

junior cup report

Contributed by Anto
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Park View 0-6 Crumlin Star

The Star produced their best display of the season when they travelled to Newry on Saturday to play a Park View side that were top of the Carnbane league. The winners of the tie would be rewarded with a place in the last 16 of the Junior Cup so the pressure was on for both sides. Straight from the off the Star put the home team under intense pressure as the Ardoyne side opened up their counterparts at will and made a host of goal scoring chances. Their pressure was to be rewarded as early as the 10th minute when the home side's keeper hauled down Mark Mooney inside the box and the Referee pointed to the spot without any hesitation. The reliable Sean Brown stepped up and fired the ball home to settle any nerves the Ardoyne side had. The Star kept the pressure on the home team as they again created chance after chance with Ciaran Reid being the guilty party with a couple of glaring misses. Park View did manage to create a few chances on the half hour but Thompson in goal was in fantastic form as he made a couple of outstanding saves. The second goal of the game was started and finished by Sean Brown when he collected the ball in his own half and played a series of one-twos with Gormley and Reid which seen him break free on goal and coolly slot the ball into the bottom corner to double the Star's lead.

H/T 0-2

The half time team talk from manager Hawkins was for his players to keep doing what they were doing and that the next goal of the game was the most important one, and it was a wonder goal from Sean O'Reilly that did it for the Star when he broke down the right in the 50th minute and let fly from just inside the area and steered the ball into the corner of the net to send the large Star support wild on the line. Two minutes later the Star were in wonderland when Mark Mooney tried his luck from 25 yards out as his dipping effort flew into the top corner to make it 4-0 to the Star. Hawkins, Whelan & Devenny all came on for the Star on the hour as game was as good as over but there was no let up from the three subs as they were straight into the thick of the action. Hawkins was the provider for the Star's 5th goal when his goal bound shot was headed home by Paul Brown from all of 2 yards and the inform striker got his second and the Star's 6th when Devenny unselfishly squared the ball to him in the 80th minute to slot the ball into the empty net. It capped an excellent team performance and the Star now face Sion Swifts next week in the last 16. There will be a bus leaving the Star next week at 11:00am so all supporters are welcome.

Team: Thompson, O'Reilly, McAlea, Nellis, Burns, S.Brown, Reid, Braniff, Mooney, P.Brown, Gormley
Subs: Hawkins, Whelan, Devenny