



## Banbridge Rangers 2-1 Ballyclare Comrades

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020 – Pre-season Friendly

### Ballyclare Comrades team (4-4-2)

1. Aaron MacFarlane
17. Trialist 🚩 (46')
5. Kyle Crawford 🚩 (31') 🚩 (68')
11. Adam McCart
25. Trialist 🚩 (46')
7. Thomas Robinson 🚩 (39')
8. Ashton McDermott 🚩 (46')
22. Samuel McIlveen 🚩 (46') 🟢 (75')
20. Adam Gray 🚩 (75')
23. Jason Johnston 🚩 (46')
16. Nathan O'Neill 🚩 (46') 🟢 (55')

### Substitutes:

2. Curtis Woods 🟢 (46')
3. Lee McCune 🟢 (46')
14. Trialist 🟢 (46')
7. Ciarán Dobbin 🟢 (46')
24. Gary Donnelly 🟢 (46')
9. Trialist 🟢 (46') 🚩 (55')

An experimental Comrades side faced a tough pre-season game against Mid-Ulster League champions Banbridge Rangers and lost out to two second half goals.

The visitors had the first chance of the game in the 3<sup>rd</sup> minute when Thomas Robinson raced onto a through ball from Ashton McDermott and fired a shot into the side-netting from 10 yards.

The home side were dealt a blow in the 8<sup>th</sup> minute when 'keeper Buchanan had to be replaced by outfield player Chambers after picking up a head injury.

However, much of the action was at the other end with young 'keeper Aaron MacFarlane, newly arrived in the Under 20 squad and playing because of the unavailability of the two senior 'keepers, kept very busy and making several excellent saves. Notably he did very well to keep out efforts from dangerous striker Newell in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> minutes.

On 31 minutes Comrades took the lead. Centre-back Kyle Crawford brought the ball forward and struck a fine low effort from 35 yards which Chambers could not keep out.

Five minutes later MacFarlane made a superb double save to maintain his side's lead which they kept at the break.

A raft of second half substitutions took place as manager Paul Harbinson continued to give game time to his squad and assess trialists.

In the 69<sup>th</sup> minute the hosts deservedly levelled the scores with Copes finishing from 8 yards.

Then on 78 minutes Comrades fell behind to a close ranger headed goal from King. The visitors could not respond, and Rangers secured the victory.