

Ballyclare Comrades U20 0-0 Newington U20

Saturday 26th September 2020 – Pre-season Friendly

Ballyclare Comrades U20 manager, Jackie Moore, has made a brilliant start since taking over the reins at Dixon Park in August, with his young guns having gone undefeated in their first six outings in pre-season friendlies.

On Saturday they were going for four wins on the bounce after having got the better of Crusaders, Suffolk and Glentoran, but Newington broke the sequence when they held out for a scoreless draw at Antrim Forum.

Fifteen year old keeper Jack Reid wasn't seriously tested in the first half, with his activity restricted to coming off his line to cut out crosses, while his opposite number did well to smother an Oliver McGrath effort. Comrades came closest to forging ahead when Louis Wilson got on to the end of a Jack Moore corner, but his firm header was cleared off the line with the keeper beaten.

The introduction of several substitutes resulted in the Wee Reds dominating the second half. McGrath missed a sitter after a Moore free had crashed against the post and later skipper Ben Monaghan rattled the crossbar, but despite play having been mainly in Newington territory the scorecard remained blank.

Man of the Match: New signing Rhys McAllister (ex Larne).

Comrades U20: Reid, Edge, R McAllister, Wilson, Irwin, Moore, Monaghan (C). Mulholland, Barrons, McCauley, McGrath. Subs: Campbell, J McCallister, Hutchinson, McCormack, Long.