



Ballyclare Comrades 1-3 Linfield

Saturday 30th July 2016 – Pre-Season Friendly

Ballyclare Comrades team (4-4-1-1)

1. Paddy Flood
2. Dean Youle
5. Chris Getty 🏴 (74')
6. Michael McQuitty
3. Mark Shannon 🏴 (67')
7. Gary Brown 🏴 (34')
8. JB Dobbin 🏴 (85')
4. Corey McMullan 🏴 (74')
11. Adam Irwin 🏴 (46')
10. Michael O'Hanlon
9. Chris Trussell 🧤 (4')

Substitutes:

12. Simon McGowan 🟢 (46')
14. Stuart McCullough 🟢 (74')
15. Adam Gray 🟢 (74')
16. Curtis Woods 🟢 (67')
18. Bobbie Crowe 🟢 (85')
19. Denver Taggart 🟢 (34')

Comrades took an early lead, but in the end Linfield's Premiership class showed through to see them to victory in a very competitive pre-season game at Dixon Park. The home side looked up for it from the start and on 4 minutes they hit the front when Chris Trussell picked up the ball on the right, cut inside into the box and fired a superb finish wide of 'keeper Carroll from an angle 12 yards out.

In the 16th minute Comrades were undone by a piece of magic from ex-international Clingan, who curled a free-kick into the net from 22 yards out to level the scores. On 21 minutes another Linfield international, 'keeper Carroll, had to be alert to tip a 27 yard free-kick over the bar, which had been struck from the right side by Mark Shannon.

The visitors struck the front in the 36th minute when Carson was given too much space to strike a shot from just inside the box past the helpless 'keeper.

The second half saw Linfield in control and Paddy Flood was much the busier 'keeper, making a number of fine saves.

In the 61st minute, having made a fine save and then seen the ball rebound off the post from another shot, within seconds he could do nothing to prevent the unmarked Carson from slotting the ball home from 3 yards out.

Midway through the half an incident involving Mark Shannon and Linfield's Smyth, rather out of keeping with the spirit in which the game had been played, ended with

the both men getting their marching orders. As is the norm in pre-season games a replacement was allowed, but Linfield, having previously used all their substitutes, were left to play the rest of the game with ten men.

The rest of the game was something of a non-event and there were to be no more goals. Nevertheless, this was a good work out for both sides.