



MATCH REPORT

BANBRIDGE HOCKEY CLUB

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	RESULT	TIME	COMPETITION
21/10/2018	H 2018/19 3 2 MONKSTOWN	14:30	
EUGENE MAGEE (2), ZACH MCCLELLAND (1)			

Sunday past saw Bann entertain Dublin side Monkstown at Havelock Park. Following last weekend's win Dublin YMCA.

Bann were missing a few players, Peter and Philip Brown were both out injured, Ross Beattie and Luke Roleston were unavailable. This meant Gareth Lennox was back in nets for Bann.

The home side started the game slowly and allowed the visitors too much possession and from this Gareth Lennox was called to make a save. Soon after Bann had a chance with Josh Moffett hitting the post with his effort on goal. Monkstown won the first of a series of short corners and Lennox saved well from Sarratt then from the next few corners Josh Moffett made great blocks then from the next one Bann defended well and a quick break released Fraser Mills who won a short corner. From this Eugene Magee opened the scoring with a trade mark drag flick. Bann started to play better from this point with Sam Farson working tirelessly in midfield winning some key turn over ball, also Bruce McCandless was continuing his good form and mopping up any attacks by the visitors. As the first quarter came to a close Monkstown found the equaliser through Gareth Watkins.

The second quarter started with visitors having more possession and Lennox was called again to make a save from one of these attacks. Jamie Wright was working hard in midfield for Bann and showing some great touches, but Bann were guilty of not clearing their lines defensively and trying to overplay the ball out of defence and from this Monkstown grabbed a second and took the lead. Towards the end of the first half Fraser Mills was given a green card and Bann were down to 10 players for 2 minutes. Monkstown finished the half in the lead.

Half Time Banbridge 1 Monkstown 2

Coach Mark Tumilty and his coaching team had given clear instructions at half time to his players and the home side came out all guns blazing in the second half, first Fraser Mills had a reverse effort saved, then Johnny McKee fired over the crossbar with the goal gapping. Bann had the ball in the net, but it was disallowed for a foot by the umpires. Bann went down to 10 players when McCandless had a bit too much to say to the umpire.

It was close to the end of the 3rd quarter and the chips were down could Bann get an equaliser, Bruce McCandless won the ball in midfield and hit a defence splitting pass to Zach McClelland in the circle, Zach coolly finished the chance giving the goalkeeper no chance and the home side went into the 3rd quarter break honours even at 2 all.

Bann started the final quarter with one aim to take the match to the visitors, Johnny McKee broke into the circle at the very start of this quarter and won a penalty corner. The home team were appealing for a penalty stroke as the corner was defended but it had been defended legally and Monkstown cleared the danger. The visitors were playing counter attack hockey and it took superb defending by Alex Tinney to repel one of these counters. Drew Carlisle and Bruce McCandless were always available, and both moved the ball well and started Bann attacks.

Bann continued to pile on the pressure and from one of these attacks Fraser Mills tried to lob the keeper but was just wide of the mark. Eugene Magee broke down the left hand side, beating 2 defenders and hitting a superb reverse stick cross but unfortunately this didn't find any of the Bann forwards and Monkstown cleared. The visitors were struggling with the intensity Bann were bringing to the game, another poor tackle resulted in Monkstown having their midfielder Lynch sent to the bin, then Monkstown had a second player sinbinned as the pressure really started to tell on the Dublin side.



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Fraser Mills had his two snapshots saved by the Monkstown keeper, it was all Bann at this stage.

Bann won a short corner as the umpire blew the whistle to mark the end of the match and the corner would be the last action of the match. Eugene Magee once again found the net beating the keeper all ends up, Bann won 3-2.

With the international break now coming up with Ireland Men going to the world cup, Bann will next play in the Ulster Kirk Cup for the first time in a few years, the first match is against NI Civil Service next Saturday at havelock.

Thanks to our Mens 1s sponsors Hannath Estate Agents and Select Insurance NI.

Banbridge Hockey Club