

## **PSNI Olympic 2-1 Ballyclare Comrades Reserves**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 – NIFL Championship/PIL Development League**

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

Losing to PSNI Olympic at Newforge cost Ballyclare Comrades Reserves their third position in the NIFL Championship/PIL Development League table, with Loughall Reserves overtaking them with a better goal difference.

When goalkeeper Ben Fry was called up to the senior team midfielder Adam Surgeoner volunteered to don the gloves, but he had to retrieve the ball from the net twice as the police won 2-1.

The hosts opened the scoring in the 10<sup>th</sup> minute, when a cross in to the danger area wasn't dealt with, and although Stephen Black's lads had the major share of possession they were unable to produce an equaliser. Michael McCabe came nearest when his drive rebounded off the post, so the cops turned around one up.

On the hour mark the city lads doubled the lead, when their striker ran on to a long ball over the top and neatly beat stand-in keeper Surgeoner.

Ten minutes from time Comrades' hopes were revived when Ryan Weatherhead powered home a header from an Adam McClelland corner, but a leveller proved elusive in the closing minutes.

Man of the Match: Sam Irvine, centre back.

"Their goalkeeper was much busier than ours," stated manager Black, "but there was one vital piece of the jigsaw missing – a telling pass in the final third of the pitch. Otherwise our passing was good, but we failed to convert possession in to goals," he added.