



A final quarter smash and grab gave Moynalvey a one point win over St. Patricks in this Kepak Junior A Championship Semi-Final played in Ashbourne on Saturday September 30th.

Moynalvey 1-9
St. Patricks 2-5

For the second year in a row Moynalvey Ladies will contest the Junior A Championship Final, they'll be hoping to atone for last year's disappointment in the final this year on Sunday 15th October.

With many games falling foul of the to the incessant rain, credit to the Donaghmore/Ashbourne club whose pitch held up to host this semi-final.

Little separated the sides in the first half with it being equal score wise, 0-4 apiece with 30 minutes played. Then Moynalvey suffered a sucker punch with the concession of St. Pats first goal just before the half time whistle to trail the Stamullen side 1-4 to 0-4 at half time.

It was Moynalvey who troubled the score keeper with the first point of the game coming from Rachel Garrett in the 5th minute. St. Patricks opened their account ninety seconds later, which was soon followed by a second to lead 0-2 to 0-1 after eight minutes.

Olivia O'Halloran fired over from acute angle on the left hand side of the posts to draw matters level.

A St. Pat's point was countered by Garrett's second of the afternoon to leave it three points each with 17 minutes played.

Each side tagged on another point each, before Pats goal in the 31st minute gave them a three point half time lead, 1-4 to 0-4.

Within four minutes of the restart Moynalvey had the three point deficit down to one with a brace of Jennifer McLoughlin points, the first from a free and the second from play.

St. Pats scored their fifth and only point of the second half in the 43rd minute, with Moynalvey responding a minute later through Jennifer McLoughlin, leaving a point between the sides once again, 1-5 to 0-7.

St. Patricks then opened up a four point lead when raising their second green flag with a rasping effort finished low past Moynalvey goalkeeper Aoibheann Corcoran to the corner of the net.



However, that goal in the 47th minute proved to be the Stamullen girls last score of the game.

With two minutes of normal time remaining, Moynalvey captain Cheyenne O'Brien unleashed an unstoppable rocket to the top corner of the St. Pats net to ignite the maroon comeback, leaving a point between the sides again, 2-5 to 1-7.

Just before the sixty minute mark veteran Louise Donoghue fired over the black spot to draw the sides level and two minutes later the same player split the uprights from a free to give Moynalvey the one point win and a place in this year's Kepak Junior A Championship Final.

Best for the winners were Fia O'Brien, Abbie Killalea, Louise Donoghue, Olivia O'Halloran, Jennifer McLoughlin and the outstanding Aoife Weston.

One point Semi-Final win over St. Pats qualifies Moynalvey for Final second year in a row

Saturday, 30 September 2023 17:15

Moynalvey team and scorers:

Aoibheann Corcoran, Bridgie Brennan, Abbie Killalea, Fia O'Brien, Stephanie Walsh, Aideen Smith, Aoife Weston, Clodagh Murphy, Cheyenne O'Brien (1-0), Rachel Garrett (0-2), Louise Donoghue (0-3, 2f), Olivia O'Halloran(0-1), Ashling McLoughlin, Jennifer McLoughlin (0-3, 1f), Roisin Murphy.

Subs used: Sarah Kelly for A. McLoughlin, Mairead McCabe for Garrett.

