# Boys U13 Country Cup Quarter-Final: Urlingford NS v Dunnamaggin NS

There was plenty at stake as Urlingford NS welcomed Dunnamaggin NS to Emeralds GAA Field for a highly anticipated U13 Country Cup quarter-final in November. The Country Cup brings together teams from Roinn A, B, C and D, making it a particularly competitive competition. Dunnamaggin arrived as last year's runners-up and, more significantly, the side that had knocked Urlingford out of the competition twelve months earlier. Revenge was certainly on the agenda!

With the pitch in excellent condition for the time of year, Owen Beehan took charge as referee. Fifth-class student Fabio Caschera won the toss for Urlingford and elected to play with the breeze towards the dressing-room end.

Urlingford lined out with Ray Choe between the posts, with Tom Hickey, Oisín Sweetman and Cillian Tobin forming the full-back line. Niall Rothwell, Paudie Power and Tommy Moore occupied the half-back line, while Eoin Gibbons and Conal Lyng partnered up at midfield. The half-forward line consisted of Cian Doyle, David Maev and Rian Lawlor, with David Greene, Darragh Joyce and Barry Joyce completing the inside line.

The match got off to a lively start, with both teams producing some excellent passages of play. Dunnamaggin opened the scoring with a well-taken point from a tight angle, but Urlingford responded brilliantly. David Maev proved a handful for the opposition, raising three excellent first-half points. Some impressive link-up play between Eoin Gibbons, Cian Doyle and Conal Lyng helped create the opportunities, with Maev's physical presence proving particularly valuable in the heavy November conditions.

At the other end, Urlingford's defence stood firm. Fifth-class duo Tom Hickey and Cillian Tobin looked assured alongside their sixth-class teammate Oisín Sweetman, who marshalled the full-back line superbly and worked tirelessly to protect goalkeeper Ray Choe. Dunnamaggin managed to respond and keep the scoreboard ticking over, leaving the teams level at half-time.

Urlingford introduced Johnny Bennett and Michael Neary at the interval, replacing David Greene and Barry Joyce. The second half began with a crucial turnover from Niall Rothwell, who won a superb 50/50 ball to launch an attack. Paudie Power delivered an excellent cross-field pass, which Maev gathered before powering the ball into the net to send the home supporters into celebration.

Dunnamaggin refused to go away, responding with a pointed free to keep the pressure on. As the game entered its closing stages, Urlingford were beginning to tire, but Conal Lyng stepped up when it mattered most. Collecting a clever pass from Rian Lawlor, Lyng powered past two defenders before splitting the posts with a superb left-footed effort.

Dunnamaggin added one final point, but Urlingford held firm to secure a hard-earned victory on a scoreline of **1-4 to 0-5**.

Both benches were given an opportunity to contribute, with the younger panel members showing great enthusiasm and making a strong case for future selection.

This was a tremendous team performance, full of character, determination and resilience. Having been eliminated by Dunnamaggin last year, Urlingford can now look forward to a Country Cup semi-final in the coming weeks.