

ROUND 12 – PREVIEWS

An epic round of Christmas Derby action has left fans craving for more after **84,960** people turned out to witness the tribal rivalries in full force. Shock results, last-minute winners and sell-out crowds headlined Round 11 of the Guinness PRO14 with the 1872 Cup between Edinburgh and Glasgow Warriors and the Irish derby between Munster and Leinster all setting attendance records for those respective fixtures.

Played in front of a record crowd of **23,833** at BT Murrayfield, the 1872 Cup saw late, late drama as Edinburgh's Chris Dean crossed over to end the Warriors' 10-game unbeaten start to the season, a result which also ended the visitors' hopes of equalling Ulster's record of 11 wins to start a Championship campaign. The sides meet once again in Scotstoun this weekend where a second win for Edinburgh would secure the 1872 Cup, however, Glasgow will aim to rebound and ensure the fight for the famous trophy stretches out to their Round 21 clash in April.

Like Edinburgh, reigning champions Scarlets also overcame a red card and produced a winner in the final moment of their game against Ospreys while Dragons almost completed a famous comeback against Cardiff Blues as the Welsh Derbies produced some riveting action in front of sell-out crowds. An attendance of **26,267** at Thomond Park set a record for the highest figure at the Limerick venue across all competitions in the professional era.

What's at Stake

Once more, the Italian Derby between **Zebre** and **Benetton Rugby** (Eurosport Italia, 14:55 Italy) will get the action up and running. Zebre were unfortunate to fall away in Treviso last weekend after playing much of the second half with 14 players and will have home advantage to strike back. Both teams will be feeling the pressure to produce a result and keep themselves in the hunt for the Champions Cup Play-Off spot in their respective conferences.

With their unbeaten run at an end **Glasgow Warriors'** clash with **Edinburgh** (Sky Sports Main Event Ch 401, Sky Sports Action Ch 407, 15:00) in Scotstoun presents more than an opportunity for revenge. Firstly, they must ensure the 1872 Cup goes to the third Derby game in Round 21 while they must also work to keep Munster at bay in second place. Dave Rennie's team lead last season's finalists by 12 points in Conference A, however, in Conference B Edinburgh now have 3rd place Ulster in their sights and there is no doubt that the games in Glasgow and Belfast (Ulster v Munster) will be heavily linked with each other.

On New Year's Eve, **Cardiff Blues** and **Scarlets** meet in the Welsh capital (Sky Sports Action Ch 407, 15:00, BBC2 Wales, 15:05) with both regions under pressure from the Irish provinces beneath them in their respective Conferences. Due to the Toyota Cheetahs' ineligibility for Europe, the Blues are currently in possession of an automatic Champions Cup place, however, they are ahead of Connacht by virtue of games won. Meanwhile, Scarlets lead Leinster by just two points in Conference B with both sides determined to finish top of the pile in order to ensure home-advantage in the Guinness PRO14 Final Series. With so much at stake this should be a cracker.

Dragons take on **Ospreys** (S4C, 17:15) at Rodney Parade after a sell-out crowd saw them come so close to a result against Cardiff Blues on Boxing Day. Ospreys remain bottom of Conference A with just two wins so far and this Derby will be vital to both teams who are eager to grab some momentum heading into 2018.

Leinster face **Connacht** in Dublin (TG4, 14:45) off the back of their spectacular win against Munster in Round 11 and with two Derby games in a row at the RDS, Leo Cullen's team will not want to slip up as they chase Scarlets hard for a place at the top of Conference B. Connacht will be full of confidence after their record win against Ulster at the Sportsground and with some of the Guinness PRO14's most exciting attacking talent on show this game should provide plenty of entertainment.

Pick of the Round


Ulster v Munster

In what is bound to be another sell-out affair this is a must-win encounter for **Ulster** and **Munster** as they collide at Kingspan Stadium (BBC2 NI, 17:30, TG4, 17:30) with no margin for error. A loss for Ulster could see Leinster and Scarlets stretch away at the top in Conference B while providing Edinburgh with more encouragement in the chasing pack. Likewise, Munster need to keep in sight of Glasgow Warriors and ensure that the Toyota Cheetahs don't usurp them in second place in Conference A after January's back-to-back South African Derbies.

This fixture in Belfast will also be a key battle for Irish players eager to impress Ireland coach Joe Schmidt as the Six Nations draws closer and an uncompromising physical battle looks set to play out.

Saturday 30 December

GLASGOW WARRIORS v EDINBURGH RUGBY

At Scotstoun Stadium, Glasgow, 3.15pm. *Live on* 
 Referee: Mike Adamson (SRU, 17th competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Sam Grove-White, Keith Allen (SRU)
 Citing Commissioner: John Montgomery (SRU)
 TMO: Neil Paterson (SRU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

| Date | Venue | G | E | Glasgow Warriors scorers | Edinburgh Rugby scorers |
|---------------|-------------------|----|----|--|---|
| Fri 2 Jan 15 | BT Murrayfield | 8 | 20 | Finn Russell(P) Nikola Matawalu(T) | Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(2C/2P) Tim Visser(2T) |
| Sun 27 Dec 15 | BT Murrayfield | 11 | 23 | Finn Russell(2P) Mark Bennett(T) | Matt Scott(T) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(2C/3P) John Hardie(T) |
| Sat 2 Jan 16 | BT Murrayfield | 11 | 14 | Duncan Weir(2P) Mark Bennett(T) | Phil Burleigh(T) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(3P) |
| Mon 26 Dec 16 | BT Murrayfield | 25 | 12 | Josh Strauss(T) Finn Russell(2C/2P) Alex Dunbar(T) Junior Bulumakau(T) | Duncan Weir(4P) |
| Sat 6 May 17 | Scotstoun Stadium | 18 | 29 | Stuart Hogg(T) Finn Russell(C/2P) Jonny Gray(T) | Duncan Weir(2C/5P) Glenn Bryce(T) Damien Hoyland(T) |
| Sat 23 Dec 17 | BT Murrayfield | 17 | 18 | Pete Horne(C/P) Huw Jones(T) Finn Russell(C) Scott Cummings(T) | Nathan Fowles(T) Chris Dean(T) Jaco van der Walt(C) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(2P) |

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 29, Warriors won 15, Edinburgh won 13 with 1 game drawn.

Did you know?

- Glasgow Warriors have lost their last three matches in all competitions but have not lost four in a row since January 2016.
- The Warriors have won all six games they have played at Scotstoun in the Guinness PRO14 this season.
- Edinburgh have suffered only one defeat in their last ten matches in all tournaments, on their visit to Bloemfontein to face Toyota Cheetahs in November.
- Edinburgh have won three times on the road in the Guinness PRO14 this campaign, at Cardiff Blues in round 1, Benetton in round 7 and Southern Kings in round 10.
- Edinburgh took a step towards regaining the 1872 Cup by handing Glasgow their first defeat of the PRO14 season at Murrayfield on Saturday.
- Glasgow have won only one of their last six fixtures with Edinburgh: 25-12 at BT Murrayfield on Boxing Day 2016.
- Edinburgh were victorious on their most recent visit to Scotstoun last May.

| COMPARISON | Warriors | Edinburgh |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Last 3 PRO14 results: | 26 Nov - Ospreys (A) W 47-6 | 24 Nov - Cheetahs (A) L 13-33 |
| | 1 Dec - Cardiff Blues (H) W 40-16 | 1 Dec - Southern Kings (A) W 48-21 |
| | 23 Dec - Edinburgh (A) L 17-18 | 23 Dec - Glasgow (H) W 18-17 |
| PRO14 2017/18 | Conf A: 1st - W10 D0 L1 - 49pts | Conf B: 4th - W7 D0 L4 - 32pts |
| PRO14 form | wWWWwWI (26pts) | WwWlWw (22pts) |
| Top try scorer | 5 - George Horne | 6 - Sam Hidalgo-Clyne |
| Top points scorer | 51 - Pete Horne | 50 - Sam Hidalgo-Clyne |

Saturday 30 December

ZEBRE RUGBY v BENETTON RUGBY

At Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi, Parma, 3pm. *Live on* **EUROSPORT**
 Referee: David Wilkinson (IRFU, 55th competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Mark Patton, John Erskine (IRFU)
 Citing Commissioner: Alberto Recalchini (FIR)
 TMO: Brian MacNeice (IRFU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

| Date | Venue | Z | B | Zebre scorers | Benetton Rugby scorers |
|---------------|--------------------------|----|----|---|--|
| Sat 3 Jan 15 | Stadio Monigo | 15 | 17 | Kelly Haimona(C) Edoardo Padovani(P) Brendon Leonard(T) Quintin Geldenhuys(T) | Michele Campagnaro(T) Edoardo Gori(T) Jayden Hayward(2C/P) |
| Sun 27 Dec 15 | Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi | 28 | 25 | Kelly Haimona(C) George Fabio Biagi(T) Carlo Canna(T/C/3P) Dries van Schalkwyk(T) | Ornel Gega(T) Matteo Zanusso(T) Jayden Hayward(T/2C/2P) |
| Sun 3 Jan 16 | Stadio Monigo | 18 | 8 | Edoardo Padovani(C/P) Carlo Canna(P) Luke Burgess(T) Giulio Toniolatti(T) | Jayden Hayward(P) Chris Smylie(T) |
| Fri 23 Dec 16 | Stadio Monigo | 12 | 23 | Carlo Canna(C) Kayle van Zyl(T) Dries van Schalkwyk(T) | Luca Sperandio(T) Tommaso Allan(T/2C/3P) |
| Sat 6 May 17 | Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi | 3 | 19 | Carlo Canna(P) | Marco Fuser(T) Ian McKinley(C/4P) |
| Sat 23 Dec 17 | Stadio Monigo | 14 | 27 | Marcello Violi(P) Carlo Canna(2P) Giulio Bisegni(T) | Edoardo Gori(T) Hame Faiva(T) Marty Banks(C/P) Angelo Esposito(2T) Ian McKinley(C) |

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 11, Zebre won 3, Benetton won 8.

Did you know?

- Zebre Rugby have won just once in the Guinness PRO14 since round 5: 24-10 at home to Connacht on 2 December.
- Zebre's two victories at Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi this season in the Championship were against Irish provinces: Ulster in round 5 and Connacht in round 10.
- Benetton's 27-14 victory over Zebre on Saturday ended an eight-match losing run in all competitions.
- Benetton's only away win this season was over Edinburgh at Myreside in round 3.
- Benetton have won their last three matches against Zebre since slipping up 8-18 at Stadio Monigo on 3 January 2016.
- Benetton's record against Zebre in Parma is won three, lost two.

| COMPARISON | Zebre | Benetton |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Last 3 PRO14 results: | 26 Nov - Munster (H) L 19-36 2 Dec - Connacht (H) W 24-10 23 Dec - Benetton (A) L 14-27 | 24 Nov - Ulster (A) L 22-23 2 Dec - Leinster (H) L 10-36 23 Dec - Zebre (H) W 27-14 |
| PRO14 2017/18 | Conf A: 6th - W3 D0 L8 - 16pts | Conf B: 5th - W4 D0 L7 - 20pts |
| PRO14 form | ILILWI (6pts) | WLILW (11pts) |
| Top try scorer | 4 - Mattia Bellini, Giulio Bisegni | 7 - Angelo Esposito |
| Top points scorer | 81 - Carlo Canna | 47 - Ian McKinley |

Sunday 31 December

CARDIFF BLUES v SCARLETS

At Cardiff Arms Park, 3.15pm. *Live on*
 Referee: George Clancy (IRFU, 95th competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Ian Davies, Adam Jones (WRU)
 Citing Commissioner: Ray Wilton (WRU)
 TMO: Sean Brickell (WRU)



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

| Date | Venue | C | S | Cardiff Blues scorers | Scarlets scorers |
|---------------|-------------------|----|----|--|--|
| Sun 10 May 15 | Parc y Scarlets | 6 | 16 | Rhys Patchell(2P) | Ken Owens(T) Rhys Priestland(C/3P) |
| Fri 1 Jan 16 | Cardiff Arms Park | 29 | 27 | Rhys Patchell(3C/P) Cory Allen(T) Kristian Dacey(T) Alex Cuthbert(T) Dan Fish(T) | Gareth Davies(T) DTH van der Merwe(T) Ken Owens(T) Aled Thomas(3C/2P) |
| Sat 2 Apr 16 | Parc y Scarlets | 28 | 22 | Gareth Anscombe(T/2C/3P) Lloyd Williams(T) Tom James(T) | John Barclay(T) Dan Jones(4P) Aled Thomas(C/P) |
| Fri 28 Oct 16 | Cardiff Arms Park | 15 | 26 | Steve Shingler(C/P) Tom James(T) Blaine Scully(T) | Aaron Shingler(T) Rhys Patchell(3C) Jonathan Evans(T) DTH van der Merwe(T) Hadleigh Parkes(T) |
| Sun 1 Jan 17 | Parc y Scarlets | 10 | 15 | Willis Halaholo(T) Steve Shingler(C/P) | Rhys Patchell(C/P) Steff Evans(T) Scott Williams(T) |
| Sat 28 Oct 17 | Parc y Scarlets | 17 | 30 | Willis Halaholo(T) Steve Shingler(2C) Lloyd Williams(T) Jarrod Evans(P) | Rhys Patchell(C) Ryan Elias(T) Steff Evans(T) Jonathan Evans(T) Hadleigh Parkes(T) Leigh Halfpenny(C/2P) |

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 29, Blues won 10, Scarlets won 19.

Did you know?

- Cardiff Blues have won their last two matches, at home to Sale in the European Challenge Cup and at Dragons on Boxing Day.
- The Blues have won their last three matches at the Arms Park in the PRO14 but have not won four in a row at the venue in the Championship since the end of the 2015/16 season.
- Scarlets only defeat in their last five matches in all tournaments was 21-28 to Toyota Cheetahs in Bloemfontein on 2 December.
- Scarlets have won their last six matches against fellow Welsh Regions in the PRO14 whilst their only defeat in their last ten such encounters was to Ospreys at Liberty Stadium on 27 December 2016.
- Scarlets have won their last three matches against Cardiff Blues since Blues 28-22 triumph at Parc y Scarlets in April 2016.

| COMPARISON | Blues | Scarlets |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Last 3 PRO14 results: | 24 Nov - Connacht (H) W 36-30 | 26 Nov - Southern Kings (A) W 34-30 |
| | 1 Dec - Glasgow (A) L 16-40 | 2 Dec - Cheetahs (A) L 21-28 |
| | 26 Dec - Dragons (A) W 22-17 | 26 Dec - Ospreys (H) W 12-9 |
| PRO14 2017/18 | Conf A: 4th - W5 D0 L6 - 23pts | Conf B: 1st - W9 D0 L2 - 44pts |
| PRO14 form | WlWwllw (18pts) | wWwWlW (23pts) |
| Top try scorer | 4 - Willis Halaholo, Tom James, Matthew Morgan | 5 - Steff Evans, Johnny McNicholl |
| Top points scorer | 61 - Jarrod Evans | 58 - Leigh Halfpenny |

Sunday 31 December

DRAGONS v OSPREYS RUGBY

At Rodney Parade, Newport, 5.35pm. *Live on* **S4C**
 Referee: Dan Jones (WRU, 13th competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Craig Evans, Mike English (WRU)
 Citing Commissioner: Jeff Mark (WRU)
 TMO: Neil Hennessy (WRU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

| Date | Venue | D | O | Dragons scorers | Ospreys scorers |
|---------------|-----------------|----|----|---|---|
| Sun 11 Jan 15 | Liberty Stadium | 11 | 22 | Tom Prydie(2P) Richie Rees(T) | Tyler Ardron(T) Dan Biggar(C/5P) |
| Fri 1 Jan 16 | Liberty Stadium | 7 | 12 | Ed Jackson(T) Jason Tovey(C) | Sam Davies(C) Hanno Dirksen(T) Dan Evans(T) |
| Fri 1 Apr 16 | Rodney Parade | 20 | 26 | Hallam Amos(2T) Carl Meyer(T/C/P) | Jeff Hassler(T) Sam Underhill(T) Dan Biggar(3C) Dan Evans(T) Rhys Webb(T) |
| Sat 29 Oct 16 | Liberty Stadium | 17 | 35 | Matthew Screech(T) Pat Howard(T) Geraint Rhys Jones(2C) Nick Macleod(P) | Keelan Giles(2T) Scott Baldwin(T) Tom Habberfield(T) Josh Matavesi(5C) Brendon Leonard(T) |
| Sun 1 Jan 17 | Rodney Parade | 0 | 10 | | Dan Biggar(C/P) Justin Tipuric(T) |
| Fri 27 Oct 17 | Liberty Stadium | 14 | 28 | Elliot Dee(T) Leon Brown(T) Gavin Henson(2C) | Ma'afu Fia(T) Dan Biggar(T/C/2P) Sam Parry(T) Brendon Leonard(T) |

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 29, Dragons won 9, Ospreys won 20.

Did you know?

- Dragons only win in their last five games in all competitions was 15-0 at home to Enisei in round 3 of the European Challenge Cup.
- Dragons have won only one of their last twenty-four fixtures against fellow Welsh regions in the PRO14: 23-17 over Cardiff Blues at the Arms Park on Boxing Day 2014.
- Ospreys only victory in the last ten rounds of the Guinness PRO14 was 28-14 at home to Dragons on 27 October.
- Ospreys have not won away from home in the Championship since beating Edinburgh at Myreside in round 17 last season.
- Ospreys have won their last twelve encounters with Dragons in the PRO14 since the Men from Gwent's 21-20 victory at Rodney Parade in January 2012.

| COMPARISON | Dragons | Ospreys |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Last 3 PRO14 results: | 24 Nov - Leinster (A) L 10-54 | 26 Nov - Glasgow (H) L 6-47 |
| | 1 Dec - Ulster (H) D 32-32 | 2 Dec - Munster (A) L 10-36 |
| | 26 Dec - Cardiff Blues (H) L 17-22 | 26 Dec - Scarlets (A) L 9-12 |
| PRO14 2017/18 | Conf B: 6th - W2 D1 L8 - 14pts | Conf A: 7th - W2 D0 L9 - 12pts |
| PRO14 form | IIII DL (5pts) | LWII LII (7pts) |
| Top try scorer | 5 - Elliot Dee | 2 - Ma'afu Fia, Keelan Giles, Dan Evans |
| Top points scorer | 77 - Gavin Henson | 44 - Dan Biggar |

Monday 1 January

LEINSTER RUGBY v CONNACHT RUGBY

At RDS Arena, Dublin, 3.15pm

Live on **TG4**

Referee: Ben Whitehouse (WRU, 40th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Frank Murphy, Eddie Hogan-O'Connell (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: Tom Lowry (IRFU)

TMO: Peter Fitzgibbon (IRFU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

| Date | Venue | L | C | Leinster scorers | Connacht scorers |
|---------------|---------------------|----|----|---|--|
| Fri 19 Dec 14 | RDS Arena | 21 | 11 | Jimmy Gopperth(C/3P) Shane Jennings(T) Zane Kirchner(T) | Jack Carty(2P) George Naoupu(T) |
| Fri 1 Jan 16 | RDS Arena | 13 | 0 | Ian Madigan(P) Johnny Sexton(C/P) Josh van der Flier(T) | |
| Sat 26 Mar 16 | Sportsground | 6 | 7 | Ian Madigan(2P) | AJ MacGinty(C) Kieran Marmion(T) |
| Sat 28 May 16 | BT Murrayfield (TF) | 10 | 20 | Sean Cronin(T) Johnny Sexton(C/P) | Matt Healy(T) Tiernan O'Halloran(T) AJ MacGinty(C/P) Niyi Adeolokun(T) |
| Sat 29 Oct 16 | RDS Arena | 24 | 13 | Adam Byrne(T) Barry Daly(T) Isa Nacewa(C/4P) | Jack Carty(C) Shane Delahunty(T) Craig Ronaldson(2P) |
| Sat 15 Apr 17 | Sportsground | 37 | 24 | Adam Byrne(T) Ross Byrne(3C/2P) Barry Daly(T) Rhys Ruddock(T) Rory O'Loughlin(T) Zane Kirchner(T) | Danie Poolman(T) Dave Heffernan(T) Craig Ronaldson(C/4P) |

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 30, Leinster won 22, Connacht won 8.

Did you know?

- Leinster Rugby have won their last five matches in all tournaments since they were beaten by Glasgow Warriors at Scotstoun in round 8 of the Guinness PRO14.
- The Leinstermen have not lost a regular season PRO14 match at the RDS Arena since Dragons beat them there in February 2015.
- Connacht have won their last three matches in all tournaments since their defeat at Zebre in round 10 of the PRO14.
- Connacht have lost their last six away games in the Championship since they beat Edinburgh at Myreside 22-19 in April.
- Connacht have won only twice away from home against a fellow Irish province in the history of the Championship – in Leinster in 2002 and in Munster in 2015.
- Leinster won both their matches against Connacht last season whilst Connacht have won just three times against Leinster in Dublin since they first met in 1932: in 1955 and 1985 at Lansdowne Road and in 2002 at Donnybrook.

| COMPARISON | Leinster | Connacht |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Last 3 PRO14 results: | 24 Nov - Dragons (H) W 54-10 | 24 Nov - Cardiff Blues (A) L 30-36 |
| | 2 Dec - Benetton (A) W 36-10 | 2 Dec - Zebre (A) L 10-24 |
| | 26 Dec - Munster (A) W 34-24 | 23 Dec - Ulster (H) W 44-16 |
| PRO14 2017/18 | Conf B: 2nd - W9 D0 L2 - 42pts | Conf A: 5th - W4 D0 L7 - 23pts |
| PRO14 form | WwWww (23pts) | IWwIw (15pts) |
| Top try scorer | 5 - Rory O'Loughlin | 4 - Tiernan O'Halloran |
| Top points scorer | 86 - Ross Byrne | 77 - Jack Carty |

Monday 1 January

ULSTER RUGBY v MUNSTER RUGBY

At Kingspan Stadium, Belfast, 5.35pm. *Live on* **BBC SPORT NI** **TG4**
 Referee: Sean Gallagher (IRFU, 8th competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Nigel Correll, Paul Haycock (IRFU)
 Citing Commissioner: Eddie Wigglesworth (IRFU)
 TMO: Kevin Beggs (IRFU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

| Date | Venue | U | M | Ulster scorers | Munster scorers |
|---------------|------------------|----|----|---|--|
| Fri 28 Nov 14 | Thomond Park | 20 | 21 | Ian Humphreys(5P) Nick Williams(T) | Robin Copeland(T) Ian Keatley(C/3P) Duncan Williams(T) |
| Sat 9 May 15 | Kingspan Stadium | 23 | 23 | Paddy Jackson(2C/3P) Tommy Bowe(T) Paul Marshall(T) | Keith Earls(T) Ian Keatley(6P) |
| Fri 30 Oct 15 | Thomond Park | 28 | 32 | Craig Gilroy(2T) Paddy Jackson(C/D/P) Dan Tuohy(T) Nick Williams(T) | Andrew Conway(T) Robin Copeland(T) Denis Hurley(T) Ian Keatley(2C/P) Gerhard van den Heever(T) Simon Zebo(T) |
| Sat 2 Jan 16 | Kingspan Stadium | 7 | 9 | Paddy Jackson(C) Louis Ludik(T) | Ian Keatley(D/2P) |
| Fri 28 Oct 16 | Kingspan Stadium | 14 | 15 | Paddy Jackson(2C) Rob Lyttle(T) Charles Piutau(T) | Jaco Taute(T) Rory Scannell(T/C/D) |
| Sat 15 Apr 17 | Thomond Park | 20 | 22 | Paddy Jackson(2C/2P) Luke Marshall(T) Rory Best(T) | Tyler Bleyendaal(C) Dave O'Callaghan(T) Keith Earls(T) Ian Keatley(C/P) Angus Lloyd(T) |

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 31, Ulster won 13, Munster won 17 with 1 game drawn.

Did you know?

- Ulster Rugby's five game unbeaten run in all tournaments ended with their 16-44 reversal at Connacht on Saturday.
- Ulster have lost just once in Belfast in the Guinness PRO14 since Munster last won there in October 2016: 10-25 to Leinster in round 7 this season.
- Munster's five game winning run in all tournaments was ended by Leinster at Thomond Park on St Stephen's Day.
- The Munstermen have won just twice on the road in the Guinness PRO14 this season, at Ospreys in round 3 and at Zebre in round 9.
- Munster have won their last four fixtures against Ulster since the two provinces played out a 23-all draw in Belfast in May 2015 whilst Ulster's most recent victory over Munster was 19-17 in Limerick in May 2014.
- The Munstermen have won on their last two visits to the Kingspan Stadium and have never won three in a row in Belfast since they first made the trip north in 1910.

| COMPARISON | Ulster | Munster |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Last 3 PRO14 results: | 24 Nov - Benetton (H) W 23-22 | 26 Nov - Zebre (A) W 36-19 |
| | 1 Dec - Dragons (A) D 32-32 | 2 Dec - Ospreys (H) W 36-10 |
| | 23 Dec - Connacht (A) L 16-44 | 26 Dec - Leinster (H) L 24-34 |
| PRO14 2017/18 | Conf B: 3rd - W7 D1 L3 - 35pts | Conf A: 2nd - W7 D0 L4 - 37pts |
| PRO14 form | WLWwDl (16pts) | lIWwWL (18pts) |
| Top try scorer | 5 - Andrew Trimble | 7 - Alex Wootton |
| Top points scorer | 71 - John Cooney | 60 - Ian Keatley |