

Munster U16 Final – 04/05/2019

Cork 5-11 (26)

Kerry 4-12 (24)

Cork came away as Champions following a pulsating contest against Kerry in Castletownroche on Saturday. Kerry were forced into one change with Leah Boyle coming in for Paris McCarthy. Cork were first to raise the white flag with a point from play by Anna Ryan. Points from Rachel Dwyer free and Amy Harrington had the away side into the lead before Cork struck for the first goal from Olivia McAllen another cork point had the home side leading by 3 with six minutes gone on the clock. Kerry Captain Rachel Dwyer kept the home side in the game with her second point but Cork were beginning to make their dominance reflect on the scoreboard. Point from Eimear O'Donovan and a Leah Henry goal had Cork nine points up midway through the first half. Kerry responded superbly with 1-01 in quick succession Rachel O'Dwyer goal and a Siobhan Ni Chuanaigh point had the deficit down to two before Kerry fullback Jessie Cahill superbly cleared off the goal line to prevent another Cork goal. It was Cork who would finish the half stronger outscoring Kerry 1-03 to 0-02 with the goal coming from Zoe O'Herlihy and a great point from distance by Cork's Anna Ryan with Kerry's points coming from a Rachel Dwyer free and Kerrie Ann Hanrahan to leave Cork going in with a seven-point interval lead. Cork 3-07 Kerry 1-06

Kerry needed to start the second half stronger and they did so superbly. Captain Rachel Dwyer leading by example with a goal inside the opening minute. Cork responded with a Leah Halihan point before a controversial goal felt amongst the cork support had Kerry within two points with 10 minutes gone in the second half. Kerry clearly had the momentum with them, and two Cora Savage frees saw Kerry open a two-point gap midway through the second half. Cork were clearly rattled and Kerry were making it reflect on the scoreboard. A goal from Cora Savage and a point from Katie Savage saw Kerry extend their lead with twelve minutes remaining in the game. Both sides exchanged points before Cork were awarded a penalty with a minute remaining. Leah Halihan stepped up to reduce the deficit to two with injury time now being played Cork struck for one final push scoring 1-01 to steal victory from the grasp of Kerry deep into injury time in a game only minutes earlier looked like they were unlikely to win. Credit to both teams for an amazing game. Management, players, parents & supporters can all be very proud

Kerry Team & Scorers

M E Bolger, H McNamara, J Cahill, S Fitzpatrick, S Barrett, L O'Brien M Duffy, E O'Connell, K A Hanrahan (0-1), K Brosnan, S Ní Chuanaigh (0-1), L Boyle (0-1), C Savage (1-04) R Dwyer(C) 3-03, A Harrington (0-2)

Subs: F Ní Chathasaigh for M Duffy, D Kelly for K Brosnan