

The BEA Cup

In the BEA – Enniscorthy are on course for a fourth title in three seasons across their two teams, with a 3½ point lead after five rounds. After dropping two points in each of their opening two matches, they've only dropped two points in the three matches since, and four of their five players are on board prize scores at present.

One point separates the next four teams, Dublin, Portmarnock, Naomh Barróg and St Benildus. And as none of those four have yet met, there'll be plenty of crunch games in the second half of the season, starting in round 6 as Portmarnock host Dublin. St Benildus – for whom juniors Seán Devilly and William Kenny are on 12/13 for the season between them, including a perfect 4/4 when subbing for the O'Hanlon – and Curragh, two points further adrift in sixth, will be aiming to join Enniscorthy in achieving back-to-back promotions. One caveat to note here is that Portmarnock received a walkover against Rathmines, opening the possibility of a promotion play-off challenge if they finish less than 2½ points ahead of Dublin or St Benildus, and less than 1 point ahead of Naomh Barróg.

Matches resume on 9th Jan.