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1959 Leader Cup Final

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Killoe's First Leader Cup Win

Longford Leader Report - 17 October 1959

Killoe 0-8, Longford Slashers 0-3

Considering the weather, and the grassy pitch, the fare served up in the Senior League Final in Ballinalee on Sunday last was good. The downpour on Saturday and early on Sunday made underfoot conditions unpleasant and the long "grass" made it next to impossible to kick a ball of the ground.

Despite the weather outlook there was a good attendance, and fair weather ruled during the game. Killoe won the game and deserved to do so. There was more determination about their approach. Eight points to three in favour of Killoe was the final tally. Of the eleven flags six came from frees, and the remainder – all scored by Killoe – from play

That there was a certain amount of "needle" in the game was obvious from the start but referee Niall McKnight was obviously in control from the start, and save that one player got marching orders near the end, the game was well played.

Slashers were first to score, but Killoe were on level terms by the interval with each side having registered three points. Longford failed to raise a flag in the second period, but they could claim a certain amount of hard luck in their only serious scoring effort of this half, when a shot rebounded off the crossbar and an attempt to fist it to the net failed.

However, had that effort succeeded, it would not have materially altered the result. Killoe were by them five points in front and time was running out. Seamus McGuire, Vincent Duignan, Mick Bracken, Billy Morgan, Tom McGoldrick and Seamus Igoe were most impressive of a good all-round Killoe side. Bracken's three second half points from play must earn him serious consideration for a forward berth on the county, though he generally plays as a half back.

Joe Dean, Phil Donohoe and Noel Caslin worked hard in the Longford defence. P. Gearty, M. Gilleran and M. Kelly were good in spots, but the spots were too far apart. V. Duignan (0-3 from frees), M. Bracken (0-3), B. Morgan and Joe Quinn had the Killoe scores.

M. Gilleran (0-2) and P. Gearty (0-1), all from frees, scored for Longford. Both teams missed repeatedly.

And the spectators deserve some measure of praise too, for, despite the absence of an enclosed pitch they kept the lines reasonably clear, and there wasn't any serious curtailment of the playing area.

It was a good idea to have linesmen and umpires from a club that hadn't anything other than an academic interest in the outcome, and it might be well if the Board adopted that policy in all future games, or at least in the more important ones, though one supposes every game is important to some group or individual