

Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship
Second Round
Friday, 25th June 2016 in Ballygarvan
Carrigaline 1-17 Ballinhassig 0-15

Carrigaline booked their place in the PIHC Quarter Final after an outstanding display in Ballygarvan on Friday night. The First Round against Mallow was a bizarre game ruined by the weather, this was the opposite, a classic game of hurling on a fine Summers evening. This contest had it all, skill, heart, fire (without anything dirty) and spades of hurling. Ballinhassig have been a superior side to Carrigaline for many decades now and most thought this would continue, but the Carrigaline panel did not. The match started at a blistering pace. Plenty of hard tackles yet plenty of scores. After the eighth minute the scores were 0-03 to 0-02 to Carrig. Carrig scorers were Rob O'Shea (x2) & Killian McIntyre. Then the ball fell to Tony Murphy who looked dangerous all night, Tony had a great effort on goal stopped by former Cork goalkeeper Martin Coleman. It went over to give Carrig a score at least. Ballinhassig then had two men on Tony for most of the rest of the match (his marker and the sweeper). Instead of pushing on, it was Ballinhassig who now took full control and scored 5 points without reply to leave the score on the twentieth minute 0-08 to 0-05. Carrigaline did stem the tide somewhat after that but Ballinhassig were still the better side for the rest of the half. Carrig had two Rob O'Shea scores in this period. This left the halftime score Ballinhassig 0-11 Carrigaline 0-07. Carrigaline absolutely tore into the second half and Rob O'Shea started with two monster frees. Both inside his own half. One on his own 45. By now both Adrian Lynch & Cian Barry had been introduced and both performed very well, hurling a lot of ball. Rob also had a point from play, along with scores from McIntyre & Wesley O'Brien. After 40 minutes, the score read Carrig 0-12 Ballinhassig 0-11. Ballinhassig came back into the game but now the Carrig backs stood tall. Rob Foster was comfortable in goal when called upon. Kieran Kavanagh, Dave Griffin & Stephen Williamson managed to keep a star studded Ballinhassig full forward line relatively quiet. The half back was now Kevin Kavanagh, Kevin O'Connell & Cian Barry. The two Kevin's were outstanding throughout. The sweeper was Cillian Mac Sweeney who seemed to be everywhere. As a defensive unit they kept Ballinhassig to only 4 points for the whole second half. At the 20th minute Carrig lead 0-15 to 0-12. Scores coming from Tony Murphy (from a sideline), Wesley & Rob. Ballinhassig kept going though and the game became very tight and tense. Ballinhassig had two more scores to leave just a point between the sides with 2 minutes to go. Then the game changed. Another long ball into Tony Murphy, this time he managed to catch it, beat two men, and bury it! That effectively ended the game, and if it hadn't Rob O'Shea tagged on two more points to make sure. Ballinhassig had the last score of the match to leave the final score Carrigaline 1-17 Ballinhassig 0-15. Credit to all the Carrigaline players, all 18 played outstanding. Man of the match has to be Rob O'Shea scoring 0-10. Special mention to Tony Murphy getting the goal, and especially Simon O'Brien who went unrewarded on the scoreboard for the effort he put in. Carrigaline now go into the Quarter Final of the Premier Intermediate Hurling Championship. 3 wins to the county. 2 titles in 2 years?

Carrigaline Team: Rob Foster, Cillian Mac Sweeney, David Griffin, Kieran Kavanagh, Kevin Kavanagh, Kevin O'Connell, Stephen Williamson, Wesley O'Brien, Michael O'Sullivan, Rob O'Shea (Captain), Shane Griffin, Simon O'Brien, Killian McIntyre, Tony Murphy, Peter Mullane. **Subs Used:** Adrian Lynch, Cian Barry, Stephen Corcoran. **Panel:** Mark O'Mahony, Brian Lynch, Michael Lynch, Nathan Coleman, Kieran Dwane, Daniel O'Reilly, David Stack, Colin Maguire.

Carrigaline Scorers: Rob O'Shea (0-10, 8 free), Tony Murphy (1-02), Wesley O'Brien (0-03), Killian McIntyre (0-02).

Manager: John Middleton. **Selectors:** Geoff Dillon, James Murphy, Kevin O'Driscoll, Caimin Flannery.

Doctor: Dr. Mortimor O'Connor. **Physio:** Brendan O'Driscoll. **Stats:** Lauren Middleton.

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