**Narrow loss for City in Garryowen Cup**

Waterford City RFC 8

Clonmel RFC 13

Waterford City ran 1st Division side Clonmel close in the opening round of the Garryowen Cup last Friday night in Kilbarry, City came out of the blocks early and dominated the opening 20 mins of the game with the scrum being the key area , back rowers Cian Foskin and Sean O Mahoney seemed to be everywhere and No 8 Trevor Griffin kept punching holes in the Clonmel defense. Good link play between forwards and backs led to City finding themselves just 10 meters from the Clonmel tryline where Eamon O Keefe found a gap and touched down for the opening score of the game but the conversion was missed. Clonmel came back hard with their backline beginning to find holes and City’s back 3 managed to halt the attack. City kept up the pressure but can feel they squandered two try scoring opportunities, just before half time Clonmel conceded a penalty just in front of the posts and Darren Walsh converted to leave City leading 8-0. The 2nd half began with Clonmel looking a lot more settled and some lazy play from City at the ruck allowed their outhalf slot over a penalty from just inside the City half. 5 mins later Clonmel added another 3 points to bring the score to 8-6 and they were starting to gain more control of this game . More and more Clonmel’s backs looked to spread the ball but some excellent defense from Nicky Jacob , with one massive hit in particular kept Clonmel out. The City scrum continued to dominate Clonmel and this relieved pressure and allowed City to move the play into the Clonmel half. On 70mins a powerful rolling maul from City brought play deep into Clonmel territory and just 5 yards from their line they managed to turn over a loose pass which was swiftly moved wide, City were caught with the counter attack and a long range kick allowed the speedy Clonmel winger to pick the ball and touch down, the try was converted and Clonmel led for the first time 13-8. It was a very cruel score to concede but City rallied and a barging run from replacement back row Tom Bowe brought City into the Clonmel 22, a late challenge on Mick Costello resulted in the Clonmel prop seeing a yellow card and now City found themselves 10 yards from the Clonmel line for the remaining minutes of the game. On the last play a scrum was awarded to Waterford 5 yards from the tryline but the Clonmel prop went down injured which led to an uncontested scrum. City picked and went but Clonmel were resolute in defence and managed to turn over the ball, kick it out and claim the win. Heartbreaker for City who preformed well against a good Clonmel side, we would like to thank Clonmel for a great game and wish them all the best this season. Next Sunday we will be back in action with a friendly home game against Dungarvan , KO 2:30.

**Women’s Training**

Our Women team training continues every Monday & Wednesday at 7:00 – 8:30, beginners more than welcome.

**Youths and Mini’s**

All of our underage have returned to training. If you have a child interested in rugby please contact Jimmy Foskin on 0863327327

Mini’s(ages 5-12) Sunday mornings at 11:00-12:00

U-13 & U-14 Wednesdays and Fridays 6:00 – 7:15

U-15 ,U-16 & U-18 Wednesdays at 7:00 – 8:15 Fridays 6:00 – 7:15