



Crusaders 2-0 Ballyclare Comrades

Thursday 3rd August 2017 – Pre-Season Friendly

Ballyclare Comrades team (4-4-2)

1. Paddy Flood 🇮🇪 (80')
2. Curtis Woods 🇮🇪 (76')
5. Chris Rodgers 🇮🇪 (85')
23. Dean Youle 🇮🇪 (77')
3. Matty Parker
7. Gary Brown 🇮🇪 (46') 🇮🇪 (70')
4. Samuel McIlveen
8. JB Dobbin 🇮🇪 (46') 🇮🇪 (85')
11. Adam Gray 🇮🇪 (73') 🇮🇪 (81')
10. Paul Maguire 🇮🇪 (46')
9. Kyle Mackie 🇮🇪 (81')

Substitutes:

12. Josh Corry 🇮🇪 (76')
14. Zach Barr 🇮🇪 (46') 🇮🇪 (70')
15. Adam McCart 🇮🇪 (77')
16. Jason Johnston 🇮🇪 (46')
17. Stewart Nixon 🇮🇪 (46')
18. CJ McQuillan 🇮🇪 (73')
- Gk. Geoff McKinty 🇮🇪 (80')

Crusaders: Dougherty, Burns, McChrystal, Beverland, McClean, Snoddy, Caddell, Cushley, Ward, Whyte, Owens. Subs: Glackin, Nimick, Smith, Brown, Malcolmson, Jensen.

Comrades continued their pre-season with a trip to Crusaders and emerged with a lot of credit after a highly competitive friendly.

The home side had most of the attacking play early on, playing a high tempo game, but Comrades stood up to it well, defending soundly and getting forward dangerously themselves at times.

When the breakthrough came for the home side, it was in unusual circumstances in the 26th minute. They won a corner on the right and from this Cushley whipped the ball in low to the near post, where it eluded everyone and flew directly into the net. The Crues doubled their lead on 37 minutes, when Caddell produced a well-directed header from 6 yards from a pinpoint Burns cross.

The second half saw the usual raft of pre-season game substitutions for both sides. Comrades continued to work their socks off, both to harry the classy home side and also to try to cause some threat of their own. Whilst Crusaders managed a few decent chances, largely Comrades coped well defensively.

At the other end it was hard to make in-roads against an experienced home defence. However Stewart Nixon did have an effort on 64 minutes, saved by Jensen, after he had shown great pace to get clear down the right. Then, on 75 minutes, there were shouts for a penalty, rejected by the referee, after Kyle Mackie nipped in to get in front of defender, who then challenged him from behind. Overall this was an excellent workout for Comrades against classy opposition.