

Carlow Soccer 21.10.07

Fixtures

Sat 27 Oct

O'Neill's L.F.A. Yths Cup Rd 1 (e.t.p.)

Stretford Utd v Callan 2.30pm M. O'Reilly

Diamond Woodcraft U/17 2.30pm

Derry Rvs v Burrin Cel M. Murphy

Nurney Villa v Baltinglass M. Salter

St. Joseph's v Parkville Utd T. Lawlor

Diamond Woodcraft U/18 2.30pm

Dereen Hgts v St. Anne's P. Kelly

St. Fiacc's v Crettyard Utd G. Cosgrove

Sun 28 Oct

FAI Umbro U/17 Challenge Cup Rd 2 (e.t.p.)

Tymon Bawn v South East 11.45 Local

Carlow Shield Rd 1 (e.t.p.)

Killeshin v New Oak 11am P. Moran

Ridge Rngs v Crettyard Utd 11am P. Kelly

St. Joseph's v Hanover Hps 11am M. Doran

Carlow People Premier

Bagenalstown v Burrin Cel 11am G. Cosgrove

Stretford Utd v Parkville Utd 11am J. Wynne

Nationalist Division

Ballymurphy v Castle Rngs 2pm G. Cosgrove

Hacketstown v Moone Cel 2pm D. O'Connor

Nurney Villa v Kilree Cel 11am M. O'Reilly

White's Pharmacy Division

Ardattin Ath v Baltinglass 11am C. O'Rourke

Derry Rvs v Rathanna 2pm M. O'Reilly

Parkville Utd v Old Rd Villa 2pm C. O'Rourke

Stretford Utd v New Oak 2pm P. Moran

Dolmen Flooring Division

Borris F.C. v Nurney Villa 2pm M. Salter

Burrin Cel v Hacketstown 2pm T. Lawlor

Grange F.C. v Dereen Hgts 11am G. O'Sullivan

Hanover Hps v Tullow Twn 11am M. Murphy

Golden Boot

W/end 14 Oct.

Carlow People Premier

7 Byrne Dominic, Slaney Rvs

6 Fox Brendan, Crettyard Utd
 5 Kelly Alan, Burrin Celtic
 5 Coakley Shane, Killeshin
 5 Phelan Neale, Parkville Utd

Nationalist Division

4 Doyle James, Kilree Celtic
 4 Doyle Thomas, Ballymurphy
 4 Purcell Niall, Crettyard
 4 Dwyer Blain, Kilree Celtic

Whites Pharmacy Division

9 Haughney Paul, Stretford Utd
 8 Dempsey Mark, St. Joseph's
 6 Quinlan Denis, New Oak Boys
 5 Doran Colm, St. Joseph's

Dolmen Flooring Division

9 Byrne Niall, Grange F.C.
 7 Byrne Kieve, Carlow Rvs
 5 Byrne Patrick, Grange

Over 35

3 Enright Ger, Wolfhill Ath
 2 Walker Brian, New Oak
 2 Dunne Karl, Wolfhill Ath
 2 McGrath Patrick, New Oak
 2 Patterson Martin, Wolfhill Ath

Diamond Woodcraft U/17

7 Nolan Paul, Derry Rovers
 5 Tobin Patrick, Parkville Utd
 4 Whelan Pádraic, St. Joseph's
 3 Connolly P.J., Parkville Utd

Diamond Woodcraft U/18

10 Champion Colin, St. Anne's
 4 Preston Stephen, Dereen Heights
 4 Byrne Adrian, Crettyard United

League Tables

Carlow People Premier	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Crettyard United	7	4	2	1	21	11	14
Burrin Celtic	7	4	2	1	20	12	14
Bagenalstown	7	4	2	1	14	8	14
Parkville United	6	4	0	2	11	4	12
St. Fiacc's F.C.	8	3	2	3	13	16	11
Stretford United	6	2	3	1	10	9	9
New Oak Boys	5	2	2	1	13	8	8
Slaney Rovers	7	1	1	5	11	18	4

Hanover Harps	4	0	2	2	4	7	2
Killeshin F.C.	7	0	0	7	6	30	0

Nationalist Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.	
Crettyard United	7	4	2	1	13	13	14	
Kilree Celtic.	5	3	1	1	15	6	10	
Ballymurphy Celtic	6	3	1	2	14	8	10	
Wolfhill Athletic	7	2	2	3	8	9	8	
Hacketstown United	3	2	1	0	6	2	7	
Nurney Villa	5	1	3	1	6	6		
Moone Celtic	5	1	3	1	7	11	6	
Palatine Celtic	7	1	0	6	7	17	3	
Castle Rangers	3	3	0	1	2	5	9	1

Whites Pharmacy Div.	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Stretford United.	6	5	0	1	19	8	15
St. Joseph's	7	4	2	1	25	15	14
New Oak Boys	5	4	1	0	16	6	13
Ardattin Athletic	6	4	0	2	12	8	12
Ridge Rangers	4	3	0	1	10	7	9
Baltinglass Boys	4	3	0	1	10	7	9
Dereen Heights	7	3	0	4	13	14	9
Old Road Villa	5	1	1	3	8	13	4
Derry Rovers	7	1	0	6	14	26	3
Rathanna F.C.	6	1	0	5	8	20	3
Parkville United	7	1	0	6	10	23	3

Dolmen Flooring Div.	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Grange F.C.	6	0	0	24	5	18	
Hanover Harps	7	5	0	2	20	11	15
Carlow Rovers	7	3	3	1	18	15	12
Dereen Heights	6	2	2	2	12	11	8
Tullow Town	5	2	1	2	8	9	7
Nurney Villa	7	2	1	4	13	19	7
Borris F.C.	4	2	0	2	7	6	6
Hacketstown Utd	7	1	1	5	5	19	4
Burrin Celtic	7	0	2	5	8	20	2

Over 35's Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Wolfhill Ath	3	3	0	0	9	2	9
New Oak Boys	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
Stradbally Town	2	1	0	1	3	7	3
Killeshin F.C.	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Thomastown Utd	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Nurney Villa	3	0	0	3	0	5	0

Diamond Woodcraft U/17	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Derry Rovers	5	4	0	1	15	11	12
Parkville Utd	4	3	0	1	14	6	9
Nurney Villa	3	2	0	1	7	2	6

Burrin Celtic	5	1	2	2	6	7	5
St. Joseph's	3	1	1	1	14	8	4
South East	1	1	0	0	5	0	3
Bagenalstown	5	1	0	4	6	18	3
Baltinglass	4	0	1	3	4	19	1

Diamond Woodcraft U/18	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Dereen Hgts	5	3	1	1	16	11	10
St. Anne's	3	3	0	0	14	4	9
St. Fiacc's	3	2	1	0	10	5	7
Crettyard Utd	4	2	1	1	12	12	7
South East	2	1	0	1	7	3	3
Stretford Utd	4	0	1	3	7	17	1
Moone Celtic	5	0	0	5	4	18	0

Noticeboard

Council Meeting

The October Council meeting of the League will take place on Thursday next at 8.15pm sharp in the Seven Oaks Hotels. All clubs must be represented otherwise they will be fined. The high level of excuses will no longer be tolerated. It is important to note the change of time as O'Neill's will be making a presentation at 9pm and the meeting will commence as soon as there is a quorum present, even if earlier than 8.15pm.

Saturdays Free

Please note except in extreme emergencies Clubs should respect that Saturday is a day off for League Officers. Please do not contact the League Secretary on Saturdays.

Match Reporting

All teams must report on every Saturday and Sunday games, otherwise the club will be fined 40 Euro per each team for non reporting. Carlow People Premier and Whites Pharmacy Divisions 5-6pm Sunday only to Dan McDonnell (new numbers) 059 9141704, 0873170417 or e-mail before 3pm to buzzno7@eircom.net . Nationalist Division 5-6pm Sunday only to Sean Murphy at 059 9146416. Dolmen Flooring Division and O/35's 5-6pm only to John Coughlan at 059 9140746 or e-mail before 5pm to john@carlowsoccer.com. U17 & U18 on Saturdays 5-6pm only to Sean Murphy at 059 9146416

Disciplinary

Players etc dismissed or red-carded must appear before the Disciplinary Committee on the Thursday following the fixture. Players or clubs will not be notified and it's in their own interest to appear or be represented. The Committee meets every Thursday at 8.30pm in the Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlow, during playing season unless otherwise notified through the media or web. Under the Automatic suspension rule, players are suspended automatically for the next game and must be served with the team they were sent off in, e.g. a player dismissed for the 'A' team must serve the suspension with that team and cannot play with the 'B' team or Youth team in the meantime, if in doubt refer to Rules www.carlowsoccer.com

Free Days

Clubs must give a clear 10 days notice under Rule if they require a "Free Day". Notice must be in writing either by post or e-mail secretary@carlowsoccer.com , the Wednesday week prior to Saturday games and Thursday week prior to Sunday games.

Results

Sat 20

O'Neill's L.F.A. Yths Cup Rd 1

Crettyard Utd	1-4	Portlaoise
Freshford Twn	3-0	Parkville Utd
Freebooters	3-2	South East
St. Anne's	3-0	St. Joseph's a.e.t.

Diamond Woodcraft U/17

Baltinglass	1-1	Burrin Celtic
Nurney Villa	5-1	Bagenalstown

Diamond Woodcraft U/18

Moone Cel	1-2	Dereen Hgts
Stretford Utd	3-3	St. Fiacc's

Sun 21

O'Neill's L.F.A. Jnr Cup Rd 1 (e.t.p.)

Ridge Rngs	3-2	Kilcock
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O'Neill's L.F.A. Jnr Cup Rd 2 (e.t.p.)

Crettyard Utd	0-1	Thomastown
Hanover Hps	2-0	Pioneers
Kilree Cel	abd	Baltinglass a.e.t.
Clara Twn	1-0	New Oak

Carlow Shield Rd 1

Old Rd Villa	2-1	Wolfhill Ath
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Carlow People Premier

Burrin Cel	4-1	St. Fiacc's
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Nationalist Division

Moone Cel	p-p	Castle Rngs
Nurney Villa	2-2	Crettyard Utd
Palatine Cel	0-2	Ballymurphy

Whites Pharmacy Division

New Oak	8-1	Derry Rvs
Parkville Utd	0-4	St. Joseph's
Rathanna	1-2	Dereen Hgts

Dolmen Flooring Division

Burrin Celtic	1-3	Nurney Villa
Grange F.C.	2-0	Tullow Twn

Hacketstown 0-3 Borris F.C.

Over 35 Division

Stradbally 1-0 Nurney Villa

Wolfhill Ath 1-0 Killeshin

REPORTS

O'Neill's L.F.A. Jnr Cup

Hanover Harps 2

Pioneers F.C. 0

Fickle Hanover quickly engineered a couple of moves that had alarm bells ringing in the Pioneer's defence.

However whatever state of alertness that was present it wasn't enough to prevent the Carlow lads taking the lead when the busy Anthony McGrath perfectly timing a release which allowed Sean Kavanagh to thump a shot to the net on six minutes. Mickey Corcoran's prolonged absence during the first half of last season had a season long effect but now the Hanover flyer is combining craft with graft but suffered an agony when the Pioneer keeper made a great save to prevent him scoring on 20 minutes. Hanover continued to chose their moments to attack with care and precision and when Paul Dowling released to Eddie O'Brien the Hanover man rolled back the years as he weaved a path through a number of tackles before launching a curler into the top corner from the edge of the box on 30 minutes. Sensibly, Hanover refused any attempt to fully exploit their superior midfield creativity during the exchanges which followed to half time choosing rather to dampen the occasional attack mounted by Pioneers.

The wind which was of negligible influence during the first half blew up into something more considerable and in favour of Pioneers during the early second half exchanges forcing Hanover to concentrate their efforts on no nonsense defending with David Dowling making a number of excellent saves which prevented Pioneers from securing a challenging toehold on the game during the third quarter. Having weathered the storm Hanover gradually regained the initiative with Aaron Wynne having a stinging shot well saved and Phil Nealon and Pat Dowling shooting narrowly wide before the final whistle. Best for Hanover included Simon O'Shea, Eric Robinson, Pat Dowling and Sean Kavanagh.

Ridge Rangers 3

Kilcock F.C. 2

Ridge must have thought that elusive character Lady Luck had refused to depart from the Sunday bed as they enjoyed the better of the first quarter exchanges, however when chances came their way John Sheehan and Liam Dunne's efforts flew narrowly wide.

Ridge were to be thankful to a vigilant defence which cleared imminent danger's posed by Kilcock's free kick routines. From one such free the ball was cleared and accurately ferried over the last line of Kilcock defenders forcing their keeper to intervene illegally outside his area. Jim Dunne's alertness broke the hearts of the Kilcock defence as he quickly stroked the resultant free to the net on 26 minutes. The following exchanges remained evenly contested until half time but Kilcock were showing definite signs of improvement as the half progressed.

On the resumption Rangers found themselves defending and they had to do so in numbers as Kilcock pressed for a deserved equaliser and it happened after Rangers

failed to clear their lines following a corner on 50 minutes. Suitably encouraged Kilcock went for the kill but stout defending by Rangers successfully repelled the increasing attacks and Damien Sheehan led a break away before feeding a pass into the path of Liam Dunne to strike a rising shot into the net and restore Rangers lead on 68 minutes. Kilcock remained a threat and scrambled another equaliser on 80 minutes and the game seemed destined for extra time when Damien Sheehan delivered a quality cross for the galloping Ray Buggy to power a well placed header to the net which proved to be a deserved winner and rewarding the earlier efforts of Brian Malone, Conor McNally and William Ryan.

Crettyard United 0

Thomastown United 1

Thomastown reached last season's semi-final stages of this competition and Crettyard knew they were unlikely to be a team which would require signposts to indicate the routes to goal but their preparations were hampered within minutes of the start when the highly dependable and influential David Maher was forced to retire through injury though David's replacement Mark Kelly proceeded to be at the centre of Crettyard's most telling moves and defensive works throughout the game. Caution ruled the early exchanges but the game bubbled into life when the tricky Ricardo Tavolieri advanced into space on the edge of the Town box, rode a couple of tackles and released for Brendan Fox to thrash a shot which flew narrowly wide on 18 minutes. When a Town move broke down Chrístóir Maher seized on the wayward pass and broke into the Town area but was prevented from getting off a shot by a tremendous last ditch tackle by a Town defender on 22 minutes. Neither keeper had been truly tested at this stage but the first real action Crettyard's John Graham experienced was as a spectator to a Town missile which had enough angle to fly beyond his finger tips and into the top corner on 24 minutes. It was the kind of shot that could have went anywhere but during the following exchanges to half time Thomastown, with no less than four Kilkenny Oscars present were like sunshine on a rainy day and their bright approach play would have secured a far greater reward against a lesser defence in which Terence Haughney and Raymond Buggy excelled.

It wasn't so much that Crettyard needed to sharpen their cutting edge against a superbly marshalled and industrious Thomastown unit during the second half but they knew that when chances presented themselves or were engineered there would be a need for clinical precision in the execution. Certainly, in the face of constant Crettyard pressure the Thomastown defence understandably faltered and occasionally lost its concentration and faltered but the three half chances which materialised resulted in shots from Willy Kavanagh, Chrístóir Maher and Brendan Fox which on other days might have secured at least what would have been a deserved equaliser earned by the excellence of Mark Kelly, Chrístóir Maher and Willy Kavanagh.

Carlow Shield

Old Road Villa 2

Wolfhill Athletic 1

Old Road caused something of a surprise, when they knocked their neighbours Wolfhill out of the shield. The visitors who have been going through a bad spell of late, got off to a good start and almost went ahead in the first minute, when a long throw in by Gary Rowan found the head of Kevin Kealy only for his effort to be taken off the line. The same two players were involved in the lead goal on 34 minutes,

this time Gary Rowan's long throw in was half cleared to Kevin Kealy on the edge of the box and he returned it to the net. Joe O'Dowd in the Villa goal then made a great save from Cathail Leonard to insure Villa were only a goal down at the break. Villa stepped up their game in the second period and got back on level terms when Wolfhill failed to deal with a Gary Walsh corner and Thomas Brennan scored from close range. Man of the Match O'Dowd then made a couple of excellent shots from Mark Kelly and Alan Walsh. In the 80 minute Villa struck for the winner when Gary Walsh volleyed in a fine goal to put his side into Round 2. Excellent for Old Road were Joe O'Dowd, Shane Deegan, Paul Donnelly and Charles Quinn.

For Wolfhill, P.J. Rowan, Mark Kelly, Brian Fleming and Philip Brennan.

Carlow People Premier

Burrin Celtic 4

St. Fiacc's 1

Both teams must have been aware that the value of this game lay not alone in the immediate possibility of three additional points but also in the longer term struggle for dominance of the most competitive title race in a number of seasons.

The Saints early optimistic approach work fell on barren ground which was guarded vigorously by Celtic's David Shanahan and Matty Dowling. The Ballon lads soaked the early pressure up and then sprang into action with measured accurate passes which split the St. Fiacc's midfield cover allowing Alan Kelly to plonk a cross at the feet on Ross Nolan who made no mistake from close range on 15 minutes. The Saints were seeking answers to questions which remained unanswered after Alan Kelly's delivery of a corner which was angled to the net by the head of David Shanahan on 22 minutes. This trickle of scores dried up once St. Fiacc has their defensive arrangements sorted out and gradually the Carlow based lads began to secure a fair degree of possession in midfield without translating it into scores before half time.

In its current form the Celtic defence could not be described as leaky but an uncharacteristic error by Brendan Barry led to them conceding a penalty which the Saints converted on 64 minutes. St. Fiacc's might have made more of useful possession during the following exchanges but Burrin's wholehearted approach was rewarded when Sebastian Balut crisply struck a shot inside the far post to put Celtic into a strong position as the exchanges entered the final quarter. Ross Nolan polished off a Graham Whelan free to give Celtic a comfortable margin of victory and rewarded the earlier efforts of Mathew Dowling, Graham Whelan, David Shanahan and Ross Nolan.

Nationalist Division

Nurney Villa 2

Crettyard Utd 2

A goal deep in injury time gave league leaders Crettyard a point from this tie. The first half was very uneventful, with play confined mostly to midfield and neither side creating any worthwhile chances. The game however livened up in the second period and on 57 minutes, Crettyard went ahead when Villa 'keeper Pakie Fleming could only parry a free kick and Shane Buggy tucked away the rebound. The concession of this goal seemed to spark Nurney into life and a pair of goals in the space of five minutes put them in the lead, Sean Kinsella found the net first on 68 minutes when he lobbed the 'keeper from a Seamus Kinsella cross. Villa came close to increasing their lead on 83 minutes, but David Miley's header was taken off the

goal line. On 92 minutes, Crettyard launched one last attack and the Nurney defence failed to deal with a long throw in and Craig Comerfort scrambled the ball home. Best for Nurney were Trevor Corcoran, Jimmy Cullen, Eddie Dermody and Sean Kinsella. For Crettyard, Pa Brennan, Shane Buggy and Craig Comerfort.

Palatine Celtic 0

Ballymurphy Celtic 2

Two first half goals, gave Ballymurphy the points against a struggling Palatine side. The visitors held the upper hand all through the opening half and made it count on the score board, first when Kevin Foley netted on 33 minutes, and they doubled their lead seven minutes later when Thomas Doyle converted from the penalty spot after Chris Kavanagh was brought down in the area. In the second half Ballymurphy concentrated on a defensive game as they set out to hold what they had, and this tactic was successful as they contained Palatine without any scares to pick up maximum points.

Outstanding for Ballymurphy were, Jack Kavanagh, Eoin Murphy and Kevin Foley.

Whites Pharmacy Division

New Oak Boys 8

Derry Rovers 1

Early resistance by Rovers quickly changed with New Oak taking total control especially in the second in a rather scrappy Whites Pharmacy division game.

The poor quality of football in the first quarter was obvious with both sides testing their respective defences before James Coakley put Darren McGuill through for the Boys on 20 minutes only to be fouled. From the resulting penalty Denis Quinlan put the home side into the lead. Four minutes later the Boys doubled their advantage, from good right wing play Coakley put Liam Geoghegan through to set up Quinlan for his second goal. There was still a flicker of life in the Rovers side and on 29 minutes Kenneth Brennan broke through to reduce the arrears to 2-1. New restored their advantage when Quinlan squared the ball for McGuill to make it 3-1. With little time left in the half McGuill was fouled, Trevor Power dropped the free kick in front of the Rovers for McGuill to run onto and score the Boy's fourth goal.

The second half saw no real effort from Derry with New Oak adding a further four goals to their tally. Quinlan got his hat-rick on 61 minutes with a scrappy goalmouth shot. Quinlan made it 6-1 before McGuill added another on 72 minutes with a half volley from about 23 yards. The Boys final goal came from the boot of Power from a direct free kick on 80 minutes.

Substitute David McEvoy, James Coakley and Jason O'Neill put in top drawer performances for New Oak Boys while Enda Brennan, Kevin Moran and Liam McMullan gave of their best for Derry Rovers.

Parkville United 0

St. Joseph's F.C. 4

The Tullow lads had failed to do their homework and found themselves quickly in arrears after Pdraig Delaney bolted through a thin line of defenders before cracking over an accurate cross which a stretching Ian Scully glanced to the net on four minutes.

Within minutes Pdraig Delaney had combined smartly with Colm Doran whose pass into space had the United defence momentarily looking the wrong way as Mark Dempsey moved in to score. With Parkville gradually recovering their poise there

was always a danger that the Saints swagger might turn to stagger as Brian Kenny went close to scoring on a couple of occasions. However, once John Paul Moore had put the scoring touch to Eddie Doyle's corner on 35 minutes the game was effectively over as a contest but Colm Doran was denied a score by the United keeper making the save of the game to prevent a certain score on 43 minutes.

It was a much improved Parkville throughout the second half with Brian Kenny and Philip Smithers going closest to reducing the arrears but S. Joes ran out convincing winners with Mark Dempsey scoring late in the game to reward the earlier efforts of Pdraig Delaney, Evan Doyle and Mark Dempsey. Most impressive for Parkville included Brian Kenny, Taidhg Madden and Colin Coady

Rathanna F.C. 1

Dereen Heights 2

With these two teams there is always movement, excitement and uncertainty which was in evidence in Rathanna's box when Denis Nangle almost scored in the first minute.

Not exactly known for a lack of clear direction in defensive matters Rathanna settled into a sound defensive pattern but Denis Nangle was the key to unlock their defence when his well timed pass allowed Gavin Walker to deliver a shot which was smothered by the Rathanna keeper on 15 minutes. Another save prevented Dereen's Paul Core from breaking the deadlock before Kevin Power's astute pass allowed ace opportunist Gavin Walker to score on 36 minutes. Within a minute Rathanna's uncertainties had allowed the scorer to set up Mark Davis to score in style and double the Heights advantage which was preserved up to half time.

Rathanna's improvement during the second half was considerable but in seeking to engineer scores they occasionally left themselves exposed at the rear with Dereen's Paul Core, Gavin Walker and Stephen Hennessy failing to convert quality chances. This might have proved expensive as Rathanna scored a quality goal on 77 minutes and were pressing for an equaliser for the remainder of the game. Dereen held out thanks to the efforts of Christy Bermingham, Gavin Walker and Mark Davis.

Dolmen Flooring Division

Burrin Celtic 1

Nurney Villa 3

It has not been the best of a season so far for Nurney's second string, however they recorded their second victory against bottom side Burrin Celtic.

Within five minutes Celtic again went a goal down when Patrick Dowling opened the scoring for Villa. Back came Celtic and on 15 minutes they equalised.

A fine kick by Billy Fanning was crossed in for Paddy Byrne to head home.

A confident Celtic went on the offensive with Dinny O'Toole and Tom Murphy creating scoring chances, but the half ended 1-1.

In the second half, Celtic were rather quite, with Villa taking the opportunity to take the lead. On the third attempt Eric Brennan put Nurney in the lead on 65 minutes. Burrin were now forced to search for the equaliser, with Paddy Byrne and Ruairí Stewart going close with Stewart hitting the crossbar. This forward play left their backline vulnerable and Patrick Dowling swooped to score his second goal for Villa and a 3-1 result.

Jason Curran, Brian Kavanagh and David Dowling excelled for Nurney Villa.

For Burrin Celtic Stephen Rooney, Tom Murphy and 'keeper J.J. Dowling played well.

Grange F.C. 2

Tullow Town 0

Both teams had effectively 'home' advantage as Grange are ground sharing with Tullow Town this season.

It worked more in Tullow's favour, as they held top of the table Grange to scoring only two goals. Town applied pressure in the first half having a lot of possession and passes. Gavin Doyle and Raymond Corcoran went close. Grange first chance was when Keith Brennan crossed for Niall Byrne and under pressure put the ball over. Paddy Byrne then set up Niall Byrne but his attempt went wide. During the second period of the half, both teams pretty well adopted defensive positions which lead to a scoreless first half.

The second half was evenly contested and it took until 75 minutes had passed before Grange broke the deadlock. From a corner kick the ball fell to Christian Arguetta who crossed to Niall Byrne and following a goalmouth scramble, he scored the opening goal. That goal seemed to have unlocked the Tullow defence and with only four minutes of time left on the clock Brennan, in the same pattern as the previous week, volleyed home from the edge of the Tullow box to double their advantage and a 2-0 result.

Fergal Maher as stand in 'keeper, Christian Arguetta and Keith Haughney also put in a very good performance for Grange.

From a good team performance for Tullow Town, Paul Clancy, Michael O'Brien and Raymond Corcoran, stood out.

Hacketstown United 0

Borris F.C. 3

In this bottom of the table clash, Borris secured their second victory to lift themselves into third from bottom.

From a 20 minutes corner kick John McKeever opened the scoring for Borris when the ball was headed out and McKeever scored from 25 yards. Shem Dwyer and Anthony Jordan went on to create chances for Borris White at the other end.

Richard Hopson, James Callan and Denis Quigley went close to equalising for Hacketstown.

In the second half the visitors applied the pressure with Darren Foley hitting the woodwork twice and Dwyer also went close.

On 60 minutes Foley was fouled in the area and from the spot kick by Leonard Cummins, Borris took a 2-0 lead. Five minutes later a corner kick was floated to Dwyer of Borris and from ten yards he headed over the united 'keeper for a 3-0 lead. Borris eased off the pedal during the remainder of the half, allowing Hopson and Quigley to create chances for Hacketstown, however the end result remained 3-0. Shem Dwyer, Chris Coleman, Ger Foley and Charles Kielty were impressive for Borris.

Over 35's Division

Stradbally Town 1

Nurney Villa 0

In a closely contested fixture, and early second half Town goal was all that divided the teams.

In a scoreless first half the better chances fell to the home side with Seamus Devoy going close on two occasions.

Eight minutes into the second half following a mix up in the Villa defence, P.J. Garland scored the only goal of the match for Stradbally. Town's Martin Langton nearly doubled their advantage only for his shot to hit off the crossbar and wide. P.J. Garland, Martin Langton and Charlie O'Brien stood out for Stradbally Town. Best players for Nurney Villa were Derry O' Toole, Paul Murphy and Sean Farrell.

Wolfhill Athletic 1
Killeshin 0

In an even and tightly contested game, Killeshin failed to score from some very good chances.

With wind advantage, Wolfhill's Frank Fleming and Ricky Patterson created good goal scoring chances, however Killeshin's 'keeper Michael Byrne was in top form. At the other end David Nolan and Colin Fitzgerald were creating their own chances, however the half ended scoreless despite a last kick attempt by John O'Shea for the visitors, clipping the post.

Killeshin pushed forward in the second half with Michael Brennan and Colin Fitzgerald going close. However they were caught when a Patterson corner was power headed home for the only goal by Fleming. Killeshin continued to create some good chances, real scoring opportunities to equalise but failed to alter the scoreboard. The home side finished strong with Liam Butler rocking the cross bar with a late attempt from 40 yards.

Ber Wheatley, Ricky Patterson, Seamus Lyons and Liam Butler stood out for Wolfhill Athletic. For an unlucky Killeshin, Fergus Nolan, Eugene Brennan and Patrick Brennan impressed.

O'Neill's L.F.A. Youths Cup

Freebooters 3
South East 2

An unlucky South East side exited the L.F.A. Youths Cup at the Fair Green on Saturday.

The Kilkenny City side had a good opening to the game, but could make no impression on a good South East defence, and the visitors came closest to opening the scoring when a Booters defender cleared off the line on 35 minutes. Half time came with the sides scoreless. A big turning point in the game came on 52 minutes when South East 'keeper Steve Duncan took down a Blues forward as he bore down a goal and conceded a penalty which was converted and was red carded. South East although down to 10 men fought their way back into the game and Aidan Byrne equalised for the penalty slot awarded after a handball offence. Booters however struck back and goals on 80 and 82 minutes, the third goal from a free kick put them 3-1 up. Shane Clarke missed a great chance to pull a goal back before Aaron Kenny beat a couple of defenders and slotted home on 90 minutes. But it came too late to rescue South East Cup hopes. Best for South East were Thomas Brennan, Steve Purcell and Conor Byrne.

St Anne's 3
St Joseph's 0 A.E.T.

It took extra time to separate those sides in the L.F.A. Youths Cup.

There was very little between the sides during the 90 minutes with chances very scarce, Ciaran Farrell came close twice for Anne's with one effort coming back off the woodwork for Josephs a David Byrne volley near the end was well saved.

All the goals came in the first period of extra time with Brendan Hickey, Ciaran Farrell and a good strike from all of 30 Yards by Alan Kehoe, finding the net to put Anne's in the driving seat. There was no way back for the Tinryland side during the remainder of the extra time. So Anne's advanced to round 2.

Impressive for the winners were Eric Kenna, Alan Kehoe and Ciaran Farrell.

For Joseph's Conor Carthy, Pdraig Whelan, Conor Doyle and Emmet Casey stood out.

Diamond Woodcraft U/17

Nurney Villa 5

Bagenalstown 1

Nurney had a very comfortable win over parish rivals Bagenalstown in this U/17 tie. Villa was always in control of proceedings and went ahead on 12 minutes, when Alan Beaton shot beat Town 'keeper Thomas Lynch from the edge of the area. Seven minutes later Stephen Fowler increased the lead when he rounded 'keeper Lynch and put in an empty net. It was 3-0 on 28 minutes when Gary Dillon scored from a free kick after Daniel Brennan was fouled on the edge of the 18 yard box. 3-0 at the break it was again all one way traffic, in the second half and Alan Beaton, with his second of the game, made it 4-0. Then John Ryan got on the score sheet when he made certain an Alan Salter effort went to the net in a goal mouth scramble. Ciaran Lee got a late consolation goal for the Town, as Nurney relaxed their grip on the game. Excellent for Villa were Niall Walsh, Eamonn Dowling, John Hughes and Alan Beaton.

For the Town, Jonathan Doyle, Michael Murphy and Ciaran Lee tried hard.

Baltinglass Boys 1

Burrin Celtic 1

The points were shared in Baltinglass on Saturday in a very evenly matched contest. Baltinglass opened well and Michael Handbridge came close after eight minutes. Celtic too had their chances and Boys 'keeper Mark Brennan had to make a fine stop to maintain the status quo. As the half progressed, Celtic got on top, it took good defending from Tom Doyle, and Mark Moore to keep Baltinglass in the game before half time came with the sides scoreless. The home side opened the second half in control of the game and went ahead on 50 minutes when Sean Horan netted following a Tom Cullen corner

However Burrin responded well and deservedly levelled midway through the second period. With neither side then able to make any more breakthroughs, the teams had to settle for a point each. For Baltinglass, Garrett Doyle, Paddy Barry, Daniel Cleary and Sean Horan excelled.

Diamond Woodcraft U/18

Stretford Utd 3

St. Fiacc's 3

A good second half showing from Stretford earned them a point, in the Presentation College on Saturday. The Graiguecullen side started brightly on two Adam Shaw goal put them in the driving seat. Stretford stuck to their guns and were back in the game when Craig Lawlor raced on to a Corey Murphy pass to shoot to the top corner just before half time. When Shane Condrón put Fiacc's 1-3 ahead, midway through the second period, the points seemed destined for the visitors, but Stretford never gave up the fight and when Martin Doyle flicked a long throw in by James Byrne, David

Kehoe smashed it at the far post. Substitute Paul McElligot then sent Niall Prendergast and his cross shot deceived Fiacc's 'keeper and ended up in the net to tie the sides.

Best for Stretford were, Corey Murphy, Keith Kelly, Eric Fitzgibbon and Niall Prendergast.

For St. Fiacc's, Bobby Dowling, Ronan Brennan and Adam Shaw shone.

Moone Celtic 1

Dereen Heights 2

A very closely contested tie just fell the way of Dereen against a wasteful Moone side. The Co Kildare side went ahead through Ian Mullarkey on 18 minutes. But back came Dereen and Anthony Core had the sides level on 31 minutes. It was nip and tuck until half time whistle which saw the side's level at 1-1. Moone had the better of the exchanges in the third quarter and put Dereen on the back foot but despite forcing six corners in quick succession on one attack, could not make the breakthrough. In the closing quarter Dereen got a grip on the game and they made it count when Eddie Davis headed home a James White cross on 79 minutes for what proved to be a winner. For the winners, Stephen McGrath, Patrick Hutton and Pat Farrell excelled. Tops for Moone were, William Kelly, Kevin Anthony and Ian Reynolds.

Referees

A Beginners Course for Referees will be held in the Seven Oaks over two days on next Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 October, 9.30am to 5pm each day.

The Course is open to anyone, 16 years and over, who wants to become a Referee in Association Football in the Carlow League and is willing to commence immediately after the Course.

Full details and bookings to Michael Walsh, F.A.I. Referees Assessor after 7pm only, Monday to Friday, 0599722428 or e-mail: chelseamick@eircom.net . In all e-mails include Mobile number, Landline home number, full address and date of birth.

All clubs are encouraged to get one person to do the Course to avoid any further losses of games on Sundays