

Ballyclare Comrades U20 1-3 Dundela Reserves

Saturday 4th February 2017 – NIFL Development League North

Report courtesy of the Newtownabbey Times

Ballyclare Comrades U20 missed the opportunity to regain the top spot in the Championship Development League North table when they fell to Dundela Youth at Dixon Park.

Reece Gilmour nosed the Wee Reds ahead, but the city lads turned round two up, and then held out in the second half to win 3-1, and inflict only the third league defeat of the season on the hosts.

Kingsley Burrows' lads were one up in the 12th minute, when Gilmore converted a penalty following a handling offence, but ten minutes later it was all square again against the run of play when Dundela levelled from close range.

Comrades continued to dictate but Scott Cummings, Michael Haskins and Gilmour failed to put away chances, and these shortcomings were exposed when a long ball over the top caught out the defence, with Duns now in front.

Just before the break Adam McCauley's wayward back-pass to keeper Ross McKnight was pounced upon by a striker who made it 3-1.

Play was mainly in Dundela territory in the second half, but Comrades were unable to convert possession in to goals. Substitute Kyle Robinson had the beating of his marker, and his right wing thrusts produced a series of crosses in to the danger area, but there was no end product despite the efforts of Cummings and Haskins.

"It was a disappointing result, but I was not personally disappointed," said manager Burrows. "It gave me much pleasure to see these young lads moving the ball around so fluently, and they gave me one hundred per cent in effort, but failure to put away chances cost us dearly."

Ballyclare Comrades Reserves: McKnight; A McCauley, K McCauley, Ervine, Gault (C); Haggan, Clarke; Gilmour, Haskins, McIlwaine; Cummings. Subs: Chalmers, Robinson, Fenton, Nesbitt.