PRESIDENT’S WELCOME

ALAN LAWSON

I’m sure all of us who enjoy this great game are aware that there’s no such thing as off-season – and that’s certainly been reinforced during my year in this role.

It has been a real honour and privilege to be President, visiting clubs all round the country from Thurso in the north to Berwick in the south, to Mull in the west to Strathmore in the east and the many clubs in between to see the fantastic work going on year-round at all levels of the game by so many outstanding people. From sprucing up the clubhouse and preparing the ground for the new season to booking the transport, ordering the strips, arranging the fixtures and buying the burgers and teabags – and then there’s what happens on the pitch!

The rugby club is and should be the lifeblood of our communities and I have thoroughly enjoyed going round many clubs meeting old friends and making new ones – from renewing acquaintances with, for example, the president of the New Zealand rugby union Bryan Williams and his wife Lesley to meeting former team mate Patrick Cadzow in Oban or old adversary Hector Barnfather in Langholm, as if it was yesterday.

Scottish Rugby Values
Leadership an act or instance of leading; guidance; direction.
Enjoyment the possession, use, or occupancy of anything with satisfaction or pleasure.
Achievement something accomplished, especially by superior ability; special effort; great courage.
Engagement a pledge; an obligation or agreement.
Respect the condition of being esteemed or honoured: to be held in regard.

One of the great things about rugby is the lifelong fellowship it engenders as its values are passed from generation to generation, educating youngsters not only in the mechanics of the game but in the leadership, enjoyment, achievement, engagement and respect that are its foundations. I am massively encouraged by what clubs have achieved this year in getting youngsters involved in our sport.”

We have enjoyed many positives this season – record crowds at our international fixtures, another hugely successful Emirates Airline Glasgow 7s, the rise of Glasgow Warriors in their new home at Scotstoun and a highly competitive RBS Premier Division. However, where we have competition, there is also disappointment but there is always next season. Unfortunately the weather again played its part and the Championship Committee have had the difficult and often thankless task of addressing fixture backlogs. Countless hours go into administering these leagues and everyone involved deserves our gratitude for the work they do.

At international level, our senior squad has made good progress from last year, with a third place finish in the RBS 6 Nations, while we’ve also seen promise from our age grade sides, with the under-20s putting in some solid performances as well as the highest ranking to date in Europe from our under-18s. Of course many of our teams have continued to be in action this month - the senior men’s side in South Africa, providing a great opportunity for some younger players to put their hands up; the under-20s at the Junior World Championship, Scotland Women 7s in the European Grand Prix tournaments and our men’s sevens squad who will soon be competing in the Rugby World Cup 7s in Moscow.

Something that has become even more apparent is the speed at which the game is changing, be it the challenges associated with managing competitive fixtures at all levels of our game or attracting supporters to matches in tough times, or expecting more of our staff, players and volunteers as we look to bind and connect with and beyond the wide structure that is Scottish Rugby. All of these are critical and by showing more willingness to communicate effectively, to work closer together to address the many tensions that inevitably exist – not just in rugby – then hopefully we will find solutions that will allow our game to thrive at all levels.

To a certain extent this has also been a year of consolidation following a period of significant change. However in this competitive world, standing still is not an option and we collectively need to build on the good work done to improve the experience of our supporters on match days, to attract new players, coaches and officials to the game and to continue to thank our volunteers and sponsors.

This report highlights growth in many areas of our game and, through hard work and your ongoing support, points to a bright future.

In conclusion I would like to thank you all for your continuing commitment and good humour: fun and friendship is at the heart of our game. The last twelve months have been truly memorable and I wish you all a great summer and hope you return for the new season with the batteries recharged and prepared to lift Scottish rugby to an even higher level.

Alan Lawson
President, Scottish Rugby

A Wright family affair. Morven with husband Robert, and sons Allan and Craig Wright, who all played in the match, celebrate Oban Lorne winning the RBS Bowl final at Murrayfield.
Two years ago, when I took on this role, my aim was to drive Scottish Rugby towards being more customer focussed and making our game more attractive to our loyal supporters. We have been improving our standards all round - on the pitch, at the grassroots and in the stands.

These improvements have made us a more attractive proposition for those looking to invest in our sport. I am also pleased to say that, despite continued economic pressures, our financial performance during the year has allowed us to maintain our programme of debt reduction.

By continuing to provide the option of selling tickets on match days - at those few internationals that didn’t already sell out this season - providing good deals on tickets and keeping admission to our Scotland A, age grade and women’s games free, we’ve continued to attract more people to our sport. It was noticeable, starting with our EMC Tests in November and continuing into the RBS 6 Nations Championship, that... the footprint of our attendance is building, with more families and women attending, so inspiring the next generation of supporters.

This season we also recorded the highest crowd figure in recent years at our international and pro-club games, of over 515,000.

We’ve also worked hard to ensure we look after our supporters when they visit us - their enjoyment and wellbeing is paramount. We have continued to offer the very popular parking area on the back pitches and provide plenty to keep young and old refreshed and entertained in and around Murrayfield and Scotstoun on match days.

Around the turn of the year, along with the Chief Executive, President and other colleagues in Scottish Rugby, I enjoyed meeting many rugby volunteers during our roadshow visits to clubs. We listened to the feedback and were heartened by the positive debates and have been working to address many of the issues.

One year ago, we launched our Strategic Plan, Inspiring Scotland through Rugby: The Journey to 2016, which I must say featured some pretty bullish targets. Increasing attendances at our pro games was a key objective; better on-field performance and a higher RBS 6 Nations ranking was also stated - we increased our standing in the latter to third. Without doubt we had a disappointing EMC Test Series in November, following the success last summer in the Southern Hemisphere, but with the support backing us we were able to have more to cheer about in the Six Nations.

Our representative sides have posted some solid results; Scotland under-18 did us proud in their European championship, coming fourth and reaching higher than ever before. While Scotland A gave us a real thriller when they beat England away, at the start of the year. Nonetheless we have recognised the areas where we have work to do and are rolling up our sleeves and getting on with it; with a restructure of our performance team and a comprehensive review of our women’s game.

One thing that has run through all our teams, at all levels and in all areas of the country this year has been our promotion of Scottish Rugby’s values. By instilling the qualities of leadership, enjoyment, achievement, engagement and respect in even our youngest micro minis we look forward to the legacy of generations of players who not only perform on the pitch but also in their daily lives. This is something that is also close to the heart of our President, Alan Lawson, who took over the post from Ian McLauchlan at last year’s AGM. I’d like to thank Alan for his tireless work and commitment over these past twelve months.

I would also like to thank our sponsors and partners who have put their faith in us, especially our principal partner RBS, our kit sponsor Canterbury, our Autumn Test partner EMC and our broadcast partner BBC Sport.

My thanks also go to all the clubs and schools for their role in adhering to and developing the ‘Are You Ready to Play Rugby’ safety initiatives which demonstrates our sport’s on-going commitment to safer play by putting player welfare at the heart of everything we do.

There is much to look forward to with the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, our new coaching team at international level alongside the review of our local game at academy and club level. Finally I want to record my thanks to fellow Board members and to the Council for their continued support. My special thanks go to our staff for their commitment and hard work and I look forward to working with them on the journey to 2016.

Sir Moir Lockhead OBE
Chairman, Scottish Rugby

Ayr’s Grant Anderson celebrates winning the Premier Division by beating Currie in their penultimate game of the season.
CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT

MARK DODSON

Twelve months ago, when I wrote the annual update on these pages, I reported we were working hard to put rugby at the heart of our business, something I truly believe we have achieved.

Revitalising the game has been a challenge and one that continues, day in day out, as we all work together to make rugby the go-to sport for youngsters, promote our clubs, pro-clubs and national sides, and attract new commercial partners who want to buy into an exciting future.

We invested comprehensively in our pro-clubs last season and this year have reaped the benefits, to a certain extent, with some good showings by Glasgow Warriors in an increasingly competitive RaboDirect PRO12 league, though neither they nor Edinburgh Rugby progressed from the Heineken Cup pools. Clearly results from our capital city side were disappointing and we have already taken, and will continue to take, all the steps necessary to reverse that trend going into next season.

Our national senior men’s side enjoyed a successful summer tour in 2012 however their subsequent rise in the rankings was wiped out by an unacceptable performance in the EMC Tests in November. This resulted in an immediate change in the coaching set-up and I would like to thank head coach Andy Robinson for all his hard work not only with the national team during his tenure, but also during his time with Edinburgh Rugby.

The interim coaching team, led by Scott Johnson, did solid work, in the short time they were together, to improve results and we enjoyed two out of five wins in the RBS 6 Nations, giving us a welcome third place finish in the tournament. We continue our efforts to determine the most effective way forward for our performance team with an ongoing restructure of that side of Scottish Rugby.

We continue to align our work across the business with the aims of our Strategic Plan. Since its launch this time last year, we have sought the views of our clubs, with a roadshow round all parts of the country to hear what is required at grassroots level to make us all perform better. We were asked for a new website to show the spread of our activity; for more involvement of our club players in our national development structure; and to assist clubs with challenging travel to fixtures – all aims which we are delivering right now.

Attendances are on the increase and we continue to improve the match day experience for our supporters at pro-club and national team levels with supporter activity around the games, parking provision at internationals and our Murrayfield ‘gamesmaker’ volunteer army, on hand to help at the national stadium and beyond.

Away from the grassroots we’ve made progress with the brass tacks of the business.

"With sell-out crowds at our internationals against New Zealand, Wales and Ireland...

...and improved results, people want to invest in us. Our new kit suppliers – as from July – Macron, have entered into a long-term partnership with us which will cover all our teams at all levels, while Caledonia Best, Ginger Grouse and Dove Men+Care have all come on board in recent months.

Financial overview

The financial results for 2012/13 show a surplus of £0.9m for the year. An increase in turnover to £39.3m through a number of factors, the most significant of which were the attendances at Scotland’s home international matches and increased broadcasting revenues, has allowed an increased level of rugby investment. Together with continued sound financial control, this has also resulted in a reduction in the year end debt balance and has permitted a £0.5m repayment of term loan to the bank in the course of the year.

Clearly, however, we still have much to do, and I am incredibly grateful to all staff throughout Scottish Rugby for their expertise and hard graft over the last twelve months to help us progress towards our goals. By maintaining our direction and pace, cherishing and promoting our values and working as a team, I have no doubt we will succeed.
A YEAR IN SCOTTISH RUGBY

July
- Glasgow Warrior Rory Lawson visits Stornoway for training day with Nicolson Institute pupils
- Flying half Mike Tindall joins Glasgow Warriors
- Scotland’s Women’s players Steph Jansen and Megan Gaffney were members of the World Cup team. Scotland Women’s side is under the control of the RFU coaching team
- Scotland’s Charity for RFU in Moscow in a bumper to bumper in the Alps

Mike Blair with son Rory

August
- RBS RugbyForce supporters kick off the new domestic season with international player visits at clubs across Scotland
- Former Scotland under-20 lock, Matthew Todd, is killed in a car crash
- Days RFC win McGowan Fencing Coaching Scotland accreditation
- Record-breaking season ticket sales for Glasgow Warriors and Edinburgh Rugby

Mark Dodson with son Mark

September
- Scottish Rugby announce the final BWC Test of the season will be played in Aberdeen
- Former Scotland team bus driver Dennis Wells passes away, aged 75
- Scottish Parliament hosts a reception for Scottish Rugby at Holyrood
- Scottish Rugby ambassador Chris Paterson launches videos on Leadership, Engagement, Enjoyment, Achievement & Respect

Mark Dodson addressing MP

October
- ‘In the flesh’ campaign launched for Scotland international season
- Gala, Melrose and Sishing County make a winning start to their British & Irish Cup campaign
- Scotland win the Shield in the Gold Coast
- Crusaders back Sean Maitland signs for Glasgow Warriors

Matt Dodson addressing MP

November
- Former RFU receives Positive Coaching Scotland accreditation. Allan ‘chunk’ Jacobsen retires from international rugby
- Murrayfield, a sell-out for Scotland v New Zealand BWC Test
- Andy Robinson steps down as Scotland head coach after defeat to Tonga in the third BWC Test

Allan Jacobsen with son Mark

December
- RWC 2015 draw pools Scotland with South Africa and Samoa, plus the qualifiers from Asia and the Americas
- Scottish Rugby’s Head of Medical Services, Dr James Robson, is appointed to his sixth British & Irish Lions tour
- Former Scotland’s player, David Tait, passes away aged 25 in Hong Kong
- Scott Johnson appointed interim head coach for Scotland

Scott Johnson, Interim Head Coach for Scotland

January
- Mike Blair, Scotland’s most capped scrum-half, retires from international rugby
- Dean Ryan appointed interim forwards coach for Scotland
- Scottish Rugby secures a new three year sponsorship package with the Famous Grouse
- Scotland supporters invited to design new playing kit as Mazon announced as kit manufacturer

Scott Johnson, Vern Cotter and Mark Dodson

February
- Scotland A defeat England Saxons for the first time on English soil
- Captain Kelly Brown and Scotland would release their version of Highland Cathedral ahead of the RBS 6 Nations victory over Italy
- Scotland Women under-20 beat Finland Women at Lasswade
- Scotland beat Ireland 12-8 at Murrayfield in 1st Century Quaich

Steve Scott appointed interim head coach for Edinburgh Rugby, assisted by Duncan Hodge

March
- The Brewin Dolphin Girls Cup final takes place on the main Murrayfield pitch for the first time
- Finn Russell receives John Macphail Scholarship to New Zealand – fellow recipient Alex Allan, unable to go due to broken leg, is replaced by Sam Hidalgo Clyne
- Scotland under-18 beat Wales in their opening game of the FIRA age grade tournament in France to elevate them to fourth in Europe

Steve Scott appointed interim head coach for Edinburgh Rugby, assisted by Duncan Hodge

April
- Scottish Rugby pledge to improve women’s game with commission of report
- Former London Wasps and Queens Park Rangers chief executive David Davies is appointed managing director of Edinburgh Rugby
- Ayr complete a League and Cup double, beating Melrose in the RBS Cup Final after extra time
- Richie Gray, Stuart Hogg and Sean Maitland are called up to the British & Irish Lions

David Davies, Edinburgh Rugby Managing Director

May
- Scott Johnson appointed Director of Rugby while Jonathan Humphreys comes in as Scotland forwards coach
- Gregor Townsend named RaboDirect PRO12 coach of the season
- Allan Quinann plays his final match for Edinburgh Rugby as he retires from professional rugby
- Tim Visser makes RaboDirect PRO12 dream team for fourth successive year
- Vern Cotter’s appointment as new Scotland head coach is announced

Scott Johnson, Vern Cotter and Mark Dodson

June
- Ryan Grant called up to the British & Irish Lions
- Glasgow Warrior Rory Lawson visits Stornoway for training day with Nicolson Institute pupils
- Flying half Mike Tindall joins Glasgow Warriors
- Scotland’s Women’s players Steph Jansen and Megan Gaffney were members of the World Cup team. Scotland Women’s side is under the control of the RFU coaching team
- Scotland’s Charity for RFU in Moscow in a bumper to bumper in the Alps

Ryan Grant
This has been a season of challenge and change across all levels of our performance rugby network as we continue to build towards the aims of our Strategic Plan.

Scottish Rugby’s Director of Performance, Graham Lowe, moved on and we also saw changes in the national management team as Andy Robinson stepped down as head coach, the post taken over on an interim basis by Scott Johnson, who will also continue in his post as Director of Rugby, pending the arrival of new national team head coach Vern Cotter in 2014.

Our national teams have posted some encouraging results while we have identified areas where we have challenges and acted on this – for example, instigating a comprehensive review of our women’s game – as we look forward to continued progress in all areas.
Scotland enjoyed a much-improved tournament, winning two out of five encounters, the victories over Italy and Ireland marking the first back-to-back RBS 6 Nations wins since 2001. While outmuscled at Twickenham in the championship opener, a debut try from winger Sean Maitland announced his arrival in the squad. Full back Stuart Hogg scored a glorious intercept try in the 34-10 win over Italy while scrum half Greig Laidlaw kicked all the points against the Irish. In a match that will be remembered more for its world record penalty goal count (18), however, Laidlaw’s six successful kicks were not enough to see off Wales. In the final encounter, despite a gutsy defensive display from the visitors that consigned the home side to the bottom place in the Championship table, France edged Scotland 23-16 at Stade de France. Third place for the Scots marked our best finish in the competition since 2006.

On 3 May 2013, Scott Johnson was announced as Director of Rugby though remains interim head coach during the ongoing summer tournament in South Africa, and into next season with the recent announcement that Vern Cotter will take over the reins in 2014. He is assisted by defence coach Matt Taylor and recently announced forward coach, Jonathan Humphreys.

National team interest elsewhere in the southern hemisphere continues this month and into July with Stuart Hogg, Sean Maitland, Ryan Grant and Richie Gray rewarded for their efforts in the blue jersey with the red of the British & Irish Lions on their tour of Australia.

Scotland Women

Following the successful three-Test summer tour win in 2012, Scotland returned to the northern hemisphere as the only unbeaten side of the home nations. Seven uncapped players featured in the autumn training squad with the captaincy awarded to Kelly Brown, who continued to lead the side throughout the season. Hanging up their international boots, meanwhile, were Allan Jacobsen, Mike Blair, Rory Lamont and Graeme Morrison. Thanks to them for their service.

There was to be no first-ever win over New Zealand, our opening EMC Test opposition at Murrayfield, however, followed by defeat to South Africa and finally a loss to Tonga at Pittodrie. After the latter match, on Sunday 25 November head coach Andy Robinson stepped down from his post.

At the Rugby World Cup 2015 draw in December 2012, London Mayor Boris Johnson picked out Scotland in Pool B, alongside Samoa, South Africa and as yet to be confirmed opponents from Asia and the Americas.

As the year came to a close, Scott Johnson took on the role of interim head coach, assisted by former Sale Sharks assistant coach Steve Scott and former Gloucester head coach Dean Ryan for the duration of the 2013 RBS 6 Nations.
A YEAR IN SCOTTISH RUGBY

PERFORMANCE RUGBY

at Scotstoun. After giving eventual Grand Slam winners Ireland a first-half scare at Lasswade, the home side couldn’t sustain the pressure as the Irish won to claim the title.

This result meant that the squad had to travel to Madrid in April to participate in the FIRA qualification tournament for the 2014 Women’s Rugby World Cup. A bonus-point win over the Netherlands and a try-won win over Sweden sandwiched defeat to Italy and Scotland came third behind Spain and Samoa. With the two top teams proceeding, neither Scotland nor Italy will compete in next year’s World Cup.

Discussions surrounding participation in the 6 Nations have prompted a review of the women’s game in its entirety by Scottish Rugby.

Scotland A

This is the stepping stone for many players to reach the international stage, providing the opportunity to showcase their ability against second teams from other nations. They play against A-sides such as England Saxons, and the first teams of countries including Spain and Portugal.

This season they came together for just one game, in early February, against the English in Newcastle. Two penalties from stand-off Tom Heathcote, and a first-minute try from debutant winger, Duncan Taylor, were ultimately enough to secure victory (13-9) against the Saxons for the second year in a row and a first on English soil.

Scotland 7s

After some close results, summer 2012 saw the side qualify in Portugal for the Rugby World Cup 7s in Moscow this summer. After a disappointing start to the season, Scottish Rugby parted company with head coach Phil Greening and the decision was taken to appoint Stephen Gemmell to the post, initially on an interim basis, and then on a permanent footing until the Commonwealth Games 2014.

The second half of the season saw an upturn in results though a poor home tournament at the penultimate leg put the side 13th in the rankings and into the qualification tournament in London. Winning two out of three games on day one, the Scots rose to the occasion with clean-sheet wins over Tonga and England Saxons, and a first on English soil.

Scotland Women

Women’s 6 Nations
Sat 2 Feb - Scotland 0 - 76 England
Sun 10 Feb - Scotland 0 - 8 Italy
Sat 23 Feb - Scotland 3 - 30 Ireland
Sun 10 Mar - Scotland 0 - 13 Wales
Fri 15 Mar - France 76 - 0 Scotland
FIRA Women’s RWC Qualifier
Sat 20 Apr - Netherlands 7 - 29 Scotland
Tue 23 Apr - Italy 27 - 3 Scotland
Sat 24 Nov - Sweden 8 - 63 Scotland

Scotland Women 7s

Making their debut as a squad last summer, the players qualified for the European Grand Prix Series by coming second in the May 2012 FIRA tournament in Belgium. They qualified for the European Grand Prix Series by coming second in the May 2012 FIRA tournament in Belgium. They

with the cohort of players coming from the senior Scotland Women side, this year’s squad came together in mid-May following the end of the XV season - once again coached by former Scotland 7s captain Scott Forrest - and took part in tournaments in Brive and Marbella this month to set their European status.

Scotland 7s

HSBC Sevens World Series
Gold Coast, Australia
13 & 14 October
Scotland 14-31 Fiji
Scotland 0-22 Australia
Scotland 5-24 Tonga
Scotland 7-35 England (B Q-F)
Scotland 33-0 Portugal (B S-F)
Scotland 48-5 USA (Plate Final)
Dubai, 30 November - 1st December
Scotland 5-12 Kenya
Scotland 14-22 Fiji
Scotland 7-12 Spain
Scotland 29-14 Australia (B Q-F)
Scotland 5-12 Argentina (B S-F)
Nelson Mandela Bay, SA
8 & 9 December
Scotland 7-14 New Zealand
Scotland 21-19 Fiji
Scotland 12-33 England
Scotland 7-19 Kenya (B Q-F)
Scotland 14-21 Zimbabwe (B S-F)
Wellington, New Zealand
1 & 2 February
Scotland 14-12 Fiji
Scotland 19-17 Portugal
Scotland 5-29 Australia
Scotland 7-31 England (C Q-F)
Scotland 35-5 Argentina (P S-F)
Scotland 7-22 Australia (Plate Final)
Las Vegas, USA, 8 & 10 February
Scotland 12-10 Portugal
Scotland 12-14 Fiji

Scotland Women 7s

HSBC Sevens World Series
London, England, 11 & 12 May
Scotland 21-14 Zimbabwe
Scotland 19-20 Hong Kong
Scotland 31-0 Tonga (qualifier Q-F)
Scotland 19-0 Russia (qualifier S-F)

Scotland Women 7s

HSBC Sevens World Series
Brive, 1 & 2 June
Ukraine 27 - 0 Scotland
Italy 38 - 5 Scotland
Ireland 24 - 0 Scotland
France 38 - 5 Scotland
Spain 40 - 0 Scotland
Portugal 26 - 5 Scotland
Scotland 0 - 19 Ukraine

Scotland 0 - 43 Netherlands
Germany 31 - 3 Scotland

Leadership - Enjoyment - Achievement - Engagement - Respect
A YEAR IN SCOTTISH RUGBY

PERFORMANCE RUGBY

Scotland under-20

A ninth place finish in the summer 2012 Junior World Cup in South Africa – with narrow defeats to France and Argentina in the pool stage and wins against Italy and Samoa – secured their place at the year’s Championship.

Sean Lineen came on board in 2012/13 as head coach, working alongside John Dickie and Simon Cross. Changes were made to the programme to include training matches against club teams and a real focus on bringing the professional environment to this group.

There were two wins for the squad in this season’s Six Nations – against Italy and Ireland – and narrow defeats away to England and France. It not only showed the potential of these players but also highlighted the challenge to produce consistent performances, something that will be key going into this year’s Junior World Cup in France in June.

As well as overall results, this year also highlighted the importance of individual development, personified particularly by Jonny Gray and Mark Bennett who both progressed to play professional rugby in the RaboDirect PRO 12 during the season.

Scotland Women under-20

The aim of the under-20 programme is to identify, develop and prepare young players to progress on to the full Scotland Women senior programme to include training matches against club teams and a real introduction to performance behaviour for the 23 players, a number of whom were encouraged from individuals and the team.

Scotland Women under-20

The squad. Coached by Jules Maxton, assisted by Donna Kennedy and Claire Cruikshank, the squad took part in weekend training camps and regular skills sessions, with fixtures against Finland Women and Hartpury College.

Scotland Women under-20

A terrific win over Wales in their opening game in Europe guaranteed a top-four place at the FIRA-AER Justin Bridou Elite Division championship and led to a much-improved performance in a narrow defeat to England. The play-off for third/fourth spot took place at the Stade des Alpes in Grenoble, before a crowd of nearly 15,000 which provided valuable experience of the bigger stage for the young Scots, despite defeat to Ireland. That fourth placing in their age grade in Europe sees an improvement on last year’s fifth place with a number of the players still eligible to continue at this age grade next season.

Scotland under-18

This is the final stage of the intensive age grade programme with players identified at schools and clubs and through national selection fixtures and trials, under head coach Eddie Pollock.

After a loss to an experienced England side in Darlington in their opening match of the season, the squad bounced back to defeat Ireland in Hamilton. A terrific win over Wales in their opening game in Europe guaranteed a top-four place at the FIRA-AER Justin Bridou Elite Division championship and led to a much-improved performance in a narrow defeat to England. The play-off for third/fourth spot took place at the Stade des Alpes in Grenoble, before a crowd of nearly 15,000 which provided valuable experience of the bigger stage for the young Scots, despite defeat to Ireland. That fourth placing in their age grade in Europe sees an improvement on last year’s fifth place with a number of the players still eligible to continue at this age grade next season.

Scotland under-17

The culmination of the under-17 international programme was a development camp in July in Valladolid, Spain – a two-week event in partnership with Cumbernauld College and the Leonardo Fund. The camp provides an introduction to performance behaviour for the 23 players, a number of whom progress to play international rugby during the season – this will be continued in July 2013 following national selection fixtures and trials.

Scotland under-16

This is a first step for players in the international programme which, this year, was subject to a change in eligibility dates, to 1 September, in line with other nations. A new coaching team came on board this season comprising Gary Mercer, James Dempsey and Roddy Deans. The squad took part in the Wellington festival and despite defeat in all three games, there were encouraging performances from individuals and the team.
Elite development programme (EDP)

This continues to build a development platform for the most talented young players, all of whom are on individual programmes and aligned to Edinburgh Rugby or Glasgow Warriors.

During the season, 13 EDP players competed in the RaboDirect PRO12 or Heineken Cup, underlining the importance of the programme to Scottish Rugby. A number of these players, including Sean Kennedy, Robert McAlpine and Dougie Fife have been rewarded with professional contracts, with Sean and Dougie also playing for Scotland A.

Specialist skills

Under the guidance of Eddie Pollock, coaches provide specialist input at regional and national level for players across all teams, from under-16 to full international, including the professional teams. During the season a number of specialist skill updates were held throughout Scotland. These were well attended by all, including school and club coaches, as we continue to drive to improve standards of play at all levels.

Scotland Club XV

Following interviews, two new coaches were appointed this season – Phil Leck from Hawick and Graeme Young, from Stirling County. A number of players made their debut in the squad which enjoyed a win against Ireland and so lifted the Dalriada Cup, at Millbrae, before defeat to France away. This squad not only provides a further challenge for players performing well in their club teams but also gives them an opportunity to promote themselves at the next level of the game.

Scottish Exiles

It has been a great year for the Exile programme with the first wave of players, who were identified in 2006, when the programme began, coming through to the highest level. The most high profile Exiles’ graduates are Henry Pyrgos and Ryan Wilson (both Glasgow Warriors) both capped by Scotland this season. Hopes are also high for Duncan Taylor (Saracens), who scored a great try in the Scotland A win against Ireland at Millbrae, before defeat to France away. This side not only provides a further challenge for players performing well in their club teams but also gives them an opportunity to promote themselves at the next level of the game.

Munster at Scotstoun and despite a defeat away to Scarlets, the Warriors then went on to beat Ospreys at home and Connacht away to secure a third-place finish in the RaboDirect PRO12 and an away play-off against Leinster. Although Glasgow outscored the home side by two tries to one, it wasn’t enough to secure victory. Their equal highest finish in the league, however, was complemented by the third highest number of tries scored in the history of the Celtic League (66).

A key target for head coach Gregor Townsend this season was to ensure retention of a core group of players and this has materialised with A key target for head coach Gregor Townsend this season was to ensure retention of a core group of players and this has materialised with a narrow defeat away to Leinster was followed by a historic 51-24 victory over Munster at Scotstoun and despite a defeat away to Scarlets, the Warriors then went on to beat Ospreys at home and Connacht away to secure a third-place finish in the RaboDirect PRO12 and an away play-off against Leinster.

Although Glasgow outscored the home side by two tries to one, it wasn’t enough to secure victory. Their equal highest finish in the league, however, was complemented by the third highest number of tries scored in the history of the Celtic League (66).

A key target for head coach Gregor Townsend this season was to ensure retention of a core group of players and this has materialised with the re-signing of 11 players, including captain Al Kellock, DHR von der Merwe, Niko Matawalu, Jon Welsh and Pat MacArthur. Returning to the club next season is Richie Vernon, who is re-joining the club from English Premiership side Sale Sharks.

All that experience blends well with the youth of Fraser Brown and Kevin Bryce, who joined us on secondment and signed up for 2013/14 alongside Elite Development Player Jonny Gray, who moved on to a Warriors professional contract a year early and on-loan Mark Bennett who has re-signed for next season. Hanging up their boots this season have been Angus MacDonald, Rory Lamont and Graeme Morrison.

This has been a season of change for the club with highs on the field in the RaboDirect PRO12 and off the pitch with the successful move to Scotstoun, community engagement and player retention. New head coach Gregor Townsend joined the club along with a number of new players, including Niko Matawalu, Sean Maitland and Josh Strauss.

The side bounced back to beat Ospreys, Connacht, Zebre and Cardiff in the league before moving to Heineken Cup duty where they were pooled with Northampton Saints, Ulster and Castres. A disappointing campaign ensued with five pool defeats before rallying in their final game at home against Saints, where a Peter Horne converted try on 90 minutes sealed victory (27-20) and put the visitors out of the competition.

Back to the League victories over Treviso and Dragons were followed by defeats to Leinster and Munster.

Then Christmas came in the shape of the 16/72 Cup which Glasgow retained with home and away wins over Edinburgh Rugby, the fourth consecutive time they’ve lifted the cup.

The Warriors then picked up maximum points in their next five games, including the awesome dismantling, at Rodney Parade, of the Dragons. No Scottish side had won at the ground since 2008, but Warriors racked up their biggest-ever win (60-3) with an eight-try rout of their Welsh opposition. They also achieved bonus-point wins over Treviso, Zebre, Ulster and Cardiff Blues.

A narrow defeat away to Leinster was followed by a historic 51-24 victory over Munster at Scotstoun and despite a defeat away to Scarlets, the Warriors then went on to beat Ospreys at home and Connacht away to secure a third-place finish in the RaboDirect PRO12 and an away play-off against Leinster.
A record breaking season...

Gregor Townsend
RaboDirect PRO12
Coach of the Season

Al Kellock
Captain of the RaboDirect PRO12 Dream Team

RaboDirect PRO12 Dream Team
1. Stuart Hogg
9. Niko Matawalu
5. Al Kellock
1. Ryan Grant

Top 10 RaboDirect PRO12 try scorers
3. DTH Van der Merwe (10)
7. Tommy Seymour (7)
8. Niko Matawalu (7)

Glasgow Warriors Results - Season 2012/13

Fri 31 Aug
Glasgow 18-10 London Irish
Fri 7 Sep
Glasgow 13-18 Scarlets
Fri 14 Sep
Ospreys 10-28 Glasgow
Fri 21 Sep
Glasgow 27-17 Connacht
Fri 28 Sep
Glasgow 22-19 Zebre
Sat 6 Oct
Cardiff 3-18 Glasgow
Sun 14 Oct
Northampton 24-15 Glasgow
Fri 19 Oct
Glasgow 8-19 Ulster
Sat 27 Oct
Treviso 13-24 Glasgow
Fri 2 Nov
Glasgow 37-6 Dragons
Fri 23 Nov
Glasgow 0-6 Leinster
Sat 1 Dec
Munster 31-3 Glasgow
Fri 7 Dec
Glasgow 6-7 Castres
Sat 15 Dec
Castres 10-6 Glasgow
Fri 21 Dec
Glasgow 23-14 Edinburgh
Sat 29 Dec
Edinburgh 17-21 Glasgow
Fri 4 Jan
Glasgow 41-7 Treviso
Sat 11 Jan
Ulster 2-6 Glasgow
Sat 19 Jan
Glasgow 27-20 Northampton
Sun 10 Feb
Dragons 3-60 Glasgow
Fri 15 Feb
Connacht 15-13 Glasgow
Fri 22 Feb
Glasgow 20-14 Ulster
Fri 1 Mar
Glasgow 29-13 Cardiff
Sat 23 Mar
Leinster 22-17 Glasgow
Sat 29 Mar
Glasgow 51-24 Munster
Fri 12 Apr
Scarlets 29-6 Glasgow
Fri 19 Apr
Glasgow 35-17 Ospreys
Fri 5 May
Connacht 3-20 Glasgow
Sat 11 May
Leinster 17-5 Glasgow

RaboDirect PRO12

Position Team Points Diff B Pts
1. Glasgow Warriors 76 12 71 76
2. Leinster Rugby 78 11 67 78
3. Scarlets 66 10 56 66
4. Ospreys 38 9 30 38
5. Munster Rugby 38 8 30 38
6. Connacht Rugby 38 7 30 38
7. Edinburgh Rugby 38 6 30 38
8. Newport Dragons 38 5 30 38
9. Benetton Treviso 28 4 20 28
10. Benetton Treviso 22 3 16 22

Top 10 try scorers
1. Ryan Grant
2. DTH Van der Merwe
3. Tommy Seymour
4. Niko Matawalu

*cumulative season attendance

A YEAR IN SCOTTISH RUGBY

GLASGOW WARRIORS

- thanks to them all for their contributions to the club and our very best wishes in whatever path they take next.

While Gregor Townsend won the RaboDirect PRO12 Coach of the Year award in this, his first season in charge at Scotstoun, Warriors also had the most players in the RaboDirect PRO12 Dream Team, including Al Kellock as captain, along with Stuart Hogg, Niko Matawalu and Ryan Grant.

During the season they have also seen 21 players in the Scotland squad, 14 alone in the current squad for the quadrangular tournament in South Africa, and are obviously intensely proud of Stuart Hogg, Sean Maitland and Ryan Grant, their three Warrior British & Irish Lions.

Links with the community and supporters are paramount and 89 teams from 50 clubs in the area have played rugby at Scotstoun on matchdays. Warriors’ players have made 826 visits to clubs and schools throughout Glasgow and the west.

Without doubt, Scotstoun has quickly become the home of Glasgow Warriors – who haven’t lost there since December – with good crowds and a family-friendly environment. Players mingle with the supporters before and after matches – every one of the 51 who have donned the jersey this season have been out in the crowd signing autographs – and the clubhouse facility has proved popular.

Also winning fans is the club deck where corporate hospitality has been booked out since November and the business club, which has grown from 12 to 54 members, and revenue growth has been positive.

The team has reached the RaboDirect PRO12 play-offs three times in the last four years and with the majority of the team signed up for next season, optimism is high ahead of the second year at Scotstoun.

Glasgow Warriors Results - Season 2012/13
A YEAR IN SCOTTISH RUGBY

EDINBURGH RUGBY

The club have had a challenging season, finishing their RaboDirect PRO12 campaign one place higher (10th) in the league than last year and without the drama of a landmark European Cup campaign.

The 2012/13 season started amidst much excitement, as ten new faces checked into Edinburgh Rugby’s arrivals lounge, including a pair of Welsh caps, an All Black and a Georgian internationalist. Record breaking season ticket sales quickly followed as new fans bought into a year of support.

Sadly the contrast of this season’s Heineken Cup was stark. Having reached the semi-final in 2012/13, the club ended a wireless campaign in 2013/14 with a heavy home defeat to eventual semi-finalists, Saracens, the red flag preceding a tough time in the pool.

The club fared little better in the RaboDirect PRO12 with below par performances ultimately leading to the release of the entire coaching team (Michael Bradley, Billy McGinty and Neil Back) in the spring, the trio winning just four games in the 23 played prior to their departure.

Former players Stevie Scott (head coach) and Duncan Hodge (assistant coach) were brought in on an interim basis to take the control of forwards and backs respectively, and share the defensive responsibilities of the squad.

By contrast, the duo steered the side to three wins from the remaining five games, kicking off their campaign with a well-deserved victory in the RaboDirect PRO 12.

Despite a difficult term, the club’s attendances have held up well against the previous year, with the aforementioned season ticket success providing a solid foundation for the club’s crowds, which were only marginally down on seasons past.

After such a tough year, the club are anticipating challenges for the coming campaign. To end this a suite of summer initiatives are being launched to market the club in the close season and reach out to the rugby regions of the Lothians, Borders, Tayside and Fife.

There is also the excitement generated by new arrivals. Scotland caps Nikki Walker and Alasdair Dickson, and Tongan Aleki Lutui, have already provided vehicles for generating excitement. In addition, ten players were out of contract after the Dragons match, with more new faces set to arrive over the summer.

Further signings and the establishment of the coaching team are vital in ensuring the progress and improvement of the club in the seasons to come.

Rugby’s arrivals lounge, including a pair of Welsh caps, an All Black and a Georgian internationalist. Record breaking season ticket sales quickly followed as new fans bought into a year of support.

The 2012/13 season started amidst much excitement, as ten new faces checked into Edinburgh Rugby’s arrivals lounge, including a pair of Welsh caps, an All Black and a Georgian internationalist. Record breaking season ticket sales quickly followed as new fans bought into a year of support.

The club fared little better in the RaboDirect PRO12 with below par performances ultimately leading to the release of the entire coaching team (Michael Bradley, Billy McGinty and Neil Back) in the spring, the trio winning just four games in the 23 played prior to their departure.

By contrast, the duo steered the side to three wins from the remaining five games, kicking off their campaign with a well-deserved victory in the RaboDirect PRO 12.

European Cup campaign.

RaboDirect Pro12 Results - Season 2012/13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 01 Sep</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>18-23 Munster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 07 Sep</td>
<td>Cardiff</td>
<td>19-21 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 14 Sep</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>41-10 Zebre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 22 Sep</td>
<td>Leinster</td>
<td>22-16 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28 Sep</td>
<td>Dragons</td>
<td>32-12 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 05 Oct</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>22-27 Treviso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 13 Oct</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>0-45 Saracens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 21 Oct</td>
<td>Munster</td>
<td>33-19 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 26 Oct</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>28-29 Scarlets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 02 Nov</td>
<td>Ulster</td>
<td>45-20 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 23 Nov</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>23-13 Ospreys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 01 Dec</td>
<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>23-24 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 08 Dec</td>
<td>Racing Metro</td>
<td>19-9 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 15 Dec</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>24-7 Racing Metro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 29 Dec</td>
<td>Glasgow</td>
<td>23-14 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 05 Jan</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>16-31 Leinster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 13 Jan</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>17-26 Munster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 20 Jan</td>
<td>Saracens</td>
<td>40-7 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 27 Jan</td>
<td>Munster</td>
<td>30-3 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 14 Feb</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>16-17 Cardiff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 21 Feb</td>
<td>Ospreys</td>
<td>24-6 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28 Feb</td>
<td>Scarlets</td>
<td>14-13 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 04 Mar</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>16-8 Ulster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Mar</td>
<td>Zebre</td>
<td>7-9 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 18 Mar</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>24-12 Connacht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 25 Mar</td>
<td>Treviso</td>
<td>30-10 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 01 Apr</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>31-24 Dragons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 08 Apr</td>
<td>Treviso</td>
<td>30-10 Edinburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 15 Apr</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>31-24 Dragons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RaboDirect Pro12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Diff</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Leinster Rugby</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Munster Rugby</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ospreys</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Saracens</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Treviso</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Leinster</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Saracens</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RaboDirect Pro12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Diff</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Leinster Rugby</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Munster Rugby</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ospreys</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Saracens</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Treviso</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Leinster</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Saracens</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RaboDirect Pro12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Diff</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Leinster Rugby</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Munster Rugby</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ospreys</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RaboDirect Pro12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pos</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Diff</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Leinster Rugby</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Munster Rugby</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ospreys</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RaboDirect Pro12