



MATCH REPORT

BANBRIDGE HOCKEY CLUB

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	RESULT	TIME	COMPETITION
07/03/2020	A 2019/20 2 1 UCD	13:00	
JOSH MOFFETT (2)			

Banbridge completed their away league fixtures in Dublin with a deserved single goal advantage over the students of University College Dublin. The 2-1 victory at Belfield leaves Banbridge with 19 out of 21 points from their travels to Dublin – their best return since the formation of the EY All-Ireland Hockey League five year ago.

Head Coach Gordon Cracknell was forced into a couple of late changes as both Alexander Tinney and Sam Farson withdrew from the squad due to injury. Twins Charlie and Louis Rowe were added to the squad as they joined older brother Edward in the line-up – quite an achievement for three brothers all aged under 17.

Banbridge started the game strongly but created few chances from open play. Their best opportunities to score appeared to be from penalty corner set plays but, in the same vain as last week, Bann struggled with these rehearsed routines as Philip Brown, captain Eugene Magee and Edward Rowe saw 11 penalty corners charged down or saved as they failed to produce a goal.

While Bann dominated possession, UCD posed a threat on the counterattack but the visitors keeper Luke Roleston was on form as he positioned himself perfectly for every effort and looked unbeatable at times. Indeed the couple of times the ball did get past him, both Drew Carlisle and then Eugene Magee were on-hand to clear off the line, even if they didn't know much about it.

A 0-0 halftime scoreline was frustrating for Bann but Peter Brown and Johnny McKee carried a constant threat upfront. With Owen Magee's involvement extremely limited due to injury, it was left to Josh Moffett to provide the finishing touches. In the 46th minute he saw his shot deflected in after a storming run by Philip Brown down the right flank. And with four minutes to go, Moffett got the final touch after a scramble in the UCD circle to score what seemed the clinching goal.

But UCD were not quite out of it yet, as the ball broke to John Guilfoyle and he swept it high past Roleston to create a dramatic final minute. Bann held on however for a deserved victory and one which saw them move up in to second place in the table with seven games to go.

Banbridge face a tough encounter next week when they host fifth-placed Glenanne at Havelock Park on Saturday at 2:45pm.

Banbridge squad: Luke Roleston, Gareth Lennox, Edward Rowe, Luke Witherowe, Johnny McKee, Peter Brown, Hugh McShane, Bruce McCandless, Josh Moffett, Jamie Wright, Eugene Magee, Charlie Rowe, Phillip Brown, Louis Rowe, Mark Cowan, Drew Carlisle, Dane Ward, Owen Magee

Banbridge Hockey Club