



U12s - 7th November 2009

It was meant to be 'Super Saturday' with the visit of 4 teams for a blitz but it became 'Soaked Saturday' as only two teams Dolphin and Dunmanway made the journey and the elements tested all concerned. However a drop of rain and a bit of wind never bothered the Muskerry Under 12's (or their parents!) and sixteen of our squad were present. With the addition of some of the Under 11's we made up two teams and each team played Dolphin.

Game 1

Howard Grice volunteered to referee this game and it was an evenly balanced affair for much of the time. In the forwards Ian Flannery and Martin O'Reilly were prominent while Liam Weafer playing for the first time at scrum-half did a good job of getting possession to his back-line. In the backs Adam O'Connell was always dangerous in possession while Matt Hayes's strong running nearly took him over the Dolphin line on a few occasions. The lads stuck to the basics by pressuring Dolphin and tackling strongly however neither team could secure a score. As the game progressed it looked like a draw was on the cards. Some dodgy refereeing decisions (!) meant our lads had their backs to the wall as the half progressed but they stuck to their task and were rewarded with the winning try late in the game.

Game 2

In this game Muskerry were playing into the wind and up the hill in the first half and struggled to contain a big Dolphin side. We lost Ciarán O'Connor through injury early in game and he was replaced by the pacy Dave Og Coleman. We conceded a few soft tries to leave us with a tough task for the second period. Kevin delivered a no nonsense talk at the break and this seemed to bring some improvement. Odhran Heelan worked well in the difficult conditions to try and get his back-line going where the speedy John Sheehan and Jack Harrington were always a threat to Dolphin. Eventually the pressure paid off and hooker Colm O'Sullivan picked up a loose ball near the Dolphin line and crashed past their defence for a fine try. Minutes later a long kick was followed up and Craig Bennet pounced for the score. Despite some mutterings from the Dolphin players, the television match officials (Brian Hayes, Paul O'Connell, and Tom Weafer) confirmed that the ball was grounded. With time running out we could not get any more scores and Dolphin were winners.

Our game against Dunmanway was not played due to the deteriorating weather and an injury to one of Dunmanway players.