

OLD NORTHAMPTONIANS RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1923

MIDLANDS 1 EAST LEAGUE

Saturday 15th January 2022 2.15 p.m. kick off

**Old Northamptonians R.F.C. vs
West Bridgford R.F.C.**



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Welcome to O.N.R.F.C. from Dave Howland, Club Chairman

A warm welcome to all today's visitors as the club host 3 home games: 1sts/2nds at Billing Road vs West Bridgford & the 3rds over at NSB vs Sharnbrook. Last weekend we also put out 3 senior men's sides (would have been 4 if the 4ths oppo hadn't cried off), 2 Men's Academy sides & both a Ladies Senior & Academy team. This continued ONs ability to put out numerous playing sides, bucking the trend of falling numbers in the game. I am extremely proud to be a small part of this achievement & my thanks go out to all the playing management team for making it happen.

Earlier in the season, the away league fixture at Nottingham saw the home side take the honours in a game that could have gone either way. Since then, the fortunes of both teams have taken slightly different paths. As some "old heads" have returned to ONs to steady the ship, I would like to think last week's victory over Oadby Wyggs is the start of a re-emergence. Today provides a stiff test of us achieving our full potential against a talented strong WB side. I am certainly looking forward seeing our visitors here today, a 'proper' club in every sense of the word.

Finally, a big thank you to our match officials today, treat them all with the respect they deserve, I hope they & everyone involved in this afternoon's activities has a great time at Billing Road.

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This week's Guest Columnists:

Kieran O'Connor (& Zach Draper) O.N.R.F.C. 1st Team Co-Captains

Due to injuries neither of us have been playing lately, so our editor has put us to work to provide a player's perspective on the current season. This season saw Zach Draper and I jointly take over the captaincy from long serving (& highly successful) captain Alex Crofts. We also had the addition of a brand-new coaching team of Phil Powell & Alex Regan. With a new set up & after the long overdue return to competitive matches, change was in the air... especially when we discovered the majority of our 1st team squad for the 21-22 season were born between 1999 - 2001!!!

With a much changed & youthful 1st team squad, expectation may have been that we'd struggle physically. I believe we have defied those expectations, with our younger players, particularly the back 5 forwards & midfield backs, revelling in the physical battle. We have also seen the introduction of a new 15 man attacking pattern concocted by our coaches which has resulted in some exciting rugby & fantastic multi-phase team tries.

By working together throughout the week, myself, Zach & vice-captain Joe Heslop, share the responsibilities of selection & distributing key messages from the coaching team. On match days, Zach acts as pack-leader & generally leads the team talk, Joe delivers the majority of our technical feedback I'll generally act as the point of contact for the referee. Although this might seem complicated on the surface, it really helps to have individual responsibilities on a game day as it allows each of us to focus on some rugby as well! All 3 of us are all products of the ON's Mini/Junior & Academy we're tremendously proud to lead this club & it's very talented 1st Team squad this season, we thank the players, committee & supporters for your on-going support.

Cheers Kieran (with a little help from Drapes!)

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Craig Stewart	O.N.R.F.C. Ladies Squads

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6 Mossy Waters	8 Chairman Howland	5 a surprise TBC
9 another surprise TBC	10 Freddie, Annabelle & Isaac Civil	
12 Carter & Franklin Crofts	13 la Famiglia Seymour	
11 also a surprise TBC	14 RM Blank 2008-2012	
15 Aubrey Watson 26.06.1944		

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team, Phil Powell & Alex Regan**



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Old Northamptonians R.F.C.

Rory Seymour	*	15
Jake Johnson	*	14
Josh Bull	*	13
Ben Rivans	*	12
Diogo Pina		11
Joe Heslop (Captain)	*	10
Lewis Barker	*	9
Ethan Wright		8
Luke Bond	*	7
Lochie Brown	*	6
Sam Howes	*	5
Tom Heslop	*	4
James De La Cruz		3
Sam Donald	*	2
Dan Hughes	*	1

Replacements:

Toby Wallace	*	16
Guy Holt		17
Joel Grayson	*	18

West Bridgford R.F.C.

Jay Heath (Captain)
Alex Wilson
Ben Marlow
Dan Langton
Ian Knott
Ben Dickinson
Calum Gunn
Niko Salmon
Luke Brown
Joseph Symcox
Joe McMeniman
James Long
Thomas Hackland
Michael Dean
Steven Corban

Head of Playing: Richard Blank *

Head Coach: Phil Powell *

Asst. Coach: Alex Regan *

Team Manager: Richard Bosworth

Match Physio: Georgia Reed

Coaches: Scott Johnson
& Matt Thomas

Team Manager: Graeme Gunn

Physio: Holly Calver

** Indicates ONs M&J/Academy Graduate*

Today's Match Referee: Paul Baynes, East Midlands Referees Society

O.N.R.F.C. MAN OF THE MATCH SPONSOR:
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MIDLANDS 1 EAST 2021 / 22 SEASON

Results Saturday 8th January 2022

Bedford Athletic	44 - 22	Derby
Old Northamptonians	25 - 18	Oadby Wyggestonian
Peterborough	15 - 15	Market Harborough
Peterborough Lions	38 - 10	Lutterworth
Towcestrians	20 - 15	Dronfield
West Bridgford	30 - 7	Belgrave

League Table after Saturday 8th January 2022

Note: due to Rugby Lions withdrawal from the league we now only have a 13 team league.

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	TB	LB	Pts
1 Bedford Athletic	13	12	0	1	484	238	246	10	1	59
2 Derby	13	8	0	5	397	256	141	9	3	44
3 Peterborough	13	8	2	3	327	240	87	5	2	43
4 Kettering	13	8	1	4	311	237	74	7	2	43
5 West Bridgford	12	9	0	3	308	250	58	5	0	41
6 Dronfield	13	7	1	5	294	258	36	4	3	37
7 Oadby Wyggestonian	13	4	2	7	311	419	-108	5	2	27
8 Lutterworth	11	5	0	6	220	296	-76	6	0	26
9 Old Northamptonians	13	5	0	8	261	280	-19	3	2	25
10 Belgrave	14	4	0	10	269	383	-114	5	2	23
11 Peterborough Lions	13	4	0	9	243	358	-115	4	2	22
12 Market Harborough	12	3	1	8	250	297	-47	5	3	22
13 Towcestrians	13	2	1	10	194	357	-163	2	4	16

Unless there are some extraordinary results it looks like Ath's big win over Derby hands them the title after only 13 matches! Thereon the league is split into 2: the next 5 sides fighting for the probable 4 "promotion" places in next season's structure. However as I regularly observe, on their day any side in this league club can beat another, just 11 points now separate 7th placed Wyggs to bottom placed Tows! Some very intriguing fixtures this week, will be interesting to see if Mr Moore's recruitment drive at Lions continues their revival, always a tough game at Market Harborough!

Fixtures Saturday 15th January 2022

Derby	v	Belgrave
Dronfield	v	Bedford Athletic
Kettering	v	Towcestrians
Market Harborough	v	Peterborough Lions
Oadby Wyggestonian	v	Peterborough
Old Northamptonians	v	West Bridgford

Week off for Lutterworth

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O.N.R.F.C 1st XV Fixtures 2021/22

Saturday Kick offs: 3.00 pm Sept/Oct/Mar/Apr, 2.15 pm Nov/Dec/Jan/Feb

Date	1st XV League & Cup Fixtures	Venue	Result	Score	
				F	A
Sep-04	Lutterworth	A	Postponed due to Covid		
Sep-11	Market Harborough	H	W	36	10
Sep-18	Oadby Wyggestonian	A	W	32	18
Sep-25	West Bridgford (1.30 pm KO)	A	L	16	24
Oct-02	Peterborough	H	L	6	9
Oct-09	Peterborough Lions	A	L	20	29
Oct-16	Lutterworth (re-scheduled)	A	L	15	22
Fri Oct-29	Towcestrians (19:30 Kick Off)	A	W	19	13
Nov-06	Bedford Athletic	H	W	15	11
Nov-13	Towcestrians (Lewis Shield 1 st Round)	H	W	52	0
Nov-20	Belgrave	A	L	29	50
Nov-27	Derby	H	L	21	29
Dec-04	Dronfield	A	L	10	19
Dec-11	Kettering (Vice Presidents Lunch)	H	L	17	28
Dec-18	Market Harborough	A	Postponed due to Covid		
XMAS / NEW YEAR BREAK			Free League Weeks		
Mon Jan-03	Milton Keynes (Lewis Shield 2nd Round)	A	W	27	23
Jan-08	Oadby Wyggestonian	H	W	25	18
Jan-15	West Bridgford	H			
Jan-22	Peterborough	A			
Jan-29	Peterborough Lions	H			
Feb-05	Daventry (Alliance Cup 1 st Round)	H	Free League Week		
Feb-12	Rugby Lions		Withdrawn from league		
Feb-19	Towcestrians	H			
Feb-26	Market Harborough (from 18/12/21)	A			
Mar-05	Bedford Athletic	A			
Mar-12	Belgrave	H			
Mar-19			Free League Week		
Mar-26	Derby	A			
Apr-02	Dronfield	H			
Apr-09	EASTER		Free League Week		
Apr-16	Kettering	A			
Apr-23	Lutterworth	H			

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