Match report #12

Shannonside U12 Boys (Amber team) vs. C. Celtic, Sat 16/03/24 @ 10:30, League

For our 8th league game of the season we welcomed Carrig Celtic to Shanagolden on a wet morning, but that didn't stop both teams playing a very entertaining match, with very little between the teams.

From the kick off, it was attack and the lads played some fabulous football to open up the Carrrig defence and within 60 seconds, Darragh Whelan had given us the lead. It was a brilliant move, 6 passes to the back of the net. Carrig came storming back and only 4 minutes later were level, a free kick was awarded on the edge of the box and was deflected into the net giving Jack Fitzgibbon no chance. 1-1 and both teams continued to attack. Our defence of Tomas Greaney, our captain for the day Noah O Malley and Dale Fitzgibbon were outstanding and they needed to be against a very quick and skilful attack. In midfield, Michael Cribbin, Luke Fitzgibbon, John Hanlon and Darragh Whelan were showcasing all their skills, work rate and movement and up front, Cillian O Malley was working tirelessly for the team. On 15 minutes our bench was used to add some extra energy and James Tobin and John Keane were introduced. The game was end to end and Carrig took the lead 7 minutes before half time. At half time, the only words of wisdom was to keep playing as they were, such was their play at times.

2nd half started as the first half ended, with chances at both ends and both goalkeepers were called into action to save long range shots and 1-1's with the attackers. As the minutes passed we just thought it was one of those days, but with 7 minutes remaining, Luke Fitzgibbon at the back post managed to play a ball to Darragh and he cooly slotted the ball home for his 2nd of the game and 15th of the season! There was still time for both teams to score a winner, but it ended 2-2 and it was a game that no one deserved to lose and a fair result in terrible conditions. The biggest compliment you can give any team is their work rate and attitude and these players never gave up and kept going to the very end.

Many thanks to Sean Behan who refereed brilliantly, constantly assisting the players throughout and explaining his decision making. Thanks to the parents for supporting the team and to Carrig Celtic for travelling. Our next league game will be on Saturday 30/03/24 vs Ballingarry (home), KO TBC in another Top of the Table clash.

Team: Jack Fitzgibbon, Dale Fitzgibbon, Noah O Malley (C), Tomas Greaney, Michael Cribbin, Luke Fitzgibbon, John Hanlon, Darragh Whelan, Cillian O Malley, James Tobin, John Keane. Scorers: Darragh Whelan x2