



2nd April 2018, Bangor Fuels Arena, 6.30pm



DAWFL Chairman's Message

IAN FRAZER

As always I would like to take this opportunity to thank all clubs for taking part in this year's Sportszone NI Billy Allen Memorial Shield and congratulate both Greenwell Star and Newtownards Royal British Legion in reaching this year's Final, which is a great achievement in itself. Like all of us in attendance tonight I am looking forward to a fair, but competitive final, which I'm sure both teams will not disappoint in providing.

It would be remiss of me not to also highlight my gratitude to the highly competent group of match officials that have officiated in the competition along the way, with our legendary Referee Convenor Jimmy Fegan deserving a special mention for his mentoring and work behind the scenes that often goes unnoticed.

I would like to thank Sportzone NI for the use of their ground and facilities for this season's final.



Route to the Final

Round 1

Date

<i>Saturday, 7 October</i>	<i>Greenwell Star</i>	<i>16-0</i>	<i>Willowfield Parish 10th OB</i>
<i>Saturday, 7 October</i>	<i>Newtownards RBL</i>	<i>6-4</i>	<i>Vision Athletic</i>

Round 2

Date

<i>Saturday, 25 November</i>	<i>Abbey Villa III</i>	<i>0-3</i>	<i>Greenwell Star</i>
<i>Saturday, 25 November</i>	<i>Newtownards RBL</i>	<i>6-1</i>	<i>Bangor YM III</i>

Quarter Finals

Date

<i>Saturday, 13 January</i>	<i>8th OB</i>	<i>2-5</i>	<i>Newtownards RBL</i>
<i>Saturday, 20 January</i>	<i>Greenwell Star</i>	<i>7-0</i>	<i>Bangor Swifts III</i>

Semi Finals

Date

<i>Saturday, 10 March</i>	<i>Newtownards RBL</i>	<i>3-2</i>	<i>Clonduff</i>
<i>Saturday, 10 March</i>	<i>Comber YM</i>	<i>0-5</i>	<i>Greenwell Star</i>

Final

Date

<i>Monday, 2 April</i>	<i>Newtownards RBL</i>	<i>v</i>	<i>Greenwell Star</i>
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A brief look at Newtownards Royal British Legion.....

Newtownards Royal British Legion Football Club (RBLFC) is a recently established club, formed in 2012.

Club Chairman Gary Anderson, spoke to the youthful members of the British Legion, about the possibility of forming a football team, with the aim of promoting the philosophy and ethos of the organisation within the local community through sport. David Shields was appointed team manager with the initial remit of gathering a squad of players together. After a short period of time a squad was formed and friendly matches were sought against local teams in their inaugural year.

A committee with knowledge in local football was formed to help guide the management and team in the right direction. In the 2013/14 season Newtownards RBL competed in the B.B.O.B League and after two seasons of competitive football applied for admission into the DAWFL for the 2015/16 season.

After a successful application and interview process the 1st team was placed into Division 1 and as the club grew in stature players with more quality were attracted to the club. Increasing numbers also provided the basis for a reserve team to be formed.

As the club continues to develop and progress they have been attracting interest from many people in the local football community.

Unfortunately in our inaugural season in the DAWFL the club were unable to gain promotion, but did win the Frank Moore Memorial Cup under the guidance of current Manager, Gary Barclay who had taken over from David Shields mid-season. Season 2016/17 not only seen the club gain promotion to the Premier League of the DAWFL, but also lift the Sittlington Cup.

Chairman: Gary Anderson

Treasurer: Peter Irvine

Secretary: Toni McCullough

Committee Members: David Shields, Neville Dugan, Jonathan Cameron, Mark McAlister



Newtownards Royal British Legion

Andrew Murdoch, Goalkeeper
(Rosemount)

An excellent keeper, a great talker and organiser of his defence. His heroic last minute saves in the semi-final took us through to tonight's game

John McIlveen, Goalkeeper
(Ards Rangers, Comber Rec, Portavogie Rangers)
Goalkeeper with a wealth of amateur league experience, commands his box superbly and possesses great kicking ability.

Colin Nixon, Defence
(Portavogie, Ards Rangers, Killyleagh)
"Onion" is our most experienced player- a classy footballer who always keeps it simple and reads the game extremely well, has excelled in goals this years with a string of excellent performances.

Peter McCallum, Defence / Midfield
(Lagan Swifts)
Peter is the clubs latest signing. A strong defender who has fitted in well both on and off the pitch.

Kris Gardiner, Defence / Midfield
(Bangor YM)
Hard to decide his best position as he is equally as good in defence or midfield. A real box to box player who never stops working for the team.

David Keenan, Defence
(Abbey Villa, Portavogie, Ards Rangers, Ballywalter, Rosemount, Brentwood)
A solid and very dependable defender, David is one of the fittest players at our club and solid as a rock at the back. Puts some of the younger players to shame.

Gareth Donnan, Defence
(Ards Rangers)
Gareth started the season very well at full back with a number of assured performances, unfortunately Gareth picked up an injury which has not healed in time to be in contention for a place in tonight's match squad.

Gary Lavery, Defence
(Moat Park Rangers, Civil Service)
"Gl" is a very dependable & consistent defender who hasn't had the opportunity to play as many games as we all would like this season. Plays with his heart on his sleeve.

Mark Liddell, Defence / Midfield
(Ards Rangers, Ards Reserves, 1st Bangor, Hollywood, Groomsport, Shorts, North Down)
A no nonsense defender who is always composed and confident on the ball and has been one of our most consistent performers this season.

Josh Lowry, Midfield
(Brentwood)
Josh on his day has the ability and raw talent to change games. An extremely fit, pacey forward thinking player with an eye for goal.

Ian Henderson, Defence / Midfield
(Bangor Rangers, Portavogie Rangers)
"Hendy" forced his way into the 1st team squad this season with a number of impressive performances, has a great attitude. Loves getting forward.

Ryan Brown, Midfield
(Bangor, H&W Welders, Brentwood)
Ryan is the Club Captain and leads by example. Ryan has energy to burn and causes defences problems with his pace, works extremely hard for the team and has scored a number of vital goals including a brace in the semi-final.

Andrew Pitman, Midfield
(Abbey Villa, Rosemount)
Andrew has a superb range of passing when playing out from defence, excellent reader of the game and very versatile player who has played in a number of positions this season.

Jonathan Grainger, Midfield
(Ravenhill YM, Agape, Brentwood)
The "Caretaker" is a No-nonsense tough tackler, a constant worker and one of the most solid players in the squad.

Jordan Kelly, Midfield
(Abbey Villa)
Jordan is a really pacey winger who excels down the left flank, takes people on at every opportunity, delivers an excellent cross and has scored important goals.

Craig McCullough, Midfield
(Brentwood, Greenwell Star)
Craig has energy to burn and causes defences all sorts of problems with his pace, works very hard for the team, and gets into dangerous positions. Suffered a fracture 6 weeks ago and is working hard to be fit for tonight's game.

Stuart Cameron, Midfield
(Ards, Groomsport, Ards Rangers, Brentwood)
Stu is seen by many to be the best players in the DAWFL, a class act in the middle of the park with tremendous energy. Very unfortunate to suffer a leg break just before Christmas which ended his season.

Gavin Macartney, Striker
(Shorts, Groomsport, North Down, Brentwood)
Gavin is a very dependable & consistent player who has played a lot this season on the wing as well as pitching in with a number of important goals. Gavin has won everything there is to win in the DAWFL.

Jonathan Cash, Striker
(Abbey Villa, Comber Rec., Ards, 1st Bangor, Portavogie, Groomsport, Ards Rangers, Brentwood)
One of the best 'strikers in the local game for a number of years, a player who finds it easy to create space for himself and others all over the pitch, defenders struggle to cope with him.

Tristan McCormick, Striker
(Ards Youth, Brentwood)
One of the most naturally gifted players at the Club, another player who has missed a long part of the season due to injury, has been working hard on his fitness to be in contention for tonight's game.

A brief look at Greenwell Star FC.....

Greenwell Star FC were formed in the summer of 1984 when a group of friends from the Movilla area of Newtownards decided they wanted to enter a team into a summer league.

Things went so well that they decided to continue playing and they entered the side into the County Down League, before eventually applying for and being accepted into the Down Area Winter Football League ahead of the 1986/1987 season.

Chairman: STEVEN IRVINE

Secretary: Lisa Paden

Committee Members: Darren Hobson, Billy Sproule, Daniel McCallum, Scott Ritchie, William McIlroy



Greenwell Star

Carl O'Neill, Goalkeeper
(1st Bangor, Brentwood)

An excellent goalkeeper and organiser, Carl is undoubtedly one of the best goalkeepers in the league.

Redmond O'Neill, Defender
(Brentwood)

Smashing defender and Mr. consistent on the pitch.

Darren Hobson, Defender/Player Manager
(Ards Rangers, Scrabo Old Boys)

Veteran of the club. This is Darren's first major final as a manager, but has vast experience in them as a player.

William McIlroy, Defender/Midfielder - Captain
(Ards Rangers, Killyleagh, Dundela)

Experienced midfielder who has won nearly every medal in Junior Football)

Michael McKeown, Midfielder
(Ards Rangers, North Down)

Mr Dependable.

Jordan Mills, Midfielder
(Groomspoint, Bangor Amateurs)

Re-signed for Greenwell this season after a spell away and has been consistent all season.

William Sproule, Midfielder/ Defender
(Ards Rangers/ Brentwood)

Has forced his way into the 1st team squad since Christmas after impressive displays for both our 2nds, a great player who has an eye for goal.

Robert Bell, Midfielder/Forward
(Cliftonville)

A very skilful and talented player with great vision.

James Sproule, Defender, Midfielder
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James is known throughout the game as a great player, with a fantastic engine.

Jay Thompson, Forward
(Ballywalter Rec Youth)

Youngest player in the squad who graduated from the second team.

Stephen Steele, Forward
(Bangor, Groomspoint)

Great goal scorer, whose last minute winner clinched the final spot for Greenwell Star.

Robbie Irvine, Midfield
(1st Bangor, Donaghadee)

Took a season out with injury and has come back all guns blazing, cementing his position in the squad.

Daley Carnduff, Midfield - Captain
(Shorts)

One of the most sought after midfielders in the DAWFL. His play making has been invaluable this season.

Dean Davidson, Defender
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One of the youngest in the squad, progressing through from the second team and making his mark within the club.

Paul Devlin,
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Been about Greenwell for a few seasons, but plagued with injuries. He's having a very good season.

Daniel Orr, Striker
(Shorts)

Has come back to the club where he started as a kid. Prolific goal scorer with a hat trick in the semi-final.

Jay Ritchie,
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Great right back with plenty of energy. The quiet man.

Simon Bickerstaff,
(Comber Rec)

Seasoned midfielder, who has plied his trade mainly with the second team this season.

Referee Focus

Referee - Mark Milligan

Mark is a former Agapé player, who made over 100 appearances before hanging his boots up in January 2017 and qualifying as referee.

Commenting on how much he has enjoyed his first full season refereeing in the DAWFL, Mark is very much looking forward to his first major final, a challenge he is very much looking forward to.

During his run in the Irish Junior Cup and Irish Youth Cup this year, he was afforded opportunities to referee at venues such as Seaview and The Oval.



Assistant Referee - Ian McKee

From Belfast, Ian has been an official in the DAWFL since 2011-12, with the 2012-13 Frank Moore Memorial Cup being his first appearance as an official in a final.

'Lala's performances have not gone unnoticed, as highlighted by last season's appointment as Assistant Referee in this season's Junior Shield Semi-Final.

A former player in the league with Moat Park, Ian has also represented Dungoyne.



Assistant Referee - James Fawcett

James has been refereeing in the Down Area Winter Football League as a referee for two years, with his experience extending to include two years as an assistant referee for the Women's Northern Ireland Football League.



4th Official - Tommy Rossi

Tommy has been a referee for 12 years, starting off in the South Belfast Youth League (SBYFL) & the Belfast Sunday League.

The Belfast official is no stranger to the big occasion, having officiated in 5 Sunday League finals, 24 SBYFL finals, 8 DAWFL finals and 2 u16 Girls International games.

Widely regarded as one of the best referees in the league, Tommy has declined several offers to move up the levels, noting that his passion lies with mentoring the Youth players and Referees in the leagues he represents.



Manager Focus – Gary Barclay (Newtownards RBL)



Name: Gary Barclay

Who did you play for? Ards Rangers, Killyleagh, Comber Rec., North Down, Brentwood, RBL

Other Teams Managed? Brentwood

What do you look for in a player? Ability and attitude, you have to have both

Proudest football moment? Although winning the treble with Brentwood was a great achievement, I would rank higher winning last season's Sittlington Cup with the RBL as we were a Division One team then.

Why do you enjoy being a manager? Enjoy working with players on the training pitch and match day tactical planning

Favourite Manager? Pep Guardiola

Anything that people would be surprised to know about you? I own a wedding band called Impact

Manager Focus – Darren Hobson (Greenwell Star)



Name: Darren Hobson

Age: No comment

Who did you play for? Ards Rangers, Scrabo Old Boys

Other Teams Managed? None

What do you look for in a player? Passion, heart and most all commitment.

Proudest football moment? Winning the league with Greenwell in 2013, coming from 19 points behind to clinch it against Brentwood.

Favourite Manager? Sir Alex Ferguson