

## ROUND 2 – PREVIEWS

Rugby did all the talking on the opening weekend of the Guinness PRO14 with expansive rugby and nail-biting finishes on offer in equal measure. In all 10 bonus points were won – a tally that equals the record for most in a round – while Round 1 saw wins for both Italian teams, Benetton Rugby and Zebre, in the season opener for the first time. Fans in Cardiff, Galway and Belfast were treated to results that went right to the wire as every game was broadcast live in the UK by Premier Sports with eir sport (Republic of Ireland) and DAZN (Italy) also making their debuts.

Round 2 will have a lot to live up to but with a host of mouth-watering fixtures the Guinness PRO14 will be up to the test with Glasgow Warriors hosting Munster, Scarlets welcoming Leinster to West Wales and Ulster facing Edinburgh just some of this weekend's headline fixtures. The season may only be beginning but all sides will have their hopes on reaching the Guinness PRO14 Final on May 25 which will take place at Celtic Park in Glasgow – the first time the showpiece decider will be played outside of a rugby venue. However, fans can book their places now by visiting [bitly.com/Glasgow2019](http://bitly.com/Glasgow2019) to get their hands on the best seats available.

## What's at Stake

On Friday night **Munster** (A1) take on **Glasgow Warriors** (A3) at Scotstoun (live on Premier Sports 2 & eir sport 1, 19:35) in a game that will have lasting consequences in Conference A come the end of the season with both of these former champions eager to make another title run. Munster hold a good record over Warriors, but Dave Rennie's team are formidable at home having won all fixtures last year in the regular season at Scotstoun failing just once to collect a try-scoring Bonus Point.

Pipped to the Guinness PRO14 Final Series by this weekend's opponents, **Ulster** (B3) will host **Edinburgh** (B6) (live on Premier Sports 1 & eir sport 2, 19:35) aiming to build on their opening win over Scarlets. Back-to-back victories would be a great way to start the new era under Dan McFarland, but Richard Cockerill's team will be fully focused for this Conference B clash. Ulster have won their last six games at Kingspan Stadium, but Edinburgh will be buoyed by their two wins on Irish soil last season against Connacht and Ulster.

On Saturday **Dragons** (B5) will be out to make amends against the **Isuzu Southern Kings** (B7) (live on Premier Sports 1 & eir sport 1, 15:00) for their opening round defeat to Benetton. The Kings, however, will be buoyed by their performance in the loss to Zebre and having already beaten Dragons in Port Elizabeth may sense an opportunity to win their first away game in the Guinness PRO14 but the hosts will ensure that is not the case.

Galway plays host as **Connacht** (A6) take on **Zebre** (A2) (live on Premier Sports 2, TG4 17:15 & DAZN 18:15). Coach Michael Bradley returns to his former stomping ground having instilled a free-flowing attacking game at Zebre who have won their previous three encounters with the Westerners and their last four Guinness PRO14 games. Connacht, however, are looking to right the ship and showed plenty of encouraging signs under new head coach Andy Friend in their narrow defeat to Glasgow Warriors last weekend.

**Ospreys** (A4) will look to build on their win over Edinburgh by seeing off the **Toyota Cheetahs** (A7) (live on Premier Sports 1 & eir sport 2, 17:30) who need to regroup quickly after a heavy defeat to Munster. George North racked up two tries on his debut for Ospreys last weekend and he and his new region will want to continue that vein of form in order to put the disappointment of last season behind them.

If **Benetton Rugby** (B2) can get a positive result against **Cardiff Blues** (A5) here in Treviso (live on DAZN, 20:35 & Free Sports, 19:35) then the Stadio Monigo will continue to regain its former position as one of the toughest tasks on the fixture list. In Benetton's opening season in the Championship they were robust at home and if they can emulate that it would go some way to their challenge of reaching the Guinness PRO14 Final Series. However, the Blues showed plenty of attacking intent against Leinster and harbour their own end-of-season ambitions.

## Pick of the Round

## Scarlets v Leinster

For the second weekend in a row defending champions **Leinster** (B1) make the trip to Wales, this time to face **Scarlets** (B4) in Llanelli (live on Premier Sports 1, eir sport 1, 19:35). These teams met in last season's final and are the most recent champions of the Guinness PRO14 and during that time they have built up a tasty rivalry. Scarlets' recent form against the Irish provinces has not been profitable, however, Leinster have not won at Parc y Scarlets since 2013 and can expect to face fired-up home team eager to make up for last weekend's loss away to Ulster.

Friday 7 September

## GLASGOW WARRIORS v MUNSTER RUGBY

At Scotstoun Stadium, Glasgow 7.35pm

Live on

**PREMIER SPORTS**



Referee: Ben Whitehouse (WRU, 47<sup>th</sup> competition game)

Assistant Referees: Dan Jones (WRU), Sam Grove-White (SRU)

Citing Commissioner: Paul Thomas (WRU)

TMO: Neil Paterson (SRU)

### HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	G	M	Glasgow Warriors scorers	Munster scorers
Fri 2 Oct 15	Thomond Park	21	23	Rory Clegg(D/6P)	Dave O'Callaghan(T) BJ Botha(T) Ian Keatley(2C/3P)
Fri 19 Feb 16	Rugby Park	27	24	Duncan Weir(T/2C/P) Sila Puafisi(2T) Glenn Bryce(T)	Dave Kilcoyne(2T) Mike Sherry(T) Ian Keatley(3C/P)
Fri 2 Dec 16	Scotstoun Stadium	15	16	Pete Horne(P) Ali Price(T) Mark Bennett(T) Rory Clegg(C)	Andrew Conway(T) Ian Keatley(C/D/2P)
Sat 8 Apr 17	Irish Independent Park	7	10	Stuart Hogg(T) Finn Russell(C)	James Cronin(T) Tyler Bleyendaal(C) Rory Scannell(P)
Fri 22 Sep 17	Scotstoun Stadium	37	10	Leo Sarto(T) Finn Russell(4C/3P) Scott Cummings(T) Nick Grigg(T) Lee Jones(T)	Chris Farrell(T) Rory Scannell(T)
Fri 23 Feb 18	Irish Independent Park	10	21	Adam Hastings(C/P) George Horne(T)	James Cronin(T) Niall Scannell(T) Tyler Bleyendaal(C/3P)

### Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 32, Warriors won 12, Munster won 19 with 1 game drawn.

### Did you know?

- Glasgow Warriors narrow victory in Galway on Saturday ended a three-game losing run in the Guinness PRO14.
- The Warriors have won their opening two fixtures in each of the last two seasons.
- Glasgow have not been defeated at Scotstoun in the PRO14 regular season since Edinburgh were the visitors in May 2017.
- Munster beat Cheetahs 38-0 in Limerick last weekend – the first time they held an opponent scoreless in the Guinness PRO14 since Ospreys visited Cork in November 2016.
- The Munstermen have won their last two regular season away games in the PRO14, both in South Africa, against Kings and Cheetahs.
- The Irishmen lost on both of their visits to Scotland last season.
- Munster's only defeat in their last six fixtures with Glasgow in all competitions was 10-37 at Scotstoun in round 4 of the PRO14 last season.

COMPARISON	Warriors	Munster
<b>Last 3 PRO14 results:</b>	28 Apr - Edinburgh (A) L 19-24 18 May - Scarlets (H) L 13-28 1 Sep - Connacht (A) W 27-26	5 May - Edinburgh (H) W 20-16 19 May - Leinster (A) L 15-16 1 Sep - Cheetahs (H) W 38-0
<b>PRO14 2018/19</b>	Conf A: 3rd - W1 D0 L0 - 5pts	Conf A: 1st - W1 D0 L0 - 5pts
<b>PRO14 form</b>	w (5pts)	W (5pts)
<b>Top try scorer</b>	1 - George Turner, Tommy Seymour, Ryan Wilson, Adam Ashe	1 - Dave Kilcoyne, Tommy O'Donnell, JJ Hanrahan, Dave O'Callaghan, Rory Scannell, Darren Sweetnam
<b>Top points scorer</b>	5 - Tommy Seymour	13 - JJ Hanrahan

Friday 7 September

## ULSTER RUGBY v EDINBURGH RUGBY

At Kingspan Stadium, Belfast, 7.35pm.

Live on

**PREMIER SPORTS**



Referee: Stuart Berry (SARU, 15<sup>th</sup> competition game)

Assistant Referees: Kieran Barry, Robert O'Sullivan (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: John Cole (IRFU)

TMO: Olly Hodges (IRFU)

### HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	U	E	Ulster scorers	Edinburgh Rugby scorers
Fri 16 Oct 15	BT Murrayfield	10	16	Sean Reidy(T) Peter Nelson(C/P)	Greig Tonks(C/3P) Hamish Watson(T)
Fri 4 Dec 15	Kingspan Stadium	14	7	Paddy Jackson(2C) Rory Scholes(T) Penalty Try(T)	Cornell du Preez(T) Jack Cuthbert(C)
Fri 4 Nov 16	BT Murrayfield	17	28	Jacob Stockdale(T) Aaron Cairns(T) Ruan Pienaar(2C/P)	Duncan Weir(2P) Viliame Mata(T) Jason Tovey(2C) Magnus Bradbury(T) Damien Hoyland(T) Blair Kinghorn(P)
Fri 10 Feb 17	Kingspan Stadium	24	18	Jacob Stockdale(T) Darren Cave(T) Paul Marshall(T) Peter Nelson(2C) Louis Ludik(T)	Stuart McInally(T) Magnus Bradbury(T) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(P) Damien Hoyland(T)
Fri 16 Feb 18	Kingspan Stadium	16	17	John Cooney(T/C/3P)	Duncan Weir(D) Jason Harries(T) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(2C) Lewis Carmichael(T)
Fri 6 Apr 18	BT Murrayfield	32	20	Iain Henderson(T) John Cooney(T/3C/2P) Charles Piutau(T) Darren Cave(T)	Duncan Weir(T/C/2P) Penalty Try(T)

### Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 31, Ulster won 20, Edinburgh won 11.

### Did you know?

- Ulster Rugby beat Scarlets 15-13 in round 1 and have won their opening two games for the past two seasons.
- The Ulstermen are unbeaten in their last six Guinness PRO14 encounters, whilst their only defeat at Kingspan Stadium since last October was by a single point to Edinburgh in February.
- Edinburgh lost to Ospreys at Liberty Stadium last weekend and have not started the season with a pair of defeats since 2011/12.
- The Scotsmen have been defeated in their last two Guinness PRO14 matches, both of these being played away from home, at Munster and Ospreys.
- Edinburgh beat two Irish provinces on their own soil last season; Ulster in round 15 and Connacht in round 18.
- Each side won its respective away game when the two teams met last season with Edinburgh's victory being their first in Belfast since 2009.

COMPARISON	Ulster	Edinburgh
<b>Last 3 PRO14 results:</b>	28 Apr - Munster (A) D 24-24	28 Apr - Glasgow (H) W 24-19
	20 May - Ospreys (H) W 35-17	5 May - Munster (A) L 16-20
	1 Sep - Scarlets (H) W 15-13	31 Aug - Ospreys (A) L 13-17
<b>PRO14 2018/19</b>	Conf B: 3rd - W1 D0 L0 - 4pts	Conf B: 6th - W0 D0 L1 - 1pts
<b>PRO14 form</b>	W (4pts)	L (1pts)
<b>Top try scorer</b>	-	1 - Blair Kinghorn
<b>Top points scorer</b>	15 - John Cooney	6 - Simon Hickey

## Saturday 8 September

### DRAGONS v ISUZU SOUTHERN KINGS

At Rodney Parade, Newport, 3pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS

Referee: Frank Murphy (IRFU, 15<sup>th</sup> competition game)

Assistant Referees: Nigel Correll (IRFU), Gwyn Morris (WRU)

Citing Commissioner: Gwyn Bowden (WRU)

TMO: Sean Brickell (WRU)



#### HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	D	I	Dragons scorers	Isuzu Southern Kings scorers
Sat 30 Sep 17	Rodney Parade	29	13	Elliot Dee(2T) Hallam Amos(2T) Gavin Henson(3C/P)	Andy Ntsila(T) Pieter-Steyn de Wet(C/2P)
Fri 2 Mar 18	Nelson Mandela Bay	13	45	Dorian Jones(T/C/2P)	Luzuko Vulindlu(2T) Anthony Volmink(T) Ruaan Lerm(T) Bobby de Wee(T) Masixole Banda(T) Kurt Coleman(6C/P)

#### Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 2, Dragons won 1, Kings won 1.

#### Did you know?

- Dragons 17-21 reversal to Benetton last weekend was their eighth successive Guinness PRO14 defeat.
- Dragons record against South African opponents in the PRO14 last season was won one, lost two.
- Isuzu Southern Kings lost out to Zebre in Parma in round 1 and have now been defeated in their last five Guinness PRO14 encounters.
- The Kings have yet to achieve an away win in the Guinness PRO14 with their most recent success outside South Africa being against the Jaguars in Buenos Aires in Super Rugby in June 2017.
- The two sides have met twice before with each side winning its respective home game last season - Kings only Championship victory to date.

COMPARISON	Dragons	Kings
<b>Last 3 PRO14 results:</b>	14 Apr - Zebre (A) L 32-34	14 Apr - Cardiff Blues (H) L 12-45
	28 Apr - Scarlets (H) L 8-33	28 Apr - Cheetahs (H) L 20-29
	1 Sep - Treviso (H) L 17-21	31 Aug - Zebre (A) L 16-32
<b>PRO14 2018/19</b>	Conf B: 5th - W0 D0 L1 - 1pts	Conf B: 7th - W0 D0 L1 - 0pts
<b>PRO14 form</b>	L (1pts)	l (0pts)
<b>Top try scorer</b>	1 - Rhodri Williams, Dafydd Howells	1 - Mikey Botha
<b>Top points scorer</b>	5 - Dafydd Howells	11 - Masixole Banda

## Saturday 8 September

### CONNACHT RUGBY v ZEBRE RUGBY

At The Sportsground, Galway, 5.15pm. *Live on*  
 Referee: Lloyd Linton (SRU, 22<sup>nd</sup> competition game)  
 Assistant Referees: Finlay Brown (SRU) John Carvill (IRFU)  
 Citing Commissioner: Eugene Ryan (IRFU)  
 TMO: Brian MacNeice (IRFU)

PREMIER SPORTS



#### HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	C	Z	Connacht scorers	Zebre scorers
Fri 16 Oct 15	Sportsground	34	15	Matt Healy(T) Eoin McKeon(T) Denis Buckley(T) Kieran Marmion(T) Craig Ronaldson(T/3C/P)	Edoardo Padovani(C/P) Johan Meyer(T) Dion Berryman(T)
Sat 20 Feb 16	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	51	34	Matt Healy(3T) AJ MacGinty(3C/2P) Kieran Marmion(T) Niyi Adeolokun(2T) Craig Ronaldson(3C/P)	Kelly Haimona(T/4C/2P) Johan Meyer(T) Federico Ruzza(T) Dries van Schalkwyk(T)
Fri 3 Mar 17	Sportsground	33	3	Tiernan O'Halloran(2C) Naulia Dawai(T) John Cooney(C) Niyi Adeolokun(T) John Muldoon(T) Penalty Try(T) Craig Ronaldson(C) Lewis Stevenson(T)	Guglielmo Palazzani(P)
Sat 1 Apr 17	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	22	25	Josh Rowland(T) John Cooney(C/P) Stacey Ili(T) Craig Ronaldson(T/C)	Edoardo Padovani(T) Tommaso Boni(T) Marcello Violi(C) Carlo Canna(C/2P) Derick Minnie(T)
Sat 2 Dec 17	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	10	24	Steve Crosbie(C) Tom Farrell(T) Jack Carty(P)	Johan Meyer(T) Giovanbattista Venditti(T) Carlo Canna(C/D/3P)
Fri 16 Feb 18	Sportsground	11	19	Darragh Leader(T) Craig Ronaldson(2P)	Andrea de Marchi(T) Carlo Canna(2C) Gabriele di Giulio(T) Renato Giammarioli(T)

#### Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 12, Connacht won 9, Zebre won 3.

#### Did you know?

- Connacht Rugby lost by the narrowest of margins to Glasgow in Galway last weekend and have now won just one of their last six Guinness PRO14 matches.
- Connacht won their most recent match against an Italian opponent: 22-19 in Treviso in February to end a three-game losing run against such opponents.
- Zebre racked up a fourth successive Guinness PRO14 victory (three with maximum points) at home to Southern Kings in round 1.
- Zebre's only previous victory away to an Irish province came in this equivalent fixture in Galway last season.
- The two sides have met on eighteen previous occasions in all competitions with Connacht winning the first fifteen and Zebre the most recent three.

COMPARISON	Connacht	Zebre
<b>Last 3 PRO14 results:</b>	13 Apr - Glasgow (A) L 22-35 28 Apr - Leinster (H) W 47-10 1 Sep - Glasgow (H) L 26-27	21 Apr - Ospreys (H) W 37-14 28 Apr - Treviso (A) W 22-17 31 Aug - Southern Kings (H) W 32-16
<b>PRO14 2018/19</b>	Conf A: 6th - W0 D0 L1 - 1pts	Conf A: 2nd - W1 D0 L0 - 5pts
<b>PRO14 form</b>	L (1pts)	W (5pts)
<b>Top try scorer</b>	1 - Finlay Bealham, Cian Kelleher	1 - Oliviero Fabiani, Jimmy Tuivaiti, Apisai Tauyavuca, Mattia Bellini
<b>Top points scorer</b>	16 - Jack Carty	12 - Carlo Canna

Round 2: 7 & 8 Sept 2018

Saturday 8 September

## OSPREYS RUGBY v TOYOTA CHEETAHS

At Liberty Stadium, Swansea, 5.30pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS

Referee: Andrew Brace (IRFU, 36<sup>th</sup> competition game)

Assistant Referees: George Clancy (IRFU), Gareth John (WRU)

Citing Commissioner: Dennis Jones (WRU)

TMO: Tim Hayes (WRU)



### HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	O	T	Ospreys scorers	Toyota Cheetahs scorers
Fri 29 Sep 17	Toyota Stadium	25	44	Dan Biggar(2C/2P) Kieron Fonotia(T) Dan Evans(T) Rhys Webb(T)	Torsten van Jaarsveld(2T) William Small-Smith(C) Makazole Mapimpi(2T) Francois Venter(T) Paul Schoeman(T) Ernst Stapelberg(3C/2P)
Sat 24 Feb 18	Liberty Stadium	27	26	Sam Davies(3C/2P) Ifan Phillips(T) Ashley Beck(T) Sam Cross(T)	Torsten van Jaarsveld(T) Charles Marais(C) Nico Lee(T) Craig Barry(T) Reniel Hugo(T) Niel Marais(2C)

### Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 2, Ospreys won 1, Cheetahs won 1.

### Did you know?

- Ospreys began their 2018/19 Guinness PRO14 campaign with a 17-13 home victory over Edinburgh, and only once since 2014 have they begun a season with a pair of victories.
- The Welshmen have won their last six PRO14 encounters at Liberty Stadium since Glasgow beat them there on 26 November.
- Ospreys won both matches they played against South African opponents in Swansea last season.
- Toyota Cheetahs failed to score a point in Munster last weekend for only the second time in their history – previously doing so against Stormers in Cape Town in Super Rugby in 2014.
- Cheetahs record against Welsh Regions last season was won four lost three with their only victory in Wales being against Dragons at Rodney Parade in March.
- The two sides each won their respective home game when they met last season.

COMPARISON	Ospreys	Cheetahs
<b>Last 3 PRO14 results:</b>	28 Apr - Cardiff Blues (A) W 26-23	28 Apr - Southern Kings (A) W 29-20
	20 May - Ulster (A) L 17-35	5 May - Scarlets (A) L 8-43
	31 Aug - Edinburgh (H) W 17-13	1 Sep - Munster (A) L 0-38
<b>PRO14 2018/19</b>	Conf A: 4th - W1 D0 L0 - 4pts	Conf A: 7th - W0 D0 L1 - 0pts
<b>PRO14 form</b>	W (4pts)	l (0pts)
<b>Top try scorer</b>	2 - George North	-
<b>Top points scorer</b>	10 - George North	-

## Saturday 8 September

### SCARLETS v LEINSTER RUGBY

At Parc y Scarlets, Llanelli, 7.35pm.

Live on

**PREMIER SPORTS**

Referee: Mike Adamson (SRU, 23<sup>rd</sup> competition game)

Assistant Referees: Dave Sutherland (SRU), Wayne Davies (WRU)

Citing Commissioner: Ray Wilton (WRU)

TMO: Andrew McMenemy (SRU)



#### HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	S	L	Scarlets scorers	Leinster scorers
Fri 25 Nov 16	Parc y Scarlets	38	29	Johnny McNicholl(T) Rhys Patchell(5C) Ryan Elias(T) Steff Evans(T) Will Boyde(T) Dan Jones(P) Werner Kruger(T)	Tom Daly(T) Adam Byrne(T) Andrew Porter(T) Isa Nacewa(3C/P) Richardt Strauss(T)
Sat 4 Mar 17	RDS Arena	9	45	Dan Jones(3P)	Ross Byrne(5C) Rhys Ruddock(T) Ed Byrne(T) Joey Carbery(2T) Jamison Gibson-Park(T) Luke McGrath(2T)
Fri 19 May 17	RDS Arena (SF)	27	15	Aaron Shingler(T) Rhys Patchell(3C) Steff Evans(T) Gareth Davies(T) Liam Williams(2P)	Jack Conan(T) Garry Ringrose(T) Isa Nacewa(C/P)
Sat 17 Feb 18	RDS Arena	13	20	Johnny McNicholl(T) Dan Jones(C/2P)	James Lowe(2T) Ciaran Frawley(C/P) Luke McGrath(T)
Fri 9 Mar 18	Parc y Scarlets	10	10	Paul Asquith(T) Dan Jones(C/P)	Ross Byrne(C/P) Ed Byrne(T)
Sat 26 May 18	Aviva Stadium (F)	32	40	Johnny McNicholl(3T) Dan Jones(C) Leigh Halfpenny(2C/2P) Werner Kruger(T)	James Lowe(T) Jack Conan(T) Joey Carbery(C) Sean Cronin(T) Jordan Larmour(T) Johnny Sexton(2C/3P) Devin Toner(T)

#### Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 32, Scarlets won 11, Leinster won 19 with 2 games drawn.

#### Did you know?

- Scarlets have now lost their last two Guinness PRO14 encounters, last season's final against Leinster and on the trip to Ulster in round 1.
- The Welshmen are unbeaten at Parc y Scarlets in the Guinness PRO14 in their last twenty-one fixtures since Munster beat them there in September 2016.
- Scarlets have lost their last four encounters against Irish provinces in all tournaments.
- Leinster have now won their last three Guinness PRO14 matches, whilst their single point victory at Cardiff Blues last weekend ended a run of four winless games on the road in the Championship.
- The Leinstermen lost only once to a Welsh opponent last season: 18-32 to Ospreys in round 18.
- Scarlets most recent victory over Leinster came at the RDS Arena in the Guinness PRO14 semi-final of 2017.
- Leinster have not been victorious at Parc y Scarlets since the opening round of the 2013/14 season: the two sides drew 10-all at the venue last season.

COMPARISON	Scarlets	Leinster
<b>Last 3 PRO14 results:</b>	18 May - Glasgow (A) W 28-13	19 May - Munster (H) W 16-15
	26 May - Leinster (N) L 32-40	26 May - Scarlets (N) W 40-32
	1 Sep - Ulster (A) L 13-15	31 Aug - Cardiff Blues (A) W 33-32
<b>PRO14 2018/19</b>	Conf B: 4th - W0 D0 L1 - 1pts	Conf B: 1st - W1 D0 L0 - 5pts
<b>PRO14 form</b>	l (1pts)	w (5pts)
<b>Top try scorer</b>	1 - Rhys Patchell	2 - Bryan Byrne
<b>Top points scorer</b>	7 - Rhys Patchell	10 - Bryan Byrne

Round 2: 7 & 8 Sept 2018

Saturday 8 September

## BENETTON RUGBY v CARDIFF BLUES

At Stadio Monigo, Treviso 8.35pm.

Live on

Referee: Sean Gallagher (IRFU, 10<sup>th</sup> competition game)

Assistant Referees: Stuart Gaffikin (IRFU), Gianluca Gnecci (FIR)

Citing Commissioner: TBC

TMO: Stefano Penne (FIR)



FREE SPORTS

### HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	B	C	Benetton Rugby scorers	Cardiff Blues scorers
Fri 20 Feb 15	Stadio Monigo	40	24	Enrico Bacchin(T) Jayden Hayward(T/3C/3P) Henry Seniloli(T) Angelo Esposito(T) Mat Luamanu(T)	Rhys Patchell(3C/P) Josh Navidi(T) Lloyd Williams(T) Adam Thomas(T)
Sat 13 Feb 16	Stadio Monigo	13	7	Jayden Hayward(C/2P) Penalty Try(T)	Rhys Patchell(C) Blaine Scully(T)
Fri 25 Mar 16	Cardiff Arms Park	8	56	Marco Lazzaroni(T) Jayden Hayward(P)	Rey Lee-Lo(T) Gareth Anscombe(3C/2P) Rhys Patchell(T) Josh Navidi(T) Ellis Jenkins(T) Kristian Dacey(T) Jarrod Evans(2C) Dan Fish(T) Tom James(T) Manoa Vosawai(T)
Fri 4 Nov 16	Stadio Monigo	28	34	Braam Steyn(T) Ian McKinley(4C) Dean Budd(T) Michael Tagicakibau(T) Alberto Sgarbi(T)	Willis Halaholo(T) Steve Shingler(2C/5P) Macauley Cook(T) Rhun Williams(T)
Sat 18 Feb 17	Cardiff Arms Park	20	57	Angelo Esposito(T) Ian McKinley(T) Tito Tebaldi(2C/2P)	Willis Halaholo(T) Sion Bennett(T) Steve Shingler(T/7C/P) Kristian Dacey(T) Matthew Morgan(T) Alex Cuthbert(T) Nick Williams(T) Blaine Scully(T)
Fri 16 Mar 18	Cardiff Arms Park	25	31	Tomas Baravalle(T) Marty Banks(C/2P) Giorgio Bronzini(T) Monty Ioane(T) Ian McKinley(C)	Olly Robinson(T) Owen Lane(T) Ellis Jenkins(T) Jarrod Evans(4C/P) Nick Williams(T)

### Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 15, Benetton won 3, Blues won 11 with 1 game drawn.

### Did you know?

- Benetton's only defeat in the last five rounds of the Guinness PRO14 was 17-22 at home to Zebre in April.
- The Italians have never before begun a season with victories in rounds 1 & 2.
- Benetton's only defeat in their last five contests with Welsh Regions was away to Cardiff Blues in round 17 last season.
- Cardiff Blues have now won just one of their last four Guinness PRO14 matches, 45-12 over Southern Kings in Port Elizabeth in April.
- The Blues have won their last eight encounters with Italian opponents.
- Benetton's most recent victory over The Blues was 13-7 at Stadio Monigo in February 2016.

COMPARISON	Benetton	Blues
<b>Last 3 PRO14 results:</b>	14 Apr - Leinster (A) W 17-15	14 Apr - Southern Kings (A) W 45-12
	28 Apr - Zebre (H) L 17-22	28 Apr - Ospreys (H) L 23-26
	1 Sep - Dragons (A) W 21-17	31 Aug - Leinster (H) L 32-33
<b>PRO14 2018/19</b>	Conf B: 2nd - W1 D0 L0 - 4pts	Conf A: 5th - W0 D0 L1 - 2pts
<b>PRO14 form</b>	w (4pts)	L (2pts)
<b>Top try scorer</b>	2 - Alessandro Zanni	2 - Rey Lee-Lo, Jason Harries
<b>Top points scorer</b>	10 - Alessandro Zanni	12 - Jarrod Evans