



BILLINGHAM RUGBY CLUB
NEWS LETTER
“THE LION”



BILLINGHAM U10s
BRING HOME FIRST TROPHY OF THE SEASON
Durham county 7`s at Houghton Le Spring

Billingham were well fired up for this tournament after losing the final last year and starting this season with two good victories.

The first group game was against Durham City, which they won quite easily without playing, as well as they can, the final score was **Billingham 15 Durham City 0 with the tries scored by Connor Leck, Craig Willis and Matthew Kirby.**

The second game against Mowden Park was won at a canter without Billingham really getting into their stride, final score **Billingham 30 Mowden Park 0 tries scored by Craig Willis 4, Matthew Kirby and Connor Leck.**

In the semi final Billingham played Guisborough and finally began to play well, getting off to a great start with a try by Oliver McPhail finishing off good work by the whole team. Billingham then doubled their lead when Craig Willis scored following more good teamwork and went further ahead when Ben Gornall beat several opponents with speed for his first try for the team following another good team effort. Guisborough then pulled back a try making the half time score

Billingham 15 Guisborough 5.

The second half began much the same with Billingham on the up adding to their score with a try from Matthew Kirby. Although Guisborough pulled back another score, Billingham were well in control and scored again through Thomas Kuy to ease through to the final. **Final score Billingham 25 Guisborough 10**

Scorers O McPhail, C Willis, B Gornall, M Kirby and T Kuy.

The final was against last year’s nemesis Darlington, who beat us in two finals last season but Billingham were well up for the game right from the start and took an early lead through excellent teamwork allowing C Willis to open the scoring.

Billingham never looked back after this good opening and scored two further tries before half time through M Kirby and James Dixon.

Half time Billingham 15 Darlington 0

The second half continued the same as the first with Billingham in the ascendancy running in two more tries by C Willis and B Gornall, before Darlington pulled one back, but Billingham were not going to be denied and after some great rucking by the forwards on half way, Craig Willis threw a great long pass out to Ben Gornall on the wing, who then outstripped several defenders to score in the corner and complete a memorable victory for the boys in green and white.

Final score Billingham 30 Darlington 5

Scorers C Willis 2, B Gornall 2, M Kirby and J Dixon

So Billingham have finally broke their duck and put the first trophy on the shelf after being so close on many occasions, Well done boys as it was won with teamwork and plenty of style and enterprising play, take a bow Durham County 7`s Champions

Billingham, Hope it’s the first of many. Ian Kuy. Reporting

Well done u10s a great performance and a big pat on the back to the coach Shaun Willis and everyone else involved with the team

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**WANTED
MATCH REPORTS
FOR
ALL TEAMS
YOUTH
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IN FOUR GAMES THIS YEAR

- They have scored 197 points
- Played the 4 top teams
- Are undefeated
- Have not conceded a point

WELL DONE THE U15s

Percy Park 0 V Billingham 53

After last week without a game, the lads were keen to play again. This week Percy Park, who beat us last year, so we wanted revenge.

We knew it would be a tough game because they are a big, strong side. We started under pressure but after 5 mins it was relieved by a good breakaway try from Anth Hyndman, converted by Peter Evans. Just minutes later Phil McCarthy got the chance to show his pace on the wing, the ball passed out to him to score in the corner. Hard work from the forwards brought Phil another chance minutes later. Chris Dobson passing quickly to Danny Sayers then out again to Phil who could not be caught and scored his 2nd. Anth got his 2nd try after a spell of B\ham pressure brought us well into the Percy Park half and Anth Could break through to touch down under the posts for P Evans to convert. Then Peter got his own try after weaving through after receiving the ball 5m out. Just before half time Anth got his third try from another quick ball out from a ruck. Half time and 34 points to nil. It would be hard to believe we could keep another clean sheet.

The 2nd half saw us under pressure from Park but they could not break through. Time after time we put in the tackles and did not give them the chance to run at us.

Try of the game came from Anth, leaping to intercept a Park pass in our own half and sprinting on to place the ball between the posts. Peter Evans converted.

Percy Park had no answer to our passing and tackling. Anth got his fifth try of the game, which Peter converted. Then P McCarthy got his third from another excellent passing move from the backs. The Ref blew for full time, and we had done it, another clean sheet. A real team effort again, with excellent tackling and support. Defensively very strong again, even No8 James Watson kicked for touch under pressure on his own try line. Everyone played their part, with five replacements used the side remained strong. An excellent all round performance from A. Hyndman gets him man of the match. Four games, 197 points scored, none conceded. Well done lads.

Richie Watson U15s Manager reporting

BILLINGHAM UNDER 9'S

The team's first home games of the season proved to be both fruitful for the players and rewarding for the coaching staff, who have all worked hard pre-season to come out 'all guns blazing'. The visitors today were Stockton and Sunderland (whom we played twice).

BILLINGHAM 35 v SUNDERLAND 5

An incisive run in the opening couple of minutes by Jonathan Rumis gave Billingham an early lead, which they were never to surrender. A loose ball was pounced upon shortly after kick off and when the ball came to Curtis Kirby he shrugged off several players to run in a determined try. Baden Knibbs put Billingham 15-0 up with a mazy run, before Jonathan Rumis ran in a fantastic individual try prior to half time.

The visitors came out fighting at the start of the second half and following a couple of missed tackles on the right wing Sunderland pulled one back. This seemed to wake Billingham up and they were soon back on the scoring trail, Luke Wilson powering through the heart of the Sunderland back line to score two tries. Excellent support play from the Billingham pack ensured a hatrick for Jonathan Rumis late on.

BILLINGHAM 15 v STOCKTON 5

A shorter game was played for this encounter as Stockton's under 9's team has only recently teamed up. However in the opening minute Billingham were to realise this was not going to be a walk over when Stockton burst down the left flank unopposed to put the visitors ahead. This only seemed to infuriate Billingham and they responded immediately from kick off with a similar try from Luke Wilson. Glenn Richardson's relentless midfield tackling was rewarded soon after as he ran in a deserved try.

This set the tone for the second half and despite only one further try from that man Luke Wilson the result never looked in doubt.

BILLINGHAM 25 v SUNDERLAND 5

This game turned out to be a game of contrasting halves. The opening half was rather scrappy and despite tries from Jonathan Rumis and Baden Knibbs the referee had to warn Billingham against high tackling at the interval.

The second half was a much more controlled affair and Billingham set up some fantastic mauls to drive home their advantage. Distribution from the scrums was also pleasing on the eye and this quick handling brought further tries for Jonathan Rumis and Baden Knibbs. An excellent display of hard, fair tackling from Matthew Routh was rewarded as he ran in a try with the last play of the game.

Well done to all involved, this gives Bvham a great base on which to build during the season ahead.
Match Report by Paul Kirby (under 9's manager)

Billingham u10s (2004 CUP WINNERS) Vs Guisborough u10

Billingham were hoping to build on last week's good result at Ryton against Guisborough in our first home game of the season. Billingham got off to a great start when Craig Willis scored early after some good runs and ball retention by the whole team. The game then became very even with both sides going close but denied by two good defences. Billingham then doubled their lead when Matthew Kirby forced his way over the line after several phases involving the whole team. Again Guisborough came back strongly but were denied on several occasions by good defensive tackling including one last-ditch tackle in the corner by two Billingham players. Billingham then put together a period of sustained pressure, which led to, a third try scored by James Dixon.

Half time Billingham 15 Guisborough 0

The second half began like the first with Billingham on the attack and retaining the ball well keeping their opponents on the back foot for long periods, this eventually paid off when Thomas Kuy crossed the line for the fourth. Billingham then made changes to give some less experienced players a chance but the game continued in the same pattern with Guisborough defending, desperately trying to stop a by now rampant Billingham, as they poured forward looking for more points. The pressure finally told as Billingham scored twice more with Craig Willis scoring his second of the game and Oliver McPhail rounding off a fine team performance with his first try for Billingham. **Final score Billingham 30 Guisborough 0**

Scorers C Willis 2 M Kirby T Kuy J Dixon O McPhail

A great performance by the whole squad of players and a good defensive effort from Guisborough whose heads never dropped when Billingham applied the pressure in the second half or the score would have been much higher. Well done lads

Billingham U10s (2004 CUP WINNERS) vs Sunderland U10

After winning their first trophy in the county 7's last week, Bingham hosted Sunderland hoping to keep up their unbeaten start to the season.

With a full squad to choose from they started with their strongest line up but got bogged down in a scrappy opening quarter against much bigger and heavier opposition, which then got worse when influential play maker Craig Willis left the field after a knock to the head and then hooker Thomas Kuy followed soon afterwards with the same following a high tackle. Bingham then took the lead at the end of the first quarter when Connor Leck set off on a weaving run breaking several tackles and outstripping the defence to score in the corner but injured his foot in doing so and took no further part in the game. As the game was played over four quarters the coaches then had a chance to change things and Bingham came out for the second quarter with more purpose, led by a fit again Craig Willis they began to play more of a passing game and getting the ball out wide, this tactic worked with first a try on the outside by winger Ben Gornall and then a brace from Craig Willis before half time. **Half time Bingham 20 Sunderland 0**

The second half began with Bingham in full flow, back to almost full strength and they took control and looked like scoring every time they had the ball, with Craig Willis running riot scoring four times. With Matthew Kirby scoring twice and Ben Gornall adding his second before Sunderland eventually troubled the scorer when they scored from a penalty close to the home line.

Bingham had the last word though when Craig Willis scored his seventh and the team's twelfth try following some good teamwork.

Well done lads, another great team effort and let's see if we can keep this winning run going.

Final score Bingham 60 Sunderland 5.

Scorers C Willis 7, B Gornall 2, M Kirby 2, C Leck. Ian Kuy. Reporting

Under tens sponsored by I.K. Joinery, McDonalds Wolviston and Aker Kvaerner

Billingham under 9s

Bingham under 9s made their season debut at the Houghton festival, Bingham played Guisborough in the first of their group games, a great start as Matty Routh crossed after taking the ball from a Guisborough player and making a strong run, After this Bingham took complete control with excellent tackling and maul play, further tries by Johnny Remus, Luke Wilson and Glenn Richardson sealed an emphatic win Final score, **Bingham 30 Guisborough 0**

In game 2 of the group Bham took on old rivals West –this was a tough game with good tackles going in from both teams, Bham Getting the better of west in the rucks and mauls, Matty Routh crossed again and late in the game Luke Wilson crossed after an excellent mazy run.

Final Score, Bingham 10 West 0

In the final group game Bham took on Durham City –this was again an excellent contest, with tries from Luke Wilson, Johnny Remus, Glenn Richardson And Matty Routh, **Final Score, Bingham 20 Durham City 20**

Bingham moved in to the semi final stage and were paired against Mowden Park again some excellent play from both teams, Bingham levelled after going a try down but Mowden managed to score another to seal their place in the final. Well done to all of the team in their first game(s) of this season.

Final Score, Bingham 5 Mowden Park 10 Report by Paul; Routh, Bingham under 9s coach.

Billingham U11's 14 v Guisborough U11's 26

A baptism of fire for 4 new players to the club who turned up to try the game and found themselves after 30 mins coaching thrust into a game. The extra experience of the Gbro team showed itself as they scored 3 tries, however 2 were breakaway tries after Bham had started to maintain possession and found themselves in Gbro territory but lacking the passing skills to take advantage. Captain Robbie Lavender scoring with David Rawson converting to keep us in touch.

The second half saw Bham starting as they had finished and again dominating both possession and territory and scoring a try through Ryan Maddren who also converted. Again near the end Gbro scored a breakaway try to give them a more flattering score line than they merited. David Rawson won man of the match for strong running, tackling and perseverance despite taking some heavy blows.

Overall a good effort especially from the new players which bodes well for the season.