

# Douglas are not a beaten docket

**PADDY POWER** and **Ladbrokes** share the view that Sunday night's Cork County SFC quarter-final replay in Mallow between Douglas and Duhallow is a coin toss with both teams priced up at evens to win the match.

Following a championship draw in any grade patrons and punters alike often take the opinion the team that engineered the equaliser, especially if it occurs late in the day, will carry momentum into the replay.

And this was the case again this week after Aidan Walsh's leveller earned Duhallow a second bite of the cherry.

However, that simplistic stance very rarely holds true for the second meeting.

Punters should always assess a drawn game as an overall entity and in this case remember that twice Douglas held a three-point lead, both at half-time and with 17 minutes of normal time remaining as well as hit a number of wides which therefore suggests, if anything, the city side left a place in the last four behind them.

Yet just because Walsh got Duhallow out of jail does not mean Douglas' percentage chance of progressing is any lower.

This is, as the layers quite accurately reflect by posting the aforementioned odds, a 50/50 tie and so bettors may be wiser to hold fire and seek out value elsewhere.

The odds on a repeat draw are 7-1 with both firms too.



**PETER McNAMARA**  
**SPORT BETTING**

In the overall context of the SFC, Castlehaven, freely available at 3s in the outright market up until their replay with St Finbarr's, are no greater than Ladbrokes' 6-4 to lift the trophy now after ousting the second favourites.

James McCarthy's west Cork men are as low as Power's 5-4 while Boyles and Cashman's lay 11-8.

Having earned victories over Dohenys, Aghada and Avonduhu, O'Donovan Rossa are now the second most likely winners of the primary competition according to the layers who are generally offering 4-1 Skibb.

Carbery Rangers are quoted at odds ranging from 5s (Power) to 7s (Boyles) while Duhallow, 7s with Power, and Douglas, 15-2 with the Irish firm, are next in the list.

High-flying Bishopstown follow those with their odds varying between Ladbrokes' 6-1 and Power's 9s.

Meanwhile, in the Premier IFC, Mallow, conquerors of Carrigaline, Bantry Blues and Kiskeam in the last eight, are the 4-5 match betting favourites to account for St Michael's in the semi-final tomorrow at Rathcormac.



**Douglas' Kevin Murphy on the ball ahead of Duhallow's John McLoughlin during their recent drawn Cork SFC match at Mallow.**

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

However, as odds-on favourites Clyda Rovers found to their cost in the quarter-final, the city outfit care little for reputations and Saints are 5-4 with Power to win while the draw is pitched in at 13-2.

Irrespective of who qualifies for the final however they will be the outsiders against St Vincent's.

The northsiders are rated as the 4-7 market leaders to prevail outright by Cashman's.

Switching codes and the strong indications from the bookmakers are Ballinhassig will be crowned Premier IHC winners on Sunday week at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

Power's 4-9 is as appealing as it gets for punters wishing to back them.

Teddy McCarthy's Bandon, on the other hand, can be supported at Cashman's 2-1 and on first glance that appears to underestimate their

chances slightly.

However, that is for another day. For up-to-the-minute sports betting news and discussion contact me on Twitter @petermcnem07

**Already advised (on Friday, May 4)**

● Nemo Rangers to win the Cork County SFC: 3pts 7-4 Cashman's (loser)

● Castlehaven to win the Cork County SFC: 1pt 5-1 Ladbrokes (currently 6-4 Ladbrokes)

● Duhallow to win the Cork County SFC: 0.5pt each-way 10-1 1/3 1, 2 Ladbrokes (currently 7-1 Paddy Power).

● Éire Óg to win the Cork County IFC: 4pts 2-1 Cashman's (currently 2-5 Cashman's).

**ALL-IRELAND SHC FINAL REPLAY**

YOU would think after avoiding defeat in the Leinster and (original) All-Ireland finals against Kilkenny Galway would be given far more respect by the bookmaking community but the Cats remain firm odds-on favourites to retain their title on Sunday afternoon.

A fortnight ago the following was outlined in relation to how the bookmakers foresaw the match and handicap betting markets shaping up: 'Four firms – Boyles, Paddy Power, Ladbrokes and 32Red – are laying Cody's side at 4-11 in the match betting and while the handicap betting baseline is four points, only Paddy Power are willing to offer punters

11-10 Kilkenny to win by five or more points.

In contrast, though 16-5 is available with BETDAQ Galway are 3-1 to win the match with bet365, BetVictor, William Hill and 32Red and are evens generally +4 points.

However, very little has changed in the interim with the bookmakers laying Brian Cody's unit at 1-2 to win the replay in normal time and also making the defending champions the three-point handicap favourites at 11-10 generally though bet365 and skyBET pitch their main lines at two points with Kilkenny 4-5 to win by three or more points.

Galway – evens with Cashman's, Power and William Hill in receipt of a three-point head-start – are available at 9-4 to win the game while Hill's quote of 12-1 is the top industry price on the draw.

The Tribesmen produced an intense performance in the drawn encounter but they scored four fewer times than Kilkenny and seem to have less scope for improvement than Cody's men do.

Kilkenny were extremely well supported by the column before their All-Ireland quarter-final collision with Limerick and there is no reason to yield now either.

**Already advised**

**(on Friday, July 27)**

● Kilkenny to win the All-Ireland SHC: 8pts 11-10 bet365.

## LAST WEEK

THERE were no weekend recommendations made in last Friday's column as value was, as it also is this week, scarce on the ground.

However, in relation to our ante-post portfolio, wins for Castlehaven and Éire Óg have us well positioned for the coming weeks with laying an option.

# Killester are the benchmark side in the SuperLeague

*Scene: A man is sitting on a bench — let's call him Harold. Another man approaches and sits down on the farther side of the bench and opens up the Irish Times.*

**Harold:** It's not so bad.

**Man with paper:** (Scanning the sky) It's acceptable I suppose.

**Harold:** You're the man with the paper, aren't you?

**Man with paper:** That's very perceptive of you.

**Harold:** No, I mean the lad who writes the betting column in the paper.

**Man with paper:** I may not be.

**Harold:** It's you all right. Or you

look like his picture anyway, give a couple of chins and a bit less hair.

**Man with paper:** Can I help you?

**Harold:** Well, no, I was just pointing out who you are.

**Man with paper:** There really was no need.

**Harold:** You're not very nice.

**Man with paper:** Buzz off.

**Harold:** I was sitting here first! I didn't ask for your verbal assault. It's you who should leave.

**Man with paper:** I just sat down to read my paper and you began to accost me.

(A silent standoff that lasts perhaps 15 seconds.)



**Robert O'Shea**  
**THE LONGSHOT**

**Harold:** I only started talking to you because I heard something. (Another long pause.)

**Man with paper:** Something about what?

**Harold:** Now you want to talk!

**Man with paper:** Au contraire. I was merely being polite.

**Harold:** Do you want to hear this or not?

**Man with paper:** Suit yourself.

**Harold:** It's about the basketball. The SuperLeague. I've heard a rumour that Jermaine Turner might become a naturalised Irishman.

**Man with paper:** Meaning?

**Harold:** That Killester would be able to bring in another American

**Man with paper:** Thus giving them a big advantage over the other teams allowing them to have two Yanks on the floor at any one time.

**Harold:** Precisely.

**Man with paper:** They won in 2010 an 2011, didn't they?

**Harold:** They did. UL are around 2-1 to retain their title, but I like these vibes from Dublin.

**Man with paper:** Where did you hear this.

**Harold:** To be honest, I can't tell you, let's just say I heard it downtown.

**Recommendation:** Killester to win the Men's SuperLeague at 5-1.

At the time of this conversation on Monday they were priced at 10-1. A request to place a €100 on them was refused by PaddyPower, who would only accept €50. The bookies seem worried and the price was halved the next time we looked.