

Sligo meet Dublin in semi-final

FOR THE FOURTH year in succession Sligo Minors will be trying to win through to the final of the All-Ireland Minor Basketball Championship when they take on Dublin Minors at Cathal Brugha Barracks, Dublin, on Sunday next at 6 p.m.

Over the past three years, Sligo have gone nearer and nearer to seeing their dreams materialise and last year, they made their exit from the competition when they went down to Dublin by 57-54 at the Gilleoly Hall, Sligo, in a thrilling game.

This should be Sligo's year for they have improved considerably on last year's standard and were very impressive in their Connacht Championship games. However, a big drawback to Sligo's performance will be the fact that they have been unable to train on an indoor court since February.

Sligo are powered by guards, Jim Eccles and Joe Palmer, with Tony O'Hara in the pivot position. John McGowan and Brian Mc Hugh play forwards. John O'Donnell will be first sub. The Sligo first five, between them, have scored approximately 450 points in ten games for Sligo so far this season.

Dublin are hotly favoured to beat Sligo and go on to win the competition out. The present holders of the trophy, they are rated one of the finest minor teams the country has produced. A very hard side to beat, as was proved last year when Sligo led by 12 points in the second half of the semi-final but went down, they are noted for their spirited and tenacious play.

Sligo can cause the shock of the season by bringing home their first-ever victory at a Dublin venue.