

2022

Kerry Petroleum Senior Club Football
Championship Relegation Play-off

KENMARE SHAMROCKS v AUSTIN STACKS

TOSNÚ: 13:15 • **RÉITEOIR:** Pdraig O'Sullivan
Extra Time (Replay if level after Extra Time)



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2022 Kerry Petroleum Senior Club Football Championship FINAL



TEMPLENOE v KERINS O'RAHILLY'S

TOSNÚ: 15:00 • **RÉITEOIR:** Brendan Brosnan
Extra Time (Replay if level after Extra Time)

IONAD: Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney
DÁTA: Sunday 23rd October



LUACH: €2

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Failtiú an Chathaoirligh



ON behalf of Kerry GAA it gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone here to Fitzgerald Stadium this afternoon for what are two very important games in the Kerry Petroleum Senior Club Championship calendar. A special welcome to the clubs, their players and management teams, and indeed to our referees and their respective teams of officials.

KERRY PETROLEUM SENIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

The senior club championship final has a novel feel to it with Templenoe, who are appearing in their first final, pitting their skills against Tralee stalwarts Kerins O'Rahillys who make a return to the final for the first time since their double success in the competition in the late noughties.

Templenoe, regarded as the minnows of both senior championships at the start of the year, have had an outstanding season not only reaching today's final after an impressive semi-final victory over Dingle, but also putting up a very stubborn resistance before bowing out of the senior football championship at the quarter-final stage to Mid Kerry. The fact that the club provided four players to the All Ireland winning senior football champions is indeed another noteworthy achievement.

Kerins O'Rahillys, by their own standards and following their heroics in reaching last year's final, were somewhat subdued in this year's premier competition but they still find themselves in today's Club final on merit thanks to an extra time semi-final victory over a tenacious Spa side. With the evergreen David Moran leading them by example the Strand Road outfit will certainly want to finish the season on a high.

An added incentive for both sides is of course the fact

that the winners will represent Kerry in the upcoming Munster Club Championship. The winners of today's final will receive the Michael O'Connor Cup, a trophy that perpetuates the memory of an administrator par excellence who was elected chairman of the Munster Council at its Convention here in the Fitzgerald Stadium back in 1986. The best of luck to both teams.

KERRY PETROLEUM SENIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RELEGATION FINAL

The opening game in today's double-bill is no less interesting. Two clubs with a very contrasting history in senior football, play-off in a fight to avoid relegation from the senior grade. Last year's county champions, Austin Stacks, have a hallowed record in the championship going all the way back to their first title in 1928 while their opponents Kenmare have made great strides over the last six or seven years since attaining senior status. We wish both teams well in their quest for survival.

Patrick O'Sullivan

CATHAOIRLEACH COISTE CHONTAE CHIARRAÍ



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PREVIEW

Joe O'Connor (Austin Stacks) climbs highest to win the ball against Templenoe during their SFC clash in Killarney. PHOTO: KERRY'S EYE



COULD THE UNTHINKABLE HAPPEN AND AUSTIN STACKS DROP TO INTERMEDIATE FOR 2023?

By MURT MURPHY

I DON'T think that anyone in Austin Stacks when celebrating their SFC win last December, believed that just over ten months later they would be fighting for their senior status and survival.

It is also incredulous that a club that has more All-Ireland Senior medals and All-Stars than any other club in the country, sits on top of the Kerry SFC Roll of honour with 13 titles, has done the double (SFC and SHC twice), have won two Munster clubs and won the All-Ireland Senior Club in 1977, could find itself in such a predicament considering they were last year's county champions. But the fact is that senior status is not a God given right, it must be earned each year, in the Senior Club Championship and this year, Stacks form in that and the SFC has been poor.

Kenmare Shamrocks, while not having the anything like the history or Senior Championship pedigree as Stacks, are a Senior Club by right and won the Intermediate Championship in 2016. They have been performing well in the top tier and were unlucky in many people's view not to have beaten East Kerry a couple of weeks back in the SFC quarter-final, and only lost out topping their group on scoring difference by Dr. Crokes.

The Kenmare Shamrocks boss Jackie Tuohy won't make any excuses for being where they are but they could do with a change of luck. I can vouch for the fact that Kenmare Shamrocks enjoyed very few breaks along the way in the Club Championship. They lost to Na Gaeil by a point, but had a goal disallowed and then against Dingle, they had little luck in losing

at home again by a single point. Then they travelled to Spa and with fourteen players, they grabbed a draw. So if they do get a change of luck on Sunday then they will be due it.

"We haven't much luck all year" Tuohy says, "but the lads are upbeat enough. We knew from a long way back that this day might come, but to be honest, we parked any thoughts about the relegation play-off and concentrated on the County Championship. We gave that all our focus and we only turned our minds towards this game in the last week or so."

As for injuries, the manager has a few worries. "We have a few injuries. Dara Crowley and Shane O'Sullivan are struggling with knocks. Griffin Wharton has a broken nose which will rule him out. But on the positive side Seanie O'Shea and Stephen O'Brien are big players and big leaders who have been playing exceptionally well for us. But they would tell you that they have a lot of good players around them and that is why it's a team effort" he said.

But Tuohy reckons Stacks have been a bit of a bogey team for his side as they beat them in two of the three recent Senior Club finals that Stacks have won. "They are a bit of a bogey team for us. I think we should have beaten them in one of their finals. We led in one of them by six points in the second half and should not have

lost it. But they are a big club and have some big names. It will not be easy on Sunday but we will give it our best shot."

Austin Stacks would love to give departing manager Wayne Quillinan a positive send off but Stacks have suffered an injury list that would floor most clubs. They have been at the top of club football in Kerry for the past four years winning three senior clubs, are 2021 SFC champions and you can throw in a County League as well. To say losing this game would be a disaster would be an understatement, it's an Armageddon moment.

They will be missing Joe O'Connor, Brendan O'Sullivan, Dylan Casey and Darragh O'Brien is definitely out, while Jordan Kissane, David and Niall Fitzmaurice are still not ready. There is even a doubt about Jack O'Shea who may have to play as Stacks are down to the bare bones in terms of numbers.

But Austin Stacks are a proud club and the players will die with their boots on to maintain the club's senior status despite their poor recent form. So I will go against my head which tells me that Kenmare Shamrocks are the team in form by tipping Austin Stacks who I think will somehow manage to survive.

VERDICT: Austin Stacks



LEFT: Stephen O'Brien (Kenmare Shamrocks) gets his shot away despite the efforts of Fionn Fitzgerald and John Payne (Dr. Crokes) during the SFC Group 1 clash in Kenmare. PHOTO: KERRY'S EYE

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KENMARE SHAMROCKS



1
Kieran Fitzgibbon



2
Dara Crowley



3
Tommy O'Sullivan



4
Cian O'Sullivan



5
Dara O'Shea



6
James McCarthy



7
Shane O'Sullivan



8
David Hallissey



9
Kevin O'Sullivan (C)



10
Jimmy Lehane



11
Sean O'Shea



12
Dan McCarthy



13
Stephen O'Brien



14
Paul O'Connor



15
Tommy Cronin



IONAID

16. Ray O'Shea
17. Jamie O'Regan
18. Griffin Wharton
19. Pearse O'Brien
20. Tommy O'Sullivan (A)
21. Ruairi O'Sullivan
22. David Cronin
23. Cian Hanley
24. Domnhall Conroy
25. Dylan Wallace
26. Gearoid Doyle
27. Donnacha Whelton
28. Micheál McCarthy
29. Tom Murnane

BAINISTIÓCHT

Bainisteoir: Jackie Tuohy.
Roghnóirí: Mickey Ned O'Sullivan, Timmy Palmer, Kieran Moriarty.
S&C: Fergal Tuohy.
Physiotherapist: Stephanie O'Sullivan.

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 Adh Leath					
2 Adh Leath					
Ionlán					



IONAID

16. Ben Quilter
17. David Mannix
18. Adam Curran
19. Gearoid Fitzgerald
20. Eoghan Carroll
21. Barry Walsh
22. Luke Chester
23. Shane Bastible
24. Donagh McKivergan
25. Joey Nagle
26. Fiachna Mangan
27. Jordan Kissane
28. Calvin Foley
29. Jack Morgan
30. Dylan Casey

BAINISTIÓCHT

Bainisteoir: Wayne Quillinan.
Roghnóirí: Jonathan Conway, Eoin Colgan, Mikey Collins, Tommy Naughton, John O'Sullivan.
S&C: Damien Ryall.
Physio: Fionnan Hallinan.

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 Adh Leath					
2 Adh Leath					
Ionlán					



AUSTIN STACKS



1
Wayne Guthrie



2
Colin Griffin



3
Barry Shanahan



4
Jack O'Shea



5
Paul O'Sullivan



6
Conor Jordan



7
Ronan Shanahan



8
Greg Horan



9
Michael O'Donnell



10
Armin Heinrich



11
Michael O'Gara



12
Conor Horan



13
Sean Quilter



14
Kieran Donaghy (C)



15
Shane O'Callaghan



PREVIEW



Templenoe's Brian Crowley is tackled by Robert Monahan of St. Brendan's Board during the recent County Senior Football Championship clash. PHOTO: KERRY'S EYE



Can Templenoe beat Kerins O'Rahillys and complete a fairytale rise from Novice to senior glory?

By MURT MURPHY

IF you were caught up in some time machine for the last decade or so and just suddenly landed back to earth, to have a look at the weekend GAA action, you probably would think that the Kerry GAA world had gone mad.

How could there be a senior final involving Kerins O'Rahilly's and Templenoe taking place in Killarney on Sunday? Surely Templenoe are a Novice team playing in the Novice Shield while Kerins O'Rahilly's has just played in the Munster Senior Club a few years ago!

Well before you return to the spaceship and I don't have time to tell you about one of the most remarkable fairytales of Kerry sport, I can confirm that Templenoe have been elevated from the basement to the penthouse, in just over a decade, from Novice to just being one win away from playing in the Munster Senior Club Championship. No better man than manager Paul

Crowley who has been part of their journey when they were unknowns and cellar dwellers. "It's tough to talk football this week" admits Paul. "Unfortunately we lost young Tom Gudgeon last week in a tragic car accident and we buried him on Monday. It obviously has hit the team hard, as he would have been a great friend of the lads especially the younger contingent. He was only 25 years old and would have played underage with the club so it has thrown a blanket over the usual buzz before a big game."

But Templenoe and Paul are hoping that the football on Sunday might help lift the spirits of a community in mourning. "We are hoping to have Gavin Crowley back and Sean Sheehan who missed our SFC quarter-final but we will not know until later in the week. It is fairytale stuff to be honest but the truth is that it is all down to the lads who have got us to this point. They just keep coming back and they never know when they are beaten" Paul explained.

He is also aware that they are facing a wounded animal in Kerins O'Rahilly's who have really

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struggled this year but were impaired by injuries and lads heading away to foreign lands. So Paul is not taking anything for granted. "They have been a senior club for years and were in last year's county final. They have top players in David Moran and Tommy Walsh and they have two more I expect on the way back from Dubai, Jack Savage and Cormac Coffey. We will give them the respect they deserve but we don't fear them."

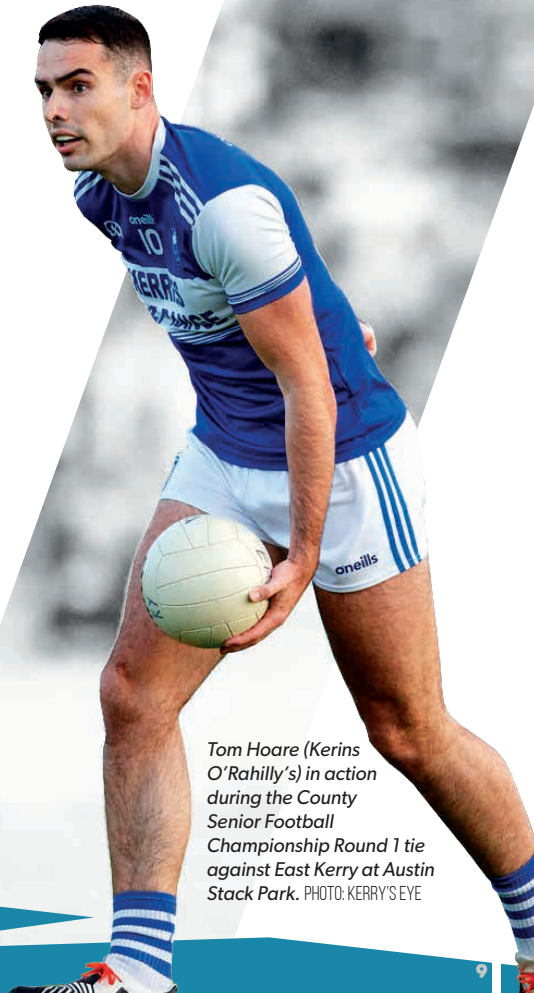
Kerins O'Rahilly's have it rough, there is no doubt about that. Chairman Haulie Kerins is not hiding behind the injuries and various slings and arrows that have bedevilled their season. "The Club Championship was encouraging and they reached the final and that was pleasing. But we had a difficult County Championship albeit in a very difficult group. It had two very strong teams in it in East Kerry and Dingle and they beat us well and our final game was against Spa and that was a dead rubber. We have been hampered by a long list of injuries and we are still in trouble. We might get a couple back but we are approaching this Final having prepared well. But it was different weather back then and now it's the wind and rain so it's all on the day."

Form would suggest Templenoe and they go in as slight favourites but Kerins O'Rahilly's won't worry about that. Templenoe enjoyed a superb Club Championship campaign beating Dingle in the semi-final who to be fair were reduced to just 14 for fifty nine minutes of the game. But they were impressive in the county championship but again lady luck shone when they nearly threw their quarter-final place away but Nathan O'Driscoll saved them down in Cahersiveen with a late free. Templenoe pushed county finalists Mid Kerry all the way in the quarters without Gavin Crowley and Sean Sheehan, so they are approaching Sunday with renewed confidence.

Kerins O'Rahilly's has been idle for a month and is still ravaged by injuries. But it looks like Tommy Walsh will play while Jack

Savage and Cormac Coffey will be back from Dubai. The midfield battle between David Moran and Adrian Spillane will be key while Killian Spillane and Stephen O'Sullivan will trouble the Strand Road defence. The Tralee side have some scoring forwards in Jack Savage, Conor Hayes and Barry John Keane so they have quality.

So not only is there silverware involved but the extra carrot of the winner representing Kerry in the Munster Club and that will focus the minds of both sets of players. **VERDICT: Kerins O'Rahilly's**



Tom Hoare (Kerins O'Rahilly's) in action during the County Senior Football Championship Round 1 tie against East Kerry at Austin Stack Park. PHOTO: KERRY'S EYE



TEMPLENOE



Mark Looney



Brian Crowley



Kieran O'Neill



John Rice



Patrick Clifford



Tadhg Morley



Gavin Crowley (C)



Sean Sheehan



Adrian Spillane



Mark Casey



Josh Crowley Holland



Colin Crowley



Stephen O'Sullivan



Aidan Crowley



Killian Spillane



IONAID

16. Colm Breen
17. Tom Spillane
18. Michael Hallissey
19. Kieran McCarthy
20. Cian Hallissey
21. Dan Cahalane
22. Joseph Sheehan
23. John Moriarty
24. Martin Reilly
25. Hugh Granville
26. Daniel Crowley
27. Michael F. O'Connor
28. Dan O'Connor
29. Jason O'Shea
30. Conor Murphy
31. Donagh Harrington
32. John Morley

BAINISTÍOCHT

Paul Crowley, Mike Crowley and Patrick O'Mahony.
Logaici: Conor Spillane.
Fisiteiripeoir: Holly Hughes.
Physical Therapist: Caitriona Harrington.

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 Ach Leath					
2 Ach Leath					
lomlán					



IONAID

16. Robert O'Connor
17. Ben Hanafin
18. Sean Walsh
19. Gearoid Savage
20. Diarmuid O'Sullivan
21. Stephen Nix
22. Ryan Carroll
23. Shane Brosnan
24. Darragh O'Connor
25. Daniel Bowler
26. TJ Heaphy
27. Pdraig Griffin
28. Conor O'Sullivan
29. Keelan Crowe
30. Gearoid Dillane
31. Fenton Collins
32. Sean Collins

BAINISTÍOCHT

William Harmon, Daniel Murphy, John O'Connor, Paul Ryan and Daniel Breen.

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 Ach Leath					
2 Ach Leath					
lomlán					



KERINS O'RAHILLYS



Shane Foley



Darragh McElligott



Ross O'Callaghan (C)



Cormac Coffey



Con Barrett



Karl Mullins



Pdraig Neenan



David Moran



Tom Hoare



Cian Sayers



Jack Savage



Gavin O'Brien



Barry John Keane



Tommy Walsh



Conor Hayes



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