



# TULLOW C.S MATCH REPORT



## *T.C.S JUNIORS ARE DUFF CUP CHAMPIONS!!*

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



The Tullow Community School Junior Rugby travelled to Naas GFC rugby grounds on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April to contest the Duff Cup final against Templeogue College. In what was a rematch of the fiercely contested Father Godfrey Cup encounter played back in January, which T.C.S won on a scoreline of 15-5, both teams arrived in Naas knowing that only their best would be good enough to lift the Duff Cup. Unlike their last encounter, which was played out in horrific weather, conditions on the day were ideal for rugby and everyone arrived at the ground anticipating an entertaining game and none were left disappointed.

Roared on by a large contingent of lively & enthusiastic T.C.S supporters that made the trip to Naas to cheer on their team, the Tullow lads dominated the early minutes and had the ball deep in Templeogue's half for much of the opening exchanges. The constant Tullow pressure eventually paid dividends when in the 7th minute the ball was worked through to inside centre Brynn Nolan in the middle of the field, who made a powerful run between the Templeogue players before offloading the ball with one arm to his fellow centre Daire Byrne out near the side-line. Daire sensing the opportunity drew the Templeogue man to him and quickly moved the ball out to Ruben Capota on the wing who rounded out an excellent team move to run in for Tullow's first try of the match under the posts. Tullow out half Daniel Haskins converted the try leaving Tullow up 7-0.



As would be expected from a side of their quality this early Tullow break through spurred the Templeogue team into life and it was their turn to dominate proceedings for the next 5 minutes of the game. In what was a brilliant response to an early set back the Templeogue lads replied quickly, and with 12 minutes gone they caught the Tullow defence napping and scored a well worked try under the posts which the Templeogue No.10 duly converted, leaving the score evenly poised 7-7. The next 10 minutes seen both teams create opportunities for tries, however great tackling from both defences prevented any scores. Tullow had to rely on great work from their forward pack to gain hard yards with Darragh O'Reilly, Brooklyn Byrne & Jacob Sherlock all making their presence felt in open play and strong running from Cian Murphy, Paddy Nolan, Darragh Butler & Senan Keating starting to gain some momentum for their team. With the game in the balance both teams knew the next score could be important and in the 24<sup>th</sup> minute Tullow were slowly working the ball forward on the wing when Daire Byrne found an opening and darted in behind the Templeogue line for a try. The conversion was from a difficult angle and



unfortunately Daniel Haskins narrowly missed and so the half time whistle came with Tullow taking a narrow lead into the break on a score of 12-7



Both teams came out full of energy to start the second half and it began with end-to-end action and opportunities for both sides. Again, the T.C.S backline were looking menacing from open play with scrum half Matthew Kearney O'Brien providing good quick ball to wingers Ruben Capota & Joseph Gibbons and full back Aaron Dowling. However, Templeogue held their ground and put a lot of pressure on Tullow which nearly cumulated in a try when they were camped on the Tullow line only for some heroic defending from the T.C.S team, who did amazingly and held the Templeogue man up to deny what could have been a pivotal score.



The defining point of the game was to come on the 18th minute mark when Tullow second row Daragh Corcoran had the ball 50 metres from goal, and he took full advantage of a tiring Templeogue team. Daragh set off on an amazing individual run weaving in and out of the Templeogue players who had no chance of stopping him as he carried the ball all the way across the pitch to the corner for the best try of the day. It was another difficult angle for the conversion and so it unfortunately wasn't converted.



Try as they might Templeogue couldn't regain a foot hold in the game and with the clock in the red, Tullow had the ball in front of the posts and were awarded a penalty which Darragh Butler stepped up to and slotted through for the 3 points which sealed the Tullow win. The ref blew the final whistle, and the Tullow CS team along with their ecstatic supporters, celebrated a 20-12 win over Templeogue College to see captain Brynn Nolan lift the Duff Cup 2023.



***Tullow C.S Team:***

1. Darragh O'Reilly	2. Brooklyn Byrne
3. Jacob Sherlock	4. Daragh Corcoran
5. Cian Murphy	6. Darragh Butler
7. Paddy Nolan	8. Senan Keating
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 Walshe	18. Dylan Ruane
19. Adam Laaraichi Byrne	20. Dylan Walker
21. Tyreese Kavungu	22. Kyle Doran
23. Fergal O'Toole	24. Lorcan Byrne
25. James Sibbald	26. Niall Delaney
27. Markuss Regalis	28. Conor Haskins