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WHERE WE ALL BELONG



**2020
JOE MCDONAGH
CUP ROUND 4**



CIARRAÍ **v** CEATHARLACH



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**IONAD: Páirc Aibhistín De Staic, Trá Lí
Dé Satharn, 21ú Samhain 2020**

TOSNÚ: 13:30 - RÉITEOIR: Colm McAllister (Corcaigh)

Photo: Kerry's Eye

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Dáithí Griffin of Kerry in action against Richard Coady of Carlow in the 2018 Div 2A NHL clash at Austin Stack Park. Photo: Kerry's Eye

Fintan O'Connor pleased that Kerry hurlers fate is in their own hands

By MURT MURPHY

While the Kerry senior hurlers and manager Fintan O'Connor returned pointless from Belfast last Saturday afternoon and they now face a quick turnaround but they know that if they perform on Saturday at the Austin Stack Park against Carlow, they will be through to the Joe McDonagh Cup Final.

O'Connor was naturally disappointed with losing to Antrim but will not be dwelling on the loss for too long "We were very pleased with the effort the lads put in, in the second half because it would be very easy to throw in the towel. But they kept fighting and tried to get back into the game but it just did not go our way. But we were very proud of their efforts. Antrim were definitely more economical with their scoring efficiency. We knew going up to Belfast that we had two cracks at making the Joe McDonagh Cup final. So now we know that Saturday's game against Carlow is an All-Ireland semi-final for us. It's nice to have an All-Ireland semi-final at home and the lads will have to be in the right frame of mind and not allow the defeat

in Belfast to affect them. We will have to dust ourselves down and go again and that is something we are good at. We will just have to have the right mindset before we play Carlow. We will have a right go and we have the leaders and the lads in the group to do just that."

O'Connor was pleased with the way leaders emerged in the second half on Saturday such as Mikey Boyle, Shane Conway and Shane Nolan "That was very pleasing because it showed us the character the team has and they were just not prepared to lie down and go away but rather stuck at it to the bitter end. I think it might even stand to us as the lads probably learn more from a game like last Saturday and they know that they can beat any of the sides in the Joe McDonagh on a good day."

O'Connor rates Carlow highly and reckons Kerry will have to be at their best. "Carlow have a lot of very good hurlers in the Doyles, Richard Coady, Martin Kavanagh, Chris Nolan, Edward Byrne, Jack Kavanagh, and John Michael Nolan. They pose a huge aerial threat and they have an excellent puck-out strategy and in fact they were the best

in that department last year in the Liam McCarthy. So that will be a huge area that we will have to look at and I know they caused us huge bother in the air two years ago. They were also unlucky not to beat Antrim first day out as they conceded two late goals and the game ended in a draw. So we are under no illusions on the challenge we face and as I said earlier this year, we always had to beat either Antrim or Carlow to reach the Joe McDonagh final so it's now beat Carlow or go home. But I think if we play well, we can cause Carlow problems as well and that is our aim to get into the final."

But O'Connor is happy that at least Kerry's fate is in their own hands "If you were to say at the start of the Joe McDonagh that when it came to your final game, your fate was in your own hands, with a home game against Carlow, you would take that. We need the lads to forget about the loss on the road to Antrim and just dig in with the best team we can get out on field on Saturday and give it our absolute best and see where that takes us."

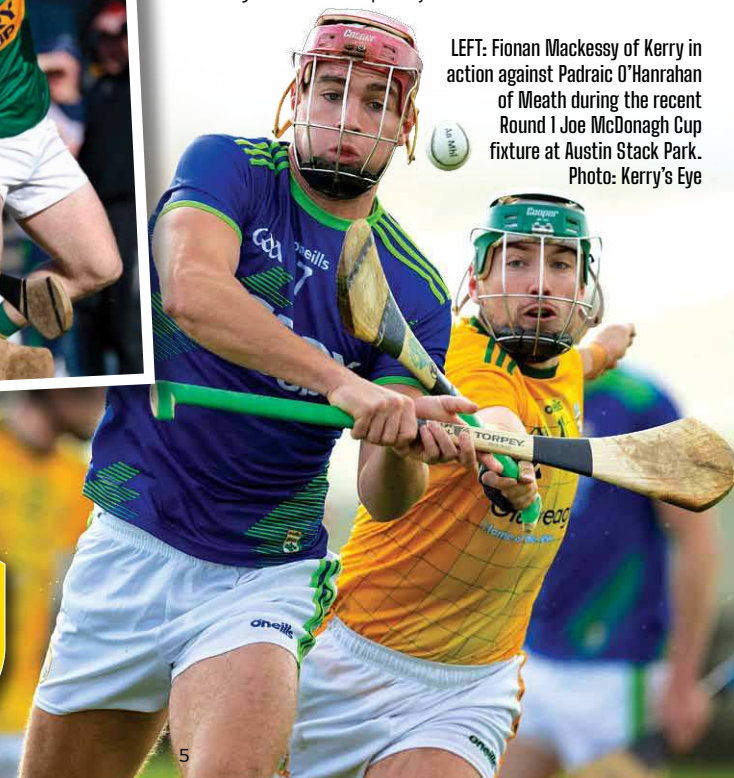
O'Connor believes that knowing if they win, they will be in the Joe McDonagh final will help the lads forget the

disappointment of losing to Antrim. "They are good lads and proud lads and will be disappointed with the first half display against Antrim and they will want to right the wrongs for Saturday's clash with Carlow. I am sure Carlow will be favourites coming into the game but we sometimes play better as underdogs. We are at home and we have nothing to lose by having a go. It's the first year since I have been involved that we have something positive to play for in our final game. I know last year our last game was to avoid relegation but it's nice to be playing in game that you know if you win it, you are in the Joe McDonagh Cup Final. First year in the Joe McDonagh we were going up to Antrim in our final game which was a dead rubber (2018) and in my first year it was the Leinster round robin and Kerry's final game was a dead rubber."

With the Kerry footballers out of the Championship, the hurlers are now under more scrutiny than ever and Fintan O'Connor believes they can do a good PR job for Kerry hurling. "It would be brilliant for us to get a bit of positive PR for the lads. They put in a massive effort and they give it everything they have. We do not have a huge hurling population and I think the lads are doing well given the limitations in playing numbers. The lads want to be in the final, they want to win it and they want to do the jersey proud. I am sure the entire county will be behind them and the lads are conscious of that goodwill and hopefully will feed off it."



ABOVE: Padraig Boyle of Kerry in action against Dion Wall of Carlow in the 2018 Div 2A NHL clash at Austin Stack Park. Photo: Kerry's Eye



LEFT: Fionan Mackessy of Kerry in action against Padraic O'Hanrahan of Meath during the recent Round 1 Joe McDonagh Cup fixture at Austin Stack Park. Photo: Kerry's Eye

CIARRAÍ




1
M. de Stacapul
Martin Stackpoole
Leac Sna



2
S. Ó Buachalla
John Buckley
Leac Sna



3
T. Ó Conchúir
Tomás O'Connor
Na Níallaigh Crotta




4
E. Ó Laighin
Eric Leen
Naomh Breandánaigh



5
M. Ó Laighin
Micheal Leane
Baile Uí Thaigh



6
I. Ó Duigín
Jason Diggins
An Tochar



7
B. Ó Laoire
Brendan O'Leary
Mainistir ó dTorna



8
P. Ó Conchúir
Paudie O'Connor
Cill Mhaole



9
S. Ó Nualláin
Shane Nolan
Na Níallaigh Crotta




10
B. Baróid
Brandon Barrett
An Tochar




11
D. Ó Coileán
Daniel Collins
Cill Mhaole



12
C. Ó hArthaigh
Colm Harty (C)
An Tochar



13
S. Ó Conhbuí
Shane Conway
Leac Sna



14
M. Ó Baoil
Mikey Boyle
Baile Dubh



15
P. Ó Baoil
Pádraig Boyle
Baile Dubh

BAINISTÍOCHT:

Bainisteoir: Fintan O'Connor;
Maor Fóirne/Roghnóir: Brian Culbert;
Roghnóirí: Brendan Cummins,
Sean Maunsell, Eamon Fitzgerald.

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	65m	Saor Pócanna
1 Ach Leath					
2 Ach Leath					
Ionán					



FIR IONAIÐ

16. S. B. Ó hAllurán
John B O'Halloran
Cill Mhaole

17. S. Ó Conchúir
James O'Connor
Mainistir ó dTorna

18. É. Ó Murchú
Evan Murphy
An Tochar

19. S. Mac An Mhaoir
Sean Weir
Na Níallaigh Crotta

20. M. Ó Conchúir
Maurice O'Connor
Cill Mhaole

21. M. Ó Laoire
Michael O'Leary
Mainistir ó dTorna

22. T. Ó Cathasaigh
Thomas Casey
An Tochar

23. D. Ó Gogáin
Dan Goggán
An Tochar

24. S. Ó Siócháin
Sean Sheehan
An Tochar

25. L. Ó Liathán
Billy Lyons
An Tochar

26. C. Ó Caoimh
Conor O'Keefe
Leac Sna



FIR IONAIÐ

16. D. Mac Shiúrtáin
Damien Jordan
Naomh Eoin

17. C. Ó Treasaigh
Cathal Tracey
Naomh Eoin

18. C. Mac Eochaidh
Conor Kehoe
St. Mullins

19. E. Ó hEosa
Eoin Hosey
Naomh Eoin

20. S. Mac Cú Uladh
Jack McCullagh
Bagenalstown Gaels

21. S. Ó Dúill
James Doyle
St. Mullins

22. S. Ó Dúill
John Doyle
St. Mullins


23. P. Mac Óda
Paul Coady
Mount Leinster Rangers

24. R. Smidéir
Ross Smithers
Naomh Eoin

25. É. Seoigh
Ted Joyce
Mount Leinster Rangers

26. A. Ó Leathlobhair
Tony Lawlor
Mount Leinster Rangers

CEATHARLACH



1
B. Ó Treasaigh
Brian Tracey
Naomh Eoin



2
M. Ó Dúill
Michael Doyle
Mount Leinster Rangers



3
P. Ó Dúill
Paul Doyle (JC)
St. Mullins



4
G. Mac Beinéid
Gary Bennett
St. Mullins



5
G. Mac Óda
Ger Coady
St. Mullins



6
D. Inglis
David English
Ballinkillen



7
Ristear Mac Óda
Richard Coady
Mount Leinster Rangers



8
S. Ó Caomhánaigh
Jack Kavanagh
St. Mullins



9
Á. Amond
Aaron Amond
Naomh Bríd



10
D. Ó Broin
Diarmuid Byrne
Mount Leinster Rangers



11
S. Ó Nualláin
Jon Nolan
Mount Leinster Rangers



12
É. Ó Broin
Edward Byrne
Mount Leinster Rangers



13
M. Ó Caomhánaigh
Martin Kavanagh (JC)
St. Mullins



14
C. Mac Dónaill
Kevin McDonald
Mount Leinster Rangers



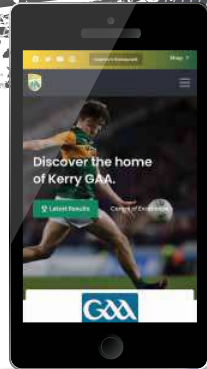
15
C. Ó Nualláin
Chris Nolan
Mount Leinster Rangers

BAINISTÍOCHT:

Bainisteoir: Colm Bonnar;
Maor Fóirne: Mick Kehoe;
Roghnóirí: Patrick O'Flynn, Adrian Corcoran.

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	65m	Saor Pócanna
1 Ach Leath					
2 Ach Leath					
Ionán					

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