

28th March 2010

RESULTS Derrynane/Sneem 0-14 Knocknagree 3-7

For their latest challenge game in the build up to Saturday's County League fixture against Beale, Sneem/Derrynane travelled over the County bounds to take on Knocknagree in Cork. There were 21 players out warming up in the host club's excellent facilities half an hour before throw-in, which was an encouraging sign.

Things started promisingly for the visitors who were moving the ball confidently around the pitch. Joe Corridan was on fire and kicked three points from play in the first seven minutes and went on to get a fine haul of nine points. Ian Galvin also chipped in a point in this opening phase put in by a quick ball by David Breen. However, Knocknagree had posted warnings of their threat and only two great blocks in succession from Derek Shea and Richard White had prevented the concession of a goal. A goal did come though when Adrian O'Sullivan delayed in clearing the ball and was dispossessed near his goal and the ball ended up in the net. A second soon followed with an unstoppable shot hammered into the roof of the net and the visitors' defence was looking decidedly shaky. Killian Burns started to assert himself with a couple of fine catches and Raymond White tracked diligently, but Knocknagree were streaming through from out the field. However, they failed to score, kicking an astonishing eight wides in a row. Joe Corridan hit another two points from frees and was unlucky to crash another shot off the crossbar when a score seemed certain.

The half-time score was Knocknagree 2-2-Sneem/Derrynane 0-6

The introduction of John O'Shea in midfield for the second half brought some badly needed improvement to that section, with O'Shea winning some good ball and distributing it well. Overall though, not enough ball was being won in the centre by the visitors and they seemed incapable of gathering breaking ball. Donal O'Sullivan, now at half-back, and Tony Drummond began to steady things in defence and Shane O'Donoghue also did well when brought on. Corridan continued his scoring streak with another four points, including a beauty from out on the touchline. A hardworking Ronan Hussey got four points, three frees and a neat one from play. Only three players, all in the full-forward line scored for Sneem/Derrynane. In the end, it was the home team who ran out deserving winners despite Sneem/Derrynane's late rally.

So a good workout for all concerned, but the Beale game will be a big challenge and improvement will be needed all over the pitch for the victory the club craves in order to get off to a winning start in the County League.

The Sneem/Derrynane team was Richard White, D.Shea, K.Burns, Raymond White, Denis O'Sullivan, T.Drummond, A.O'Sullivan, David.Breen, Donal O'Sullivan, M.O'Connor, A.Breen, Darren Breen, I.Galvin(0-1), R.Hussey(0-4,3f), J.Corridan(0-9,5f)

Subs: M.Drummond, J.O'Shea, S.O'Donoghue, M.White, C.Boland, S.O'Sullivan