



27 September 2010

Sympathy

It is with deep regret we learned of the death of Tom Clarke. The late Tom played with the club in the late forties. To his wife, son, and daughters, brother, sisters and entire family circle we extend our deepest sympathy. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Senior Championship

Our quest to regain our Armagh Senior Championship title remains on course, but only just as we had to survive a great second half rally from St Pat's and we were hanging on for grim death at the final whistle.

Having said that we had at least five great chances to finish off the game. Three of their chances fell to players who were within easy scoring distance but opted out of responsibility and gave the ball to a player who was not as well placed. We had two great chances from placed balls and although the angle was difficult, its opportunities like these you need to score. Conditions were ideal for the game with little or no wind. It was the Cullyhanna boys who made the better start and for the first ten minutes we found it hard to get our hand on the ball. During this period our opponents scored three points from play while we kicked three wides and had only one point to show for our efforts. A couple of switches worked for us as we began to gain more possession and there was more of a pattern to our play and over the next fifteen minutes we scored a goal and four points without reply. After the burst we seemed to ease off and St Pat's worked their way back into the game scoring three points to our four to leave the half time score Rangers 1 – 09, St Pat's 0 – 07. At this stage things were looking good, a five point lead at the interval was as much as we would have hoped for.

We were in for a shock as on the resumption it was St Pat's who grabbed the game by the scruff of the neck and two goals in a row in the space of five minutes put them back in the lead. The fat was really in the fire and for the next five minutes we were under all sorts of pressure. Having weathered the siege, two points from frees put us back in the game. From then until the final whistle it was a pulsating game with play flowing from end to end. We went a point in front three times only for our opponents to peg us back. The final whistle went with each side striving for the final score. Final score Rangers 1 – 14 St Pat's 2 – 11.

I am sure for the neutral this was an exciting game but if you were a supporter of either side, your nerves were really stretched. We can have no complaint about the final outcome as we were largely the author of our own misfortune. The game itself was played in a sporting manner and was a credit to both sides. Great credit must go to the referee Jimmy McKee who while keeping control let the game flow. The

replay is fixed for Saturday next 2nd October in Silverbridge. Throw in is timed for 4.30pm, so get along there and give the boys your support.

Under 12

No joy for the boys when they travelled to Killeavey to take on Clann Eireann in the semi final of the U12 All County League. Somehow it did not happen for them on the day and the Lurgan side ended up convincing winners.

Division 4

At long last we achieved our objective of winning promotion as league champions when at home we defeated St Pat's to take the title. In truth victory was never in doubt as we took control from a very early stage and by half time had built up a substantial lead. On the resumption the game followed a similar pattern and by the final whistle we had built up a substantial lead. There were great scenes of jubilation at the presentation of the trophy. This success is as a result of a lot of hard work put in by the team and great credit must go to Martin and his management team for all the hard work they put in. Well done to all concerned!