

ROUND 14 – PREVIEWS

The Guinness PRO14 returns with its first full slate of games since January with fixtures playing out across Italy, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. With only eight rounds left in the regular season the competition is heating up right across both Conferences as teams fight it out for Final Series places and Champions Cup qualification. Clubs will also be eager to secure home advantage in the knock-out stages but Scarlets proved last year that away teams can still claim the title as the Championship becomes more unpredictable. The Guinness PRO14 Final takes place in Dublin's Aviva Stadium on May 26 (visit www.ticketmaster.ie for more).

What's at Stake

Connacht pick up their campaign against **Ospreys** (KO 19.35) eager to take advantage of the result between Cardiff Blues and Toyota Cheetahs – two of their closest rivals in Conference A. Connacht will be buoyed by their success in the Challenge Cup while Ospreys will have a new coach at the helm, forwards coach Allen Clarke has taken charge of the team after the departure of Steve Tandy.

The crowds have been up at Rodney Parade this season and **Dragons** will be hoping for a vocal support when high-flying **Glasgow Warriors** come to town (KO 19:35 live on BBC2 Wales). The 2015 champions have only suffered one defeat this season but with Bernard Jackman instilling a new attitude at Dragons this fixture could provide an upset.

Edinburgh's recent record in all competitions is strong and **Leinster** will have to be at their best to match the physical intensity that has become the hallmark of Richard Cockerill's team. The game takes place at Myreside (KO 19:35 live on BBC ALBA and TG4) marking a year since the ground become Edinburgh's regular home. A positive result for the hosts would keep the pressure on Ulster for the third Final Series place in Conference B.

The final game on Friday night sees **Ulster** entertain **Southern Kings** (KO 19:35 UK/21:35 SA, live on BBC2 NI & SuperSport One) as the home team begin life after the departure of Director of Rugby, Les Kiss. The fans at Kingspan Stadium will be in for a treat if this fixture is anything like the teams' first meeting in November that produced 12 tries in a 43-36 thriller in Port Elizabeth.

Zebre are the visitors to Thomond Park on Saturday evening to take on **Munster** (KO 19:35 UK/Ire / 21:35 SA, live on TG4 and SuperSport One). Munster will feel the need to ensure they keep a distance between themselves and the Cheetahs in Conference B, but also take advantage of any slip-up by Glasgow Warriors in order to cut down the 15-point lead the Scots currently hold at the top of the Conference.

Sunday's only fixture sees **Benetton Rugby** host defending champions **Scarlets** (KO 13:05 ITA / 12:05 UK, live on Eurosport Italia & Sky Sports, Ch 408). With both teams looking at changed starting XV's this promises to be an lively affair. However, Benetton have proven tough to beat in Treviso this season so the men from Llanelli are sure to be in for a tough afternoon's work.

Pick of the Round

Cardiff Blues v Toyota Cheetahs

Both of these teams like to throw the ball about and play an expansive game – perfect for the artificial surface at Cardiff Arms Park. There's a lot at stake, too, Cardiff Blues may trail the Cheetahs by 15 points in Conference A but this represents a chance to eat into that lead before they travel to Bloemfontein later in the season. Rory Duncan's Cheetahs have won away from South Africa just once this season and their performance in the Welsh capital should give us a greater insight into how much they can improve their road form.

Opta Top Performers – Round 13

- **Most tackles:** 21 Tienie Burger (Southern Kings)
- **Most Carries:** 19 Braam Steyn (Benetton Rugby)
- **Defenders Beaten:** 11 Blair Kinghorn (Edinburgh)
- **Offloads:** 3 Aled Davies / Ken Owens (both Scarlets)
- **Breaks:** 5 Blair Kinghorn (Edinburgh)
- **Metres Made:** 143 Blair Kinghorn (Edinburgh)
- **Turnovers Won:** 4 Nick Williams (Cardiff Blues)
- **Lineout Steals:** 2 Ben Toolis (Edinburgh)

Friday 9 February

CONNACHT RUGBY v OSPREYS RUGBY

At Sportsground, Galway, 7.35pm.

Referee: Stuart Berry (SARU, 8th competition game)

Assistant Referees: David Wilkinson, John Carvill (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: Tim Lowry (IRFU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	C	O	Connacht scorers	Ospreys scorers
Fri 31 Oct 14	Liberty Stadium	11	26	Eoin McKeon(T) Craig Ronaldson(2P)	Sam Davies(2C/4P) Jeff Hassler(T) Martin Roberts(T)
Sat 16 May 15	Sportsground	20	24	Denis Buckley(T) Jack Carty(2C/2P) Eoghan Masterson(T)	Dan Biggar(T/3C/P) Ben John(T) Rhys Webb(T)
Sat 24 Oct 15	Liberty Stadium	21	16	Matt Healy(T) Jack Carty(2P) Bundee Aki(T) Craig Ronaldson(C/P)	Sam Davies(2P) Dan Baker(T) Justin Tipuric(T)
Sat 27 Feb 16	Sportsground	30	22	AJ MacGinty(T) Matt Healy(T) Craig Ronaldson(3C/3P) Bundee Aki(T)	Dan Baker(T) Rhys Webb(T) Sam Davies(2C/P) Ben John(T)
Sat 10 Sep 16	Sportsground	11	32	Eoin McKeon(T) Jack Carty(2P)	Tyler Ardron(T) Sam Davies(3C/2P) Jeff Hassler(T) Rhys Webb(2T)
Sat 7 Jan 17	Liberty Stadium	7	29	John Cooney(C) Sean O'Brien(T)	Olly Cracknell(T) Nicky Smith(T) Sam Davies(3C/P) Dan Baker(T) Ashley Beck(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 29, Connacht won 8, Ospreys won 21.

Did you know?

- Connacht Rugby's only victory in their last five Guinness PRO14 fixtures was 44-16 at home to Ulster in round 11.
- Connacht have won their last six matches at the Sportsground in all tournaments since their 15-17 reversal there to Blues in the PRO14 on 23 September.
- Connacht have lost all four games they have played against Welsh opposition this season.
- Ospreys play their first game for almost exactly five years without Steve Tandy at the helm.
- The Welshmen have won their last two PRO14 matches, against Dragons and Blues, but have not been victorious outside of Wales in the Championship since a trip to Edinburgh last March.
- Ospreys have lost their last three encounters with Irish provinces and have not won in Ireland since a visit to Galway in September 2016.
- Connacht's only two wins in their last eight encounters with Ospreys were both in their Championship winning season of 2015/16.

COMPARISON	Connacht	Ospreys
Last 3 PRO14 results:	23 Dec - Ulster (H) W 44-16	26 Dec - Scarlets (A) L 9-12
	1 Jan - Leinster (A) L 18-21	31 Dec - Dragons (A) W 22-9
	6 Jan - Munster (A) L 13-39	6 Jan - Cardiff Blues (H) W 29-28
PRO14 2017/18	Conf A: 5th - W4 D0 L9 - 24pts	Conf A: 6th - W4 D0 L9 - 21pts
PRO14 form	WlIWl (12pts)	lLlW (10pts)
Top try scorer	4 - Tiernan O'Halloran	3 - Rhys Webb
Top points scorer	91 - Jack Carty	60 - Dan Biggar

Friday 9 February

DRAGONS v GLASGOW WARRIORS

At Rodney Parade, Newport, 7.35pm. *Live on* **BBC cymru wales**
 Referee: Andrew Brace (IRFU, 32nd competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Nigel Correll (IRFU), Dewi Phillips (WRU)
 Citing Commissioner: Dennis Jones (WRU)
 TMO: Wayne Davies (WRU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	D	G	Dragons scorers	Glasgow Warriors scorers
Sat 20 Sep 14	Rodney Parade	13	33	Angus O'Brien(C/2P) Richie Rees(T)	Josh Strauss(T) Duncan Weir(2C/2P) Stuart Hogg(P) Alex Dunbar(T) Tim Swinson(T) Tommy Seymour(T)
Sun 30 Nov 14	Scotstoun Stadium	15	19	Geraint Rhys Jones(5P)	Duncan Weir(C/4P) Penalty Try(T)
Fri 16 Oct 15	Scotstoun Stadium	15	29	Jason Tovey(C/P) Ashton Hewitt(T) Rynard Landman(T)	Chris Fusaro(T) Rory Clegg(3C/P) Junior Bulumakau(T) Zander Fagerson(T) Simone Favaro(T)
Thu 25 Feb 16	Rodney Parade	15	18	Angus O'Brien(5P)	Duncan Weir(T/C/2P) Alex Dunbar(T)
Fri 30 Sep 16	Rodney Parade	17	26	Jack Dixon(T) Sam Hobbs(T) Nick Macleod(2C/P)	Alex Allan(T) Finn Russell(2C/4P) Corey Flynn(T)
Sat 4 Mar 17	Scotstoun Stadium	17	47	Angus O'Brien(C/P) Tyler Morgan(T) Dorian Jones(C) Rynard Landman(T)	Pete Horne(T/6C) Ratu Tagive(T) Rory Hughes(T) Mark Bennett(T) Nick Grigg(2T) Lee Jones(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 28, Dragons won 13, Warriors won 13 with 2 games drawn.

Did you know?

- Dragons are winless in the Guinness PRO14 since they beat Southern Kings 29-13 at Rodney Parade on 30 September, although they did draw 32-all at home to Ulster in round 10.
- The Welshmen have won their last two matches at Rodney Parade, against Bordeaux in the European Challenge Cup and Worcester in the Anglo-Welsh Cup.
- Dragons have won only once of their last nine contests with Scottish opponents: 27-19 at home to Edinburgh in November 2016.
- Glasgow Warriors have lost just once in the Guinness PRO14 this season, and that by a single point to Edinburgh at BT Murrayfield in round 11.
- The Scotsmen have won all four encounters they have played against Welsh regions this season
- Warriors have won their last six fixtures with Dragons since the Welshmen's 24-23 victory at Rodney Parade in February 2014.

COMPARISON	Dragons	Warriors
Last 3 PRO14 results:	26 Dec - Cardiff Blues (H) L 17-22 31 Dec - Ospreys (H) L 9-22 5 Jan - Scarlets (A) L 13-47	23 Dec - Edinburgh (A) L 17-18 30 Dec - Edinburgh (H) W 17-0 6 Jan - Zebre (A) W 40-20
PRO14 2017/18	Conf B: 6th - W2 D1 L10 - 14pts	Conf A: 1st - W12 D0 L1 - 58pts
PRO14 form	IIDLLI (4pts)	WwWlWw (25pts)
Top try scorer	5 - Elliot Dee	6 - George Horne, Lee Jones
Top points scorer	77 - Gavin Henson	69 - Finn Russell

Friday 9 January

EDINBURGH RUGBY v LEINSTER RUGBY

At Myreside Stadium, Edinburgh, 7.35pm. *Live on*
 Referee: Paul Williams (NZRFU, 1st competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Mike Adamson, Lloyd Linton (SRU)
 Citing Commissioner: John Kirk (SRU)
 TMO: Neil Paterson (SRU)



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	E	L	Edinburgh Rugby scorers	Leinster scorers
Sat 16 May 15	BT Murrayfield	23	36	Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(2C/3P) Tim Visser(T) Hamish Watson(T)	Noel Reid(T) Jack Conan(T) Jordi Murphy(T) Ian Madigan(4C/D) Luke McGrath(T) Zane Kirchner(T)
Fri 4 Sep 15	Meggetland	16	9	Nathan Fowles(P) Jack Cuthbert(P) Damien Hoyland(2T)	Isa Nacewa(3P)
Fri 15 Apr 16	RDS Arena	23	30	Tom Brown(T) Sean Kennedy(T) Mike Allen(T) Jason Tovey(C/P) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(P)	Ian Madigan(2C/2P) Fergus McFadden(2T) Luke McGrath(T) Josh van der Flier(T)
Fri 16 Sep 16	BT Murrayfield	20	33	Duncan Weir(C/P) Mike Allen(T) Magnus Bradbury(T) Hamish Watson(T)	Jamison Gibson-Park(T) Garry Ringrose(T) Dan Leavy(2T) Isa Nacewa(T/4C)
Fri 17 Feb 17	RDS Arena	10	39	Duncan Weir(T/C/P)	Ross Byrne(3C) Barry Daly(2T) Bryan Byrne(T) Joey Carbery(2T/P) Dan Leavy(T)
Fri 29 Sep 17	RDS Arena	13	21	Jason Tovey(T/C/2P)	Ross Byrne(C) Jordi Murphy(T) Joey Carbery(T) Jamison Gibson-Park(T) Johnny Sexton(2C)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 29, Edinburgh won 10, Leinster won 19.

Did you know?

- Edinburgh Rugby have lost just twice in the Guinness PRO14 since round 5, both away from home, at Cheetahs in November and at Glasgow in December.
- Edinburgh's only home defeat in any tournament this season was 17-20 to Benetton in the PRO14 in September.
- Edinburgh have won only one of their last fifteen fixtures against Irish provinces: 28-17 over Ulster at BT Murrayfield in November 2016.
- Leinster have won their last nine matches in all tournaments since they were defeated on their most recent visit to Scotland, against Glasgow at Scotstoun in the PRO14 on 3 November.
- Leinster have lost just once to Edinburgh since December 2013: 9-16 at Meggetland in the opening game of the 2015/16 season.
- Leinster have not played at Myreside since a visit in the European Champions Cup in October 2000, with Edinburgh winning 29-21.
- Paul Williams becomes only the 2nd New Zealand referee to take charge of a PRO14 game, following test referee Kelvin Deaker who refereed Scarlets v Munster in November 2006.

COMPARISON	Edinburgh	Leinster
Last 3 PRO14 results:	23 Dec - Glasgow (H) W 18-17	26 Dec - Munster (A) W 34-24
	30 Dec - Glasgow (A) L 0-17	1 Jan - Connacht (H) W 21-18
	5 Jan - Southern Kings (H) W 37-7	6 Jan - Ulster (H) W 38-7
PRO14 2017/18	Conf B: 4th - W8 D0 L5 - 37pts	Conf B: 2nd - W11 D0 L2 - 51pts
PRO14 form	WlWlW (19pts)	lWwwWW (24pts)
Top try scorer	6 - Sam Hidalgo-Clyne	6 - Jordan Larmour
Top points scorer	50 - Sam Hidalgo-Clyne	92 - Ross Byrne

Round 14: 9-11 February 2018

Friday 9 February

ULSTER RUGBY v SOUTHERN KINGS

At Kingspan Stadium, Belfast, 7.35pm.

Live on **BBC SPORT NI**



Referee: TBC

Assistant Referees: Kieran Barry, Shane Kierans (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: John Cole (IRFU)

TMO: Olly Hodges (IRFU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	U	S	Ulster scorers	Southern Kings scorers
Sat 4 Nov 17	Isaac Wolfson Stadium	43	36	Sean Reidy(T) Clive Ross(T) John Cooney(T/C) John Andrew(2T) Christian Leali'ifano(3C) Andrew Trimble(T) Robbie Diack(T)	Michael Makase(T) Oliver Zono(3C/P) Yaw Penxe(2T) Kurt Coleman(C) Berton Klaasen(2T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 1, Ulster won 1.

Did you know?

- Ulster Rugby's last six matches in all competitions have all been won by the home side on the day, whilst their only win in the last four rounds of the Guinness PRO14 was at home to Munster on New Year's Day.
- Ulster's only defeat in Belfast in the PRO14 since October 2016 was to Leinster in round 7 this season.
- Southern Kings are still without a victory in the Guinness PRO14 this season, their four league points came in successive encounters at home in November, two of those in their defeat by Ulster.
- Kings lost 10-32 against Connacht in Galway in round 2 on their only previous visit to an Irish Province.
- The two sides have met just once before with Ulster winning 43-36 in a twelve-try thriller at the Wolfson Stadium in Port Elizabeth on 4 November.

COMPARISON	Ulster	Kings
Last 3 PRO14 results:	23 Dec - Connacht (A) L 16-44 1 Jan - Munster (H) W 24-17 6 Jan - Leinster (A) L 7-38	5 Jan - Edinburgh (A) L 7-37 13 Jan - Cheetahs (H) L 21-45 20 Jan - Cheetahs (A) L 24-45
PRO14 2017/18	Conf B: 3rd - W8 D1 L4 - 40pts	Conf B: 7th - W0 D0 L13 - 4pts
PRO14 form	wWdIWl (17pts)	LLLLlLl (4pts)
Top try scorer	5 - Jacob Stockdale, Craig Gilroy, Andrew Trimble	5 - Yaw Penxe
Top points scorer	77 - John Cooney	25 - Yaw Penxe

Saturday 10 February

CARDIFF BLUES v TOYOTA CHEETAHS

At Cardiff Arms Park, 7.35pm

Live on



Referee: Ian Davies (WRU, 70th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Rhys Thomas, Rob Price (WRU)

Citing Commissioner: Jeff Mark (WRU)

TMO: Jon Mason (WRU)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

First PRO14 meeting between the two teams.

Did you know?

- Cardiff Blues only victory in the last four rounds of the Guinness PRO14 was 22-17 at Dragons on Boxing Day.
- The Welshmen's three game winning run at the Arms Park in the PRO14 ended when Scarlets beat them there on New Year's Eve.
- Toyota Cheetahs' only loss in their last five fixtures was 21-27 to Benetton in Treviso on 6 January.
- The Cheetahs have won just once outside of South Africa this season, by a single point over Zebre in Parma at the end of October.
- Cheetahs have won both of their previous matches against Welsh regions.
- The two sides have never met before and this is the Cardiff Blues region's first ever fixture against a South African opponent.

COMPARISON	Blues	Cheetahs
Last 3 PRO14 results:	26 Dec - Dragons (A) W 22-17	6 Jan - Treviso (A) L 21-27
	31 Dec - Scarlets (H) L 11-14	13 Jan - Southern Kings (A) W 45-21
	6 Jan - Ospreys (A) L 28-29	20 Jan - Southern Kings (H) W 45-24
PRO14 2017/18	Conf A: 4th - W5 D0 L8 - 25pts	Conf A: 3rd - W8 D0 L5 - 40pts
PRO14 form	WWlWLI (15pts)	IWWlW (20pts)
Top try scorer	4 - Tom James, Willis Halaholo, Matthew Morgan	10 - Makazole Mapimpi
Top points scorer	61 - Jarrod Evans	72 - Ernst Stapelberg

Saturday 10 February

MUNSTER RUGBY v ZEBRE RUGBY CLUB

At Thomond Park, Limerick, 7.35pm. *Live on* **TG4**
 Referee: Ben Whitehouse (WRU, 41st competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Craig Evans (WRU), Jonny Erskine (IRFU)
 Citing Commissioner: Eddie Walsh (IRFU)
 TMO: Sean Brickell (WRU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	M	Z	Munster scorers	Zebre scorers
Sat 10 Jan 15	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	31	7	CJ Stander(T) Conor Murray(T) Felix Jones(T) Ian Keatley(4C/P) Simon Zebo(T)	Oliviero Fabiani(T) Luciano Orquera(C)
Sat 30 Jan 16	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	16	12	Mark Chisholm(T) Ian Keatley(C/D/2P)	Kelly Haimona(4P)
Fri 25 Mar 16	Thomond Park	47	0	CJ Stander(T) Johnny Holland(5C) Conor Murray(T/C) Ronan O'Mahony(T) Penalty Try(2T) Simon Zebo(2T)	
Sat 1 Oct 16	Thomond Park	49	5	CJ Stander(2T) Darren Sweetnam(T) Conor Murray(T) Tyler Bleyendaal(4C) Stephen Archer(T) Ian Keatley(3C) Penalty Try(T) Simon Zebo(T)	Gabriele di Giulio(T)
Sat 25 Mar 17	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	50	14	James Cronin(2T) Niall Scannell(T) Tyler Bleyendaal(4C/P) Ronan O'Mahony(2T) Rory Scannell(T/2C) Tommy O'Donnell(T)	Serafin Bordoli(C) Marcello Violi(C) Lloyd Greeff(T) Derick Minnie(T)
Sun 26 Nov 17	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	36	19	Rory Scannell(T) JJ Hanrahan(4C/P) James Hart(T) Calvin Nash(T) Alex Wootton(2T)	Jacopo Sarto(T) Guglielmo Palazzani(2C) Giovanbattista Venditti(T) Giulio Bisegni(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 11, Munster won 11.

Did you know?

- Munster Rugby have lost twice in the last six rounds of the Guinness PRO14, at home to Leinster on St Stephen's Day and away to Ulster on New Year's Day.
- The Munstermen have lost only once in their last fifteen home games in all competitions, 24-34 to Leinster on 26 December.
- Munster have not lost to an Italian opponent since they visited Treviso in September 2013.
- Zebre won their most recent encounter 38-30 at home to Agen in round 6 of the Challenge Cup, but have not been victorious in the PRO14 since Connacht visited Parma on 2 December.
- Zebre have lost on all 23 previous visits to an Irish province in all tournaments.
- The two sides have met on 11 previous occasions with Munster winning them all.

COMPARISON	Munster	Zebre
Last 3 PRO14 results:	26 Dec - Leinster (H) L 24-34 1 Jan - Ulster (A) L 17-24 6 Jan - Connacht (H) W 39-13	23 Dec - Treviso (A) L 14-27 30 Dec - Treviso (H) L 16-20 6 Jan - Glasgow (H) L 20-40
PRO14 2017/18	Conf A: 2nd - W8 D0 L5 - 43pts	Conf A: 7th - W3 D0 L10 - 17pts
PRO14 form	WwWLIW (22pts)	ILWILL (5pts)
Top try scorer	7 - Alex Wootton	5 - Mattia Bellini
Top points scorer	74 - Ian Keatley	89 - Carlo Canna

Sunday 11 February

BENETTON RUGBY v SCARLETS

At Stadio Monigo, Treviso, 2.05pm.

Live on



Referee: George Clancy (IRFU, 97th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Mark Patton (IRFU), Gianluca Gnechi (FIR)

Citing Commissioner: Roberto Carra (FIR)

TMO: Leo Colgan (IRFU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	B	S	Benetton Rugby scorers	Scarlets scorers
Sat 16 May 15	Stadio Monigo	13	17	Jayden Hayward(T/P) Davide Giazon(T)	Steff Evans(T) Rhys Priestland(2C/P) Liam Williams(T)
Sat 5 Dec 15	Stadio Monigo	20	22	Edoardo Gori(T) Sam Christie(2T) Jayden Hayward(C/P)	Steve Shingler(P) Morgan Allen(2T) DTH van der Merwe(T) Aled Thomas(2C)
Fri 4 Mar 16	Parc y Scarlets	15	24	Jayden Hayward(C/P) Robert Barbieri(2T)	Steff Evans(2T) James Davies(T) Dan Jones(C/P) Aled Thomas(2C)
Sat 1 Oct 16	Stadio Monigo	6	22	Tommaso Allan(2P)	Rhys Patchell(C/P) Steff Evans(T) DTH van der Merwe(T) Aled Thomas(C) Werner Kruger(T)
Sat 8 Apr 17	Parc y Scarlets	5	51	Ornel Gega(T)	Tom Price(T) Steff Evans(2T) Aled Davies(T) DTH van der Merwe(3T) Dan Jones(2C/P) Ken Owens(T) Aled Thomas(2C)
Fri 3 Nov 17	Parc y Scarlets	8	20	Ian McKinley(T/P)	Scott Williams(T) Dan Jones(T/2C/2P)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 15, Benetton won 4, Scarlets won 11.

Did you know?

- Benetton Rugby have won their last three matches in the Guinness PRO14, another victory would equal their best ever run in the Championship set in 2011.
- The Italians have won their last two home games in the PRO14, both with maximum points.
- Scarlets only defeat in the last ten rounds of the PRO14 was 21-28 at Toyota Cheetahs in early December.
- The Welshmen have not lost to an Italian opponent since Benetton visited Parc y Scarlets in the PRO14 in May 2013.
- The two side have already met three times this season (twice in the European Champions Cup) with Scarlets victorious on each occasion. Scarlets have actually won their last eleven fixtures against the Italians.

COMPARISON	Benetton	Scarlets
Last 3 PRO14 results:	23 Dec - Zebre (H) W 27-14	26 Dec - Ospreys (H) W 12-9
	30 Dec - Zebre (A) W 20-16	31 Dec - Cardiff Blues (A) W 14-11
	6 Jan - Cheetahs (H) W 27-21	5 Jan - Dragons (H) W 47-13
PRO14 2017/18	Conf B: 5th - W6 D0 L7 - 29pts	Conf B: 1st - W11 D0 L2 - 53pts
PRO14 form	ILLWwW (15pts)	WwIWwW (23pts)
Top try scorer	7 - Angelo Esposito	5 - Steff Evans, Johnny McNicholl
Top points scorer	49 - Ian McKinley	62 - Leigh Halfpenny