

## match report

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### STAR MAKE IT INTO THE LAST 8 OF THE JUNIOR SHIELD

#### Crumlin Star 1-0 Newington YC II

Crumlin Star reached the last 8 of the junior shield after victories over Newington YC II & Colin Vally in the space of five days. On Tuesday the Star played a youthful Newington side at the Junior Stadium in front of a large crowd. The start of the game was played at a blistering pace with some fierce tackles put in from both sides. The Star struck the woodwork no less than three times in the opening stages with Newington also going close as McAlea had to clear a goal bound effort of the line. Paul Brown missed the best chance of the game on the stroke of half time when Joe Gormley's shot was pushed into Brown's path but the Star strike blazed over from a couple of yards out. The second half was dominated by the Ardoyne side but again some bad finishing and dogged Newington defending kept the score level. The Star finally got the breakthrough they deserved midway through the half when Braniff put Paul Brown through on goal for the prolific goalscorer to fire the ball home and put the Star into the next round.

#### Colin Valley 0-3 Crumlin Star

The Star travelled to Poleglass for the next round of the shield to face new Amateur league side Colin Vally. The first half was a dire encounter as the home side played with one upfront and crowded the midfield to try and stop the Star from getting into any rhythm. Chances were few and far between but Mooney & Gormley did miss two guilt edge chances when they broke clear only to be denied by the home keeper. Straight from the second half kick off the Star were awarded a penalty when Burns's through ball somehow made it through to Mooney only for the striker to be hauled down by the Colin Valley keeper. Sean Brown stepped up and made no mistake with the finish to give the Star the lead. Soon after it was 2-0 to the Star when Reid and Mooney worked an excellent move down the right with the latter crossing the ball in for Dam Whelan to flick the ball home with an exquisite back heel. The home side then pushed forward to try and save the game but the Star were happy to soak up any pressure and hit them on the break. As the game came to an end the Star did hit the home side on the break for Joe Gormley to fire the ball past the Vally keeper to cap off an excellent five days for the Ardoyne side.

Next week the Star are away to Newry to face Park View in the Junior Cup.