

## John Kerins Football Tournament 2015

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April in glorious sunshine the Carrigaline Under 11s headed to Nemo Rangers to try and qualify for the John Kerins Tournament Finals. This four team group was comprised of Valley Rovers, Inniscarra, Nemo Rangers and Carrigaline with the top two qualifying.

An early injury to Dylan Twohig during the warm up meant we had to reshuffle the team around for our first game against Valley Rovers. This was a tough encounter during the first half but with goals from the excellent Adam Costello and the courageous Cian Moroney we lead 2-1 to 0-2 at half time. Goals were the order of the day in the second half as we scored another four, two from Conor "Flix" Lillis and one each from Shane O Neill and Darragh O Regan. With a tight defence, well marshalled by full back Barry Kelliher gave very little away. Also some very strong midfield play from Aidan O Shea and Rory O Donoghue the forwards got endless supply of ball into them. We emptied the bench to give the subs a taste of what it was like to play and all impressed. An unfortunate ankle injury to Adam O Leary would curtail his time on the pitch but his vocal cords roared us on the victory as we ran out comprehensive winners on a scoreline of 6-2 to 1-2.

Our second match was against Inniscarra and this was a tough, close and hard fought encounter throughout. Inniscarra scored first squeezing a goal past the excellent Christopher Laverty in goal and another point put Carrigaline on the back foot. Wrong options were plentiful as we kept going for goals but the Inniscarra defence and their goalkeeper kept them at bay. Carrigaline slowly realised that taking their points was the only way to beat them, so Aidan O Shea stuck over one and Shane O Neill with two meant we were only one point behind at half time. With a good half time talking from the coaches the lads went out determined not to lose this game and finally started to pop over the points with scores from Aidan O Shea two from Ronan Dressler and another from Shane O Neill meant we were well in command. With Conor O Farrell, Ciaran Crotty, and Darragh Buckley playing a blinder in defence we controlled the Inniscarra forwards. Darragh O Regan was now the target man in full forward and he was rewarded with a great goal as we finished on a scoreline of Carrigaline 1-7 Inniscarra 1-2. Everyone played their part again with qualification now secured.

It was time to unleash the pack as we played our final match against Nemo Rangers who by now were also qualified. Niall O Farrell, Josh Moon, Danny Kelly. Jamie Moore easily impressing, scores were easy to come by with the target man Darragh O Regan scoring a hat-trick. James O Donovan and Eddie Cunningham controlled the defence well. Conor O Farrell was cut loose from the defensive duties and enjoyed his time in the forward line. With major storm clouds forming it was not long until the heavens opened giving everyone a good soaking and we called the game up early with Carrigaline winning 4-3 to 0-0. Páirc Uí Rinn here we come on Sat 20<sup>th</sup> June for the Finals.

Full Panel on the day was Adam Costello, Adam O Leary, Aidan O Shea, Barry Kelliher, Ciaran Crotty, Conor O Farrell, Conor Lillis, Cian Moroney, Christopher Laverty, Darragh Buckley, Darragh O Regan, Danny Kelly, Dylan Twohig, Eddie Cunningham, James O Donovan, Jamie Moore, Josh Moon, Niall O Farrell, Ronan Dressler, Rory O Donoghue, Shane O Neill. Chief Medical Officer, Liaison Officer, Logistics Manager and Physio was Eoin Dalton.