

## **Carrick Rangers Reserves 0-1 Ballyclare Comrades Reserves**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – NIFL Championship/PIL Development League**

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

Michael McCabe's solitary strike earned Ballyclare Comrades Reserves three points at the expense of Carrick Rangers Reserves.

This local derby fixture was staged at Carrick Leisure Centre, where the 1-0 win leapfrogged Stephen Black's lads over the hosts in to sixth position in the table. The decisive strike came in the 15<sup>th</sup> minute when a long punt upfield by stand-in keeper Adam Surgeoner caught out the defence, and McCabe neatly chipped over the advancing keeper.

Rangers replied with a series of attacks but found Comrades' defence well marshalled by Conor McNeilly giving nothing away, but Surgeoner made one stunning one-handed diving save to preserve his side's lead at the interval.

The visitors had the better of exchanges in the second session, but efforts by Adam McClelland, Ryan Worthington and McCabe failed to find the target.

Man of the Match: Conor McNeilly, centre back.

Reflecting on the win manager Black said, "Even without influential midfielder Tom Patchett, who was called up to the senior side, we were deserved winners. Conor McNeilly who has been sidelined for months made a welcome return and was a rock at the heart of the defence," he added.