



U12s - 30 January 2010, Muskerry vs Charleville

The visit of Charleville was our first game since early December and we had an enthusiastic panel of 24 players to select from. Unfortunately the visitors had only 15 players and thus we could not play two separate games. Following a rigorous warm up we selected two teams with each team to play one half against the opposition.

Encounters between these two sides in recent years have been keenly fought affairs and our boys were determined the North Cork men would not get a win on this occasion. Kevin reluctantly agreed to referee but quickly settled into the role and kept a firm grip on proceedings. In the first half we showed some rustiness but still took the game into their half of the pitch. Martin O'Reilly was a prominent figure in the loose play with good support from Barry Fitzpatrick and Brian Murphy. The pressure began to tell on Charleville and Luke Horgan finished off a fine break to record our first try.

Charleville rallied and scored a good try aided by some poor defence on our part. We then applied more pressure with John Sheehan, Ciaran O'Connor and Sean Cahill always looking to prise open the Charleville defence while there was always support from the versatile Alec Roche.

In the second half we replaced our entire team and the strength of our panel was shown as we kept Charleville under constant pressure. A notable feature was the competitive debuts of new signings Sean Creedon and Patrick Healy and both of the new 'caps' had fine first outings.

Charleville began to wilt as the Muskerry pack, under captain Gordon Desmond imposed themselves to good effect. A highlight of the half was a fine try by second row Cormac Dennehy who showed great strength to break through the Charleville line and touch down in the corner. In the backs both Joe Harrington and Michael O'Connell were a constant threat while Dave Óg Coleman's pacy runs caused problems for Charleville's defence. The visitors were on the back foot for the rest of the half and had begun to tire when Kevin blew the final whistle.

Overall a great turnout, a good win for Muskerry and we look forward to the visit of Fermoy on February 6th. Thanks to our visitors, all of the parents who cheered the lads on, and to Kevin for doing a great job as referee.

Muskerry: First half: Barry Fitzpatrick, Martin O'Reilly, Brian Murphy, Ian Flannery, Luke Horgan, Cian Riordan, Odhran Heelan, Ciaran O'Connor, Sean Cahill, Jack Harrington, John Sheehan, Alec Roche

Muskerry: Second half: Adam O'Connell, Cormac Dennehy, Gordon Desmond, Liam Weafer, Craig Bennett, Ryan Hegarty, Sean Creedon, Michael O'Connell, Joe Harrington, Dave Óg Coleman, Patrick Healy, Matthew Hayes