minutes. The Ballinhassig defence was run ragged by a buzzing Blarney forward division that rattled in a goal from Ross McNamara and added points from Daniel Cronin, David McCarthy and Niall Murphy. Blarney then raised two further white flags through Ross McNamara and John Hurley. However, Ballinhassig gradually fought their way back into the contest and had the deficit down to the minimum after 12 minutes. Blarney now raised their play again and registered points through Eugene McCarthy and a free from John Hurley before the latter whipped a sumptuous 20 metre ground shot to the top right hand corner of the Ballinhassig net. Blarney continued their impressive attacking prowess and gave themselves a comfortable half-time lead when a long sideline cut from Hurley was misread by the Ballinhassig defence and Niall Murphy, on for the injured Donal O' Leary, pounced for his side's third goal to leave the score at the interval 3-8 to 1-7 in favour of Blarney.

As expected, Ballinhassig came at Blarney after the restart using the strong breeze to good advantage and scored five unanswered points to cut the deficit to a goal after fifteen minutes. But the final quarter saw Blarney at their best. With their defence on top, man-of-the-match John Hurley lead by example adding three excellent points from play. Ballinhassig now came looking for goals but Ronan Byrne in the Blarney goal made a hat-trick of saves to deny them in the last five minutes.

Best for Blarney: Ronan Byrne, James Hughes, Darragh McSweeney, Mark McCarthy, Johnny Hurley and Ross McNamara.

Blarney team: Ronan Byrne, James Hughes, Julian O' Donoghue, Denis O' Donovan, Mark McCarthy, Darragh McSweeney, Stephen O' Donoghue, Brian Sheehan, Danny Cronin (0-1), Johnny Hurley (1-7 (0-3 frees)), Dave McCarthy (0-1), Eugene McCarthy (0-1), Gerard O' Donovan, Donal O' Leary, Ross McNamara (1-2).

Substitutes: Niall Murphy (1-1).



HOTSHOT HURLEY HERE ASKING YOU TO CLEAN OUT YOUR ATTICS AND BRING ALL YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS DOWN TO THE CLUB STALL AT THE **BLARNEY G.A.A. CAR BOOT SALE** WHICH WILL BE HELD ON **BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, THE 6TH OF JUNE** AT THE BLARNEY G.A.A. CLUB GROUNDS. ALL MONIES RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS THE UNDERAGE SECTION OF THE CLUB TO HELP FOSTER NEW HOTSHOT HURLERS AND FOOTBALLERS LIKE ME.

CONGRATULATIONS

To James Hughes on his selection and performance for the Cork Intermediate hurling team against Waterford in the Intermediate Championship and also to John Hurley who was a member of the panel.

JUNIOR A HURLING

BLARNEY 1-10

BALLINORA 2-7

The Blarney Junior A hurlers opened their Championship campaign with a spirited draw against Ballinora at Ballincollig on Saturday, the 15th of May. Blarney were completely overwhelmed in the first fifteen minutes of the contest and found themselves trailing by 1-4 to 0-1, their solitary point coming from a Peter Nodwell free. However, Blarney battled back into contention in the second quarter when Eamonn Kennedy scored a point after a fine catch and David O' Callaghan added a further point with a sweet strike from the right wing. Sean Harrington's accuracy from frees continued the revival, scoring four points from placed balls. The Blarney revival was stifled somewhat by a Ballinora goal two minutes from the break. However, Blarney responded immediately with a great individual goal from Peter Nodwell who left the Ballinora defence trailing in his wake and kicked the sliotar to the roof of the net. This left the score at the interval 1-7 to 2-6 in favour of Ballinora.

The second half failed to reach the same heights as the first. Blarney struck first blood with a point from play by Peter Nodwell and Sean Harrington levelled matters with a 65 metre free after fifteen minutes. Blarney did have a number of goal chances during this period but failed to capitalise on them. Ballinora took the lead after 20 minutes with another free and held out until injury time when Sean Harrington earned Blarney a well-deserved draw with a pointed free. Best for Blarney: Brendan Sheehan, Paul O' Leary, Sean Harrington and Peter Nodwell.

Blarney team: Peter McSweeney, Donal O' Neill, Kevin Downey, Colm Kiely, Brendan Sheehan, Paul O' Leary, Stephen O' Brien, Noel McCarthy, Peter Ahern, David O' Callaghan (0-1), Sean Harrington (0-6 (0-5 frees, 1 65)), Michael Horgan, Brian Deasy, Eamonn Kennedy (0-1), Peter Nodwell (1-2 (0-1 free)).

Substitutes: Richard Pinfield, Daniel O' Donovan.

BLARNEY 0-6

BALLINORA 0-12

The Blarney Junior A hurlers squared up against Ballinora in the replay of their Championship opener at Ballincollig on Saturday, the 21st of May in near perfect conditions for hurling. Blarney opened the brighter of the two teams and were ahead by three points to one after ten minutes through the exploits of Sean Harrington and Peter Nodwell from placed balls and a point from play from the lively Brian Deasy. However, Ballinora kicked into life and registered three unanswered points within two minutes before Sean Harrington restored parity after fifteen minutes with a free from the half-way line. For the remainder of the half, both sides found scores difficult to come by with Blarney's only point during the second quarter coming from a Peter Nodwell free and they trailed at the interval by 0-6 to 0-5.

At the beginning of the second half, a Ballinora point was quickly cancelled out when Eamonn Kennedy pounced on a loose ball and fired over. Unfortunately, that was about as good as it got for Blarney and they failed to score for the remainder of the half. Ballinora tagged on five unanswered points although Blarney did have chances to stem the tide but their wayward shooting left them down. With five minutes remaining, Peter Nodwell had his effort from a 21 metre free saved and that signalled the end of the Blarney challenge.

Best for Blarney: Richard Pinfield, Brendan Sheehan, Paul O' Leary and Stephen O' Brien.

Blarney team: Peter McSweeney, Donal O' Neill, Richard Pinfield, Colm Kiely, Brendan Sheehan, Paul O' Leary, Stephen O' Brien, Noel McCarthy, Peter Ahern, David O' Callaghan, Sean Harrington (0-2 frees), Michael Horgan, Brian Deasy (0-1), Eamonn Kennedy (0-1), Peter Nodwell (0-2 frees).

Substitutes: Daniel O' Donovan, Brian McNamara.

Match Reports on the Junior A hurlers' victory over Iveleary in the second round of the Junior A Hurling Championship and the Under 12 D footballers' capturing of the Mid-Cork Football Championship will follow in the next issue of the newsletter.

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 7p.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

PARISH LEAGUES 2005

The annual hurling parish leagues commenced on Sunday, May 29th at the Blarney GAA pitch and will continue on Sunday, June 12th with the finals on Sunday, June 19th between 6.30 p.m. and 8 p.m. The leagues cater for boys born in 1994, 1995 or in 3rd class and girls born in 1993, 1994 or in 4th class.

UNDER 14 HURLING

BLARNEY 2-11

ST. FINBARRS 4-2

The Blarney Under 14 hurlers defeated St. Finbarr's in the 2nd round replay of the Premier County Championship on home soil on Wednesday, May 11th. Blarney opened the scoring in the 4th minute with a point from Colin Murphy and points from Tomas Barrett and Cian O' Shea kept Blarney in front. By the tenth minute, Blarney had stretched their lead to three points with impressive points from Mark O' Leary and Colin Murphy. Strong defensive play by the Blarney full-back line and David Walsh at centre-back kept the Barr's forwards at bay during this period. Blarney now stepped up the pace and a super run by Tomas Barrett into the heart of the Barr's defence resulted in a well-timed pass to Mark O' Leary who rattled the Barr's net. Two further points from Mark O' Leary added to Blarney's handsome lead. However, the Barr's replied with a goal from a 20 metre free to leave the score at the interval, 1-7 to 1-2 in favour of Blarney.

The Barr's had the better of the exchanges in the first ten minutes of the second half but the first score of the half didn't come until the thirteenth minute when Tomas Barrett pointed for Blarney. Ciaran Buckley then put the home side further ahead with another point. A goal and a point from the stylish Colin Murphy gave Blarney an eleven point lead and they looked home and dry. However, the Barr's quickly re-organised and excitement mounted when they struck for three goals to leave two points between the sides. Blarney looked in trouble but Colin Murphy settled the ship with a point just before the final whistle to end a pulsating final ten minutes.

Best for Blarney: Barry Phelan, David Walsh, Tomas Barrett, Mark O' Leary and Colin Murphy.

Blarney Team: Richard O' Shea, Barry Phelan, Shane Fitzgibbon, Eoin O' Connor, David Waterman, David Walsh, Ciaran Daly, Cian O' Shea (0-1(f)), Craig Sykes, Tomas Barrett (0-2), Mark O' Leary (1-3), Damien Ronan, Colin Murphy (1-4 (2f)), Arron Maguire, Ciaran Buckley (0-1). **Substitutes:** Glen Moynihan.

BLARNEY 2-13

GLEN ROVERS

1-12

Blarney's Under 14 hurlers continued their County campaign with victory over Glen Rovers in Bishopstown on Saturday, the 14th of May in an enthralling encounter. Blarney, playing with the aid of a strong wind in the first half, exerted early pressure on the Glen defence resulting in pointed frees from Cian O' Shea and Colin Murphy. The Glen opened their account with a point before O' Shea replied with a point for Blarney. With the wind at their backs Blarney opened up the Glen defence and O' Shea burst through for a goal. The Glen replied with a point before Colin Murphy added two points, one from play and the other a free, leaving the score at the break 1-5 to 0-2 in favour of Blarney.

Blarney started brightest in the opening of the second half popping over three points, Colin Murphy with two frees and Tomas Barrett scoring a beauty from an acute angle. However, the Glen now came at Blarney, taking advantage of the strong wind and scored a goal and seven points without reply before Blarney stopped the rot with a point from Arron Maguire to level the game. With ten minutes remaining, Colin Murphy pointed for Blarney to take the lead but the Glen levelled matters again. Both defences were now under pressure and Richard O' Shea brought off some magnificent saves in the Blarney goal. However, neither side could find a winner and the match went into extra-time.

Blarney won the toss and played against the wind in an effort to hold the Glen at bay and the tactic worked to great effect. Blarney took the game to their opponents with Colin Murphy first to point for Blarney and Mark O' Leary adding a second. On the turn over Blarney upped the ante and Damien Ronan sent a pin-point ball across the Glen goalmouth which Colin Murphy finished coolly to the back of the net. The Glen now came looking for goals but the Blarney defence held firm and Colin Murphy put over a 65 metre free to put the gloss on a tremendous Blarney victory.

Best for Blarney: Richard O' Shea, Barry Phelan, Cian O' Shea and Colin Murphy.

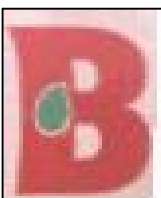
Blarney Team: Richard O' Shea, Barry Phelan, Shane Fitzgibbon, Eoin O' Connor, David Waterman, David Walsh, Ciaran Daly, Cian O' Shea (1-2 (0-1 free)), Craig Sykes, Tomas Barrett (0-1), Mark O' Leary (0-1), Damien Ronan, Colin Murphy (1-7 (0-4 frees)), Arron Maguire (0-1), Ciaran Buckley.

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



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