

## School Sport Australia Football

### Tour of China, United Kingdom and Ireland

27/1/10

#### Boys

Game 5 vs Northern Ireland Schoolboys

Venue: Seaview Ground,  
Crusaders FC, Belfast

Result: 1-1 H/T 0-1

Scorers: Brendan MacLean (70<sup>th</sup>)  
Northern Ireland (23<sup>rd</sup>)

#### Match Report:

The Australian boys really stepped up to the plate today, and in front of a crowd of several hundred put on a classy performance. Passing was good, movement on and off the ball was ever present and it was a little unfortunate when Northern Ireland took the lead when a corner wasn't cleared and from the resulting scramble a N.I player poked the ball home.

The Australians didn't panic and continued to play some enterprising football. Mid way through the second half Ian Kamau went on a run down the right, taking the ball past opposition players and getting to the by line before crossing for Brendan MacLean to neatly finish off. This wasn't the end of proceedings by any stretch though as the home team rallied and pressured the Australian goal, but our boys replied with several late charges of their own, with the Northern Ireland goalkeeper making three outstanding late saves to keep them in the game.

#### Girls

Game 5 vs Northern Ireland Schoolgirls

Venue: Ashfield Boys High School,  
East Belfast

Result: 2-5 (H/T 0-0)

Scorers: Loren Mahoney (55<sup>th</sup>), Stephanie Haim (80<sup>th</sup>)  
Northern Ireland (48<sup>th</sup>, 72<sup>nd</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, 88<sup>th</sup>, 90<sup>th</sup>)

#### Match Report:

The game was evenly poised through the entire first half, with both sides having chances but failing to convert. The Northern Ireland team was taking the game to Australia but the defence was holding firm.

Then it all erupted in the second half. N.I. scored right at the beginning of the half, but Australia replied with an absolute cracker from Loren Mahoney who collected the ball on the volley from the edge of the 18 yard box and smashed home. Things were controlled for 15 minutes but then N.I scored 2 in 3 minutes as the Australian defence tried to cope with several waves of attacks. Stephanie Haim finished off a sweeping move from Australia but the home team came back again with 2 more to claim their first ever victory over Australia.