Noah Murphy wants to be a professional soccer player more than anything in the world. If he can make enough money, his dad can come back from working far away and live with him and his sister again. The way he sees it, the only way to get there is to win the Schools’ World Cup, get scouted, and get on the professional pitch. But then Noah gets banned from his team. Luckily, the Immaculate Conception School for Girls doesn’t have a team yet, and they’re looking for players. Noah’s got a big task ahead of him—he’s got to recruit enough players to make a team and find a coach. The task isn’t made any easier when the kids they recruit aren’t what you’d call star players, and the only coach they can find doesn’t seem to understand how to be a coach. But Noah won’t let that get him down. He’ll get there one way or another.

The Mighty Dynamo is a great book for young soccer enthusiasts. Because it is a book written entirely about soccer, if readers don’t have at least a rudimentary understanding of the game and some famous players, they might get bored. It’s also set in Ireland, so there might be some words American readers might not always understand. The most enjoyable part of this book is getting to know Noah’s friends. They’re written well and despite having lots of secondary characters in this story, they all stand out due to the fun details Crowley has written for them. Though the story won’t surprise anyone, it’s still fun to see how far Noah and his friends can go into the championship, even when it seems like everyone and everything is against them. It will be a great addition to any pre-teen or teen bookshelf, especially for a sports lover.

*Contains mild language.*