

QUALIFIER PREVIEWS

After 147 games only six teams remain in the race to reach the Guinness PRO14 Final on May 26 (see www.ticketmaster.ie) and claim the title as the first champions of Ireland, Italy, Scotland, South Africa and Wales.

It has been another terrific season as the Guinness PRO14 continues to go from strength to strength with attendances up 16 per cent, another new try-scoring record set with a tally of 861 while in European competition teams from the Championship continued to best their rivals from other leagues.

The introduction of the Conference format means that more teams will compete in the Guinness PRO14 Final Series, with six teams involved compared to four in previous seasons. This means more jeopardy and more drama than ever before at the tail-end of the season which is renowned for producing incredible rugby.

This weekend's Semi-Final Qualifiers sees Edinburgh Rugby and the Toyota Cheetahs compete in knock-out rugby in the Championship for the first time ever. With Glasgow Warriors and Leinster Rugby already safely through to the Semi-Finals having finished top of their Conferences, Edinburgh and the Cheetahs travel to Munster and Scarlets, respectively, aiming to upset the odds and create their own special piece of history.

Munster Rugby v Edinburgh Rugby

Thomond Park will be a formidable battleground for Richard Cockerill's Edinburgh team who come into this qualifier game against Munster after a superb season. Edinburgh's 15 wins were matched only by Glasgow Warriors, a tally that also set a new club record for the team from Scotland's capital.

Sky Sports, TG4 and BBC Alba (KO 15:15) will broadcast the action on Saturday where Munster will be eager to progress for a meeting with Leinster in the Semi-Finals. Johann van Graan's team lost in last year's Final to Scarlets and after another season of consistency the men in red will be aiming to go one step further this time around.

Scarlets v Toyota Cheetahs

This is a mouth-watering pairing and a match-up that could create memories that last for many years to come as the defending champions take on the Cheetahs. Both of these teams have been responsible for the most daring and exciting play in the Guinness PRO14 and now they meet with a Semi-Final trip to Glasgow on the line.

The action will be screened live by S4C and SuperSport (KO 18:35) as Scarlets look to launch their title defence by playing a Final Series game at home for the first time. The Cheetahs have caught the imagination with their off-loading game but they are yet to develop consistent results away from Bloemfontein. The Scarlets' continue to be lethal from turnover situations and with their free-flowing play this game promises the perfect elements for an end-to-end spectacle that should showcase the best of the Guinness PRO14.

GUINNESS PRO14 PREVIEW 2017/18

Semi-Final Qualifiers, 5 May, 2018



Saturday 5 May

MUNSTER RUGBY v EDINBURGH RUGBY

At Thomond Park, Limerick, 3.15pm. *Live on*
 Referee: Nigel Owens (WRU, 166th competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Ben Whitehouse, Ian Davies (WRU)
 Citing Commissioner: Eddie Walsh (IRFU)
 TMO: Jon Mason (WRU)



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	M	E	Munster scorers	Edinburgh Rugby scorers
Sat 11 Apr 15	BT Murrayfield	34	3	CJ Stander(T) Duncan Casey(T) Conor Murray(T) Keith Earls(T) Ian Keatley(3C/P) Simon Zebo(T)	Tom Heathcote(P)
Sat 7 Nov 15	BT Murrayfield	16	14	Ian Keatley(C/3P) John Ryan(T)	Will Helu(T) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(3P)
Fri 29 Apr 16	Irish Independent Park	27	19	Johnny Holland(2C/P) Andrew Conway(T) Francis Saili(T) Rory Scannell(T) Simon Zebo(T)	Jason Tovey(T/C/3P) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(P)
Sat 24 Sep 16	Thomond Park	28	14	Conor Murray(2T) Tyler Bleyendaal(4C) Dave O'Callaghan(T) Conor Oliver(T)	Duncan Weir(C) Chris Dean(T) Blair Kinghorn(C) John Hardie(T)
Fri 3 Feb 17	Myreside	10	9	Tyler Bleyendaal(C/P) Ronan O'Mahony(T)	Jason Tovey(3P)
Fri 16 Mar 18	BT Murrayfield	6	12	JJ Hanrahan(2P)	Duhan van der Merwe(2T) Jaco van der Walt(C)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 31, Munster won 24, Edinburgh won 7.

Did you know?

- The winner of this fixture will travel to the RDS Arena, Dublin, to play Leinster Rugby on Saturday 19 May, kick-off 3.15pm
- Munster have now reached the end of season play-offs in seven of the last nine years but only won the title once in that period (2011).
- Munster are unbeaten in their last four Guinness PRO14 games since their 6-12 reversal to Edinburgh at BT Murrayfield on 16 March.
- Munster's only defeat at home in any tournament since February 2017 was to Leinster at Thomond Park on St Stephens Day.
- This is Edinburgh Rugby's first appearance in the play-offs since they were reintroduced in 2010.
- The Scotsmen's only loss in the last nine rounds of the Guinness PRO14 was 20-32 at home to Ulster in round 19, whilst their only defeat in the Championship outside Scotland since September was at Toyota Cheetahs in November
- Edinburgh beat Munster 12-6 at BT Murrayfield in their only encounter this season to end a five game winning run in the series by the Irishmen.
- Edinburgh have been victorious at Thomond Park just once since 2006: 14-13 in September 2014.
- Edinburgh have won on both of their visits to Irish provinces in 2018.

COMPARISON	Munster	Edinburgh
Last 3 PRO14 results:	7 Apr - Southern Kings (A) W 39-22	6 Apr - Ulster (H) L 20-32
	13 Apr - Cheetahs (A) W 19-17	14 Apr - Scarlets (H) W 52-14
	28 Apr - Ulster (H) D 24-24	28 Apr - Glasgow (H) W 24-19
PRO14 2017/18	Conf A: 2nd - W13 D1 L7 - 69pts	Conf B: 3rd - W15 D0 L6 - 68pts
PRO14 form	WlWwwD (20pts)	wWwLWW (22pts)
Top try scorer	8 - Alex Wootton	8 - Duhan van der Merwe
Top points scorer	98 - Ian Keatley	85 - Duncan Weir

GUINNESS PRO14 PREVIEW 2017/18

Semi-Final Qualifiers, 5 May, 2018

GUINNESS PRO14
FINAL SERIES

Saturday 5 May

SCARLETS v TOYOTA CHEETAHS



At Parc y Scarlets, Llanelli, 6.35pm *Live on*
Referee: George Clancy (IRFU, 102nd competition game)
Assistant Referees: Frank Murphy (IRFU), Mike Adamson (SRU)
Citing Commissioner: Dennis Jones (WRU)
TMO: Olly Hodges (IRFU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	S	T	Scarlets scorers	Toyota Cheetahs scorers
Sat 2 Dec 17	Toyota Stadium	21	28	James Davies(T) Tom Prydie(P) Dan Jones(C/2P) Ioan Nicholas(T)	William Small-Smith(T) Fred Zeilinga(2C/3P) Craig Barry(2T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 1, Cheetahs won 1.

Did you know?

- The winner of this fixture will face Glasgow Warriors at Scotstoun Stadium on Friday 18 May, kick-off 7.45pm.
- Defending Guinness PRO14 champions, Scarlets, have reached the end of season play-offs for just the third time.
- Scarlets record over the last eight rounds of the Guinness PRO14 is a disappointing won three, drawn one, lost four.
- Scarlets are unbeaten in their last twenty matches at Parc y Scarlets in the PRO14, their best home run in the history of the tournament.
- Toyota Cheetahs have made the play-offs at their first attempt in the Guinness PRO14 with their only defeat in the last five rounds being at home to Munster on 13 April.
- Cheetahs have played three games in Wales in 2018, losing at Cardiff Blues and Ospreys but winning at Dragons.
- The two sides' only previous meeting was in round 10 in Bloemfontein, with Cheetahs winning 28-21.

COMPARISON	Scarlets	Cheetahs
Last 3 PRO14 results:	7 Apr - Glasgow (H) W 26-8 14 Apr - Edinburgh (A) L 14-52 28 Apr - Dragons (A) W 33-8	7 Apr - Cardiff Blues (H) W 29-27 13 Apr - Munster (H) L 17-19 28 Apr - Southern Kings (A) W 29-20
PRO14 2017/18	Conf B: 2nd - W14 D1 L6 - 70pts	Conf A: 3rd - W12 D0 L9 - 63pts
PRO14 form	WDIWlw (16pts)	IWwWLw (22pts)
Top try scorer	7 - Tadhg Beirne	10 - Makazole Mapimpi
Top points scorer	93 - Dan Jones	86 - Fred Zeilinga

GUINNESS PRO14 PREVIEW 2017/18

Semi-Final Qualifiers, 5 May, 2018



HOW THEY FINISHED

GUINNESS PRO14		Record				Points			Attack				Defence									
Pos	CONFERENCE A	P	W	D	L	TB	LB	Tot	T	C	PG	DG	For	T	C	PG	DG	Agst	TB	LB	PD	
1	Glasgow Warriors (1)	▶	21	15	1	5	12	2	76	81	62	27	0	614	38	24	42	0	366	1	3	248
2	Munster (2)	▶	21	13	1	7	10	5	69	78	49	26	0	568	42	31	29	0	361	3	2	207
3	Toyota Cheetahs (3)	▶	21	12	0	9	10	5	63	75	59	38	0	609	68	49	37	1	554	6	4	55
4	Cardiff Blues (4)	▶	21	11	0	10	5	5	54	56	45	44	0	502	59	42	32	1	482	8	7	20
5	Ospreys (5)	▶	21	9	0	12	5	3	44	44	29	35	1	390	60	44	33	0	487	7	3	-97
6	Connacht (6)	▶	21	7	0	14	5	6	39	53	35	36	0	445	54	36	44	1	477	4	2	-32
7	Zebre (7)	▶	21	7	0	14	4	4	36	50	31	31	1	408	78	59	27	0	593	10	3	-185

GUINNESS PRO14		Record				Points			Attack				Defence									
Pos	CONFERENCE B	P	W	D	L	TB	LB	Tot	T	C	PG	DG	For	T	C	PG	DG	Agst	TB	LB	PD	
1	Leinster (1)	▶	21	14	1	6	10	2	70	83	57	22	0	601	46	32	25	1	374	6	3	227
2	Scarlets (2)	▶	21	14	1	6	9	3	70	69	56	23	0	528	43	24	34	0	365	4	4	163
3	Edinburgh Rugby (3)	▶	21	15	0	6	7	1	68	62	43	31	1	494	44	34	28	1	375	4	7	119
4	Ulster (4)	▶	21	12	2	7	8	2	62	68	43	36	0	538	61	43	28	1	482	6	5	56
5	Benetton Rugby (5)	▶	21	11	0	10	6	5	55	51	32	32	0	415	55	39	32	0	451	5	7	-36
6	Dragons (6)	▶	21	2	2	17	4	4	20	43	27	32	3	378	94	63	22	0	672	15	0	-294
7	Southern Kings (7)	▶	21	1	0	20	4	3	11	48	37	20	0	378	119	85	20	0	829	20	0	-451
TOTALS			147	143	4	143	99	50	737	861	605	433	6	6868	861	605	433	6	6868	99	50	

Key:

Home Semi-final	Play-off place
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2017/18 ABBREVIATED RULES

The Championship will be played in two stages, the League Stage and the Knock-Out Stage, as set out below.

The Conference Stage:

For the Conference Stage, Celtic Rugby will have divided the Clubs into two conferences of seven Clubs each, Conference A and Conference B, at Celtic Rugby's discretion. Each conference will be made up of two Clubs from each of Ireland and Wales, and a single Club from each of Scotland, Italy and South Africa.

Each Club will play:

- against each of the other six Clubs in the same conference twice (once at home, once away, i.e. 12 Matches in total);
- against each of the seven Clubs in the other conference once (i.e. seven Matches in total, Celtic Rugby will in its discretion determine whether these Matches will be home or away); and
- in two further Matches against the Club (for the Italian, Scottish and South African Clubs) or Clubs (for the Irish and Welsh Clubs) in the other conference that are nominated by the same Union as the first Club (i.e. two Matches in total, Celtic Rugby will determine whether these Matches will be home or away based on whether the corresponding Matches played under clause 3.1.2(b), above, were played home or away).

In all matches in the Conference Stage, four league points shall be awarded for a win and two league points shall be awarded for a draw. One bonus league point shall be awarded to a Team scoring four or more tries and one bonus league point shall be awarded to a Team losing by seven points or less.

The positions of the Clubs in the Conference Stage will be based on the following, in order:

- the number of League Points awarded to each Club;
- if unresolved, the number of Matches won by each Club in the League Stage;
- if unresolved, the difference between the total points scored and the total points conceded on the field of play for each Club in all Matches in the League Stage;
- if unresolved, the number of tries scored by each Club in all Matches in the League Stage;
- if unresolved, the number of points scored on the field of play by each Club in all Matches in the League Stage;
- if unresolved, the difference between the number of tries scored and the number of tries conceded by each Club in all Matches in the League Stage;

- (g) if unresolved, the number of Players suspended by a Disciplinary Committee or Appeal Committee for incidents taking place in the League Stage;
- (h) if unresolved, the number of yellow cards received by Players for each Club in all Matches in the League Stage;
- (i) if unresolved, the toss of a coin or as otherwise determined by Celtic Rugby in its absolute discretion.

For the purposes of this clause 3.1.4, what qualifies as a yellow card will be determined by Celtic Rugby in its absolute discretion.

The Knock-Out Stage

- The Clubs that rank in the top three positions in each of Conference A and Conference B respectively will qualify for the Knock-Out Stage.
- The Knock-Out Stage will be divided into two Quarter-Final Matches, two semi-final Matches and a Final Match.
- The Quarter-Final Matches will be knock-out, each played over one Match:
- the Club ranked second in Conference A will play at home against the Club ranked third in Conference B (QF1); and
- the Club ranked second in Conference B will play at home against the Club ranked third in Conference A (QF2).
- The winners of the Quarter-Final Matches will proceed to the Semi-Final Matches. The Semi-Final Matches will be knock-out, each played over one Match:
- the Club ranked first in Conference A will play at home against the winner of QF2; and
- the Club ranked first in Conference B will play at home against the winner of QF1.
- The winners of the semi-final Matches will proceed to the Final Match. The Final Match will be knock-out, played over one Match, at a venue designated by Celtic Rugby.
- Based on their final ranking at the end of the Championship some Clubs may be eligible to participate in the European Professional Club Rugby tournaments (South African teams are ineligible for EPCR tournaments).
- Seven European Clubs will be eligible to participate in the European Professional Club Rugby tournaments (South African teams are ineligible for EPCR tournaments)
- The seven Clubs that qualify to participate in the 2018/19 EPCR Champions Cup will be made up of the following:
 - i. The three highest ranked European Clubs in each conference at the end of the League Stage (South African Clubs ineligible)
 - ii. The winner of a single play-off Match between the next highest ranked European Club in Conference A and the next highest ranked European Club in Conference B.
 - iii. The single play-off Match will be played at the home venue of the European Club that (as between the two participating Clubs) has the most League Points at the end of the League Stage. If level on points the normal deciding criteria will apply: Points Difference, Tries Scored, Try Difference, etc

The above sets out a summary of certain provisions of the Guinness PRO14 Rules for information purposes only. As such these provisions may not be relied upon and for a full and proper understanding of the provisions and rules of the Guinness PRO14, reference must be made to the Guinness PRO14 Rules in their existing and entire form.

GUINNESS PRO14 PREVIEW 2017/18

Semi-Final Qualifiers, 5 May, 2018



ROUND 21 MICROCOSM

SATURDAY 21 APRIL			
MUNSTER (14)24		ULSTER (24)24	
JJ Hanrahan(3C/P)		Johnny McPhillips(3C/P)	
Duncan Williams(2)		Stuart McCloskey(5)	
Brian Scott(27)		Rory Best(33/ 40)	
Robin Copeland(49)		Att: 16, 178	
(B) CONNACHT (21)47		LEINSTER (3)10	
Jack Carty(4C)		Joey Carbery(C/P)	
John Muldoon(C)		Barry Daly(54)	
Craig Ronaldson(C)		Att: 8, 129	
Niyi Adeolokun(3/ 42)			
Tiernan O'Halloran(29)			
Kieran Marmion(33/ 50)			
Bundee Aki(71)			
Caolin Blade(76)			
(b) CARDIFF BLUES (20)23		OSPREYS (13)26	
Gareth Anscombe(24/2C/3P)		Alun Wyn Jones(18)	
Garyn Smith(30)		Dan Biggar(55/2C/D/3P)	
DRAGONS (3)8		SCARLETS (7)33 (B)	
Arwel Robson(P)		Leigh Halfpenny(3C)	
Jared Rosser(63)		Ryan Elias(6)	
Att: 62, 338		Penalty Try(47)	
		Tadhg Beirne(51/ 56)	
		Steff Evans(75)	
EDINBURGH RUGBY (21)24		GLASGOW WARRIORS (14)19 (b)	
Duncan Weir(P)		Finn Russell(2C)	
Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(3C)		DTH van der Merwe(12/ 69)	
James Johnstone(19)		Callum Gibbins(22)	
Jordan Lay(35)		Att: 25, 353	
Duhan van der Merwe(40)			
(b) BENETTON RUGBY (7)17		ZEBRE (8)22	
Tommaso Allan(2C/P)		Marcello Violi(4P)	
Alberto Sgarbi(23/ 48)		Dave Sisi(40)	
Att: 5, 000		Carlo Canna(45)	
SOUTHERN KINGS (13)20		TOYOTA CHEETAHS (22)29 (B)	
Masixole Banda(2C/2P)		Paul Schoeman(19)	
Ntabeni Dukisa(5)		Niel Marais(29/3C/P)	
Harlon Klaasen(43)		Uzair Cassiem(40)	
Att: 4, 179		Francois Venter(53)	

Key: winning team shown in green, losing team in red, a draw marked in amber

Note: (B) denotes a try bonus point and (b) a losing bonus point

SPECSAVERS FAIRPLAY LEAGUE 2017/18

The Specsavers Fairplay League rewards the best disciplinary record, with the club with the fewest disciplinary points -1 point for each yellow card (YC) or Citing Commissioners warning (CCW), and 3 points for each red card (RC) or upheld proven citing complaint (PC) that results in a suspension - at the end of the 21 week regular season given £10,000 to spend on their youth development programme.

Specsavers		FAIRPLAY LEAGUE				
		YC	CCW	RC	PC	Pts
1	Scarlets	1	0	1	0	4
2	Glasgow Warriors	5	0	0	0	5
2	Leinster	5	0	0	0	5
4	Ulster	6	1	0	0	7
5	Connacht	8	0	0	0	8
6	Dragons	8	1	0	0	9
7	Toyota Cheetahs	11	0	0	0	11
8	Ospreys	7	2	0	1	12
8	Southern Kings	12	0	0	0	12
8	Zebre	8	1	1	0	12
8	Edinburgh	6	0	2	0	12
12	Cardiff Blues	12	1	1	0	16
13	Benetton	17	0	0	0	17
14	Munster	10	0	3	0	19
	TOTALS	116	6	8	1	149

RED CARDS (8)

Fineen Wycherley (Munster @ Glasgow Warriors, 22 Sep)
Michele Rizzo (Edinburgh @ Scarlets, 23 Sep)
Andrew Conway (Munster @ Connacht, 27 Oct)
Taufa'ao Filise (Blues @ Warriors, 1 Dec)
Simon Berghan (Edinburgh v Warriors, 23 Dec)
Johan Meyer (Zebre @ Benetton, 23 Dec)
Steff Evans (Scarlets v Ospreys, 26 Dec)
Sammy Arnold (Munster @ Ulster, 1 Jan)

PROVEN CITINGS LEADING TO SANCTIONS (1)

Ben John (Ospreys v Zebre, 2 Sept) cited under Law 10.4 (i) – Tackling the Jumper in the Air. Suspended for two weeks.

CITING COMMISSIONERS WARNINGS (6)

Oliviero Fabiani (Zebre v Ulster, 30 Sept) grabbing, rolling/twisting around head/neck, (Law 10.4.E)
Rodney Ah You (Ulster @ Zebre, 30 Sept) dangerous/late tackle (Law 10.4.E)
Rhys Webb (Ospreys v Scarlets, 7 Oct) act contrary to good sportsmanship (Law 10.4.M)
James Thomas (Dragons @ Ospreys, 27 Oct)
Olly Cracknel (Ospreys v Dragons, 27 Oct) striking an opponent (Law 10.4.A)
Matthew Rees (Cardiff Blues @ Dragons, 26 Dec) playing an opponent without the ball (Law 10.4.F)

YELLOW CARDS (117)

Benetton (17)	Andrea Bronzini(2), Francesco Minto(2), Nacho Brex, Dean Budd, Alberto de Marchi, Angelo Esposito, Hame Faiva, Jayden Hayward, Tommaso Iannone, Engiel Makelara, Federico Ruzza, Tito Tebaldi, Cherif Traore, Torsten van Jaarsveldt, Shaun Venter
Blues (12)	Alex Cuthbert(2), Taufua'ao Filise(2), Brad Thyer(2), Nick Williams(2), Kirby Myhill, Owen Lane, Matthew Rees, Olly Robinson
Connacht (8)	John Muldoon(2), Finlay Bealham, James Cannon, Eoin Griffin, Eoghan Masterson, Tiernan O'Halloran, Quinn Roux
Cheetahs (11)	Aranos Coetzee(2), Craig Barry, Justin Basson, Rynier Bernardo, Clayton Blommetjies, Charles Marais, Junior Pokomela, Torsten van Jaarsveld, Francois Venter, Henco Venter
Dragons (8)	Jack Dixon(2), Leon Brown, Chris Coleman, Thomas Davies, Lloyd Fairbrother, Angus O'Brien, Matthew Screech
Edinburgh (6)	Magnus Bradbury, Cornell du Preez, Jason Harries, Fraser McKenzie, Jamie Ritchie, Duncan Weir
Kings (12)	Schalk Ferreira(2), Yaw Penxe(2), Tango Balekile, Eital Bredenkamp, Bobby de Wee, Jacques Nel, Pieter Scholtz, S'bura Sithole, Joe Smith, Entienne Swanepoel
Leinster (5)	Adam Byrne, Dave Kearney, Jordi Murphy, Isa Nacewa, James Tracy
Munster (10)	Robin Copeland(2), Sammy Arnold, Andrew Conway, Gerbrand Grobler, Billy Holland, Jack O'Donoghue, Niall Scannell, Fineen Wycherley, Simon Zebo
Ospreys (8)	Dimitri Arhip, Bradley Davies, Hanno Dirksen, Dan Evans, Jeff Hassler, Ben John*, Will Jones, Brendon Leonard
Scarlets (1)	Tadhg Beirne
Ulster (6)	Rodney Ah You, Jean Deysel, Wiehahn Herbst, Louis Ludik, Luke Marshall, Andy Warwick
Warriors (5)	Alex Allan, Scott Cummings, Alex Dunbar, Chris Fusaro, Rob Harley
Zebre (8)	Carlo Canna(2), George Fabio Biagi(2), Maxime Mbanda, Tommaso Boni, Rory Parata, Dave Sisi

*Note: Ben John yellow card not counted towards Specsavers Fairplay League.

GUINNESS PRO14 PREVIEW 2017/18

Semi-Final Qualifiers, 5 May, 2018



TOP GUINNESS PRO14 ACCUMULATORS 2017/18

Rank	Name	Team	Apps	Mins	Try	Conv	PG	DG	Points
1	John Cooney	Ulster	16+2	1192	4	25	30	0	160
2	Carlo Canna	Zebre	18	1339	4	20	23	1	132
3	Jack Carty	Connacht	17+2	1190	1	24	26	0	131
4	Jarrold Evans	Cardiff Blues	12+3	829	2	27	21	0	127
5	Ross Byrne	Leinster	16+3	1206	0	37	12	0	110
6	Dan Biggar	Ospreys	10+2	807	2	17	20	1	107
7	Ian Keatley	Munster	10+5	789	2	29	10	0	98
8	Dan Jones	Scarlets	10+4	788	4	20	11	0	93
9	Fred Zeeling	Toyota Cheetahs	8+4	667	1	24	11	0	86
10	Duncan Weir	Edinburgh Rugby	5+7	524	3	11	15	1	85
11	Marty Banks	Benetton Rugby	12+4	923	1	12	18	0	83
12	Sam Hidalgo-Clyne	Edinburgh Rugby	13+6	835	7	16	5	0	82
13	Leigh Halfpenny	Scarlets	9	678	2	21	9	0	79
14	Finn Russell	Glasgow Warriors	9+2	708	0	21	12	0	78
15	Gavin Henson	Dragons	9	687	0	13	15	2	77
16	Ernst Stapelberg	Toyota Cheetahs	6	422	0	15	14	0	72
17	Sam Davies	Ospreys	12+8	1173	1	11	14	0	69
18	Pete Horne	Glasgow Warriors	8+7	778	1	17	10	0	69
19	JJ Hanrahan	Munster	10+4	863	2	16	8	0	66
20	Rhys Patchell	Scarlets	12+1	914	6	15	2	0	66
21	Niel Marais	Toyota Cheetahs	9+2	716	1	13	10	0	61

Best in a PRO Rugby Season: 287pts by Felipe Contepomi (Leinster) in 2005/06

TOP GUINNESS PRO14 TRY SCORERS 2017/18

Rank	Name	Team	Apps	Mins	Tries	Home	Away	1st H	2nd H
1	Barry Daly	Leinster	11+3	903	12	5	7	6	6
2	Makazole Mapimpi	Toyota Cheetahs	13	1033	10	6	4	4	6
3	George Horne	Glasgow Warriors	8+4	571	9	4	5	4	5
4	Mattia Bellini	Zebre	14+1	1097	8	6	2	3	5
5	Craig Gilroy	Ulster	9	636	8	5	3	3	5
6	Monty Ioane	Benetton Rugby	11	878	8	6	2	5	3
7	Duhan van der Merwe	Edinburgh Rugby	13	1022	8	7	1	4	4
8	Alex Wootton	Munster	15+1	1157	8	6	2	3	5
9	Tadhg Beirne	Scarlets	18+1	1417	7	2	5	1	6
10	Angelo Esposito	Benetton Rugby	9	692	7	5	2	3	4
11	Sam Hidalgo-Clyne	Edinburgh Rugby	13+6	835	7	2	5	2	5
12	Lee Jones	Glasgow Warriors	14+1	1061	7	3	4	2	5
13	Jordan Larmour	Leinster	9+5	888	7	4	3	2	5
14	James Lowe	Leinster	8	640	7	5	2	4	3
15	Rory O'Loughlin	Leinster	15+3	1183	7	4	3	4	3
16	Jared Rosser	Dragons	13+3	1067	7	3	4	5	2

Best in a PRO Rugby Season: 14 by Tim Visser (Edinburgh) 2010/11

GUINNESS PRO14 PREVIEW 2017/18

Semi-Final Qualifiers, 5 May, 2018



BEST GUINNESS PRO14 KICKERS 2017/18

Rank	Name	Team	Good	Att	Kick%	Last 10 kicks	Conv	PG	Streak
1	Kurt Coleman	Southern Kings	17	19	89.47%	p/2222322/22	12/13	5/6	Last 9
2	Sam Hidalgo-Clyne	Edinburgh Rugby	21	24	87.50%	c/c22222/222	16/19	5/5	Last 8
3	Marcello Violi	Zebre	14	16	87.50%	3/3/23/3c/3333	6/7	8/9	Last 4
4	Steve Shingler	Cardiff Blues	20	23	86.96%	c233c22/222	10/12	10/11	Last 5
5	Johnny Sexton	Leinster	12	14	85.71%	333/33c32/c2	6/8	6/6	Last 1
6	Fred Zeilinga	Toyota Cheetahs	35	41	85.37%	22222/2332/2	24/27	11/14	Last 23
7	Pete Horne	Glasgow Warriors	27	32	84.38%	3/3c/233322c	17/21	10/11	Missed last 1
8	Jarrold Evans	Cardiff Blues	48	57	84.21%	332/2222c2c	27/33	21/24	Missed last 1
9	Dan Jones	Scarlets	31	37	83.78%	3222/pp23/22	20/23	11/14	Last 4
10	Jason Tovey	Edinburgh Rugby	15	18	83.33%	2/p3233222/p	8/8	7/10	Missed last 1
11	Ernst Stapelberg	Toyota Cheetahs	29	35	82.86%	2333/3c33/3p	15/20	14/15	Missed last 1
12	Finn Russell	Glasgow Warriors	33	40	82.50%	22/pp/32c/22c	21/26	12/14	Missed last 1
13	Masixole Banda	Southern Kings	14	17	82.35%	p2c32/2/2332	7/8	7/9	Last 7
14	Arwel Robson	Dragons	17	21	80.95%	2/c22233p/3c	8/10	9/11	Missed last 1
15	Sam Davies	Ospreys	25	31	80.65%	2/2c/32232/22	11/14	14/17	Last 7
16	Adam Hastings	Glasgow Warriors	25	31	80.65%	2/2222c2222	21/26	4/5	Last 4
17	Niel Marais	Toyota Cheetahs	23	29	79.31%	c/3c22/32c22	13/18	10/11	Last 2
18	Duncan Weir	Edinburgh Rugby	26	33	78.79%	3323/332/2c/3	11/16	15/17	Last 1
19	Dan Biggar	Ospreys	37	47	78.72%	22c/p/323p23	17/25	20/22	Last 2
20	Christian Leali'ifano	Ulster	11	14	78.57%	222/32/3cc2c	7/10	4/4	Missed last 1
21	Gareth Anscombe	Cardiff Blues	21	27	77.78%	22/33/3223p3	8/11	13/16	Last 1
22	Tommaso Allan	Benetton Rugby	14	18	77.78%	2c22/cc2/223	8/11	6/7	Last 4
23	John Cooney	Ulster	55	71	77.46%	2332/3c/3233	25/38	30/33	Last 4
24	Craig Ronaldson	Connacht	16	21	76.19%	323/3p3c/c/2/2	7/9	9/12	Last 2
25	Gavin Henson	Dragons	28	37	75.68%	2/23cc2c/3p2	13/18	15/19	Last 1
26	Ian Keatley	Munster	39	52	75.00%	2/c22/3cc222	29/41	10/11	Last 3
27	Ciaran Frawley	Leinster	9	12	75.00%	22c2222cc2	8/11	1/1	Last 1
28	Jack Carty	Connacht	50	67	74.63%	3p/c32/222c2	24/36	26/31	Last 1
29	Rhys Patchell	Scarlets	17	23	73.91%	cc22/c2/22/2p	15/18	2/5	Missed last 1
30	Ian McKinley	Benetton Rugby	18	25	72.00%	p/3c/2/2/2cp/2c	11/15	7/10	Missed last 1
31	Leigh Halfpenny	Scarlets	30	42	71.43%	c33c32/2c22	21/28	9/14	Last 2
32	Oliver Zono	Southern Kings	10	14	71.43%	322/c332/2p2	7/10	3/4	Last 1
33	Ross Byrne	Leinster	49	69	71.01%	3/3c/2cc2c2c	37/52	12/17	Missed last 1
34	Marty Banks	Benetton Rugby	30	43	69.77%	2/332/c22223	12/23	18/20	Last 5
35	JJ Hanrahan	Munster	24	35	68.57%	3/c/2333/2223	16/24	8/11	Last 8
36	Carlo Canna	Zebre	43	67	64.18%	2/cc23c2/cc	20/35	23/32	Missed last 2
37	Johnny McPhillips	Ulster	6	10	60.00%	cc/c/2c3/2322	4/8	2/2	Last 5
38	Jaco van der Walt	Edinburgh Rugby	12	21	57.14%	22c/2c/c2/c3c	8/17	4/4	Missed last 1
39	Tyler Bleyendaal	Munster	11	21	52.38%	33/cp/3/323c3	4/11	7/10	Last 1

Qual: 10 place kicks at goal

Under Streak, "Last 4" means has kicked last four place kicks in a row successfully. Under "Last 10 kicks" 3 denotes a penalty goal, 2 a conversion, p is a missed penalty and c a missed conversion, whilst separate matches are divided with forward slashes.

GILBERT GOLDEN BOOT

The Gilbert Golden Boot is awarded to the kicker who has successfully converted the highest percentage of place kicks during the 21 week regular season. The minimum criteria is 30 attempts at goal.

Rank	Name	Team	Good	Att	Kick%	Last 10 kicks	Conv	PG	Streak
1	Fred Zeilinga	Toyota Cheetahs	35	41	85.37%	22222/2332/2	24/27	11/14	Last 23
2	Pete Horne	Glasgow Warriors	27	32	84.38%	3/3c/233322c	17/21	10/11	Missed last 1
3	Jarrold Evans	Cardiff Blues	48	57	84.21%	332/2222c2c	27/33	21/24	Missed last 1
4	Dan Jones	Scarlets	31	37	83.78%	3222/pp23/22	20/23	11/14	Last 4
5	Ernst Stapelberg	Toyota Cheetahs	29	35	82.86%	2333/3c33/3p	15/20	14/15	Missed last 1
6	Finn Russell	Glasgow Warriors	33	40	82.50%	22/pp/32c/22c	21/26	12/14	Missed last 1
7	Sam Davies	Ospreys	25	31	80.65%	2/2c/32232/22	11/14	14/17	Last 7
8	Adam Hastings	Glasgow Warriors	25	31	80.65%	2/2222c2222	21/26	4/5	Last 4
9	Duncan Weir	Edinburgh Rugby	26	33	78.79%	3323/332/2c/3	11/16	15/17	Last 1
10	Dan Biggar	Ospreys	37	47	78.72%	22c/p/323p23	17/25	20/22	Last 2
11	John Cooney	Ulster	55	71	77.46%	2332/3c/3233	25/38	30/33	Last 4
12	Gavin Henson	Dragons	28	37	75.68%	2/23cc2c/3p2	13/18	15/19	Last 1
13	Ian Keatley	Munster	39	52	75.00%	2/c22/3cc222	29/41	10/11	Last 3
14	Jack Carty	Connacht	50	67	74.63%	3p/c32/222c2	24/36	26/31	Last 1
15	Leigh Halfpenny	Scarlets	30	42	71.43%	c33c32/2c22	21/28	9/14	Last 2
16	Ross Byrne	Leinster	49	69	71.01%	3/3c/2cc2c2c	37/52	12/17	Missed last 1
17	Marty Banks	Benetton Rugby	30	43	69.77%	2/332/c22223	12/23	18/20	Last 5
18	JJ Hanrahan	Munster	24	35	68.57%	3/c/2333/2223	16/24	8/11	Last 8
19	Carlo Canna	Zebre	43	67	64.18%	2/ccc23c2/cc	20/35	23/32	Missed last 2

Qual: 30 place kicks at goal

GUINNESS PRO14 RECORD CENTRE INDIVIDUAL GAME RECORDS

	All-Time	Best in 2017/18
Most points	32 - Stephen Jones (Llanelli RFC @ Swansea, 4 Oct 02)	22 – Jason Tovey (Edinburgh v Ospreys, 4 Nov)
Most tries	4 - Mike Mullins (Munster @ Caerphilly, 11 Sep 01)	4 – Alex Wootton (Munster v Cheetahs, 9 Sep)
	4 - Lee Abdul (Blues v Ospreys, 25 Oct 03)	
	4 – Jamie Robinson (Blues v Borders, 27 Feb 04)	
	4 – Tommy Seymour (Warriors v Leinster, 10 Sep 16)	
	4 – Alex Wootton (Munster v Cheetahs, 9 Sep 17)	
Most conversions	10 – Duncan Weir (Warriors v Zebre, 29 Apr 16)	8 – Adam Hastings (Warriors v Zebre, 23 Mar)
Most penalty goals	9 – Luciano Orquera (Aironi v Benetton, 23 Dec 11)	6 – Dan Biggar (Ospreys v Scarlets, 7 Oct)
Most drop goals	4 – Dan Parks (Glasgow v Ulster, 16 Apr 10)	1 on six occasions Gavin Henson (twice)
Fastest try	10 secs – Dougie Fife (Edinburgh @ Connacht, 23 Mar 18)	10 secs – Dougie Fife (Edinburgh @ Connacht, 23 Mar)
Quickest bonus point try	17 mins 43 secs – Tommy Bowe (Ulster v Reivers, 12 May 06)	22 mins – Dave Kearney (Leinster v Kings, 23 Feb)

TEAM RECORDS

	All-Time	Best in 2017/18
Most points in a home game	75-7 Ospreys v Benetton (Liberty Stadium, 16 Feb 14)	68-7 Warriors v Zebre (Scotstoun, 23 Mar)
Most points in an away game	67-15 Ulster @ Caerphilly (Virginia Park, 5 Oct 02)	48-21 Edinburgh @ Kings (Nelson Mandela Bay, 1 Dec)
Highest aggregate of points in game	98pts - Caerphilly 32, Edinburgh 66 (Virginia Park, 21 Sep 02)	93pts – Cheetahs 54, Zebre 39 (Toyota Stadium, 16 Sep)
Biggest home win	68pts – Ospreys 75, Benetton 7 (Liberty Stadium, 16 Feb 14)	61pts – Warriors 68, Zebre 7 (Scotstoun, 23 Mar)
Biggest away win	57pts – Dragons 3, Glasgow 60 (Rodney Parade, 15 Feb 13)	41pts – Ospreys 6, Warriors 47 (Liberty Stadium, 26 Nov)
Best attendance (regular season)	68,262 – “Judgement Day IV” (Principality Stadium, 30 Apr 16)	46,374 – Leinster v Munster (Aviva Stadium, 7 Oct)

Note: 2017/18 Season bests set or equalled this past round shown in *italics*.

APPROACHING CAREER MILESTONES

POINTS SCORING	
1,500 points:	Ian Keatley (1,416)
1,000 points:	Jason Tovey (875)
500 points:	Sam Davies (498), James Hook (446), Steve Shingler (439)
Record:	1,582 points – Dan Parks (Glasgow Warriors, Cardiff Blues & Connacht)
TRY SCORING	
50 tries:	Craig Gilroy (48), Tom James (45)
25 tries:	Nikola Matawalu (24), Matt Healy (24), Tiernan O'Halloran (24), Luke McGrath (22), Dave Kearney (22)
Record:	67 tries – Tommy Bowe (Ulster & Ospreys)
MATCHES PLAYED	
200 games:	-
150 games:	Lewis Evans (149), Devin Toner (149), Sean Cronin (146), Rob Harley (146), Ken Owens (143)
100 games:	Sam Parry (99), Emyr Phillips (99), Kristian Dacey (96), Simon Zebo (96), Andrea de Marchi (94), John Ryan (94), Eoin McKeon (94), Jonathan Davies (93), Robin Copeland (93)
Record:	254 games – John Muldoon (Connacht)

CAREER TOP TENS

MOST POINTS		MOST GAMES		MOST MINS PLAYED		MOST TRIES	
Dan Parks	1582	John Muldoon	254	John Muldoon	18030	Tommy Bowe	67
Dan Biggar	1578	Matthew Rees	202	John Barclay	13036	Tim Visser	58
Ian Keatley	1416	Phil John	196	Tommy Bowe	12625	DTH van der Merwe	54
Ronan O'Gara	940	Ian Keatley	191	Dan Evans	11968	Andrew Trimble	50
Felipe Contepomi	877	Ross Ford	189	Alastair Kellock	11767	Craig Gilroy	48
Jason Tovey	875	John Barclay	188	Andrew Trimble	11755	Tom James	45
Duncan Weir	854	Michael Swift	184	Ian Keatley	11695	Shane Horgan	39
Chris Paterson	810	Isaac Boss	175	Dan Parks	11400	Fionn Carr	37
David Humphreys	786	Alastair Kellock	174	Ross Ford	11304	Simon Zebo	37
Rhys Priestland	770	Dougie Hall/ Tommy Bowe	174	Dan Biggar	10841	Nikki Walker	36

Active players in GUINNESS PRO14 marked in grey

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