

Sligo All-Stars for Dublin Tournament

Next week-end will mark a milestone in the highly successful career of the Sligo All Stars team for they travel to Dublin for their first tournament at the metropolis, the Roy Curtis Memorial Trophy Tournament which is the premier basketball event of the year.

An invitation to participate in the Curtis Trophy is considered the highest honour and as there are only eight teams taking part, it is a great tribute to the Sligo team that they have won recognition from the leading teams in the nation, by this invitation.

With the top clubs in the country drawn against each other, it will be a case of survival of the fittest and most experienced. In the latter respect, Sligo All Stars will be at a disadvantage for they have not yet fully acquired the big time temperament and there is a possibility that the occasion will demand a little more than they can give.

On the bright side, however, Sligo have a very impressive record to their credit. They have been drawn in a pool with Corinthians B, sponsors of the tournament, Ardglass, Co. Down, the present

holders of the trophy, and Neptune, of Cork. They scored a well-deserved victory over Corinthians in the Festival of Sligo Tournament earlier this year although they had only two points to spare at the end and they have met Neptune on three occasions, twice successfully, and the third time only losing in extra time, and then by a point.

Sligo have never pitted their forces against Ardglass and it will be very interesting to see how they fare in this game. Powered by player-coach, Gary Fuller, who played for Great Britain in the Tokyo Olympics, Ardglass have many tournament successes to their credit, due mainly, to the experience and craft of the master mind of the British player who has no equal in this country. If Sligo can find some way of curbing his brilliance, they can be well on the way to success.

Sligo All Stars will have a card up their sleeve too, for their recent signing, Ivers Zauers, born in Latvia, can cause quite an upset. Zauers, who played in a major British league, set up a scoring record a few seasons back which has not yet been equalled. At present living in Foxford, he had been fitting in very well with his colleagues.

A good performance by the All Stars will give their reputation a great boost and while they can hardly be expected to cause an upset, they can be relied upon to acquit themselves with credit.

All-Stars Juniors start well

Sligo All Stars Juniors were very impressive in their opening games in the Connacht Junior Basketball League when they easily disposed of Mohill and Termonbarry at Mohill last Friday.

Sligo All Stars ... 36; Mohill ... 13

Sligo were unable to play their usual running game in the narrow confines of the Mohill hall and they took some time to settle down to a change of style. Attacking the Mohill zone from the outside, they used the ball well and through the fine shooting of the reliable Tom O'Brien, they had little difficulty in playing into a 17-6 lead by half-time.

The second half proved just a repeat of the first and although O'Brien substituted himself off, the All Stars were capably led by captain Brian Gorevan.

Sligo — B. Gorevan 1, M. Murray, B. Mooney 4, R. Burns 10, T.

O'Brien 14, T. O'Hara 3, C. Carty 4, M. O'Hara, T. McGovern.

Sligo All Stars ... 62;
Termonbarry ... 23

Sligo All Stars played a much more relaxed game in their second League match of the night and they produced some excellent basketball, particularly in the first half.

Sligo's solid defence was never in trouble, due in no small measure to the great performance of Cormac Carty under the basket while Tony O'Hara and Robert Burns were in fine form in attack.

Sligo really dazzled their opponents in the first half and coasted to a 36-8 lead after the opening twenty minutes. They relaxed somewhat after the interval and Termonbarry were able to get through for a few token scores.

Sligo — B. Gorevan 2, M. Murray, B. Mooney, R. Burns 10, T. O'Brien 20, T. O'Hara 26, C. Carty 4, T. McGovern, M. O'Hara,