

Ballyboden St. Endas GAA Camogie and Ladies Football Club CLG Baile Buadáin Naomh Eanna



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Goals do the job for Crokes in AHL1



Kilmacud Crokes 3 16 BBSE 0 20 (The Bishop Reports)

A couple of 'quick-fire' goals midway through the second half decided this Round 3 league contest at a sunny Sancta Maria on Saturday at tea-time. A decent enough crowd braved the April UV test to witness a sporting contest which brought together two of the most notable challengers to the Dublin championship title-holders currently residing in Dalkey. Indeed Cuala did send a few 'scouts' to check out the opposition, in advance of the opening ties in a few weeks time. Ballyboden were hoping for a confidence boosting performance, in advance of meeting the champions in Round one at the end of the month.

The Boden starting fifteen was notable for its absentees, as Niall McMorrow, David Curtin and Conal Keaney were not listed, for various reasons (Keaney was a second-half introduction). That said it was the Crokes who felt the greater heat in the opening half and quickly ran into deficit to the more fluent home forward-line. Paul Ryan was unerring from frees and was well supported by his cousin Niall, who ran onto a breaking ball and pointed

from about thirty. Crokes had their own marksmen in Sean McGrath and Oisin O'Rorke, with the strong running of the former the main 'play' of the Stillorgan men.

In all Boden bagged a creditable tally of thirteen points in the opening half, the pick of them from Stephen O'Connor, an angled effort off his left, after Paul Doherty did the hard grafting. James Roche was also on the scoresheet with a fine point, after good interplay on the forty. Boden's, Simon Lambert was closely watched on the half-forward line, but he did contribute a great point on the twentieth minute. The home side's half backs Shane Durkin and Conor Robinson were also on the scoresheet with fine efforts from distance. Crokes kept themselves in the contest with a goaled free from the twenty, and a series of pointed frees from O'Rorke. All-in-all, the half was shared, with Boden finishing the better.

A more determined Crokes entered the fray for the second half and quickly began to win the fifty-fifties. Boden's Aiden Mellett, playing at the point of the attack, bagged a fine point after good interplay on the twenty. James Roche was quickest to react to a breaker, but was subjected to a 'black-card' type tackle - the result, another pointed free from Ryan. Dean Curran upped the Boden tally with a monster point from out the country. At the other end the Boden defence conceded some frees and O'Rorke stepped up with the points. Mid-way through the half the contest was decided by the goals, both of them of the poached variety. But as is said, it matters not how they are scored. Thereafter Boden kept chasing the game but Crokes bolstered their defence by playing additional defenders. The last five minutes was all for the home side but the damage was done and Paul Carley and his management team will now have to conjure up a game plan for the eagerly awaited championship contest with Cuala.

Boden; G. Maguire, K.Wigglesworth, S.Hiney, M.Travers, S.Durkin, D.Curran, C.Robinson, F.McGarry, S. O'Connor, S.Lambert, P.Ryan, N.Ryan, A.Mellett, J.Roche, P.Doherty, C.Keaney, R.Leddy.



BBSE 2-19 St. Brigids 2-8

On Saturday April 8 on a warm, sunny, evening in Ballycullen, Ballyboden Senior B hurlers had a well-deserved win in front of an enthusiastic home crowd.

Excellent examples of good back play were on display, under the watchful eye and supervision of goal-keeper Keith Robertson. In the second quarter, after a nervy start, they got control of their opponents. They were out in front of their men and their quick distribution set up many attacks. The half back line led by Naoise Maguire and supported by Liam McCarthy and Jamie Desmond held the first line of defence and, with intelligent delivery into the hard working forwards, set up many a score. A lot of extra fitness training must have been put in because the fitness levels of many players, especially Eoin McKenna and Fionn Maguire at mid-field were superior. If they didn't secure primary possession they hassled, hooked and blocked many a St Brigid's attack.

The forwards were quick off the mark with a well-taken goal from a close-in free by centre-forward Austen Lynch but this was quickly cancelled by Stephen Moore and Ciaran O'Sullivan of St. Brigids with a goal and a point from play. From then on, however, Boden showed their superiority and by half-time lead by 4 points (1-9/1-5).

In the second half, St Brigids again started quickly with two points from play but Boden responded with 8 points (6 by Lynch, 1 by O'Neill and 1 by Ryan) without reply, leaving Boden ahead by 10 points (1-17/1-7) with 10 minutes remaining. In the run-down, Boden scored 1-2 to St Brigids 1-1 leaving the final score 2-19 to 2-8. Report by Denis Kelleher.

Team: Keith Robinson; Cathal Bergin, Mike Clifford, Owen Small; Liam McCarthy, Naoise McGuire, Jamie Desmond; Fionn McGuire, Eoin McKenna; Eoin O'Neill, Austen Lynch, Tom Hanifin; Morgan Ryan, Donal Butler, Aaron Coffey. Subs: Cian Mellet (for Liam Mc Carthy), Adam Jermyn (for Jamie Desmond). Jonathon O'Driscoll (for Donal Butler), Niall Keegan (for Cathal Bergin), Fergal Murray (for Aaron Coffey).

Upcoming Fixtures

- Leinster Senior League Division 1 S/F BBSE V Buffers Alley in Avondale on Tuesday (11th April) at 8.00pm
- Leinster Senior League Division 4 S/F BBSE V Turin (Westmeath) in Sancta Maria on Saturday, April 22nd at 3.00pm

Beannachtaí na Cásca oraibh go léir

Senior Ladies off to a great start in the League

The Senior Ladies had a great start to the 2017 League campaign with a 12 point win over St Brigids in Russell Park last Wednesday.

Against a strong wind, an energetic start saw St. Brigid's take a two point lead within 3 minutes. Ballyboden started their scoring a minute later when Emily Flanagan hit the back of the net after some good set-up work from Maria McGrath. Maria started her scoring a minute later, this time set up by Katie Murphy. As the first quarter ended, Ballyboden started to find their rhythm and a goal from Katie Murphy and further scores from McGrath and Sinead

Burke amongst others saw Boden finish the half leading 2-8 to 0-4.

Boden carried their momentum into the second half, scoring in the second and third minutes to extend their lead. Scores from Mairéad Luttrell and Deirdre Lawless and a final converted free from Maria McGrath secured the win for Ballyboden with a final score of 2-13 to 0-7.

The Senior As next outing is in the league next Wednesday, 12th April against Leinster Champions Foxrock Cabinteely. Throw in is at 7pm in Kilboggett Park.

U16 Ladies Football C2 Team complete League with a 5-6 to 1-6 win over Clontarf C

With some Boden girls missing, both sides fielded a reduced team of 13 girls last Sunday where Boden had the home advantage. The BBSE C2 team effectively managed the reduced team size on the Cherryfield pitch to give a solid first half display. Sarah Reynolds between the sticks saved well throughout and successfully directed play with long and accurate kick outs against a strong wind. Reva and Orla in the back line gave a confident defensive display to keep the opposition's forwards at bay. They were ably supported in the half back line by Ella, Rebecca and Eva, with the girls providing a solid defensive support while also creating good go forward ball. Rena and Aoife at midfield covered huge ground both defensively and in creating good attacking runs.

A close fought game saw honours even for most of the first half until shortly before the end when a well worked team goal meant our girls went in at half time leading 1-3 to 0-3.

The second half started much the same as the first with the teams trading points. In the final quarter Ballyboden started to take control of the game. Sarah Brehony, Ciara and Aisling at half forward dominated, keeping the ball in the opposition's half. Emma and Hannah in the forward line successfully cut through Clontarf's defence. A goal blitz created by some very skillful football by all the team, saw the girls finish on a winning score of 5-6 to 1-6. Well done girls.

Ladies Football U13A Friendly Vs. Maynooth U14



On Saturday our U13A's took advantage of a fixture cancellation to travel outside the county to take on Maynooth. The early start didn't suit some of our revellers from the previous night's disco but in fairness they all made it out for the 10:15 start.

We knew we were going to be in for a tough day when we saw the big pitch and sweltering conditions (well the temperature definitely hit the mid-teens!) and these fears were confirmed when we saw the standard of the opposition. The Maynooth girls started off quickly running at our defence with great skill and picking off great quality scores. Eventually our girls registered a point and started to slowly make some impression into the score line. They turned around at half time only 4 points behind.

In the 2nd half, with the benefit of a strong squad, our girls started to get the upper hand and were level by the mid-half water break (I told you it was hot!!)

In the final quarter, our girls pulled a few scores ahead and ended up victorious after a great match. The local referee, Peter Farrell, gave particular praise to the assembled group of both teams, praising both teams for their skills and fair play.

All in all, it was a great day out for the team. They now have a break from matches until the end of April and after that they will have 4 matches in 5 weeks with a little bit of Camogie thrown in between.

U16 A Camogie claim impressive win over Crokes



Kilmacud Crokes 1 - 5 BBSE 2 - 9

On Saturday our U-16A's took on Crokes in Silver Park, in conditions that would have done justice to mid-Summer.

Aisling Byrne opened the scoring after 5 minutes, but immediately any thoughts that Crokes would lie down easily were quickly banished as they swept up the field and shook Ally's net. Hollyn then responded with a good point, but their goalie was starring with a string of top class saves.

Finally she was beaten by a long range free from Katie that somehow ended in her net. Crokes then pulled a point back before Lucy restored our two point lead. Katie stretched it to three with a free, and then Aisling pushed the lead out to four. Crokes kept in touch with a point, before Katie landed another free and Erica closed the scoring in the first half with a point from out on the right.

Half Time 1-7 to 1-2

Hollyn opened the scoring in the second half with a point that was soon cancelled by a pointed free from Crokes. Hollyn was proving a real handful for the Crokes defence and soon put some daylight between the teams with a brilliant goal from a narrow angle. The pattern continued to the finish, with a Crokes point being followed by a point from Hollyn, before Crokes closed out the scoring with a pointed free.

Final Score 2-9 to 1-5

It was a game where all the girls rose to the stern challenge presented by Crokes, and showed tremendous character, with the defence resisting in the face of serious pressure, and the attack keeping the scoreboard ticking over and responding to each Crokes score with a score of our own

Next up is a home game against Castleknock, when another stiff challenge can be expected.

Narrow win for U13 A Camogie vs Crokes

BBSE 4-03 Crokes 4-02

This meeting of the South Dublin rivals took place in Cherryfield early on Sunday morning. Without having played together for a few weeks our girls started off a little sluggish and were a goal behind after 5 minutes. However the girls woke up a little and Clodagh settled things down with a pointed free. Our girls took control for the next 10 minutes with good pressure resulting in goals from Shauna and Hannah and then a decent move resulted in another point from Shauna which was soon followed by a goal for Sarah.

At this point, it looked good for Boden to build on this lead but a goal and a point from Crokes brought the half time deficit back to 4 points.

The second half began well for our girls with a number of attacks. However there was only a 1 point return from these attacks with a number of wides, saves and blocks.

Gradually Crokes came into the game with some great players on show. Their pressure told with a goal and a point bringing the deficit back to just 1 point. As the Boden team defended gamely, they were finally breached by a 4th goal putting Kilmacud in the lead.

To the credit of our girls, they kept going and one last break up the pitch fell to Kate who ran straight through on goal and buried the ball in the net to give our girls a single point victory. In truth, the result could have gone either way but our girls were happy to take the victory albeit with plenty of practise required before the next match at the end of April. So don't let them bury those hurls in the shed over the Easter holidays!!

U10 Camogie Girls Shine in Sancta Maria on Saturday



Scorchio! The April sun was doing its thing on Saturday afternoon as the 07 Girls took to the field against the girls from Castleknock who had travelled for the occasion.

Adjusting well to unusual conditions – warm sunshine! not freezing cold!! – the Boden girls took to their task with relish. All the skills of camogie were on display here, as this spirited group of girls were on the front foot from the off, and never once slowed the pace despite the very warm weather, so warm that coaches ensured that plenty of water was taken on board every half time and between every game.

The skills matched the weather: ground striking, striking on the run, and most encouragingly, rising, carrying, striking from the hand, and great puckouts were all there in abundance. So too was the teamwork and comradeship these girls have shown from the beginning - every ball was contested, every player worked hard for one another, and no Castleknock player was given any space. A super display all round - it is obvious to their coaches that the girls are taking on board all the skills they are learning at training every week and practising at home, because it shows on the field on days like this.

Well done to all the girls, a great show of camogie.

Féile Peil na nÓg 2017





Ballyboden St.Enda's, Feile 2017 U-14 Boys Football & Hurling



Hard Luck to our 'B' and 'C' Teams falling in Féile Peil na nÓg Division 4 and Division 10 Semi Finals. Hard luck also to our 'A's who missed out narrowly on a place in the Division 1 Semi Final in the morning. Well done to all the boys who played with great heart and spirit. They are a credit to themselves, their parents and mentors, and their club. We salute you. Many thanks to the mentors and parents who prepared the boys so well, the Feile Fundraising committee and to the many supporters who travelled to be with them on the day. Boden Abu!

Division Ten Feile Peil Round Up



We assembled at General HQ on the Firhouse Rd @ 8.55am under the guidance of our genial Commander Keogh, Cliona took a few photos of the lads and they all looked grand in their new tracksuits ...a few of the mothers were also nicely tipped up for the day. We were dispatched to Beann Eadair - in convoy - as some of our brethren weren't too familiar with the northside. It was a glorious location ..high up on the hill of Howth... Irelands eye was looking up at us.

Our mentors Eoin & Stephen (2 gifted musicians) and Graham (some class of an engineer) had the lads well primed for the day ahead.

Our first match was against our hosts ...and what a start ...Setanta and Neil K tapped over 2 points within minutes of the throw in and we were on our way. Goalie Ben O' R and full back line Tom D, Ben O' M and Aaron were solid as they were all day. Ryan R (2) and Daniel C (2) and Neil K (1-2) added more scores and it was 1-7/0-0 at half-time. Our mentors mindful of the long day ahead introduced Conor B, Thomas N and Darragh at half time and the scores kept piling up, next on were Marcus, birthday boy Ben McG, Brian C, Elliot and the 2 Scott's – at some stage or another all 24 panel members were on the pitch and every one made a worthwhile contribution.the football was only beautiful – tight at the back, well worked up through the middle by Matthew, Harry H, Luke and captain Harry D and finished off in style by Niall McC, Ryan R, Ruaidhri, Adam and Thomas N along with Neil K and Setanta. At the final whistle the score was 4-11 to 2-0 in favour of Ballyboden.

Cliona Mback at General HQ was demanding 'up-to-the-minute' match reports, via twitter, linkedIn, facebook etc. This reporter sent his one and only report back (old style) strapped to his pet carrier pigeon (Percy). Unfortunately Percy never made base ...we presume that as he was taken 'out of it' by a young fellow with a pellet gun in Ringsend or else got 'the glad eye' from a cooing hen on his rendezvous around Pigeon House and decided to do a sleep over!

The lads had a good break between matches and maybe loaded up on too many calories of sweet cake and lemonade...but they were there to be eaten and what else could you do?

St Monica's were our opponents in the 2nd match and they got off to a flying start which we never recovered from. In addition we picked up a few injuries particularly our goalie Ben O'R and overall we never really got into our rhythm. We fought back well in the 2nd half scoring 1-4 but they got 2 late goals and won comfortably in the end.

Nevertheless we qualified for the semi's due to our superior scoring difference and that was confirmed by the co-ordinator and our own 'bag-man' Jack N. So we were heading for St Anne's in Raheny – our opponents = St Jude's.

We ate more sandwiches and sweet cake – thanked our hosts – took the scenic route up around the summit – onto the coast road – destination = Pitch 10.

This match had it all and moreJude's were very strong down the centre and started well, scoring 1-2 in the 1st 10 mins. Our Captain Harry D scored our opening point following by a brace of goals from Setanta and it was a titanic battle all the way to half time, Jude's leading 2-5/2-3.

Our mentors moved Matthew BD onto their roving no 9 and he quietened him. Boden really came onto the game and there was great excitement on the line. Points from Scott O'S (1), Harry D (1), Niall K (1) and Ryan R (1) had Boden leading by 2 pointsand then the drama unfolded where Jude's were awarded a goal in very dubious circumstances! After a long delay debating the issue 'the score' was allowed stand.

At that stage the Boden lads really showed their worth and battled back to score a late equalising point to send the game into extra time (5 mins per half).

In fairness to both teams they gave it everything...really heart thumping stuff....Jude's scored 1st and Boden replied, another 2 points were shared and then Jude's scored another to lead by a point with time running out, Elliot went for a glory goal when a point was on (as any 14 year old should do) and then Setanta was pulled down heading for goal and we were expecting a penalty or at worst a free in...but No - the referee was blowing for full time ...and loads more drama...... a tragedy not a comedy!!!

Best to say the referee was young and inexperienced and entitled to make a mistake or two....

The bottom line – the game is all about a crowd of young fellows/girls chasing around a field after a re-engineered pigs bladder*...and enjoying themselves!

PS We regrouped and headed back to the clubhouse....Mr Suds bought 5 x 24" pizzas, they were levelled in minutes and the lads were on the 'up again'!

PPS (1) A great thanks to all mentors, parents, club officials, sponsors, supporters, host clubs and not least the players for a truly memorable day!

PPS (2) Finally.... a hope - that all the lads - will still be playing the game together ...many, many years from now!

* in the olden days the inside of a football was ... an inflated pigs bladder!! (science lesson over).

Rock on!

Many thanks to Gavin Duff for the photos. For more photos, see here

Division Four Feile Peil Round Up



On a beautiful sunny Saturday morning, the 8th of April, a day firmly in all the minds of the under 14s, the BBSE B team set out to St Peregrines grounds in Blanchardstown, quietly confident but nervously apprehensive of what might play out over the next 3 hours. Their coaches Martin O'Hare, Paddy Brosnan and Tony Basquel set the lads on their warm up drill and gave them some final words of wisdom and encouragement.

First team down to play were the host team, St. Peregrines, on their main pitch complete with a fantastic seated stand, which was filled with even more nervous parents wondering how this event was going to play out!.

A blow of the ref's whistle and the game begins..Peregrines take the first point, followed by a second. When Peregrines get a goal followed by another point and take a 1-3 to 0-0 lead, heads slip in the stand but not with the lads on the pitch (they have have been taught to believe in themselves!) A great kick out by goalie Ryan Skelly and some smooth passing through midfield, gives Boden a well worked goal followed by a point from their kick out. Boden start to find a rhythm and press home another 2 goals and a point to take a half time lead of 3-3 to 1-3.

At the start of the second half, Boden come out flying with 3 more points - Peregrines fight back with a goal and a point to narrow our lead to 2 but great passing and calmness 1-1 running out winners BBSE 4-7 PEREGRINES 3-6.

Next up Na Dubh Ghall, this was played on a slightly narrower pitch but again our opponents got off to a 1 - 3 to 0-0 lead. Belief in themselves got Boden three top class goals to lead 3 -0 to 1- 3 at half time, despite having 4 wides and a goal disallowed. Second half we saw a BBSE team that were enjoying their football and it showed as they scored another 3 - 3 to 0- 2 to win by 6-3 to 1-5

After a short break Craobh Chiarain were next. This time the lads seem to decide not to start slowly and drove home a 1-4 to 0-0 lead finishing out the first half Leaders 1-5 to 1-1. Things didn't get any better for Craobh Chiarain in the second half as they received two yellows and Boden ran in 3-4 to one point seeing us out a group winners 4-9 to 1 - 2

Now the Semi-Final vs Cuala.

A two hour wait for the semi start time of 4pm was used to have soup and sandwiches, all put on by St Peregrines. Martin, Paddy & Tony kept the lads calm and relaxed.

The crowd began to build - including their lads from BBSE 'A' who travelled from Skerries Harps. After a short drill and warmup to get lads up to speed the game started and boy did they start....greyhounds coming out of their traps would have looked slow compared to BBSE. Four well-worked points from different players and positions saw Boden into a roaring start then followed by 2 more points and three wides .A shell shocked Cuala A team were looking at a 6 point lead for BBSE and no reply. The reply came just before half time Cuala began to find their stride and left the field 0- 6 to 0-3 down.

Boden started the second half with a fabulous point and then increased their lead with a top drawer goal gave us a commanding 1-7 to 0-3 score Cuala narrowed the deficit with 3 points to give a four point difference for BBSE. With injuries, heat and this their fourth match, the exertions began to take its toll on the lads and with only 5 minutes remaining Cuala ran in a goal and a point to level the match. Extra time looked on the cards but a last second dash broke the Boden defensive line to give Cuala a second goal!

Final score BBSE 1-7 Cuala 2-9

One thing that was so obvious and evident throughout the day on the pitch and in every game was the respect our lads have for each other, their coaches, opposition players and every referee on the day. I never heard one dissenting Boden voice on or off the pitch. They all are, without exception, a wonderful bunch of lads who can make every parent stand a bit taller and prouder for what they achieved for themselves & their Club.

It is too difficult to mention every players fantastic contribution. But let me say, if one got injured, they all felt the pain; if one point was scored they all felt the joy!

Team members in no particular order.

Ryan Skelly, Paul Basquel, Tom White, Adam O'Hare, Thomas Culleton, Connell McGlynn, Daniel Lynch, Mathew Ormsby, Michael Hanrahan, Thomas Brosnan, Cian Kelly, Dougie Clarke, Lorcan O'Keefe, Conor Barnes, Niall Moore, Niall O'Donnell, Conor Casey, Luke Bentley, injured Reed Barry and finally away Evan Welsh.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to U13's Barry McGuire, Oisin Murray and Ciarain Kiely who we hope enjoyed the experience and who made a terrific contribution on and off the field.

Many thanks to Garrett Lynch for the photos. For more photos, see here

Post Script: Cuala went on to win Feile Division Four

U-14 Division One Football Feile 2017



Game 1: BBSE V St. Sylvester's

Ballyboden's group fixtures of Feile 2017 were held in the sunny but blustery pitches of Skerries Harps GAA in the north county Dublin coastal town. Following the opening ceremony, the first contest would pit Ballyboden's boys against perennial league rivals St. Sylvesters of Malahide.

Boden went with the breeze in the first half and took full advantage with a lively start and early point from Full forward Jason Dwyer. The lead quickly became seven points after two goals in quick succession from sharp shooter David Keane and four more points followed, the pick of them being a super long range effort from Rhys McDonnell. Boden finished the half as strong as they started and tagged on two further points and a net buster from Cian McMahon that had the scoreline 3-7 to no score at half-time.

With the wind at their backs, Sylvester's came more into the game in the second half but an early goal from Boden's menacing Cian Durkin seemed to settle the affair early. Despite Sylvester's racking up a few points, the Boden defence held firm led by the dominant Alex Gavin who put the shackles on the opposition's best player. Boden goalkeeper Eoin Donne pulled off two excellent saves to deny Sylvesters a way back into the contest, pushing one goal bound effort over the bar and then diving full stretch to tip a low shot around the post to avert the danger. In the end Boden ran out comfortable winners on a scoreline of 4-7 to 0-7

Game 2: BBSE V Skerries Harps

Boden's next outing was against their fancied hosts Skerries Harps and was played on the inferior second pitch adjacent to the clubhouse. Conditions were difficult due to a strong swirling wind which the locals appeared to come to terms with much quicker than their visitors, in a manner that suggested such conditions were not unusual at their coastal HQ.

Skerries started the brighter and quickly raced into the lead and were 1-1 to the good before Boden started to settle into their rhythm. Boden battled bravely and fought their way back into the game and a pointed free from Cian Durkin had cut the deficit to the bare minimum midway through the opening half. Game on !...However, Skerries rallied again and picked off three unanswered points to lead 1-4 to 0-3 at the break.

The second half promised much and Boden's defence were resolute in preventing a rampant Harps side from extending their lead before a solo effort from Cian Costello reduced the deficit to three points. Boden went up a gear after that and launched attack after attack only to be denied by a stubborn Harps defence who literally weathered the storm and ran out eventual winners on a scoreline of 1-9 to 0-6 to secure their place in the semi-finals.

Game 3: BBSE V St. Vincents

The crunch game in the group stage saw Boden face surprise package St. Vincents who had given Skerries Harps a run for their money in their opening fixture and then went on to inflict a surprise defeat on St. Sylvester's and effectively ended their challenge after Round 2.

Boden would take nothing for granted though and set about their task in a clinical and efficient fashion. Five minutes passed before the opening score courtesy of David Keogh to nudge Boden ahead. Cian Mahon added a second score before Vincent's halved the deficit a couple of minutes later to steady their ship...Stormy waters lay ahead for them though as the hard working Jason Dwyer at full forward found the back of the net before David Keogh added his second point to build a lead for Boden who were now starting to flow. All the while, Boden's defence held firm resisting any Vincent's attack with some outstanding performances from David Gannon, Ben Wolfe, Ronan Long and Josh Corcoran and whose efforts were matched in industry and endeavour by Paddy McWalters and Sean Bury who was unlucky not to bag a goal late in the first half. The midfield was under control with Michael McDonald and Rhys McDonnell working hard and Boden's superiority was confirmed when Cian Durkin slotted in another goal after being set up by some good work by Jason Dwyer. This seemed to stir Vincent's however and they hit back with a goal of their own just three minutes later and exchanged points to leave the scoreline at 2-4 to 1-2 at the interval.

The second half promised much with both sides eager to secure their place in the semi-finals...and it didn't disappoint with both teams providing exceptional football and entertaining an ever more engaged crowd as they vied for the spoils. Vincent's firmly threw down the gauntlet with a goal soon after the restart. Both sides then exchanged points before the excellent Boden stopper, Eoin Donne pulled off another spectacular finger tip save. Vincent's eventually brought the scores level at 2-6 each with the end of the game in sight. Just as extra-time loomed large, Vincents edged ahead with two quick points but the Boden spirit was intact and they found a way back to take the lead in the dying moments after a

sensational goal that seemed to seal the deal...However, lady luck was conspicuous by her absence for Ballyboden on this day as St. Vincent's somehow managed to land a sucker punch goal on the final whistle to snatch a win and secure the semi-final berth.

It could have gone the other way so easily and although crestfallen at the end, Ballyboden lads can hold their heads high having represented their clubs and families with such distinction, dignity and pride and outstanding sportsmanship throughout the tournament and each of them are a credit to their coaches and mentors.

Further acknowledgement and thanks must go to the brilliant Under 13 lads who helped bolster the squad for the tournament...Bula Bas Sam Doyle, Leon Kennedy and Oisin Byrne who proved more than capable at this level and displayed great character, endeavour and ability when called into action.

And finally, a special mention to team Captain, Hugh O'Sullivan, who missed participating in Féile as he is recovering from Glandular Fever. Nobody cheered louder or longer from the sidelines...Well done Hugh!

So despite being a tough day for all, it was a mighty effort by the group and they were so unlucky not to push through to the next stage of the competition.

Congratulations to all the boys on a great display on behalf of your club...Your best days lie ahead of you...le Cheile.

Post Script: Skerries Harps went on to win Division One Feile Peil.

For more photos, see <u>here</u>





U16 A Footballers see of Lucan in Championship first round



This was always going to be a close one! Have met on a few occasions over the years, there has never been much between these two teams. A recent league game in Ballycullen saw Boden nab a last minute goal and steal the game in the process.

But Championship is different and the intensity, skill level and abilities shown by both sides were a sight to behold. As one might expect, the game started tensely enough with nerves aplenty and it was Lucan who drew first blood with a point after 5 minutes. oden then got to grips and had a great spell scoring 5 on the trot. This included some great shooting from Malachy Codd and Cillian Wall.

Lucan were to have a subsequent good spell before Boden found the net in the 20th minute. On the day the Gooch retired, our own John 'Gooch' McGuire played a ball through to Enda Cashman of which the Kerry legend would have been proud. Cashman kept his cool to dispense the ball to the net after gliding pass their oncoming keeper.

Sarsfields did clip on a few more points to lead by the minimum at the break.

This Boden team prides itself on its work rate and when shoulders were needed to be put to the wheel, none were found wanting. Pierce Christie and Enda Cashman at midfield were keeping the game going at an unrelenting pace, with Peter Gannon supporting them where needed. Cian Maher and Dean Ralph were the twin engines on the flanks racing up from half back all evening. Up front Malachy Codd was piercing the Lucan defence at will. The coolness of Patrick Molloy was called on to slot a few points from frees also.

Consequently, half way through the second half Boden had pulled in to a three point lead. As one would expect, Lucan kept coming and Boden had to rely on a super full length save from Jake Turley with five left on the clock. Further attacks were thwarted in the dying minutes by the always dependable Joey Donohoe and the ever present man-of-the-match Enda Cashman.

When referee Tommy Clinton finally blew the whistle after 4 minutes of additional time, the relief was immense, only over shadowed by the sense of achievement at coming out at the

right end of a truly incredible game.

Whitehall now await the U16s in the quarter final on April 22nd. The dream lives on.....

Many thanks to Miriam Doyle for the photos. For more photos, see $\underline{\text{here}}$



U9's Hurling Update



The Ballyboden U9 hurlers played really well over the weekend and enjoyed the fab weather in Sancta Maria. Some great ground hurling and point taking was on display by the boys. Well done lads!



Lotto results 09/04/2017



Jackpot Winner!

Paul Donnelly, Painstown Cross, Donadea, Co, Kildare

Match 1st Three

Diarmuid MacMathuna, Glenbrook Park, Rathfarnham Darrelle Dolan, Pine Valley Park, Rathfarnham Carmel Smith, Castleside Drive, Rathfarnham

Next Draw 16/04/17 - Play Now

Another Lucky winner!