

Ballyclare Comrades U20 8-3 PSNI Olympic

Saturday 6th January 2018 – NIFL Development League North

Report courtesy of the Newtownabbey Times

After struggling to keep level in the first half, Ballyclare Comrades Reserves fired in five unanswered goals in the second session to clinch the Championship Development League North points.

PSNI Reserves led three times at Allen Park, but at half time the score was 3-3, but then Kingsley Burrows' lads took over to coast to a comprehensive 8-3 win.

New teenage signings, Andy Neilly from Linfield and Thomas Campbell from Coleraine, started from the bench, but both were involved in the goalfest.

After Jonny Coulter cancelled out the policemen's early strike, the home side regained the lead, only for dominant defender Jack Chalmers to come up for an Adam McCauley corner to restore parity with a firm header.

For the third time the coppers forged ahead, but approaching half time Joel Haggan equalised following a fine build-up involving Ross Clarke and Reece Gilmour.

In a one-sided second half Gilmour, Clarke and Neilly each netted, and there were two own goals under pressure from Gilmour on each occasion.

In the absence of a regular keeper Ewan McGrath volunteered to don the gloves, and is likely to continue in this role in the meantime.

Man of the Match: centre back Jack Chalmers who has been training with the senior squad recently.

Comrades Reserves: McGrath, Cooper, Chalmers, Ervine, McCauley, Lilburn, Clarke, Haggan, McCabery, Coulter, Gilmour. Subs: Fenton, Neilly, Campbell.