

Evening Echo SPORT Rising stars to shine at juvenile contest

SPORT

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THE final juvenile tournament of the Cork County Basketball will take place on Saturday at the Parochial Hall, Gurranabraher, when teams will compete for the U9 title.

It has been another successful season for juvenile basketball in Cork as secretary and board co-ordinator Billy Coffey praised the various clubs for their magnificent effort.

"Recently we had 20 teams in the Billy Kelly Tournament and it goes without saying that Cork is still the hotbed of Irish basketball," Billy said.

BASKETBALL

"The U9 tournament will be great fun for the players and their parents as basically we are looking at the future of Cork basketball," he added.

CORK COUNTY BASKETBALL BOARD PAROCHIAL HALL, GURRANABRAHER SATURDAY APRIL 27

POOL 'A': Fr. Mathews, Neptune A, Carrig na bhFear, Blue Demons B, Bantry

POOL 'B': Blue Demons A, Ballincollig, Neptune B, Cobh, Limerick Lakers

FIXTURES

9.30am: C.1 Fr Mathew's v Neptune A, A.

10.00am: C.1 Neptune B v Ballincollig B.

10.30am: C.1 Neptune A v Limerick Lakers

A. C.2 Fr. Mathews v Demons B A
11.00am: C.1 Ballincollig v Cobh B. C.2 Blue Demons A v Neptune B B

11.30am: C.1 Fr. Mathew's v Carrig na bhFear A. C.2 Bantry v Blue Demons B A

12.00pm: C.1 Ballincollig v Limerick Lakers B. C.2 Cobh v Blue Demons A B

12.30pm: C.1 Carrig na bhFear v Bantry A. C.2 Neptune A v Blue Demons B A

1.00pm: C.1 Neptune B v Ballincollig B. C.2 Limerick Lakers v Cobh B

1.30pm: C.1 Fr. Mathews v Bantry A. C.2 Neptune A v Carrig na bhFear A

2.00pm: C.1 Neptune B v Cobh B. C.2 Blue



Billy Coffey.

Demons A v Limerick Lakers B
2.30pm Free Throw to decide teams to take part in the Semi Finals (All Pool Teams)

SEMI FINALS

2.45pm: 3.00pm: C.1 Team 1st in Free Throw v Team 4th in Free Throw

2.45pm: C.2 Team 2nd in Free Throw v Team 3rd in Free Throw

3.15pm: Free Throw to decide teams to take part in the final (All Semi Final Teams)

3.30pm: Tournament Final

Winner and Runner Up Free Throw Competition



Finbarr McCarthy presenting the Cork 96FM C103 GAA Sports Person of the Month Award in association with the Rochestown Park Hotel, to Cork Footballer Paudie Kissane, Clyda Rovers GAA Club also in picture L to R: Kieran McGeary CEO, Cork 96FM C103, Tom Tobin, head of operations, Rochestown Park Hotel, Conor Counihan, manager, Cork senior footballers and Gerard Lane, vice chairman, Cork County Board.

Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography.

Look into tube to see the future



Robert O'Shea

THE LONGSHOT

YESTERDAY was YouTube's eighth birthday and almost as quickly as we wondered why such an arbitrary anniversary should be being celebrated on nearly every TV news show (so they could fill airtime with footage that needed no effort to produce perhaps?), we also marvelled the video upload site has only been around that long.

On Sunday, within seconds of Luis Suarez's incisors attempting to latch on to Ivanovic's arm, if you wanted to see what happened you merely had to log on to YouTube. It hasn't taken long to take this immediate service for granted.

It is still another two years until the website reaches a proper anniversary and that got us wondering what might we predict to see between now and then.

THE NEW MESSI

A child from a ghost estate in rural Ireland posts a video of himself performing amazing keepy-uppy tricks with medium-sized stone. Everything goes well until he flicks it up to his head. Lionel Messi tweets a get well message to his hospital ward.

LANCE ARMSTRONG COMPETES IN THE HIGHLAND GAMES

The only sporting body the disgraced Tour de France cheat can find to let him compete turns out to be in Scotland (he is thrown out of a compulsory eating contest after several hot dogs were found in his pocket). Grainy footage of him tossing the caber emerges but as he turns to acknowledge the crowd with his arms outstretched, the pole tumbles back toward him and misses crushing him by inches. He credits God with the intervention and writes a book called *It's All About the Log*.

CAT BLOOPER

Kilkenny are about to win another four-in-a-row when Tommy Walsh goes up to claim a high ball but misses it completely to leave Paudie O'Sullivan to score a winning goal. Everybody outside Kilkenny thinks it's absolutely hilarious.

IF ALL HOOF FAILS

In July 2014, after 42 consecutive games in which Cork City have conceded a goal in injury time, viewers worldwide are treated to camera-phone coverage of players trying to puncture the ball with their studs after 90 minutes have elapsed in an League game at the Cross.

Recommendation: The great thing about tonight's game is the unpredictability of it. Not great for having a punt on, though 3-2 win for Dortmund at 30/1 with BetVictor is tempting.

Consistency is key for Paudie

PAUDIE KISSANE has emerged one of the county's most consistent performers over the seasons and his raids from wing-back have produced notable returns.

Though Cork disappointed when reaping a mixed return in the 2013 NFL, the Clyda Rovers defender remained a pivotal figure in routinely shutting down attacking sequences of opponents and it earned him selection as monthly winner to the 96/C103 Cork GAA Sports Star of the Month Award at a presentation in the Rochestown Park Hotel.

The award recognises the team's performances during the month of March, and the wins for Cork over Tyrone, Down and Donegal.

"Hopefully we can replicate that form during the summer," Paudie said.

AWARDS

By JOHN TARRANT

For the first time in five years, Cork failed to reach the knockout phase of the league and it places a firm focus on the upcoming Munster SFC.

"Over the years, we got nothing easy from Limerick, lucky to get out of the Gaelic Grounds on a number of occasions. We're looking no further ahead than the third weekend in May, knuckling down, training hard and hoping for a win," said Paudie.

In between, the Cork Premier IFC kicks in and Clyda Rovers attempt to go one step further than the runner-up place over three consecutive years from 2009-11.

"To lose those finals was disap-

pointing, falling just short. However, we've the nucleus of a good young side."

First-round opponents Castletownbere enter the grade after a satisfying IFC win over Eire Óg last season and it will be a tough task. "But if we play up to our potential, we're capable of obtaining a result," said Paudie.

Away from a hectic playing schedule with Cork, Avondhu and Clyda Rovers, Paudie is working behind the scenes as part of the team management to the Ardigeen Rangers in the West Cork JAFC.

"I'm helping out, it's part of my role in Sports Science and coaching," he said.

Vice chairman to the Cork County GAA Board, Ger Lane congratulated Paudie on his success and paid tribute to a loyal club and county servant.

"Paudie is a talented player, epitomising all the best in Cork football. The holder of four Munster SFC and National Football League medals, All-Ireland medals in both senior and junior levels coupled with an All-Star Award from 2010, his ever presence has contributed to a run of outstanding successes," he said.

Co-ordinator Finbarr McCarthy said Paudie was fittingly recognised as a firmly established figure on the county senior starting team.

Joining Paudie at the function were Cork manager Conor Counihan, selector Brian Cuthbert, Tom Tobin of Rochestown Park Hotel, 96/c103FM Chief Executive Kieran McGeary in addition to family and Clyda Rovers club representatives.