

SUGGESTED DONATION: £1 - ALL PROCEEDS TO LEITH YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



LEITH RUGBY

BT East Region Division 2

LEITH RUGBY
V
INVERLEITH

17 FEB 2018
leithrugby.com



CAPTAIN'S CORNER



"Leith will be looking to turn around the result from the previous meeting."

Ben Wilkinson
Club Captain

This week, we welcome our friends from Inverleith RFC to Academy Park. The clubs have had many exciting battles over the years and I'm sure today will be no exception. Leith will be looking to build on a fantastic display last week against high flyers Langholm.

Inverleith had a week off last Saturday so will be looking forward to a return to action today. Both sides find themselves in the 'middle' league after the league split. The Leith men will be looking to turn around the result from the previous meeting in January which saw Inverleith run out 30-22 victors. This was one of Leith's most frustrating performances of the season and hopefully after last Saturday's performance, we'll see a more consistent display today.

Leith came into Saturday's game with Langholm on the back of two underwhelming performances. Langholm were still in third position and still keeping hopes of promotion alive. From the kick off, Leith were able to build the phases and retain ball and this became the theme for the 80 minutes. The most complete performance of the season so far saw Leith win 24-15. This quality of performance will hopefully continue into this week. Scorers McKinney (2), S Wilson.

Unfortunately the second XV didn't have a game due to opponents Duns failing to raise a side.

Date for the diary- the annual Leith sevens tournament takes place 28 April and this year will include a pitch side beer festival with a host of local brewers sampling their local beer.

Good luck to both teams today and hopefully we'll be in for an entertaining game of rugby.

Enjoy the game!

LEITH RUGBY LINE UPS

LEITH 1ST XV

LEITH 2ND XV

REPLACEMENTS

15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

REPLACEMENTS

MATCH REPORT LEITH 24 V 15 LANGHOLM

Leith came into Saturday's game with Langholm on the back of two defeats, and looking for a first competitive 1st XV win since late November. The visitors from the 'Muckle Toon' have had an outstanding season, and came into the game in 3rd position in the table.

Following a horror show performance at home to Edinburgh University Medics last time out, a fortnight of hard work had followed to set the team back on track, and the Leithers began brightly, with the pack building phases well and setting a strong platform for halfbacks, Fergal MacNamara and Kenny Dannfald. Centres, Robbie Allen and Ross Kilgour, got themselves into the game, breaking the gainline to set up good field position. However, a miscommunication in defence resulted in Langholm gathering their own kick and chase, and following a Leith infringement at the breakdown three points to level the game.

Despite being camped in the Langholm half, for much of the opening quarter, all the Leithers had to show for it was a Dannfald penalty, coolly knocked over 10 minutes in. Then around 20 minutes, after some powerful carrying deep in the visitors 22, from Jamie Drummond, Choo Lawrie and Captain Stu Wilson, number 8 Luke McKinney picked up at the base of the ruck and stretched out to dot the ball down for the game's opening try, converted by Dannfald for a 10-3 lead.

With Leith dominant in the set-piece, scrummaging well, Fraser Forsyth leading in the lineout, and the back row and centres securing ruck ball, the half-time message was more of the same. Despite some injury troubles early in the second stanza, George Lees replacing Ross Kilgour, with debutant Patrick Campbell moving to centre, and the timeless Willie Cook coming on for Winton, Leith kept the foot on the peddle.



Another barnstorming run from McKinney, saw the number 8 offload to fellow Ulsterman Wilson, and the loosehead-playing-tighthead crashed over near the posts, to bring delight to the Leith touchline. Dannfald's conversion moving the Leithers 17-3 ahead. However Langholm began to make gains out wide, and despite some excellent cover defence from the likes of Lees, Campbell and fullback Andrew Paterson, the visitors moved the ball from a tap penalty to go over in the corner through cutting the lead to 17-8.

Leith kept a cool head, and with scrumhalf MacNamara kicking well, were able to capitalise from a long clearing kick to touch and secure a penalty at the resulting Langholm lineout. From here the forwards rumbled towards the line, and McKinney again picked and went to shove his way over the line under the posts for a converted try and a 24-8 lead with under 20 to play.

Langholm were to score again, going over near the posts not long after lock Forsyth had gone to the bin, but the honours would go to the home side. After a considerably improved Leith showing, a final score of 24-15 was ample reward for a performance dripping in effort, determination, and control.

Special mention to the man of the match, Andrew MacIntosh who, along with the returning Cook and Ben Place demonstrated the commitment to the breakdown that has typified Leith sides down the years. MacIntosh in particular was immense over the ball, ensuring there was plenty of it for the young(er) guys to play with! Thanks to Langholm for a game played in good spirits, and best wishes for the rest of the season in the top six.

LEITH YOUTH RUGBY DEVELOPMENT - INTRODUCTION

Leith Rugby Youth Development was set up with the following aims:

- ▶ **To increase participation in rugby among 5-18 year olds in the Leith area**
- ▶ **To increase participation in adult men's rugby by developing a link between Leith Academy and Leith Rugby Club**
- ▶ **To support the development of the women's game in Leith through increasing participation among girls at primary and secondary school**



Boys teams will go under the name of Leith Hawks, girls teams will be known as Leith Vixens.



On 07 December, Leith Rugby hosted their 6th rugby festival. 185 P5 children were involved in the touch rugby festival. Schools included Leith Primary, Lorne Primary, Hermitage Park Primary and St Ninian's Primary. There was also a tackle station set up for the kids to be introduced to the contact side of rugby. The next youth festival is 22 March at Leith Rugby.

In conjunction with the primary school curriculum and the festival, we continue to run after school clubs at Leith Academy and St Ninian's Primary school. We have seen numbers continue to grow at these afterschool clubs and are always looking for more kids to come along.



After the festive break we are opening our Leith Academy afterschool club for primary pupils to 40. At the afterschool clubs we play touch rugby and contact rugby. Going forward we are starting to organise Friday afternoon fixtures for the P6/7 who attend the afterschool clubs. In January rugby delivery started again for P7 pupils in the 5 schools. After 6/7 weeks of rugby delivery we will host another rugby festival. Leith Rugby club youth section is also looking at starting Sunday youth rugby at Easter.

LEITH YOUTH RUGBY DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUED

We are also starting to put volunteers through rugby qualification courses so they can help out with coaching at our rugby festival and assist the rugby development going on in the Leith area. We had a number of school pupils attending Level 1 rugby coaching courses over October school holidays. In addition to this the LRYD were given money to spend on rugby equipment and have purchased rugby balls and branded Leith Hawks bibs which have been given to the schools.

LRYD can now apply to charitable trusts and foundations for funding to carry out its programme, as well as organising in-house funding events such as sponsored events and raffles.

This is great opportunity for the members of Leith to support the hard work of the youth rugby committee so that we can continue the funding of primary and secondary school rugby.

We all know the benefits of team sport, the health benefits to be gained from children being active, how sport can help develop social skills, build self-esteem and confidence and help kids learn valuable life skills. We also know how rugby helps you make life-long friends.

We have all been there and we have all experienced the above and we still do. If it wasn't for rugby would you be reading this today? Would you be standing reminiscing about a tour to somewhere 20 or 30 years ago with someone you would never have met if it hadn't been for playing rugby?



Rugby is a great game to be enjoyed by all. Please help LRYD pass on these opportunities to the local children in Leith by supporting our work.

The LRYD steering group is made up of:

Gordon Anderson, Bruce Tyler, Derek Greenan, Alex Bowman, Willie Cook, Russell Duncan, Brian Samson and Andrew McIntosh.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and please do get in touch should you wish to discuss any of the above.

LRYD

PLAYER PROFILES

FINLAY STEWART



POSITION CENTRE
FROM EDINBURGH
FIRST CLUB AND AGE
LEITH RUGBY | 24
PRO TEAM EDINBURGH

This week the Programme caught up with 3 recent birthday boys (it would've been 4 but An-drew Paterson acted big time) in wingers Matt Rea and David Baptie, and centre Finlay Stewart - not only are all 3 February children, but all 3 joined Leith this season, we sat down with the trio to get to know them better.

How and when did you come to join Leith

DB: June, saw the ad on Facebook and decided to text Ben and ask if I could train.
FS: I'd been keen to get back into rugby since I left school, so finally bit the bullet in the summer and came along to a training session. Haven't looked back since.
MR: I moved from Glasgow, had been told by Hills players of Luke McKinney's ball carrying prowess and decided to check it out.

What's the best thing about playing at Leith?

MR: How friendly it is, there's a great atmosphere and training, games and post-match are all always good craic no matter the result.
FS: The team spirit in the 2's is amazing and has been building since the start of the season, a really great atmosphere to be a part of.
DB: Yeah, the team spirit is great.

What's the most challenging thing about playing at Leith?

DB: Trying to turn improving performances into wins
FS: Being ran through by forwards twice my weight
MR: trying to keep conversions away from George Lees who lets me take the ones at the touchline then steals gimmes in front of the sticks. Shafted.

If you could be one of your teammates for a week who would it be and why?

FS: Would be fun to see how Jamie Fogarty copes with his job. (Medical testing)
MR: I'd love to be one of the forwards for a week and enjoy not being smashed in every tackle.
DB: George Easdon. Serious beard envy.

Which of your teammates would get voted out/win Big Brother/Celeb Jungle?

DB: Stitto to be voted out and to win Ewan Murdoch.
FS: Haggon would get chucked out first for head-butting someone, and Handsome Jon would win.
MR: Yeah, Haggon would be voted off first, he always seems to be leaving the pitch early due to a card.

Which teammate never buys his round?

MR: Most boys are pretty good at getting the pints in, Fergal is always hiding on the wrong side of the bar though.
FS: Pretty sure Thomas is still due me a bottle of wine from Burns Night...
DB: Can't think of anyone.... maybe it's me!

Which teammate is best dressed?

MR: Best dressed is definitely Pat, but a shout out to George Easdon for his array of jazzy rugby shirts worn to training.
DB: Yeah, George Easdon.
FS: Craig Williamson. His geography teacher look hasn't been forgotten.

And worst?

FS: George Lees since he's probably worn an England top at some point.
MR: Yeah, George Lees, soz pal.
DB: 3/3. George Lees

Who was your favourite player growing up?

FS: Brian O'Driscoll
DB: Chris Paterson
MR: Stephen Ferris back when Ulster were a force, I have none of his attributes.

Describe your playing style in no more than 5 words.

DB: Subtle, defensive, organised, tackle victim
FS: Trying not to fumble passes.
MR: A really average Rob Kearney

MATT REA



POSITION WINGER
FIRST CLUB AND AGE
FRIEND'S SCHOOL | 11
PREVIOUS CLUBS
GLASGOW UNI
HILLHEAD/JORDANHILL
PRO TEAM ULSTER

DAVID BAPTIE



POSITION WINGER
FROM EDINBURGH
FIRST CLUB AND AGE
HOLYROOD HIGH | 13
PREVIOUS CLUBS
HOLYROOD HIGH
PRO TEAM EDINBURGH



TEIXEIRA	MCKINNEY	KIRKWOOD
4	2	2

E4R

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