



## 11 a-side Winter League Match 12 Report

### Dublin Devils FC 4-3 Cherrypickers

Hayes 28, 34, Scanlon 52, Gildea 56

**Devils Team** – Mark Carroll, Niall Scanlon (c), Mike McQuillan, Chris Grehan, Pete Dockrell, Arnaldo Gibelli, Brendan Gildea, Neil Hayes (Francis Fitzgibbon 44), Brian Donegan (Conrad Cadogan 48), James Lee, Paul Gogarty. **Manager** – Peter Murray.

An early 7.15pm match tonight in dry but very cold conditions against bottom of the table Cherrypickers who the Devils shared a 1-1 with in the first game.

Again this first 5 mins saw the Devils having to defend and not get very much going forward at all. By 10 mins when Brendan Gildea sent in a shot to the box, the Devils were playing better.

On 15 mins Devils Keeper Mark Carroll had to make a save on an open goal that would have been certain as the opener, but 6 mins later in much the same situation Cherrypickers just had to roll the ball into an open net to go 1-0 up. That was the spark the Devils needed to come to life. On 24 mins James Lee shot wide and a minute later Neil Hayes' shot was saved.

On 26 mins Cherrypickers had the ball bounce off the inside of the upright, and after a fumbled clearance the ball went out and straight back into an open net. Devils 0-2 Cherrypickers. On 28 mins, a Brian Donegan shot was saved but the keeper dropped the ball and Neil Hayes was there to capitalise and score his first Winter League goal for the Devils and shorten their advantage. At half time, Dublin Devils FC 1-2 Cherrypickers.

The Devils came out fighting in the second half, a Brendan Gildea corner on 34 mins found its way into the back of the net and the goal was awarded to Neil Hayes, 2-2. On 37 mins, the same move again was saved by the keeper.

Mark Carroll had to make a save on 38 mins, Brian Donegan shot wide on 39, Arnaldo Gibelli on 41 and then on 42 mins Cherrypickers scored another goal identical to their first beating the last defender and rolling into an open goal, Devils 2-3 Cherrypickers.

The Devils fought again, Chris Grehan shot wide on 45 mins, and another Gildea corner seemed to cross the line but was not given. On 51 mins Arnaldo Gibelli and Chris Grehan both had further shots saved as the Devils went all out to claw the score back level.

On 52 mins Devils Captain Niall Scanlon found the ball at his feet on the half way line, he shot into the air and the ball soared up, over and down right into the back of the net, amazing goal and now 3-3 with a few minutes left in the game. Following the goal, Mark Carroll had a string of saves to make as Cherrypickers still fought for all 3 points. Some beautiful play in keeping and controlling the ball from Francis Fitzgibbon eventually got it into the box and a goal claimed by Brendan Gildea was scored to send the Devils supporters wild on the side-line and earn the victory in a 4-3 thriller. Never count the Devils out until the final whistle blows.....