

# Salthill Boys Recover From Early Setbacks To Take County Title

SALTHILL 1-9 :: RENMORE 2-5

**IT TAKES** a very good team, producing constant and courageous teamwork and top class football to overcome an early omission, in this case a simple goal and the confidence which it instilled in the opponents, and yet emerge victorious. The Salthill boys did this in a highly entertaining and exciting encounter with Renmore in the under 14 County Football Final, played at Claregalway, on Saturday evening last.

The Renmore side, younger on average and lighter than Salthill, capitalised on their advantage and wind assisted in the first half they added another goal before the winners really settled to their game. Brian O'Neill and Frankie Power must be given the credit for Renmore's constant stream of attacks in the opening fifteen minutes, but Niall Barrett, the Salthill player, stormed to the rescue with tremendous work showing marvellous speed, carrying power and great length in his kicking.

With Paul Killeen he worked several attacks which resulted in five points before the interval when only two points separated the sides at 2-1 to 0-5 in Renmore's favour.

Salthill's sideline mentors were not overjoyed with their teams commencement to the second half as they fluffed several chances and allowed Renmore to add two further points. Salthill, while enjoying the obvious upperhand and playing positive approach football, were often wide when in fact the game was theirs for the taking.

The really clinching factor in the outcome of the game was a shrewd re-shuffle by Sean MacManamon, the Salthill coach, when he placed Basil Regan, a powerfully built kicker, at full back and brought out Noel McDonagh to centre half back. The red-haired centre half had an immediate telling effect, as with much more freedom, he convincingly displayed his attractive, all-round football ability. His anticipation was uncanny, and he evaded tacklers with ease, while his attacking role gave a plentiful supply to the forward line and thoroughly revealed the potential of the two wing forwards, P. J. Kelly and Frankie Mitchell.

The Renmore defence reeled under the onslaught but Sean Leen, having a superb game at full back, resisted stoutly with goalie John Nugent, Tony Canavan and Gerry Prendergast aiding admirably. However, the game reached its climax when Frank Mitchell fielded magnificently near the Renmore square, came round an opponent to the edge of the small square only to be fouled in a treble tackle. Ballinasloe referee, Pat Vaughan pointed to the penalty spot and Niall Barrett goaled with consummate ease.

Kevin Connolly, Richie Comer and Michael Quigley dominated in the attack and Salthill pushed two points clear, with five minutes remaining.

Diarmaid Leen revitalised his side with great midfield fetching and Renmore, encouraged by enthusiastic supporters surged upfield. Brian Warde pointed and then Brian O'Neill, in one of his best games yet, coolly kicked the equaliser, with about two minutes to play.

Indeed Renmore were in attack from the kick out but the Salthill backs initiated the best and most attractive move of the game which saw the ball move from an ever alert Eoin Durkin, at right-full back, all along the right wing to three successive Salthill players until it reached P. J. Kelly. He calmly collected, rounded the defence and raced goalwards to score a beautiful point and give Salthill the championship laurels. Salthill had the greater ability along the wings which they neglected at times but it was their trump card in the end.

Others to play well for the winners were Rory Armitage, Ollie Horgan and Tom Scanlon when he moved outfield while Liam O'Riordan, Peter Deavy and Fintan Gavin who did sterling work in the

half back line, deserve great credit.

Scorers for Salthill were: Niall Barrett 1-4; P. J. Kelly 0-3; Michael Quigley and Tom Scanlon 0-1 each while Brian O'Neill 1-2; Frankie Power 1-1; Brian Warde and Diarmaid Leen 0-1 each, scored for Renmore.

**SALTHILL:** Ian McMurrrough, Gerry Lillis, Noel McDonagh, Sean O'Farrell, Ollie Horgan, Eoin Durkin, Rory Armitage, Paul Killeen capt., Niall Barrett, Kevin Connolly, Michael Quigley, Richie Comer, P. J. Kelly, Tom Scanlon,

Frankie Mitchell.

Subs: Ger O'Farrell for Gerry Lillis; Basil Regan for Sean O'Farrell.

**RENMORE:** John Nugent, Gerard Prendergast, Sean Leen, Enda Haren, Tony Canavan, Fintan Gavin, Peter Deavy, Diarmaid Leen capt., Brian O'Neill, Brian Crowe, Frankie Power, John Paul Quinn, Willie O'Riordan, Pat Kelly and Brian Warde.

Referee: Mr. Pat Vaughan, Ballinasloe.

## Busy Renmore Are Successful

RENMORE ..... 5  
MERVUE UNITED ..... 1

Renmore recorded a convincing win over Mervue United in the Premier League last Sunday played in blustery conditions at Renmore Park.

Both teams strove hard to get the upper hand early on, however, at half time the game was deadlocked, Mervue went close after 30 minutes when Cathal Devlin's header from a corner was held by Dermot Coll in the Renmore goal.

On the resumption Renmore put more effort into their game and were rewarded when Aidan Keane headed home from close range. Number two, came shortly afterwards. Ger Hession's clearance was carried on by Tommy Walsh who beat the defence to score from just inside the penalty area. Mervue tried hard to get back into the game namely through the efforts of Ray Durnin and the Healy brothers. However, the Renmore defence with Noel Beatty playing well held out. Renmore went further ahead after 15 minutes of the second half with Aidan Keane making a determined run through the box. Renmore with Jimmy Nolan, Kevin Cooney and Tony Sherlock testing the Mervue defence began to dominate the game, centre forward Brendan Walsh who was always in the thick of things scored Renmore's fourth goal with a header from close in and completed Renmore's tally with his second and Renmore's fifth goal minutes later. With time running out, Mervue, who never stopped trying were rewarded when Ray Durnin scored from the spot. Referee Greg Younger had an excellent game and was always in control of proceedings.

RENMORE ..... 8  
CRESCENT ..... 1

Crescent, who had to play with ten men all through the game were no match for a slicker and faster moving home team in the Minor League.

Crescent took the lead after only five minutes when from the penalty spot Reagan made no mistake. Minutes later Holian had Renmore on level terms, and midway through the half the same player was involved in a good move that resulted in Nolan getting the finishing touch. Kelly and Naughton added more goals just before half-time.

On the resumption the pattern of the game did not change much, Renmore playing the ball about effectively and it was no surprise when further goals came through the efforts of Molloy, Power, Donovan (2).

RENMORE ..... 2  
CORRIB SHAMROCKS ..... 0

In the Joe Wickham Cup replay played at the Franciscan Grounds both sides produced passages of good football. Renmore deserved to win simply because they took their two goals well when presented with them.

Shamrocks opened well and with John Glynn ruling midfield their forwards got a few chances but all to no avail. Midway through the half Renmore started to put their game together and it was fitting that the opening goal should be scored by the whole-hearted Francis Power. There was no further scoring before half-time.

In the second half Shamrocks pressed forward more but Renmore looked more dangerous on the break and with just ten minutes left in the game Kieran Kavanagh with a good opportunist goal made sure that Renmore advanced to the next round. Best for the winners were O'Neill, Daly, Fox, Joyce and Power and for Shamrocks Glynn, Hynes and Power were best.

# Ardnamara Collapse In Final Quarter!

LEAGUE TABLES

Under-12

	P	W	D	L	Pts.
K'nacarra	3	3	0	0	6
A'mara	3	2	0	1	4
Whitestrاند/					
Devon	2	1	1	0	3
Highfield	4	1	1	2	3
Glenard	4	0	0	4	0

Under-10

	P	W	D	L	Pts.
K'nacarra	3	3	0	0	6
Whitestrاند/					
Devon	4	2	0	2	4
Highfield	2	2	0	0	4
Glenard	3	0	1	2	1
A'mara	4	0	1	3	1

Under-9

	P	W	D	L	Pts.
K'nacarra	3	2	1	0	5
Highfield	2	2	0	0	4
A'mara	4	2	0	2	4
Glenard	3	1	1	1	3
Whitestrاند/					
Devon	4	0	0	4	0

Fixtures: Saturday next, November 7 at Knocknacarra: Under-10, Highfield v Glenard at 10.00 a.m. Under-9, Highfield v Glenard at 10.45 a.m.

CLUB NEWS

In winning the under-14 county championship on Saturday last the club has now taken three under-age championships this year and this is great incentive to the under-21 side, now in the semi-final of the championship, to set a record for the club.

The under-age club leagues are being keenly contested and now, nearing the end, there are still four sides in the race at under-12, three at under-10 and four at under-9.

Congrats to John Mooney for his excellent performance in the Dublin City Marathon, not only for finishing it but for the charitable objective which motivated him in his long months of training.

The club annual social is being held on Saturday night, November 28th.

## Schools X-Country

The Primary Schools Cross-Country competition is now under way and all schools have competed in the preliminary stages. Results of the first week are as follows:

In the boys senior events the early points went to Scoil Mhichil, Mervue, Scoil Iognaid, and St. James, Bushy Park. The junior events also went as above except that St. Patrick's N.S. took the points from Scoil Iognaid.

In the girls senior and junior events the points went to Scoil na Trionoide, Mervue, Scoil Bhríde, Shantalla, and Scoil Chroí Iosa, Newcastle.

Knocknacarra ..... 6-1  
Ardnamara ..... 1-4

Although the final score looks pretty one-sided this under-10 league clash between two grand sides had all the ingredients of a thriller for more than three-quarters of the hour when the winners, helped by a strong wind, went on a goal scoring spree.

During the hectic exchanges there was very little between the sides and there were plenty of near misses by the Ardnamara boys when they were within scoring range. Added to this setback was some excellent goalkeeping by Michael Gallagher in the Knocknacarra goals.

Ardnamara were quickly into attack from the throw-in and their star player, Adrian O'Gara, set up several attacks and opened the scoring with two excellent long range points. Kenneth McGrath, at right full forward hit home a superb goal despite close attention.

This great start by Ardnamara had the Knocknacarra team reeling in a valiant effort to contain the sharp shooters but Neil Finnegan, captain of his side, rallied and inspired his team-mates with two goals after soloing in from the centre of the field.

It was a ding dong struggle for the remaining of the half as each set of backs kept an eagle eye on the forwards. Marcus O'Grady eventually got through to level the scores for Ardnamara, leaving the interval tally at 2-0 to 1-3.

On the resumption Ardnamara went into attack but Owen Kenny was in top form as both he and James Kilraine sent ball after ball well upfield, but Alec Sammon and Liam Kelly stoutly resisted in the Ardnamara defence. Knocknacarra though constantly pushing forward found it very hard to break through for a major score.

Midway through the half Neil Finnegan kicked a goal from a ruck in front of goals and with that the flood gates opened with Mark Lenihan adding another goal and Neil Finnegan doing likewise.

Adrian O'Gara raised his sides hopes with a point from a free but Cathal McLoughlin goaled for Knocknacarra and Neil Finnegan pointed to finish easy winners. Others to play well for Knocknacarra were Rory McLoughlin, David Quinn and Ivor Duggan while Donal Leonard, Shane Daly and Gavin Kelly were impressive for Ardnamara.

Knocknacarra: Michael Gallagher, James Kilraine, Conor Kelly, Owen Kenny, Rory McLoughlin, Ivor Duggan, Neil Finnegan, Mark Lenihan, Paul McGranaghan, David Quinn, Cathal McLoughlin.

Ardnamara: David Breslin,

Gavin Kelly, Cormac Fitzgerald, Liam Kelly, Alec Sammon, Adrian O'Gara, Marcus O'Grady, Donal Leonard, Shane Daly, Kenneth McGrath, John Lillis.

Referee: Mr. Seamus O'Ready.

Knocknacarra ..... 2-3  
Ardnamara ..... 0-2

Knocknacarra completed the double over Ardnamara when they held out bravely in the second half to win this under-9 league game. The winners, wind assisted in the first half, put a lot of pressure on the Ardnamara team but scores were very slow in coming due to watchful goalkeeping by Liam Kelly and good defensive work by Robert Kenny and David Breslin.

After ten minutes James Kilraine opened the scoring for Knocknacarra with a point from far out and the same player had a goal from a similar effort minutes later when his shot dipped under the crossbar. So well did the Ardnamara boys play that it looked that Knocknacarra would end the half without any further scores but Ross Kavanagh hit a grand goal and a point just before half time to leave the score at 2-2 to 0-0 in Knocknacarra's favour.

In the second half the pressure was on the Knocknacarra backs as the strong wind made it almost one way traffic. However, Michael Doyle in goals was in topping form and David Quinn played a blinder at full back with Paul McGranaghan dropping back to relieve the side when in dire straits. It must be said however, that the Ardnamara boys had run out of luck as several efforts went whizzing wide when better was deserved.

The arrival of Aidan Maloney as a sub helped Knocknacarra to move upfield and even though Donal Leonard and Donald McSweeney pointed for Ardnamara the closing stages saw the winners move up into attack and keep the pressure off their backs who had put in a tremendous performance.

Others to play well for Knocknacarra were Cathal McLoughlin, Tony McNicholas and David Lenihan while Shane Daly, Kenneth McGrath and Garry O'Doherty did their utmost for the losers.

Knocknacarra: Michael Doyle, Conor Kelly, James Kilraine, David Quinn, Cathal McLoughlin, Paul McGranaghan, Tony McNicholas, James Kilraine, Ross Kavanagh, David Lenihan, Aidan Maloney.

Ardnamara: Liam Kelly, Robert Kenny, Gavin Kelly, David Breslin, J. J. Keeverin, Shane Daly, Kenneth McGrath, Donal Leonard, Gerry O'Doherty, Donal McSweeney, John Lillis.



High jinks around centrefield in the Galway-Dublin football tie as Jim Ronayne gets possession for the Dubs. Also pictured are Galway's Billy Joyce, Padraig Moran (No. 17) and Pat O'Neill and Dublin forward Ciaran Duff (No. 12).