

S.W. Under 14 Football Final

Antrim Go To Town

Ballymena Chronicle 5.09.91



The victorious Antrim team.

ANTRIM 5-7 :: DUNLOY 2-4

Anyone who had been forced to leave Slemish Park at the end of the first quarter of this Under 14 final on Friday night would surely have been surprised on seeing the final scoreline. Dunloy led by 1-3 to 0-0 at that stage and looked to be heading for another famous victory, but when Antrim captain Brian McLaughlin scored a somewhat fortunate goal from a close range free in the 17th minute the 'Town' came to life. McLaughlin's goal seemed to settle a very nervous Antrim and by half time they had levelled matters at 2-3 apiece.

During the second half the Antrim lads took almost complete control adding a further 3-4 with Dunloy's only reply being a late point from their best player, Benny McGarry.

Connor Cuning got Dunloy off the mark with a second minute point and Brendan Crawley made it 0-2 to 0-0 after five minutes. Benny McGarvey got in on the act with a sixth minute point and the same player stepped inside his marker to beat James Sheepwood in the Antrim goal and put the Cuchulainns 1-3 to 0-0 ahead in the eleventh minute.

NERVOUS

Up to this Antrim had enjoyed quite a bit of possession but stout defending by the Dunloy defence and some nervous finishing by their attack had kept them scoreless. Brian McLaughlin's rather fortunate goal in the 17th minute got them off the mark but 'willo the wisp' Benny McGarvey looked to have put Dunloy back in the driving seat when he waltzed through a rather hesitant Antrim defence to goal a minute later.

Antrim were coming more into the game with Colin McClelland pointing in the 20th and 23rd minute and full forward Tommy McMullan being on hand to fist to the net in the 27th minute after Dunloy keeper Martin Curry had failed to hold a difficult bouncing ball. Colin McClelland levelled matters with the half's final point in the 27th minute.

IN CONTROL

Antrim now had the bit firmly between their teeth and Tommy McHenry was on hand to first time to the Dunloy net in the fifth minute to give his side the lead for the first time. Kevin Coulter added a point three minutes later and then Dunloy left back Glen O'Neill fouled McHenry as he headed for goal and Brian McLaughlin stepped up to beat Martin Curry from the penalty spot to put his side seven ahead with 9 minutes on the clock.

James Camphill sent over points in the 10th and 13th minutes as the one-way traffic continued and then Tommy McHenry completed his hat-trick with a fifteen minute goal. Gerard McGrath added a 21st minute point to complete the Antrim scoring with Benny McGarry getting a consolation point for Dunloy two minutes from time.

HOW THEY PLAYED

A very convincing win for Antrim who, after their early nerves, proved that they were a formidable side.

James Sheepwood in goals, full back Cormac Allen, Jerome McCreedy and Kevin Coulter were the pick of a very solid defence. Brian McLoughlin at midfield was the best player on the field and got good support from Kevin O'Neill. In attack full forward Tommy McHenry proved a headache for the Dunloy defence while James McCamphill and Jonathan Kinney were also prominent.

Dunloy, who were giving away a lot of light in most departments, did all in their power to make a game of it and looked like doing just that during the opening quarter. Full back Jonathan Dixon, Cathal Kearns, Liam Richmond Raymond, Conor Cuning and Benny McGarry were their best players.

Antrim - James Sheepwood, Kevin Dinsmore, Cormac Allen, Jerome McCreedy, Martin Matthews, Barry Devlin, Kevin Coulter (0-1), Brian McLaughlin (2-0), Kevin O'Neill, James McCamphill (0-2), Eugene McLoughlin, Owen Montague, Jonathan Kinney, Tommy McHenry (3-0), Colan McClelland (0-3). Subs Gerard McGrath (0-1) for K. Coulter, Tony Ash for K. Dinsmore, Ryan Molloy for O. Montague.

Dunloy - Martin Curry, Francis Dixon, Jonathan Doherty, Glen O'Neill, Seamus Og Kelly, Cathal Kearns, Daniel McAlonan, Liam Richmond, Seamus McClements, Conor Cuning (0-1), Tommy McGilligan, Benny McGarry (2-2), Brendan Crawley (0-1), Paudi McMullan, Adrian McAllister. Subs B.J. Brogan for D. McAlonan; Jerome McAllister for G. O'Neill.

Referee Sean Maguire, Creggan.

Corrections:

The goalkeeper's name was James Sheepwash

Paragraph3: Tommy McMullan should read Tommy McHenry



Danny McLarnon, Secretary of the S.W. presents the U-14 trophy to Antrim captain Brian McLoughlin.