Co. Wexford 60x30 Juvenile Finals 2017

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all here today to this programme of Wexford 60x30 Juvenile Finals.

It was very gratifying to see a total of 121 entries from 10 different clubs across the county, taking part in our traditional 60x30 Juvenile Championships. The biggest challenge which we face at this time of year when trying to do up fixtures for so many juveniles is having to compete with hurling, football, holidays etc but to see the commitment shown by our juveniles and their parent’s is very rewarding.

For this we would like to thank all of our wonderful juveniles that took part in these championships not just today but from all the way back to Friday 5th May when the first games were played. We would also like to thank you for having the love, desire and want to play this fantastic game at a time of year when it would be easy not to.

We would especially like to thank the parents, you have encouraged your child and children in some cases to play our great sport, you have driven them up, down and across this county so they could play handball and fulfil their fixtures. Your support and presence is appreciated by both them and us. Thank You.

Special thanks must go to all 60x30 clubs and all club officials, without all your help these championships could not happen. We thank you greatly for your time with the opening of alleys, refereeing games, offering words of encouragement and guidance. It has been a pleasure to deal with you all and we really cannot stress our appreciation and heartfelt thanks enough.

We wish all our players the very best of luck with your games and ask them to remember that irrespective of the outcome of their county finals, handball is indeed a game for life.

Now all we ask, is that you sit back (try and relax, not easy when it’s your child playing), enjoy and support with great sportsmanship all our juvenile players taking part in these 2017 60x30 County Juvenile Finals.

Thank You,

Co. Wexford Juvenile Committee

PREVIEW OF FINALS

Girls Under 14 Singles Final

April Moran (BAM) v Becky O’Neill (BAM)

This final is an all Ballymitty affair, featuring two girls who know each other’s game inside out.

April had a fantastic run in the county singles round robin stages not dropping a single game or point to any of the other three Ballymitty girls in the group. Becky left it till the last round in the round robin games to secure her place here in the final, by just one point over her clubmate Danielle Kinsella, it was certainly final day drama in Ballymitty that Wednesday evening. April would be seen as the favourite coming into this final, but with Becky’s fighting spirit and a change from their familiar court, anything is possible in this one. Best of luck to both girls.

Girls Under 13 Doubles Final

Ellie Murphy O’Gorman & Elizabeth Walsh (St. Josephs) v Jodie Keeling & Sarah Taffee (St. Josephs)

It’s the turn of the Wexford town club to do battle in this doubles final. Ellie and Elizabeth received a bye at their semi-final stage. Jodie and Sarah had to see off the challenge of fellow stablemates Alannah Wogan & Rachel Goff at their semi-final stage. Ellie and Jodie recently paired up together to compete in the 13&Under girls 60x30 nationals, were they made it to the semi-finals, now they stand against each other again. Sarah would be relatively new to the game in “handball terms” but seems to have the skills and with Elizabeth already winning a previous double title this one could go either way. Whatever the outcome these girls will carry the Wexford colours with distinction in the future.

Girls Under 14 Doubles Final

April Moran & Emily Moran (BAM) v Becky O’Neill & Danielle Kinsella (BAM)

Ballymitty will be sitting pretty knowing that they will be bringing home with them both the under 14 Girls singles and doubles titles. This final brings together sisters April and Emily who join forces to take on fellow clubmates and friends Becky and Danielle. This one has the makings to be a cracker of a final and is way too close to call. Playing hard competitive finals will certainly stand to the girls today and moving forward with their development. Congratulation’s to Ballymitty for all their hard work with these four wonderful girls all your hard work bears fruit this 2017 Championship. Best of luck to all girls.

Girls Under 16 Doubles Final

Hannah Cullen & Clodagh White (St. Josephs) v Leanne Boland & Cliodhna O’Connell (COG)

Unfortunately, St. Josephs had to concede a walk over in this doubles final much to the disappointment of the northern county girls, who would have loved a chance to play the final. Best wishes to all girls with their future handball adventures. Hope to see you all back on the court soon.

Girls Under 17 Doubles Final

Eva Crean & Cora Doyle (St. Josephs) V Lauren Flanagan & Lucia Merrigan (COG)

This final would have brought together St. Josephs and Coolgreany to do battle against each other again. Unfortunately, injury forced the withdrawal of Lucia during the singles round robin stages and therefore this final cannot take place. We wish Lucia a speedy recovery from her injury and hope to see you back on the court soon. Best of luck to the remaining girls, Eva, Cora and Lauren with the remaining 60x30 handball season.

Boys Under 10 Doubles Final

Eoin Kinsella & Ryan Murphy (COG) V Conor Doyle & Danny Doyle (TAG)

The Coolgreany boys both have had a fantastic run in the county singles groups, where both boys topped their group. The Coolgreany boys will be hoping to carry their form into this final, were they will meet The Doyle cousins from Taghmon. The boys from Taghmon both had good singles campaigns, Conor has made the singles final, where himself and Eoin will clash swords again and Danny only missed out on a semi-final spot by 1 point. This game is evenly matched, who will come out victorious in this county final is anyone’s guess.

Boys Under 11 Doubles Final

James Walsh & Rory Gilbert (STJ) V Jack Creane & Jamie Barnes (STY)

The two Wexford town clubs collide in what has the makings to be an extremely close, hotly contested doubles final. The Boys Under 11 singles championships has showcased the enormous crop of talented young handballers, playing handball across the county. All four boys have skills and talent in bucket fulls and should provide us with an entertaining and thrilling final. Based on the evidence that we have seen to date, intercounty under 12 is looking very good and is in safe hands with these boys for the future. Jamie and Rory will clash on the court again next week in the singles final.

Boys Under 12 Doubles Final

Conor Horan & John Connors (COG) V Bobby Doyle & Jack Murphy (TAG)

Taking the centre stage, these four exciting young players have tremendous talent and all play skilful, eye catching handball. The boys U12 singles qualifying group was perhaps the most highly competitive, entertaining, up and down group of them all, producing fine handball the whole way through. These four boys know each other’s game inside out and each will want to win the final as much as the other. As these boys go up through the age groups developing their skills and talent along the way, they will face many more battles against each other in the future, which is great for us the Spectator.

Boys Under 14 Doubles Final

Ben Keeling & Conor Dobbs (STJ) V Mark Doyle & Conor Murphy (TAG)

The four exciting young players competing in this final are capable of dominating the game locally and at intercounty level for years to come. This is a repeat of last year’s county final when Mark and Conor took the honours, but Ben and Conor will be hoping to turn the tables this time round and also stop Mark and Conor making it three in a row. By all accounts this tie will produce a good battle, with tremendous handball to be played before the destination of this title is known. Mark and Ben will try and outwit each other again in next week’s singles final.

Boys Under 15 Doubles Final

Dean O’Neill & Gavin Lacey (BAM) V Darren Meyler & Kyle Barnwell (TAG)

This final see’s the coming together of Taghmon and Ballymitty. Darren only in his first year of playing handball and Kyle just in his second year, can take great pride on their handball development over the past twelve months. The boys will have to be on top form to take on the hard-hitting experience of Dean, who himself has a singles final to look forward to. Gavin had to withdraw due to injury from the early stages of the singles campaign, but thankfully had recovered to compete in the doubles championship. Darren and Kyle will be hoping for the “cherry on top” in this one but the Ballymitty boys know that winning feeling so won’t want to let this one go without a fight.

Boys Under 16 Doubles Final

Quentin Kehoe & Jack Murphy (TAG) V Cian Kehoe & Josh Kavanagh (STJ)

The St. Josephs pairing will clash next week in the upcoming county singles final. But today they come together to form a strong partnership, with a mountain of experience between them. The Taghmon boys have many years of handball experience between them as well and both done well in the singles group stages, they will be hoping to cause an upset. This final has promise to showcase tremendous handball and all boys will cherish this opportunity to demonstrate their fine handball skills. The Taghmon supporters would certainly love to see an upset in this premium age group.