



1978-1979

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17/09/1978

St. Columbas 0 St. Conals 4

Visitors, St. Conals, had most of the play in a scrappy first half that saw them go into a deserved 1-0 lead on a grassy Drumogholl pitch. Sean Moloney beat keeper Conroy with a poorly struck penalty after Columba's midfielder Hugo Toner pushed an opposing forward in the area while jumping for a corner.

St. Conal's continued where they left off at the beginning of the second half by adding two more goals to their tally. The first score was hotly contested with the Columba's players claiming that no less than three players were off-side when the ball was slotted through to the scorer, Cyril White. Moments later the same player added another goal when a fierce shot by man of the match Jess Purtill was only parried by Raymond Conroy, Columba's keeper.

Although the Drumoghill team settled down and pressurised the nurses after this, they could not reduce the deficit and Stanley White hammered the last nail in their coffin with a free kick score in the last minute.

Best for Columba's were: J. Tinney, P. Curran, S. Dolan.

Best for St. Conal's: Jess Purtill, Keith Sheils and Vincent Blake.

24/09/1978

St. Columba's back on winning trail

**LURGY CELTIC 2
ST. COLUMBA'S 3**

After losing 4-0 to St. Conal's in their first game of the season, St. Columba's showed a much improved side of their game against Lurgy Celtic when they won by the odd goal in the best of five.

Their star was veteran Seamus Neely, who scored two gem goals—one from a header following a corner, and the other was a beautifully placed free kick.

Patsy Curran was the other marksman.

Joe Gallagher and A. Quigley scored for Lurgy.

01/10/1978

Boring stuff at Letterbarrow

**LETTERBARROW.....2
ST. COLUMBA'S2**

After a rather boring scoreless first half, soccer fans at Letterbarrow were given a real treat after the break when there were four well worked goals to be savoured. However, the home fans had to wait until the dying minutes of the match to get their equaliser when P. McGrory scored.

P. Barry scored Letter's first goal, while Ray Porter and Sean Dolan were the scorers for the Saints.

Best for St. Columba's were A. Porter and K. Harkin.

08/10/1978

Dunfanaghy disappoint

ST. COLUMBA'S 5
DUNFANAGHY 0

A very disappointing Dunfanaghy eleven were comprehensively outclassed by St. Columba's in this Division Two game at the Moss, Drumoghill. Always the fitter and faster side, St. Columba's hit home five goals and could have got more.

Heroes for the day for the Moss men were the Curran brothers who scored four of their side's five-goal tally. Patsy Curran got a fine hat-trick and John got another. D. Quinn was the scorer of the fifth Columba's goal.

15/10/1978

Saints move to second

ST. COLUMBA'S 3
BONAGEE..... 1

With this good win over leaders Bonagee, St. Columba's move into second spot in the 3rd Division, just a point behind leaders St. Conal's.

Although the home side had more of the possession in the first period, it was Bonagee who looked the more dangerous on the attack, although no really clear-cut chances were created.

The Saints, however, were first to score when Patsy Curran dribbled to the right edge of the "18" and let fly with a shot that went just inside keeper O'Donnell.

Declan Gallagher made it two ten minutes into the second half but Bonagee grabbed one back with a P. Martin lob from the edge of the area after a defensive mix-up. The visitors really piled on the pressure after this and it seemed that they would force a draw. Columba's, however, after a long clearance from defence, followed up and Malachy Crawford and John Tinney forced Bonagee defender McGuire to make the mistake which led to an own goal. This left the Dry Arch men two behind again with just five minutes to go, and they resigned themselves to the lost cause.

29/10/1978

Coll shines for Glenea

ST. COLUMBA'S 1
GLENEA 1

A draw was a fair result for this brilliant game of football as neither side deserved to win or lose this clash between two of the top sides in the Second Division.

After a scoreless first half, it was fitting that Anton Coll should score the first goal of the match for his side, Glenea, for he was the best player afield. The Saints came back, however, to score with the best move of the match. Player-manager E. Neily crossed over to Declan Gallagher, who converted to leave the sides level with a beautiful overhead kick. Both sides had chances to take the points but there was no further score.

Best for St. Columba's: D. Gallagher, P. Duddy, J. Tinney, R. Conroy.

Best for Glenea: C. Gallagher, A. Coll, J. Murphy.

Referee: Mr. E. McNulty (Ballybofey).

05/11/1978

***Three 'keepers
for Columba's***

ST. COLUMBA'S 1
DRUMKEEN UTD. 1

The unusual happening in this game was that St. Columba's had to use no less than three goalkeepers during the match. Number one got injured and was replaced by number two who was only on the field for a few minutes before he, too, had to retire. Number three, fortunately, lasted the remaining part of the game.

On the scoring front, Noel Bonner put Drumkeen into the lead after fifteen minutes, but Danny Gallagher negatived this just five minutes later. There were other chances but a draw was a fair result for both teams.

26/11/1978

KERRYKEEL 3
ST. COLUMBA'S 2

One of the most exciting games in the first round of the I.A.W.S. Cup last Sunday resulted from the pairing of Kerrykeel and the talented Second Division St. Columba's. Closely contested throughout, both sides had chances to wrap up the result, with finally the home side proving the superior of the two on the day in score-taking, and deciding the issue just seven minutes from the end.

J. Kelly opened the scoring with a goal for the home Kerrykeel side, but new signing H. Gillespie, ex-Letterkenny Rovers, left it 1-1 with a well-taken score before the interval.

Best player on the visiting side, he put them into the lead with seventeen minutes gone in the second period, but straight from the centre Kerrykeel severely punished Columba's laxness after their score to leave it all square once again.

A good shot from long-serving John Doherty brought a better save from the visiting 'keeper, but Kerrykeel forward F. Gallagher was quickly on the breaking ball to finish it to the back of the net.

Best for Kerrykeel: J. McCar-
ron.

Best for Columba's: H.
Gillespie.

Referee—B. Porter.

18/02/1979

Another win for Dunfanaghy

DUNFANAGHY 3
ST. COLUMBA'S..... 1

The most controversial incident of the day was definitely that which occurred fifteen minutes into the second half of this Second Division game between Dunfanaghy and St. Columba's last Sunday. Referee Christy Callaghan awarded a penalty to the home side, and just as marksman Tommy McGinley was about to take his shot one of the protesting St. Columba's players coolly picked up the ball while his team-mates surrounded the official protesting about his decision. Faced with this unusual development, and in the light of earlier bookings and warnings he had given the visitors, referee Callaghan decided to abandon the game. It will be more than interesting to see what stand will be taken by the Disciplinary Committee on the matter.

The homesters took off at top speed and had their opponents reeling in the first half in which they knocked in two fine goals past custodian R. Conroy. The first came with a cross from the right which J. McCarry met full-bloodedly for a cracking goal, and Seamus Friel made it two shortly after when he headed a cross from the left to the back of the net.

J. McGinley made it three with an opportunist goal early in the second half and the Dunfanaghy men were on their way to victory.

Columba's got one back through P. Duddy, but there was no holding the Dunfanaghy men, and J. McGinley made it three just after the interval.

Despite the victory, however, the "Seasiders" still remain second from bottom in the Division.

Dunfanaghy: Sam Starrett, John Baird, Patrick McGinley, H. Brogan, Tommy McGinley, T. McGarvey, J. McGinley, P. Kilgannon, J. McCarry, Seamus Friel, E. McGinley.

03/03/1979

DIVISION TWO

Glenree	14	9	3	2	21
Ballintra	14	8	2	4	18
St. Conal's	14	7	3	4	17
Glenea	14	7	3	4	17
Bonagee	13	6	3	4	15
St. Columbas	13	5	3	5	13
Drumkeen	14	4	4	6	12
Letterbarrow	14	3	2	9	8
Dunfanaghy	13	2	4	7	8
Lurgy Celtic	13	3	1	9	7

The game with Dunfanaghy would be the last game that the club would play under the name of "St. Columba's". It's controversial ending led to the club being ejected from the league with 5 games to play.

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