

# Irish Independent

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One Halfpenny

## DUBLIN STILL CHAMPIONS.

### KERRY BEATEN IN FINAL. HIGH-CLASS FOOTBALL.

### 20,000 PEOPLE WITNESS GREAT GAME.

At Croke Park yesterday, Dublin defeated Kerry by 1 goal 5 pts. to 1 goal 3 pts. in the final of the 1923 All-Ireland Football Championship.

This is Dublin's third consecutive victory in the final and their fourteenth since the competition started. The game was an exciting one from beginning to end, the Kerry men playing with their traditional dash.

A great crowd from all parts of the country witnessed the game. The official returns are:- Attendance, 20,000; "gate," £1,622.

### BRILLIANT DISPLAYS.

### EXPERIENCE TURNS THE SCALES FOR DUBLIN.

After a splendidly contested game at Croke Park yesterday, Dublin beat Kerry by 2 points in the final of the All-Ireland Football Championship for 1923.

There have been more brilliant finals, but few productive of such keen and vigorous play. Dublin fielded a strong team, whose experience told greatly in their favour.

The Kerry players were, to a man, making their first appearance in a senior All-Ireland final.

They acquitted themselves with high credit, their sterling display against the renowned Dublin combination stamping them as worthy upholders of the proud football tradition of their county.



## **DUBLIN'S FOURTEENTH.**

A strong wind had an adverse effect on the play, which, under better weather conditions, should have reached an exceptional standard. The majority of the Dublin selection had played, and won, All-Ireland Championships during the past few years, their success over Kerry bringing the third consecutive title to the Metropolis. This is a great achievement, which has only been beaten by Wexford, who, in 1915-18, took four championships in turn. It is the fourteenth football championship to come to Dublin.

With the scores running pretty level, it was an exciting game to the end. Kerry gave a rather indifferent display in the opening stages, but as time passed they seemed to gain more confidence. Both defences were sound, but the work of the forwards left room for improvement. Some thrilling bouts of play were witnessed at midfield, where outstanding figures were Johnny Murphy for Dublin and Con Brosnan for Kerry. The latter gave a marvellous exhibition and at times appeared to be all over the field.

## **THRILLING FINISH.**

With Dublin only 4 points in arrears while facing the wind their prospects were rosy on the turn over. There was a big surprise in store, however, for those who predicted an easy win for the metropolitans. Kerry showed up in dashing style in the second half, which was productive of really strenuous play. It was a strong finish, and the dangerous movements of Kerry showed that the verdict was by no means secure for Dublin even after they had taken the lead.

Dublin were the more finished footballers and merited their victory on the play. For a young and practically untried team Kerry promised well and with experience will bring further honours to their county. They were short of M. Prenderville, who was replaced by D. Donoghue.

Dublin turned out as selected and were strengthened by the inclusion of L. Stanley. J. Stynes, who was in his first final, was the most conspicuous of the Dublin forwards. All the remaining members of the Dublin team had previous experience in All-Ireland finals. St. Mary's selection won the 1921 Championship and O'Tooles that for 1922 and 1923. O'Tooles were beaten in the 1920 final by Tipperary.

## **"KINGDOM" WELL REPRESENTED.**

There was an immense crowd present, which must have numbered several thousands more than that of the hurling final two weeks ago. As usual, Kerry was represented in strong force, many of the old stalwarts making the long journey with their county president and chairman, Mr. Austin Stack, T.D., and Mr. P.J. O'Connell. The Kerry team were the guests of Mr. McCarthy, at Dunboyne, on Saturday night.

The arrangements were well looked after and the intervals were enlivened by the Artane Boys Band. Mr. Jim Byrne, Wexford, was an impartial and efficient referee.

## **EXCITING GAME.**

### **KERRY FORWARDS MISS MANY CHANCES.**

#### **DUBLIN, 1-5; KERRY, 1-3.**

Kerry won the toss and played towards the railway goal with the wind in their favour. Dublin broke away, and Stynes sent over. Phil Sullivan cleared a renewed attack by Dublin. A splendid bout of play was witnessed at mid-field before the Kerry backs were again tested. John Synnott drove wide. Kerry dashed off, and Ryan centred well from a free. Dublin conceded a "50," which was kicked by Jack Sheehy, and the Dublin end was crossed after a fierce scramble close in. Dublin got a free, and P. McDonnell kicked wide. Kerry bounded off, but were held up by O'Beirne.

### **KERRY FIRST TO SCORE.**

The Kerry backs showed up in capital style against a determined onset by the Metropolitans. Dublin fouled, and Kerry got away, Brosnan sending well in. A free saved for Dublin, who bounded off, to meet with a grand defence. Kerry took up the running, and J.J. Sheehy passed to Ryan, who sent over for a point after about 12 minutes' play.



A free to Dublin was badly judged by Stanley, and McKenna sending away for Kerry, J.J. Sheehy sent over from far out. Ryan kicked a free for Kerry, and Brosnan left the Dublin citadel in danger. Following a "50" the Kerry forwards sent wide, but working back in quick time Ryan added a point. Kerry engaged in a vigorous offensive. A free brought relief to Dublin. Kerry returned, and O'Beirne saved. Donoghue sent wide for Kerry. Phil O'Sullivan sent Kerry away from a free, and J.J. Sheehy tested J. McDonnell in the Dublin goal. Brosnan sent wide for Kerry from a free. A few minutes later the Dublin end was twice crossed without reward.

### **BROSNAN'S GREAT GOAL.**

Joe Norris effected a good clearance for Dublin, and Phil Sullivan returned from a long punt by P. McDonnell. Kerry moved away in dashing style, and Brosnan scored a great goal from about 50 yards out. Dublin invaded, but the forwards finished weakly. Dublin invaded, but the forwards finished weakly. Working back Stynes was fouled, and Joe Synnott kicked a point for Dublin from the free. At half-time Kerry led by 1-2 to 0-1 for Dublin.

Kerry were first away on resuming. The Dublin backs saved, and the home team going away, McDonnell receiving from Stanley, sent wide. Working back Dublin struck the cross-bar, and the ball re-bounded into play a free eased for Kerry. The relief was temporary, as Johnny Murphy placed to advantage for Dublin, and the forwards combining well, Kirwan finished for a goal. Kerry sprang away from the kick-out, but were held up by fouling. Kerry returned, and John Joe Sheehy centred neatly from a free, but the forward boxed over. A free by Carey brought Dublin away, and P. McDonald kicked wide. O'Beirne held up a renewed Kerry onset, and Dublin going in from a free by P. McDonnell, Phil Sullivan was applauded for a splendid save.

### **STRONG DEFENCES.**

The play was stubbornly contested, and the fast pace which was set from the start was surprisingly maintained. Kerry showed up in dashing style, and forced a "50," which was placed to advantage by Jack Sheehy. A free to Dublin relieved, but Kerry worked back, and Jim Baily struck the cross-bar, the ball returning to play, and was sent over for a "50."

A free to Kerry was well placed by Jack Sheehy, and the Dublin backs were kept moving. From yet another free John Joe Sheehy improved Kerry's lead by a point. Johnny Murphy sent well away for Dublin, but Phil Sullivan and Barrett put up a really brilliant defence. Shannahan gave the Dublin forwards an opening, but Frank Burke sent wide.

### **DUBLIN LEAD.**

Jack Sheehy, saving in the Kerry goal from Shanahan, conceded a "50." and the Kerry defence was busy till P. McDonnell kicked a point for Dublin. Brosnan got in effective service for Kerry, who were again on the defensive, when P. McDonnell and Shanahan sent wide in turn. A free, by P. McDonnell, gave Dublin an opening, which was sent over the bar by Johnny Murphy. The score was hotly disputed, as Brosnan (Kerry) had been knocked out and was lying on the ground at the time. A point was allowed, and shortly after a passage between Shanley, Shannahan and Stynes ended in the latter getting a point which gave Dublin the lead.

### **GREAT FINISH.**

Dublin renewed the attack, and Stynes kicked a further point for Dublin. Kerry battled bravely on, and aided by a brace of frees moved forward. Norris checked the onrush, and the scene of action changing, John Synnott sent over the bar for Dublin after Jack Sheehy had saved in the Kerry goal. No score was allowed owing to an encroachment of the parallelogram. Barrett, Sullivan, and Brosnan aided in a Kerry clearance, and J.J. Sheehy had a good try for a score. Rewarded with a "50," Jack Sheehy kicked well, and the Kerry forwards gave the Dublin defence a busy period. Play was at mid-field at the end with both teams playing up strongly.

### **THE TEAMS.**

**Dublin:-** J. McDonnell (goal), P. McDonnell (Capt.), P. Carey, Joe Synnott, John Synnott, J. Norris, J. Reilly (O'Tooles), J. Sherlock, P. Kirwan, L. Stanley (D.M.P), J. Murphy (Keatings), Frank Burke (University College), J. Stynes (McCrackens), P. O'Beirne (Kickhams), M. Shanahan (St. Marys).

**Kerry:-** P. Sullivan (Capt.), J. Sheehy (goal), J. Barrett, E. Moriarty, J. Russell, T. Kelleher, J. Moriarty, C. Brosnan, P. McKenna, J. Ryan, D. Donoghue, J.J. Sheehy, John Baily, James Baily, W. Landers.