



MATCH REPORT

BANBRIDGE HOCKEY CLUB

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	RESULT	TIME	COMPETITION
24/11/2019	A 2019/20 3 - 1	13:00	COOKSTOWN @STORMONT
EUGENE MAGEE (1), JOHNNY MCKEE (2)			

after a good win against Pembroke in the EY Hockey League in Dublin on Saturday, Bann mens 1s had a tough semi final of the Kirk cup against Cookstown to play the following day at Stormont at 1pm.

Bann started the semi final on the front foot and took an early lead after only 30 seconds through Eugene Magee. Bann continued to have the majority of possession and created a number of half chances but the 1st quarter finished 1 nil to Bann.

In the 2nd quarter, Bann let Cookstown push forward and then broke quickly, with Hugh McShane feeding Johnny McKee who raced past the Cookstown defence and with only the keeper to beat took it too wide and his reverse shot found the side netting. Soon after Bann were on the attack again and a fine one two saw Owen Magee collide with a Cookstown defender and come off the worst for it. Owen had to take a break and recover from this. Cookstown were starting to make some attacks and from one down the right Sam Farson made a great interception but lost his footing and sustained a nasty ankle injury, hopefully he will recover quickly from this.

With 7 minutes remaining until half time Bann won a short corner, the ball wasn't stopped cleanly and Drew Carlisle tried a reverse shot which the Cookstown defence cleared.

Just before half time Eugene Magee had a cross shot which just evaded Josh Moffett at the back post.

Half time score 1-0 to Banbridge

The 3rd quarter started with Bann again trying to get a second goal, good play by Bruce McCandless in Midfield created a chance which fell to Eugene Magee, but his shot was blocked and the opportunity had gone. The Bann defence of Alex Tinney, Luke Witherow, Edward Rowe, Philip Brown and Drew Carlisle were kept busy but handled anything Cookstown tried. Bann continued to pursue that 2ns goal and Johnny McKee was the man to supply it. Bann 2 nil up. This seems to make Bann sit back and Cookstown were given the chance to attack. From one their breaks Luke Roleston made a great save and cleared his lines. Soon after Cookstown got another chance and this time they made no mistake. 2 -1 to Bann with about 20 minutes left.

The Bann midfield of McCandless, McShane, Owen Magee and Jamie Wright continued to create chances for the forwards Dane Ward, Josh Moffett, McKee, Peter Brown and Eugene Magee. The Cookstown keeper was kept busy as the Bann attacks continued to shoot at him.

In the final two quarters Cookstown had a number of players sin binned and in fact one of their team was red carded so Bann always had more numbers on the pitch.

Thankfully with only 3 minutes remaining Bann won a short corner and they converted with a neat deflection by Johnny McKee to put the result beyond doubt.

The score finished at 3-1 to the Bann men, so we all have a boxing day final to look forward to against our old rivals Lisnagarvey.

Next for Banbridge in the EYHL is a home match against Annadale at Havelock Park next Saturday at 2.45pm.

Banbridge Hockey Club

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