Match report

Shannonside U11 Boys vs. Rathkeale, Sat 07/10/23 @ 10:00

Our 2nd U11 dual game of the season welcomed Rathkeale to Shanagolden on Saturday 7th October at 10:00. Beautiful morning for a game and the players served up outstanding games of football with very impressive skills on display.

Team 1 started slowly, with the passes not finding their man and they were just a bit slower than Rathkeale who contested every ball and put the lads under a lot of pressure. Our defence of Charlie Frawley and Dale Fitzgibbon held firm, making vital interceptions and tackles. These two players are forming a formidable partnership and backed up by Mark Barry in goal who is always on hand to make his customary diving saves when required. It really was a game of 2 halves as after the half-time break, the team really started playing to their potential and what potential they have! Built upon the solid foundations of Mark, Dale and Charlie, our attacking players had the confidence to attack at every opportunity. Freddie Lewis, Josh O Mahoney and Thomas Kearns started to find their passing range and their balls into our forward line of Will O Donnell and Ben Gallinagh were just brilliant at times. In their second game, they continued to attack. Again thanks to the solid foundations laid by our GK and defence. At this stage, Tommo had moved seamlessly into CB alongside Charlie and Dale drove forward from Midfield. The passing at times was premier league standard and our three U10 players of Ben Gallinagh, Oscar O Sullivan and Stuart Tobin were working so well for the team and complimented the ever running Freddie Lewis and Josh O Mahoney who were playing passes with left foot, right foot, inside and outside of the boot. Will O Donnell ran the channels and did not give the Rathkeale defence a minutes rest.
Team: Mark Barry, Charlie Frawley, Dale Fitzgibbon, Thomas Kearns, Josh O Mahoney, Freddie Lewis, Will O Donnell , Ben Gallinagh, Oscar O Sullivan, Stuart Tobin.

For team 2, they started well and from the 1st whistle took the game to Rathkeale. Our GK Lorcan Cribbin and CB's Colm O Sullivan and Sean Cribbin were outstanding and forming an incredible understanding of playing as a unit, both defensively and in starting attacks. Most impressive is their calmness under pressure to not only break down attacks, but to transition from defence to attack in just a few short passes. Our midfield trio of Michael Mullane, Luke Fitzgibbon and Sam Lewis were just everywhere and they matched their skills with an unbelievable work rate, contesting every ball, making every tackle and tracked every run to help out the defence. Up front Oisin Kelly again worked tirelessly work the team and together with our two U10 players of James Moroney and Tomas Fitzgerald, they were just a handful for the very best of defences. All three always pick the right pass or movement at the right time. Plenty of skills on display and the attacking play was unbelievable all laid with the foundation of a solid defence.
Team: Lorcan Cribbin, Colm O Sullivan, Sean Cribbin, Michael Mullane, Luke Fitzgibbon, Sam Lewis, Oisin Kelly, James Moroney, Tomas Fitzgerald.

Great games with a huge home support cheering on both sets of players. Credit to everyone of them, no bad tackles, no demonstrating with the referees! And no red cards!! Thanks to Trevor and Brendan for refereeing both games and to Deccie and Donie offering the encouragement on the sidelines. Also like to thank Shanagolden Community Council for the condition of the pitches – so well maintained. Also thanks to Barry and his Rathkeale team for travelling, what a brilliant team and I am sure we will have many battles throughout the years with them. Well done to all involved and looking forward to our next U11 game against Adare away on Saturday the 21st October, time TBC.