



Ballyclare Comrades 0-2 H&W Welders

Saturday 21st April 2018 – Bluefin Sport Championship

Match Sponsors: Golden Glen Catering

Dr Steve Aiken OBE, Ulster Unionist Party, South Antrim

Mr Brian Millar

Ballyclare Comrades team

1. Paddy Flood
2. Curtis Woods
6. Michael McQuitty
23. Dean Youle
16. Matty Parker
22. Gary Brown
4. Samuel McIlveen
14. Adam McCart
8. JB Dobbin
10. Eoin Kane 🟢🔴 (75')
9. Mark Kelly

Substitutes:

3. CJ McQuillan
5. Chris Rodgers
17. Thomas Robinson 🟢🔴 (75')
7. Joe McWilliams
12. Chris Middleton

H&W Welders: Robinson, Boyd, Armstrong, Malone, McMurray, Harris, Gwiazda, Deans, Graham, R Arthurs, Bonnes. Subs: B Arthurs, Dornan, Upritchard, Spence.

Comrades continued their miserable end to the season with another defeat, losing by two goals to H&W Welders.

Manager Clifford Adams had a few more players available to him for this game, with only long-term absentees Adam Gray and Alan Blayney missing. Captain, JB Dobbin returned after a work trip to Japan, whilst Matty Parker came back in after suspension.

The home side started brightly, showing little signs of lack of confidence. In the 5th minute they had a shout for a penalty turned down, when JB Dobbin played in Gary Brown and he went down under robust challenge in the box.

Welders, however, also looked dangerous and in the 8th minute they were unlucky, when Bonnes' shot from the left side of the box came back out off the inside of the post.

The game continued to ebb and flow, but the next good chance fell to the home side. In the 28th minute a good move, involving Eoin Kane and Gary Brown ended with the ball being played to JB Dobbin to get in a strike from a central position 17 yards out. He hit his effort well, but it was matched by a good save by Robert Robinson.

In the 32nd minute the opening goal came and it fell to the visitors. A ball into the box was not cleared and led to scramble from which Gwiazda got his head to the ball inside the 6 yards box and was able to knock it into the back of the net.

The visitors went in at half-time with a one-goal lead and, although Comrades had much of the play in the second period, there wasn't a great deal of threat on the Welders goal. There were a couple of chances for the home side in close succession in the 63rd minute. First, from a corner, Dean Youle hooked an effort goalwards from 8 yards, but it was blocked in front of the line by a defender. Then, seconds later, a ball played to the far post was met by Adam McCart, but, running out of room, he could only knock it wide of the target.

At the other end the dangerous Gwiazda stung the hands of Paddy Flood with a fierce shot from the edge of the box on 78 minutes. Then, five minutes later, Welders got their second goal, when Samuel McIlveen was adjudged to have fouled a Welders player in the box and Gwiazda stepped up to confidently convert from the spot.

This effectively ended the game as a contest and sealed the points for the visitors, who won against Comrades for the second week in a row.