

Tangerine News

The Newsletter of St.Kevins Boys Club

April 2019

SKB Academy Cup

As we expected there has been great interest in the 2019 SKB Academy Cup with the return of Celtic FC.

Celtic are one of the very few clubs that hold a special place in the hearts of most Irish people so naturally we have had many requests regarding fixtures and their opponents.



2018 SKB Academy Cup Winners : Barcelona FC

This year we have changed the format from Under 13 to Under 14 due in no small way to our Under 13 team taking part in the Airtricity League.

So there are a number of players that will take part in the Tournament for the second time and indeed the third time (*welcome back Ben Cisse & Tobias Hurlock of West Brom for their third visit*).

Last year our Under 13 team went on to face Barcelona in the final but finished runners up. With that experience behind them we think they may go one further this year and lift the coveted trophy.

They will have their work cut out for them as their pathway sees them face Watford FC, who are making their debut in the Tournament, in the opening fixture at 10.00am on Friday 19th April. Since Ryan Cassidy joined Watford two years ago and proved to be a huge success at Under 18 and Under 23 level, Watford have been keen to come and pit their academy players against us. The following morning at the same time the Saints come up against top German side Bayer Leverkusen. The Saints faced Leverkusen in their opening game last year where they suffered a 1-0 defeat so we will be looking to record a victory over the German team this time around.

In the other group our good friends, West Brom face Celtic in their opening fixture at 11.30am on the Friday morning. Celtic won the Academy Cup back in 2013 so they will be looking to get their name on the trophy for a second time. Meanwhile West Brom will be looking to make a greater impact on the tournament than in previous years.

The other team competing for the trophy this year are Spanish club, Athletic Bilbao who had been requesting an invitation for some time having met our teams at tournaments in Spain over the last number of year.

As ever the quality of football on display will be of the highest calibre and with the change in age we are expecting it to be a bit more intense.

The Tournament runs for three days over the Easter period with four games on both the Friday and Saturday (two in the morning and two in the late afternoon) and three games including the Academy Cup final on the Sunday.

We would remind everyone that entry to the games is €5 for adults to each block of double games and €2 for children under 16.

Entrance is through the gate on Shanowen Road. We would also remind drivers to park responsibly – please don't cause obstructions!

SKB/Bohs Teams on Track

The FAI Airtricity Leagues for our Under 17s, Under 15s and for the first season the Under 13s are up and running with the three teams showing good starts.

The Under 17s have won three and lost one game in their league while the Under 15s having lost their opening game have gone on to win their next two games scoring 10 goals in the process.



Our Under 13 SKB/Bohs team (pictured above) also lost their opening game but the following week they overcame Dundalk with a 5-0 scoreline.

So we were expecting more of the same when they faced Klub Kildare in St Aidans.

But a very slow start saw them a goal down after just 4 minutes when a corner was met at the back post by the opposition centre half.

Throughout the first half the Saints failed to get any rhythm going with their passing failing to find players and their play generally slow. The coaching staff on the sideline were getting frustrated so I reminded them that things would change as the players were good enough. I should go into TV as I had no sooner said it than they did change!

With five minutes left in the half a terrific move saw Aaron Coyle play a ball into Michael Cherico who had been one of the Saints best players throughout the half. He delivered a lovely pass into the path of Nikson Okosun who drove into the area and coolly slotted the ball past the advancing keeper. A few minutes later and the Saints were 2-1 ahead as Cherico met a cross from the right and headed it into the path of Coyle who tucked it away from close range.

The Saints were much better in the second half and created a number of chances. Scott Brady and Darragh Harrison pulled the strings in the middle of the pitch and constantly played important passes to the forwards. It was Harrison who was instrumental in the third Saints goal as he played a top drawer pass into the path of Okosun who again showed great composure to score.

With time running our Kildare grabbed a second goal following a rare misunderstanding in the Saints defence.

But there was no time for a dramatic comeback and despite a lacklustre display SKB/Bohs recorded their second win of the campaign.

SKB: Mark Nutley, Mark Tarzan, Michael Cherico, Joshua Okagbue, Aaron Coyle, Scott Brady, Aaron Moloney, Nikson Okosun, Ryan Markey Colgan, Danny Negry McGrath, Logan Preston, Josh Lyons, Ryan Kelly, Ryan Maher, Sam Fagan, Darragh Harrison, Ryan Lynch

Congratulations to our Under 17 Youths 1 team who are the first Saints team into a cup final this season as they overcame Naas AFC 3-2 in the FAI Under 17s Cup. They will meet Blarney FC in the final – and what's the bets the game will be in Cork rather than a neutral venue halfway between both cities!

Wards Cross Thriller with our SSG Teams



Like all great plans they go astray! I arrived up in Wards Cross in plenty of time for our Under 10.1 Saturday A (pictured above) 10.30am kick off against St Mochtas only to be told that the game had kicked off at 10.00am!!

So I managed to catch the second half of the game that saw the Saints leading 2-0 with goals from Connell Kelly and Maciej Klimek at the break.

It wasn't long in the second half that saw the Saints add to their tally when Adam Dequina turned this way and that to go past a number of players before laying the ball off to Klimek who coolly put it away. A minute later it was 4-0 when Cillian Philips did well to get himself into the box and put it past the keeper.

The opposition had hardly restarted when Evan Burdock won the ball in the middle of the park and set up Magic to score his third and the Saints fifth goal.

The Saints kept pressing for more and great work from Harry Giffney in midfield and Burdock on the left saw a cross turned into the net by the opposition.

Then with the referee about to blow up Philips won the ball from a kick out, took a touch and sent his shot sailing into the top corner to leave the score at 7-0.

Despite what the score suggests the Saints didn't have it all their own way and only for some excellent defending from Dequina and Michael McDonald and a number of magnificent saves from Baileigh Rock in goal it could have been a much closer result.

SKB: Baileigh Rock, Michael McDonald, Adam Dequina, Harry Giffney, Evan Burdock, Cillian Philips, Connell Kelly, Maciej Klimek

Next up saw our Under 11.1 Saturday A team (pictured below) play Finglas United in what can only be described as a game that was like a cup final!



Both sets of players turned in stunning performances that was refreshing to witness.

There was great individual skills, fantastic goals, great saves, magnificent crossfield passes and excellent one and two touch football!

Finglas took the lead against the run of play early in the game with a terrific strike from distance that nestled in the top corner.

The Saints grabbed the equaliser five minutes later when Cillian Ryan struck a wonderful shot that cannoned off the crossbar and Max Ferguson was on hand to score from the rebound.

A minute later and the Saints were 2-1 ahead when Alex Flynn scored directly from a corner.

The second half saw the Saints look to add to their tally and Jamie Brennan's shot grazed the crossbar.

All this time Finglas created their own chances and Finn McDonnell in goal turned in a magnificent display as he thwarted them on every occasion. He was helped by some top class defending from Zac Kiely and Alex Kelly.

Halfway through the second half and the opposition grabbed an equaliser when McDonnell made a great save but could do nothing about the rebound.

The Saints replied immediately with their third goal that saw Liam Murray find the net and a minute later Kelly powered up the pitch from his own half and into the box before firing off a shot that rattled the upright.

Then the game changed as Finglas scored twice to lead 4-3 and looked to have secured the victory. But the Saints struck back with nearly the last kick of the game as Flynn sent in a great ball to Sam Rooney in the box and to say he showed wonderful composure doesn't do his goal justice.....he dragged the ball away from the defender to make space for his strike and buried it in the bottom corner!

4-4 the final score and what a cracking game to watch for the neutrals!!!

SKB: Finn McDonnell, Alex Flynn, Alex Kelly, Cillian Ryan, Jamie Brennan, Liam Murray, Max Ferguson, Sam Rooney, Zac Kiely



SKB US-3 Sat Blue Squad: Shane Kehelly, Bobby Woods, Charlie Dunne, Conor McNeill, Max Nolan, Eoghan Finnegan, Callum Hasnan, Mason McDonnell, Charlie Rogers, Callum Power, Bryan Georson, Adon Sheen, Kyle Murphy, Zach Cahill, Darcy Gogbila, Eoin Connaughton, Dylan Tanner

On the smaller pitches our Under 8.3 Saturday Blue (pictured above) played Terenure Rangers with much delight from all the players on the pitch while our Under 9.3 Saturday Blue (pictured below) faced Belvedere where it was much more enjoyable to watch two sets of coaching staff just let the kids play without giving loads of confusing instructions.



U9-3 Sat Blue: Adam Eyre, Blazej Kucharski, Callum Rodgers, Cristian Connolly, Cody McLoughlin Geraghty, Gethin Mathews, Lucio Colella, Marcel Gora, Mason, Adade, Patryk Kasper, Reece Healy, Szymon Glowonia, Tom Barker, Scott Scully, Ryan Sliney, Alex Abbott

SKB AGM Report



The 59th Annual General Meeting of St Kevins Boys took place in the Clubhouse recently.

A large attendance were treated to an interesting array of speeches from the Executive of the Club.

Following the opening prayers and an impeccably observed minutes silence to remember both Paul Smyth and Andy Rice the chairman, Michael O'Callaghan asked Club Secretary Brendan Bermingham to submit his report for the year.

Brendan caught us all by surprise as he elected to deliver a report that rather than focusing on the high profile achievements in the Club spoke of the number of unsung heroes who work behind the scenes to make St Kevins Boys what it is.

He opted for this approach having thought about all the things that the late Paul Smyth did in the Club that went unnoticed until they weren't done!

Brendan spoke of his admiration and offered his thanks to all those that sell Klotto tickets, assist with the Klotto draw, organise events such as our 60th, man the Clubhouse, check footwear and look after St Aidans, sweep out dressing rooms, mark pitches, put up nets for games, keep all our social media up to date, produce the newsletter and many others that quietly go about their business in the background.

He asked everyone to think about how Paul would have left everything as he had found it and said that next time after your game think of him and maybe just sweep out the dressing room.

Next up our Treasurer, Pat Daly presented the financials for the year and readily answered any question put to him. Such is the transparency of where monies get spent that Pat asked and answered some questions himself to ensure everyone was happy with how we do things.

The Director of Football report was presented by Ken Donohoe who listed the achievements of the Club in the last 12 months.

He spoke of the difficulties and issues surrounding the current calendar year season, congratulated players on moving on to the next stage of their careers and on international recognition. He spoke of the importance of our involvement with Bohemians and how he believed it will assist our players on fulfilling a dream.

Finally he thanked all those that helped him in particular Alan Caffrey, Sharon Mitchell and all the staff in the Clubhouse who do their best to ensure we have a top class facility.

The future developments of the Club were discussed in great detail as we look to expand our facilities.

The key issues with managers and coaches is the strain on training facilities which the Executive Committee are hoping to address in time.

The open floor discussions concerned the way football is heading in Ireland and the need to look carefully at our younger age groups to make sure that our current high standards are maintained.

The election of officers to the Board of Directors took place and Carole Daly spoke of the need for people to book their place for the 60th celebrations in the Crowne Plaza to avoid any last minute disappointment.

Finally before we all broke up for tea, biscuits and catch up we were reminded that volunteers are needed for the Academy Cup at Easter, again contact Carole Daly (*is there nothing that Carole doesn't do!*) with your name and availability.

Goalkeeper Coaching



Our goalkeeping coach, Chris Conway is constantly looking to improve our SSG netminders and our non-Premier level keepers.

As part of his unique way of rewarding the efforts that these unsung heroes put in on a weekly basis he awards individuals with a set of Just 4 Keepers gloves. Now knowing how tough a job it is to be a goalkeeper Chris looks to reward players based on individual targets which can be as simple as ensuring the player is at every session, that they work on improving their game or indeed for a clean sheet! Pictured above are the recipients of the awards: Conor Clarke (U16s), Preston Jewell (U10s), Marcel Gora (U9s), Tobiasz Kowal (U11s), Grace Keaveney (U10s) and Ross Phillips (U14s). Well done to everyone of you and keep up the great work.

Support our Seniors!!

Both our Senior teams are involved in crucial games over the next few weeks and we would ask all our players, parents and friends to come out and lend your support.

Our Senior Saturday team play Verona on Saturday 6th April at 3.00pm in St Aidans where a draw will capture the LSL Major 1B League title. Verona are the only team that are in with a chance of winning the league so you can tell this game will be a real cup final!! Meanwhile our Senior Premier team are involved in three cup quarter finals over the next few weeks. Details of the games are:

Friday 5th April at 7.45pm against Rivervalley Rangers in the LSL Pollikoff Cup in St Aidans, Collins Avenue.

Friday 12th April at 7.45pm against Newlands Castlepark in the LSL Nugent Cup in St Aidans, Collins Avenue.

Saturday 20th April against Booth Road in the Leinster Junior Cup (details of this game are yet to be agreed).

As most of the players on both of our Senior teams have come up through the ranks of our Schoolboy Section it would be great to have our schoolboy teams get down to cheer them on.

60th Anniversary

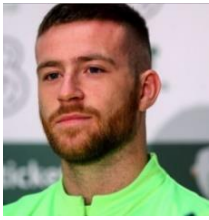
Tickets are going quickly to our 60th celebrations in the Crowne Plaza on Saturday 18th May.

The night will kick off at 7.00pm with dinner and drinks before The Harleys take to the stage to rock your socks. Following that, with you all properly limbered up, the DJ will take over to bring you back to your younger years with classics both new and old.

Tickets are €60 and the dress code is Smart Casual along with comfortable dancing shoes!

Contact Carole on (086)1733311 or admin@skbfc.com for tickets

SKB Internationals



We were delighted to see Jack Byrne called up the Rep of Ireland Senior International team where he joined former Saints players Jeff Hendrick and Robbie Brady.

Jack played with the Saints from an early age as he joined the Little Saints Coaching Academy where his quality on

the ball was noticeable from a very early age before progressing to our Schoolboy teams where year on year he proved himself to be one of the most gifted midfielders of his generation.

He signed to Manchester City at 16 years of age and none other than Patrick Viera rated him as one of the best players in his age group. From there he moved to a number of clubs where he never seemed to get the break he needed. Now back at Shamrock Rovers he was so impressive in a game that Mick McCarthy watched he was immediately called into the team.



Ross Tierney, Ryan Cassidy & Sean Bohan all part of the ROI U18s

At other levels St Kevins Boys have a wealth of talent taking part in the various age groups.

Darragh Leahy, Dara O'Shea, Trevor Clarke, Dan Mandroui and Michael O'Connor are all included in the Under 21s squad.

Kameron Ledwidge, Ali Reghba who was the winner of the FAI "3" Schools Player of the Year, Andy Lyons and FAI "3" Mens Under 18s Player of the Year, Brian Maher are all in the Under 19s squad.

The Under 18s features Ross Tierney, Ryan Cassidy, Ray O'Sullivan and Sean Bohan while Sean McEvoy is our sole representative on the Under 17s team Sean Grehan, Evan Ferguson, Jamie Mullins and Cian Kelly are all included in the Under 15s squad.

At Under 14 level James McManus is included for their game against Holland.

So all in all there is a significant tangerine feel to the boys in green!!

We can't forget our sole representative in the Polish Under 15s where Jakub Basinski (pictured) of our Under 15 DDSL Premier 1 team added a touch of tangerine magic to proceedings



Snippets

Many congratulations to Neil Fox who was awarded LSL "Social Media Award" site of the month beating off some very steep competition. As everyone knows social media is all about getting your message and information out there quickly and we can safely say that Foxy works wonders in that department. I constantly have people praising our Facebook, Twitter etc for the information, photos and videos that are loaded onto our sites. Top man Foxy!!!!

We were all deeply shocked to hear of the passing of our Under 10s manager, Andy Rice. Andy had only been with the Club in the last few years but had become a popular figure with all those he come into contact with.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Janice and children Lewis and Connie and all his extended family



Pictured is Senan Keenan receiving the Klotto Jackpot prize that his family won recently. Mick Fox was on hand to present Senan the prize who had told his Dad, Mark the numbers to pick. Here's hoping they enjoy their good fortune and that Senan gets at least a new pair of boots out of it for his contribution!



Our congratulations go to Ciaran Murray and Andy McKenna who were both instrumental in Blanchardstown IT winning the Colleges FAI Division 1 League Cup.

Both players are part of our Senior team so we are expecting that this is just the first piece of silverware that the lads get their hands on this season.

There was a very nice piece in the Rep of Ireland vs Georgia programme about Paul Smyth. Paul's family were in attendance on the night and were very proud to read about him and realise the high esteem that Paul was held in by the football community.

A number of coaches, managers and other associated with St Kevins Boys are taking part in the Pieta House "Darkness into Light" ceremony on May 11th in memory of Paul. Keep an eye on our social media sites for more information.

Also included in the match programme was a piece on Willie Roche who was a long time supporter of the Saints.



Pictured is João Gabriel Zelic from Brazil who sent us a request for a key ring. João is looking to compile the largest collection of football club keyrings.

We were delighted to help out so we sent him a couple of keyrings, a jersey and other

bits and pieces by post – and before anyone cracks the joke about "was it all posted in 2016" the answer is no it was just a spare bag we had!

HOW TO CONTACT US

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