

Senior Boys u19's Basketball Game

Final score 45-36 to Castleknock Community College (CCC)



The seniors game did not disappoint as their first game back after the long break and needless to say they brought their all in the game played early on Tuesday morning. The ball was thrown at 10.40am at Castleknock Community College (CCC) and Mount Temple (MT) were ready; creating dominance on the court after not winning the throw in. CCC gained their first basket of the game but MT regained their place after fifth year player Cal McCullagh was awarded a penalty from a push foul, tying the score at 2-2 in the first 5 minutes.

CCC did not let their game drop after McCullagh's scoring and they were quick to regain authority. At 10:48am they began to show control of the game with 2 baskets. A sideline ball was taken by CCC but was quickly stolen away by Dan Byrne who drove a lay up that proved to be an indicator of his form on the day. The first quarter ended on 10-8 with CCC ahead by 2.

Putting a start to our second quarter was a quick play by Mount Temple; with a fresh substitution of the whole team they were ready to even out the score. 4th year player Tadhg Kissane was awarded two free throws, which were missed but not soon after, 6th year Joey Fitzgerald had two frees and he sunk the second one. Attention

was slipping as CCC had a breakthrough run and scored off of a rebound and not soon after a couple of misses CCC were back for more and cut in bound, scoring their final basket of the half. Soon after Castleknocks score, a time out was called by coach Zack from MT and a substitution for Finlay Kilshaw O'Neil was made for none other than Dan Byrne who secured a MT free throw ending our first half on 25-12.

The odds were not in our favour but Cal McCullagh was quick to narrow the gap after getting a fast break of play and scoring a lay up bringing us up to 25-14. Dan Byrne owned the third quarter, scoring a hat trick in between McCullagh's breaks, and he made a break for it with the help of player Joey Fitzgerald, making the ends of the run for Fitzgerald to get his second score of the game on the board.

CCC were quick to call a Time Out soon after the point, but it gave MT time for their comeback in the 2nd half, not long after CCC scored another basket, the ball was quickly stolen as Byrne led his team closer to a draw after scoring a jump stop shot. But that wasn't the end of Dans streak, as CCC prepared for another shot to score, the ball was won back by MT and passed down to Byrne in the bottom corner where he made a great shot on target.

With the score tied at 27-27, CCC regained their leadership with a free where they scored both baskets, but were quickly fouled after for travelling . At this point the tie was broken by CCC after getting appointed one basket on top of a free. As MT continued to battle to close the gap CCC weren't giving up that easily after being awarded another free creating a score of 32-27.

Mount Temples guard hadn't completely fallen after Dan had another breakthrough, but missed it, and on the rebound of his shot the ball was picked and passed out to Castleknock where they passed and scored an inbound ball for three points. As the third quarter was coming to an end, Byrne was appointed a free for a foul while shooting, although he missed his first shot, after the rebound of his second shot Aaron Duke swooped in and assisted, giving him his second basket of the day.

The fourth and final quarter started with Castleknock in the lead with 38-27 but MT were eager to get more scores on the board. Within the first 5 minutes MT had many attempts on target but CCC just had an extra edge ending up getting point after point and basket after basket there was no chance of Mount Temple scoring any time soon, but Cal McCullagh had plans of his own and scored an amazing hat trick in 3 minutes creating the dynamic score of 45-34.

All though Mount Temple didn't win their first league game back, it was a great team performance by the players, and as my first match report it was definitely a great match experience.

My name is Giselle O'Donoghue I'm a TY student and I've played most sports provided by school, I decided to become a match reporter for this years sporting season because it's a great way to relive the best moments and read about the sports you love or a great way to learn and experience new sports for the first time. Can't wait to see them play again soon.



GISELLEODONOGHUE
TY STUDENT