Co. Wexford 60x30 Juvenile Handball Report 23rd July

The Co. Wexford 60x30 Juvenile Singles round robin stages has all but drawn to a close, in what you could describe as a dramatic finish.

In the boys under 10 the northern county club of Coolgreany has produced the winners of both groups Eoin Kinsella (group A) and Ryan Murphy (group B). They will be joined in the semi-final stages by Conor Doyle (Taghmon) who took second place in Group A. The curtain will come down on Group B on Tuesday evening (Today) in Taghmon when the remaining three games will take place, only after these games will the other semi-finalist be known.

Over in the boys under 11 Liam Parnell (Ballyhogue) will take on one of Castlebridge’s raising young stars Joshua Roche, Liam has faced many hard challenges before and this game has the making to be a terrific contest. In the other quarter-final game, we will see two very talented players Rory Gilbert (St. Josephs) battle it out against Adam Kenny-Cronin (Coolgreany). Rory has played many games on the big stage and will hope his experience will see him overcome his gallant opponent. Both games will take place on Tuesday (Today) in the Wexford town club St. Marys. Having secured good wins in their quarter-final games Jamie Barnes will play Jack Creane both club mates and doubles partners from St. Marys in the semi-final stages.

Shane Kehoe (St. Marys) took top spot and Conor Horan (Coolgreany) runner up, will now face each other in this year’s county 60x30 under 12 singles final, both had wins over John Connors (Coolgreany) and Bobby Doyle (Taghmon) respectable.

The county finalist in the boys under 13 are group winner Johnny Goggins (St. Josephs) and Miley Connors (Coolgreany). Both chaps know each other’s game very well and this one might have the makings of a three-game thriller written all over it.

Mark Doyle (Taghmon) will have to wait another few hours before he knows who he will face in the boys under 14 county final. Tommy Connors (Coolgreany) defeated St. Josephs player Ben Keeling last week where both players went hammers and thongs at it, producing some fine handball along the way. Tommy’s win also brings Conor Murphy (Taghmon) right back into the frame of things, meaning all three players have finished on the same points. The only way to separate these boys is to have a three way off, which will take place this evening (Tuesday) in St. Marys HBC. All three players have the skills, drive and ambition to make it to the county final.

Dean O’Neill (Ballymitty) and Diarmuid Moore (St. Josephs) have advanced to the boys under 15 county final. With both players having recently paired up together to play in the 60x30 Nationals and winning the Under 15 plate, there won’t be a more competitive final than this one with the county champion title up for grabs, both will be hoping to add another honour to their list.

Josh Kavanagh (St. Josephs) has marched impressable into the boys Under 16 singles final, he now waits to see who will join him. Cian Kehoe also a St. Josephs player must take on Jack Murphy (Taghmon) in the last round robin game, it’s a case of winner takes it all, as a place county final is at stake.

Jodie Keeling (St. Josephs) continued her dominance in the Girls Under 13 and finished her round robin games in top spot. Jodie will now face her “stablemate” and very talented Ellie Murphy O’Gorman.

Over in the Girls Under 14 made up of all girls from the south county club of Ballymitty, taking the spoils were Group winner April Moran and runner up Becky O’Neill. April holds the title of 40x20 county champion 2017 and will hope to add the 60x30 to her growing list. But Becky O’Neill will feel she has every chance to clinch the title herself, who will emerge victorious in this final is anyone’s guess.

Due to unsuitable dates, the Girls Under 17 and Boys Under 17 groups are slightly behind in their round robin games. No player in either group have taken an unassailable lead but with two games in each group to played this coming week we will have to wait a little longer to know the identities of the finalists of both county finals.

The weekend coming will see some juvenile’s attention move back to the County Wexford doubles 60x30 championship, with the finals been held this coming week. The top doubles pairings will do battle for the title and honour of been crowned 60x30 Doubles Champions 2017.

The All Ireland 60x30 Nationals took place last weekend in venues across Co. Wexford. The report will follow in next weeks paper.