

Ballyclare Comrades Reserves 1-5 H&W Welders U20s

Saturday 16th February 2019 – NIFL Championship/PIL Development League

Report courtesy of the Newtownabbey Times

Despite being comprehensively beaten by H&W Welders Reserves in a Championship Development League North fixture, Ballyclare Comrades Reserves retained their third spot in the table behind Newington and Ballinamallard.

It was an evenly contested first half at Antrim Forum grounds where Stephen Black's lads trailed 1-0 at the interval, but thereafter the city side took control to run out 5-1 winners.

That first half strike was a tap in, while Comrades' best effort was a Ryan Worthington shot that was cleared off the line with the keeper beaten. However, Ben Fry, who pulled off two fine saves in the home goal, was the busier keeper, and the Welders just about deserved to turn around ahead.

During the third quarter Welders added two more, before Sam Irvine replied, when he neatly dinked the ball over the advancing keeper, but all hopes of the Wee Reds salvaging a point disappeared when the visitors added two more in the final quarter. Commenting manager Black said, "It wasn't our day. We allowed them too much time on the ball, and a couple of dubious offside decisions that didn't go our way didn't help. It was a mediocre performance that didn't merit a man of the match award.