A huge thank you to Liz Buckley for the match report.

LGFA Round 1 Division 4
U16 Championship
Milltown 6-09
Rathangan 3-01
Referee: Eoin Murphy

15th Feb 2020

On a very dull and windy (but dry morning) this match got underway at 11.30am at Rathangan GAA. Both these teams contested the U15 Division 5 league County final played last autumn at which stage Milltown took the spoils and from the throw in both teams showed that they were ready for a replay!

Milltown won the toss and played with a very strong but gusting wind in the first half. Both teams came out with fighting spirit. There were lengthy stretches of the game when the ball was played from one end of the pitch and back without any score accruing to either side. It was 6 minutes into the game before Milltown opened the scoring with a well worked point followed quickly by a goal and shortly after that by a second goal. And then the skies opened - driving rain and gusting wind! This did not dampen the spirit of these two teams though. They continued to fight for every ball, contest every kick out and despite the conditions, played some very skilful football. It was Milltown who were rewarded with the scores, racking up 3-06 in total while keeping Rathangan scoreless until the dying minutes of the half when they breached the Milltown defence to score a point followed immediately with a goal. Milltown pulled the goal back to leave the half time score at Milltown 4-06; Rathangan 1-01.

On the restart, Milltown opened the scoring with a point worked up the pitch from the throw in. Having played the first half against that strong wind the Rathangan team did not show any signs of tiredness and continued to battle hard throughout the field. The Milltown defence though held tight. It took a while for Rathangan to get to grips with the strength of the gusting wind with many passes being carried too far and into the hands of the Milltown players. Rathangan did break through the Milltown defence on two occasions to be rewarded with two goals. Milltown added a further 2-02 to their tally leaving the full time score at Milltown 6-09; Rathangan 3-01.

It was a hard fought match played in horrible weather conditions by two very passionate teams. Thanks to Rathangan GAA for hosting the match. Thanks to all the supporters, mentors and our referee on the day but a huge thank you to the players of both teams for a great display of football.