18th February 2017, 14:00

Venue: Milltown

Milltown 1-11
Rathcoffey 1-9

Holders Milltown got their Dowling Cup campaign off to a solid start with a narrow victory over Rathcoffey on Saturday.

Colin O’Shea and Kevin Byrne were the key figures as Milltown dominated the first quarter. O’Shea’s attacks from the No.6 position was proving to be the difference between the teams. After a neat one-two with brother Ronan, he fistedto the empty net to give Milltown a three-point lead by the twenty-minute mark. The visitors kept chipping away at the deficit however, and pulled level by the break (1-3 to 0-6).

Milltown started the third quarter strongly and drew three clear again thanks to points by Ronan O’Shea, James Byrne and John Sheehan. However, a penalty at the three-quarter mark drew Rathcoffey level again with ten to play.

Either team looked capable of victory at this stage but late points by Omar Dunne and sub Alan Dignam gave the home team.