

Kildorrery to continue great Cork junior run

THE record of Cork clubs on the provincial scene this year is disappointing to say the least but Paddy Power believe Kildorrery can arrest the poor run of results in Sunday's AIB Munster Club JHC final.

Kildorrery have the task of enhancing a proud Leeside tradition of performing superbly at this particular grade, too.

St Kieran's of Limerick provide the opposition in Mallow but Power's are of the opinion Kildorrery will prevail.

Power have installed the Cork champions as 2-5 favourites in the match betting market.

Victory for Kildorrery would mean Cork sides have won this competition three years in a row following Meelin's and Charleville's successes and generally the results of teams from this county at this level is outstanding.

Cork clubs have won 21 of the 24 matches contested since 2000 and based on the walloping Kildorrery dished out to Butlerstown of Waterford in the semi-final – the Leesiders won 4-19 to 0-11 – there is reason to agree that St Kieran's have their work cut out to deny them.

The Limerick outfit are pitched at 21-10 by the Irish firm in the match betting market while the draw is available at 9-1.

GAA/GPA FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR 2013

NAMED as the Munster GAA Senior Footballer of the Year for 2012



SPORT BETTING

last weekend, Donncha O'Connor has been given a quote of 33-1 by Paddy Power to win the GAA/GPA Footballer of the Year award in 2013.

Even though O'Connor was named as the top performer in the province for this year there are a host of other Cork and Kerry players above him in Power's newly released ante-post list.

Bernard Brogan, Colm Cooper and Michael Murphy are the 12-1 co-favourites of three in the market.

However, Colm O'Neill, at 14-1 solitary second favourite, is the most likely of the Cork players to claim the gong according to the layers which is understandable taking into account that if the Rebels had overcome Donegal in the All-Ireland semi-final last summer the Ballyclough man would have went into the final against Mayo as the short-priced favourite to win the award.

Aidan Walsh is next in the betting as joint-third favourite alongside Darran O'Sullivan at 16-1.

A little further down the list, Daniel Goulding can be supported at 22-1, Ciarán Sheehan 25-1 and Paul Kerrigan 40-1 while Patrick Kelly is available at the huge price of 80-1.



Kildorrery's Sean Kelly clearing past Butlerstown's Chris Bhehny in the AIB Munster Club Junior Hurling Championship semi-final in Waterford.

Picture: Des Barry

GAA/GPA HURLER OF THE YEAR 2013

PAT HORGAN has been put forward as the most likely of JBM's Rebel hurlers to win the GAA/GPA Hurler of the Year award next year however his lengthy odds tell you all you need to know about how fancied Cork are to lift the Liam McCarthy Cup.

Despite being considered the biggest threat in the market from Cork Horgan is 25-1 to win the top individual prize.

Conor Lehane can be backed at 33-1, as can recently named Rearden's GAA Hurler of the Year Pa Cronin.

Below those, Paudie O'Sullivan is a 50-1 shot.

AIRTRICITY LEAGUE OF IRELAND 2013

OF the two Munster representatives in next season's Airtricity League of Ireland Premier Division, Limerick are seen as the greater threat to Sligo Rovers' crown as Cork City are unfancied by the layers.

BLUESQ, Paddy Power and Stan James have Limerick at 12-1 for the title though Boyles and Ladbrokes are offering punters 16-1.

Power are the most fearful of City next term quoting the Leesiders at 20-1 however The Magic Sign have expressed the opinion that the Rebel Army are a 25-1 chance in the 12-team ante-post market.

However, at the head of the betting the layers are extremely divided as to how strongly favoured Shamrock Rovers, the market leaders, should be to dethrone Sligo, available at 23-10 with BLUESQ and 888sport.com.

The Dubliners are shortest at 11-10 with BLUESQ and 888sport.com, Power have Rovers at 6-5, Boyles 11-8 while Ladbrokes go 6-4 favourites.

CROSS-CHANNEL SOCCER

PUNTERS' support has flowed for Manchester City ahead of Sunday's derby with Manchester United with a host of firms trimming City's odds to win.

Boyles, Stan James and Coral remain hopeful of United taking at least a point from the short trip, however laying Roberto Mancini's men at 13-10 to earn maximum points.

United are available at 23-10 with Coral to win though are generally 21-10/11-5 shots.

Boyles and Paddy Power installed the draw at 12-5 however bettors seem to be latching on to the fact Alex Ferguson's side are struggling badly to keep clean sheets presently and want to get with City.

Yet, it may be too simplistic an opinion to expect goals on Sunday despite the circumstances and firepower that will be on show.

In the last six league meetings between the sides at the Etihad just five goals have been scored with ten-

LAST WEEK

THERE was just one bet advised last weekend with Dr Croke's providing the column with a third winner from the last five recommendations.

Croke's, put forward to win by four or more points against Castlehaven last Sunday, obliged cruising to victory (2pts 10-11 BetVictor) at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

sions obviously high.

Therefore, it might pay to have a minor punt on the prospect of two or less goals scored at BetVictor's overpriced odds of 13-10 – Ladbrokes offer evens.

In the npower Championship, there are two wagers to consider.

Bizarrely, Crystal Palace continue to be underestimated by odds-compilers and should overcome a fired up Blackpool at Selhurst Park while Watford are worth a punt on the draw no bet at skyBET's 8-11 at home to Hull City.

Recommendations

Manchester City v Manchester United
Under 2.5 goals
1pt 13-10 BetVictor;
Crystal Palace
2pts 23-20 BetVictor; Coral;
Watford draw no bet
3pts 8-11 skyBET.

Brush up on money savers and back United to fight back

ON TUESDAY we printed some household budget hints to help readers cope with financial soupstorm that followed the next afternoon.

Hundreds of tips from excitable readers flowed in over the next few days but one in particular stood out and was almost the precise opposite of our suggestion to melt left over slivers of soap.

The reader forwarded on a tip found in a women's magazine that stated: "If you're hosting a dinner party and don't have a lot of cash, make alternative after-dinner mints. Simply freeze a tube of striped toothpaste, then cut it open and slice the contents into wafer thin pieces to produce your very own attract-

ive treats. They look cool and will also leave your guests with fresh breath.

"Just make sure you only eat one very thin toothpaste mint!"

That last sentence gave me pause. Being a journalist I did some research via a popular internet search engine and discovered that ingesting fluoride products is not a hot idea and might leave some of your guests sick, or at the very least, Crest-fallen.

Nevertheless, I would heartily endorse freezing a tube of tomato purée as an alternative to fresh tomatoes. The same goes for garlic purée, but in that case it might be best to have some wafer-thin toothpaste on standby.



THE LONGSHOT

I was surprised the customs duty on garlic wasn't reduced in the budget from a whopping 232% after that poor fella (criminal, though he was) got six years for importing them and claiming they were apples (taxed at 9%).

How'd you like them apples, the judge apparently said at sentencing.

Vampires must have a real powerful lobby up in Leinster House, although I'm certain cynical wags among you might suggest the politicians themselves are sucking us dry after Wednesday.

I suppose it's time to give you a bet for the weekend.

Well, now that I have reached week 11 of Last Man Standing in the Everton FC competition, and it has become a two-hander (who are you, my mystery adversary?) I'll tell you that I am going to plump for Swansea to win at home (5-6 generally).

I'll leave it up to yourself to decide whether this increases the chances of Norwich, who are on an eight-game un-

beaten run, plus the draw (10-11 with Paddy Power).

Most eyes, however, will be on the Manchester derby, which looking at both side's porous defences of late, could prove to be a lunchtime cracker on Sunday.

Recommendation: When the axe entered the woods, the trees said: "The handle is one of us."

I might waste a lot of paper giving you useless tips most days, but remember, I am one of you, so please cheer on the Swans against the Canaries tomorrow.

Emotion might skew my view of that game so instead take City to be leading and United to win at 33-1 with BetVictor.