

In the opening game of the 2010 Tri Nations at St. Kevin's Boys FC in Dublin, John Morling's Republic of Ireland "A" side fell to a 1-0 defeat with a Luke Williams strike after 40 minutes, on the stroke of half-time.

In an exciting contest, Irish strikers, Sam O'Connor and Dylan Hayes were influential up front as wingers, Sam Byrne and Jordan Graham who was making his international debut caused a constant threat on the break.

In an evenly contested first-half, Ireland were unlucky to go behind before the break following a neat finish from Swansea City midfielder, Luke Williams who blasted the ball past Irish keeper, Shane Fagan from 20 yards.

Ireland started the second half strongly and their first real chance fell to St. Joseph's Boys midfielder who volleyed inches wide from 20 yards following a pin-point cross from Sean Long.

Moments after his introduction, substitute Gary O'Neill went close as he ran on to a half-clearance from the Welsh defence but his goal-bound volley from the edge of the box was palmed past the post by Wales keeper, Alex Lynch.

Republic of Ireland "A"; Shane Fagan, Sean Long, Sean Coyne, Kyle McFadden, Dan O'Reilly, Glody Nsay, Jordan Graham, Thomas Mulroney, Sam O'Connor, Dylan Hayes, Sam Byrne.

Substitutes; James Mullaney, Ryan O'Reilly, Darren Murphy, Jack Grealish, Eric Grimes, Gary O'Neill.

In the other game, John Morling's Republic of Ireland "B" side played out a thrilling 2-2 draw

with their Welsh opponents.

Waterford's Conor Whittle made history as he became the first schoolboy international to win an international cap for the De La Salle club in Waterford. Irish striker, Adam Wixted opened the scoring in the 35th minute when he ran onto a superb ball from Dylan Casey which split the defence, Wixted claimed the ball and coolly clotted the ball past Luke Fleming to send the Irish into the half-time break in the lead.

In a fast and furious start to the second half, Wales scored two quick-fire goals through Ryan Samuel and substitute Sam Evans. The determined Irish team continued to press Wales and they got their just rewards in the final five minutes when Barna United's Jason Lyons from Galway was introduced as a late substitute and he scored the equaliser with his first touch with a stunning strike from 25 yards.

Republic of Ireland "B"; Conor Forde, Conor Whittle, Lee Desmond, Josh Connell, Dylan Casey, James McGrath, Stephen McCarthy, Darragh Lucey, Darragh Walsh, Anthony McAlavey, Adam Wixted.

Substitutes; David Tobin, Darren Coyle, Dillon McGlade, Stephen Morris, Conor McDonald, Ryan Malone, Jason Lyons.

The U15 Tri Nation continues tomorrow as Wales look to continue their dominance with a tough clash against Northern Ireland at the AUL Complex in Dublin 15. The Republic of Ireland resume their fixtures on Sunday as they face Northern Ireland in Kiltarnan in Co. Dublin.

U15 Tri Nations Tournament Fixtures

Saturday 22nd May

Advantage to Wales in U15 Tri-Nations

Friday, 21 May 2010 19:53

Wales A v Northern Ireland A
AUL Complex, Clonsaugh, Dublin 15
Kick-off: 2pm

Wales B v Northern Ireland B
AUL Complex, Clonsaugh, Dublin 15
Kick-off: 4pm

Sunday 23rd May

Republic of Ireland A v Northern Ireland A
Wayside Celtic, Kiltarnan, Co. Dublin
Kick-off: 11am

Republic of Ireland B v Northern Ireland B
Wayside Celtic, Kiltarnan, Co. Dublin
Kick-off: 1pm