

LEITH RUGBY BULLETIN

Official publication of the Leith Rugby Club

Issue No. 05

February 2024



LEITH HAWKS

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MEN'S CAPTAIN'S CORNER

A belated Happy New Year as we return to Academy Park for the 2nd round of the National Shield. The first round saw us go toe to toe with Dalkeith in a game that saw almost 80 points scored! We were strong in moments but did let the foot off the pedal at times, allowing Dalkeith to stay within touching distance. Ultimately, there was enough in the tank to get us over the line to set up this weekend against Broughton.

A very close game against Broughton in November has us optimistic that we can pass this next test and see what the next round has in store! A strong squad will give us every opportunity to do just that, and we are excited by this challenge!

It has been a fantastic start to 2024 with both Men's teams remaining unbeaten so far! Numbers at training remain strong and allow us to work on individual and team elements, which is clearly transferring onto the field! We have also seen new players continue to join throughout the season, who all bring great energy and enthusiasm to our ever growing player base. Away from Academy Park, Leith 2nd XV take a short trip to play Edinburgh Northern with the opportunity to return to the summit of the league should other results go our way!



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WOMEN'S CAPTAIN'S CORNER

The team has been busy busy busy as always. Our training sessions have been buzzing as we welcome new talent and celebrate the return of familiar faces. It's inspiring to see the team working hard and growing together with every session.

The recent clash in Hamilton was a testament to our fighting spirit. Despite a challenging start with the opposition securing a couple of early tries, we gave a solid performance and kept our determination through to the final whistle. It was a hard-fought match that showed just how much potential and resilience we have, which we aim to build on as we move forward.

Looking ahead, we're excited for the upcoming joint fixture with our friends at Thebans, against the Hillfoot Vixens on February 25th. Our matches together are a great way to highlight the solidarity in our rugby community.

Our sights are set on the next home game against Uddingston on 3rd March, where we aim to put on a dominant performance. With the plate still within our reach, the team is more determined than ever to showcase just how good we can be. This game is an important next step in our journey, and we're preparing to leave everything on the field to secure a victory.

The passion and determination displayed by every player, both on and off the field, are what make me proud to be part of this incredible community. Look out for the next update and see you on the field soon!



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CLUB NEWS

New Beer and spirits- The club is delighted to announce that we have teamed up with sponsor Campervan Brewery to bring some new beer lines to the Academy Park Clubhouse, You will now be able to get a number of their beers in the bar from the popular Leith Juice to the Extra Black. On the spirits side of things we are delighted to have teamed up with our other sponsor, Leith Spirits, to bring their range of whisky, rum, gin and vodka to our bar too . Something for everyone at the clubhouse this winter!

Club Directors - Looking for a new challenge in your life or something new to put on your CV why not become a Director of Leith Rugby Ltd or Leith Rugby Trading Ltd for 2 years. All you need to do, as a club member, is send a nomination detailing your skills and expertise that would enhance the Club to leithrhc@gmail.com. It will be reviewed by a Nomination Committee, and you will be advised in due course if you are successful. More information can be obtained by emailing leithrhc@gmail.com or speak to a member of Club Committee.'

Volunteers Needed - The club are on the look out for more people to help out. There are many roles available from coaching, rugby logistics or some of the needed behind the scenes jobs. Most don't need a huge commitment and can be done from a far, email leithrhc@gmail.com if interested.



NEXT CLUB EVENTS

We have been a little quiet on the social side with a lack of games due to fixtures and weather hampering our efforts. However we are open for each of Scotland 6 nations games as well as selected others, So please make the club your number 1 venue for the 6 nations!

We have awards night off in the distance horizon with a date to be confirmed soon and our annual 7s tournament which will be held on April the 27th. Other than that the social committee are coming up with a range of events in 2024 with the first scheduled for early February - details on that to be confirmed soon.

Volunteers
needed



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MEN'S PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Name: Duncan Mullins

Position: Flanker

Joined the club: August 2022

Sporting Hero: Chris Hoy

Favourite food: Mince and Tatties

Pre-Game Hype song: The Captain - Biffy Clyro

Fun Fact: I have played on both Murrayfield and Scotstoun Pitches

Favourite Leith memory: The Bus journey back from Langholm after a good victory before our Christmas night out.



WOMEN'S PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Name: Fiona Polson

Position: Hooker, general front row maintenance

Joined the club: Originally part of the Leith Vixens in 2016 but joined the Leith Women's team when it was founded

Sporting Hero: Rebecca Adlington/Jade Konkel

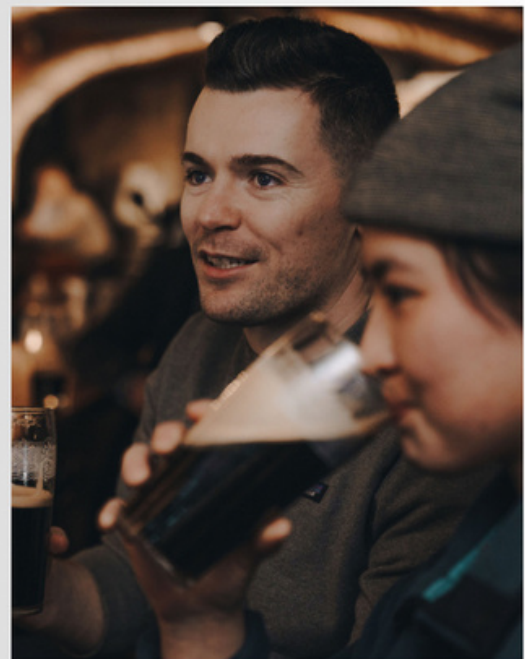
Favourite food: Ribeye steak with a side of Mac'N 'Cheese

Pre-Game Hype song: Good Love by Hannah Laing

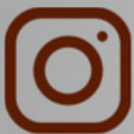
Fun Fact: I have served a cat a pint in Malone's in Leith

Favourite Leith memory: Our first ever game as Leith Ladies with only 14 players and the first Leith try!

CAMPERVAN BREWERY



WANDERING BUT NOT LOST



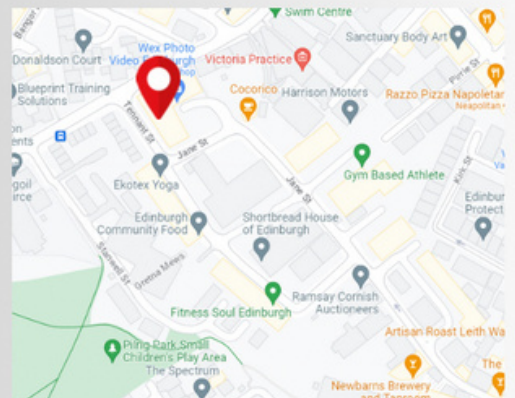
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MEN'S TEAM UPDATE

It has been a while since we have had an opportunity to have a programme, but here we are most of the way through February and today hopefully marks our 2nd game of 2024. Last time out Leith took on a determined Dalkeith team in the first round of the cup. A game which Leith controlled for the most part but always allowed Dalkeith back into the game making it an entertaining spectacle. In the end, Leith eventually ran out 44-34 winners to advance to this round of the cup.



Today's visitors have had a couple of games in 2024, narrowly scraping past Porty last time out and also coming un done against ROyal High at the turn of the year. It is always a tough test against the men from Wardie, last time out at Academy Park it was nip and tuck before Broughton pulled away in the last couple of minutes to seal the victory, we hope for an equally entertaining game today.

The 2nd Xv have also been out of action for a number of months and a 'familiar' looking side will be looking forward to welcoming Edinburgh Northern as the look to push for promotion.

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LADIES TEAM UPDATE

National Plate Hamilton vs Leith 24 - 12

The Leith Ladies join the Men's 1XV in the National Shield this year! We're very grateful for the opportunity to showcase what everyone has been working on. This is especially meaningful for the women's team as it has been almost a full year since the official formation of the Women's 1XV.

Unfortunately, Leith did not walk away with a win against Hamilton. Leith faced some strong opposition but certainly put up a good fight. The team worked hard and showcased their abilities well.

Tries by Alicja Mrozicka and Amber Bellamy, with Amber Bellamy making the kick for conversion.

The team has taken into consideration what they learned during the game and will continue to train hard for the next games of the National Shield.

We are looking forward to seeing what the Ladies have in store this year!



Up next for our women's team is a joint game with the Thebans Hydra and of course, our next National Plate fixtures. The Ladies will take on Uddingston next on the 3rd of March on our home turf and will go against Lismore on the 24th of March which will be an away game.

In April we have another upcoming game at home against Dorking.

The Ladies look forward to showcasing all their hard work!



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Six Nations Championship 2024

Shown at Leith Rugby Club

SCOTLAND

VS

ENGLAND

FEBRUARY 24, 2024 | 16:45 PM | LEITH RUGBY CLUBHOUSE

ITALY

VS

SCOTLAND

MARCH 9, 2024 | 14:15 PM | LEITH RUGBY CLUBHOUSE

ENGLAND

VS

IRELAND

MARCH 9, 2024 | 16:45 PM | LEITH RUGBY CLUBHOUSE

SUPER SATURDAY

WALES

VS

ITALY

MARCH 16, 2024 | 14:15 PM | LEITH RUGBY CLUBHOUSE

IRELAND

VS

SCOTLAND

MARCH 16, 2024 | 16:45 PM | LEITH RUGBY CLUBHOUSE

FRANCE

VS

ENGLAND

MARCH 16, 2024 | 20:00 PM | LEITH RUGBY CLUBHOUSE

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UPCOMING FIXTURES

TEAM	DATE	TIME	VS	LOCATION
1st XV	17/2	1.30pm	Broughton	Academy Park
2nd xv	17/2	2pm	Edinburgh Northern	Academy Park
2nd XV	02/03	3pm	Watsonians 3rd xv	Academy Park
1st WXV	03/03	2pm	Uddingston	Academy Park
2nd XV	23/03	3pm	Thebans	Roseburn Park
1st WXV	24/03	2pm	Lismore	Inch Park
1st XV	30/03	3pm	Linlithgow	Academy Park
2nd xv	30/03	3pm	Walkerburn	Academy Park
1st XV	06/04	3pm	Royal High	Royal High School

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LEITH MEN'S 1ST XV VS BROUGHTON

FEBRUARY 17TH @ 1.30PM, ACADEMY PARK

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| I LEDUA | 1. K MCARTHUR |
| C WINTON (C) | 2. B KENNEDY |
| C FINDLAY | 3. J WELLS |
| D MULLINS | 4. G DEVLIN |
| R LANCASTER | 5. R COCKBURN |
| P HAGGON | 6. D FARQUHAR |
| J DRUMMOND | 7. A COX |
| S MCATEER | 8. C WISHART |
| L MACKENZIE | 9. J POOL |
| B WILKINSON | 10. G TANISH |
| A ALEXANDER | 11. A MCCUTCHEON |
| L PALMER | 12. C ROBERTSON |
| J HOUGH | 13. C ALCORN |
| A PATTERSON | 14. C RANDLE |
| R MORRISON | 15. T JOHNSTONE |
| A MOHAMED | 16. C O'NEILL |
| J NIMMO | 17. K TEMPLER |
| E VASAKULA | 18. C PRICE |
| S VASAKULA | 19. A OBADEYI |
| N ANDREWS | 20. R KENNEDY |
| | 21. J LEE |
| | 22. J BRUN |



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LEITH MEN'S 2ND XV VS NORTHERN

FEBRUARY 17TH @ 2M, ACADEMY PARK

C EVANS	1.
T LAWRIE	2.
A BRODERICK	3.
B PLACE	4.
R FAIRHURST	5.
A MACINTOSH	6.
L BATH	7.
E SUTHERLAND	8.
L BRANA	9.
D WATTERS	10.
S BRIGGS	11.
W TUFT	12.
R EVANS	13.
K FANNING	14.
C SMITH (C)	15.
G LEES	17.
D ORLOWSKI	18.

