

# Carrigaline GAA News

## Minor Hurling County Semi-Final

### Carrigaline 0-14 : Cloughduv 0-11

It was a beautiful evening in Eire Óg on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> last with perfect conditions for hurling for this Minor Hurling County Semi-Final. Cloughduv had won a very tight quarter final on the previous Monday against a strong Carrigtwohill outfit. Carrigaline's last outing was a great win against Shandrum back on 6<sup>th</sup> July.

Carrigaline started quickly with points from Jack McCarthy and Brian Kelleher in the opening few minutes helping to settle the team. Cloughduv opened with a point before Dan Green landed a great point under pressure. These opening exchanges were high in intensity with severe pressure on the player in possession at all times. A well taken point from Tom Deasy stretched the Carrig lead and a great save from Niall Fitzgerald in the Carrig goal kept Cloughduv at bay. Cloughduv responded with a brace of points before Brian Kelleher point gave Carrigaline a one point lead after twenty minutes. The Carrigaline attack seemed to be motoring well and tenacious defending from the full back line of Euan Doyle, Luke Condon and Shane Barry allowed Carrig to finish out the half more strongly with a point from the ever busy Jack McCarthy and a brace from placed balls from the reliable Brian Kelleher. The half time score of 0-8 to 0-5 in favour of Carrigaline reflected the tightness of the game thus far.

With Jack Kelly replacing Chris Murray at half time, Carrig would have to keep up the intensity of their effort if they were to prevail against a Cloughduv team that had a never say die attitude and no little amount of skill. Carrig started the second half with three points in the opening three minutes to put a little daylight between the sides. Two of Brian Kelleher frees sandwiched Jack McCarthy's great effort. Again Carrigaline pushed on and a Brian Kelleher 65 and a point from David Stack opened the lead further with only a solitary point from Cloughduv. With the score at 0-13 to 0-06 after forty minutes it was looking good for Carrigaline. Denis McBarron was introduced for Cian O'Donovan, who had a goal bound effort stopped by a great save from the Cloughduv net-minder, with 42 minutes on the clock. However, Cloughduv suddenly found a rich vein of form and Carrigaline had to work very hard to contain them. The quality of the hooking, blocking and pressure from the Carrigaline midfield and defence was enormous with the half backs of Eanna Desmond, Dylan Cooney and Dan Greene ably assisted by the non-stop work of the midfield pairing of Nathan Coleman and James Maher. Carrig were outscored by five points to one during this period and entered the final few minutes of the game with a three point lead. In what proved to be a frantic final few minutes Cloughduv went searching for the equalising goal but the Carrig lads held out for a well-earned victory.

Carrigaline move on to a County Minor Hurling Final on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September in Páirc Uí Rinn against a strongly fancied Blarney team. However, with the positive attitude and the great work ethic shown by this panel of players both on the training pitch and in our matches to date there is every hope that a rare Minor Hurling Title can be brought back to Carrigaline. Your support on the evening of the final would be appreciated by all the panel.

**Scorers:** Brian Kelleher 0-8 (0-4 f; 0-2 65's), Jack McCarthy (0-3), Tom Deasy (0-1), D Green (0-1) David Stack (0-1)

**Carrigaline Panel:** Niall Fitzgerald, Shane Barry, Luke Condon, Euan Doyle, Eanna Desmond, Dylan Cooney, Dan Green, James Maher, Nathan Coleman, Brian Kelleher, David Stack, Tom Deasy, Jack McCarthy, Chris Murray, Cian O'Donovan. **Subs:** Jack Kelly for C Murray (H/T), Denis McBarron for C O'Donovan (42 mins), Chris Vaughan, Jack Cronin, Sean Fouhy, Sean Desmond, Paul Moran, Tomas O'Donoghue, Ian O'Donoghue, Olin Barry, Mark Healy, Jack O'Mahony, Anthony Sheehan.