

2021



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Kerry Petroleum  
Junior Premier  
Club Football  
Championship  
FINAL**



GAA

WHERE WE ALL BELONG

# GNEEVEGUILLA v SKELLIG RANGERS

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**LUACH: €2**



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**Ionad:** Fitzgerald Stadium • **Dáta:** Saturday 20th November

**Réiteoir:** Eamonn Moran (Ballydonoghue)

**Tosnú:** 2pm • *Extra Time & Result on the Day*



# Can Gneeveguilla gain quick compensation or will Rangers power to victory?

By MURT MURPHY

Gneeveguilla v Skellig Rangers, Fitzgerald Stadium, Saturday 20th November, 2pm

**IT'S been a strange year in the club scene in Kerry with last year's competitions having to be finished before the 2021 versions began.**

This meant that some sides did not know what competition they would be playing in this year until they finished last year's first. But the quick turnaround for those clubs who lost out in last year's finals in late August and early September does not appear to have impacted on those sides that lost finals.

Take Castlegregory for example that were blown out of the water by Annascaul in the 2020 Junior Final but then went on to gain rich compensation by winning the 2021 Junior Final last Sunday, comprehensively beating Furies in the process.

Then look at Beaufort who lost the 2020 Intermediate Club final to Spa but are now back in the final again and are just waiting to play Na Gaeil over the next few weeks.

That brings us nicely on to Gneeveguilla who suffered heartbreak on the first Sunday in September when they lost the 2020 Junior Premier final in dramatic circumstances. They led Ballydonoghue by four points with the clock running down but Gneeveguilla allowed Ballydonoghue kick the final four points and force extra time.

Again in extra time Gneeveguilla looked home and hosed as they led with the referee ready to call time but hold the back page, as a late penalty award saw Paul Kennelly blast the ball to the Gneeveguilla net and Gneeveguilla hearts were broken in smithereens. Many believed it would be impossible for Gneeveguilla to regroup, get up off the floor and dust themselves down for the 2021 competition just seven days later.

But the East Kerry side appear to have dug deep and turned the pain of defeat into a positive mindset of getting back on the horse and so they went on to beat Finuge (1-16 to 0-10), then beat Ballymacelligott away (2-12 to 1-12) and then beat a quality Listry side (2-10 to 1-9) to top the group. Then on to a tough battle with St. Senans but again Gneeveguilla showed they were made of stern stuff as they prevailed 1-14 to 1-7.

Gneeveguilla were cautious approaching their semi-final meeting with in form St. Michaels/Foilmore but Gneeveguilla caught the South Kerry side on an off day and cruised into the final. Don't forget that Gneeveguilla won promotion to the top flight of the County League during the summer.

By the way an interesting aside is that to the best of my recollection, Gneeveguilla, if they can win on Saturday will become the only club in Kerry to win club titles at all three grades - Junior, Intermediate and Senior, which they won back in the eighties when the senior club had a completely different format. Gneeveguilla will be without Pdraig Doyle who is

away in Dubai while they picked up a few injuries last weekend in their O'Donoghue Cup loss to Rathmore but manager Sean O'Leary is hoping to have a fully fit squad to pick from.

If Gneeveguilla had a mountain to climb after that loss to Ballydonoghue then Skellig Rangers rise from the ashes is equally impressive under Bryan Hickey. They have languished in Division 4 of the County League for a few seasons but this year they beat Castlegregory in a promotion play-off and will play Div 3 football in 2022. Buoyed by this win they knew that they had struck form at the right time and so approached the Club championship with renewed confidence. They beat neighbours Waterville in the opening game 2-9 to 1-9 with Pdraig O'Sullivan denying his buddy on the sideline, Buddy O'Shea with some superb shot stopping.

Then a tough away win over Churchill on a 1-13 to 0-12 scoreline and then they completed their group games beating St. Senans 0-12 to 1-7 to top their group. Then on to the quarters and they really caught the eye when beating Brosna 0-10

to 0-3 before a massive semi-final win over Listry in Glenbeigh. They looked down and out at the first water break as they trailed 1-5 to 0-1 and it took a superb save by keeper Pdraig O'Sullivan before half time to keep them in the game. They then produced a magnificent second half revival with Darragh O'Sullivan kicking points for fun, keeping Listry to just a single point and completed a remarkable 0-14 to 1-8 comeback.

So the die is cast and now Gneeveguilla and Skellig Rangers clash in a game that could go right down to the wire. Skellig Rangers will be relying on Pdraig O'Sullivan, Ronan O'Shea, Stephen O'Sullivan, the Keating cousins - Diarmuid and Ciaran, Darragh O'Sullivan, Aidan Dash O'Sullivan and Bernard Walsh so they have match winners all over the pitch.

Gneeveguilla have a mixture of youth and some experienced hands and they will be relying on Patrick O'Riordan, Eoin Fitzgerald, Darren Brosnan, Pa Warren, John O'Leary, Ronan Collins, Michael Murphy, Conor Herlihy and Shane O'Sullivan among a talented cast. **VERDICT:** Gneeveguilla by a whisker.

## PATHS TO THE FINAL

### GNEEVUILLA

- 12th September - Junior Premier Football Championship **GROUP 2 ROUND 1 FINUGE 0-10 GNEEVUILLA 1-16.** Venue: Cordal. Referee: Ger Byrne
- 18th September - Junior Premier Football Championship **GROUP 2 ROUND 2 BALLYMAC 1-12 GNEEVUILLA 2-12.** Venue: Ballymac. Referee: Seamus Mulvihill
- 26th September - Junior Premier Football Championship **GROUP 2 ROUND 3 GNEEVUILLA 2-10 LISTRY 1-9.** Venue: Gneeveguilla. Referee: Ger Byrne
- 10th October - Junior Premier Football Championship **QUARTER-FINAL GNEEVUILLA 1-11 ST. SENAN'S 1-7.** Venue: Gneeveguilla. Referee: Paul Hayes
- 16th October - Junior Premier Football Championship **SEMI-FINAL GNEEVUILLA 4-15 ST. ML'S-FOILMORE 1-5.** Venue: Beaufort. Referee: Michael Moriarty

### SKELLIG RANGERS

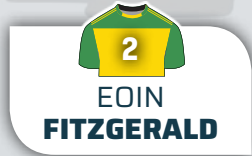
- 12th September - Junior Premier Football Championship **GROUP 3 ROUND 1 SKELLIG RANGERS 2-9 WATERVILLE 1-9.** Venue: Ballinskelligs. Referee: Brendan Twiss
- 18th September - Junior Premier Football Championship **GROUP 3 ROUND 2 CHURCHILL 0-12 SKELLIG RANGERS 1-13.** Venue: Churchill. Referee: Michael Moriarty
- 26th September - Junior Premier Football Championship **GROUP 3 ROUND 3 SKELLIG RANGERS 0-12 ST. SENAN'S 1-7.** Venue: Skellig Rangers. Referee: Daniel Clifford
- 3rd October - Junior Premier Football Championship **QUARTER-FINAL SKELLIG RANGERS 0-10 BROSNA 0-3.** Venue: Skellig Rangers. Referee: Brendan Twiss
- 17th October - Junior Premier Football Championship **SEMI-FINAL LISTRY 1-8 SKELLIG RANGERS 0-14.** Venue: Glenbeigh. Referee: Peter Curtin



# GNEEVGUILLA



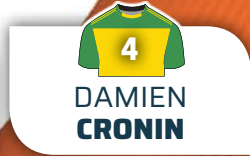
**1**  
PATRICK  
O'RIORDAN (C)



**2**  
EOIN  
FITZGERALD



**3**  
PADRAIG  
O'CONNOR



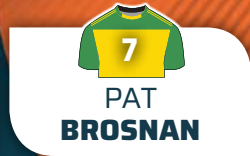
**4**  
DAMIEN  
CRONIN



**5**  
DARREN  
BROSAN



**6**  
PA  
WARREN



**7**  
PAT  
BROSAN



**8**  
RONÁN  
COLLINS



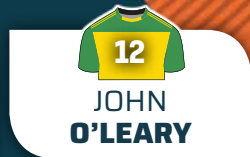
**9**  
PAUL  
O'LEARY



**10**  
CONNIE  
O'CONNOR



**11**  
MIKE  
MURPHY



**12**  
JOHN  
O'LEARY



**13**  
SEAN  
O'KEEFE



**14**  
CONOR  
HERLIHY



**15**  
SHANE  
O'SULLIVAN

## BAINISTÍOCHT:

Seanie O'Leary, Ger Moynihan, John Sheehan & Eamon Bowler. **Stats:** Moss O'Keefe.

**Logistics:** John Murphy.

**Physio:** Paudie Breen.



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## FIR IONAIÐ

16. TADGH O'CONNOR
17. JACK CREMIN
18. DJ MURPHY
19. CON BUCKLEY
20. SHANE CROWLEY
21. JAMIE O'SULLIVAN
22. DAMIEN O'SULLIVAN
23. JJ HERLIHY
24. KEVIN COUGHLIN
25. PAUDIE O'LEARY
26. CATHAL COLLINS
27. MIKE BROSAN
28. DANNY O'CALLAGHAN
29. DAVID GLESSON
30. EVAN CRONIN



## FIR IONAIÐ

16. EOIN O'SULLIVAN
17. BRIAN MURPHY
18. DANNY O'SULLIVAN
19. KEITH BRENNAN
20. BRENDAN MURPHY
21. DOMHNALL O'SULLIVAN
22. MIKE KEATING
23. ADAM KENNEDY
24. AARON O'SHEA
25. BRENDAN O'SULLIVAN
26. STEPHEN KEATING
27. STEPHEN RIORDAN
28. FIONAN O'SULLIVAN
29. BRIAN O'SULLIVAN
30. DAMIEN MURPHY

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# SKELLIG RANGERS



**1**  
PADRAIG  
O'SULLIVAN



**2**  
ANTHONY  
O'DRISCOLL



**3**  
SHAMUS  
O'SULLIVAN



**4**  
GERARD  
O'SULLIVAN



**5**  
ALAN  
DEVANE



**6**  
STEPHEN  
O'SULLIVAN



**7**  
MICHEAL  
O'SULLIVAN



**8**  
AIDAN  
O'SULLIVAN



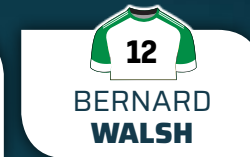
**9**  
CIARAN  
KEATING (C)



**10**  
DARRAGH  
O'SULLIVAN



**11**  
DIARMUID  
KEATING



**12**  
BERNARD  
WALSH



**13**  
RONAN  
O'SHEA



**14**  
MARTIN  
O'SULLIVAN



**15**  
JOHN  
MURPHY

## BAINISTÍOCHT:

**Manager:** Brian Hickey. **Selectors:** PJ Sugrue, Paul Murphy, Brendan O'Sullivan & Francie O'Driscoll.

**Physio:** Maura Leen.



KERRY



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- John O'Leary - East Kerry Area 086-3026041
- Ger McCarthy - North Kerry Area 087-2299029**
- Liam Lynch - Tralee Area 087-6189655
- Eamon O'Sullivan - St Kierans Area 086-8299584**
- Dermot Weeshie Lynch - West Kerry Area 086-8385187
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