

Tangerine News

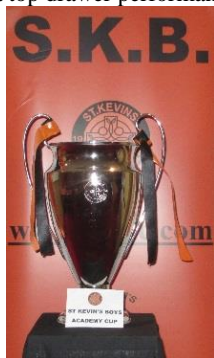
The Newsletter of St.Kevins Boys Club

March 2018

SKB Academy Tournament sees Europe's Top Class Academies Visit Shanowen



In this the tenth year that we have held the Academy Cup we are delighted to announce the participants in this year's tournament. As announced in our February edition of the Tangerine News, West Bromwich Albion will again take part in the competition and they will be joined by the great Barcelona, who return to defend the trophy they have won in the previous two years. Last year they were hard pressed to retain the trophy as our own Under 13s team put in a top drawer performance to take the final to penalties.



This year we welcome three new teams to the tournament as Atlético Madrid of Spain take part along with two clubs from Germany; Borussia Dortmund and Bayer 04 Leverkusen.

Since its inception back in 2009 the St Kevins Boys Academy Cup has grown in stature to become one of the most important tournaments in Europe for Under 13s Academies.

Over the course of the years we have welcomed such well known opposition like Real Madrid, Deportivo La Coruna,

Benfica, Arsenal FC, Celtic FC, RCD Espanyol, Ajax AFC, Olympique Marseilles, KRC Genk, Bronby IF and Olympique Lyon to name a few.

The tournament has become such a prestigious event in the European calendar that in the last number of years we have had to disappoint a number of well-known teams who asked to take part. In fact we have had to turn down requests from teams outside of Europe who wished to be involved.

As the tournament became more well-known and our own teams performances were to such a level that international academies looked to play us we have found ourselves invited to take part in a number of prestigious tournaments throughout Europe that feature all the top named teams from Spain, France, Italy and Germany. In most instances we are the only Irish team asked to compete as all of the big tournaments are invitational and at a very professional standard.

At all of these tournaments our players have represented both St Kevins Boys and Ireland with distinction and in some cases we have even managed to "come home with the bacon" as our Under 15s captured the Ravenna Cup in 2017.

So as we look forward to celebrating our 10th birthday we hope you all keep the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the Easter weekend free so that you can watch some of the best football on offer in Ireland during 2018.

The opening fixture of the 2018 SKB Academy Cup sees our own Under 13s play Bayer 04 Leverkusen at 10.00am in Shanowen on the Friday.

We don't expect our players to be fazed facing such well known opponents as they have been involved in a number of prestigious tournaments in the last few years where they have come face to face with internationally recognised opponents.

In fact in January they took part in the International Carnival Cup in Spain where they played RCD Espanyol, Valencia, Luton Town and a local Spanish team, CF Damm.

So we feel confident that our players will put in performances that will question all the talk about the quality of the Irish footballer!

♪♪ Well the Weather Outside is Frightening ♪♪



Did anyone remember the orange football???

The recent snow storms managed to cancel everything in the Club for a few days. First the news was that all training was postponed and the following day it was announced that both the DDSL and the LSL had postponed all weekend fixtures. Not a good start for Calendar year football this early in the fixtures.

Then the news was announced that the Klotto draw was being postponed and all tickets would be valid for the following week and in the same announcement we learned that the Little Saints fixtures were also a victim of the weather. We are trying to determine if the Klotto was ever postponed previously in all the years it has been run. Anyway it will be all back to normal by the time you read this.



Caffo, is it astros or snow shoes at training tonight?????

SKB AGM Relives the History of a Monumental Year

The St Kevins Boys AGM was held at the end of February in the Clubhouse and as expected we were treated to a roller coast of a yearly report from both Club Secretary, Brendan Bermingham and Director of Football, Ken Donohoe.

Bren was the first to present his report and he started off by saying that 2017 had been a year of differing emotions with everything that had taken place.

It was "Historic" as we won 4 of the 5 SFAI trophies available to the schoolboy section in Ireland. There was "Jubilation" when we were accepted into the preliminary National League, the only schoolboy club to be honoured in this way. This was followed by "Desolation" as the FAI issued a directive to say that for the 2018 National League schoolboy clubs could only take part if they were in partnership with an existing League of Ireland team.

"Frustration" followed as the DDSL and NDSL calendar year football season seemed to be an ever changing being with games changed and cancelled at short notice, break dates shifted and rules amended which tested the endurance of all our managers.

"Dark Clouds" were in attendance as the English FA changed their rules for young players going for trials which we feel will have a negative impact on players developing through to the international set up.

In the end though we had to look at the "Bright Clouds" and there are many. We had record numbers of players wanting to wear the tangerine and black this season as we increased the number of schoolboy teams we host in the Club, furthermore we have 150 players involved in our Little Saints Academy.

We formed a partnership with one of the oldest and most respected LOI clubs in Ireland, Bohemians FC that will see our Under 15s and Under 17s players compete in the National League and remain part of the SKB family.

Bren finished by thanking all those who help him and contribute to St Kevins Boys year on year selflessly.

Pat Daly, Treasurer presented his report and we were again in awe at the level of detail, the openness and the admiration at how every cent that arrives into the Club is spent on ensuring we have the best facilities, equipment, pitches, training facilities etc available to every team involved in the Club.

Finally, Ken Donohoe presented his report which spoke of the great successes our teams had achieved during 2017. Although he was reluctant to single out particular teams he highlighted the remarkable achievement of our Under 14 DDSL Premier team who won the 5 trophies that were available to them during 2017 in the SFAI Goodson Cup, SFAI Regions Cup, DDSL Premier League and Thunder Cup and the DB Sports Champions Cup. He also paid tribute to our Under 12 DDSL Premier team who won 4 of the 5 trophies available to them during the year.

Ken spoke of how well our Under 13s had performed in the SKB Academy Cup and of how we are now invited to participate in a number of prestigious tournaments in Europe as our name becomes synonymous with top quality players and football.

He congratulated the players that have taken the next step in their careers be it in the UK or Ireland and wished them great success.

He spoke of the impact of the Calendar year football with the legendary SKB Summer Leagues being a victim of the changes and also the opportunity that is afforded our teams to train at West Brom in January and he hopes that when the leagues finally settle down that we will be able to reinstate these important features in Club life. He thanked all those that managed, coached, and supported our teams in any way during the season. He spoke of the huge number of people who are involved in the background in the Club and of his appreciation for everything that they do both big and small.

Ken finished off on two points, the first being the abuse that some referees are suffering at games. It is important that we as a Club lead by example and support our officials – remember without them there are no games!

Finally, Ken said he was delighted with our recent alliance with Bohemians. This partnership will be of tremendous benefit to both

famous clubs and will allow us to continue to develop players of the highest quality for years to come.

The elections of Directors to the Board saw Jake Rossiter coming on board and we are delighted to have another home grown player step up to committee level.

The meeting was opened up to the floor and a number of topics were discussed. The most interesting of which was the poor overall state of Irish football at present. Alan Caffrey rightly pointed out that even though we were increasing our numbers other clubs were suffering as players opted to play a different sport, in particular Gaelic, Rugby and MMA. This will have long term repercussions for Irish football all the way up to our Senior International team. He spoke of the lack of Irish players at the top level of the game in the UK and how this will affect our chances of qualifying for major tournaments in years to come.

His answer to the problem was more volunteers giving their time and years of experience to our younger players helping them to enjoy the game and to test themselves and improve their standards.

As a Club with football at the heart of everything we do I can certainly agree with Alan on this so would appeal to all adults connected in any way with St Kevins Boys to get involved.

U15-3 in Rebuilding Mode



Donavon Bentley, Darragh Quinn, Beni Hemedi, Adam Costigan, Ryan Hayden, Samuel Ogbonnaya, Alvares Adjandron, Dean McGrath, Darragh Talbot, Adam Sherry, Jamie Spratt, Ross Dunne, Darren Dixon, Dylan O'Brien

For the last 3 years I have had some great successes with the teams I have managed and coached. I started out looking after the Under 12 NDSL A league side. We won this league handy but couldn't go up as another Saints team was already in the NDSL Premier league.

So instead we went into Sunday DDSL Under 13 Division 2. At the end of the season we were runners up in this league and were promoted to the DDSL Under 14 Division 1 Sunday.

We won this league well with some cracking players that both Bob Sherry and myself had coached for the three years and although I was sorry to lose a number of these players I was delighted to see them selected for the teams above us. It makes our job worthwhile to be able to develop players and push them on to the next level.

However after losing so many of our team we have had to rebuild and start pretty much from scratch apart from a few very loyal and good players that we managed to retain. This year is going to be one tough year as we contest teams in the DDSL Under 15 Major League.

With nine new players on the team none of whom have played for St Kevin Boys previously and a number of them who are stepping up a level it will be a challenge. Bob and myself are quite aware of this and we are giving them the best training we possibly can to bring them up to scratch.

It will take another few weeks before we will be able to hold our own in the league but we are confident we will get them there.

To see the players' faces when they put on the orange jerseys makes it all worthwhile.

One player who was injured came all the way in from Lusk recently at short notice just to put his colours on and be in the group photo for the Tangerine News because it meant so much to him to be seen in an SKB jersey.

The Boys are really enthusiastic and giving it their so here's hoping it all comes together and we have as good a season as we have done for the last 3 years.

Tony Dixon

SKB/BOHS Fixtures Announced



The fixtures for the SSE Airtricity Under 15 and Under 17 season were announced recently and it sees our Under 15s team play Drogheda United in their first game on Sunday 25th March. The following week they head off to play the Monaghan/Cavan league. These will be exciting times for St Kevins Boys

as we embark on our new journey with Bohemians in the new national league.

While we were included in the inaugural national league at the end of last year under our own guise, it was always envisioned that we would link up with one of the established League of Ireland teams when the national league got underway in its proper format.

The link with Bohemians gives us the opportunity to ensure our elite players stay connected with St Kevins Boys.

Meanwhile our Under 17 SKB/Bohs team kick off their league campaign with a home game against the Monaghan/Cavan league on St Patricks Day in St Aidans.

We would appeal to everyone to support these teams as they look to change the face of schoolboy football in Ireland.

Under 12-3 See Off Home Farm



Our Under 12-3 got their season off to a perfect start at home as they overcame a very strong Home Farm team 3-0.

They had Devin Wynn to be thankful to as he cleared the ball off the line in the first half to see them reach the break scoreless.

The second half was a different story as Wynn controlled a long kick out perfectly, beat a few players and unleashed a thunderous shot that beat the keeper and put the Saints 1-0 ahead.

Three minutes later it was 2-0 as a great move started by Hugh Cummins in defence found Cian Ashmore on the edge of the Farm area where he coolly dribbled in, rounded the advancing keeper and tucked it away.

Home Farm pushed hard to get back in the game but the solid defence of Cummins, Kevin Dequina and Harry Walsh with Arron Cooling in goal proved too good. In fact Cummins also saved one off the line to ensure the Saints kept a clean sheet.

This gave the Saints plenty of opportunity to counter attack which they did well but were unable to score from some well worked moves.

The Saints wrapped it up with a superb header by Ruben O'Grady from a corner.

It was a terrific team display and sets them up nicely for the season.

SKB: Arron Cooling, Hugh Cummins, Harry Walsh, Kevin Dequina, Tomas O'Ceileachair, Ruben O'Grady, John Walsh, Evan White, Cian Ashmore, Eoin Dooley, Tadgh O'Loingsigh, Barra O'Reilly, Devon Wynne

In Profile



Name: Karl Lambe; *Age:* 32

Occupation: Financial Administration

What is your current involvement with St Kevins: Manager U14s Premier

How long did you play for St Kevins? I'm an outsider, played for numerous schoolboy teams but never for St Kevins!

What was your favourite position? Anywhere as long as I was getting a game!

Is there any position that you hated playing? No as per above, was just

happy to be in the team.

What was your most treasured playing moment? Playing in Dalymount with Bohs schoolboys.

Do you have any regrets about your playing career? Should have enjoyed it more.

How did you first get involved in coaching? Was playing a bit and not really enjoying it, so I did my Kickstart 1 and contacted a few clubs, I knew of the work going on at St Kevins so was delighted to be asked to join the club.

What trophies have you collected over the years? Zero when playing, but I've been lucky enough to win a few as a coach. Numerous at small sided games but the main ones are winning the All Ireland last May and finishing runners up in the Academy Cup the month before.

I was a member of the coaching staff for last year's DDSL Kennedy Cup squad which we won and I'm involved with the Leinster Youths squad, we won the Friendship cup in Germany last year and finished runners up in the inter-provincial tournament. I've been privileged to be involved in numerous tournaments abroad with St Kevins, playing against the likes of FC Barcelona and visiting academies in the UK including playing Man City a few months back which was a terrific experience.

How much time per week do you devote to the club? We train 3 nights a week, so including matches and organising things you would be looking at over 8 hours a week.

What is your main method of relaxation? Watching football or reading about football!

Favourite team, and if you were manager what change would you make? FC Barcelona, I would resign and give the job to Pep!

Saints in Quarter Finals of SFAI

Last season we managed to win four of the five schoolboy national cups on offer and this year our teams are poised to repeat that historic achievement.

All of our five teams that were involved in the last 16 rounds of games came away with victories as they travelled the length and breadth of the country. The Under 11s overcame Wilton United of Cork 5-0 in Shanowen in the Sketchers and could potentially meet our Under 12s in the final of that cup as they returned from Wexford having beaten Forth Celtic 4-1.

Our Under 13s travelled to Kildare and defeated Caragh Celtic 3-0 while our Under 14s had a tough home encounter with St Josephs Boys but finished with a 4-2 victory.

Finally our Under 15s made the long trip to Charleville in Co Cork and recorded a terrific 6-1 win.

In the FAI Youths Cup our Under 18s travelled to Ballisodare in Co Sligo and returned following a 2-0 victory

Meanwhile in the DDSL League Cup we had a number of great successes where our Under 13 Premier defeated Shamrock Rovers 7-1 in a scintillating display of football.

The Under 14A1 needed extra time to overcome Finglas Celtic while the U15 Premier 1 overcame St Francis 2-1 but the U15 Major side found Kilnamanagh too strong in Ellenfield. Our U16 Premier lost out to Shamrock Rovers in St Aidans (see report)

International Saints



Lee McKevitt & John Barry

We were delighted to see John Barry get a call up for the Under 18 Rep of Ireland squad. It is just reward for the outstanding performances John has put in over the last number of years for the Saints. He was joined by his teammate Lee McKevitt and former player Luke Nolan who is with Bohemians. The Rep of Ireland team played a couple of games

against Wales in Waterford recently which saw Lee named Player of the Tournament.

Meanwhile 5 of our SKB/Bohs players have been named in the Rep of Ireland Under 15s team to play Cyprus. Congrats go to Gavin O'Brien, Len O'Sullivan, Ronan Kilkenny, Bosun Lawal and Colin Conroy.

The Under 19 Rep of Ireland team who played a couple of games in Spain were captained by ex-Saint Dara O'Shea (West Brom) along with Brian Maher and Luke Heeney.

We also had three ex-players involved with the Under 17s ROI team as Kian Clarke, Sean Bohan and Ray O'Sullivan played Turkey in Galway.



Three of our ex-players were involved in the Ireland schools team that took part in the Centenary Shield.

Jack Ryan (UCD), Jake Walker (St Pats) and Lido Lotefa (Bohemians)

Snippets

SKB Needs



Naturally enough we are looking for volunteers from the Club to lend a hand over Easter for the Tournament.

This is an ideal opportunity for any manager/coach who has only joined us to get to know those involved in SKB, enjoy great football, make lots of new friends and have great laughs. So we would encourage you to get involved – St Kevins Boys is only as strong as those involved in it.

Get in touch with Carole Daly on (086)1733311 and let her know when you can make yourself available.

I won't lie it can be a long weekend but having been involved since the start I wouldn't miss it!

Congratulations to John Behan on completing his UEFA B Licence. John played schoolboy football with the Saints in a team managed by the legendary, Patsy Browne a "few" years ago!

He re-joined the Club last year and is now coaching our Under 12 Premier who will play in a Tournament in Barcelona on St Patrick's weekend and have qualified for the quarter final of the SFAI Skechers Cup.

60th Anniversary Announced

Believe it or not next year sees us celebrate 60 years of St Kevins Boys. Who would have thought back in 1959 when Fr Des Williams asked those lads kicking ball if they wanted to form a football club that we would see ourselves six decades later as the leading schoolboy football club in Ireland.

To celebrate our 60th we are having a gala dinner in the Crowne Plaza in Santry on Saturday 18th May, 2019. Put the date in your diary, keep an eye on our website, Facebook, Twitter, this newsletter or indeed the noticeboard in the Clubhouse for further details later on this year.

Under 16s Lose out in League Cup



The headline that was suggested by Paul Smyth at the end of our Under 16s DDSL Nilfisk Cup game was "Kevins fail to plug gaps that let Rovers in to clean up in Nilfisk Cup in a game played on a perfect carpet of a pitch" which would be both poetic and accurate.

The Saints went into this game knowing that Shamrock Rovers would be tough opposition but could be overcome. What transpired on a cold, sunny morning in St Aidans was entirely different.

A goal down after just three minutes left the Saints shell shocked and they never recovered from this setback. Despite having most of the possession throughout the first half they never really threatened the Rovers goal. In fact the first real strike on target was after 25 minutes as Ruadhan Coffey struck from 20 yards.

Andres Lopez then had a great strike from the edge of the area that hit the upright, spin across the goal and taking a deflection before going behind for a corner. Jason Murphy had a header clear the crossbar from the resultant corner.

So the second half started with the Saints a goal behind but starting to look a bit brighter and a free kick on the edge of the area was struck low by Dwayne McCourt bringing out a good save from the Rovers keeper. He released it quickly and within a minute the Saints were 2-0 down as a through ball left their forward facing the advancing Jessie Chambers and he coolly slotted it past him.

The Saints made a number of changes but they were still unable to breach the Rovers rearguard and with twenty minutes on the clock a free kick on the left saw Rovers score a third goal.

As the Saints tried to get more bodies forward they were caught on the break and Rovers added a fourth for game over.

It was a particularly disappointing display by the Saints and the only positives to be taken from the game were the performances of Ross Reynolds, Ruadhan Coffey and Sandip Chhantyal and the fact that they can and will bounce back from this result.

SKB: Jessie Chambers, Alex Barrett, Ross Reynolds, Jack Tynan, Jason Murphy, Killian Philips, Fola Oki, Ruadhan Coffey, Dwayne McCourt, Cian Warren, Andres Lopez, Jack Halligan, Jake McEvoy, Adam Kesh, Sandip Chhantyal, Alan Leonard, Nathan Delaney

HOW TO CONTACT US

Write to : St Kevins Boys Club, Crestfield Estate, Larkhill, Dublin 9

Telephone : (01) 8374411

Fax: (01) 8570121

Email: admin@skbfc.com

Website: www.skbfc.com



@fckevins



st kevin's boys club