

# Tangerine News

The Newsletter of St.Kevins Boys Club

November 2018

## Saints Capture Thunder Cup



There was a time that the DDSL Thunder Cup was the highlight of the Cup Finals weekend where you witnessed some of the best future prospects blossom into the players they would become in their adult years.

So to see one of the most important schoolboy cup finals relegated to an October Wednesday night at 8.00pm in Abbotstown was a particularly sad sight. Before the warm up some players were doing their homework in the car!

Thankfully both teams competing - St Kevins Boys and Cherry Orchard refused to let this "downgrading" affect their performances. The Saints were in control of the game until midway through the first half when Cherry Orchard took the lead. The Orchard went on to boss the rest of the half and the Saints were left wondering if they would be able to overcome a team that had proved a difficult prospect in the league this season.

The second half proved to be a humdinger as the Saints equalised through an og before Evan Ferguson put them in the lead a few minutes later.

Cian Kelly added the icing to the cake with a third goal and the Saints looked to be home and dry.

But as with all cup games there was a sting in the tail as the Orchard pulled a goal back with five minutes to go and the Saints had to endure an onslaught for the remainder of the game.

The Orchard came close in injury time as the ball thumped off the crossbar but the Saints managed to survive to lift the trophy and score another victory of their highly respected opponents.

SKB: Fiachra Pagel, Craig Moore, Cian Kelly, Sean Grehan, Malachy Harney, Jamie Mullins, Callum Waldron, Ben Curtis, Evan Ferguson, Somtochi Agbaje, Chris Lotefa, Nelson Ero, Christopher Moore, David Okagbue, Kieran Mitchell, Ross Clinton, Oisín Murphy, Declan Murphy

\*\*\*\*\*

## 14-1 First to Win the League

Many congratulations to our Under 14 Sunday 1 team who are the first Saints team to win their league this season after they drew with their closest challengers Terenure 2-2 away.

So congratulations to all the players and the management team of Mark Melody, Marc Lambe and Andy McKenna (Junior).

Over the next few weeks, as the season comes to a close, we expect them to be joined by a number of other Saints teams who are closing in on league titles.

## Seniors Progress in the FAI Junior Cup

It's been a few years since our Senior team made an impact in the FAI Junior Cup – the only trophy to have eluded the Club, so it was great to see this very good young side reach the 5<sup>th</sup> round with a terrific 3-0 victory over Montpellier FC in St Aidans recently.

Despite dominating the early stages of the game the Saints nearly found themselves a goal down when Montpellier were awarded a penalty but they blazed the ball over the bar.

The Saints took the lead when Ciaran McGrath played a lovely ball into the path of Ciaran Murray and he coolly slotted the ball home.

Bobby O'Reilly made it 2-0 with a great strike from inside the area after Josh Peyton did well to win the ball back when Montpellier had cleared the initial danger from a corner.

As Montpellier tried to get back into the game Eden Burke made it 3-0 with a terrific strike from the edge of the area to see the Saints safely through. Only 5 games left to reach the final lads!!

There is a great positivity with our Senior Section this season with both teams playing well. Our Saturday team are sitting top of their league and their recent 2-1 win against Dundrum coupled with a defeat of their closest challengers has seen them cement that position.



*The Saturday team (minus Jamie Casserly who was otherwise engaged!)*

It could have been a different story altogether in their fixture against Dundrum.

From the start the Saints took the game to Dundrum and created a number of scoring chances but the opposition keeper made a few important saves to deny them.

Then on the half hour completely against the run of play Dundrum scored from a corner. The lead lasted just 10 minutes as Gavin Harney, who tormented their rearguard, put in a great ball from the endline that saw the Dundrum centre half put into his own net.

The second half saw the Saints look to score again as Keith Rooney, Ciaran Doyne and Eddie Rupeika all went close but each time the keeper managed to keep the ball out.

With it looking increasingly like it was going to be a frustrating day for the Saints up popped Rooney as he finished off a great move. Great interplay between Rupeika, Jamie Delaney and Stephen Doyne saw the ball slipped in between the defenders and Rooney was on to it like a light to lift it over the advancing keeper and give the Saints all three points and the win their play deserved.

There's still a long way to go but if they can keep up the great momentum they have built up they will get the rewards at the end of the season.

SKB: Darragh O'Neill, Peter McElroy, Andy McKenna, Paddy Ellis, Pat Warren, Jamie Delaney, Gavin Harney, Eddie Rupeika, Keith Rooney, Ciaran Doyne, Stephen Doyne, Lee Rogers, Claudiu Koncz, Jamie Casserly, Shane Downey, Alex Giurgila, Derek Cervi

## SKB/BOHS Update



The SSE Airtricity season has come to a close and the SKB Bohs teams have experienced joy and sorrow in equal measures.

Our Under 15s who enjoyed a fantastic group stages run came back from the dead in their semi-final game against Bray Wanderers where they found themselves 2-0 down

at halftime. A second half hat trick from Gavin O'Brien and a brilliant header from James Maloney in extra time saw them reach the final and a game against St Pats.

St Pats have been the team to beat all season and in front of a large crowd in Dalymount Park the Saints Bohs team nearly did it. Pats went ahead in the first half but a stunning equaliser (worth checking out on You Tube) by Aaron Doran got the SKB/Bohs team back in the game but Pats scored again to see them crowned champions.

It was fitting however that Aaron Doran was awarded the Man of the Match award. Colin Conroy was the recipient of the SKB/Bohs Under 15s Player of the Year Award while another Saint, Daragh Leahy was awarded the Bohemians Supporters First team Player of the Year.

Our Under 17s lost out in the quarter finals to Galway United. Leading the game, and missing a number of gilt edged opportunities to wrap things up, they conceded an equaliser with the last kick of the game to take the game to extra time and penalties where Galway were the more clinical with their spot kicks.

The SKB/Bohs Under 19s captured the double as they defeated Shamrock Rovers 1-0 in Tallaght Stadium to win the SSE Airtricity League title to add to the Enda McGuill Cup that they won earlier in the season.

The previous fortnight had seen them play Danish team FC Midtjylland in the UEFA U19s Champions League where the Danes progressed to the next round over the two legs. Having won the league again this year the SKB/Bohs team will again compete in the UEFA Champions League next season.

We did like the new signage in Dalymount Park for the SKB/Bohs Revolution.

So after the first full season together we can safely say that things are looking bright for the SKB/Bohs union.



\*\*\*\*\*

## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

It only seems like yesterday that we were celebrating 50 years of St Kevins Boys but 2019 sees us celebrate 60 years!

Already plans are afoot to make the year one to remember and these will be announced as time progresses.

In the meantime put the date of Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May in your diary so you can attend our 60<sup>th</sup> Gala Dinner (*and before you ask ..... Pat Daly is not doing the cooking – I know there will be a number of people disappointed to hear that news!!*) which will be held in the Crowne Plaza in Santry. Contact Carole Daly or the Club for all the details.

## U11s Go Head to Head in SFAI Cup



We train together, we go on trips together, we enter the same tournaments (hoping not to meet.....well apart from the final), we help each other out when either side are short, we are for want of a better word a "Squad".

We entered as we always do the same competition in Kell's last August and with 30 teams entering it was always going to be a good test for the boys. We both progressed through the group stages as runners up thus making our progression into the later stages of the competition a little bit more difficult with both groups having Premier teams blocking our path to the final. Both teams encountering the likes of Cherry Orchard, Belvedere, and Shelbourne to mention just a few. It was fantastic to see when either one of the teams progressed through to the next round the other team running onto the pitch to celebrate with them.

Both teams or the "squad" reached the final. The Management team and all the parents discussed both options – either play the final and have one team disappointed and the other not able to enjoy the victory or share the victory and share the trophy, we came to a collective agreement that on this occasion it would be best to enjoy the hard work they put in over the day and share the victory together. Problem averted and all went home happy!

Fast forward a couple of months and we were drawn against each other in the SFAI Under 12s Skechers Cup in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round. This is the draw we didn't want, but there were no options this time, we had to play it and one team had to go through to the next round. Nothing changed in training that week. There were no new game plans. Both teams knew exactly what we were trying to achieve, we even did our warm up together on matchday, so after a small team talk it was a case of let them play, after all it is all about the players so just let them get on with it.

It was a fantastic game with both teams playing some excellent football on the perfect pitch in Shanowen Road with the Saturday team edging it with a tight 2-0 win with goals from Liam Walsh and Sean Breen. Looking at the disappointment on some of the boys faces at the end made us feel like we did the right thing in Kells and we are sure that those disappointed will be the first to cheer on their "squad" buddies in the next round of the cup.

SKB Saturday: Cian Fox, Jack Raftery, Jamie Dixon, Liam Walsh, Evan Dunne, Sam Abbott, Mohammad Harris, Conor Errity, Ryan McKinney, Sean Breen, Cameron Rodgers

SKB Sunday: Rhys Gilmartin, Leo Scanlan, Eugene Tarzan, Tadgh Merriman, Shane Dunphy, Paul Foley, Finn Murray, Calum Shimell, Kayden Fisher, Thanos Nikolopoylos

*Under 11s Management Team*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Klotto Winner

Can you believe it!!! After all these years of paying into the Club with subs, registration and in the last number of years, Klotto tickets – Dece O'Hara's numbers finally came up!!

We want to congratulate Dece on winning the big prize of €?/\*! (*figure omitted for tax reasons Dece!*) in October.

## U12B1 Show Belief, Teamwork and Commitment



There was excitement in the air as the SKB U12 B1 team prepared for their match in Shanowen Road. The team had gone through a tough few weeks due to injuries and playing most matches with only nine players.

The opposition, Castleknock Celtic had knocked us out of the cup so there was also motivation to settle the score.

The team started with a bang; Jack McGinn, very confident in goal, kept a clean sheet. He was well protected by Renat Zalodjijis on the left, Brian Bolton in the middle, who has been superb in this position in the last number of matches, and Mario Hennessy on the right of the defence.

Kevin Rio played on the left wing instead of his usual midfield position using his speed and dribbling skills to drag Castleknock midfielders and defenders all over the place.

Evan Dignam controlled the midfield with the support of Cian Malone. Calvin McAleer covered the right wing and midfield with Jack Duffy making great use of his "killer" instinct by finalizing the chances created by the team. Sam Donoghue had a great match in defence with Craig Fleming and Tom Lacey helping the team by playing in various positions.

Overall, a great example of how things go when the kids believe in themselves, the rest falls into place. They had faith in their own abilities and worked hard to accomplish a great result - an 8-0 win and sweet revenge for their cup defeat.

SKB: Jack McGinn, Renata Zalodjijis, Brian Bolton, Kevin Rio, Calvin McAleer, Cian Malone, Craig Fleming, Evan Dignam, Jack Duffy, Mario Hennessy, Sam Donoghue and Tom Lacey

*Juan Rio Salvador*

\*\*\*\*\*

## International Saints



We were delighted to see that Ben Curtis, Cian Kelly, Evan Ferguson and Jamie Mullins were selected for the Under 15s Rep of Ireland team. The players are part of the squad that will play two friendlies in Poland during November. Congratulations to the boys on their first call up and we expect to see them shine in Poland.

Good luck to Gavin O'Brien, Ronan Kilkenny and Colin Conroy in the Victory Shield in Tralee.

Meanwhile it was great to see ex-Saints goalkeepers Brian Maher and Kian Clarke celebrating as the Rep of Ireland Under 19's topped their group in the Euro qualifiers by beating Holland 3-1 recently.

We had a number of Saints and ex-Saints line out for the Rep of Ireland U18s game against the Colleges & Universities side with Ross Tierney, Brian McManus (now of Preston North End) and Jamie Cleary all involved.

## In Profile

We felt it was fitting to feature Colin Conroy following the very successful season he has had with the Club.

Colin was spotted playing for the Midlands team in the Kennedy Cup by a number of sides and opted to join the Saints. Since that time things have changed quickly for him as he established himself in the SSE Airtricity side and got his first call up to the Rep of Ireland U15s team.



*Colin receiving his Player of the Year Award from Ger Browne*

*Name:* Colin Conroy  
*Date of Birth:* 11/03/2003  
*Team:* SKB/Bohs Under 15s  
*SSE Airtricity League team*  
*Manager:* Ger Browne  
*Position:* Centre midfield  
*Who's the Joker in the dressing room?* Both Bosun Lawal and Ronan Kilkenny  
*What team do you support?* Liverpool  
*Who's your favourite player?* Roy Keane

*Which League of Ireland team do you support?* Bohemians

*Who's your favourite LOI player?* Keith Ward (Bohemians)

*When did you get started in St Kevins?* My first season with the Saints was at Under 14 when we were the first team to win 5 cups – DDSL League and Thunder Cup, All-Ireland, SFAI Regional Cup and beating Linfield in the DB Sports Champions Cup where the winner of the league in the Rep of Ireland play the league winners in Northern Ireland. Before that I played with Portlaoise where my team dominated every game so the change to the DDSL was a step up that I enjoyed.

*What's your favourite thing about St Kevins?* The type of football they play and the atmosphere around the Club. Also their drive to win.

*What was the best thing about the SSE Airtricity League this year:* The standard was very high and it really felt like a step up again from my first year with the DDSL. We expected the Dublin teams to be strong but we were surprised at the level of the teams from outside Dublin.

*What was the worst thing about the SSE:* Some of the travelling was hard – games in Donegal were a four hour trip! Then again I also have a long journey from home to training and home games!

*Are you involved in any other sporting events?* Before I joined the Saints, I played Gaelic football and hurling with Portlaoise. I also played table tennis.

*What has been your best sporting moment to date?* Captaining my country on my International debut versus Poland and winning the All-Ireland final versus Belvedere.

*What's the best advice you ever received?* Work hard and always believe in yourself.

*What are your hopes for the future?* I'm just looking to keep improving and looking to stay in the International set up where I'll get the opportunity to play against top quality players. I'm also hoping to impress in trials that I'll be attending in the UK where I might get the opportunity to make a career as a footballer.

Colin was heading to Tralee with the Rep of Ireland Under 16s to take part in the Victory Shield Tournament where they will compete with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. He'll be joined by his team mates Ronan Kilkenny and Gavin O'Brien.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Trials for Season 2019

Trials for our schoolboy teams will take place from the start of December and full details of times, age groups, venues etc are on our website [www.skbc.yourclub.ie](http://www.skbc.yourclub.ie)

Trials for our SSE Airtricity Under 13s and Under 15s teams take place at the end of November – again see the website for all the details.

## Time for Total Respect

We have always impressed upon our players, managers and parents the need to respect the referee, opposition and indeed the facilities of clubs we compete against.

In the last few years we have noticed an increase in the lack of respect that the referee is shown by teams throughout Dublin.

People seem to forget that without referees there are no games! There is already a crisis in getting people to train to be referees and the lack of respect shown by players, officials and supporters will make the situation worse.

Of a greater concern to us as a Club is the increase in bad behaviour including violent attacks by players, officials and supporters at games.

We have been on the receiving end of this type of behaviour on a few occasions recently – with two of these incidences currently under investigation by the league.

We all have a duty to ensure that young players participate in the game properly by respecting their opponent and trying to do their best to help their team. Shouting and roaring like some demented lunatic does not help anybody – least of all the players on the pitch! As adults we need to lead by example from the sidelines by respecting both sets of players on the pitch and showing courtesy to all others involved in the game.

The game of soccer is what will ultimately suffer because of our poor behaviour in the local parks on weekends.

Silent Sidelines was a fantastic initiative in this country over the last few years and maybe now we need to add the additional “count to ten” motto that we all use in daily life.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Little Saints Update



*Some of our Little Saints with coaches Terry Dignam, Ronan Mulvey, Denis Cassidy and Stephen Finnegan*

Our Little Saints are progressing really well and I think all will agree that there has been huge improvement in all the players since their first few weeks.

We are lucky to have the dedicated coaches that we have who give up their time voluntarily to help out with the programme week in week out. The vast majority of these coaches are involved with their own teams so Saturdays can be a very long day depending on where they are playing in the morning.

It is particularly pleasing to see our young coaches involved. Jamie Kernan and Joe Morley have been involved with the Little Saints for a number of years at this stage and they have been joined by Jamie Cassidy and Louis Cassidy who both played with the club for all their schoolboy years and in fact started off in the Little Saints.

Recently the Little Saints was delighted to welcome back the legend that is Pat Daly to lend a hand as we found ourselves short staffed due to delayed kick offs in various league games elsewhere.

The Little Saints will continue up to Christmas and will then start back on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Snippets



You may not recognise these two lads but believe it or not they were both key members of one of our most successful teams.

Danny Murphy and Anthony Bolger were both part of the Saints team that also starred Jeff Hendrick and Robbie Brady – a team that was no stranger to success as they dominated both their leagues and SFAI cups over the years.

The two lads were back to winning ways as they won the Australian Eastern Suburbs League recently down under. Congrats Mates!!

\*\*\*\*\*



Now we are well aware that Neil Fox is now officially 40 and a quarter at this stage but we forgot (*and yes I will admit that it was my error and no one else!*) to include this photo of the one and only Foxy in the last issue.

Foxy turned 40 in August and had a great bash in the Cat & Cage where large crowds gathered to celebrate the great man. Rumours that the party extended into Foxy's back

garden until the very small hours of the morning are completely true!!

Also celebrating a big birthday this year was ex player, manager and golf bandit, Dermot Wilkins who turned a fresh looking 60. Big crowds turned out in Forest Little Golf Club to wish him well.

\*\*\*\*\*



*Stephen Costello shows he still has the silky skills!*

There was a great turnout in support of ex player Keith Maher in St Aidans and afterwards in Home Farm. A very entertaining game between the “Legends” of Tolka Rovers and St Kevins Boys saw a number of excellent goals and unbelievable skill from players past (it) and present. There is still debate as to the final score of the game but we expect an announcement from UEFA any day now.

Congrats and thank you to all involved and we know that Keith and his family are very appreciative of the monies raised – the generosity and goodwill of the football community was in evidence everywhere.

\*\*\*\*\*

We were delighted to see Chairman, Michael O'Callaghan back at the helm again. Mick has been quietly undergoing cancer treatment and is now firmly on the road to recovery.

We also have to say that we were all delighted to hear that the legendry Paul Smyth is on the road to recovery. Paul has been laid up recently with a foot injury and his presence is sorely (no pun intended Paul) missed around the Clubhouse.

### HOW TO CONTACT US

Write to : St Kevins Boys Club, Crestfield Estate, Larkhill, Dublin 9

Telephone : (01) 8374411

Fax: (01) 8570121

Email: [admin@skbfc.com](mailto:admin@skbfc.com)

Website: [www\(skbfc.yourclub.ie](http://www(skbfc.yourclub.ie)



@fckevins



st kevin's boys club