



Web Archive Document

2011 Ladies Senior Championship Final

WWW.KILLOEGAA.IE

Killoe retain ladies county senior title

Killoe 1 – 12

Ballymore 2 – 8

A point from a free converted by Anne Marie Bratten in the fourth minute of stoppage time saw Killoe snatch the county title and it was a very close call for the reigning champions who needed to produce a strong finish to get the better of Ballymore in the Ladies Senior Football Championship Final at Pearse Park.

Ballymore held a two-point lead going into the closing stages of this tight contest but Killoe kept their composure to get back on level terms thanks to a brace of frees from full-forward Bratten in the 56th and 60th minutes.

Ballymore were now under serious pressure but looked like holding out for a draw after Killoe kicked three wides in a row before the winning score eventually materialised when the prominent Bratten hit the target to register her sixth point of the game.

The Brady sisters Lizzie and Jacinta at midfield, along with Sabrina Hackett and Sharon Treacy in the attack, were others to make a considerable impact for Killoe who were very relieved to emerge victorious against a spirited Ballymore outfit who led by 1-6 to 0-6 at the break after playing with the advantage of the wind in the first half.

Killoe made the better start with points from Sabrina Hackett and Anne Marie Bratten (free) before Ballymore got a big boost when effective full-forward Elaine Reilly scored a goal direct from a close range free that was brought forward for dissent.

Back came Killoe with points from Bratten and Jacinta Brady but the balance of power switched to Ballymore for the remainder of the first half as they outscored their opponents 0-6 to 0-2 and played some fine football in the process.

However, the champions upped the tempo at the start of the second half to clock up 1-2 on the trot. Quick points from Anne Marie Bratten (free) and Lizzie Brady were followed by a somewhat lucky goal from Fiona Fox whose low drive evaded the grasp of opposing keeper Mary Kiernan as the ball ended up in the back of the net in the 35th minute.

But Ballymore recovered well from this setback and three minutes later a centre from first half substitute Sabrina Kelly was finished to the net by Aisling Reynolds who made a number of penetrating runs in making her presence felt

Almost immediately Sabrina Hackett fired over the equalising point for Killoe when a goal was on. Ballymore then went back in front when Elaine Reilly converted a close range free but were fortunate not to concede goals in quick succession with their keeper Mary Kiernan producing brilliant point-blank saves to keep out shots from Sharon Treacy and Anne Marie Bratten.

Another Elaine Reilly point from a free in the 52nd minute left Ballymore leading by 2-8 to 1-9 but the experienced Killoe team refused to panic and went on to completely dominate the closing stages of the game with three scores from Anne Marie Bratten frees clinching a very hard earned success.

KILLOE: Laura Gallagher; Fiona Toher, Marie Carrigy, Niamh Devaney; Kathryn Lynch, Antoinette Brady, Sharon Treacy (0-2); Lizzie Brady (0-1), Jacinta Brady (0-1); Anna McDonnell, Edel Quinn, Sabrina Hackett (0-2); Maggie Brady, Anne Marie Bratten (0-6, five frees), Fiona Fox (1-0).