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St Nick's hold off Glanworth comeback in IAFC opener

Three first-half goals set the northsiders on the path to victory at Glenville



St Nick's veteran Robert Brosnan hit a key goal against Glanworth. Picture: Dan Linehan

ANDREW HORGAN

St Nick's 4-8 Glanworth 1-13

St Nick's got the Cork County Championship season up and running with a victory over Glanworth in an entertaining opening game of the Bon Secours Intermediate A Football Championship in Glenville.

Three first-half goals laid the foundation for the northsiders' success and their six-point advantage was needed coming down the stretch when the Avondhu side came roaring back.

Despite an impressive performance from Glanworth's Darragh O'Brien, which saw him claim 1-6 of his side's total, it was St Nicks who made the dream start the campaign with the help of goals from their full-forward line of Darragh Milner, Robert Brosnan, and Ryan Long before substitute Lee Quilligan got in on the act late on.

Nick's dominated the opening exchanges and they led 1-3 to 0-2 at the end of the first quarter thanks to Long's well-taken goal, although it could have been more as they missed a couple of glorious chances to raise another green flag. Darragh O'Brien would end the first half notching a remarkable

tally of 1-4 with his goal coming shortly before the interval and it was a powerful low finish into the far bottom right corner.

But that would only keep his side in contention as a clever punch from Milner and another close-range finish from Robert Brosnan ensured Nick's started the second period with a six-point advantage, 3-5 to 1-5.

Glanworth were arguably the better team in the second half-hour and inspired by David Pyne and O'Brien, they put unanswered scoring runs together to eat into their rival's lead.

But it wasn't to be enough as Quilligan's late goal ensured Nick's survived to start the championship with an important victory.

Glenville and Kildorrery are the other two sides in this group.

Scorers for St Nick's: R Long 1-1 (0-1 f), D Milner 1-1, R Brosnan, L Quilligan 1-0 each, D Brosnan 0-3, S O'Callaghan 0-2 (0-1 f), F O'Driscoll 0-1.

Glanworth: D O'Brien 1-6 (0-2 f), D Pyne 0-3 (0-1 45, 0-1 f), G O'Neill, S Finn, S Condon, S O'Riordan 0-1 each.

ST NICKS: E Fuller; D Dunlea, S O'Croinin, C Horgan; A Evan, K McCarthy Coade, S Horgan; D Coughlan, J Morrissey; S O'Callaghan, D Brosnan, L Forde; D Milner, R Brosnan, R Long.

Subs: L Quilligan for R Brosnan (h-t), R Downey for D Milner (49), D Morris for D Coughlan (52), D Busted for R Long (58), E Downey for S O'Callaghan (62).

GLANWORTH: C Cotter; J Blackburn, W Blackburn, T Condon; P Blackburn, G O'Neill, J Fitzgibbon; R Murphy, S Finn; D O'Brien, D Pyne, E Sheehan; S Condon, J O'Sullivan, S O'Riordan.

Subs: J Coughlan for E Sheehan (23), P Hannon for J Fitzgibbon (50).

Referee: Cathal McAllister (Aghada).