

18th Newtownabbey OB 0-6 Ballyclare Comrades U20

Saturday 10th October 2020 – Pre-season Friendly

Boosted by the inclusion of several senior team fringe players, Ballyclare Comrades Under-20s thrashed 18th Newtownabbey 6-0 in a pre-season friendly at Cloyne Crescent.

Andrew Mooney was the hat-trick hero, with Matthew Herron, Elliot McKim and Oliver McGrath also getting their names on the scorecard.

Herron opened the scoring when he got the better of the home keeper in a one-against-one confrontation, and then Mooney opened his account following good play by Jacob Magee down the left flank.

McKim made it 3-0 when he blasted a free in to the top corner, and Mooney's brace left the Wee Reds with a commanding 5-0 lead at the break.

Manager Jackie Moore made wholesale changes for the second session, with Paul Waite the only over age player remaining, so play was more evenly contested with McGrath taking the total to the half dozen.

After scarcely having a touch in the first half keeper Aaron MacFarlane had more to do in the second, his highlight being saving a penalty to record a clean sheet.

Man of the Match: Andrew Mooney, but he faced stiff competition from Paul Waite who starred in midfield.

The win stretched Comrades' undefeated run to eight games – P8 W6 D2 L0 – and manager Moore is looking forward to the start of the league programme on 24th October in Ballinamallard, but before that there is an important Junior Cup tie against Bryanburn Rangers II at Crawfordsburn on 17th.

Comrades U20s: MacFarlane, Edge, McKim, Hutchinson, McCreery, Waite, Monaghan, Barrons, Magee, Mooney, Herron. Subs: Wilson, McCormick, Long, Mulholland, McGrath, McAllister, McCauley.