



# MATCH REPORT

## BANBRIDGE HOCKEY CLUB

### MATCH DETAILS

DATE	RESULT	TIME	COMPETITION
26/10/2019	H 2019/20 <b>1</b> <b>2</b> INST 2S	14:30	
WILLIAM MALCOLMSON (1)			

Saturday morning saw Banbridge Hockey Club's men's second eleven, sponsored by Edina UK, kick off their 2019/2020 league campaign at home to South Belfast's Instonians.

The match got underway in perfect autumnal hockey conditions with the visiting side commanding the majority of the early possession. A fast paced opening quarter caught the Banbridge defence a little off-guard as they struggled to circumnavigate the Inst high press. Excellent goalkeeping by Luke Roleston in the Bann goal insured the scoreline remained 0-0 going into the second quarter.

The second quarter saw the men from Havelock start to play their way into the match creating some chances in the process. However, by pushing to break the deadlock, the local side left themselves susceptible to a counter attack from the rapid Inst towards. One such breakaway saw the travelling team pass the ball with pace and precision, slicing open the Bann defence in the process. An excellent reverse stick pass from outside the circle on the left hand side found the stick of an Inst winger who made no mistake deflecting home at the back post. With Instonians taking a deserved lead they continued to pile the pressure on Banbridge. Intricate play down the right flank led to an Inst forward breaking through the home defence once more committing Roleston in nets to deal with the situation. A miss-timed tackle resulted in a penalty stroke being awarded with the Inst flicker making no mistake from the penalty spot.

Half Time: Banbridge 2XI 0-2 Instonians 2XI

A disappointing first half from the Havelock men triggered strong words at halftime from stand-in coach John Clarke. With play back underway, Clarke got his desired response from the home side who scored early through centre forward William Malcolmson who lifted the ball over the Inst goalie from close range to half the deficit.

In the archetypal game of two halves it was now Banbridge who commanded possession of the ball anchored by defensive midfielders Ross Beattie and Andrew Dickson. With Inst sitting back to defend their well earned lead, Banbridge wingbacks David Gallagher and Timmy Watt began to find space high up the pitch on each flank delivering excellent attacking crashed ball on numerous occasions. The Instonians defence stood strong halting the Bann fight back at each time of asking. One final push for the equaliser resulted in a Banbridge penalty corner award on the last blow of the whistle. An untidy routine resulted in a mediocre shot and rebound with Instonians ultimately coming away with all three points. An excellent performance from the visiting team leaves the reigning league champions with work to do to earn their first points of this year's campaign.

Final Score: Banbridge 2XI 1-2 Instonians 2XI

Squad: Luke Roleston (GK), Timmy Watt, Thomas Sturgeon (C), Dylan Cowan, David Gallagher, Ross Beattie, Andrew Dickson, John McCague, Mark Campbell, Joel Reid, William Malcolmson, Chris Curry and Matthew Warnock.

**Banbridge Hockey Club**