

President's Message

Good afternoon and welcome to Bridgehaugh for today's encounter with Glasgow Hawks, we extend a warm welcome to President Stephen Winter and his committee for what we hope will be an entertaining encounter. Hawks got their first win of the season last week when they demolished Gala at Old Anniesland, we however lost out to Hawick at Mansfield Park in a mixed performance but managed to come away with a Bonus Point after being 19 3 down during a mad first half 15 minute spell where we played to the lower end of where we aspire to be. Hawks will be a good test for us today, they will play positive rugby as we will...should be a good match.

I also welcome our match officials who will be given the utmost respect this afternoon.

Today we have a full-house of fixtures at Bridgehaugh, with our 2nd XV entertaining their Hawks counterparts in BT National Reserve League One; while our 3rd XV are also at home as they kick start their campaign with a match against our near-neighbours Alloa in BT Caledonia Midland Division Four Midlands. The U18's hope to maintain their winning start to their season with a match up against Ayr.

Today's match is sponsored for the first time by Kilgannon Motors in Bannockburn; as a customer myself I can personally vouch for a good honest company with a fantastic Service to both car and client, I thank Jamie Kilgannon for supporting Stirling County RFC. My thanks also go to all our table sponsors, and all others who support our club, your backing is greatly appreciated.

Membership monies are coming in at a welcome rate, if you haven't already done so can you please oblige as this funding is a crucial source of income to the Club. Full members gain free admission to all home BT Premiership matches and can access discounted bar prices and other Club promotions.

John Wright
Club President

Adamson's Analysis

Something new....

With a new team, with new players in its make up, and a new coach at the helm, there will inevitably be new challenges for everyone to deal with; and so the start of the new season has provided this to, what appears to be, an exciting Stirling County team with a load of potential.

The positivity and camaraderie within the 1st team squad, only three games into the new season, is refreshing, the players joining the club from overseas and from closer to home, have all worked hard and gelled with more established players to create an atmosphere that most coaches would be happy to be part of.

Positivity is a great thing in team sports, but it will only get a team so far. Having seen the All Blacks train first hand, the positivity within their squad is off the charts, but what sets them apart is their hard edge and non-acceptance of mediocrity. Whilst I wouldn't want to compare our new Stirling team to the All Blacks, it seems that this Stirling team has yet to find, and/or develop, their hard edge that will see them forget mediocrity and strive to always be better than they were previously. It's a young side, and with Stirling traditionally being a club known for it's hard edge, this squad will find theirs.

We go into today's game against a Glasgow Hawks team in a similar situation to ourselves; new players, new coach, with one win from three, one try scoring bonus point and one losing bonus point. The only difference being the points difference, where we sit on -7, to Hawks' -14. So, as you can see, it suggests it might be tight affair, and with Hawks high on confidence following their cracking win against Gala last week, and us coming away from the almost indomitable Mansfield Park with a losing bonus point, it is almost too tight to call.

DWA

