

Report courtesy of Newtownabbey Times

Saturday 22nd February 2020 – Championship/PIL Development League

Ballyclare Comrades Reserves 2-4 Bangor Reserves

Ten-man Ballyclare Comrades Reserves were beaten by Bangor Reserves in a Championship Development League fixture at Antrim Forum grounds.

After conceding an early goal, Stephen Black's lads surged into the lead with a double strike, but the visitors regained the lead before the interval. With the wind in their favour in the second session Comrades seemed set to secure the points, but when goalkeeper Josh Dunn was sent off (two yellow cards) the scales were tipped in the Seasiders' favour, and they ran out 4-2 winners.

Bangor opened the scoring in the 10th minute following a long ball over the top, but almost straight from the restart the scores were level again when Thomas McKitterick made ground before transferring to Ryan Worthington, who gave the exposed keeper no chance.

Despite playing against the wind the Wee Reds were on top and were rewarded when Thomas McKitterick drilled a free into the bottom corner of the net.

Bangor recovered and after equalising added another to turn around 3-2 ahead.

During the third quarter Bangor were on the back foot, with Adam Surgeoner, Johnny Patterson and Worthington having shots saved, but it went pear-shaped for Comrades when Dunn received his marching orders. Thereafter the County Down lads made full use of their numerical superiority and added a fourth without reply.

Commenting manager Black said, "The turning point was the dismissal of our goalkeeper ten minutes in to the second half for a second bookable offence. With the wind in our favour we were favourites to win at that stage, but Bangor's extra man was too much for us," he added.

Ballyclare Comrades Reserves: Dunn, Cooper, Oueslati, Surgeoner, Wilson, Meneely, Sloan, Laverty, Patterson, J Campbell, McKitterick. Subs: Worthington, Blackadder, McAllister, C Campbell, Knox.