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CRUSADERS

*Toals
Co. Antrim
Senior
Shield
Final*



*Ballymena
Showgrounds
Tuesday
February 5
2019
Kick-off 7.45 pm*

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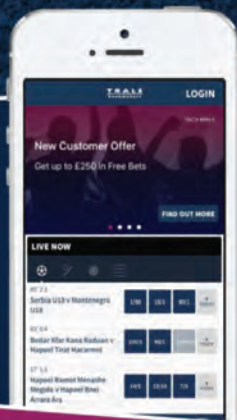
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Sponsor's welcome...

Iwould like to welcome you all to the Ballymena Showgrounds this evening for the Toals Bookmakers County Antrim Shield Final.

There has been some great action throughout each round of the Senior Shield so far. Both Crusaders and Linfield have produced some great performances and we arrive this evening looking forward to an

exciting final between two deserving finalists.

Football forms a huge part of our business and we are delighted to be involved in the sponsorship of the County Antrim FA and their four competitions.

I would also like to thank Jim Jess, President of the County Antrim FA, and all associated members for their efforts in welcoming us as sponsors again for the 2018/19 season.

Toals Bookmakers are privileged to sponsor this prestigious competition and we wish finalists Crusaders and Linfield the very best of luck this evening.

Gary Toal
Managing Director

How they reached the Final...

Crusaders

Round 1	Crusaders	2-1.....	Knockbreda
Round 2	Crusaders	4-3.....	Cliftonville
Semi-Final	Crusaders	1-0.....	Larne



Linfield

Round 1	Linfield	2-1.....	PSNI
Round 2	Linfield	2-1.....	Glentoran
Semi-Final	Ballymena United	1-2.....	Linfield



Welcome to the Toals Co Antrim Shield Final

Good evening. I hope that you all had a swift and safe journey to Ballymena Showgrounds for the final of the Co. Antrim Shield between the two most successful teams in NIFL in recent times – Crusaders and Linfield.

I would take this opportunity to thank Ballymena for hosting this years final – again! Northern Ireland football is hampered by a lack of grounds that can host a cup final; with the National Stadium prohibitive due to its cost; so we are once again indebted to Ballymena.

I also wish to thank our sponsors Toals, who have been a great support to the Co. Antrim Association. We all are aware that good sponsors are difficult to find, yet are crucial to clubs; leagues and divisions, as well as the IFA, so we very much appreciate their support.

Finally I wish to commend the work of Adam Simpson, the new Co. Antrim secretary who follows in the footsteps of many great Association secretaries and I can only hope that he remains in the position for many years to come.

Since the Millenium, Linfield have appeared in twelve finals – Crusaders have appeared in six followed by Glentoran and Ballymena. The 2016-17 winners, Linfield, versus the 2017-18 winners Crusaders. What a final!

In the semi-finals I saw Crusaders overcome a very strong and ambitious Larne 1-0 at Seaview and if truth be told they were more comfortable than the scoreline suggests.

Then it was up to the Showgrounds where Linfield were in command against the home side, who had several players missing; but as the saying goes, you can only beat what's in front of you.

Both teams are striving to be League champions; both teams are having a great season. Saturday, 19th January saw only one goal separate the pair. Both teams have very strong panels to select from, and I am sure that David Healy and Stephen Baxter will, as usual, have their teams well prepared, as both have a hunger for trophies.

I expect that this will be another tight game, and I hope an entertaining one. The Irish League Show, Final Score, and the BBC Friday night games, have shown some cracking goals this season, and many supplied by players from both these teams, so my hopes are that we see some tonight again.

The Co. Antrim Shield is a long established trophy and has been lifted by many great captains, and I know that whichever one holds up that famous Shield at the end of tonight's game will have earned it.



BRIAN ADAMS

Chairman of the Senior Shield Committee



President's Greeting

by **Jim Jess**

President, Co. Antrim & District F.A.

Good evening and welcome to Ballymena Showgrounds for tonight's Toals Bookmakers County Antrim Shield Final. I should like to extend very warm greetings to all of you, Guests, sponsors and supporters of both Crusaders FC & Linfield FC. This famous Shield was first contested way back in Season 1888-1889 which I believe makes tonight's game the one hundred and thirtieth Final and surely one of the oldest Club Competitions in Association Football anywhere.

Crusaders are here tonight to defend the Toals Senior Shield after beating Larne 1-0 in the Semi Final. As defending Irish League Champions, Steven Baxter and his players will no doubt be seeking a win as the title race begins to hot up.

Linfield last appeared in the Toals Senior Shield Final in Season 2017-18 when in a mirror image of tonight's game, a 3-1 win gave Manager David Healy his first taste of Silverware as Linfield boss. A 4-2 win over last year's finalists Ballymena United paved the way to tonight's meeting. Linfield are riding high in the Irish League and will want to extend winning ways to maintain their momentum.

Lets all hope that we see a marvellous game tonight and that as ever our beautiful game comes out on top.

May I also take the time to thank tonight's sponsors Toals Bookmakers for



their generous and ongoing sponsorship of local football. I also need to mention Mid & East Antrim Borough Council along with Ballymena United FC for allowing the County Antrim Football Association to host tonight's game. My final thanks go to Brian Adams, Chair of the Senior Shield Committee who has had to weather (pardon the pun) not a few difficulties to get the competition to tonight's conclusion.

You will know as in previous years; our Charity Partners are the Northern Ireland Children's Hospice. The Children's Hospice do invaluable work without any statutory aid or funding. There are many local children who benefit in no small way from the efforts of our friends at the Children's Hospice. Can I ask all of you please to contribute as much as you can to this work in supporting life limited children and their families. There will be collection buckets at all gates and at half time. Please give generously.

Thank you.





Crusaders Pen Pictures

by Greg Braniff, Crusaders programme editor

1. Sean O'Neill – Goalkeeper who signed from Dungannon Swifts in 2011 and made his debut in a Europa League tie with Fulham. A member of the 2015, 2016 and 2018 title winning squads, Sean has made over 300 appearances for the club. Sean is a former Northern Ireland Under 21 and 23 International and represented the Irish League against Manchester United in 2012.

2. Billy Joe Burns – Defender who joined the club from Linfield in 2014 and is widely regarded as the best right back in the Irish League. Billy Joe's impressive performances during the 2015/16 title winning season saw him named both Ulster Player of the Year and NIFWA Player of the Year. Billy Joe has returned to his best form in recent weeks after an injury hampered first part of the campaign.

3. Mark McChrystal – Experienced defender who joined the club in the summer of 2017 after returning home after a successful spell playing in England with Tranmere Rovers and Bristol Rovers where he was captain. A former Northern Ireland Under 21 international, Mark's season has unfortunately been hampered by a series of injuries.

4. Howard Beverland – Howard joined the club in the summer of 2016 after nearly ten years at his hometown club Coleraine. Howard is a classy centre half who was a key part of last seasons title triumph. Although not renowned as a goal-scorer he did net the opener in last years final victory over Ballymena United. Howard is another Crusaders player whose season has been affected by injury.

6. Colin Coates – Experienced defender who has made over 500 appearances for Crusaders which is a remarkable achievement for a player whose loyalty to the club has been rewarded with the fact that he has led the club to all the major honours available in the Irish League. Colin returns to the Crusaders squad tonight after missing the last two games through suspension.

7. Philip Lowry – Attacking midfielder Lowry joined the club in the summer of 2016 after leaving Portadown having previously played for Linfield and Derry City. Phillip is approaching 100 appearances for the club and has a knack of scoring important goals and scored a vital equaliser in the quarter final victory over North Belfast rivals

Cliftonville.

8. Sean Ward – Versatile defender/ midfielder who joined Crusaders last summer after leaving Linfield. Sean predominately played at centre half during the early months of his Crusaders career season but showed his adaptability in last season's title run featuring at both right back and left back in the closing weeks of the season. Sean also captained the Irish Universities side in 2007 in Bangkok.

11. David Cushley – Attacking midfielder who joined Crusaders in 2016 from Ballymena United after manager Stephen Baxter fought off a number of clubs to secure his signature. David who has also played for Lisburn Distillery is renowned for scoring spectacular goals and boosts a ferocious shot from either the dead ball or open play. David has been in fine form over the winter months with a series of stunning goals and assists to enhance his reputation as one of the leagues finest attacking talents.

12. Declan Caddell – A tough tackling and combative midfielder, Declan is one of the most experienced players in the Crusaders squad having made nearly 400 appearances for the club since making his debut in 2007. Like Colin Coates, Declan has won every major honour available during his time at the club. Declan scored the third goal in last season's final victory over Ballymena United.

14. Jordan Forsythe – Another attacking midfielder who has a knack of scoring spectacular goals, Jordan joined the club in 2015 from Bangor having previously played for Lisburn Distillery. Jordan has now made over 150 appearances for the club. Jordan has found the net on three occasions so far this season including a spectacular effort from the half line in a league game against Institute back in September.

16. Kyle Owens – Defender who joined the club for a second spell in the summer after leaving Ballymena United. The younger brother of striker Jordan, Kyle a centre half has settled well at Seaview and even deputised at centre forward in a Europa League game against Olimpija Ljubljana earlier in the season. Kyle was in the Ballymena United side that lost last years final to the Crues.

17. Michael Ruddy – Michael is another player who re-joined the club in the summer for a second spell after leaving Ards. A left sided player who has



predominantly featured at full back in recent months although he has also played on the left side of midfield this season. Before joining Ards Michael had a spell at Ballymena United after being on the books at Seaview as a youngster.

18. Jordan Owens – The clubs record goal scorer who recently made his 500th appearance for the club and has scored over 200 goals since making his debut in 2007. Jordan won a full international cap for Northern Ireland back in 2011 against Wales and has also represented the Northern Ireland Under 21 and 23 sides. Jordan is aiming to score in a third consecutive final and also scored the winner in the 2010 final against the Linfield.

19. Matthew Snoddy – A product of the club's youth system, Matthew is an all action midfielder who made his debut on the opening day of the 2011/12 season and was instrumental in the club's All-Ireland trophy success of the same season. After a loan spell at Coleraine in the 2014/15 season, Matthew returned to Seaview and cemented his place in the centre of midfielder during the title success of 2015/16 and has now made over 200 appearances for the club.

20. Rodney Brown – Another versatile member of the Crusaders squad, Rodney joined Crusaders from Coleraine in January 2017. Rodney has become a vital part of the Crusaders squad whether at left back, left midfield or more recently centre half. Rodney started his career at Linfield as a striker before being converted to a defender during his spell at Coleraine. Rodney scored in the first-round victory over Knockbreda.

22. Paul Heatley – The Irish League's stand out attacking player who has a goal scoring record of a goal every other game for Crusaders since joining from Carrick Rangers in the summer of 2012. Another player in the squad with a knack of scoring spectacular goals alongside his lightening pace and trickery. Paul has been back to his best form in recent months and scored the winner in the semi-final against Larne and in the quarter final against Cliftonville.

25. Ross Clarke – A summer signing from Linfield, Ross has made a fantastic impact at Seaview featuring in over 30 games so far after making his debut in the Champions League against Ludogorets. Clarke has scored six times so far this season netting his first goal in an early season league game against Ballymena United. Ross supplied the inch perfect cross for Paul Heatley to score the winner in the semi final win over Larne.

28. Reece McGinley – A Northern Ireland Under 19 International winger who joined the club on loan

last month from Rotherham United. Reece was Liverpool as a youngster before signing for Rotherham in 2017. He made his Crusaders debut as a substitute against Glentoran in the Irish Cup last month.

29. Rory Patterson – Veteran striker who joined the Cruces in August from Derry City and made an instant impact scoring on his debut against Ards back in August. A former Northern Ireland International, the experienced forward has netted 11 goals so far this season including a goal a few weeks ago at the Brandywell against Institute.

30. Gerard Doherty – Experienced goalkeeper who joined the Cruces in last month's transfer window after leaving Derry City and made his debut in the Irish Cup win over Glentoran. Doherty made over 300 appearances for Derry City in a ten-year spell after spending time with Derby County at the beginning of his career. Gerard is a doubt for tonight's game after suffering a calf injury in the recent league game against Institute.

40. Ronan Hale – An exciting striker who re-joined the club last month after leaving Birmingham City and made his debut as a substitute in last month's league game against Linfield. He then scored on his first start against Institute ten days ago. Ronan was with Crusaders as a youngster and is a current Republic of Ireland Under 21 International and has been called up for a training camp later this month for Stephen Kenny's side.

45. Rory Hale – Skilful midfielder who also joined the Cruces in the January transfer window after leaving Derry City and again made his debut against Glentoran in the Irish Cup. Rory was with Aston Villa as a youngster before moving to first Galway United then Derry in the League of Ireland. The older brother of Ronan, their grandfather Danny scored over 100 goals for the Cruces in the 1960's.

Other players who may feature for Crusaders tonight are **28 Harry Doherty** (Goalkeeper), **15 Ross Holden** (Midfielder) and **21 Gary Thompson** (Midfielder).



Sean O'Neill



Billy Joe Burns





Mark McChrystal



Howard Beverland



Colin Coates



Philip Lowry



Sean Ward



David Cushley



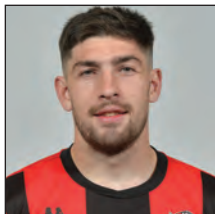
Declan Caddell



Jordan Forsythe



Kyle Owens



Michael Ruddy



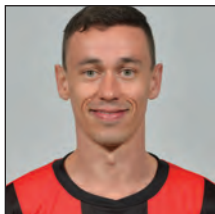
Jordan Owens



Matthew Snoddy



Rodney Brown



Paul Heatley



Ross Clarke



Reece McGinley



Rory Patterson



Gerard Doherty



Ronan Hale



Rory Hale

Crusaders pics courtesy of Stephen Hamilton.



Crusaders F.C. 2019



Photo: Jackie Henry

Crusaders mascot

Crusaders Football Club would like to welcome to **Mia Singleton** as our mascot for tonight's mouth watering County Antrim Shield final against Linfield. Mia is just 9 years of age and she goes to Ballyclare Primary School. She plays football for the Crusaders Strikers (mini hatchets) 2009 team whom she joined in August 2018. She clearly impressed her coaches when she was awarded player of the match in her first ever game. Mia is obviously a talented young lady. Apart from her keen interest in football Mia also likes swimming and playing hockey.

Like so many other young Crusaders fans, Mia's favourite player is our legendary striker, Jordan Owens. Mia has so many special memories of her 'Crusaders journey' so far. However, last season's last gasp win against Ballymena United which saw the club lift the Gibson Cup for the third time in four years, will be hard to beat.

On behalf of Crusaders FC I hope Mia and her family enjoy their experience tonight. I also hope you all give Mia a loud cheer when she leads our team captain out onto the pitch.

Thank you for being a loyal Crusaders supporter Mia. I wish you every success in everything you do in the future.





Tonight's team panels...

Crusaders F.C.



- Sean O'Neill
- Billy Joe Burns
- Mark McChrystal
- Howard Beverland
- Colin Coates
- Phillip Lowry
- Sean Ward
- David Cushley
- Declan Caddell
- Jordan Forsythe
- Ross Holden
- Kyle Owens
- Michael Ruddy
- Jordan Owens
- Matthew Snoddy
- Rodney Brown
- Gary Thompson
- Paul Heatley
- Ross Clarke
- Harry Doherty
- Reece McGinley
- Rory Patterson
- Gerard Doherty
- Ronan Hale
- Rory Hale





Tonight's team panels...

Linfield F.C.



- Gareth Deane
- Conor Mitchell
- Mark Stafford
- Josh Robinson
- Mark Haughey
- Jimmy Callacher
- Andrew Waterworth
- Michael O'Connor
- Joel Cooper
- Jordan Stewart
- Kirk Millar
- Marek Cervenka
- Lorcan Forde
- Matthew Clarke
- Daniel Kearns
- Kyle McClean
- Stephen Fallon
- Jamie Mulgrew
- Ryan McGivern
- Andrew Mitchell
- Daniel Reynolds
- Niall Quinn
- Chris Casement





Linfield Pen Pictures

by Andy Conn

Gareth Deane. Age 24. Goalkeeper. A lifelong Linfield supporter who has learned and developed under Roy Carroll's wing over the past few years. Still young in goalkeeping terms, Gareth shows great potential and always reliable when called upon. In his seventh season at Windsor Park after joining from Queens Park Rangers in August 2012.

Conor Mitchell. Age 22. Goalkeeper. Signed on loan from Burnley before the close of the January transfer window. Former under-21 international who spent the first half of this season on loan at St. Johnstone.

Mark Stafford. Age 31. Central defender. A no-nonsense defender whose passion and commitment to the club is admirable and has helped him become one of the fan favourites since joining from Ballinamallard in 2015. The defender has had limited appearances this season due to the form of consistent duo Jimmy Callacher and Josh Robinson, as well as being frustrated by injury. Scored in Linfield's 3-1 win over Crusaders in the 2017 CAS final.

Josh Robinson. Age 25. Central defender. Josh has been outstanding for Linfield this season and comes up against his former club tonight. Alongside Jimmy Callacher, Josh has helped 'The Blues' keep things tight at the back this season and has shown why David Healy was eager to give him a three-year deal when he returned from a spell at York City in 2017.

Mark Haughey. Age 28. Central defender/right back. The Newry native has been one of Linfield's most consistent performers since joining from Glenavon in 2013. A solid defender who can read the game superbly and offers a great attacking threat at set-pieces. Only coming back from a long injury lay-off and hasn't kicked a ball this season so is unlikely to take part this evening.

Jimmy Callacher. Age 27. Central defender. Joined from Glentoran in 2014. A crucial ingredient of Linfield's ability to rack up clean sheets this season and equally impressive up the other end, finding the net nine times so far this season. Sheer determination makes him hard to

handle at set-pieces and offers great leadership qualities. A local boy who wears the blue jersey with pride.

Andrew Waterworth. Age 32. Striker. A talismanic figure for Linfield and always seems to produce on the big occasion. Scored a brace against Ballymena United in the semi-final on his 250th Linfield appearance to take his tally to 146 goals. Joined from Glentoran in 2013 and is aiming to win the CAS with Linfield for the third time.

Michael O'Connor. Age 20. Striker. A lively striker who relishes the physical aspect of the game. Michael shows great potential and joined last summer after leaving Shamrock Rovers. Another player who plays with his heart on his sleeve and as a result has created a great bond with the Linfield supporters.

Joel Cooper. Age 22. Winger. After arriving at Windsor Park from Glenavon last summer, Cooper has shown great quality this season and always looks a threat going forward. Very direct and gets supporters off their seats. Has scored some important goals this season and is enjoying being part of a deadly front four that Linfield possess.

Jordan Stewart. Age 23. Attacking midfielder. A man revitalised in recent months and has been one of the league's top performers this season. After going on the transfer list in August, 'Sukka' has been like a new signing once working his way back into the team. Local boy who is aiming to win his first silverware with the club tonight and will look to get on the ball and entertain. Joined from Swindon in 2017.

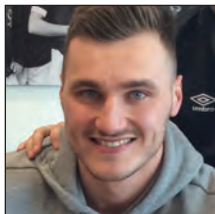
Kirk Millar. Age 27. Winger. With 22 assists last season and well into double figures this season, Kirk is very direct and provides a great threat with his pinpoint deliveries, as well as a great work rate. Never hides and always wants the ball regardless of circumstances. Joined from Oldham Athletic in 2014 and has progressed well each season.

Marek Cervenka. Age 26. Striker. Signed from Czech team FK Teplice on loan until the end of





Gareth Deane



Conor Mitchell



Mark Stafford



Josh Robinson



Mark Haughey



Jimmy Callacher



Andrew Waterworth



Michael O'Connor



Joel Cooper



Jordan Stewart



Kirk Millar



Marek Cervenka



Lorcan Forde



Matthew Clarke



Daniel Kearns



Kyle McClean



Stephen Fallon



Jamie Mulgrew



Ryan McGivern



Andrew Mitchell



the season. Made his debut in the recent 'Big Two' Derby at Windsor Park and followed this up with his first goal in the Irish Cup tie against Crusaders.

Lorcan Forde. Age 19. Winger/striker. Another player who looks to have great potential. Signed from Warrenpoint Town last summer but spent five months of the season out injured so hasn't forced his way into the team. Very direct and likes to take players on.

Matthew Clarke. Age 24. Left back. Re-joined from Rangers in 2013. The Castlederg man likes a tackle and has shown his capabilities over free-kicks in the past but has found himself out of the team in recent months due to the form of Niall Quinn.

Daniel Kearns. Age 27. Attacking midfielder/winger. Joined Linfield last summer after leaving Limerick. Showed superb early season form and scored on his debut away to Glenavon but got injured in November and has only recently returned and has had to be patient due to the form of Cooper, J. Stewart and Millar.

Kyle McClean. Age 20. Central midfielder. Joined Linfield on loan in January from St. Johnstone until the end of the season. Northern Ireland U21 international who Tommy Wright feels can benefit from a spell in the Irish League.

Stephen Fallon. Age 21. Central midfielder. Joined from Swansea City in 2016. Very highly regarded at Windsor Park and has produced outstanding form in recent months. Goes about his job with no fuss, very good technically and can drift past players. Formed a strong midfield partnership with Jamie Mulgrew and gives the front four a platform to do their thing.

Jamie Mulgrew. Age 32. Central midfielder. Linfield's inspirational captain. Joined in 2005 and drives Linfield on, vocally and in possession, a real leader. Captained 'The Blues' to Shield victory in 2017. More than 500 appearances for the Windsor Park club and still going strong. A vital member of the team.

Ryan McGivern. Age 29. Central defender/left back. Arrived last summer after leaving Swindon. Comes with real pedigree having represent his country on 25 occasions, as well as playing for the likes of Manchester City, Leicester and Crystal Palace. Only recently back from a long injury lay-off.



Daniel Reynolds



Niall Quinn



Chris Casement

Linfield mascots this evening are Cienna Montgomery, Jamie Ashe and Billy Bennett.

Andrew Mitchell. Age 26. Central midfielder. Joined from Crusaders in 2017. Andrew has impressed when called upon this season but may face a race against time to be fit for the final after picking up a nasty gash in a league match against Newry City. If selected, Mitchell offers a range of passing, good reading of the game and reliability from the penalty spot.

Daniel Reynolds. Age 19. Striker. After prolific form for Cliftonville Olympic and on loan at Larne, Daniel was snapped up last summer by David Healy. The young striker shows promise but has had limited opportunities this season. Regularly bangs the goals in for Linfield Swifts.

Niall Quinn. Age 25. Defender/midfielder. Hailed by David Healy as one of his most consistent performers, Niall has operated at right back, central midfield, left midfield and now left back this season. Quinn offers Linfield defensive stability as well as good technical ability and often his wicked set-piece delivery leads to goals.

Chris Casement. Age 31. Right back. Chris has been widely praised for his strong performances at right back this season. The full back re-joined Linfield from Portadown in 2016 after a four-year spell at Shamrock Park. Recently made his 150th Linfield appearance and the Banbridge native is hoping to win his eighth trophy as a Linfield player this evening.



Linfield Football Club 2018-2019



Back row (L to R) - Gary Eccles (kit manager), Josh Eccles (team attendant), Tim Atkinson (doctor), Jordan Stewart, Lorcan Forde, Stephen Fallon, Ryan Strain (now on loan at Ards), Daniel Reynolds, Joel Cooper, Jonathan Smith, Terry Hayes (sports therapist), Andy Kerr MBE (team attendant) and Kenny McKeague (team attendant)

Middle row (L to R) - Paul Butler (physio), Ricky McCann (fitness coach), Brandon Doyle, Ryan McGivern, Josh Robinson, Cameron Stewart, Gareth Deane, Roy Carroll, Mark Stafford, Michael O'Connor, Andrew Mitchell, Benjamin Moller Nielsen, Kirk Millar, Daniel Kearns, Johnny Williamson (goalkeeping coach) and Jamesy Robertson (team attendant)

Front row (L to R) - Niall Quinn, Robert Garrett, Chris Casement, Jimmy Callacher, Darren Murphy (first team coach), Ross Oliver (assistant manager), Roy McGivern (chairman), David Healy MBE (manager), Jamie Mulgrew (captain), Andrew Waterworth, Mark Haughey and Matthew Clarke.





Crusaders Management & Staff



Team Manager:
Stephen Baxter

Assistant Manager:.....Jeff Spiers
Coaches:.....David McClelland, Marc Wilson and Charlie Murphy
Chaplain:.....Rev. Ken White



Linfield Management & Staff



Team Manager:
David Healy

Assistant manager:.....Ross Oliver
Senior coach:.....Darren Murphy
Goalkeeper coach:.....Johnny Williamson
Fitness coach:.....Ricky McCann
Doctor:.....Tim Atkinson
Sports therapist:.....Terry Hayes
Physio:.....Paul Butler
Kit manager:.....Gary Eccles
Team attendants:.....Josh Eccles, Andy Kerr MBE and Kenny McKeague





Senior Shield Roll of Honour

Linfield (42 wins) – 1898-99, 1903-04, 1905-06, 1906-07, 1907-08, 1912-13, 1913-14, 1916-17, 1921-22, 1922-23, 1927-28, 1928-29, 1929-30, 1931-32, 1932-33, 1933-34, 1934-35, 1937-38, 1941-42, 1952-53, 1954-55, 1957-58, 1958-59, 1960-61, 1961-62, 1962-63, 1965-66, 1966-67, 1972-73, 1976-77, 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84, 1994-95, 1997-98, 2000-01, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2013-14, 2016-17

Glentoran (25 wins) – 1900-01, 1901-02, 1910-11, 1915-16, 1917-18, 1920-21, 1924-25, 1930-31, 1939-40, 1943-44, 1949-50, 1951-52, 1956-57, 1967-68, 1970-71, 1977-78, 1984-85, 1986-87, 1989-90, 1998-99, 1999-00, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2007-08, 2010-11

Distillery (14 wins) – 1888-89, 1892-93, 1895-96, 1896-97, 1899-00, 1902-03, 1904-05, 1914-15, 1918-19, 1919-20, 1945-46, 1953-54, 1963-64, 1985-86

Cliftonville (10 wins) – 1891-92, 1893-94, 1897-98, 1925-26, 1978-79, 1995-96, 2006-07, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2014-15

Belfast Celtic (8 wins) – 1894-95, 1909-10, 1926-27, 1935-36, 1936-37, 1938-39, 1942-43, 1944-45

Crusaders (7 wins) – 1959-60, 1964-65, 1968-69, 1973-74, 1991-92, 2009-10, 2017-18

Ballymena United (6 wins) – 1948-49, 1950-51, 1975-76, 1979-80, 2012-13, 2015-16

Ard s (3 wins) – 1955-56, 1971-72, 1993-94. **Bangor (3 wins)** – 1969-70, 1974-75, 1988-89

Glenavon (2 wins) – 1990-91, 1995-96

Black Watch (1 win) – 1890-91. **Glentoran II (1 win)** – 1908-09.

Queens Island (1 win) – 1923-24. **Linfield Swifts (1 win)** – 1948-49.

Newry Town (1 win) – 1987-88. **Carrick Rangers (1 win)** – 1992-93.



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Co. Antrim & District Football Association



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Media Officer:Mr Fred Magee (H & W Welders)
Committee:Mr Stephen Shaw (Linfield)
Committee:Mr Matthew Armstrong (Ballymena Utd)
Committee:Mr Jim Steed (Dundela)
Committee:Mr Gerard Lawlor (Cliftonville)
Committee:Mr Philip Kirk (Crusaders)

Presentations

Man of the Match AwardMr Steven O'Neill (Toals Bookmakers)
Match officialsMs Cheryl Lamont (Vice-Chairman)
Runners Up medalsMr Brian Adams (Chairman)
Winners MedalsMr Emmet McEvoy (Toals Bookmakers)
Senior ShieldMr Emmet McEvoy (Toals Bookmakers)

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Match Officials

Ian McNabb (Referee)

Ian started his refereeing career in 2007. He was promoted to the Irish Premier League in 2012 and has since completed a UEFA CORE programme and in 2017 became a FIFA referee. Ian refereed the Co. Antrim Shield Final in 2016 and the League Cup Final in 2017. He has officiated in a number of international matches, including Under-17 mini-tournaments, Under-21 qualifying matches, Europa League qualifying round and at a Pro League Match in Saudi Arabia.



Ian McNabb

Stephen Donaldson (Assistant Referee)

I first became a referee in 2010 following a string of injuries as a player. In April 2013 I had my first experience of being an Assistant Referee at Knockrammer Park, Lurgan Celtic vs Armagh City. From there I progressed through the ranks becoming a Premiership Assistant in 2014/15 season and then onto a FIFA International Assistant in 2016. Career highlights to date are the League Cup Final 2015, CAFA Shield Final 2016, Irish Cup final 2018. Away from the domestic game I have officiated in 22 UEFA matches in 15 different countries, I also officiated in the UNICEF Soccer Aid game at Old Trafford in front of 73,000 people.



Stephen Donaldson

Kristian Hanna (Assistant Referee)

After my playing career finished at intermediate level. I decided to go on the referee induction course. After passing the course I started officiating in the SAFL in 2012 and finished the season as an assistant in the Gordon Hanna Trophy final. I managed to gain a place on the Football Associations Development Squad to become an assistant referee for the 2013/2014 season. During this season I was fortunate enough to get to officiate at the steel and sons cup final and the women's CAFA final. After passing the required tests I started in the championship and gained a lot of experience. During the following season I was promoted to the senior panel of referees. I have been fortunate enough to get to travel and go on exchange programs which have been an excellent experience for me. I am looking forward to tonight's game and thank the CAFA for appointing me to the final.



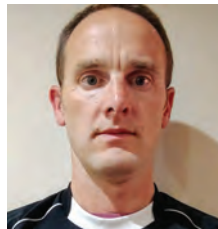
Kristian Hanna

Evan Boyce (Fourth Official)

Began refereeing in 2003, quickly moving through the ranks of junior and intermediate football, culminating in refereeing the Steel & Sons Cup final in 2009.

Refereed his first Senior game in January 2014 and has gained experience officiating in Malta, Latvia, Lithuania, England & Scotland, as well as 4th official appointments in under 21 Internationals & UEFA Europa League.

Having refereed the League Cup Semi Final in 2016 & been 4th Official in the Irish Cup Semi Finals in 2016 & 2017, tonight is his first Senior final appointment.



Evan Boyce



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