

Tangerine News

The Newsletter of St.Kevins Boys Club

November/December 2019

Seniors Book a Place in 2020 FAI Senior Cup



Our Senior team booked a place in next season's FAI Cup preliminary rounds following a victory over Everton FC in the FAI Intermediate Cup recently.

This is a real positive step for both our senior team and St Kevins Boys in the world of Irish football. The last time the Saints were involved in the FAI Senior Cup was back in 2002 (*how can we ever forget that great trip to Derry*).

The team were promoted from the LSL Major Sunday league this season to the Senior 1B Intermediate Division of the Leinster Senior League and have managed to prove to everyone that they are well capable of challenging at this higher level.

They have progressed as a team to sit second in the table following a very positive start.

The real test was going to be the Intermediate Cup where the top amateur teams in the country get to compete. Following a terrific 3-1 away win over Inchicore Athletic in the last round of the cup they were drawn, at home to face Everton FC of Cork who are no strangers to this competition.

A big crowd turned out to see how the Saints would fare against this side and saw them start on the front foot and take the game to the opposition.

Throughout the first half the Saints passed the ball quickly looking to get the wide players running at the Everton defence while our own defence worked hard to cut out any danger that the opposition created.

The Everton defence proved to be a tough element to break down and chances were few and far between throughout the first half an hour.

But the Saints hit their stride as Luke Ingram narrowly missed opening the scoring with a superb header. Two minutes later and Ingram got on the end of a loose ball in the area and swivelled to drive it home to see them 1-0 ahead at the break.

Everton knew they were still in the game as the referee blew to start the second half. But any game plan that they had conceived went out the window within 15 seconds as Josh Peyton got on the end of Jordan Cromwell's cross and added a second from inside the box.

The opposition were shell shocked but picked themselves up quickly and only for a terrific save from Gavin Browne in goal could have got themselves back in the reckoning.

The goal of the game had to go to Josh Peyton on 30 minutes. A

lovely bit of footwork from Eden Burke on the edge of the area saw him feed the ball to Peyton who produced a stunning strike that hit the top corner.

3-0 to the Saints and Everton knew that there was no way back. Despite that they continued to battle away and as the Saints made changes they managed to grab a goal back with a shot at the back post following a corner.

It left the last ten minutes of the game wide open as Everton threw everything at the Saints and they looked to counter.

In the end time ran out and the final whistle saw the Saints win 3-1, progress to the next round of the cup and earn themselves a place in next year's FAI Cup.

Following the game both teams retired to the Comet for food and refreshments and suffice to say the opposition were full of praise for our lads and wished them all the best in the next round.

It would be a long drive back to Cork but their players decided to bring a drink or two with them to numb the journey!

SKB: Gavin Browne, Stephen Mullins, Andy McKenna, Dan O'Donovan, Eoin Kinsella, Jack McMahon, Jordan Farry, Ben Donohoe, Luke Ingram, Jordan Cromwell, Josh Peyton, Gavin McCabe, Bobby O'Reilly, Jamie Delaney, Stephen Cantwell, Adam Whelan, Eden Burke, Darragh O'Neill

Ho Ho Ho it's Raffle Time



Yes, the much loved St Kevins Boys Christmas Raffle makes a return this year after a two year hiatus. Over the next few weeks the Christmas Raffle tickets will be distributed to all teams and as ever we would encourage every player, parent, manager, coach and

anyone else connected to the Club to do all they can to sell tickets. Tickets are €2 each or a book of 6 for €10 (*great value I hear you say!!*). As ever there is a fantastic array of prizes to be won that will guarantee you will have a merry Christmas. This is our biggest fundraising event each year which is why we ask everyone to dig deep and support the raffle. And as always every cent gets ploughed back into the Club.

The raffle will be held on Thursday 19th December.

Little Saints News



Our Little Saints Coaching Academy has been part of St Kevins Boys for nearly 40 years and in that time has seen many changes with the way the Academy is run. Over the last while we have been taking a close look at the current format, something that has served us well for many years, with a view to improving the overall structure.

In the last number of weeks we have had all the players from the Junior section arrive together for the early session and split them into groups. Once into their groups the coaches have developed a number of drills on specific coaching points. For instance the simple drill of passing the ball is developed in the session by using three different drills that cement the exercise.

We have also done the same for the Senior section players. Again they all arrive at the same time and split into groups. The idea of splitting them into groups is to encourage players of similar ability to develop at the same pace. We have always said that players develop at different stages so it is important to ensure that they are given the space and time to do exactly that.

One of the other reasons that we have changed the format is to familiarise the players with what to expect as they progress on to our Small Sided Games teams.

This area has changed enormously over the last five years and we feel the current format will better prepare the players to adapt to those changes quicker in years to come.

We are very fortunate to have so many young coaches willing to give up their time on a Saturday afternoon to help these young players on their journey. Most people are unaware that a number of these coaches will have been out since early morning developing the team they are involved with before heading to the Little Saints in the Clubhouse. We are also lucky to have some of our younger team players involved in helping out on Saturdays. And again they all do this voluntarily.

The only thing we ask parents to do is make the effort to bring your enthusiastic young player up every week, make sure they have a drink, shinguards and that their laces are tied properly, then step back and allow them to have fun as they learn!

Under 9s Enjoying the Games



With the worst weather on record in the last few weeks it has been nearly impossible to catch any of the Small Sided Games. So I was delighted to be able to see some of our Under 9s show off their considerable skills in St Aidans prior to the Under 17s cup game.

At this level the teams play two 5-a-side games against their opponents, who were a very impressive Park Celtic on the day. The games last 20 minutes in total (4 quarters) and the teams swap over after the second quarter. It's great to see all the players fully involved all the time and thankfully parents and coaches remaining relatively quiet only positive comments.

SKB Squad: Zach Conlon, Aaron Sheridan, Jamie Costigan, Rocco Lawlor, Jamie Fox, Noah Conway, Lewis Rice Byrne, Ian Harte, Leonard Mirzu, Senan Keenan, Joe Manicle, Ryan Darcy, Carter Thomas, Shane Kehelly, Alfie McCourt, Alfie Noonan, Mason O'Connor, Jack Dolan

U18s Lose Out in Cup



On a dreadful night that saw even the ducks stay indoors our Under 18s lost out to Bluebell/Knockmitten in the FAI Youths Cup.

The opposition took the lead after just five minutes with a quality strike from 18 yards out following a quick break.

They had hardly finished celebrating when the Saints levelled the score. A high ball in from the impressive Serjon Qeleposhi saw Ben Lowdnes win the race against the goalkeeper, he lifted it over the netminder and continued on to bury it in the back of the net.

The next 30 minutes of football was pure "cup footie" despite the torrential rain as the ball zipped back and forward.

Oeleposhi brought out a top class save from the opposition keeper with a thunderous strike and it looked like the first half would end all square until a wicked bounce hit the Saints defenders arm in the area and the referee had no choice but to point to the spot – he even looked sorry to be awarding it!

The opposition made no mistake so 2-1 with only minutes remaining in the first half and the game swung again.

Great work by Lowdnes saw the Saints awarded a corner. The ball was swung in and Nathan Losty struck a sweet low shot to make it 2-2.

The second half saw the Saints dominate the game as they looked to create a scoring opportunity but failed to breach the Bluebell/Knockmitten rear guard.

Then, it has to be said against the run of play the opposition scored with a shot from just outside the area and despite Conor Clarke getting his fingertips to it the ball slipped in!

3-2 down with fifteen minutes to play brings out the best of everyone in cup football as, despite the teeming rain, the players, managers and coaches and indeed the hardy spectators roared on both teams. But in the end it was the two goalkeepers who had the final say, firstly when the opposition keeper did really well as Liam Cooper broke through to see his shot shave the upright and then when Clarke pulled off three super saves at the death to keep the Saints hopes alive.

Alas it was not to be and as a dejected group of Saints players left the pitch they should take heart in a tremendous performance in terrible conditions.

SKB: Conor Clarke, Sean Carroll, Nathan Losty, Kian Duggan, Cillian O'Brien, Doninic Mpofo, Alex Coffey, Cian Losty, Ben Lowdnes, Adam Delaney, Serjon Qeleposhi, Mark Swan, Cian Harney, Rian Cassidy, Liam Cooper, Kevin McFadden, Emmanuel Olla

A Big Day Out in Killarney

Our Senior Saturday team are making the long journey to Killarney to take on Killarney Celtic in the next round of the FAI Junior Cup on Sunday 1st December – so if you are reading this after that date we all hope they came back with a positive result.

You can expect the unexpected with our Saturday team (results wise) as they defeated Cherry Orchard 5-1 in the last round of this cup while the previous week in the Lanigan Cup they came from 2-0 down to force extra time against Ballymun at 2-2. And then they looked like it was all over at they trailed 4-2 only to score two late goals and force the game to penalties! Up stepped super keeper, Godfrey Yoro who pulled off a great save to see them progress.

The Mun are still trying to figure out how they lost this game!

In Profile



Name: Louis Cassidy
Age: 20
Occupation: College Student
What is your current involvement with St Kevins: I am one of the coaches with our Under 8s and I also help out with the Little Saints Coaching Academy

How long did you play for St Kevins? I started off playing in the Little Saints and then progressed onto a Saints team where I played up until the tender age of 13 – at which time other sports took centre stage!

What was your favourite position? I enjoyed playing in most positions but my favourite was centre midfield

Is there any position that you hated playing? I wasn't a fan of being on the bench – that's the one place I hated!

What was your most treasured playing moment? Ah there were a few but getting to the SFAI semi-final when nobody gave us a chance is one I always look back on!

Do you have any regrets about your playing career? I would've liked to have stayed playing a bit longer but my heart just wasn't with it anymore – I'd still love to go back!!

What other sports were you involved in over the years? Every sport known to man!!! I was and still am heavily involved in martial arts - I am a black belt in Tae Kwon Do and have represented my country internationally. I was also involved in GAA with Na Fianna.

What trophies have you collected over the years? With the Club I collected League Winners medals and Cup Winners medals through the years. Outside of SKB my biggest achievement was winning the Tae Kwon Do World Championships in 2009!! (you won't believe this Louis but we found that photo from the Tangerine News back in 2010!!!)

How did you first get involved in coaching? When I left the Club I always wanted to give something back and get involved with coaching. My Dad was also a coach in the Club and I wanted to come back and coach



like him. My uncle, Denis got me involved in his team with Jamie Kiernan, Andy Rice and Jeff Dequina.

How much time per week do you devote to the club? I try to give as much time as possible to the Club..... I coach the kids twice a week for training and then two match days at the weekend. I also coach with the Little Saints on a Saturday afternoon so I manage to clock up the hours with my involvement!

What is your main method of relaxation? Just watching football on the TV I never seem to get away from it.

Favourite team, and if you were manager what change would you make? My favourite team is Celtic and I'd change absolutely nothing since we're already the best!!!



We have to say a very big congratulations to Theo Hennessy who was the proud winner of the Goalkeeper Coaching Gloves Award recently. Theo won the award for his outstanding commitment to training. We understand his mum was absolutely delighted to see him win the prize on the night! We think she had a different viewpoint when she saw the dirt on him!! Anyway we hope the washing machine did its job and we expect Theo to be sporting a spotless kit at his next game.

Seamus Coleman Impresses U13s



Seamus Coleman, who is currently undertaking his UEFA B licence, recently took our Under 13s (2007s) who are coached by Paul Bassett, John Behan and Brian Culligan for his final assessment.

The session took place in St Aidans as Seamus coached the team on playing out from the back and was more than happy to pass on some of his knowledge and experience while out on the pitch coaching. He took particular interest in coaching the full backs (surprise) but made sure to work with each player along the way.

After training, Seamus was more than happy to stay back and have a Q&A with the players and coaches. His main message to the players was that there are no short cuts, keep on practising as much as possible and stay away from anything that may distract you. He advised them that you still cannot beat having a ball and wall to work on your technique.

The players were delighted to be able to ask him questions regarding his career and there are definitely some budding journalists in the group if the football career doesn't work out for them!

Seamus commended the coaches on the work they have done and also mentioned how impressed he was with the attitude and manners of the players along with their footballing ability.

U17s see off Home Farm



Our Under 17s progressed to the next round of the DDSL PFAI Cup with a 5-3 win over local rivals Home Farm. What made this game all the more interesting was the number of ex Saints with the Farm. Finding themselves a goal down after just two minutes the Saints rallied and equalised through Caleb Gyasi after 20 minutes.

Two goals before the break saw the Saints coasting at 3-1. The first a near post header by Sean Uduehi from a corner and the second from Darragh Quinn inside the area.

In between Andy Maloney in goal pulled off a terrific save to deny the Farm when they were clean through on goal.

The second half was a strange affair as the Saints dominated the early stages and went 4-1 ahead with lovely footwork from Quinn. But Home Farm pulled two goals back to send pulses racing throughout the ground. Substitute Enriko Egle saved the best until last when he scored with the sweetest strike five minutes from time to book the place in the next round.

SKB: Andrew Malone, Denis Toro, Darragh Quinn, Ross Leonard, Daniel Mhondiwa, Ben Maguire, Christian Toko, Lewis Franzoni, Warith Omotoso, Caleb Gyasi, Beni Hemedi, Enriko Egle, John Hyland, Sam Redmond, Arron Brady, Sean Uduehi, Sean Larkin

SKB/Bohs Joint Successes



Overall it has been a successful year for our SKB/Bohs teams with our Under 17s capturing the first piece of silverware of the joint venture.

The Under 13s reached the semi-final of the league play offs and the quarter final of the cup while the Under 15s were runners up in the cup and reached the semi-final

of the league.

The Under 17s won the Mark Farren Cup with an impressive 5-1 win in Kerry against Kerry FC. They lost out in the national league final in front of a huge crowd in Richmond Park.

Meanwhile the Under 19s were runners up in the Enda McGuill Cup final and lost out in the quarter finals of the league

Local Clubs Come Together



Neil Fox (PRO SKB), Paul Leonard (Whitehall Colmcille) and Dublin Lord Mayor, Paul McAuliffe

Over the last number of years we have been trying to get Dublin City Council to do something with the pavilion in Ellenfield park (*our thoughts are to knock it down!*).

Recently we have finally got our public representatives and DCC personnel to get involved in our plight. Both Noel Rock and Paul McAuliffe were shocked at the condition of the building during recent visits and Roisin Shorthall also promised to look into the future plans for the building.

The pavilion was built, we think in 1958 and bar a coat of paint had not been properly refurbished since.

It is very embarrassing for both St Kevins Boys and Whitehall Colmcille, two Clubs who pride themselves on how they present their facilities, to have to use this pavilion.

We know ourselves that we now have opposition teams who would rather change into their gear on the sidelines of the pitch rather than use the building – their reasoning is that the younger players find the building intimidating!

So at this stage it's over to DCC to come up with a plan for a new building, not a sticky tape refurb of the existing.

Thankfully both ourselves and Whitehall Colmcille have been asked to submit our ideas.

We would hope that these ideas are taken on board as between both clubs we cater for up to 2000 players along with a very large number of parents, managers and coaches and with elections on the horizon it might be worthwhile to consider the votes involved!

Snippets



We wish the one and only, Dave Furey a very speedy recovery.

Dave is recuperating in hospital following another operation on his leg.

His presence around the Clubhouse and Ellenfield Park (where you can normally hear him as you walk in the Swords Road gate!!) is badly missed.

Get well soon Dave from all of us.

We really hope that our recent Vantage Club tickets winners enjoyed themselves at the Republic of Ireland International matches.

Conor Buckley of our Under 9s was present to see ex-Saint, Jack Byrne make his senior international debut against New Zealand where he once again impressed in the middle of the park.

Derek Smith of our Under 16s was present at probably the best Irish performance since we defeated Germany. Derek and two guests were there to cheer on the lads as they faced Denmark – unfortunately a hard fought 1-1 draw wasn't enough on the night to crown a classic match for the boys in green.

Congratulations to Evan Ferguson who was voted Overall Academy Player of the Year by Bohemians FC.

Evan has been part of St Kevins Boys since the Little Saints and over the years has developed into an outstanding player for St Kevins Boys, for SKB/Bohs and indeed at international level.

This season saw Evan play competitively for all four teams in Bohemians where he lined out for the Under 15s, Under 17s, Under 19s and the first team so the award is very well deserved.



We were delighted to see three of our ex-players honoured at the recent SSE Airtricity Awards with Jack Byrne winning the Player of the Year Award and Danny Mandrouiu winning the Young Player of the Year Award – both pictured showing off their trophies. Congratulations also goes to Joe Manley who won the

First Division Player of the Year award.

Finally, we want to congratulate Sean Gannon who had another starring season with Dundalk. Sean collected many a medal as a Saint and he has continued that tradition with Dundalk over the last number of seasons.

Bohemians FC enjoyed a terrific season this year and it's with thanks to St Kevins Boys who during the season saw 10 current and ex-Saints play for the Bohs first team. All of these players were winners with the Saints over many seasons so it's no surprise that Danny Mandrouiu, Ross Tierney, Dawson Devoy, Luke Wade Slater, Darragh Leahy, Evan Ferguson, Sean Bohan, Robbie McCourt, Ryan Graydon and Kathelego Mashigo have all brought their exceptional talents to the fore with Bohs.

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



@fckevins



st kevin's boys club

Website: www.skbfc.yourclub.ie