

Urlingford NS Secure First Roinn A Victory

Urlingford NS faced a tough challenge in their Roinn A round two fixture against Gaelscoil Osraí in Kilkenny. Gaelscoil Osraí are well accustomed to Roinn A football and were certainly going to provide no easy feat. Following last week's promising performance, Urlingford were determined to build on their display and pick up their first victory of this year's campaign.

Conditions were perfect for football, with the pitch looking immaculate and very little breeze to contend with. Kaylem Carthy went up for the toss and Urlingford elected to shoot towards the scoreboard end in the first half.

The team lined out unchanged from the previous week, with Rae Choe in goal; Tom Hickey, Oisín Sweetman and Cillian Tobin in the full-back line; Nial Rothwell, David Maev and Tommy Moore in the half-back line; Conal Lyng and Eoin Gibbons in midfield; Cian Doyle, Paudie Power and Rian Lawlor in the half-forward line; and David Greene, Lennon Smyth and Darragh Joyce in the full-forward line.

Urlingford started brightly, with points from Conal Lyng, Cian Doyle and Eoin Gibbons racing them into an early three-point lead. The backs were left with little to do, but Tommy Moore and Tom Hickey were particularly sharp, showing great hunger for possession and keeping the pressure firmly on Gaelscoil Osraí.

After 15 minutes, Urlingford finally unlocked the defence. A lovely passing interchange between David Maev and Nial Rothwell opened up the opportunity, before the ball eventually found Darragh Joyce, who calmly stroked the ball home underneath the goalkeeper to put Urlingford firmly in control. Paudie Power added another point before half-time, leaving Urlingford 1-4 to 0-0 ahead at the break.

The second half saw Barry Joyce and Johnny Bennett introduced as Urlingford continued to dominate. Further scores from Eoin Gibbons, including frees, a penalty and a score from play, saw Urlingford race into a commanding 1-8 to 0-0 lead.

With the result looking secure, Urlingford were able to give valuable game time to a number of fourth- and fifth-class players. James Power was particularly lively, showing plenty of energy, getting on the ball and throwing himself into the action.

Overall, it was a fantastic result and a hugely significant achievement for Urlingford NS. To secure their opening Roinn A victory against schools much larger than their own is a testament to the team's hard work and determination.

Urlingford now return to the training field before looking ahead to a round three clash with St Canice's in Kilkenny.