

HISTORIC WIN FOR DROMIN ATHLACCA

Dromin Athlacca....4-11
Askeaton.....1-6

HISTORY was created in sun drenched Ballingarry on Sunday last, when Dromin Athlacca won the County Junior A Hurling Championship with consummate ease.

The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness turned into a season of joy and jubilation as Dromin Athlacca turned in a marvellous display.

Tears of joy were shed openly by many of their large band of followers. Past agonies and near miss-

es were quickly forgotten. The confidence placed by the supporters in their team was well rewarded with a superb display.

An electric atmosphere prevailed as both teams paraded behind the Ballingarry Youth Band.

Rival captains John Buckley and Seanie Fitzgerald led their heroes, as flags of blue and white and green and gold waved proudly in the beautiful pitch.

An air of expectancy prevailed as referee Denis Richardson threw in the sliotar.

Askeaton, who surprised many on their way to the

decider, were strongly out of sorts in the first half.

Dromin Athlacca were very much in tune, dominated, and had their first score after 55 seconds, a point from midfielder Paul Neenan.

Darren Moynihan had their second point in the 4th minute. Opportunist Morgan Walsh was on hand to crash home their first goal shortly afterwards.

Askeaton knew they had a big job on hand. Exchanges were closely contested for the next 10 minutes.

John Fitzgibbon gave an exhibition of hurling as he graced the field with ele-

gance and style.

He was the constant stumbling block for Askeaton. The Askeaton forward line failed to hurl as a cohesive unit.

Eddie Barry had Dromin's third point in the 14th minute. Askeaton played their best hurling over the next six. They scored three points from frees, courtesy of Brian Costello.

The floodgates then opened as Dromin upped the tempo of their game.

James Green and Paul Neenan were rampant. Johnny Buckley led by example. They scored 3-2 from the 21st minute to the

interval, with their goal scorers Mike Moynihan, Christy Costelloe and Eddie Barry.

With such a handsome lead, it was obvious that Askeaton, unable to find their range, and suspect at the back, would need to do something special on the change of ends.

At half time the game was over as a contest. The scoreboard read 4-5 to 0-3 in favour of Dromin-Athlacca.

The amazing statistics from the first half were that Askeaton failed to score from play, seven of Dromin Athlacca's players had put their names on the score-

sheet; each of the forward line had found the net.

Eamonn and Sean Barry and Patrick Ruttle were Askeaton's most impressive players.

Dromin-Athlacca dominated the opening minutes of the second half. They had points from Eddie Barry (2), Darren Moynihan and Paul Neenan. They led by 18 points with 70 minutes remaining.

The most notable features of the final 20 minutes were the injury to John Fitzgibbon, who was replaced by Ged Moynihan; Askeaton's late rally which yielded a goal from Cormac Ryan, and points from

Albert Bourke, Brian Costello and Seanie Fitzgerald.

Dromin Athlacca notched two points in the final quarter, a point from Mark Moynihan in the 17th and the closing point of the game by Eddie Barry in the 29th.

At this stage they were well and truly county champions. The final ten minutes were very scrappy, with two players from each side sent to the line.

Brendan Danaher presented the cup amidst scenes of unforseen joy. He congratulated Dromin Athlacca on their historic triumph. He thanked the

mentors behind both teams, and praised the Ballingarry club for the excellent condition of the pitch.

Each and every member of the Dromin Athlacca panel can feel proud of their achievement. The manager, Paddy Hurley, and trainer, Eddie Prenderville, were overcome with emotion.

Jimmy Lynch's excellent saves in the second half will long be remembered.

Askeaton tried their hearts out. Patrick Ruttle, Seanie Barry, Cormac Ryan, Seanie Fitzgerald and Eamonn Barry were their best players. They are sure to have benefitted greatly

from the experience. It just wasn't their day.

Askeaton: S. Barron, A. Bourke, M. Neville, P. Ruttle, E. Barry, S. Barry, A. Kenny, S. Fitzgerald, B. Costello, P. Harty, A. Bourke, D. Barry, C. Ryan, F. Ryan, M. Neville. Subs: H. Kenny, P. Condon.

Dromin Athlacca: J. Lynch, D. Herlihy, D. Scully, N. Hogan, J. Buckley, J. Fitzgibbon, M. Moynihan, P. Neenan, J. Greene, M. Walsh, J. Slattery, D. Moynihan, C. Costello, E. Barry, M. Moynihan. Subs: G. Moynihan, D. Enright.



The Dromin Athlacca team which beat Askeaton in the county junior hurling final

A tribute to Dromin/Athlacca

In sundrenched Ballingarry on a beautiful Sunday, Famed Dromin/Athlacca's hurlers, their talents did display; Multi talented John Fitzgibbon stood staunch at centre back, As the fair haired Jimmy Lynch, the sliotar did bravely whack; Den Herlihy, Don Scully, played with inspiration, John Buckley, Mark and Neill were truly a revelation, James Green the great midfielder, hurled with great might, While the inspired giant Paul Neenan, kept the bandage tight.

John Slattery and Darren Moynihan adopted roving roles, Morgan, Christy and brave Mike rejoiced at those great goals; Eddie Barry, at full forward, delighted with his score.



Dromin Athlacca supporters in full voice as their team triumph over Askeaton in the county junior hurling final.