

Loughgall Reserves 2-4 Ballyclare Comrades Reserves

Saturday 13th April 2019 – NIFL Championship/PIL Development League

Report courtesy of the Newtownabbey Times

Comrades Reserves got quick revenge for a defeat against the same opponents five days previously when they won 4-2 on their trip to Loughgall.

Manager Stephen Black travelled to County Armagh with only eleven players due to unavailability of players or injuries.

“Our star midfielder Tom Patchett was due to start for the seniors against Dergview, but Stephen Hughes released him owing to my player shortage,” stated manager Black. Tom certainly proved his worth to us when he scored two and set up the other two, so the future looks rosy for him,” he added.

Sam Lilburn opened the scoring following good approach play by Ryan Weatherhead and Patchett, who later saw his audacious chip from thirty-five yards drift just wide with the keeper caught off his line.

Patchett doubled the lead in the 25th minute when he picked up a Tom Campbell pass and fired in to the roof of the net, but ten minutes later Loughgall pulled one back from the penalty spot following a rash tackle by Weatherhead.

On the hour Campbell restored Comrades’ two goal advantage after having been played in by Patchett, and in the 75th minute promising left back Nathan Sloss created space for Patchett, who made sure of the points when he blasted in to the net from a tight angle.

Five minutes from time the hosts netted their second goal.

Man of the Match: Tom Patchett.

“We have one of the youngest teams in the League, with most of them having come up straight from the Under 17s, so I am well pleased with their progress, with several of them now challenging for places in the senior side,” stated Black.