



BILLINGHAM RUGBY CLUB
NEWS LETTER
“THE LION”



COMMUNITY RUGBY
ACTIVE SPORTS
SEAL OF APPROVAL

Billingham under 10s boosted by large numbers of new players were up and ready for the first game of the season -home to Blaydon,

Billingham 50
v
Blaydon 0

In the first game Billingham continued in the same vein of form since winning the county cup in the previous season, the ever reliable backs , Rumis, Wilson, and Routh got quick ball from rucks and mauls and made darting runs to the try line, Billingham pushed Blaydon all the way and Blaydon could not match Billingham in the swift passing game that developed. At half time new blood was introduced supported by some of the more experienced Billingham boys-again Billingham were swift with ball in hand and further tries were added by the superb backs. To their credit Blaydon continued to tackle but in the end were no match for this Billingham team

Billingham 30
Blaydon 0

Game two

It was decided a 2nd game would be played in order to blood new boys and to test new training ground moves, It still resulted in a comprehensive victory for Billingham and finished 30-0 ,

The Billingham coach was delighted with the performances of all the boys and especially the new players who have bonded well with the team.

Report by Paul Routh Billingham Under 10s coach

Billingham u13s 59
v
Durham City 0

On the back of a convincing victory over West Hartlepool last week (57-5) B/ham u13s put in another outstanding performance. They played with confidence, flair, discipline and slick hands. Tom Kill outran the D/ham defence repeatedly with his amazing pace and ran in four tries. All these tries were set up by the forward's hard graft and the two half backs ability to move the ball through their hands quickly. This was even more impressive given that it was Mark Brewis's first match at scrum half. Jake Day also played well with

two tries scored due to his speed, nimble side-stepping and ability to create new angles. Daniel Sanderson scored his first try for B/ham due to brilliant support play and positioning. Kareem Omar powered through 5 metres of defenders to touch down under the posts. Conor Shea absolutely destroyed the D/ham defence beating four defenders with his handoffs and strength. He also showed how far a forward can run if he has to.

All the players played for the team not themselves, Adam Cockburn being notable for his lack of selfishness. Durham were not a weak side but were out-classed by sheer pace and strength.

This was a first match for Shaun Wallis and Jude Egan who both played well. Unfortunately three key players – Marcus Sudron, Cole Henderson and Stuart Adnett – were all out with broken bones. Daniel Finney was man of the match for the way he created spaces through the Durham defence and his superb kicking.

Stuart Adnett Reporting

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WANTED
MATCH REPORTS
FOR
ALL TEAMS
YOUTH
AND SENIOR

Guisborough U16s 5 v Billingham U16s 46

Today we met a mixed U16 and U17 Guisborough side. We started well with a try after 5 minutes. We won a scrum on half-way and got the ball out to Dave Beecroft on the wing, who scored in the corner. B/ham dominated possession and passed the ball well through the backs to the wing, then back inside to Anth Hyndman who made a good run before passing it to James Charville to get the try. The next try came from a lineout in our half, which we won, after several phases and some more excellent passing from the backs James Charville received the ball and charged through the defence to score his second. This was converted by Peter Evans. Just before the break Anth Hyndman scored a superb individual try, picking the ball up in our own half and weaving through the Guisborough line.

The second half continued with Billingham dominating play. James Watson picked up a loose ball 30 metres out and broke through to score. Phil McCarthy got the next points, we won a scrum on halfway and got the ball out to Phil on the wing, his pace taking him to the corner. Expert conversion from Peter Evans. From the restart we made a great driving maul pushing Guisborough back across the half way line, the ball was passed out to Danny Sayers who broke the line and they could not catch him.

Injuries brought the sides down to 13 each team and uncontested scrums. Guis had not given up and kept on trying to break down the Billingham defence. Unfortunately for them Phil McCarthy intercepted a pass out to the wing and sprinted 40 meters to place the ball between the posts. Peter Evans converted. Gutsy Guis still did not give up and scored a try of their own just on full time. Billingham giving away several penalties in their own half and Guis taking full advantage of them. Another good result from a solid team performance. Richie Watson Reporting

Billingham U12s 7 Blaydon U12s 40

B/ham started strongly and mauled over the line within 3 minutes of the start of the game but could not get the ball placed on the ground. With what seemed to be an evenly matched two teams, B/ham could not break through Blaydon's strong defence. Blaydon running in the first try and then converting. B/ham having a lot of new players starting this season and a large number who have not played in a match against opposition, showed some inexperience; but they did not allow themselves to be over run by putting up a strong defence a number of times when put under pressure on the line. B/ham again mauled over the line in the second half but again could not place the ball down. Good, positive forward running was shown by both teams throughout the match. Blaydon running in six tries and converting all apart from one. B/ham still showed determination and eventually got the try they deserved. Adam McDonnell chasing the ball down and putting Blaydon under pressure on their own line allowing him to score his first try in a match. Billingham then converted with a positive kick taken by Craig Errington. Man of the match could not be awarded to any one single player with the whole team doing well. It was decided that Robbie Lavender, David Rawson and Craig Errington should receive it. Neil Foster Reporting

Billingham U11 V Blaydon U11

At last the first game of the season has arrived with the visit of Blaydon to Greenwood Road. The boys were up for it after some hard training and were chomping at the bit hoping to match last seasons success.

The match was to be played over four quarters, which suited us as we had a large squad including new players and this allowed us to try all the squad. The game kicked off with us fielding our first choice line up which was mostly made up of lads from last season, but the game is now twelve a side, so some were in new positions. We took the game to Blaydon from the off and were in their half for most of the first quarter and eventually took the lead when Ben Gornall picked the ball up from the back of a ruck on halfway and outstripped all the defenders to score on the outside. The conversion was kicked by Matthew Kirby to make the score 7-0. Blaydon then came back at us until some excellent back play opened them up again, Starting in our own half from the back of a scrum the ball was passed through several sets of hands and reached Connor Leck who ran to just short of the line, drew the defender, then popped the ball out for winger Aaron Naqui to score. Matthew Kirby again added the two points to make the score 14-0.

Several changes were made for the second quarter with a lot of new faces, some playing their first proper game of rugby. They acquitted themselves well, giving as good as they got but eventually Blaydon broke away and opened their account with a try and conversion just before the whistle.

Half time Billingham 14 Blaydon 7

The second half began with us again fielding probably our strongest twelve and were soon in control again pinning Blaydon back but were kept out by some excellent defending. But something had to give and we increased our advantage when the ball reached Joshua Devlin on the wing to score his first try for Billingham in his first ever game of rugby.

Then another newcomer got in on the act when after some good forward play by several of the pack, prop Blake Duffield picked up from the back of a ruck and burst over to score. Matthew Kirby converted both these tries to make the score at the end of the third quarter 28-7.

Again changes were made but we were well in control by now and should maybe have scored more in the fourth than the one try we did when hooker Thomas Kuy, with help from several other forwards, drove over to score with Matthew Kirby adding the extra points to finish the scoring.

Full time Billingham 35 Blaydon 7.

Tries B Gornall, A Naqui, J Devlin, B Duffield, T Kuy Conv. M Kirby 5

Well done boys an excellent start, a bit rusty at times but also some superb rugby played by everyone. Well done all the lads playing their first game of rugby you did well and will get better. Good to see two newcomers get on the score sheet Joshua and Blake who also deserves a mention for playing the last quarter for Blaydon and was one of their best players. Keep up the good work boys and we should have as good a season as last year. Reporter Ian Kuy.

Billingham U15s Vs Acklam U15s

Hoping for a second home win of the season, we step onto the pitch expecting a good game. For the first few minutes Billingham play well until Acklam ran from our 22 line to score before the five minutes mark, Acklam miss the kick. Billingham came back stronger, with three possible tries in the next quarter of a hour, but Acklam broke away and scored another try. Again not converted. Just after this, the half time whistle blew with the score 10-0 to Acklam.

From the start of the second half, Billingham were strong in the tackles until Acklam once again broke through and scored, which was converted. Billingham were getting stronger and stronger till an incident involving two players resulting both getting sent off, A few minutes later, Acklam got their winning scoring under the post, which was converted.

Acklam 24 – 0 Billingham

A good game lads. Good tackling from the forwards and the backs showing great ball handing skills in the second half the lads showed good character and never let there heads go down. All round (bar the result) a good game.

By Tony Kuy

Ashton-on-Mersey U16s 12 V Billingham U16s 36

We set off early from Greenwood Road to make the trek across to Ashton. It would have been earlier but Dixon had slept in, there's always one!! We got a nice friendly reception and an hour to warm up before kick off. We had played Ashton when we were on tour in Holland, we narrowly beat them over 20 minutes so looked forward to a tough game.

From the kick off we dominated possession and after just 4 minutes we got our first try of the day. We won our lineout 30 metres out and passed the ball well along the backs to be stopped on the 5 metre line, James Watson picked the ball up from the base of the ruck and drove over. The next try came shortly after, we won a scrum in our own half, after a couple of rucks we got the ball out to Anth Hyndman who ran through the defence and placed the ball between the posts. Peter Evans converted. We kept the pressure on and Peter Evans kicked the ball cross field for Phil McCarthy to chase on the wing. An Ashton player beat Phil to it and Danny Dixon in close support of Phil stole the ball off him and ran between the posts to score. Converted easily by Peter Evans. The last try of the half came from a great run from No 10 Peter Evans who received the ball from the scrum deliberately missed out both centres and ran through the defence to be stopped just short of the line. From the ruck scrum half Dave Beecroft picked up and crossed the line himself for his first try for Billingham.

Half time 0 – 24

In the second half we changed things round a bit in the forwards using all 4 replacements. Ashton had been working better together towards the end of the first half, and started strongly in the second but gave away a penalty in their own half. From the penalty we got in a maul and drove their pack back towards their line, when the ball came out slick passing got the ball to Phil McCarthy on the wing and he scored in the corner. Ashton put us under more pressure and scored a converted try of their own. Towards the end of the match Danny Westall made an excellent run, and when stopped popped the ball up to James Watson in support who ran on to score between the posts. Peter Evans does not miss these, and he coolly kicked the con. Ashton scored again before the end but it too late for a revival. Billingham dominated in all aspects of the game and for long spells did not give Ashton the chance to play. Ashton showed organisation and individual skill at times, but seemed rusty and I'm sure they will improve as the season progresses. We look forward to the return fixture next year. Man of the match was Captain Anth Hyndman.

Durham U16s 5 Billingham U16s 46

We did not play Durham last season, and as they had made it to the final of the County Cup, I imagined they had improved since our last meeting when we won 58 to nil. We expected a tough game. Billingham dominated from the start and won a lineout in the Durham half. From the lineout the ball was passed out along the line and Ben Laing supporting from Full Back received it to score in the corner. We won a scrum on the half way line, got the ball to Anth Hyndman who burst through the defence to score. From a Durham scrum the ball went loose and Peter Evans reacted to grubber the ball through and chase, he picked the ball up and when stopped, popped the ball to Mathew Stringer who scored in the corner. The first spell of Durham pressure came towards the end of the half, they passed the ball out to where they had an overlap on the wing to score in the corner. A defensive kick from Durham after the restart was picked up on halfway by Dave Beecroft playing wing, who sprinted into the corner to score. Half time, Durham 5 points to Billingham 20.

The second half started with Durham on the defence again. Danny Dixon made a strong run, he passed the ball to Dave Beecroft and received the ball back in support to be stopped just short of the line where Danny Sayers picked up the loose ball and dived over the line. It was Danny Sayers again who got the next try after receiving the ball from a scrum, running from our own half to touch down between the posts. This one converted by Peter Evans. James Watson was next to get on the score sheet picking the ball up 30 metres out and powering through to score between the posts. This was converted by Peter Evans. The final try of the game was Danny Sayers third, another strong run and try between the posts. The final kick was a Peter Evans conversion, getting used to his new boots, but he does not miss from there. A decent game, but a bit scrappy at times. This was Durham's first outing of the season so they lacked a bit of match practice. I'm sure they will get stronger as the season goes on and give us a harder game at home. A well-prepared and organised Billingham squad was too much for them today. The Durham Coaches selected our Man of the Match today. For a great performance at Full back it was Ben Laing.