

Suffolk 4-5 Ballyclare Comrades U20s

Saturday 12th September 2020 – Pre-season Friendly

After firing blanks in the first half against Suffolk YM in a pre-season friendly, Ballyclare Comrades Under-20s resumed with all guns blazing and emerged victorious in a nine goals' thriller at Carnanmore Park in Belfast.

The Amateur League Division 1C side led 2-0 at the interval, with Comrades' best efforts being an Oliver McGrath drive that hit the post, and a Carson Mulholland rocket that was tipped over the bar by the keeper.

Fifteen year old Comrades keeper, Jack Reid, pulled off a couple of fine saves in the first half and must have been pleased with his promising debut at the higher level.

Manager Jackie Moore introduced Ethan McCormack and Cameron Long after the break, and after Jake Magee opened their account in the 54th minute they continued to dominate with further strikes by McGrath, Jordan McCallister (2) and Jordan Campbell securing the 5-4 win.

Magee, who had replaced injured skipper Owen Barrons in the first half, made it 2-1 after being played in by McGrath, who added a second from a set piece.

McCallister weighed in with a brace, the second being a deftly struck left foot lob, before Campbell completed the scoring from a McGrath cut-back.

Man of the Match: Carson Mulholland ex Larne.

Comrades U20s: Reid, Edge, Irwin, Wilson, Hutchinson, McGarvey, Mulholland, Barrons (C), Macauley, Campbell, McGrath. Subs: McCormack, Long, McCallister, Tumilson, Magee.

Commenting manager Moore said, "In the first half our play dropped to Suffolk's level, but we sharpened up in the second half and were deserved winners.

Striker Oliver McGrath formerly with Crusaders played an influential part with three assists and a goal, but the man of the match award went to midfielder Carson Mulholland who kept us on the front foot in the second half," he added.