

## **Waterford City Club Notes**

**13/03/2016**

### **Casey Cup Semi Final – J2**

#### **Clonmel 13 v Waterford City 12**

Tries: Mark Hayes, Jason Power

Conversion: Mark Hayes

MOM: Stephen Walsh

Waterford City was delighted to finally play a game as they completed only their second fixture of the calendar year with an away trip to Clonmel in the Casey Cup. The Casey Cup is a trophy not only run by Waterford City, but City are also the current holders and was keen to keep hold of this silverware.

City started brightly with the conditions suiting their offloading game. The forwards were punching holes and consistently breaking the gain line with some good offloads. City dominated territory and in defence, in the opening quarter, Connor White was outstanding at the breakdown forcing three turnovers and tackling effectively. City deservedly opened the scoring with a glowing 60 metre move following good inter change play room forward and backs with Mark Hayes scoring after being put into space well by man of the match Stephen Walsh.

However, Clonmel aren't the best junior club in Munster for no reason and they pack a playing squad full of depth and quality. City's defence around the fringes was excellent, but a couple of missed tackles in the back line allowed Clonmel to canter under the posts for a score that leveled the game. City continued to create chances, Alex Fitzmaurice in particular having some barnstorming runs and Paddy Halloran and Liam Hayes playing with the increased aggression that was asked from them but the final pass or a misplaced offload stopped City bothering the scorers further. Clonmel as always, with the experienced Brian Lonergan at 10, utilised the breeze in the first half but Stephen Walsh was in mesmeric form and looking a menace every time he fielded the ball and was well supported by his wingers. As half time approached, City were harshly penalized at the breakdown and Clonmel duly converted two penalties for a six point lead at the break.

The half time team talk was positive as City had probably shaded the first half in terms of playing style. However, the second half needed City to be bright and patient and to use the conditions. Victories are ground out by good defence, and coach Peter Jones was pleased with the improvement in this area in the second half with City not conceding any points. However, Clonmel's defence was just as dogged and determined and City, despite creating chances didn't convert. City were fortunate this year to boast a large playing squad and the introduction of a strong bench on 50 minutes would hopefully turn the tie in City's favour. However, Clonmel's bench was as equally as strong and the game continued as an arm wrestle with some high quality rugby. Stephen Walsh continued to break well and with Jason Power and Elliot O'Mahoney working tirelessly at the breakdown City believed they could win. With 7 minutes left, both sides were feeling the physical effects of the game and defences were stretched. However, City got the try they deserve when

Fintan Purcell spotted some space on the blindside and Jason Power ran 30 metres to score with Mark Hayes on his shoulder. The conversion was on the 15 metre line but slipped agonizingly wide.

Credit must be given to the 15 City players on the field as they picked themselves up and battered the Clonmel try line, receiving four penalties in the last 3 minutes inside the Clonmel 22. Clonmel defended as strongly as ever and with the last play of the game, City went into contact five meters short with the referee adjudging the ball unplayable to signal the end to City's defence of the Casey Cup. Credit must go to both teams as this was a game high on quality and drama and proves the importance of meaningful J2 fixtures.

On Sunday 20th March, City welcome Ballincolling in only their fifth home league game of the season as we aim to maintain our 100% record in league competition in 2016.

As always, many thanks to all of our supporters and sponsors Done Deal at donedealjobs.ie and the Kingfisher club.

Paddy Halloran, Brian Walsh, Alex Fitzmaurice, Liam Hayes, Brian Kinsella, Connor White, Ed Mullally, Jason Power, Mark Hayes, Fintan Purcell, Dave Healy, Aaron Whelan, James Halligan, Cain McCarthy, Stephen Walsh

Andrew Condrón, Ben Duggan, Elliot O'Mahoney, Jake Phillips, Peter Jones

### **U18's Munster Bowl Semi Final**

Kanturk 25 v Waterford City 12

### **U16's East Munster Cup**

#### **Waterford City 45 v Cashel 12**

Tries: David Glynn (3), Donagh O Connor (1), Luis Byrne (1), Conall Roche (1)

Conversions: Cian Wadding (6)

Penalty: Cian Wadding (1)

City started strong against Cashel on a lovely Sunday afternoon in Kilbarry. City scored 4 tries in the first half, a hat trick of scores by David Glynn and Donagh O Connor also went over for the 4th try. All tries were converted by Cian Wadding which left City 28-0 ahead at the half time break. Cashel came out strongly in the second half and scored two tries, one of which was converted. City finished the game with two more tries from Luis Byrne and Conall Roche; again both tries were converted by on form Cian Wadding. The final score saw City win 45- 12. Some great running rugby from the city squad. Well done all.

### **Mini's Rugby**

Blitz next weekend in Kilbarry versus Tramore. Kick-off is at 10.30 so all children need to be at the pitch for 10am.

### **Dinner Dance**

The Waterford City RFC Dinner Dance is on April 22nd in the Woodlands Hotel. Tickets on sale every Sunday morning at the club house or you can contact Club President Jemma Jacob directly. Tickets 40pp. All welcome, parents, players, friends and family.

### **Majadahonda of Madrid visit Kilbarry**

Waterford City RFC are hosting Majadahonda RFC from Madrid next weekend. Teams from Dungarvan and Clonmel are taking part in the rugby tournament in our clubhouse in Kilbarry on Saturday. Kick off is 12.30pm. All welcome to come out and support our teams.