



# TULLOW C.S MATCH REPORT



## *BATTLING TCS COME UP SHORT AS NAAS PROGRESS TO SEMIS IN FR GODFREY CUP!!*

**Reporting by:** *Rory Gavin & Kayleigh Doran -Active School Flag Reporting Team*



After a memorable win against Tempelogue the Tullow Community School Junior rugby team made the trip to Energia Park in Donnybrook for the Quarter-Final of the Father Godfrey Junior Cup. Having advanced so far in this competition, which is a level above the schools grade, the T.C.S side knew they would face stiff opposition in the form of Naas CBS.

The game started evenly with both sides enjoying some early possession and their fair share of the play. With the stakes so high in a knock out game both teams were wary of over committing early in the game and the first 10 minutes played out with both teams cautiously probing for openings in each others defensive lines. It was Naas who found their footing in the game as the half wore on however and they soon started to exert pressure on the Tullow backline. A continuous wave of Naas attacks seen Tullow pinned back and the deadlock was eventually broken when centre Matthew Costello went through just under the post for the games opening try. His centre partner Darragh Culligan made no mistakes with the easy conversion and Naas lead 7-0. Tullow enjoyed a good spell of possession immediately after the try and had chances of their own but when Naas went on a break away attack No.8 Oisín Brien found himself through to touch down for their second

try of the game which Culligan again made easy work of from the tee with the conversion. Trailing 14-0 in the game the T.C.S lads could have put their heads down but as they've shown all year this team never backs down from a challenge. Tullow rallied and fought their way back into the game and their hard work paid dividend when so great passing seen No.8 Senan Keating get the ball out wide and sprint down the near sideline to get his side off the mark. Tullow were in the ascendancy now and kept the momentum going when Full Back Aaron Dowling went on a mazy run throught the Naas line and broke clear for an amazing solo try and the T.C.S lads were right back in the game. An injury to the knee of prop Brooklyn Byrne seen him replaced just before halftime by Tyreese Kavungu and an exciting first half ended with the score at 14-10.





The second half began much as the first half had with both teams happy to share possession without over committing in attack. But as in the first half it was again the lads from Naas who found that all important break through. A great team move with several passages of good play seen out-half Cian McKeivitt put through out wide for Naas third try of the game. Brooklyn Byrne playing through the pain was reintroduced when hooker Lorcan Byrne had to be replaced early in the second half. T.C.S again showed their fighting spirit and were close on many occasions to closing the gap but the Naas defense held strong. This push for a third try seemed to drain a lot of energy from the Tullow side and as the game began to open up Naas winger Philip Brannigan found his way through a tired defense for the decisive try of the game and reestablished Naas 14

point lead. Tullow dug deep again and tireless work from centres Daire Byrne and Brynn Nolan and back rows Darragh Corocoran and Darragh Butler helped to steady the ship. With the introduction of fresh bodies from the bench with Cian Murphy, Rian Byrne and Adam Byrne being introduced, T.C.S made for one last push. The team kept going to the bitter end and their efforts were rewarded when with the last play of the game winger Ruben Capota gave Tullow a well earned consolation try and finished the game on a score line of 24-15.





Tullow coach Mr Thorton said the school was *"immensely proud of this teams achievements so far and they showed great spirit and determination to stay in the game and fight to the bitter end"* he said that *"although they are disappointed today the game will stand to them as we look forward to the semi-final of the Duff cup"*

*Tullow C.S Team:*

1. Brooklyn Byrne	2. Lorcan Byrne
3. Jacob Sherlock	4. Paddy Nolan
5. Darragh O' Reilly	6. Darragh Butler
7. Darragh Corcoran	8. <b>Senan Keating</b>
9. Matthew Kearney O'Brien	10. Daniel Haskins
11. Ruben Capota	12. Brynn Nolan
13. Daire Byrne	14. Joseph Gibbons
15. Aaron Dowling	16. Rian Byrne
17. Freddie Walsh	18. Dylan Ruane
19. Adam Byrne	20. Cian Murphy
21. Tyreese Kavungu	22. James Sibbald
23. Markuss Ragelis	24. Kyle Doran