



EUROPEAN RUGBY
CHALLENGE
— CUP —

Challenge Cup 2017/18

Semi-final: Gloucester Rugby v Newcastle Falcons



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Match Facts

Friday, 20 April

Kick-off: 19:45, Kingsholm Stadium

Referee: Pascal Gauzere (Fra)

Assistant Referee 1: Jerome Garces (Fra)

Assistant Referee 2: Alexandre Ruiz (Fra)

TMO: Eric Briquet-Campin (Fra)

Citing Commissioner: Dennis Jones (Wal)

TV: BT Sport / beIN SPORTS

- This will be the first time the clubs have met in the Challenge Cup despite having played a combined 196 games in the competition.
- Gloucester have won five of their last six games against Aviva Premiership opposition (L1), while Newcastle have lost five of their last six such games (W1).
- The Cherry and Whites are in the semi-finals of the Challenge Cup for the fifth time, and for the third time in the last four seasons.
- Newcastle have reached the Challenge Cup semi-finals for the first time since 2008 and for the fifth time overall. They've lost all four to date.
- Newcastle are one of two clubs with a 100% win rate this season (along with Pau); Gloucester were the last side to win all their matches on their way to lifting the trophy in 2014/15.
- Newcastle have scored 10 tries this season originating from a successful turnover, more than any other side, while Gloucester have scored the second most (7, level with Agen).
- The Falcons have missed fewer tackles per game than any other side this season (12.7) and as a result boast the best tackle success rate (91%).
- Gloucester have averaged 5.9 tries per game, more than any other side this season, while Newcastle have scored the third most (5.3).
- Adam Radwan leads the way for tries scored (10), metres gained (630), defenders beaten (45) and clean breaks (13, level with Gloucester's Henry Purdy).
- Just three players have assisted 5+ tries in this season's Challenge Cup – Gloucester's Owen Williams (6) and Ben Vellacott (5) and Newcastle's Toby Flood (5).



2017/18 Results and Standings

Pool 3

Pos	Team	Pl	W	D	L	PF	PA	Diff	TF	TA	TB	LB	Pts
1	Q Pau	6	6	0	0	207	125	82	28	16	5	0	29
2	q Gloucester Rugby	6	4	0	2	253	139	114	37	18	4	1	21
3	Zebre Rugby Club	6	1	0	5	133	257	-124	16	37	2	2	8
4	Agen	6	1	0	5	148	220	-72	20	30	2	0	6

Date	Round	Home	Score	Away
12/10/2017	1	Pau	27-21	Gloucester Rugby
19/10/2017	2	Gloucester Rugby	61-16	Agen
09/12/2017	3	Zebre Rugby Club	26-33	Gloucester Rugby
16/12/2017	4	Gloucester Rugby	69-12	Zebre Rugby Club
12/01/2018	5	Agen	24-45	Gloucester Rugby
19/01/2018	6	Gloucester Rugby	24-34	Pau
31/03/2018	QF	Connacht Rugby	28-33	Gloucester Rugby

Pool 1

Pos	Team	Pl	W	D	L	PF	PA	Diff	TF	TA	TB	LB	Pts
1	Q Newcastle Falcons	6	6	0	0	229	122	107	33	15	4	0	28
2	Dragons	6	3	0	3	156	133	23	21	17	2	2	16
3	Bordeaux-Bègles	6	3	0	3	190	178	12	26	24	3	1	16
4	Enisei-STM	6	0	0	6	91	233	-142	12	36	0	1	1

Date	Round	Home	Score	Away
14/10/2017	1	Newcastle Falcons	32-27	Dragons
21/10/2017	2	Bordeaux-Bègles	20-21	Newcastle Falcons
09/12/2017	3	Newcastle Falcons	52-24	Bordeaux-Bègles
15/12/2017	4	Dragons	25-27	Newcastle Falcons
14/01/2018	5	Newcastle Falcons	64-7	Enisei-STM
20/01/2018	6	Enisei-STM	19-33	Newcastle Falcons
30/03/2018	QF	Newcastle Falcons	25-10	Brive



Challenge Cup Records Compared

	Gloucester Rugby	Newcastle Falcons
Played	82	113
Wins	64	76
Draws	1	0
Losses	17	37
Total Points For	2971	3478
Total Points Against	1460	2005
Total Tries For	374	449
Total Tries Against	164	216

2017/18 Points Scorers

Gloucester Rugby:

Player	Points
Owen Williams	55
Ollie Thorley	30
Billy Twelvetrees	24

Newcastle Falcons:

Player	Points
Adam Radwan	50
Toby Flood	44
Joel Hodgson	37

Head-to-head record

First meeting in the competition



2017/18 Performance Data

Gloucester Rugby v Newcastle Falcons – Team Averages

	Gloucester Rugby	Newcastle Falcons
Points	40.9	36.3
Tries	5.9	5.3
Goalkicking %	83%	74%
Carries	108.3	125.6
Metres	395.9	537.9
Breaks	12.4	13.0
Defenders Beaten	20.6	28.9
Offloads	7.6	11.1
Passes	153.6	189.3
Kicks from Hand	15.0	26.0
Tackles	159.6	136.1
Missed Tackles	20.6	12.7
Tackle %	89%	91%
Penalties Conceded	10.7	9.9
Turnovers Conceded	14.3	14.9
Turnovers Won	7.0	7.0
Lineout %	81%	87%
Lineout Steals	1.3	0.9
Scrum %	98%	92%
Scrums against the head	0.0	0.0
Ruck %	97%	97%
Time in Possession (mm:ss)	16:10	19:47



Gloucester Rugby v Newcastle Falcons – Leading Scorers - Challenge Cup 2017/18

Points

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Tries	Cons	PGs	DGs	Points
1	Owen Williams	Gloucester Rugby	7	2	18	3	0	55
2	Adam Radwan	Newcastle Falcons	7	10	0	0	0	50
3	Toby Flood	Newcastle Falcons	5	2	14	2	0	44
4	Joel Hodgson	Newcastle Falcons	6	2	9	3	0	37
5	Ollie Thorley	Gloucester Rugby	3	6	0	0	0	30
6	Billy Twelvetrees	Gloucester Rugby	7	0	9	2	0	24
7	Henry Purdy	Gloucester Rugby	6	4	0	0	0	20
8	Alex Tait	Newcastle Falcons	4	3	0	0	0	15
8	Ben Vellacott	Gloucester Rugby	6	3	0	0	0	15
8	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	6	3	0	0	0	15
8	Zach Kibirige	Newcastle Falcons	5	3	0	0	0	15

Tries

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Tries
1	Adam Radwan	Newcastle Falcons	7	10
2	Ollie Thorley	Gloucester Rugby	3	6
3	Henry Purdy	Gloucester Rugby	6	4
4	Alex Tait	Newcastle Falcons	4	3
4	Ben Vellacott	Gloucester Rugby	6	3
4	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	6	3
4	Zach Kibirige	Newcastle Falcons	5	3
8	Callum Braley	Gloucester Rugby	5	2
8	David Halaifonua	Gloucester Rugby	3	2
8	Gary Graham	Newcastle Falcons	4	2
8	Henry Trinder	Gloucester Rugby	4	2
8	Jake Polledri	Gloucester Rugby	6	2
8	Joel Hodgson	Newcastle Falcons	6	2
8	Owen Williams	Gloucester Rugby	7	2
8	Richard Hibbard	Gloucester Rugby	5	2
8	Ruan Ackermann	Gloucester Rugby	3	2
8	Ryan Burrows	Newcastle Falcons	7	2
8	Toby Flood	Newcastle Falcons	5	2

Goalkicking %

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	PGs	Cons	Attempts	%
1	Joel Hodgson	Newcastle Falcons	6	3	9	12	100%
2	Billy Burns	Gloucester Rugby	5	0	6	7	86%
3	Owen Williams	Gloucester Rugby	7	3	18	25	84%
4	Billy Twelvetrees	Gloucester Rugby	7	2	9	14	79%
5	Craig Willis	Newcastle Falcons	4	0	4	6	67%
6	Toby Flood	Newcastle Falcons	5	2	14	25	64%



Gloucester Rugby v Newcastle Falcons – Top Performers - Challenge Cup 2017/18

Carries

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Carries
1	Adam Radwan	Newcastle Falcons	7	79
2	Ryan Burrows	Newcastle Falcons	7	67
3	Simon Hammersley	Newcastle Falcons	6	66
4	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	6	57
5	Mark Atkinson	Gloucester Rugby	5	54
6	Henry Purdy	Gloucester Rugby	6	52
7	Jake Polledri	Gloucester Rugby	6	48
8	Zach Kibirige	Newcastle Falcons	5	40
9	Toby Flood	Newcastle Falcons	5	39
10	Gary Graham	Newcastle Falcons	4	38

Metres

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Metres
1	Adam Radwan	Newcastle Falcons	7	630
2	Ryan Burrows	Newcastle Falcons	7	465
3	Simon Hammersley	Newcastle Falcons	6	429
4	Jake Polledri	Gloucester Rugby	6	293
5	Zach Kibirige	Newcastle Falcons	5	283
6	Henry Purdy	Gloucester Rugby	6	251
7	Charlie Sharples	Gloucester Rugby	4	240
8	David Halaifonua	Gloucester Rugby	3	188
9	Ollie Thorley	Gloucester Rugby	3	181
10	Tom Penny	Newcastle Falcons	5	173

Breaks

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Breaks
1	Adam Radwan	Newcastle Falcons	7	13
1	Henry Purdy	Gloucester Rugby	6	13
3	Ollie Thorley	Gloucester Rugby	3	8
4	Charlie Sharples	Gloucester Rugby	4	7
4	Jake Polledri	Gloucester Rugby	6	7
4	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	6	7
7	Micky Young	Newcastle Falcons	4	6
7	Ryan Burrows	Newcastle Falcons	7	6
7	Zach Kibirige	Newcastle Falcons	5	6
10	David Halaifonua	Gloucester Rugby	3	5
10	Toby Flood	Newcastle Falcons	5	5
10	Tom Penny	Newcastle Falcons	5	5



Defenders Beaten

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Defenders Beaten
1	Adam Radwan	Newcastle Falcons	7	45
2	Jake Polledri	Gloucester Rugby	6	25
3	Ryan Burrows	Newcastle Falcons	7	21
4	Simon Hammersley	Newcastle Falcons	6	19
5	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	6	14
6	Zach Kibirige	Newcastle Falcons	5	13
7	Jason Woodward	Gloucester Rugby	4	11
8	David Halaifonua	Gloucester Rugby	3	10
8	Tom Penny	Newcastle Falcons	5	10
10	Mark Atkinson	Gloucester Rugby	5	9
10	Ollie Thorley	Gloucester Rugby	3	9

Offloads

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Offloads
1	Ryan Burrows	Newcastle Falcons	7	9
1	Simon Hammersley	Newcastle Falcons	6	9
1	Toby Flood	Newcastle Falcons	5	9
4	Alex Tait	Newcastle Falcons	4	7
5	Freddie Clarke	Gloucester Rugby	6	5
5	Owen Williams	Gloucester Rugby	7	5
7	Jason Woodward	Gloucester Rugby	4	4
7	Josh Matavesi	Newcastle Falcons	4	4
7	Mark Atkinson	Gloucester Rugby	5	4
7	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	6	4
7	Maxime Mermoz	Newcastle Falcons	2	4
7	Zach Kibirige	Newcastle Falcons	5	4

Tackles

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Tackles	Missed Tackles
1	Ben Sowrey	Newcastle Falcons	5	79	6
2	Ryan Burrows	Newcastle Falcons	7	73	3
3	Tom Savage	Gloucester Rugby	6	70	5
4	Freddie Clarke	Gloucester Rugby	6	68	6
5	Lewis Ludlow	Gloucester Rugby	6	60	4
6	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	6	58	3
7	Ed Slater	Gloucester Rugby	4	55	7
8	Mark Atkinson	Gloucester Rugby	5	54	9
9	Jeremy Thrush	Gloucester Rugby	4	52	7
10	Gary Graham	Newcastle Falcons	4	51	5



Lineouts

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Lineouts Won (inc. steals)	Lineout Steals
1	Sean Robinson	Newcastle Falcons	4	23	1
2	Calum Green	Newcastle Falcons	5	22	2
3	Glen Young	Newcastle Falcons	3	20	1
4	Jeremy Thrush	Gloucester Rugby	4	17	1
5	Ed Slater	Gloucester Rugby	4	11	4
5	Mariano Galarza	Gloucester Rugby	2	11	2
7	Lewis Ludlow	Gloucester Rugby	6	10	1
7	Tom Savage	Gloucester Rugby	6	10	0
9	Will Witty	Newcastle Falcons	5	9	0
10	Freddie Clarke	Gloucester Rugby	6	7	0
10	Jake Polledri	Gloucester Rugby	6	7	0

Turnovers

Rank	Player	Team	Matches	Turnovers
1	Ryan Burrows	Newcastle Falcons	7	8
2	Jake Polledri	Gloucester Rugby	6	7
3	Calum Green	Newcastle Falcons	5	5
3	Mark Atkinson	Gloucester Rugby	5	5
5	Lewis Ludlow	Gloucester Rugby	6	4
5	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	6	4
5	Sean Robinson	Newcastle Falcons	4	4
5	Simon Uzokwe	Newcastle Falcons	2	4
9	Ben Vellacott	Gloucester Rugby	6	3
9	Jacob Rowan	Gloucester Rugby	2	3
9	Ollie Thorley	Gloucester Rugby	3	3
9	Zach Kibirige	Newcastle Falcons	5	3