

Acres Boys Club Trophy Round 1

Carloway (0) 0 Lochs (0) 1

Ross Allison (83)

At Cnoc a Choilich

Friday 6th April 2018, 18:30

Referee: Stuart Macleod

Carloway line judge: Alasdair "Tiger" Macarthur

Lochs line judge: Ewen Maclean

CARLOWAY: 4-5-1.

Manager: Graeme "Windy" Miller.

Asst. Managers: Domhnall Mackay; Iain Angus "Gus" Maciver.

David Beaton

*Cameron "Tiger" Macarthur Domhnall Mackay (capt.) Archie MacDonald Joe Armstrong
Callum Masson Andy Morrison Stuart "Bubble" MacDonald Kenny "Beag" MacIennan Kenny
"Dokus" MacDonald*

Neil Sinclair

Sub. used: Billy Anderson (Kenny "Beag" MacIennan) 79.

Subs. not used: Andrew "Lanky" Macdonald; Ben Smith; Graham MacDonald; Matthew Murray.

Yellow cards: none.

LOCHS: 4-5-1

Manager: Kevin Anderson

Jim O'Donnell

*Ross Allison Calum "Chin" Campbell John "Uig" Morrison Doug Bryson Lewis Mackenzie
Daniel "Nipper" Mackenzie Ali "Laxay" MacDonald Peter Mackenzie (capt.) Niall Houston
James Macleod*

Subs. used: Joseph Murray (Lewis Mackenzie) 69; Darren "Cage" Wilson (Doug Bryson) 77 ■.

Yellow card: Darren "Cage" Wilson 83.

On a wet, cold night the Lewis and Harris 2018 season kicked off in Carloway with an Acres Boys Club Cup 1st round tie. The other tie scheduled for the same evening was a victim of the weather with Goathill Park deemed unplayable. Referee Stuart Macleod deemed the Carloway pitch to be playable, although to most of the spectators it looked decidedly soft.

Carloway lined up in a 4-5-1 (or 4-3-3) formation with some familiar and experienced players and some new recruits in their line-up. David Beaton in goal, Domhnall Mackay at centre half and the two Kennys in midfield ("Beag" and "Dokus"). Archie MacDonald was playing in an unfamiliar centre half role. The new recruits were Stuart "Bubble" MacDonald, Andy "Bernera" Morrison, Callum Masson and Neil Sinclair. The Lochs team was much changed from their glory years with only James Macleod, Peter Mackenzie, John "Uig" Morrison and Jim O'Donnell remaining from these years. Also making a return to the Lochs Team was Ali "Laxay" MacDonald, who had been playing for the previous two years for Carloway.

Prior to kick off, an impeccable minute's silence was held in memory of Jordan

Macleod who had died in such sad circumstances in January.

Lochs started very brightly creating a couple of half chances in the first two minutes which came to nothing.

The game burst into life on six minutes with a typical piece of Kenny "Dokus" magic. Receiving the ball twenty five yards from goal he let fly and was unlucky to see his shot crash off the bar with Macleod well beaten. The subsequent rebound was cleared by a relieved Lochs defence.

Apart from a Lochs chance on 8 minutes, and a Domhnall Mackay header on 11 minutes, there was little goal mouth action as the match developed into a midfield battle between the Carloway midfield of Kenny "Beag" MacIennan, Stuart "Bubble" MacDonald and Andy "Bernera" Morrison against the Lochs midfield of John "Uig" Morrison and Doug Bryson.

On the half hour mark John "Uig" Morrison had a free kick which was deflected over the bar and a couple of minutes later a bit of sustained Carloway pressure which culminated in Kenny "Dokus" MacDonald shooting wide. At this stage, it was becoming obvious that the weather conditions and the difficult pitch were taking their toll with good football at a premium.

On 40 minutes, at last some action to keep the long suffering spectators happy. First of all Ross Allison shot just wide from inside the box, and on 43 minutes came the best bit of action in the half. A ball from midfield saw the Lochs defence posted missing and Kenny "Dokus" MacDonald free in the box. His well stuck shot was brilliantly tipped on to the crossbar by Lochs keeper Macleod to keep the score at half time break level.

Half time: Carloway 0 Lochs 0

During the half time break a cheque and a framed photograph were presented to Jordan Macleod's family. The cheque comprised of a collection made at the game plus a small donation from Carloway FC.

The second half kicked off with rain still teeming down and the pitch getting heavier and heavier. Lochs started off much brighter and had a couple of half chances which came to nothing.

The half developed the same pattern as the first one. Plenty of midfield play but very few clear-cut chances. It was becoming increasingly obvious that substitutions and tactical changes would play a big part in the game.

Lochs made a couple of substitutions which meant that Ross Allison would move from his left wing position to play centre forward with Darren "Cage" Wilson coming on to play right midfield. This would prove to be a key substitution and tactical change. Billy Anderson came on to replace Kenny "Beag" MacIennan, who had battled valiantly in midfield.

Allison's pace and movement were starting to cause the Carloway defence problems. On 79 minutes, the best move of the game ended with a cross from the

right which Allison turned on to the post and then fired the rebound wide. However, this was to prove only a temporary reprieve for Carloway.

On 83 minutes, a ball from midfield saw Allison breaking free in the box and he comprehensively beat keeper Beaton from just inside the 18 yard box **(0-1)**.

It was then a matter of Lochs closing out the game which they did pretty easily.

Full Time: Carloway 0 Lochs 1

And so, disappointment for Carloway. They will feel that they should have got something from the game on their first half performance. They will also feel that returning players will make a huge difference for them. Domhnall Mackay and Archie MacDonald played well in defence and were rarely troubled until Allison moved to centre forward. The midfield trio of Andy "Bernera" Morrison, Kenny "Beag" MacLennan and Stuart "Bubble" MacDonald battled valiantly whilst Kenny "Dokus" MacDonald was unlucky not to score. For Lochs, James Macleod, Peter Mackenzie, Ali "Laxay" MacDonald and John "Uig" Morrison played well whilst Ross Allison's move to play centrally was the game changer.

Carloway Man of the Match - Domhnall Mackay

Lochs Man of the Match – Peter Mackenzie