

## FAST Sport



## Wesley survive storm to claim Premier title

WESLEY survived a second half High School onslaught to claim their first Senior Premier League title in Grange Road, clinging on to a narrow 2-1 victory.

All the goals came in a hectic opening 19 minutes as Emily Reid and Saoirse O'Donoghue exchanged goals before Rachel Coleman potted what proved the ultimate winner.

But it scarcely told the tale of a real back-to-the-wall second half performance as the Rathgar school created a series of gifted chances while Wesley keeper Carolyn Crampton was immense between the posts. The first came off the back of Sara Quill's thunderbolt penalty corner striker, Jenny Long – a cricket international – blocked it on the line brilliantly and she smothered the rebound too only for the ball to fall to Reid who potted from close range.

O'Donoghue responded soon after in superb fashion as Siobhan McMannus intercepted on halfway, leaving a three-on-two situation which was executed perfectly.

McMannus and McCullough's passes eliminated the last lines of defence for O'Donoghue who ghosted left out of Crampton's reach before clipping home a crisp reverse.

Another intercept almost opened the door for McCullough while Long's overlapping was a big threat down the right for High School. They were caught short at the back, however, as Quill busted through a pair of tackles and her enticing pass saw Amber Kinlan bravely get a stick in ahead of Lia McCann and the last defender.

She ended up in a heap but the touch was enough to redirect the ball perfectly for Coleman to poke home unopposed.

From there, it was a case of battering down the hatches. Long's penalty corner strike was diverted around the post by Katharine Armitage while Ailish Long saw her effort early in the second half smothered by Crampton.

Her innovative runs three times had her through on goal but the finish just would not come as Wesley hassled and harried to scramble over the winning line.



**SOGGER: ST KILIAN'S SUCCEEDED AT LEINSTER SCHOOLS LEVEL**

The St Kilian's DSD senior side just before their Leinster B Cup final in Arklow last week

# Saints see off New Ross

## LEINSTER B CUP FINAL

St Kilian's, DSD 5  
GSS New Ross 1

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ST KILIAN'S, after being defeated in the previous year's final, bounced back to record an emphatic victory in windswept, damp conditions in Arklow last week.

Despite the atrocious weather, both teams managed to play a free-flowing style and it was Jessie Kamm who opened the scoring for the Clonskeagh side 15 minutes into the game. He sprung the offside

trap and raced clear to finish coolly into the bottom corner despite the attentions of an opposing defender.

Kamm doubled his side's lead 10 minutes later when he found space on the edge of the box to curl a shot into the opposite corner.

The lead was maintained until half time, though Sven Bartels was unlucky not to add a third just before the break but his attempt went narrowly wide.

The boys from New Ross opened brightly in the second period, assisted by a strong, wet

breeze and the Dublin boys had to be resilient and concentrated to thwart any dangers to their lead.

Then, 10 minutes into the second half, Nika Arevadze finished off a classic counter-attack when he slotted in St Kilian's third goal just inside the far post from an acute angle.

New Ross never gave up and got their just rewards when Niall Wickham pulled one back.

This added a new tenseness to proceedings but St Kilian's were able to relax a little

when a Brian McCann free kick was parried by Dan Nieuws in the New Ross goal, only for Noah Sandys to apply the finishing touch to the rebound.

New Ross continued to work and battle at the same intensity as at the start of the game but St Kilians defended resolutely and added a fifth goal when Bartels made up for his earlier near miss by shooting strongly into the Wexford net.

So, St Kilian's lifted the trophy after seeing off Greenhills College, St Tiernan's, Scoil Aire-

agail Ballyhale and St Fintan's Enfield on the way to the final.

They went on to face Munster champions Nagle Community College a couple of days later in the RSC in Waterford in the All-Ireland semi-final.

It was there, however, that their impressive run came to an end as the Cork side came out on top of an incredibly tight fixture by a single goal.

Nonetheless, they will look back proudly on their Leinster success, gaining a modicum of revenge over New Ross.

## SEAN GAEL AWARDS

### Martin and Glennon

### pick up lifetime honour

NAOMH OIaf's John Martin and Ballyboden St Enda's Patsy Glennon received Sean Gael awards at Erin's Isle last week. Martin is pictured with Andy Kettle, Dublin county board chairman, at the ceremony.

They were honoured with Cumann Luthleas Gael Merit awards for over 60 years of service to their clubs. The Sean Gael awards is a method of paying tribute to GAA members by the county board for their lifetime of service.

