**Munster U16 B Championship – Round 1 (Sharon O’Keeffe Tournament)**

Limerick 2 – 04 (10) -v- Kerry 2 – 09 (15) – *Referee Conor McCarthy (Cork)*

The Kerry U16’s got their Munster U16 Championship campaign off to the perfect start in Staker Wallace GAA on Sunday. First up at 12 noon was the B team in the Sharon O’Keeffe Tournament. A cold crisp dry day was the forecast on Sunday. Both sides exchanged points before Kerry went on a scoring free scoring seven unanswered points to open up a seven-point lead deep into the first half. Limerick would score the final point of the half as the hosts went in at the break six points adrift. Upon resumption in the second half Kerry further extended the lead before Limerick scored the first goal of the afternoon through Katie Leahy. The deficit was down to four and it was very much game on. With this being Kerry’s and indeed many of the players first game at U16 level it didn’t phase them in the slightest. They responded immediately with a goal from Leah Courtney. Midway through the second half Kerry rattled the net for a second time to the delight of the travelling support. Ashlyn Falvey with the goal as they extended the lead out to ten. Like Kerry, Limerick regrouped and responded immediately with a goal to reduce the deficit to seven. Further points from Limerick saw the deficit down to five but it was to prove too little too late as Kerry ran out five-point winners.

Kerry Scorers: E Courtney (0-04), L Courtney (1-0), A Falvey (1-0), S O’Sullivan (0-02), E Evans (0-01), A McCarthy (0-01) & L O’Shea (0-01)

Limerick Scorers: K Leahy (1-0), A Nealon (1-0), A Burke (0-02), S Walsh (0-01), J Walsh (0-01)

**Munster U16 A Championship Round 1**

Limerick 3 – 04 (13) -v- Kerry 4 – 06 (18) - *Referee Conor McCarthy (Cork)*

The A team made it a clean sweep in the U16 grade with a hard Faught win. Limerick managed by Rathmore’s Charlie McCarthy opened the scoring with a point inside the first minute but Kerry soon responded with a goal from Jessie Lynch after her shot deceived Grace Fitzgibbon in the Limerick goal. In a frantic first 10 minutes both sides had a goal each. Danielle Naughton for the home side to put them back ahead by one. Limerick were showing plenty of endeavour in the early exchanges. This was a squad that have been together for last year and it showed early on. Kerry began to get into the game more with points from Eve Broderick & Jessie Lynch (free) to leave the bare minimum between the sides. Kerry’s cause was further boosted and they went ahead when Jessie Lynch scored their second goal of the afternoon. With Limerick’s threat nullified by the Kerry defence at the other end of the field the away side tagged on a further two points to extend the lead out to four heading in at half time. Limerick got off to the perfect start in the second half. Referee Conor McCarthy awarded the home side a penalty. With Kerry keeper Anne O’Shaughnessy receiving 10 minutes in the bin, substitute Niamh Mulvihill was called into action. Despite guessing the right way, Limerick’s Aoibhinn O’Connor cooley dispatched to the back of the net to reduce the deficit to one. Brid Curtin steading the ship for the visitors with a point before Doireann O’Neill struck Kerry’s third goal. A frantic opening got even more frantic when Danielle Naughton goaled for the visitors to set up a frantic final quarter. Both sides went in search of the vital score that would have a big outcome in this decider. Luckily it went to the visitors with Jessie Lynch scoring a hattrick with her third goal of the afternoon to seal a hard-fought win for the visitors:

Kerry Scorers: J Lynch (3-03 2f), D O’Neill (1-0), E Broderick (0-01), B Curtin (0-01), V Paulauskaite (0-01)

Limerick Scorers: D Naughton (2-0), A O’Connor (1-1), C Moriarty (0-02 2f), A Buckley (0-01),