

1st XV Season Review

First of all I must point out that I'm absolutely delighted that we will retain our position in North One West next season which given the quality of the league this year and the fact that potentially 65 points could take you down, you will understand how proud I am to know that once again we'll ply our trade in an extremely competitive N-1-W competition next season.

Whilst the last couple of months have seen us battling with at least 8 other clubs to keep away from the 3rd relegation slot, it must be noted that dependant on Saturday's result we could finish as high as 6th which would be yet another fantastic achievement given the quality of the league and the semi-professional approach that many clubs now have. Whilst we will never go down that route it must be noted how well the squad perform year in year out despite the difficulties we face as running as a true amateur club.

Looking back through our results this week, it is increasingly evident that we have lacked consistency in our performances but when I looked deeper and realised that 5 of our losses were within 7 points (3 within two points), it would not have been inconceivable of us to be battling it out towards the top of the table. This is where we want to be and I'll certainly be reviewing the areas in which we need to improve before embarking on next year.

Standout moments from the year have to include doing the double over Northwich and Stockport and an impressive win away at Birkenhead in the opening game of the season. We have played in the way I expect the game to be played which is fast paced and entertaining to watch. Yes, this is sometimes possibly our downfall but my philosophy is very much centred around attacking, entertaining rugby which is pleasing to watch; something I'm sure our spectators will agree with.

It would be wrong of me to single individual players out as I very much believe in a squad effort but I must congratulate Chris White on playing in all 26 league games this season. A phenomenal effort and even more so given his front row position.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Craig Byrne and Shaun McDermott on leading the 2nd team to their highest ever league finish. A fantastic achievement especially when you consider the strength of some of the 2nd teams in that league.

I would also like to thank all those associated with Rugby at Warrington RUFC from the Groundsman, House Managers, Bar and Catering Staff, Paul (Scoreboard Operator). Sponsors and of course our very trusted and loyal supporters who follow us everywhere. Your roles are hugely appreciated by all the Senior Players and Coaches.

Personally, I would also like to extend my thanks to Alex Scott (photographer), Dave Jervis (all his media and match day support), Dave Broadbent (referee's), Geoff Perks, Lewis Nunn and the committee and to Fiona Kellett for everything she does (too many jobs to list) for the club. My thanks also go to all of the Senior Coaches, captains and support staff (linesman) who give so much time and effort to the club.

Have a restful break and I'll look forward to catching up with you next season

Andy Roberts - Coach

2nd XV Season Review

What a year it's been! Crowned by the highest league finish by a Warrington 2nd team ever by securing 3rd place with one game remaining and in some style too, last kick of the game from halfway on a windy day adding to the drama of what has been a testing season.

Coach Shaun Mc. and Myself would like to personally congratulate every player involved in this success. It has been through some tough selection decisions based on player loyalty rather than outright ability that has given the young up and coming talent the chance to shine alongside the old headed experience of players such as Dom '80 Minute' Hastings, Rockey 'this is my last game' Turner and Dan 'Penalty' Johnston.

The youth on display has shown some excellent resilience and character, at times beyond their years, to pull off some outstanding results throughout the year. Special mentions have to go out to Jack Stride, Luke Turner, George Percival and the Stevens brothers for some awesome individual performances however it has truly been the team spirit that has been the main driver to the amazing season we have had. There have also been some incredible individuals who have shown outstanding improvements in their own games, Tom Heaps becoming a second team regular after having played his first game for us halfway through the season. Kirk Drummond gaining a well deserved first team call up and more than holding his own. Oli Hudson showing true team spirit flicking between 9 and 10 when asked and showing the talent he has also gaining a first team call up.

My personal highlight of the season still remains the away game at Kirkby Lonsdale having beaten them with a scratch 15 in a well-controlled game where for large portions we dominated, it's a credit to the spirit of the group that we achieved this outstanding result.

I hope all the boys enjoy in their success today it is well and truly deserved, if we can maintain a consistent squad and keep the team spirit we have managed to build up, I'm sure the success will continue for seasons to come.

Craig Byrne - Captain

Mini & Junior Rugby 2018-19 Season Review

It is a great source of pride to the Mini and Junior Coaches that Warrington's M&J's are widely regarded as one of the best junior Rugby set ups in the North West. The future is very bright.

Led by a set of committed and talented coaches the teams continue to go from strength to strength:

1) Our Junior Colts are unbeaten this season and led superbly by Stu Beeley and Conrad Morris they have won the league and are now looking for further Silverware having made both the League Cup and the Lancashire Cup finals; where they will play Waterloo in both. A potential treble is on the cards with a view to pushing forward for the National Cup next year.

2) Next year we will have 2 colts teams (Senior and Junior) making us the envy of almost every club in the North West.

3) We have teams at every age group (save U11s) from U6s to U16s. The Micros (U5s) have 30+ kids having great fun which augurs well.

4) In the Junior section the (13-16) the teams have made the following:

- Under 16s - Lancashire Plate Final
- Under 15s-Lancashire Cup Final
- Under 14s - lost 24-22 in the Cup Semi-final.

5) We continue to produce representative players — and are the best represented of ANY club in the North West by having the most players in Sale's development set up (academy and DPP):

- Under 14s 7 in Sale DPP
- Under 15s have 6 in Sale Academy and 10 in Sale DPP.
- Under 16s 3 in Sale Academy and 7 in Sale DPP
- Junior Colts - 6 Lancashire + 1 Cheshire and 2 involved at Sale Academy
- 2 boys from U16s represented Sale Academy v Saracens and later Exeter Chiefs. They go on tour with Sale to the Wellington School festival

(National Regional Academies competition - sponsored England RFU pathway) where they have drawn Bath, Harlequins and Bristol.

6) At U 14s, U15s and U16s and Junior Colts we have all smashed Lymm this year. Lymm have always been the bell weather in Junior Rugby over the years — things are changing.

7) Many of our players playing in excellent RU and RL teams at Bridgewater. Under 15s North West Champions/ National finalists, U14s Plate Finalist, Under 13s 3rd in North west sevens at St Ambrose. Led of course by our very own Andy Roberts and Paul Mackay.

A great thanks to our amazing parents and Executive committee.

None of this could happen with our brilliant, committed coaches who have shown superb skill and determination in the development of their own coaching abilities and their respective teams. Your children owe them an enormous debt of gratitude; both in looking to develop the full repertoire of rugby skills on the pitch, but more importantly creating a culture to encourage the right attitude/mindset to produce polite, happy and emotionally intelligent kids.

Roll on Ireland Tour 2020.

Andy Kellett - M&J Chairman