

## **Ballinamallard United Reserves 2-1 Ballyclare Comrades Reserves**

**Saturday 30th March 2019 – NIFL Championship/PIL Development League**

### **Report courtesy of the Newtownabbey Times**

Ballyclare Comrades Reserves' hopes of a podium finish were dented when they returned from County Fermanagh empty-handed.

The match against Ballinamallard United Reserves was played at the Bawnacre Leisure Centre in Enniskillen on Saturday morning, to allow the Mallards time to make their way to Belfast for their senior side's historic Irish Cup semi-final.

After starting promisingly there was no joy for Stephen Black's lads who lost 2-1, after taking an early lead through Ryan Worthington who fired in to the net from an Adam McClelland corner.

The hosts mounted several attacks but were thwarted by stand-in keeper Adam Surgeoner, who pulled off the best save of the match when he acrobatically tipped over a net-bound rocket.

Comrades continued to have the better of exchanges in the second session, and a Nathan Sloss free hit the underside of the bar, but the referee turned down appeals that the ball had crossed the line. Later a Worthington effort crashed against the post, but the hosts fared better at the opposite end, when a Reds defender was dispossessed, allowing a striker to race clear to equalise.

Five minutes later the home left winger neatly rounded Surgeoner and slotted home the winner.

Commenting manager Black said, "Following this defeat we are heading for a mid-table finish. It wasn't our day; we had plenty of possession but didn't get the rub of the green around goal."