

Determined Cloyne get the better of a flat Kanturk

## CORK PIHC

Cloyne 1-15  
Kanturk 0-13

THERE is no replacement for heart and attitude as Cloyne inflicted a shock win over Kanturk in the opening round of the Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday, writes JOHN COUGHLAN.

The east Cork side went into this game without a league win and with three Cork senior hurlers in the Kanturk squad they were expected to win this game with relative ease.

The game got off to a frantic start with former Cork Senior hurling star Paudie O'Sullivan striking over a point just 20 seconds into the game.

Kanturk to their credit bounced back on their next possession with a monstrous Liam O'Keeffe white flag. Both teams were intent on playing up-tempo hurling and with another O'Sullivan in the shape of Diarmuid showing nice touches for Cloyne the sides were level in the 13th minute.

As the half matured Cloyne looked to be getting leg-weary but the standard of hurling from both sides was well below the standard.

For a period Kanturk looked to be taking control but the pace of game was sluggish and Cloyne went 15 minutes without scoring that saw them trail 0-9 to 0-4 entering the final minute.

The one trait that we have witnessed from Cloyne over the years is their spirit and two late Dillon Cahill points reduced the deficit to three points. Indeed it took a magnificent Anthony Nash save to deny Paudie O'Sullivan at the death but it was all to play for the second half with Cloyne trailing by three, 0-9 to 0-6.

On the restart, Cloyne upped the tempo winning the majority of dirty ball and three unanswered points tied the game in the 37th minute.

Liam O'Keeffe slotted over a point on Kanturk's next possession but then game a Cloyne goal that completed a magnificent passage of play.

A high ball towards goal was splendidly flicked on by Diarmuid O'Sullivan who found brother Paudie as he blasted the ball past his former Cork senior hurling teammate Anthony Nash.

When Kanturk look back on this game they will surely wonder how their hurling was so flat for long periods as all they could muster up was four points for the entire second half.

Cloyne have lost the retired Donal Óg Cusack but they continue to show a spirit that is testament to their commitment over many years.

In the closing minutes they won every 50-50 ball on offer and it was clear that many of their players had the bottle for the battle.

The sound of the final whistle was greeted with elation by the Cloyne players and management as their never say die attitude proved too much for Kanturk to handle.

**Scorers for Cloyne:** P O'Sullivan 1-4, D Cahill 0-4 (f), D O'Sullivan 0-2, C O'Sullivan 0-2, I Cahill 0-2, M Lynch 0-1 (f).

**Kanturk:** L McLoughlin 0-6 (0-4f,65), L O'Keeffe 0-3, I Walsh 0-2, L O'Neill, J Fitzpatrick (0-1 each). **CLOYNE:** J Nyhan; E O'Sullivan, K Cronin, J Sherlock; B Minihane, D O'Sullivan, M Lynch; B Fleming; P O'Sullivan; D Cahill, I Cahill, S Beausang; C O'Sullivan, P O'Sullivan, A Walsh.

**Sub:** K Dennehy for A Walsh (36). **KANTURK:** A Nash; P Walsh, J Browne, E O'Connor; D Browne, A Walsh, L O'Neill; J McLoughlin, D O'Connor; I Walsh, A O'Keeffe, L McLoughlin; J Fitzpatrick, M Healy, L O'Keeffe.

**Sub:** D Duane for M Healy (57). **Referee:** Nathan Wall (Carrigaline).

# Goal-blitz seals it for Inniscarra

## CORK PIHC

John Coughlan

Inniscarra 4-11

Castlelyons 1-11

**A THREE goal first-half blitz by Dan O'Connell in a four-minute period paved the way for a comfortable Inniscarra win over Castlelyons in the Cork Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday.**

In a high-tempo start, Ronan Bransfield almost gave Castlelyons the perfect start but his magnificent strike came off the right post in the third minute.

Two minutes later, the Inniscarra defence were punished with poor defending when a high ball behind their defence was pounced on by Michael Spillane who duly billowed the back of the net with a ferocious strike.

The darting runs of Spillane were hurting the Inniscarra and he showed a lovely touch to strike over a point three minutes later.

After a sluggish start Inniscarra began taking control and with Colm Casey (2) and Kieran Rice adding three impressive points they were soon back in the hunt.

The one minus for Inniscarra was their shooting as up to the 25th minute they had amassed nine wides.

Suddenly, we had a three-goal feast in the space of four minutes as Castlelyons went into total meltdown.

The first came courtesy of a fabulous Colm Casey shot that was parried by the Castlelyons keeper Jack Barry only for the in rushing Dan O'Connell to guide the ball to the empty net.

A minute later, another sterling run from Pádraig O'Donoghue saw him assist a perfect pass to O'Connell who raised his second green flag with relative ease.

There was more punishment for Castlelyons to come as O'Donoghue fluffed a golden goal opportunity only for O'Connell to complete his hat-trick in a four-minute period. Castlelyons did manage a point in



Inniscarra's Timmy Murphy clears his lines under pressure from Darragh Lawlor, Castlelyons, during their PIHC match at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: David Keane



Castlelyons attacker Aidan O'Sullivan shoots goalwards under pressure from Inniscarra defender John O'Callaghan during their PIHC match at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: David Keane

added time but they had a mountain to climb for the second half when they trailed 3-6 to 0-5.

On the restart Inniscarra continued to dominate and consecutive points from Colm Casey and Tomas O'Connor saw them increase their lead to nine points.

For some strange reason Inniscarra dropped their tempo and when O'Connell was forced off with an injured ankle with 20 minutes remaining they lacked ideas on the scoring front.

Castlelyons sensed their opponents were struggling but despite holding them scoreless for 20 minutes all they could muster up in that period was a mere four points.

Once the pressure decreased Inniscarra found their rhythm and it's worth pointing out the outstanding performance that their Cork U21 star Sean O'Donoghue gave at corner-back.

O'Donoghue is a serious talent with a bright future and when Michael Spillane threatened to run riot in the opening minutes once he was switched on him Inniscarra looked a happier outfit in defence.

It was fitting Colm Casey would slot home a fourth Inniscarra goal in added-time, on a night when coach John Meyler was delighted to have a double celebration with son David helping Hull City to Premier League promotion in England.

**Scorers for Inniscarra:** D O'Connell 3-1, C Casey 0-3, T O'Connor 0-3, A O'Mahony 0-2 (0-1f), K Rice, T O'Connor (0-1 each). **Castlelyons:** M Spillane 1-3 (0-1f), A O'Sullivan 0-4, D Lawlor 0-2, R Fenton, K O'Leary (0-1 each).

**INNISCARRA:** J O'Keeffe; S O'Donoghue, J O'Callaghan, D O'Callaghan; S Olden, G Burke, L O'Riain; T Murphy, T O'Connor; A O'Mahony, D O'Connell, C Buckley; K Rice, C Casey, P O'Donoghue.

**Subs:** P Farmer for D O'Callaghan (24), M Nagle for Dan O'Connell (inj 40).

**CASTLELYONS:** J Barry; B Carroll, C Barry, T Carroll; C McGann, C O'Leary, K O'Leary; E Maye, R Feeney; D Lawlor, S Moloney, R Bransfield; M Spillane, A O'Sullivan, R Fenton.

**Subs:** C O'Neill for C Barry (inj 30), J O'Leary for R Feeney (43).

**Referee:** Teddy O'Donovan (Douglas).

## Midfield point the way as Ballyhooly claim comfortable win

Ballyhooly 0-18

Shanballymore 1-11

**BALLYHOOLY** ran out comprehensive victors over last year's County JBHC champions Shanballymore in the opening round of the Hibernian Hotel JAHC at Glanworth, writes PAT RYAN.

The winners laid the platform for victory with an outstanding display from their midfield duo of Sean Linehan and Darragh O'Reilly while James Roche, Gerry O'Connor and Fintan Linehan also played leading roles in their sides comfortable victory.

Despite the sides being deadlocked at 0-2 each by

the seventh minute it was Ballyhooly that totally dominated matters for most of the opening half.

They picked-off some marvellous scores at their ease and by the 21st minute had raced into a 0-10 to 0-3 lead.

Shanballymore, who now faced an uphill battle, staged a good revival before the interval with Eoin O'Regan, Sean Lynch, Brian Sheedy, Darren Roche and the O'Reilly brothers making headway.

Colman O'Reilly pointed from long range before Brian O'Reilly got them right back into the mix in the 27th minute when a free by Eoin O'Regan was

## JAHC

broken down on the edge of the square with O'Reilly billowing an unstoppable shot to the net.

In injury-time, Brian O'Reilly added two more points while Ballyhooly had a point by Gerry O'Connor as just two points separated the teams at the short-whistle 0-11 to 1-6.

On the changeover the expected Shanballymore challenge never got going with the hardworking Ballyhooly backline keeping them at bay.

Instead it was the winners that reeled off early scores by Gerry O'Connor, Eamon

O'Reilly and James Roche before Jamie Sheedy opened Shanballymore's second half account with a free in the 40th minute 0-14 to 1-7.

Further pressure by Ballyhooly saw Darragh O'Reilly set up Shane Murphy for a fine point before two long range points (one from a free) by Gerry O'Connor extended their lead to 0-17 to 1-8 by the 53rd minute.

Shanballymore battled to the end but they never looked like getting a second goal to set up an interesting finish.

Jamie Sheedy (2) and Kenneth Barry had points before the final whistle but it proved too little too late

with Ballyhooly marching onto the next round.

**Scorers for Ballyhooly:** G O'Connor 0-8 (0-6f) S Linehan 0-3, D O'Reilly 0-3, E O'Reilly 0-1, J Roche 0-1f, S Murphy 0-1, K McCarthy 0-1.

**Shanballymore:** J Sheedy 0-5f, B O'Reilly 1-2, C O'Reilly 0-2, K Barry 0-1, D Roche 0-1.

**BALLYHOOLY:** P O'Connor, P Leahy, K O'Driscoll, F Linehan, E O'Reilly, J Roche, K Kiely, S Linehan, D O'Reilly, G O'Connor, F O'Connell, D Kiely, S Murphy, K McCarthy, P Aherne.

**Subs:** M Hanrahan for K McCarthy, R Fraher for F O'Connell (inj).

**SHANBALLYMORE:** S Donegan, J Hayers, E McHugh, A Sheedy, J Fitzgerald, S Lynch, E O'Regan, M Burke, R McHugh, B O'Reilly, B Sheedy, J Sheedy, D Roche, J Dennehy, C O'Reilly.

**Subs:** P Burke for M Burke (inj) K Barry for R McHugh.

**Referee:** Dave O'Farrell (Jnr) (Mitchelstown)