

## **Trinity vs Newbattle 29/08/14**

Trinity's early season optimism was swiftly crushed as the side succumbed to a 6-1 defeat away to Newbattle High School. There was an early issue though, as the teams emerged both wearing gold jerseys. The issue was quickly averted though as Newbattle changed into their sky blue away shirt. Throughout the course of the match Trinity struggled to find a rhythm compared to the home side, who were sharp to the ball, passed well and were clinical with their chances, that really told on score line.

The match started with Newbattle on the front foot, and to be honest that would continue for the majority of the match. Trinity were up to the challenge though and managed to thwart Newbattle's early onslaught. It wasn't long before the deadlock was broken though.

A free kick was awarded to the home side just outside the box by the referee and take full advantage they did. Despite a well placed wall that jumped highly, Newbattle's number 8 smartly drove a low ball towards goal which squirmed under the wall and despite goalkeeper Blair Dodds' best efforts, found the back of the net. Cue the opening of the flood gates.

Moments later another dubious decision went against the away team, this time a penalty. The Trinity team looked on in disbelief as the referee pointed to the spot. The resulting spot kick was thundered home giving the goalkeeper no chance. Trinity began to lose confidence and look uneasy in possession.

As the clock moved to the half hour mark the scoreline moved to 3-0. Newbattle burst through the Trinity defence and slotted home to make the score a more comfortable one for the hosts.

Trinity did manage to stem the tide for a short period of time, before the referee was pointing to the white spot once again, and once again in Trinity's box. The result was the same as the first and a confident penalty was well placed into the left of the goal.

Then a moment of magic from Trinity substitute John Scally. Decent play down the right hand wing found Josh King with the ball and his back to goal. He swiveled and slid a neat ball across the edge of the box to Scally, who took one touch to control the ball and then exquisitely, with the outside of his boot placed the ball into the bottom left hand corner. The keeper could do naught but stand and watch the curling ball nestle in the net.

The visitors had finally made their mark on the game and were now passing with a lot more confidence. Half time probably came at the wrong time for Trinity as, as soon as they grew into the game the flow was stopped for the break.

With the wise words of Morrish still ringing in the ears of the Trinity players the second period began. The goals had stopped flowing into the Trinity net but Newbattle had grabbed the game by the scruff of the neck and wouldn't let go.

A couple of promising moves for Trinity broke down in the final third and the quality of the final ball was lacking. That was the difference between the two sides as

a good ball from out wide found the Newbattle centre forward who stepped aside from his man and rippled the net. Good goal.

The outcome of the match had now become a formality and Trinity's misery was compounded as Newbattle scored another late in the half with the winger skipping past his man and slotting the ball calmly under the onrushing goalkeeper.

On the whole it was a disappointing result for Trinity but there is positives than can be taken. Some great build up play was evident when they got the ball down and passed and moved. Also it has to be taken into consideration this was the first game as a team, so the understanding between each other will grow week by week. On to the next game.

FT: Newbattle 6-1 Trinity