



CHRISTY RING CUP

ROUND 2A



Cill Dara
KILDARE GAA



CILL DARA

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CILL MHANTÁIN

Sunday 1st November, 12.30pm

St. Conleth's Park

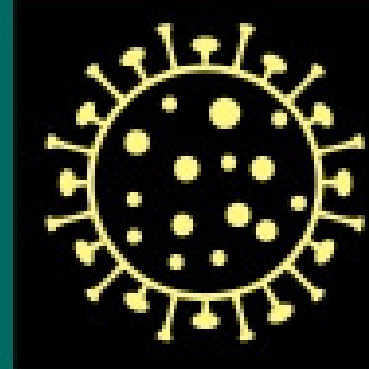


WHERE WE ALL BELONG





Coronavirus COVID-19



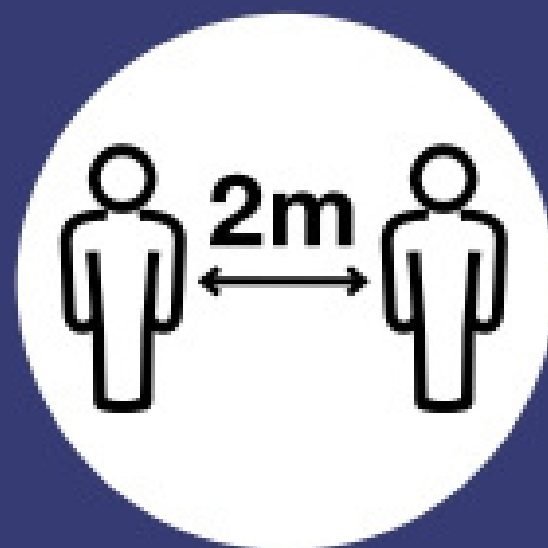
Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

Prevent the spread of Coronavirus



Stop

shaking hands or hugging when saying hello or greeting other people



Distance

yourself at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people, especially those who might be unwell



Wash

your hands well and often to avoid contamination



Cover

your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing and discard used tissue



Avoid

touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands



Clean

and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur romhaibh go léir go dtí Páirc Naomh Conlaith anseo i nDroichead Nua inniu agus tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh sár-thaitneamh as an chluiche.

On behalf of Kildare GAA I want to welcome you all to St Conleth's Park today for round 2A of the Christy Ring Cup between Kildare and Wicklow. I want to extend a warm welcome to the Wicklow team, management and officials on their visit today. I expect that we will all be treated to a very enjoyable, exciting and competitive match here this afternoon.

To ensure the running of our organisation and our games is of the highest standard it requires a lot of work behind the scenes. On that note I want to thank my fellow officers, our stewards, and all who continue to volunteer their services to Kildare GAA. Thanks also to our grounds men for having our pitch in excellent condition for today's game. I also want to express my thanks to Club Kildare who continue to raise funds for Kildare GAA.

Unfortunately, the number of Covid-19 (Coronavirus) cases are still high. Kildare GAA continue to liaise with Croke Park and Leinster Council regarding how best to minimise the spread of this virus and we hope all keep safe and adhere to public health guidelines over the next few weeks.

I wish to thank our main sponsor Brady Family and all our sponsors for their continued support, we are extremely grateful, and we wish you continued success.

Finally, I want to thank all our loyal supporters and I hope you all enjoy today's game on the live stream & on Kfm Radio.

Yours in sport

***Mick Gorman
Cathaoirleach***



#stayathome

FROM THE ARCHIVES ~ 2018

CHRISTY RING CUP - ROUND 3 SUBSTITUTE SHERIDAN SETS UP DERRY SEMI-FINAL

**KILDARE
WICKLOW**

**4-19
3-18**

By Ian Baker

JACK Sheridan's 2-5 after being introduced when Wicklow momentum threatened to over-run Kildare booked Kildare's top spot in their Christy Ring group in Aughrim on Saturday.

Despite conceding 1-3 by the seventh-minute, Kildare eventually led at half-time after two Martin Fitzgerald goals and Sheridan's 36th minute goal gave them a 3-9 - 1-8 lead.

As Kildare's main threat to winning the Christy Ring Championship, Ronan Keddy's second goal ignited Wicklow to close the margin to 2-13 - 3-12 fifteen minutes into the second-half.

With Wicklow's fluency threatened to overwhelm Kildare, Sheridan's second goal fifteen minutes from time re-established Kildare's six-point lead.

Yet, despite two full-stretch Padraig McKenna saves, a late Enda



Bernard Deay on the attack for Kildare

Photo: Sean Brilly

Donohue goal among three points just left one-goal separating the sides in the 67th minute.

But, capping two fine performances, late Shane Ryan and Sheridan points recorded Kildare's third win in the Championship

group stages.

Even though Kildare and Wicklow were already in Christy Ring semi-finals before the match, this win puts Kildare top of their group. As per other results, Kildare will play Derry in their

semi-final, while Wicklow will play London.

Even though manager, Joe Quaid, was unavailable for comment after the game due to rushing away for personal reasons, knowing the nature of the Limerick native, while he will be ecstatic being the only unbeaten team in the Christy Ring, he will be concerned with Kildare's opening to the two halves.

Conceding 1-3 by the seventh-minute of the first-half and 1-2 in the opening four minutes of the second-half handed Wicklow the initiative. Kildare particularly struggled in the first-half, needing McKenna to deny Christy Moore-

house from a penalty in the third minute.

Full-back, John Doran, had his hands full with Andy O'Brien in full-forward, and even though the penalty wasn't Doran at fault, out the field Kildare were slow to limit O'Brien's potency. Keddy's sixth-minute goal came about simply because the midfielder went for an unmarked run.

Keddy's second goal at the beginning of the second-half was as much about Wicklow's desire to reduce the seven-point half-time deficit as Kildare had one eye on an easier than expected win.

Enda Donohue's goal in the middle of Wicklow's late purple patch

REACTION

Burke returns as Kildare hurlers finally have strength in depth

By Ian Baker

DESPITE Kildare hurling manager, Joe Quaid, consistently complaining about the panels in his first two years, this year's panel has evolved to provide strength in depth.

Even after the Mayo game, Quaid invariably reached for his overused trope, and still does when needed, lamenting the lack of depth he has in Kildare.

Saturday's performance against Wicklow, where Kildare started making changes from as early as the latter stages of the first-half, showed the depth that Kildare can finally introduce from the sideline.

Even though Kildare and Wicklow were already in Christy Ring semi-finals before the match, Kildare's win puts them top of their group and into a semi-final against Derry (9 June), who came second in their group to London.

Now with capable players to bring in when needed, like when appetites or abilities wane, Quaid made four substitutions that effectively ensured Kildare would have the easier of the semi-final fixtures.

Full-back, John Doran, explained after the game that Kildare have finally found some-

thing illusive missing from panels.

"Strength in depth is the thing we haven't had over the last number of years. It's great to have that arsenal and impact off the bench," said the Kildare captain.

The heavily-strapped Jack Sheridan scored 2-5 after his late first-half introduction, spoke after the game about how he "was disappointed not to start".

Any suggestion that the strapping on his knee was the reason, Sheridan shrugged, saying, "I was available to start."

Scoring his first goal three minutes after his introduction, Sheridan's irregular starts this year mean that the maestro with an eye for a point from a sideline cut was one of four players introduced recovering from injuries and illness.

Bernard Deay replaced Niall O'Muineacháin, who has become the latest in a litany of players to struggle in midfield.

Kildare are having trouble pairing people in midfield this year, and anybody positioned there is liable to find themselves elsewhere or on the line very shortly.

The most heartening introduction last Saturday was that of James Burke. Beginning the season in a whirlwind of potential,

the Naas man fell ill to a serious bout of meningitis.

Despite scoring two points, the large Naas contingent were clearly delighted by his return. After game, Burke said:

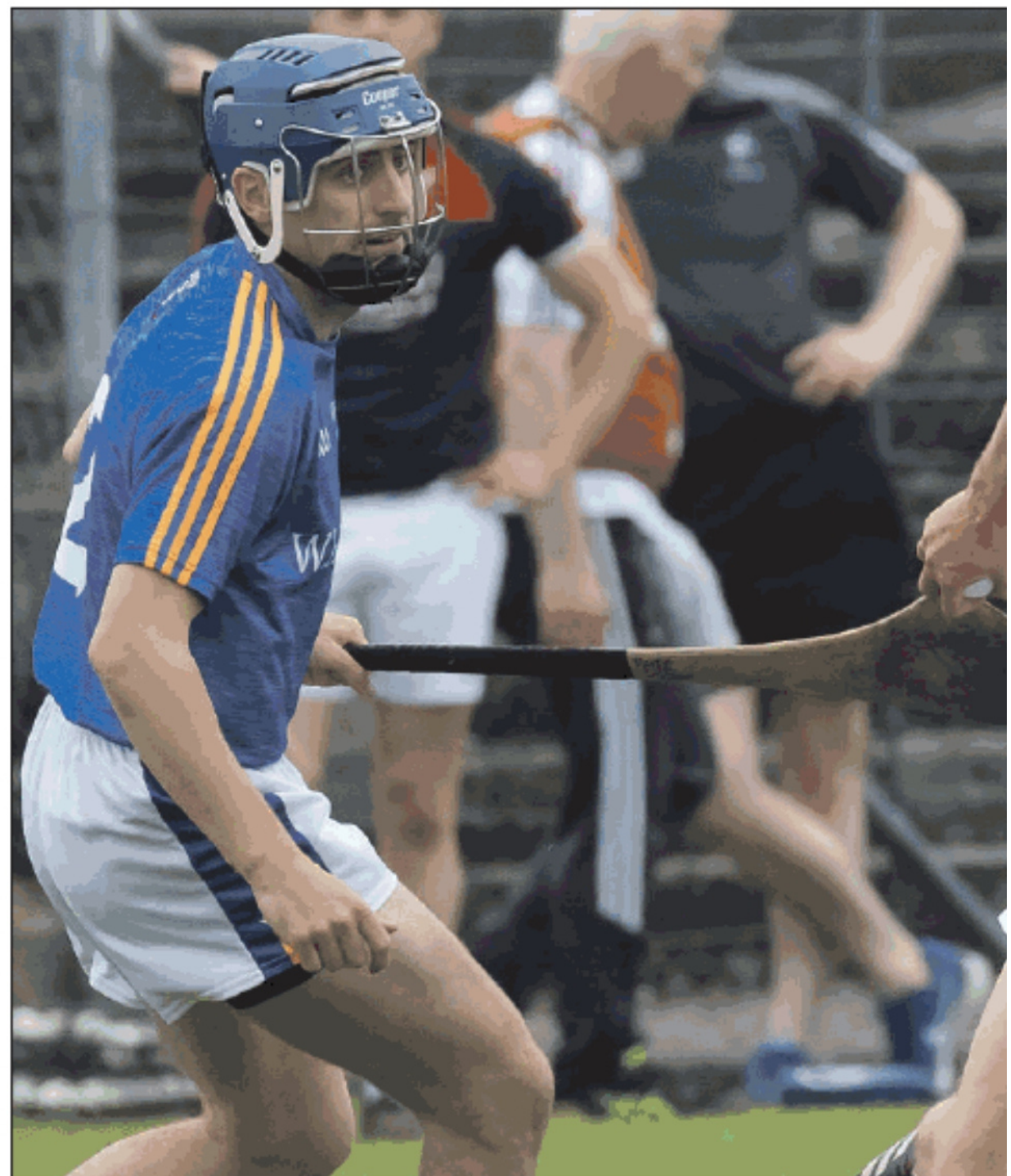
"I took on board everything the doctors told me. I was minding myself until I knew I was right and once I got the all clear, I was just dying to go back training and show that I can be out there."

Having lost an amount of weight and feeling tired due to a lack of stamina, training was initially hard over the last number of weeks as Quaid has attempted to re-habilitate Burke slowly into his plans.

"I just knew that I wasn't going to put myself out on the pitch if I wasn't right.

The team obviously comes first but I felt that I could do a job, and so did the management team and the players," said Burke.

Mark Delaney also increased his chances of featuring in Kildare's semi-final against Derry. Replacing Kevin Whelan who put in a powerfully athletic performance, Delaney is the final player in a list of Mick Purcell and Paul Dermody who Maor Foirne, Peter Beirne, said after the game that "all are expected to have a full bill of health the next day."



Kevin Whelan breaks away from the Wicklow defence

Photo: Sean Brilly

arose from the direct Kildare defending as a player missed a basic pick-up. Only for McKenna's usual brand of unabashed heroics, Kildare would be playing London instead of Derry.

Kildare do have several reasons to be hugely excited ahead of their semi-final. Despite needing the introduction of Sheridan and Bernard Deay near the end of the first-half, that the two players have shaken-off injuries to perform adds strength to Quaid's bench.

Sheridan finished the game with a man of the match winning 2-5; meaning that he'll surely start the semi-final, while Mark Delaney has also added much needed recuperation time on the field.

The most exciting prospect for Quaid ahead of this weekend's fixture is the half hour that James Burke played.

Returning from a lengthy illness with meningitis, Burke, who began the season with some much promise, returned to score two points.

Though he's unlikely to start this weekend as he's understood to be regaining his stamina, he's inclusion from the bench like last Saturday can only be another arrow in Quaid's quiver.

Probably most important for Kildare is the manner they fought off Wicklow in the closing stages.

The victory wasn't necessary to proceed into the semi-final. But, as they're the only team to

win all three group stage matches, Kildare are now the favourites to win the Christy Ring Championship.

Teams and Scorers

Kildare – J Sheridan 2-5; M Fitzgerald 2-1; B Cormack (3fs) and S Ryan 0-3 each; J Burke (f) and B Byrne 0-2 each; C Bonus, P Divilly and K Whelan 0-1 each.

Wicklow – A O'Brien 0-7 (5fs); R Keddy 2-0; PJ Nolan 0-5; E Donohue 1-1; P Keane, G Byrne, P Doyle, G O'Brien and M Lee 0-1 each.

KILDARE: Paddy McKenna; Cian Forde, John Doran, Paul Sullivan; Éanna O'Neill, Mark Moloney, Mark Grace; Niall O'Muineacháin, Barry Cormack; Brian Byrne, Paul Divilly, Kevin Whelan; Shane Ryan, Martin Fitzgerald, Chris Bonus. Subs: Bernard Deay for O'Muineacháin, 27; Jack Sheridan for Bonus, 33; James Burke for Cormack, 42; Mark Delaney for Whelan, 60; Dylan Brereton for O'Neill, 70+3.

WICKLOW: Robert Fitzgerald; Emmet Byrne, Stephen Kelly, Martin O'Brien; Garry Byrne, Eamonn Kearns, Billy Cuddihy; Ronan Keddy, Eamonn Kearns; PJ Nolan, Anthony Byrne Christy Moorehouse; Michael Lee, Andy O'Brien, Eoin McCormack. Subs: Christy Moorehouse Jnr for M O'Brien (53mins); Enda Donohoe for A Byrne (55); George O'Brien for Lee (61); Jamie Byrne A O'Brien (63).

REFEREE: Thomas Walsh (Waterford).



James Burke made his return to the Kildare team after a serious illness

Photo: Sean Brilly



Paul Divilly in possession for Kildare

Photo: Sean Brilly

GAME AT A GLANCE BY IAN BAKER

MAN OF THE MATCH: Jack Sheridan (Kildare)

Disappointed not to start and introduced with three minutes remaining in the first-half, Sheridan scored his first goal three minutes after his introduction.

Finishing the game with 2-5, Sheridan's second goal, scored in the 55th minute, underpinned his abilities. After having a similar impact in the Mayo win, Quaid can hardly overlook Sheridan for the Derry game.

TURNING POINT:

Needing McKenna to save a third-minute penalty after conceding 1-3 by the seventh-min-

ute without reply, Kildare looked in serious trouble in Aughrim until Martin Fitzgerald found the net in the eight-minute.

Also, when Wicklow reduced the margin to three points in the 70th minute, Shane Ryan's point from distance gave Kildare breathing space when Wicklow's momentum threatened to overwhelm.

SCORE OF THE GAME:

When Wicklow had just closed the margin to two-points, before PJ Nolan struck the outside of McKenna's post, Sheridan's second point of the second-half, racing away down the stand side

was as sublime as much as it showed a player desperately attempting to catch the eye on his manager.

TALKING POINT:

With midfielders, Niall O'Muineacháin and Barry Cormack, substituted earlier than one might have imagined in Aughrim, Kildare woes continue in midfield as Quaid has yet to find or settle on a partnership.

As the defenders looked settled and competition keeps the forwards on their toes, a week out from a Championship semi-final will not be enough time to establish a credible midfield pairing.



Credit: Kildare Nationalist

Christy Ring Cup - Round 2A Result

Down 1-13 Derry 0-13

Today's game is available to stream live on Kildare GAA Facebook & Twitter pages



PADDY MCKENNA
Claonadh



CATHAL DERIVAN
Léim an Bhradáin



JOHN DORAN
Léim an Bhradáin



SIMON LEACY
Nás na Ríogh



NIALL O'MUINEACHAIN
Cill Droichid



RIAN BORAN
Nás na Ríogh



JACK TRAVERS
Léim an Bhradáin



KEVIN WHELAN
Nás na Ríogh



PAUL DIVILLY
Confaí



JAMES BURKE
Nás na Ríogh



JACK SHERIDAN
Nás na Ríogh



CONOR DOWLING
Nás na Ríogh



BRIAN BYRNE
Nás na Ríogh



CATHAL DOWLING
Nás na Ríogh



DAVID SLATTERY
Confaí

FIR IONAIÐ

16. Mark Doyle, Claonadh
17. Sean Christansen, Claonadh
18. Cian Shanahan, Claonadh
19. Drew Costello, Ard Cloc
20. Muiris Curtin, Achadh Mhordha
21. Sean Whelan, Ard Cloc
22. Kevin Aherne, Nás na Ríogh
23. Shane Ryan, Nás na Ríogh
24. Tadhg Forde, Maigh Nuad
25. Liam Dempsey, Éire Óg Corra Choill
26. Jamie Connolly, Cill Droichid

BAINISTEOIR

David Herity

ROGHNÓIRÍ

Declan O'Toole
Ronan Mc Williams
Paul Dermody

CILL MHANTÁIN



CONOR McNALLY
Emmet Bhré



PETER KEANE
Éire Óg-Clocha Liath



BILLY CUDDIHY
Éire Óg-Clocha Liath



MARTIN O'BRIEN
Áth na gCurrach



GARY BYRNE
Gleann Fhaidhle



JOHN HENDERSON
Emmet Bhré



EOGHAN BYRNE
Tigh na hÉille



EAMONN KEARNS
Abhainn Dala



LUKE MALONEY
Emmet Bhré



DANIEL STAUNTON
Gleann Fhaidhle



STEPHEN KELLY
Éire Óg-Clocha Liath



EOIN McCORMACK
Emmet Bhré



MICHAEL LEE
An Teampaill Uachtarach



CHRISTY MOOREHOUSE
Emmet Bhré



MICHAEL BOLAND
Emmet Bhré

FIR IONAIÐ

16. Robert Fitzgerald, Áth na gCurrach
17. Sean Maloney, Emmet Bhré
18. Gary Hughes, Gleann Fhaidhle
19. Warren Kavanagh, Gleann Fhaidhle
20. Mick Mangan, Áth na Sráide Gráinseach Choinn
21. James Cranley, Éire Óg-Clocha Liath
22. David Maloney, Emmet Bhré
23. Jack Doyle, Emmet Carn an Bhua
24. Gavin Weir, Gleann Fhaidhle
25. Mark Murphy, Áth na Sráide Gráinseach Choinn
26. Luke Evans, Chill Chomhghaill

BAINISTEOIR

Eamonn Scallan

ROGHNÓIRÍ

Tom Darcy
John Keogh



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