

ULSTER INTERMEDIATE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND

Colm Cavanagh stars as Moy edge past Carrickmacross



MOY	0-09
CARRICKMACROSS	1-05

BY NIAL GARTLAND

THE Moy edged a claustrophobic battle of wits in yesterday's Ulster Intermediate quarter-final against a Carrickmacross side that left their shooting boots back in Monaghan.

When Sean Cavanagh scored a tap-over free in the 54th minute, he probably had some incline that it would prove the winning score - Carrickmacross were simply that ineffectual in attack. 13 wides, nine in the second half, this was footballing seppuku.

Moy batted down the hatches against their toothless opposition but will face a steep step up in class in their upcoming semi-final date against Derry Champions Newbridge.

While the Tyrone Intermediate Champions were deserving victors, Carrickmacross almost got out of jail in the final seconds when Cillian Cromswell had a perfect opportunity to snatch a draw.

His effort crashed off the posts and spilled harmlessly to safety. Referee Ronan Barry reached for his whistle, and that, as they say, was that.

While the opening exchanges were tentative, Carrickmacross started stonger with the opening three points of the day.

Following an intricate counter-attack, full-forward Sean Downey sneaked over their first point from a difficult angle.

Former Monaghan stalwart Stephen Golligly tapped over a point from a free and added one from play for good measure.

The Moy's poor early start was compounded when Tom Loughran was an unlucky recipient of a black card after 13 minutes of play.

It proved the wake-up call the Tyrone

THE GAME AT A GLANCE

STAR MAN

Colm Cavanagh (Moy)

A BEACON of composure, Colm Cavanagh was his ever-reliable self for the Moy. He made telling interventions in all sectors and drove the side on in the ragged final stages. The Tyrone star never lets his team down, be it for club or county.

THE VERDICT

A WIN'S a win, and the Moy march on to an Ulster Intermediate semi-final against Derry Champions Newbridge. While they have plenty to work on, they displayed impressive game management against Carrickmacross and had enough class in attack to prevail.



Moy's Harry Loughran drives the ball despite the attempted block from Cillian Cromswell of Carrickmacross.

MC5

MATCHSTATS

THE SCORERS

Moy

Harry Loughran (0-3), Sean Cavanagh (0-3, 0-3f), Adam Currie (0-2), Ryan Coleman (0-1).

Carrickmacross

Stephen Golligly (0-4, 0-3f), Stephen O'Hanlon (1-0), Sean Downey (0-1).

THE TEAMS

Moy

Nathan Brady, Patrick Mackle, Tomas McNicholl, Thomas Conlon, Tom Loughran, Niall Conlon, Mark Gribbin, Emmett Rafferty, Colm Cavanagh, Adam Currie, Harry Loughran, Declan Conroy, Ryan Coleman, Sean Cavanagh, Eunan Deeney Subs: Patrick Lavery for Tom Loughran (10), Conall Duffy for Currie (44), Karol McQuade for Rafferty (47), Diarmuid McKeown for Conroy (59).

Carrickmacross

Andrew O'Rourke, Jamie Guinan, Conor Duffy, Aaron Murray, Garey McEnaney, James Conlon, Cillian Cromswell, Aaron Lynch, Niall Loughman, Peter O'Hanlon, Stephen Golligly, Stephen O'Hanon, Conor McEnaney, Sean Downey, Kevin O'Hanlon. Subs: James McGeown for Guinan (23), Karl McMenamin for McEnaney (ht).

Referee

Ronan Barry (Down).

rone champions sorely needed as they rattled off five points without reply.

Harry Loughran, who was somewhat isolated in attack, floated over a defiant effort before late change Adam Currie found his range.

Colm Cavanagh played in Loughran for a possible goal chance, but he dallied in possession and had to be content with a point.

Recently retired Tyrone star Sean Cavanagh edged over a free from 45 metres, and seconds later Ryan Coleman hit a fine effort after a poor kick-out.

That meant they held a 0-5 to 0-3 advantage after 20 minutes gone, while Sean Cavanagh's direct marker James Conlon was booked in further good news for the Moy men.

There were only two further scores in the final minutes of the half. Golligly, who kicked four of Carrickmacross' five points, landed a free before Adam Currie gave the Moy a 0-6 to 0-4 lead with the last kick of the half.

Sean Cavanagh kicked a second free early in the second half before Carrickmacross grabbed a goal out of nowhere.

Half-forward Declan Conroy em-

barked on a mazy run through the heart of the Moy defence, evading a clutch of defenders before calmly slotting the ball home.

The Monaghan side took the lead with Golligly grabbed a free with 42 minutes, but they wouldn't score another point for the remainder of the game.

Time and time again, they either faltered against a resolute, well-manned Moy defence, or took the wrong option and scuffed the ball wide of the target.

And while Carrickmacross had the lion's share of possession, the Moy had enough class in attack to edge themselves back in front.

Harry Loughran, who kicked three points from play, scored the point of the day when he chipped the ball into his hands and moved into a shooting position before bagging an inspirational score.

Two minutes later, with six minutes of regulation time remaining, Sean Cavanagh was fouled 20 metres from goal. The ball was moved in closer, he tapped the ball over the bar, and try as they might, Carrickmacross couldn't muster a score for the remainder of the game.



Carrickmacross defender Aaron Murray attempts to stop Moy's Patrick Lavery from scoring a point.

MC6