



## Ballyclare Comrades 3-4 Glenavon

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Pre-season friendly

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

1. Ben McCauley
2. Curtis Woods
5. Kyle Crawford 📌 (84')
20. Elliot McKim 📌 (31')
3. Lee McCune 📌 (46')
26. Liam Hassin
18. Ashton McDermott
11. Ciarán Dobbin 📌 (45') 📌 (50') 📌 (66')
24. Gary Donnelly 📌 (46')
21. Adam Gray 📌 (55') 📌 (78')
23. Jason Johnston 📌 (84')

### Substitutes:

19. Jack Ferguson
6. Adam McCart 📌 (31')
14. Dale McCreery 📌 (46')
4. Samuel McIlveen 📌 (66')
8. JB Dobbin 📌 (84')
7. Thomas Robinson 📌 (46')
22. Matthew Herron 📌 (84')
9. James McCabe 📌 (78')

Comrades completed their scheduled pre-season games with another encounter with a Premiership side at Dixon Park, this time Glenavon.

The visitors started strongly, dominating possession and looking very lively going forward. The only thing absent for them was finishing as they spurned a number of good chances within the first 20 minutes, missing the target every time.

However in the 21<sup>st</sup> minute they deservedly took the lead when Purkiss timed his run perfectly to beat the offside trap and get on the end of a long ball before running forward and finishing coolly past the 'keeper.

Three minutes later Glenavon doubled their lead when Jenkins finished off a good move down the left, finding the back of the net with a low strike from 6 yards.

The visitors' dominance continued and it was no surprise when they increased their lead on 43 minutes. Purkiss was again the scorer, striking a fierce effort from just inside the box which took a deflection and deceived Ben McCauley at the near post.

The hosts had been on the back foot for most of the half and had struggled to create much going forward. However, seconds before the half-time whistle they managed to pull a goal back. Adam Gray got in to some space on the left and played the ball into the box. A defender had the chance to clear it but misskicked gifting Ciarán Dobbin the chance to fire into the roof of the net from inside the 6-yard box. This boost just before the break saw Comrades come out for the second half on the offensive. Two minutes in they had a decent shout for a penalty turned down as Jason Johnston appeared to be fouled as he broke through in the box. The home fans didn't have to wait long for a second goal from their team. On 50 minutes great play on the right side of the box from Ciarán Dobbin saw him cut in and strike an effort from an angle 5 yards out which took a deflection off a defender and found the back of the net. A minute later Glenavon went up the field and scored their fourth with Purkiss completing his hat-trick with an easy tap-in. Comrades weren't deflated by this and soon reduced the deficit to one goal again. Jason Johnston did well on the right side of the box to make space to play the ball in, where Thomas Robinson helped it on to the arriving Adam Gray who knocked it into the net from close range. After this Glenavon began to reassert their authority on the game and to boss possession. Only some stout defending and good saves from Ben McCauley kept them out. The hosts did however have one last chance to grab a draw, when on 85 minutes a through ball set Liam Hassin free, but his effort from the edge of the box went over the bar.