



St. Mary's Football Club

Match Report

ST MARYS COLTS -v- CARNMONEY FDC

For the second week in a row a sloppy defensive start cost the Colts dearly at Ballysillan. They were 2 goals down after 2 minutes and left themselves a mountain to climb. The team rallied and midway through the first period had got to grips with a skilful Carnmoney side. They got themselves back into the game at the start of the second period when O'Neill controlled a through ball from Hagan's and after spotting Fionntan Lyttle unmarked at the back post he squared the ball for Lyttle to score his first goal in a St Marys shirt. Mowbray had another strong performance in attack, then midfield and later in the defensive third after being asked to drop back to shore up the defence alongside Nagle. The boys were denied an equaliser when O'Neill's first time curling shot from 15 yards struck the post with the keeper beaten. St Mary's kept pressing forward with Quinn being denied on 2 occasions with good saves. Hagan's worked hard in midfield and deserved the stroke of luck for his goal that saw his low cross shot sneak into the far corner. There were further chances with O'Neill denied twice from close range by the keeper when he looked certain to score after good interplay with Kinning and then Morrow. Smycek deserves a mention for his performance in the final period after coming out of nets. In the end St Marys were unable to capitalise on the sustained pressure which they had in the final period.

The Coaches again emphasised the following points:

- need for concentration and focus from the first whistle
- to ensure you are committed and on your toes at all times to be first to every ball
- always defend by standing goal side of the attacker
- how problems arise in defence when the ball is allowed to bounce rather than being attacked when in the air
- not to over-run the ball in possession when there is an easy pass on to a team mate in space.

Overall the lads can be happy with their fight back and the Coaches are satisfied with the progress that continues to be made.

MEN OF THE MATCH - O'NEILL & MOWBRAY