

Fixtures and Results 2019 - 20

Wolves North 1 West

September 7	BURNAGE	W
14	Stockport	W
21	NORTHWICH	W
28	Penrith	L
October 5	ALTRINCHAM KERSAL	W
12	Broughton Park	W
19	WARRINGTON	W
26	Douglas IOM	L
November 2		
9	BOWDON	W
16	Vale of Lune	W
23	WATERLOO	
30		
December 7	Birkenhead Park	
14	KESWICK	
21		
28		
January 4	STOCKPORT	
11	Northwich	
18	PENRITH	
25		
February 1	Altrincham kersal	
8	BROUGHTON PARK	
15	Warrington	
29	DOUGLAS IOM	
March 7	Bowden	
14	VALE OF LUNE	
21	Waterloo	
28	BIRKENHEAD PARK	
April 4	Keswick	
11	Burnage	
18		
25		

Vikings Sale Sharks Division 2 South

Anselmians	W
NORTHWICH	W
Altrincham Kersal	W
CREWE & NANTWICH	W
Lymm	W
LIVERPOOL ST HELENS	L
Holmes Chapel	W
Didsbury Toc H (Cup)	P
HELSEBY	W
Didsbury TOC H	W
LIVERPOOL COLLEGIATE	
Manchester	
WIDNES	
Moore	
Northwich	
ALTRINCHAM KERSAL	
Crewe & Nantwich	
LYMM	
Liverpool St Helens	
HOLMES CHAPEL	
Helsby	
DIDSBURY TOC H	
Liverpool Collegiate	
MANCHESTER	
Widnes	
MOORE	
ANSELMANS	



Club President
CHRIS GEORGE
Welcomes
FIRWOOD WATERLOO



A warm welcome to Wilmslow Rugby Club for our match today against our old friends from Firwood Waterloo for what should be a very close game today.

Our visitors today had a 63-10 win at home to Bowdon last week, who are finding this league a bit too much for them at the moment. They are also one of the few teams to win over at Douglas IOM this season. To date they have won seven games and lost three, whereas we have won eight and lost two games, whilst there is an eleven point gap between the teams, seven points of this gap is due to the bonus points the Wolves have managed to gain – so we expect it to be a tight game.

Last week we played Vale of Lune up in Lancaster and came away 12-19 winners. We didn't play well at all and I think we would all settle for the victory and the four points, especially after suffering a few more injuries. It was good to see Jonny Kennedy back in the centre but sad to hear that his brother, Danny, broke his hand in the game against Bowdon. Ethan "Keith" Harding took a big knock to his leg – I hope he recovers for this week's game. Bob MacCallum scored his annual try at "the Vale" and I was pleased to see this season that the referee didn't overtake Bob on the way to the line!! We have a run of tough games ahead of us and so I hope those with injuries recover soon.

Ben Day also took a knock to his leg and limped through the final quarter of the game. There is a prize for the first person to guess Ben's first thought when he caught an interception on the half way line!! Clue – no more than four letters!

The Vikings played a "double-header" (Independent Engineering Division 2 South league and Robinsons Brewery Trophy game) against Didsbury Toc H who were joint top of the league with the Vikings up until last week. A superb performance by the Vikings led to a 24-5 victory taking them four points clear at the top of the table.

The wins for both teams resulted in some excellent celebrations both on the coach back from Lancaster and back at the club. Not too sure the singing was good enough for X-Factor, but no one bothered. #WWIMH

This week the Vikings are also at home against Liverpool Collegiate 2nd XV who are in ninth position in the league and we hope the Vikings can continue their winning run. It's likely to be lively in the clubhouse after the games.

At the time of writing this, I'm delighted to see that Jason Sankey has managed to cajole 30 Vets into playing a game against Bowdon, who have 20 players, on Friday night under the floodlights. This is a massive effort by Jason and so important to both rugby clubs.

Sadly I'm, away on business in Kazakhstan so will not be around for the games this weekend but wish the best of luck to The Wolves, The Vikings and The Vets. #WWIMH

Halbro Senior U18 Colts : Senior League C

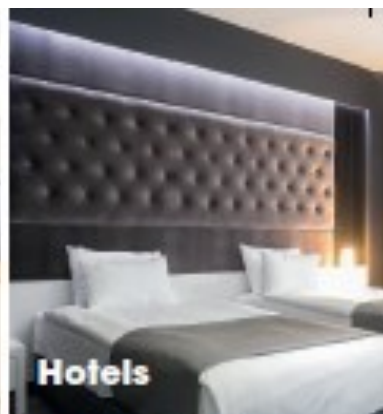
September 8	Caldy	W
15	LITTLEBOROUGH	W
22	Sefton	W
29		
October 6	ALDWINIANS	
13	Whitchurch	
20		
27		
November 3		
10		
17	SOUTHPORT	
24	Littleborough	
December 1		
8	SEFTON	
15		
22	Aldwinians	
29		
January 5		
12		
19	WHITCHURCH	
26		

The Cheshire Colts Cup for U18s gets underway on 10th. November when Wilmslow play Chester. Only eight sides appear to have entered this year's competition.

February 2	Southport
9	CALDY
16	
23	
March 1	
8	
15	
22	
29	
April 5	
12	
19	
26	



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Vikings Captain
Jez Sumner
Vikings Coaches
Steve Braddock
Al McLennan
Mark Bartlem

Wilmslow RUFC is an open community based club, offering a game to anyone coming through the gates from the age of six upwards - with no upper age limit.

Nevertheless, subscriptions and bar receipts are just not sufficient to maintain the wonderful sports field we have here.

We, therefore, acknowledge and thank all those individuals and organisations, who have supported the club, the teams and the players this season either by sponsorship, advertising or donation. Without them we just would not be here.

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FIRWOOD WATERLOO

We only resumed relations with Waterloo in September 2017 after an interlude of 32 years. That game had been in 1985 and was the last before we went our separate ways in the RFU leagues. Prior to that, they had been a regular fixture for 20 years from the mid sixties, during which Wilmslow recorded just five wins.



At one stage, Waterloo were right up at the upper levels of the club game but as professionalism crept in, they found it increasingly difficult to keep up and despite an impressive list of International players emanating from the club, a slow decline set in until they came down into North 1 West in 2017-18. For a while, it looked as though they might go straight up again but in the end it was Vale of Lune and Wilmslow who emerged from a very competitive league, both of them to go up for a season and both of them to be promptly ejected back to N1W.



Wilmslow enjoyed a narrow win two years ago here in the autumn by 35-33. For the second time in three outings, Waterloo had missed a penalty attempt with the last kick of the game and paid the price. Their coaches were absolutely distraught to have lost a winning position with less than a minute to go. They had just taken the lead with their fifth try and only had to field the restart for the game to be theirs. But they dropped it and gave away a penalty at the ensuing scrum, which MacCallum poked into the corner. Hewitt took the catch the pack drove and eventually Tom Bull touched down to tie it all up. MacCallum drilled it through the posts. It was now the Wolves turn to run down the clock but to a chorus of 'no pens' from the terraces, they conceded one in front of the posts thirty metres or so out. The Waterloo kicker took his time to polish the ball and then his boots, no doubt said a prayer, and then shanked his kick across the face of the goal and Wilkinson took the advice from the touchline to get the b**** thing off the park. Thank heavens, they're the Wolves, grimaced then coach Rick Jones, if they'd been the Wildcats, they would have lost about three of their nine lives.



Waterloo got their revenge the following January on a nearly waterlogged pitch at Blundellsands when they outplayed the Wolves throughout but it was still only 25-19 with just moments to go when Wilmslow firstly failed to make anything of a catch and drive on the Waterloo line and then seconds later with a scrum bang in front of the Waterloo posts, they had their chance for a perfect piece of larceny and pillage, except that they got shunted off the ball and penalised as they tried to tidy up the mess.

This season, they've had wins against Broughton Park, Burnage, Vale of Lune, Altrincham Kersal and Douglas, where they've been the only club to spoil the Manx men's home record. These are all respectable scalps. On the road, they've lost narrowly to Birkenhead Park and Northwich and less narrowly away at Penrith. Last week, they hammered struggling Bowdon by 63-10.

It seems to me that with fixtures against Keswick and Warrington before the halfway point still to come, they'll be right up there in the mix come the New Year.

It makes today's encounter an interesting prospect.

Pictures from
Wilmslow v Firwood Waterloo
17 Sep 2017

Vikings and Colts

Division 2 South 2019-20

19th. October
League 2 South
Holmes Chapel 16-38 Vikings

26th. October
Cup
Vikings P Didsbury Toc H

2nd/3rd. November
No matches

9th. November
League 2 South
Vikings 67—0 Helsby

10th. November
U18 County Cup
Wilmslow 12—44 Chester

16th November
League 2 South and Cup
Vikings 24—5 Didsbury TOC H

Team	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Diff	+/-	Pts
Wilmslow Vikings	9	8	0	1	360	68	292	0	41
Didsbury Toc H 2nd XV	9	7	0	2	314	173	141	0	37
Liverpool St Helens 2nd XV	8	7	0	1	179	90	89	0	36
Altrincham Kersal Cougars	9	6	0	3	299	210	89	1	34
Widnes 2nd XV	9	5	0	4	256	180	76	1	30
Crewe & Nantwich 2nd XV	8	5	0	3	198	167	31	1	29
Manchester 2nd XV	9	4	0	5	260	288	-28	1	26
Moore	8	4	0	4	237	212	25	1	25
Liverpool Collegiate 2nd XV	9	4	0	5	173	216	-43	0	25
Anselmians 2nd XV	9	4	0	5	190	209	-19	0	24
Holmes Chapel	9	3	0	6	173	198	-25	3	24
Lymm Eagles	9	2	0	7	190	407	-217	0	17
Helsby	9	1	0	8	80	290	-210	2	14
Northwich 2nd XV	8	1	0	7	115	316	-201	1	13

Concedes: Anselmians 1, Helsby 1

Senior Colts Conference League - C 2019 -20

Team	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Diff	+/-	Pts
Southport	5	5	0	0	133	14	119	0	25
Wilmslow	5	4	0	1	113	65	48	1	22
Aldwinians	5	2	1	2	79	95	-16	0	15
Whitchurch	5	2	0	3	84	53	31	2	14
Caldy	5	2	0	3	86	113	-27	1	14
Sefton	5	1	1	3	95	114	-19	2	13
Littleborough	4	0	0	4	15	151	-136	0	4

Concedes: Whitchurch1

Vikings 24—5 Didsbury TOC H

The tension in the air was palpable. It was a top of the table clash with the added spice of a rescheduled cup tie thrown in for good measure. The Vikings and their Didsbury foes were both 7 and 1 as the Americans like to say. Something had to give.

Availability was bursting at the seams for Wilmslow and even a rained off Tuesday training session didn't hinder preparations. Captain fantastic, Sumner, recovered to lead his troops into battle. As ever at this level there were a few changes but a strong nucleus remained and the squad was deemed very strong!

The day started fine and bright as did The Vikings defence, Toc H came out of the blocks strongly keen to stamp authority on the match, a spilled kick-off allowed the visitors possession and they ran through the phases retaining the ball well. The Vikings meagre defence, which had only conceded 63 points in 8 games thus far was well up to the test. An expected pick and go and one-out attack was repelled by organised and patient defenders, the gain line was rarely breached and more often than not good line speed forced Toc H on to the back foot. Wilmslow weathered the early storm and began to find their rhythm, settling into their own phase play and looking to play the fast flowing game that had brought them success so far. Strong in the set piece they gained a foothold in territory and possession and began to ask questions of the visitors defence. A sometimes shaky line-out was completed successfully and released the ever willing runner Kerr in midfield, a sharp interplay with scrum half Barker released the latter to dot down under the sticks, Barker converted his own try. The arm wrestle up front continued where the Wilmslow tight 5 were mastering the often unseen and unappreciated graft that provides the platform for the more showy chaps to be allowed to shine, the breakdown was also beginning to be won by The Vikings back row of Kerr, Burgess and Sumner.

A sustained period of forward pressure led to a try for McGeorge and a third followed from Barker for a 19-0 half time lead. TOC H hit back when their winger gathered a speculative cross kick to run in a try but the Vikings came again when Rowe had the final word.

After the game coach Lewis was beaming with pride for his charges. 'I bloody love them boyo's' it's believed he muttered.

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Saturday 16th. November 2019 North 1 West
Vale of Lune 12 – 19 Wilmslow

Despite an ever increasing casualty list, the Wolves managed three tries to come away from Powderhouse Lane with four more league points. It had been hard going though against a new look young Vale of Lune team, in which fewer than half the half players had any prior 1st. XV experience before the start of the season and were still feeling their way at this level. The Wolves created sufficient opportunities in the final quarter for a fourth bonus point winning try but they were denied by a combination of their own inaccuracy with ball in hand and stout defending by the home side, who no doubt felt there might be more in it for them than just a losing bonus point. Overall, it was a scrappy, frenetic, butterfingering performance from the Wolves, compounded by a retreating scrum, particularly in the second half. The Wilmslow set piece ended as a poor second best on the day and maybe Vale should have made more of the scoring positions they set up from the frequent penalties they were awarded.

Neither side were able to make any impression on the scoreboard in the first quarter. Turnovers at the breakdown were common and both sides had their opportunities. Wilmslow then took the lead when, from a midfield scrum, they introduced a bit of width into their back play, broke the Vale defensive line and crisp passing put Sean Street in for the try, converted by Bob MacCallum. They then immediately fouled up the restart, Vale took the loose ball and after several phases, there was space for their right winger Jordan Fern to skip in for the equalising score.

Wilmslow then had the better of the final minutes of the first half. Vale lost a player to a Yellow Card and in retrospect that was to prove decisive. From the ensuing penalty lineout, the Wolves moved the ball quickly along their back line for their intruding full back James Coulthurst to cross for their second try. Vale were still a man down when early in the second half, there was suddenly a bit of zip in the Wolves play down the right into Vale territory and when the ball was quickly recycled a marauding run by lock Charlie Gardiner in midfield produced an offload to MacCallum who split the remaining defence for the third try.

At 7-19 to the Wolves, with over thirty minutes still on the clock, they might have been expected to have stretched their lead but they were guilty of rushing their opportunities, spilling the ball, losing it in contact and allowing Vale to counter attack. The penalty count against Wilmslow in the scrum just mounted and from an attempted penalty kick to the Wolves corner, the ball was tapped back into play and as it bounced about, Fern was to hand again to pounce on it and score Vale's second try. They now had everything to play for which made the last fifteen minutes interesting. Neither side were able to hang onto the ball as first one and then the other counter attacked from the other's mistakes. It was that kind of a day. The Wolves still created the better chances to wrap it up but there was always the danger that Vale would capitalise on any error and when yet another Wolves attack broke down close to the Vale line, Street decided that enough was enough and rather than risking throwing it all away, he banged the ball into touch for no side.



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RUGBY WORLD CUP 2019

Pool Matches Results

Japan 30 - 10 Russia.
Ireland 27 - 3 Scotland
Russia 9 - 34 Samoa
Japan 19 - 12 Ireland
Scotland 34 - 0 Samoa
Ireland 35 - 0 Russia
Japan 38 - 19 Samoa
Scotland 61 - 0 Russia
Japan 28 - 21 Scotland

France 23 - 21 Argentina
England 35 - 9 Tonga
England 45 - 7 USA
Argentina 28-12 Tonga
France 33 - 9 USA
England 39 - 10 Argentina
France 23 - 21 Tonga
Argentina 47 - 17 USA
England C France

Australia 39 - 21 Fiji
Wales 43 - 14 Georgia
Fiji 27 - 30 Uruguay
Georgia 33 - 7 Uruguay
Australia 25 - 29 Wales
Georgia 10 - 45 Fiji
Australia 45 - 10 Uruguay
Wales 29 - 17 Fiji
Australia 27 - 8 Georgia

New Zealand 23 - 13 South Africa
Italy 47 - 22 Namibia
Italy 48 - 7 Canada
South Africa 57 - 3 Namibia
New Zealand 63 - 0 Canada
South Africa 49 - 3 Italy
New Zealand 71 - 0 Namibia
South Africa 66 - 7 Canada
New Zealand C Italy

Play Offs

QF Japan 3-26 South Africa
England 40 -16 Australia
SF England 19-7 New Zealand
F South Africa 32-12 England

New Zealand 42-14 Ireland
Wales 20-19 France
South Africa 19-16 Wales



19th. October 3.00pm
GLOUCESTER

8th. November 7.45pm
WASPS

21st. January 3.00pm
NORTHAMPTON SAINTS

3 January 7.45pm
HARLEQUINS

22nd. February 3.00pm
LEICESTER TIGERS

7th. March 3.00pm
LONDON IRISH

28th. March 3.00pm
EXETER CHIEFS

18th. April 3.00pm
BRISTOL SHOGUNS

9th. May 3.00pm
SARACENS

16th. May 3.00pm
BATH

5th. June 3.00pm
WORCESTER WARRIORS

There's really no need to hop off to the local Indian take away if you fancy a curry as they can quickly and easily be prepared at home.

Saturday Suppers after Rugby

Essentially a curry is a casserole of fish, vegetables, poultry or meat, cooked in a sauce with flavours determined by the spices added during cooking. You can buy all the spices you need individually in jars from your local supermarket or as a blend, known as curry powder or, if you want to cheat, you can use a tablespoonful of one or other of the curry pastes to flavour your curry.

So here are a few easy to do recipes for curries and their accompaniments to try at home

GRILLED TIKKA PRAWNS WITH YOGHURT LIME PICKLE AND SLICED RED ONION

1 red onion, peeled and sliced, marinated in lime juice
1 tbsp. lime pickle (Pataks is readily available) stirred into half a tub of greek yoghurt.
200g peeled uncooked prawns, marinated for 30 minutes or so in 1 tbsp. greek yoghurt, 1 clove of crushed garlic or tsp. garlic puree, 1 tsp. curry powder or 2 tsp tikka masala curry paste, zest and juice of 1 lime.

Simply brush a sheet of tin foil with a good drizzle of olive oil, lay on the marinated prawns and put under a hot grill for about 2 minutes a side. Serve on the red onion with the yoghurt lime pickle as a side.

CHICKEN CURRY WITH SLICED GREEN AND RED PEPPER

2 chicken leg joints cut into drumsticks and thighs, 1 tbsp. groundnut oil, 1 chopped onion, ½ each of sliced red and green pepper, 2 tbsp. curry powder and 1 tbsp. flour or 2tbsp curry paste to choice, 200ml chicken stock, zest and juice of 1 lemon, seasoning. Tub of greek yoghurt.

If you wish you can mix your own curry paste from 1 tsp cumin seeds, 2 x 4cm cinnamon sticks, 6cm ginger, peeled and grated, 6 cloves of garlic, crushed, 2 fresh green chillies (or 1 tsp chilli powder, 200g tomato passata, 2 tbsp tomato purée, 1½ tsp ground cumin, ½ tsp ground turmeric, 3 tbsp whole-milk yogurt (plus extra to serve), 3 tbsp ground almonds, 1 tsp garam masala

Brown the chicken pieces in oil, then set aside. Fry the onion and peppers until soft, then stir in the curry powder and flour or your curry paste, add the stock and lemon juice, return the chicken to the pan, season and simmer gently for 45 minutes. Before serving, stir in the yoghurt to taste.

YELLOW RICE

Soak the long grained rice in cold water for 30 minutes and then drain thoroughly. Cook in boiling salted water with 1 tsp turmeric, pinch of curry or chilli powder and a bay leaf for about 15 minutes. Drain, allow to dry in a moderate oven for a couple of minutes until the grains are separate and nicely fluffed up

KUTCHUMER SALAD

Slice and dice ½ cucumber and mix with 2 sliced onions cut into rings, 3 sliced tomatoes, ½ shredded lettuce, 2 tsp white wine vinegar, 2 tsp lime juice, 2 tsp groundnut oil, pinch of chilli powder, seasoning and a garnish of chopped coriander.

To drink, how about either a bottle of IPA, there are plenty to choose from these days, or a premium lager.

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NORTH 1 WEST 2019-20

	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	Pts	B Pts	Adj
Wilmslow	10	8	0	2	338	218	120	43	11	0
Birkenhead Park	10	7	0	3	321	167	154	38	10	0
Douglas (I.O.M.)	10	7	0	3	253	158	95	34	6	0
Firwood Waterloo	10	7	0	3	286	190	96	32	4	0
Northwich	10	7	0	3	276	206	70	32	4	0
Penrith	10	6	0	4	294	265	29	32	8	0
Altrincham Kersal	10	5	0	5	282	226	56	30	10	0
Burnage	9	5	0	4	309	235	74	29	9	0
Stockport	9	5	0	4	253	218	35	28	8	0
Vale of Lune	9	4	0	5	229	188	41	24	8	0
Broughton Park	9	4	0	5	215	252	-37	20	4	0
Bowdon	9	1	0	8	158	382	-224	7	3	0
Keswick	10	1	0	9	102	438	-336	5	1	0
Warrington	9	0	0	9	105	278	-173	2	2	0

THIS WEEK'S OTHER MATCHES

**Altrincham Kersal v
Penrith**

**Birkenhead Park v
Vale of Lune**

Bowdon v Keswick

Burnage v Douglas

**Northwich v
Broughton Park**

**Warrington v
Stockport**

League Fixtures & Results - 2019/2020

HOME TEAMS	Altrincham Kersal	Birkenhead Park	Bowdon	Broughton Park	Burnage	Douglas	Firwood Waterloo	Keswick	Northwich	Penrith	Stockport	Vale of Lune	Warrington	Wilmslow
Altrincham Kersal		31-17	49-3	28/3	11/1	14/12	29/2	44-24	17-25	23/11	14/3	18/4	8/2	1/2
Birkenhead Park	4/1		18/1	44-7	4/4	14/3	31-21	8/2	35-20	29/2	36-3	23/11	50-7	7/12
Bowdon	15/2	14-25		18/4	1/2	38-15	14/3	23/11	12-38	14/12	28/3	11/1	P	7/3
Broughton Park	7/12	7/3	34-14		21-6	15/2	4/1	68-10	21/3	34-20	18/1	P	4/4	17-24
Burnage	40-37	14/12	59-29	14/3		23/11	8/2	45-21	4/1	28-18	29/2	28/3	18/1	18/4
Douglas	4/4	22-17	4/1	39-7	21/3		15-17	18/1	7/12	8/2	31-0	7/3	20-8	38-34
Firwood Waterloo	16-12	1/2	63-10	61-15	37-27	11/1		28/3	15/2	18/4	14/12	20-14	7/3	21/3
Keswick	7/3	5-36	21/3	11/1	15/2	0-36	7/12		12-52	10-39	18/4	1/2	12-6	4/4
Northwich	18/1	18/4	8/2	23/11	24-20	28/3	16-12	29/2		14/3	7/3	14/12	27-3	11/1
Penrith	21/3	37-30	4/4	1/2	7/3	17-27	43-22	4/1	29-39		31-29	15/2	7/12	32-27
Stockport	27-26	15/2	7/12	34-12	P	1/2	4/4	69-3	31-21	11/1		38-29	21/3	22-29
Vale of Lune	24-26	21/3	40-24	29/2	7/12	20-10	18/1	43-5	4/4	19-28	8/2		28-18	12-19
Warrington	22-25	11/1	29/2	14/12	12-52	18/4	7-17	14/3	1/2	28/3	23/11	14/9		15/2
Wilmslow	28-15	28/3	59-14	8/2	36-32	29/2	23/11	14/12	35-14	18/1	4/1	14/3	47-22	

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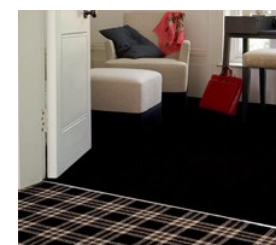
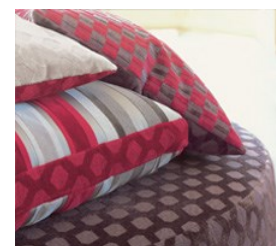
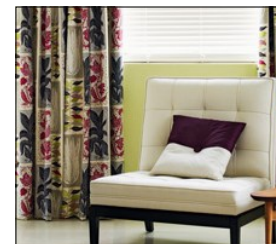
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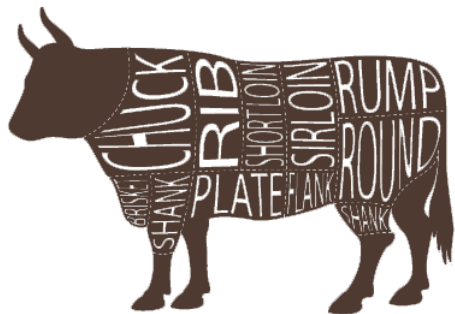
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26th. October North 1 West Douglas (IOM) 38 - 34 Wilmslow

The team, having gathered early at the airport, managed to see the whole of the England game before being called to the Fly-be departure gate for Ronaldsway. They were delighted to find that the Isle of Man was in marvellous sunshine, the Douglas Rugby Club pitch was not too heavy and there was plenty of time to loosen up after the journey.

What happened was deja vu all over again, as the Douglas kicker kicked all his conversions and we didn't, so despite getting six tries to the opponents five, we lost 38-34. Missing from the Warrington team were Mark Jennings, the Kennedy brothers, Jordan Ayrey and Matt Shufflebottom; but back were Sean Street, James Coulthurst and Seb Pemberton.

Despite having had plenty of time to recover after the journey, the home team scored a try within three minutes of the kick-off as the ball was knocked-on, picked up by the Douglas pack and their number ten sliced through the backs. There was worse to follow. From a line-out, there was another knock-on, followed by a scrum and the Douglas backs managed to find a gap again. 14-0 to them after just ten minutes.

At last, some semblance of good play by Wilmslow kept the play in the Douglas 22 and slick movement of the backs led to an unconverted try from Jamie Kingdon. Wilmslow seemed to have settled down and made good ground; the backs breaking the Douglas defence as play moved into their five-metre zone with a Wilmslow line-out. Then came one of the Wolves regular line-out moves, with a throw to the back and a move round to the front, which led to a try by Alex Taylor.

During the first twenty minutes, both Adam Taher and Sam Lawton strained their groins, to be replaced by Rhodri Lewis and Jack Masters, leaving just one sub; coach Chris Jones, putting on his Wilmslow shirt for just the second time since 2007. The Douglas number seven soon battled his way over the line five minutes later, following good work by their backs, making it 24-10 at half-time.

Wilmslow started well after the interval and played in the opposition half; driving mauls and good line-out work led to another ball along the backs to James Coulthurst, who dived over. MacCallum made the conversion to tie it all up:

Yet again, Douglas made the way into the Wilmslow half and a similar back move to their first try led to another and a further score soon followed. Wolves No. 9 Alex Taylor now had to leave the field, which brought on a reluctant Chris Jones. At the same time, Douglas brought on their subs. Wilmslow seemed to raise their game, moving the play to the home team half and, taking a pick and drive, drove a maul over the line, with our hero Chris Jones scoring. .

With three minutes to go, Wilmslow again took the ball from the kick-off forward and the backs moved down the field and into the Douglas twenty two. The ball went along the line with an overlap but a lone Douglas defender managed to knock the ball down. There was no penalty and no scrum as the referee blew for no side to relieve the anxious Douglas players and supporters. For the non-committed, it was a terrific game of rugby, played in the right spirit.

Seb Pemberton had a great game and was chosen man of the match by the home team. Rhodri Lewis, coming on as a sub in the front row, played his best game yet for the Wolves to score one of their six tries. It had been a good effort by all the players...

Report by Barry Fisher



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The players and coaches would like to thank those organisations and individuals who are supporting the cause of Wilmslow rugby by becoming their personal sponsors. All the funds raised are directed towards funding coaching, kit, equipment, physios, team travel and other team expenses. No payments are made whatsoever to any individual to play. Our players are all amateurs, albeit at the serious end of amateurism. They train regularly as a team and put in a lot of time and personal effort to ensure their fitness to play at what is a demanding level..



in touch

Remembering Hamilton High School for Boys

I was having an idle flick through You Tube the other day when I stumbled upon a video about Hamilton High School. Remember Legin, Vili, Tom, Hone and the Loomans all Hamilton old boys. The video features Legin's father Nigel Hotham in his rugby coaching capacity and leaves you in no doubt about how seriously rugby and all other sports, but mainly rugby, are taken at the school. If you can find it, it's an entertaining film for an hour or so.

The young Kiwis all seemed to fit in here, were nice to have around the place and we're a poorer club for not hosting a couple of them for a season any more.

Cheshire Vase

The semi final against Sandbach will be here next Friday, kick off, 7.00pm

I was talking to Murray MacCallum at Vale of Lune last Saturday and he happened to mention that this was Bob MacCallum's eighteenth season at the Club, playing on the 1st XV. It got me thinking as to who else had such a record and in my time at the Club three players came to mind. John Webster, who arrived from Rydall School, went straight on to the 1st team and played for fifteen years, with 401 games and 14 tries. Rick Green, who played for thirteen seasons; 322 games and a great total of 1,221 points. He would have scored far more points had Chris Shingles, who played at the same time and kicked with his left foot, not taken over half of the conversions, scoring 1,083 points.

But the daddy of them all is ex-captain, ex-President and current occasional touch judge, is Nigel Day, with twenty four seasons; 472 games and 26 tries.

Although Bob has only played 379 games, he has scored more points than Rick Green and Chris Shingles together: 47 tries, 629 conversions, 436 penalties and 5 drop goals – a total of 2,816 points. I suspect his numbers will never be broken.

Before the Leagues, the Daily Telegraph came up with a Northern Merit Table with the top twenty four Clubs at the time. The table below shows in an abbreviated form the final table for 1972/73. As all the teams did not play all the others, the table was worked out on a percentage basis.



Fisher's Half Page

The top five were: -

Wilmslow 86.95%
Sale 83.33%
Roundhay 80%
Orrell 73%
Hartlepool Rovers 62.5%

and at the bottom: -

Harrogate 26.32%
Waterloo 21.43%
St. Helens 13.38%

Of the twenty four, only Sale, Fylde, Huddersfield and Harrogate are above us in today's leagues.

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Saturday 9th. November 2019
Wilmslow 59 – 14 Bowdon

The Wolves continue to fly high with this nine try demolition job of near neighbours Bowdon. The last time these two sides had met was back in March 2008, when Wilmslow scraped a narrow win before going on to win the South Lancashire and Cheshire League a fortnight late. Eleven years on, only three of the players from that game turned out in this one, Bob MacCallum for Wilmslow and Neil Bright and Willie Landmann for Bowdon. Paradoxically, Wilmslow started this game top of the league, just as they were back then; Bowdon were tenth just two spots higher than this time out.

This though was another day and the Wolves set their stall out in the very first play of the game. Bowdon allowed MacCallum's kick off to go into touch and from the lineout, the Wolves stole the Bowdon throw. The ball fairly zipped along their back line for right winger Sam Cutts to cut inside and race away to score. Less than a minute had been played. This was just a harbinger of what was to come. Throughout, the pace of the Wolves' game was always a good notch above their Bowdon opponents. The ball didn't always stick but when they had possession, there was always the threat that the Bowdon defensive line could be broken by any one of a number of Wilmslow players. In contrast, Bowdon just didn't have that kind of cutting edge, despite a good half hour spell either side of half time.

Wilmslow's second score came on the quarter hour from a penalty lineout just inside Bowdon's twenty two. Alex Hewitt made a clean catch and the pack gathered round to mount an unstoppable drive, which ended with No. 6 Jack Masters touching down. The Wolves were now beginning to turn the screw as they consistently stretched the Bowdon defence. Three tries then came along in the space of eight minutes. First scrum half Sean Street took a quick short penalty, catching everybody unaware except James Coulthurst who took the pass to score as easy a try as he ever will. Wilmslow were then awarded a scrum on halfway from the restart and incisive running and handling led to Street taking an inside pass for the first of his three scores. An acrobatic take by Conor McMurdock at the next restart was a prelude to yet another bout of multiphase play and passing, which saw Jamie Kingdon cross unopposed for the fifth try. MacCallum converted the lot and it was 35-0.

There was now something of a Bowdon revival, out for the count they most certainly weren't. They were unlucky to be penalised for holding on in a try scoring position and the Wolves were relieved to put the ball out of play for half time with their line still in tact. Helped by a number of Wilmslow handling and kicking errors, Bowdon started to put the phases together and were soon rewarded by a try from their right winger Ben Thomas. It was cut and thrust by both teams for the whole of the third quarter until the Wolves' superior fitness enabled them to run away with it in the last twenty minutes. A typical sniping run by Street earned him his second try, captain Robert Taylor then touched down after Ollie Lee had snaffled a loose lineout ball from a Bowdon throw and in the closing minutes against a tiring Bowdon side Street got his third and Kingdon chased a little grubber to touch down for the final score.

In between, Bowdon had got their second try when the Wolves, trying to run everything at that stage, knocked on in front of their own posts allowing Bowdon to put their left winger Harry Martin in for a tidy enough score.

Once again, coach Chris Jones had to dig deep into his larder to fill the gaps in his line up. Ollie Stockwin in only his



Wolves Players, Appearances and Point
Scorers 2019 - 20

	Appearance	Tries	Drop Goals	Penalties	Conversions	Points
Jordan Ayrey	7	1				5
James Coulthurst	9	4				20
Sam Cutts	9	3				15
Ben Day	7					
Alex Donaldson	1					
Charlie Gardiner	2					
Sammy Graham	1	1				5
Ethan Harding	10	2		1		12
Adam Hewitt	10	1				5
Mark Jennings	8	7		2		39
Chris Jones	1	1				5
Danny Kennedy	6					
Jonny Kennedy	4	3		3		21
Jamie Kingdon	10	10				50
Sam Lawton	9					
Ollie Lee	6					
Rhodri Lewis	2	1				5
Bob MacCallum	10	1		2	36	83
Conor McMurdock	2					
Jack Masters	7	1				5
James Nicholson	2					
Matthew Norfolk-Clarke	1					
Kieran O'Rourke	6					
Rick Parker	1					
Mike Parker	5					
Seb Pemberton	7	2				10
Andy Rimmer	4					
Matt Shufflebottom	6					
Loui Staples	1					
Ollie Stockwin	3					
Sean Street	10	11				55
Adam Taher	9	4				20
Alex Taylor	8	2				10
Robert Taylor	10	1				5
Tommy Wilkinson	3	2				10
George Witham	1					

WHAT THEY SAID AT VALE

These two long standing rivals gained promotion at the end of the 2017/18 season but both found the North Premier hot house a bridge too far and a disheartening experience. Back in more familiar surroundings stability has returned and the demons banished. Between them they had mustered eleven wins so far this season, Wilmslow seven, vale four, as against just six and three draws in the whole of last season. Despite changes in human resources since last meeting, there were still plenty of familiar names in the two team lists.

The curse of late changes from the selected squad again caused problems for Director of Rugby Jack Ferguson and Coach Joel Unsworth with the shuffling of resources affecting the composition of Vale's other sides, who both suffered heavy defeats.

Despite the difficulties the Vale made a promising, imaginative opening and for ten minutes Wilmslow found themselves trapped in their own half. Back rowers James Robinson, Jack Ayrtton and Callum Kyle probed Wilmslow's defence, lock Harry Fellows toiled away as usual, centre Henry Higginson tried to dance his way through and scrum half Billy Swarbrick was always alert to any opportunity to keep his comrades on the front foot. Unfortunately the scalpel was never applied with sufficient dexterity to open up Wilmslow.

The game then settled into a more even handed affair with plenty of good honest grunt and not much brilliance as both sides struggled to plot a passage through the respective defences. Wilmslow broke the deadlock in the twenty fifth minute with a snappy, efficient attack that not only stretched the Vale but had them backpedalling at an uncomfortable rate of knots. Scrum-half, Sean Street took full advantage of the confusion to scamper his merry way over for a try which stand-off Bob MacCallum converted. Vale responded almost immediately, there was no crying over spilt milk or feeling sorry for themselves. The pack went roaring forward, scattering the powder blue shirts to the four winds in a defiant, all consuming attack. Eventually the ball was moved across to the right flank and once Jordan Fern, who was later named man of the match, had pounced it safely he was off the launch pad, with both boosters fully open to hurdle round behind the posts for a sparkling try which was converted by stand-off Alex Briggs.

In the closing stages of the half skipper Andy Powers limped off, Alex Briggs was shown yellow for a deliberate knock on and while the Vale tried to sort the problems out Wilmslow edged into the lead with an unconverted try. From a five metre line out the ball was smuggled clear to full back James Coulthurst who powerfully flailed his way over. The second half started on a blue note for the Vale and after six minutes they had shipped more points. Wilmslow built an attack that exploited Vale's lack of numbers with a least two cherry and white clad players lying prone on the ground. A splintered defence was unable to defend all the avenues which allowed Bob MacCallum to drive a coach and horses through to the whitewash for his try which he converted.



If the visiting supporters expected their side to kick on they were to be disappointed because Vale not only shored up their defences but showed they were fully prepared to take the game to Wilmslow, but it was all slightly pedestrian and with injuries beginning to mount, any semblance of flow disappeared. In the sixty fifth minute Vale

breathed hope into their aspirations with a try straight out of the clanger box. An innocent looking kick was boomed deep into Wilmslow's half, two defenders converged on the ball but in the confusion Jordan Fern, cast in the role of arch villain, appeared on the scene to purloin the jewel and race away for an unconverted try. For the remainder of the game both sides struggled to ease the tension that gradually built up on a quiet November afternoon but Vale could never quite put together the penetrative attacks that could salvage the game while all that was required of Wilmslow was that they kept a firm grip on proceedings which they successfully achieved.

At the final whistle it was hard to reconcile that nineteen points and ten places now separate these two in the North One West table. With a number of clubs already on the 30+ Vale will need to start banking points to clamber into the top half. The upcoming quartet of games, three away at Birkenhead Park, Broughton Park and Northwich with just one home game against Burnage on 7th. December 7, will provide a hint of what the future holds.

League Round Up

Results on both 9th. and 16th. November seemed to go the Wolves way. Penrith came a cropper on the banana skin known as Burnage and then lost at home to Northwich. Both Penrith and Burnage play on artificial pitches so that was one that must have gone with home advantage but then losing on their own plastic to Northwich last week wouldn't have been anyone's forecast.

On paper Penrith had their strongest selection of the season available for the Northwich game and they started well with two tries and a 12-0 lead but they started to cough up possession more and more as the game progressed and by midway through the second half Northwich had their noses in front and continued to capitalise on Penrith errors to score six tries in all. Northwich must have thought Christmas had come early reported Penrith's correspondent.

Northwich's home fixture on the 9th.was switched to Stockport presumably because of ground conditions so it ended up going Stockport's way and Douglas came up second best away to Vale of Lune.

Then last week, Douglas beat Birkenhead Park on the IOM. Four penalties apiece, two tries for the Manxmen and one for Birkenhead Park in a closely contested match. It took until well past the eighty before Dave Hall kicked Park's fourth penalty to secure a losing bonus point.

Broughton Park's win against Burnage hauled them up the table away from the relegation zone. The outcome of all of this was that Wilmslow's four points at Vale of Lune put them five points clear of Birkenhead Park but beware today's visitors Firwood Waterloo, who have now joined the leading cluster of clubs.

At the foot of the table, Keswick got off the mark with a home win against Warrington who now go bottom but a big gap has now opened up between those two and Bowdon and eleventh placed Broughton Park.

Warrington 7-17 Firwood Waterloo

Waterloo gave a defensive masterclass on how to win in Siberian like conditions with very little possession. For twenty five minutes they couldn't get out of their own half but when they did Daragh O'Brien kicked a penalty. In the second period Waterloo began to play more of an attacking game. With Warrington down to 14 men, Loo opted for a scrum, from which O'Brien gave a slick pass to Luke Nelson to cross. A second try followed from broken play, Will Meades taking the honours. Warrington were still seeing more of the ball and eventually they scored a well-deserved try late in the game when Waterloo spilled a high ball. It had been a tough defensive afternoon on a heavy pitch for Waterloo but they took their few chances and held on to take the points. The game was played at Woolston Rovers Rugby League ground.

Firwood Waterloo 63-10 Bowdon

"This score has been coming for a while now," enthused Waterloo coach Stuart Turner after the match. "We have been building to this level of performance from the start of the season." Although the score line suggests a one sided game, it took the home side 15 minutes for Will Meades to open the scoring following solid work from the forwards. On the half hour Luke Clifford shrugged off a number of tackles to extend the lead. Up until that point it had been a fairly even contest. Bowdon had the opportunity to open their account, but their penalty kick was narrowly missed. The visitors then held a sustained defensive line until a dazzling run by full back Daragh O'Brien released Chris Cunningham for the third try and the bonus point try came from Luke Clifford, on half time for a 28 – 0 lead.

In the second period 'Loo added four more tries to take a 56-0 lead into the final quarter.

Bowdon then had their best spell of the game in the final ten minutes to score twice but the final word came from Kurt Riley as 'loo finished with nine converted tries.

If last week's game was a defensive master class, this game was a whole team masterclass – strong work by the forwards releasing quick ball for the backs to find holes in Bowdon's midfield, with some clinical finishing. Stuart Turner added the closing words, "We stuck to our game plan for 80% of the game, but we can be more consistent – we left at least three tries on the pitch!"



second appearance in the Wolves front row let nobody down, Rick Parker coming on as a debutant sub at loose head will have had his father, a former Wilmslow prop over twenty five years ago, purring with delight on the touchline and what can one say about the diminutive Conor McMurdock. In the past, he's appeared as a hooker, a winger, a scrum half, a fly half and now this time as a hooker again. He may never be an automatic first team choice for any position but there's more to rugby than just that. McMurdock has always been the ultimate club man and he showed that again with no little ability and a stirring performance. There was also a stand out forty minutes from Danny Kennedy, playing at No. 8, before he had to leave the field injured. With his departure, the Wolves just seemed to lose a bit of the aggressive drive that he brings to the side.

Overall though\ the coaches, the two Js, Jones and Jennings, should have been more satisfied than not with what their players delivered. There will always be points on which they can improve but results going into this game suggested that Bowdon would find it hard going and not just because of the heavy state of the pitch. Nine tries keeps their credentials on track but they now have three of the league's heavyweights to face in succession and that will give us an indication of just how good they can really be.



Bowdon 9th. November

SPECTATOR AND PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- Show respect for officials and other players
- Encourage in your support
- Be courteous to all
- Applaud good play
- Verbally support in a proactive manner
- Remember victory is not everything
- Children are playing for their own enjoyment
- Enjoy the day and transmit that enthusiasm to the players



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SPECTATOR AND PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- Do not force your child to play
- Do not stray on to the pitch at any time
- Do not verbally abuse match officials - remember, they are volunteers
- Do not verbally abuse players or other spectators
- Do not use bad language
- Do not threaten or intimidate
- Do not become involved in physical aggression
- Do not do anything which is likely to offend by way of insult, humiliation or discrimination



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**NEXT MATCH AT THE MEMORIAL
GROUND**
29th. November, 7.00PM.
Cheshire Vase
WOLVES V SANDBACH

The Wolves are away on 7th. December at
Birkenhead Park

**BIRKENHEAD PARK FC, 141 UPPER PARK,
PARK ROAD NORTH, BIRKENHEAD
CH41 8AA**

Take the M56/M53 towards Liverpool, leaving the M53
at J1. Don't miss it, otherwise you'll be in the tunnel
under the Mersey!

Now take the A554 into Birkenhead. At the roundabout,
go straight across into the A553 Hoylake Road. This
then becomes Laird St and you continue until you turn
right into Mallaby St., just after the Dino Pizzeria. At
the bottom, turn left into Park Rd. North. The rugby
ground is on the right. There's not much parking in the
ground but there's plenty of street parking alongside.

TODAY'S REFEREE



John Pemberton
MDRURS

**Wolves Saturday afternoon kick off
times at The Memorial Ground will be
at 3.00pm. throughout the season**



Saturday 23rd November 2019
North 1 West
Wilmslow v Firwood Waterloo

Wilmslow

15. Mark Jennings
14. James Coulthurst
13. Kieran O'Rourke
12. Jonny Kennedy
11. Jamie Kingdon
10. Bob MacCallum
9. Sean Street
1. Ollie Stockwin
2. Conor McMurdock
3. Robert Taylor (capt.)
4. Charlie Gardiner
5. Adam Hewitt
6. Seb Pemberton
7. Ollie Lee
8. Jack Masters

Subs

Adam Taher
Matthew Norfolk-Clarke
Sam Cutts

Firwood Waterloo

15. Darragh O'Brien
14. Luke Nelson
12. Gabriel Davies
13. Joe Bowmer
11. Jacob Allen
10. Sean Colebourne
9. Jonny Roberts
1. Kurt Riley
2. Joe Randa
3. Liam Launders
4. Jack Weare (capt.)
5. Guy Byatt
6. Alex Tenev
7. Chris Cunningham
8. Will Meades

Subs

Josh Jenkins
Jake Hawkins
TBC



BEAUCHAMP CHARLES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

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Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UW
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Wishing the Wolves a Successful Season