



## Ballyclare Comrades 1-2 Crusaders

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Pre-season Friendly

### Ballyclare Comrades team (4-2-3-1)

- 19. Jack Ferguson 📉 (46')
- 20. Trialist 📉 (46')
- 15. Jordan Malone 📉 (76')
- 6. Adam McCart 📉 (46')
- 3. Lee McCune 📉 (46')
- 16. Ashton McDermott 📉 (46') 📈 (62')
- 10. Trialist 📉 (46') 📈 (82')
- 17. Gareth McGuinness 📉 (46') 📈 (66')
- 11. Ciarán Dobbin 📉 (82')
- 7. Thomas Robinson 📉 (62')
- 23. Jason Johnston 📉 (2') 📉 (68')

### Substitutes:

- 1. Ben McCauley 📈 (46')
- 2. Curtis Woods 📈 (46')
- 5. Kyle Crawford 📈 (46')
- 14. Dale McCreery 📈 (76')
- 4. Samuel McIlveen 📈 (46')
- 8. JB Dobbin 📈 (68')
- 21. Adam Gray 📈 (46')
- 24. Gary Donnelly 📈 (46')
- 9. Nathan O'Neill 📈 (46') 📉 (66')

Comrades continued their pre-season with a good workout against top Premiership side Crusaders.

The game started very well for the home side as they took the lead inside 2 minutes, with Jason Johnston placing a downward header past 'keeper O'Neill from 6 yards from a Gareth McGuinness cross.

As expected, Crusaders had a lot of the ball in the first half, but Comrades defended stoutly, although they had to clear off the line in the 16<sup>th</sup> minute after a scramble in the box.

At the other end the hosts posed a threat. In the 20<sup>th</sup> minute Jason Johnston sent a low effort just wide. Then, five minutes later, Ciarán Dobbin hit a shot just over the bar from 22 yards.

On 33 minutes Comrades had a great chance to double their lead when the 'keeper spilled the ball from a cross, but Gareth McGuinness couldn't capitalise from an angle at close range.

Both sides made several substitutions at the start of the second half and the visitors seemed more dynamic now, dominating possession and penning the hosts back for most of the time. In the 59<sup>th</sup> minute they equalised when Heatley flicked the ball over advancing 'keeper McCauley from inside the box.

Six minutes later Crusaders had the lead, with Brown heading home from 6 yards out.

The hosts could not manage to level the scores as Crusaders continued to boss possession, but they kept a good defensive discipline to avoid conceding any further goals.