



WARRINGTON RUGBY UNION



OFFICIAL CLUB PROGRAMME



A Message from the President

I would like to welcome you to Warrington RUFC and I hope you enjoy your afternoon with us. This is my first year as president and I look forward to meeting new friends from the clubs in North 1 West.

Warrington has enjoyed some success over the past years, since our promotion to North 1 West but it doesn't get any easier. This year the competition looks to be even harder with clubs of great tradition such as Birkenhead Park, Broughton Park and Penrith returning this season. I must admit that I am sorry to see the departure of Altrincham Kersal and Rochdale as in life, changes offer new challenges.



Once again, it seems that there will be no such thing as an easy game but that also ensures a good level of entertainment for spectators and enjoyable, testing matches for the players.

We can all contribute in so many ways as those who have gone before us as Members of WRUFC have done. Players need to remember that it is not just about playing. Fund raising and making sure everything runs smoothly on match days and all the other small but essential tasks is not just the province of those of us who are at the age where sadly playing is no longer possible. The more people who volunteer and get stuck in, the stronger our Club will become.

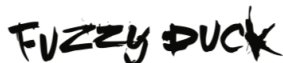
Former players making a perhaps an infrequent visit to the Club are more than welcome we can always find something for you to do! You will have taken a lot out of the game. Please think seriously about what you can put back in, just as there were the "old farts" in your day who made sure that the baths were run, the tea made, the pitch marked, the game refereed, the raffle run and so on.

I would also take this opportunity to thank all spectators, and especially visiting spectators, for buying this programme. We are not a rich club and we must mainly rely on the income which we generate ourselves from sponsorships, events, raffles, occasional donations - and programme sales. So many thanks for your contribution, which helps to fund the playing side of our activities as well as helping us, enhance the outstanding facilities we enjoy at Warrington Sports Club.

So once again, a very warm welcome to all of you, Warrington supporters as well as visitors, match officials and players. We hope you will enjoy the rugby on offer and that you will also enjoy the beer and banter in the bar after the match.

GEOFF PERKS

President, Warrington RUFC





A very warm welcome to Stockport players, officials and spectators to Warrington's ground at Walton Lea Road. Stockport was formerly known as Davenport and began life back in 1923 when a group of like-minded businessmen met in the 'Davenport Club'. The hard core of the players were, in fact, a breakaway from Heaton Moor Rugby Club, which was then already 25 years old. In 1964, the club moved to its present location on Headlands Road.

A feature throughout the 1970's at Davenport was the Glengarth 7's which began in 1967 and held every year for the next 21 years. It raised many thousands of pounds for Glengarth House in Marple which was a centre of disabled children. From its earliest years it attracted the top names in the game and countless Internationals. It took place early season in a time when 7-a-side rugby was in its heyday. The competition which traditionally was a curtain raiser for the season became unsustainable with the inception of League rugby in the mid 80's. When clubs became more anxious to practice the 15 man game before the season started in earnest.

A change in name to Stockport came in 1992 but even today, there are still people who think of the club as Davenport.

Stockport enjoyed a great deal of success in the early league days. In 2005-06, they were crowned Champions of the old North 2 West and went on to beat Morley in the final of the Powergen Intermediate Cup at Twickenham. Although they were demoted from North Premier at the end of 2016/17 season, they have now obviously got their eyes set on a return to the next level, especially under coach Dean Scholfield (England, Sale, Toulon, Worcester). Last season was a rebuilding exercise for Stockport with them finishing 5th on 64 points and Warrington 8th on 63 points. The games between the two clubs were even with both sides winning their home games.

As it stands to date, Stockport is unbeaten in 3 with one match postponed whilst Warrington's record is won 2 lost 2.

May the best side win in what should be an entertaining game.

Geoff Perks



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Milestones



The last few weeks have seen a few playing milestones achieved, firstly centre Steve Pilkington reached his 100th first team game away to Burnage. Steve's been a good source of tries over that time crossing the whitewash 44 times. He would surely have scored more had he not had a brief error in judgement by defecting to our neighbours (small village near Partington).

Despite that Steve at the grand age of 24 has pulled on the shirt for us on 101 occasions and always puts in a shift. His first of those came back in 2013 as a winger before finding his feet firmly in the centres.

When asked who's your favourite team mate, his response was, Jon "Remi Castre" Ward. The mind boggles.

Also joining Steve today in the centurions club is a player that needs very little introduction.



Sean Callander has been around Warrington RUFC since birth but only started playing at the age of 15, when he realised that football is not a mans sport. That in mind at the age of 22 to pass 100 first team games is a great achievement, by any standards.

Add to that the fact that Sean represented Cheshire at county level for numerous age

levels since he started playing, he also played last season in the senior squad, that tells you a lot about the desire, hunger and ability of Sean. Despite a rack of fashion errors and dreadful haircuts, Sean's a credit to his teammates, club, friends & family.

We asked what's your favourite cheese? "Halloumi" was Sean's answer.

Congratulations to Steve & Sean, hopefully both continue on and play for another 100 or more games.



Player Profile : Josh Downes

Age: 24

Position : 2nd Row/Captain

Club Player Since : 1999 from the original mini & juniors

Favourite Playing Memory: 1st XV debut against Bolton unfortunately I didn't score, I had to wait until my second season away at Burnage, which was a great moment too.

Ambitions For The Season Ahead: To win more than I lose and avoid the naked lap.

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Player Appearances

Name		Games this year	Career total	Tries this season	Career total
Barker	Joel	3 + 1	?		
Beesley	Nathan	4	72	3	60
Caldwell	Max	0 + 1	58		20
Callander	Sean	2	100		5
Downes	Josh	4	45	1	4
Emmitt	Luke	2 + 2	4		
Evans	Jonny	3	20		2
Fleming	Dan	3	170		9
Gilooly	Luke	3	13		1
Hannon	Jack	4	14		1
Hughes	Kieran	2	108		107
Kellett	Harry	1 + 1	12		
Lynch	Phil	2	81		4
McEniff	Tom	4	7	1	2
Norman	Darren	1	27		5
O'Rourke	Clement	3+1	98		2
Pilkington	Steve	4	101	1	44
Riley	Josh	2	116		5
Stewart	Alex	1 + 3	4		
Thompson	Paul	3 + 1	266		23
Ward	Jon	1	36		1
White	Chris	4	71	2	20
Wood	Tom	4	169		53
Penalty	Try				2

Statistics Correct as of 22/9/18

North One West

#	Team	PI	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj	Recent Form			
1.	Carlisle	4	2	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	136	59	77	17	5	W	L	W	W
2.	Firwood Waterloo	4	2	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	1	126	95	31	16	4	W	W	L	W
3.	Birkenhead Park	4	1	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	1	132	83	49	15	3	W	W	W	L
4.	Blackburn	4	2	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	78	52	26	15	3	W	W	W	L
5.	Burnage	4	3	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	106	83	23	15	3	W	W	W	L
6.	Stockport	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	110	73	37	14	2	W	W	W	
7.	Douglas (I.O.M.)	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	57	47	10	10	2	L	W	W	
8.	Warrington	4	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	2	85	79	6	10	2	L	L	W	W
9.	Manchester	4	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	90	98	-8	9	1	W	L	W	L
10.	Penrith	4	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	3	121	141	-20	8	4	L	W	L	L
11.	Northwich	4	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	3	86	95	-9	7	3	L	L	L	W
12.	Broughton Park	4	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	3	49	97	-48	4	0	L	L	L	W
13.	Anselmians	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	4	66	115	-49	0	0	L	L	L	L
14.	De La Salle (Salford)	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	45	170	-125	0	0	L	L	L	L

Division 1

#	Team	PI	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts	Adj	Recent Form				
1.	Birkenhead Park Wanderers (2nd XV)	4	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	258	50	208	16	0	W	W	W	W	
2.	Sandbach 2nd XV	4	2	0	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	200	56	144	16	0	W	W	W	W	
3.	Warrington 2nd XV	4	0	0	0	3	0	1	3	0	1	132	66	66	14	1	W	W	W	L	
4.	Burnage 2nd XV	4	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	2	160	139	21	11	1	W	L	L	W	
5.	Penrith A XV	4	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	182	116	66	10	0	W	L	W	L	
6.	Glossop 2nd XV	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	2	110	95	15	10	0	L	W	L	W	
7.	Fylde Saracens (3rd XV)	4	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	123	134	-11	10	0	L	W	L	W	
8.	Broughton Park 2nd XV	4	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	3	57	116	-59	8	1	L	L	L	W	
9.	Kirkby Lonsdale 2nd XV	4	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	3	59	146	-87	7	0	L	L	W	L	
10.	Altrincham Kersal (2nd XV)	4	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	59	210	-151	7	0	L	L	W	L	
11.	Sedgley Park 3rd XV	4	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	3	59	230	-171	7	0	L	W	L	L	
12.	Liverpool University Veterinarians	4	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	3	89	130	-41	6	0	W	L	L	L	

North One West Fixtures 2018-2019

Date	Opposition	Result	Sponsor
01 Sept	Birkenhead Park (A)	15-19 W	
08 Sept	Northwich (A)	10-20 W	
15 Sept	Burnage (A)	32-25 L	
22 Sept	Blackburn (A)	20-21 L	
29 Sept	Stockport (H)		Chairman's Carvery
13 Oct	Carlisle (A)		
20 Oct	Manchester (H)		
27 Oct	Firwood Waterloo (A)		
3 Nov	De la Salle (Salford) (H)		
17 Nov	Penrith (A)		
24 Nov	Douglas (I.O.M) (H)		
1 Dec	Broughton Park (A)		
8 Dec	Anselmians (H)		Friends of Warrington RUFC
15 Dec	Burnage (H)		
5 Jan 2019	Northwich (H)		
12 Jan	Blackburn (H)		
19 Jan	Stockport (A)		
26 Jan	Carlisle (H)		
9 Feb	Manchester (A)		
16 Feb	Firewood Waterloo (A)		
2 Mar	De la Salle (Salford) (A)		
9 Mar	Penrith (H)		
23 Mar	Douglas (I.O.M) (A)		
30 Mar	Broughton Park (H)		
6 Apr	Anselmians (A)		
13 Apr	Birkenhead Park (H)		

Thanks to Stockport RUFC

A note of thanks to our guests today Stockport. Who have very kindly agreed to wear their changed strip in order for us to unveil our new Akuma kit today.

We will return the favour in the reverse fixture.

Warrington RUFC vs. Stockport RUFC

WARRINGTON RUFC

Colours: Green, Scarlet & White.

STOCKPORT RUFC

Colours: Black & Red.

Saturday 29th September, Kick off 3pm

Referee: Daniel Taylor, Manchester Society

15	Darren Norman	Sponsorship Available	Rhodri Mayor	15
14	Nathan Beesley	Sponsorship Available	Matt King	14
13	Kieran Hughes	Sponsorship Available	Josh Schofield	13
12	Steven Pilkington	Sponsorship Available	Tom Eaton	12
11	Tom McEniff	Sponsorship Available	Greg Newton	11
10	Tom Wood	Sponsorship Available	Liam McGovern	10
9	Jack Hannon	Sponsorship Available	Rory Austin	9
8	Sean Callander	Sponsorship Available	Nick Smith	8
7	Jonny Evans	Sponsorship Available	Simon Green	7
6	Phil Lynch	Sponsorship Available	Kieran Hibbs	6
5	Danny Fleming	Sponsorship Available	Marc Benson	5
4	Josh Downes (capt)	Sponsored by Simple Solutions	Dean Schofield	4
3	Christian White	Sponsorship Available	Will Hirstwood	3
2	Paul Thompson	Sponsorship Available	Dom Sheratt	2
1	Clement O'Rourke	Sponsorship Available	Matt Lawrowitsch	1
16	Joel Barker	Sponsorship Available	Jordan Pearson	16
17	Alex Stewart	Sponsorship Available	Dan Brotherton	17
18	Luke Emmitt	Sponsorship Available	Simon Currie	18
Andy Roberts		Coach	Dean Schofield	

Warm welcome to today's guests, opposition and referee, today's chairman's carvery is an opportunity for our sponsors, coaches and volunteers to enjoy the day as a thank you for all the hard work, generosity & continued support.

We hope a great day and game is enjoyed by all.

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Blackburn 22 - 21 Warrington 1st XV

2nd half comeback falls short by the shortest margin.

Cool, with no wind and a pitch in great fettle despite the previous days downpours, conditions were perfect for the highly entertaining fare served up. Blackburn took the lead with an early penalty and hinted at dominance in the scrum as a new Warrington front row of White, Barker and Ward bore the brunt of the pressure.

The game was largely played between the 22s until scrum half Jack Hannon probed deep into Blackburn territory, but Warrington over eager in support gave away a penalty for going off their feet and the opportunity was lost. Two minutes later it was Warrington's turn for a penalty wide on the right when the Blackburn winger was penalised for holding on having been hunted down by Nathan Beesley chasing a Tom Wood cross kick. Full back Luke Emmitt slotted the kick to level the scores but was unsuccessful two minutes later with another penalty which hit the woodwork.

Stand off Wood then had 10 minutes rest, mysteriously paying the penalty for a high tackle by Emmitt. Blackburn then suffered an attack of hubris, opting for a scrum instead of a kick for the infringement deep in Warrington territory. Warrington won the scrum, however, and cleared the danger, but not for long.

An aimless kick into midfield with no real Warrington chase was collected by Blackburn on the counter. A well weighted kick behind the Warrington winger bounced well for Blackburn and a neat inside pass earned a try between the sticks. Warrington remained 7 points adrift until half time despite another penalty attempt.

An Emmitt penalty did close the gap 5 minutes into the second half but 2 minutes later Blackburn extended their lead with a clear break up the middle and a deft offload to earn their second try and easy conversion.

Emmitt clawed back another 3 points midway through the half. Although the conditions were crying out for open rugby neither side were much inclined to let the ball too far from the forwards. Blackburn seems to have an aversion for kicking and preferred to make a lot of hard yards through their bulky forwards. The wide pitch, which normally would have been a godsend to Warrington's nippy backs, was little used, Warrington preferring to gain yards by kicking. Although Blackburn would regain possession, determined Warrington tackling, where captain Downes and the returned Lynch were outstanding, was good enough to contain the onslaught until the 70th minute.

A Warrington clearance kick was charged down on their 5 metre line and Blackburn scored their third try which went unconverted. Now 22-9 down Warrington had a mountain to climb in the last 10 minutes. With 5 minutes to go the foothills were surmounted. Warrington stole the ball from a line out in the Blackburn 22, and with a well executed rolling maul behind him prop Chris White crossed the whitewash wide on the left. 22-14. With 2 minutes to go the summit beckoned. Warrington repeated their earlier feat and prop White was once again over the whitewash on the end of a rolling maul. From virtually the same spot Emmitt slotted the conversion. 22-21. Although the restart did not appear to go 10 metres, Warrington were denied the final yards to the top as Blackburn collected and kicked the ball into touch.

Coach Andy Roberts was philosophical. "A very close match which could have gone either way. We were unable to take the opportunities presented but another losing bonus point is a little consolation".

Report by D. Hastings.

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Warrington 3rds XV 14 - 26 Moore 2nd XV

Warrington 3rds were defeated 26-14 to local neighbours Moore 2nds on Saturday afternoon at Warrington Sports Club. The Warrington 3rds XV team's first outing of the season may have ended in defeat to near-neighbours and faux-Widnesians, Moore RFC, yet the overriding narrative of the day was seeing some of the Club's old favourites, stalwarts and promising young players combine for an entertaining run out in Warrington RUFC's 'first' home game of the season. In Greek mythology, Achilles, the Greek hero of the Trojan war, was known to retire to the hills of the ancient empire to overlook the battlefields, only to come down for when the moment demanded his presence. On Saturday, at the leafy surroundings of Walton Lea Road witnessed 13 weary legionnaires' and one promising upstart dust off their boots to return to action – but this would be no Greek tragedy for some returning favourites. Former 'Wire' luminaries such as Gareth 'Gaz' Wheatley and Andy Walker would both be back in the Red, White and Green, a sight not-witnessed since the halcyon days of Bridge Lane, four terrestrial TV channels and the inquisitive-wonderment of the Hooch alcopop. Joining him were the likes of James Farrell, a languid and influential presence at outside-half in tandem with the tigerish Tom Hockenhull at scrum-half. The mighty-mouse tackling of Paul Hennessey in the back-row was a welcome addition of physicality and bravery, whilst Chris Sterling and Jack Sigely offered ballast as ball carriers. The mazy, hypotonic running of full-back Ben Unsworth and the committed running from Paul MacKay added a running threat to proceedings.

First Half

The opening exchanges saw Moore reacclimatise to contact rugby quicker than their hosts. Their aggressive ball-carriers and sizeable strike runners saw them race into a 7-0 lead after 15 minutes play, with the visitors crossing for a pick-and-go try despite some resolute defending from Warrington. Momentum started to change as Warrington grew into the game. With Farrell vocal at No10, he looked to use the intelligent running of Walker in his three-quarters in combination with the impish flair of Unsworth at full-back and the industrious running of Sigely. Warrington's No15 would test the Moore defence on numerous occasions with the youngster on the end of some unsavoury high tackles that momentarily threatened to see tempers flare. Moore ended the half in the ascendancy, and in a blow to Warrington's resurgence in the half they crossed for their second try of the game on the stroke of half-time – again from a close drive to the try-line. Half-Time: Warrington 3rds XV 0 Moore 2nd XV 12.

Second-Half

After some words of encouragement from touchline technician Kevin Jones, Warrington flew out of the traps in the second-half. After Chris Sterling combined with young Sigely, Paul MacKay raced in from 40m to score a well taken try to get the Wire on the scoreboard. Farrell nonchalantly drop-goaled the extras. Warrington would then edge in front, where the catalyst of the comeback Gareth Wheatley raced into score down Moore's left-hand edge. The humility of Wheatley's play that made him a mainstay of Warrington's first-team for such a long-time was once again on show in this game, for the No8 once again proved the adage that one should never attempt something complicated, if something simple would do. With Moore's second string shocked into action, they rallied to run-in three breakaway tries to extinguish the Warrington revival before the referee called time on a highly-enjoyable Saturday afternoon of rugby.

Game Star: Ben Unsworth – Willing runner took the battle to the Moorehens.

Tackle of the Match: Many to choose from Might Mouse, Paul Hennessey's 'lumberjack' tackling technique

Try of the Match: Tough one, but Wheatley's effort supporting another mazy run from Sigely was the pick of the day. As age and wisdom combine with the hubris of youth.

Moment of the Match: The Team Photo post-match. Great to see so many former players and stars of the future back on the pitch. Well done to all involved and for those rekindling the 3rds.

Extra Thanks: Goes to Moore's Big Ronnie, who played a full 80 for Warrington with the Wire struggling for a full XV

Report by M Hennessey



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