

# Dullea's widen the gap at the summit

MA DULLEA'S extended their lead at the head of the CDO Evening Echo ladies A division league to five points when they ran out winners at home to the Red Cove Inn by four games to one in the fourth series of games played on Thursday night last.

Kathryn Hewitt opened the scoring for the home side as she outfought Red Cove Inn number one Caroline O'Regan by 2-1 putting up hands of 115 and 130 in her winning legs, Hewitt hit a double 16 out each time to set her team on the way.

Mary Long took to the oche at number two for Ma's and joining her was Mags Kelly of the Red Cove, but Long proved to be too strong for her opponent in this second game of the evening as she ran out a two legs to one winner.

The third game of this clash between top and bottom saw Rita Hannigan extend her team's lead as she fought out a 2-0 win over Marie O'Sullivan and it was 4-0 to Ma Dullea's as Kathleen Doyle completed a 2-1 win over Mary Thornhill.

Consolation though for the Red Cove Inn as they had the final say of the evening with their number five player Gillian Hegarty taking the spoils against Freda Uniacke 2-1.



## CDO DARTS

By FRANK GOULDING

The Joshua Tree slipped back into joint second place having being dislodged last week by neighbours the High House, as they were also 4-1 winners away to the Gallows, despite the Gallows taking the first game on the night as Mary Tynan got the better of Fiona McLoughlin by 2-0.

That was the end of the Gallows input for the remainder of this encounter though as the Josh then reeled off the following four games without dropping a leg of darts as Breda Barrett, Kim Jenkins, Ciara Haugh and Eileen Jones all racked up 2-0 wins over Sinead Warboys, Kathleen Kenny, Linda Gosnell and Mary O'Flaherty respectively.

High House remain in joint second spot, even though they fell to the Anglers Sports Lounge at their Blarney Street base by 3-2.

High House found themselves two games behind as Nuala Madden and Laura Murphy scored wins against Maria Healy and Claire Fielding, but they got a game back as the break approached with Caroline Coutts winning 2-1 from Eileen O'Neill.

Top Irish player at the recent Ladbrokes.com Irish masters in Killarney, Kevin McDonnell of the Joshua Tree, is congratulated by Bill Creagh, proprietor of the Joshua Tree.

High House then drew level as they took the first game after the restart through Sarah Fielding having a two legs to one win over Catherine O'Mahony, but the three points went the way of the Anglers as Sadie Hurley took the final game ahead of Michelle Gould.

Abbey Bar recovered to some extent on more recent displays as they scored a 3-2 win over O'Sullivan's which moves them up the table and into a playoff spot.

Annette Hawkins, Aisling Ferriteur and Caroline Aldworth were the Abbey's winners with Mary O'Connor and Sarah O'Connor the points winners for O'Sullivan's.

Congratulations must go to CDO player Kevin McDonnell of the Joshua Tree who emerged as the top Irish player at the recent Ladbrokes.com Irish masters at the Killarney darts festival while fellow CDO and Shamrock Bar player Peter Quinn was next best Irish player with both of the above taking such notable scalps as Simon Whitlock and Barrie Bates en route.

## BBC to show Wimbledon until 2017

### TENNIS

WIMBLEDON will continue to be broadcast on the BBC until at least 2017 after the corporation's contract as host broadcaster and UK rights holder was extended by three years.

Ian Ritchie, chief executive of the All England Club, said: "Wimbledon fans have been enjoying the BBC's broadcast coverage of The Championships since 1927 and we are delighted to be extending this enduring and successful partnership for a further three years."

Barbara Slater, director of BBC Sport said: "The BBC's first ever live sport broadcast was from Wimbledon and we are proud that our new deal means the longest partnership in sports broadcasting continues.

"We know that Wimbledon fortnight has a very special place in the hearts of the UK public. We are delighted that our new agreement ensures coverage of The Championships remains free to air and available to licence fee payers."

The BBC came in for fierce criticism earlier this year for agreeing to a new deal over Formula One coverage.

From next year, Sky Sports will screen all practice, qualifying and grands prix live, while the BBC will now show 50% of the races, with the remainder aired via a deferred highlights package.

The BBC made no secret of the fact that the deal was struck to save money on the remaining two seasons of their £40million-per-year contract with Formula One Management.

Meanwhile, second seed Juan Martin Del Potro booked his place in the quarter-finals of the Erste Open in Vienna with a comprehensive 6-3 6-4 win over Germany's Philipp Petzschner.

Del Potro saved all four break points against him and broke his opponent twice as he needed one hour and 27 minutes to reach the last eight.

He was joined by big-serving sixth seed Kevin Anderson after the South African kept his nerve in a tight second set tie-break to beat Cypriot Marcus Baghdatis 6-2 7-6 (7/5) in just over 90 minutes.

In first-round action, seventh seed Nikolay Davydenko fell 3-6 6-0 7-6 (7/2) to Belgium's Steve Darcis while Finland's Jarkko Nieminen beat Robin Haase of Holland 7-6 (7/3) 6-4.

## Voting, it's like betting without having to hand over money

DAYS like these can be confusing for your average punter.

It's one of the few occasions after you make a few scribbles on a docket with a little biro that isn't your own that you don't have to hand over any money and swear at a TV monitor for a while.

That's democracy for you, and if you haven't been to the polls yet could I urge you to get out there and put your vote to work for me as I had a small investment on Michael D. when his odds drifted last week.

Of course, this ballot isn't all about making money. There are also two important referendums taking place today. Or referenda.

Apparently it doesn't matter which way you pronounce or spell it;

both are correct.

That means if you ever happen to see the Newtownshandrum senior team with their minor team, you can refer to them as Newtownshandra collectively.

Eight former attorneys general (note: not attorney generals) want people to vote no to the referendums/a, which would seem a good reason as any to be glad that they will be passed so easily.

This all reminds me of the mongoose joke, which I love but no one else I have ever met has found funny. Let's see if it works better in print:

A man was on his way to a pet shop when he bumped into friend, who looked worried: "I'm going to



buy a mongoose," he explained.

"What's wrong with that?" said the man.

"You see, I want two of them, but I don't know the plural of mongoose," said the friend.

"Is it mongooses? Is it mongeese? Or even two mongoose? I'd be embarrassed if I said the wrong word."

"No problem," replied the man. "I'll get them for you."

He walked to the pet shop and approached the man behind the counter.

"I'd like a mongoose, please."

The pet shop owner said he had to go out the back to get it and as he turned the man said: "Sure, while you're back there, get me another one."

And that my friends is why when you carry two dockets to the counter carrying an identical bet (if you are backing it for a friend, say) it is called a mongoose bet.

Enough of that, and on to today's tip.

The only show in town tomorrow is the International Rules game, which gives slug-a-beds another reason to get up at some ungodly

hour before dawn to switch on the TV.

But what's this? Nevin Maguire cooking up a delicious dinner?

That's right, RTE aren't showing the International Rules game live.

Ireland, as the away team usually is, are favourites, a best price of 10-11 with Ladbrokes to win the first test, which Boylesports also offer on them winning the series (Paddy Power go 8-13).

Ladbrokes have a close call bet of 5-2 that it is a draw or either team to win by less than three points tomorrow.

**Recommendation:** The Aussies were far superior last year so we'll go on them to win by 19-25 points tomorrow with Powers at 18-1.

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