



St. Mary's Football Club

Match Report

Under 18

St Marys FC 5 – 0 Carryduff

Starting Line-up:

GK - Liam Campbell (Soupy), RB - Dan McConville, CB - Niall Graham (Burger), CB - Darragh Loughlin, LB - Marty Burns, RM - Paddy Sojka, CM - Mark Hillen, CM - Marty Moore, CM - Alex Ramos, LM - Daniel Crilly, CF - Daragh Magee

Subs; Ryan O'Rourke (Jigger), Adam Rosbotham (Brick), Finton McCaughey, Bryan Todd (Bru), Aaron Callaghan, Niall Dunn

Conditions were good for St Mary's second game of the new league season. Looking to build and improve on last week's 3-2 win over Bloomfield, St Mary's decided to stick with the same 4-5-1 formation as last week, with a slight change in personnel at left back, centre midfield and allowing Burger to continue in his make shift role at CB.

Carryduff got the match underway and quickly had St Mary's on the back foot. Carryduff won an early corner but could make nothing of it.

St Mary's first attack of the game came from a goal kick that was controlled and held up well by Daragh Magee, who after scoring a debut goal last week was making his first start for St Mary's. He played the ball to Marty Burns in left back who moved it on quickly to Marty Moore in the centre of the pitch. Moore played a lofted ball to the right wing which was picked up by the ever energetic Paddy Sojka. He dribbled at the Carryduff defence and drilled an excellent ball across the box between the defenders and keeper. Making a run from midfield, Alex Ramos met the ball but could only watch as his effort rattled the cross bar.

With the referee getting confused by colours of Bloomfield players and keepers Soupy's top, manager McGrath was forced into swapping tops with Soupy as the St Mary's substitutes cheered on!

Not long after and St Mary's took the lead through a left footed strike from eventual hat-trick hero Marty Moore. Good work from Magee on the edge of the box allowed Ramos to play a first time ball into Moore who quickly adjusted his feet and shot across the goalkeeper and into the bottom corner. 1-0!!! St Mary's were comfortably on top at this point. Winning battles in the air, in midfield and playing a better passing game.

Mark Hillen was performing well in CM and was seeing plenty of the ball, allowing him to play some brilliant passes down the channels to both sides of wingers and full backs. It was a shame his tackling wasn't of the same standard and I think he would be first to admit that he was lucky not to end up in the referees book with a yellow card or worse. Hillen did make the referees match report for the right reasons though and after a clearance from Burger fell to his feet in the Carryduff box, he held the ball up well, turned neatly and finished in the bottom right hand corner. 2-0 and St Mary's where hungry for more!

Carryduff began to come into the game more after conceding the second but they were restricted to trying long balls over the top that Darragh Loughlin and Niall Graham dealt with no trouble.

Mark Hillen again set up another attack from a long pass behind the Carryduff defence that Daniel Crilly chased down. Facing the Carryduff right back, Crilly shifts the ball to his right foot and lays it off to Marty Burns. First time Burns puts an excellent ball into the box that just goes over Magee's head and is cleared over the bar by the Carryduff defence.

St Mary's could have had another when Daragh Magee finished well but was judged to have been offside. This didn't stop the St Mary's attacking players and they ensured they took a good lead into the second half by making it 3-0 from a scrappy goal. A corner into the box and Ramos again hit the bar. Magee pounced on the rebound but he could only find the bar as well. Moore had his go and took his chance, getting his second of the game.

HALF TIME: St Mary's 3-0 up and looking comfortable. Team starts the second half unchanged and St Mary's kick off.

St Mary's awarded a free kick early into the second half. McConville takes charge and puts the ball into the box. The ball bounces awkwardly in front of the Carryduff goalkeeper and he pushes it over the bar for a corner. St Mary's can make nothing of the corner. With St Mary's showing no signs of easing up, Moore picked the ball up in CM and was given time to carry the ball forward. With space opening up in front of him, he took the opportunity to try and grab his hat-trick. A speculative effort from 20 yards looked ambitious, but with the ball dipping, he, like Ramos and Magee, hit the woodwork.

Moore did not have to wait long for his next chance and as the ball bounced across the box, he controlled and, again with his left foot, smashed the ball home into the top left hand corner! HAT-TRICK!!! 4-0. As players began to tire it was time to introduce fresh legs. Marty Moore made way for another St Mary's debutant, Aaron Callaghan. Alex Ramos and Marty Burns also left the field and Niall Dunn and Bryan Todd where put on to make sure St Mary's recorded their second win of the season.

The substitutions had an impact in making sure St Mary's stayed on top and it wasn't long before St Mary's went another goal ahead through Paddy Sojka, who deserved it after putting in a great shift for the full 90 minutes! 5-0 and the game was as good as over. Daniel Crilly was then replaced by Adam Rosbotham (Brick).

More excellent play from Magee in holding up the ball allowed McConville to run into the box from

right back, Magee slipped him in and McConville shoots wide trying to get his goal scoring off to an early start this term.

In midfield Aaron Callaghan and Niall Dunn worked well together not letting the opposition midfield settle on the ball, breaking up Carryduff attacks and making sure St Mary's held onto possession.

FULL TIME: 5-0!!! Great performance but St Mary's cannot get complacent as this is only the second game of what could prove to be a long season.

Management and players of St Mary's would like to give a special thank you to Conor McDiarmuid who came along to support his team-mates. Must be hard to watch from the side-lines but we wish him a speedy recovery!