

Ballyclare Comrades Reserves 3-1 Larne Olympic

Saturday 24th November 2018 – NIFL Championship/PIL Development League

Report courtesy of the Newtownabbey Times

Ballyclare Comrades Reserves came out on top in the local derby with Larne Olympic at Antrim Forum grounds.

Two up at half time, Stephen Black's young lads eased to a 3-1 win through a Ryan Worthington strike that sealed the Championship Development League North points. Ethan McKeown opened the scoring when he pressed an opponent inside the box, nicked the ball and beat the keeper.

Olympic responded strongly forcing Ben Fry to make three stunning one-against-one saves, and the Seaside's rued their missed chances when Sam Lilburn doubled the lead, with a back-post header from a Kurt Cooper corner.

The Larne lads had the better of exchanges during the third quarter, but all hopes of them getting anything from the game ended, when Thomas Campbell and Tom Patchett carved open the defence, leaving Worthington with a simple tap in to make it 3-0.

Larne never gave up but made little headway against a solid defence until added time, when they were rewarded with a consolation strike from a corner.

Man of the Match: Isaiah Close, midfielder.

It was a hard fought derby win," summed up manager Black, "After last week's horror show the lads put in a solid shift and were worthy winners," he added.