

23rd April 2011

County Intermediate Championship

RESULTS: Sneem/Derrynane ? John Mitchels ?

It was a case of into the lions den for Sneem/Derrynane as they travelled to Tralee to take on the famed John Mitchels in The County Intermediate Championship at Boherbee on Saturday last. It was a somewhat changed Sneem/Derrynane lineout from the one that played the same opposition earlier in the Co league in March down in Sneem. They started well but missed some early chances to put scores on the board. They also lost goal-keeper Richard White who got injured making a point blank save from Wayne Conway and he was replaced in goal by Mark Drummond. Mitchels slowly came back and were to open the scoring with a Mc Mahon point from a 45 and soon after Alan O'Donoghue had them two points up, another fine passage of play saw Alan Conway increased the lead to three points after twelve minutes. Adrain Breen opened the scoring for Sneem/Derrynane with a pointed free and he soon followed with a point from play to make it three points to two after eighteen minutes. Great defence by the Sneem/Derrynane backs kept the lively Mitchels forwards at bay, but then disaster struck as a high ball came back off the post and was rifled back in and goalie Mark Drummond made a fantastic save only to see the rebound sent to the net by Wayne Conway. This was to be the final score of the first half as Mitchels went in leading 1-3 to 0-2.

The away team were out of the blocks quickly with a Joe Corridan point after three minutes. Alan O Donoghue restored the Mitchels advantage with a point two minutes later and on ten minutes they went up 1-5 to 0-3. At this stage a positive result was looking doubtful for Sneem/Derrynane, but with their defence standing firm and Darren Breen beginning to handle a lot of ball around the middle they soon closed the gap with two Adrain Breen pointed frees. Wayne Conway scored again for Mitchels but that was cancelled out by a Joe Corridan free to leave it 1-6 to 0-6 after twenty two minutes. Sneem /Derrynane pressed forward looking for the scores to rescue the game, and a few missed chances looked as though they might prove costly. With time almost up they came again and a sweeping move involving Mike Connor and Mike White who found Shane McGillicuddy and he sent the ball crashing to the Mitchels net to level the match and send it into extra time to the delight of the traveling supporters. In extra-time Jamie Moriarty put Mitchels into the lead again before another fine move involving Darren Breen and Morgan O Donoghue who found corner back Mike O'Neill in space and he lofted a great point (any forward would be proud of) to level it again. Scores were still level into the second half of extra-time and it was the Mitchels who got the winning score four minutes from time and despite the best efforts of the visitors they held on for a one point win. A brave performance by Sneem/Derrynane that will bring them on a lot for their future league games.