

ROUND 14 – PREVIEWS

After a fortnight of European action, the Guinness PRO14 returns for Round 14. And, on the eve of the Guinness Six Nations, there is plenty to prove as the race hots up for the Final Series. Conference A is as tight as it gets with everyone from Munster on top down to Cardiff Blues in fifth still vying for the knock-out berths.

Meanwhile in Conference B, Benetton Rugby continue to catch the eye in a packed field behind runaway leaders and defending champions Leinster. Edinburgh in second and Ulster in fifth are only separated by two points – and the race could take another twist this weekend with some mouth-watering match-ups.

The focus is narrowing on the Guinness PRO14 Final on May 25, which will take place at Celtic Park – fans can book their places now by visiting bitly.com/Glasgow2019 to get their hands on the best seats.

What's at stake?

Second plays third in Conference A on Friday night as **Glasgow Warriors (A2)** – downed last time out by Benetton Rugby – look for revenge when **Ospreys (A3)** come to Scotstoun (live on Premier Sports 1 and eir Sport 2, 7:35pm). This crucial clash sees Dave Rennie's side keen to turn a slump in form around that has seen them only win once in their last five games in all competitions. Ospreys meanwhile have only lost once in their last four Guinness PRO14 games but have only got one away win to their name in the Championship this season – against Zebre in round five. Glasgow have won all six games against Welsh opponents this season and Ospreys have a tough head to head record against the Warriors to overcome – the Scottish outfit have won the last three clashes and counting.

Also on Friday night, Conference B is set for a shake up as **Ulster Rugby (B5)** welcome **Benetton Rugby (B3)** to the Kingspan Stadium (live on Free Sports, eir Sport, DAZN, 7:35pm). Ulster are on a high after two wins from two in the Champions Cup secured a Quarter-Final berth but domestically, they have lost two in a row in the Guinness PRO14. By contrast, Benetton have won five in a row in the Championship and are chasing a third away win on the spin – a feat never before achieved by the club. They will have to do it the hard way in Belfast though where Dan McFarland's side seldom lose – only Connacht have won there since last February.

Saturday sees **Dragons (B6)** welcome Conference A leaders **Munster Rugby (A1)** to Rodney Parade (live on Premier Sports 1, TG4 and eir Sport 1, 3pm). The Welsh region downed Munster at Rodney Parade back in December 2015 but have lost the last four meetings between the sides since then. And they meet a Munster side in rich form – they have only lost once in the Guinness PRO14 since early October and secured a spot in the Champions Cup quarter-finals last time out. However, Johan van Graan's side have lost on their last two trips to Wales, both against Cardiff Blues at the Arms Park in February and September of last year.

Over in Bloemfontein, the in-form **Toyota Cheetahs (A6)** put their impressive record against Italian opponents on the line against **Zebre Rugby (A7)** (live on Premier Sports 2, eir Sport 1 and DAZN, 1pm & Super Sport 3pm). The Cheetahs have won four of their five clashes against Italian sides since joining the Championship and have only lost once in their last four Championship games. Zebre meanwhile are on a six-match losing run in the Guinness PRO14 since they downed Edinburgh in Parma back in October of last year. The two sides have met three times already, and the Cheetahs have emerged victorious every time so Michael Bradley's side have their work cut out to halt their slide.

Defending champions Leinster downed **Cardiff Blues (A5)** at the Arms Park on the opening day of the season but since then the Welsh region are unbeaten at their home fortress. They put that record on the line this Saturday when the impressive **Connacht (A4)** come to town (live on Premier Sports 2, S4C and TG4, 5.15pm) looking to steal a march on their Conference A rivals in the battle for a top-three finish. Andy Friend's in-form Irish province have lost just twice in their last 10 games in all competitions but are notoriously poor travellers to Wales. They have lost on their last five trips there – in fact their only win in their last nine came in February 2017 at Cardiff Arms Park.

The **Isuzu Southern Kings (B7)** have only won once in the Guinness PRO14 all season – against the Glasgow Warriors back in September. But this weekend they welcome Glasgow's near neighbours **Edinburgh (B2)** to the Madibaz Stadium hoping for lightning to strike twice (live on Super Sport 5.15pm & Premier Sports 2, 3.15pm). However, Richard Cockerill's side are one of the in-form teams in Europe – they have won seven in a row in all competitions and are in the European Champions Cup quarter-finals for the first time since the 2011/12 season. They have won with a bonus point the last three times these two sides have met, but the Kings pushed the Cheetahs close last time out and will be keen to spring a surprise.

Pick of the Round – Leinster v Scarlets

Friday night at the RDS sees a rematch of last season's Guinness PRO14 final as **Leinster (B1)** welcome Wayne Pivac's **Scarlets (B4)** (live on Premier Sports 2, eir Sport 1 and TG4, 7:35pm). Scarlets have good history in the RDS – they won the 2017 Semi-Final there on their way to the title. But since then Leinster have only lost once – to Benetton Rugby last April – at the RDS and indeed the defeat to Munster at Thomond Park after Christmas was their only defeat in any tournament since October.

Scarlets meanwhile snapped a three-game losing run in the Championship last time out against the Dragons and have only won once on the road in the Guinness PRO14 all season. But they did down Leinster at Parc y Scarlets in round two and could achieve a season's double over the Irish powerhouses for the first time in their history.

Opta Top Performers – Round 13

Most tackles: 25 Matthew Screech (Dragons)

Most carries: 26 Adam Ashe (Glasgow Warriors)

Defenders Beaten: 10 Duhan van der Merwe (Edinburgh Rugby)

Offloads: 4 Hallam Amos (Dragons)

Clean Breaks: 4 Sibhale Maxwane (Toyota Cheetahs)

Metres made: 144 Matthew Morgan (Cardiff Blues)

Turnovers Won: 3 Cian Kelleher (Connacht)

Lineout Steals: 2 Justin Tipuric (Ospreys)

Opta Top Performers – Overall

Most tackles: 155 Josh Turnbull (Cardiff Blues)

Most Carries: 168 Bill Mata (Edinburgh)

Defenders beaten: 50 Duhan van der Merwe (Edinburgh)

Offloads: 22 Tom Farrell (Connacht)

Clean breaks: 22 Sibhale Maxwane (Toyota Cheetahs)

Metres made: 821 Malcolm Jaer (Toyota Cheetahs)

Turnovers won: 19 Olly Robinson (Cardiff Blues)

Lineout Steals: 7 Junior Pokomela (Toyota Cheetahs)

Friday 25 January

GLASGOW WARRIORS v OSPREYS RUGBY

At Scotstoun Stadium, Glasgow, 7.35pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS



Referee: John Lacey (IRFU, 76th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Dave Sutherland (SRU), Rob Sullivan (IRFU)

TMO: Charles Samson (SRU):

Citing Commissioner: John Kirk (SRU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	G	O	Glasgow Warriors scorers	Ospreys scorers
Sun 31 Jan 16	Liberty Stadium	20	20	Duncan Weir(2C/2P) Gordon Reid(T) Rory Hughes(T)	Sam Davies(2C/2P) Eli Walker(T) Dan Evans(T)
Fri 25 Nov 16	Scotstoun Stadium	5	22	Junior Bulumakau(T)	Tom O'Flaherty(T) Dan Baker(T) Ashley Beck(T) Tom Habberfield(T) Josh Matavesi(C)
Sun 26 Feb 17	Liberty Stadium	15	26	Corey Flynn(T) Peter Murchie(T) Brandon Thomson(C/P)	Tyler Ardron(T) Luke Price(3C) Keelan Giles(T) Josh Matavesi(T) Kieron Fonotia(T)
Sat 9 Sep 17	Scotstoun Stadium	31	10	Leonardo Sarto(T) Finn Russell(4C/P) Adam Ashe(T) Alex Dunbar(2T)	Sam Davies(C/P) Dan Evans(T)
Sun 26 Nov 17	Liberty Stadium	47	6	Leonardo Sarto(T) Adam Hastings(T/6C) George Turner(T) Scott Cummings(T) George Horne(2T) Brandon Thomson(T)	Sam Davies(2P)
Fri 2 Nov 18	Liberty Stadium	29	20	Nikola Matawalu(3T) Nick Grigg(T) Brandon Thomson(3C/P)	Olly Cracknell(T) Sam Davies(2C/2P) Hanno Dirksen(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 32, Warriors won 15, Ospreys won 14 with 3 games drawn.

Did you know?

- Glasgow Warriors only victory in their last five matches was 33-24 at home to Cardiff Blues in round 5 of the European Champions Cup.
- The Warriors have lost just twice at Scotstoun this season, to Saracens in October and to Edinburgh in the Guinness PRO14 in December.
- Glasgow have won all six matches they have played against Welsh opponents in all tournaments this season.
- Ospreys have lost just once in the last four rounds of Guinness PRO14, by a single point to Dragons on 30 December.
- Ospreys only away win in any tournament this season was at Zebre in round 5 of the Guinness PRO14.
- Glasgow have won their last three matches against Ospreys, whilst the Welshmen's only previous victory at Scotstoun was 22-5 in the PRO14 in November 2016.

COMPARISON	Warriors	Ospreys
Last 3 PRO14 results:	22 Dec - Edinburgh (A) L 7-23	22 Dec - Scarlets (H) W 19-12
	29 Dec - Edinburgh (H) L 8-16	30 Dec - Dragons (A) L 22-23
	5 Jan - Treviso (A) L 17-20	5 Jan - Cardiff Blues (H) W 20-11
PRO14 2018/19	Conf A: 2nd - W8 D0 L5 - 42pts	Conf A: 3rd - W8 D0 L5 - 37pts
PRO14 form	wWWILI (15pts)	LIWWIW (14pts)
Top try scorer	6 - George Horne	7 - Luke Morgan
Top points scorer	57 - Adam Hastings	121 - Sam Davies

Friday 25 January

LEINSTER RUGBY v SCARLETS

At RDS Arena, Dublin, 7.35pm.

Live on

Referee: Marius Mitrea (FIR, 87th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Frank Murphy (IRFU), Vincenzo Schipani (FIR)

TMO: Olly Hodges (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: Eugene Ryan (IRFU)

PREMIER SPORTS



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	L	S	Leinster scorers	Scarlets scorers
Sat 4 Mar 17	RDS Arena	45	9	Ross Byrne(5C) Rhys Ruddock(T) Ed Byrne(T) Joey Carbery(2T) Jamison Gibson-Park(T) Luke McGrath(2T)	Dan Jones(3P)
Fri 19 May 17	RDS Arena (SF)	15	27	Jack Conan(T) Garry Ringrose(T) Isa Nacewa(C/P)	Aaron Shingler(T) Rhys Patchell(3C) Steff Evans(T) Gareth Davies(T) Liam Williams(2P)
Sat 17 Feb 18	RDS Arena	20	13	James Lowe(2T) Ciaran Frawley(C/P) Luke McGrath(T)	Johnny McNicholl(T) Dan Jones(C/2P)
Fri 9 Mar 18	Parc y Scarlets	10	10	Ross Byrne(C/P) Ed Byrne(T)	Paul Asquith(T) Dan Jones(C/P)
Sat 26 May 18	Aviva Stadium (F)	40	32	James Lowe(T) Jack Conan(T) Joey Carbery(C) Sean Cronin(T) Jordan Larmour(T) Johnny Sexton(2C/3P) Devin Toner(T)	Johnny McNicholl(3T) Dan Jones(C) Leigh Halfpenny(2C/2P) Werner Kruger(T)
Sat 8 Sep 18	Parc y Scarlets	21	23	James Lowe(T) Ross Byrne(3C) Rhys Ruddock(T) Fergus McFadden(T)	Gareth Davies(T) Ken Owens(T) Leigh Halfpenny(2C/3P)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 33, Leinster won 19, Scarlets won 12 with 2 games drawn.

Did you know?

- Leinster Rugby have lost just once since October in any tournament: 17-26 to Munster at Thomond Park in round 12 of the Guinness PRO14.
- Leinster's only defeat at the RDS Arena since the 2017 Guinness PRO14 semi-final against Scarlets was to Benetton Rugby last April.
- Scarlets beat Dragons 22-13 in round 13 to end a three-game losing run in the Championship
- Scarlets have won just once away from home in any tournament this season: 41-34 at Southern Kings at the end of October.
- Scarlets beat Leinster 23-21 in round 2 but have never achieved a season's double over Leinster in the Guinness PRO14.
- Scarlets have won on two occasions at the RDS, 52-23 in October 2007 and 27-15 in the 2017 semi-final.

COMPARISON	Leinster	Scarlets
Last 3 PRO14 results:	22 Dec - Connacht (H) W 33-29	22 Dec - Ospreys (A) L 12-19
	29 Dec - Munster (A) L 17-26	29 Dec - Cardiff Blues (H) L 5-34
	5 Jan - Ulster (H) W 40-7	5 Jan - Dragons (H) W 22-13
PRO14 2018/19	Conf B: 1st - W11 D0 L2 - 54pts	Conf B: 4th - W7 D0 L6 - 34pts
PRO14 form	wWwWIW (25pts)	IWIIW (10pts)
Top try scorer	5 - Bryan Byrne, Jamison Gibson-Park, Sean Cronin	5 - Johnny McNicholl
Top points scorer	53 - Ross Byrne	47 - Dan Jones

Friday 25 January

ULSTER RUGBY v BENETTON RUGBY

At Kingspan Stadium, Belfast, 7.35pm. *Live on*

Referee: Nigel Owens (WRU, 172nd competition game)

Assistant Referees: Andrew Brace (IRFU), Rhys Jones (WRU)

TMO: Brian MacNeice (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: Wayne Sheridan (IRFU)

FREE SPORTS



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	U	B	Ulster scorers	Benetton Rugby scorers
Sat 30 Jan 16	Stadio Monigo	32	13	Rory Scholes(T) Stuart Olding(T/C) Sean Reidy(T) Darren Cave(T) Ian Humphreys(2C/2P)	Braam Steyn(T) Jayden Hayward(C/2P)
Sat 10 Sep 16	Stadio Monigo	22	11	Rob Herring(T) Luke Marshall(T) Ruan Pienaar(T/2C/P)	Tommaso Allan(2P) Tommaso Benvenuti(T)
Fri 3 Mar 17	Kingspan Stadium	19	7	Sean Reidy(T) Charles Piutau(T) Jared Payne(T) Ruan Pienaar(2C)	Ian McKinley(C) Filo Paulo(T)
Sat 9 Sep 17	Stadio Monigo	21	14	Jacob Stockdale(T) John Cooney(3C) Andrew Trimble(2T)	Federico Ruzza(T) Ian McKinley(T/2C)
Fri 24 Nov 17	Kingspan Stadium	23	22	John Cooney(C/2P) Christian Leali'ifano(C/P) Tommy Bowe(T) Andrew Trimble(T)	Tommaso Allan(C/4P) Marty Banks(P) Robert Barbieri(T)
Sat 3 Nov 18	Stadio Monigo	15	10	Rob Herring(T) Billy Burns(C/P) Sean Reidy(T)	Tommaso Allan(C/P) Hame Faiva(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 17, Ulster won 15, Benetton won 1 with 1 game drawn.

Did you know?

- Ulster Rugby have won their last two matches, both in the European Champions Cup, but in the Guinness PRO14 they have lost their last two fixtures, both on the road at Connacht and at Leinster.
- Ulster's only defeat at Kingspan Stadium since February in any competition was 15-22 to Connacht in round 6 of the Guinness PRO14.
- Benetton Rugby have lost only once in their last eight matches: 9-20 away to Harlequins in round 4 of the European Challenge Cup.
- The Italians have won their last two away games in the Guinness PRO14, they have never before won three in a row on the road in the same season in the Championship.
- The two sides have met on 23 previous occasions in all tournaments, with Benetton gaining a solitary victory by becoming the only Italian side ever to have beaten Ulster in Belfast, in October 2011.

COMPARISON	Ulster	Benetton
Last 3 PRO14 results:	21 Dec - Munster (H) W 19-12	23 Dec - Zebre (A) W 10-8
	28 Dec - Connacht (A) L 12-21	29 Dec - Zebre (H) W 28-10
	5 Jan - Leinster (A) L 7-40	5 Jan - Glasgow (H) W 20-17
PRO14 2018/19	Conf B: 5th - W7 D1 L5 - 33pts	Conf B: 3rd - W7 D0 L6 - 35pts
PRO14 form	wlWWll (12pts)	LlwwWW (19pts)
Top try scorer	5 - Dave Shanahan	4 - Braam Steyn, Hame Faiva
Top points scorer	62 - John Cooney	67 - Tommaso Allan

Saturday 26 January

DRAGONS v MUNSTER RUGBY

At Rodney Parade, Newport, 3pm. *Live on*
 Referee: Ben Blain (SRU, 1st competition game)
 Assistant Referees: Keith Allen, Finn Brown (both SRU)
 TMO: Dave Pearson (SRU)
 Citing Commissioner: Gwyn Bowden (WRU)

PREMIER SPORTS



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	D	M	Dragons scorers	Munster scorers
Sat 16 May 15	Irish Independent Park	27	50	Jack Dixon(T) Tyler Morgan(T) Jason Tovey(2C/P) Rhys Buckley(T) Ashton Hewitt(T)	CJ Stander(T) Conor Murray(3T) Ronan O'Mahony(T) Andrew Smith(T) Keith Earls(T) Ian Keatley(5C) Paul O'Connell(T)
Sun 6 Dec 15	Rodney Parade	22	6	Dorian Jones(C/D/3P) Jason Tovey(P) Rynard Landman(T)	Rory Scannell(2P)
Sat 5 Mar 16	Thomond Park	5	26	Hallam Amos(T)	Dave Kilcoyne(2T) Johnny Holland(C) James Cronin(T) Rory Scannell(T) Ian Keatley(2C)
Sat 17 Sep 16	Rodney Parade	16	20	Hallam Amos(T) Angus O'Brien(C/3P)	Cian Bohane(T) Tyler Bleyendaal(2C/2P) Jean Kleyn(T)
Fri 10 Feb 17	Irish Independent Park	17	45	Elliot Dee(T) Dorian Jones(2C/P) Rhys Buckley(T)	Jaco Taute(2T) Dave Kilcoyne(T) Andrew Conway(T) Tyler Bleyendaal(6C/P) Ronan O'Mahony(T) Penalty Try(T)
Fri 3 Nov 17	Irish Independent Park	6	49	Angus O'Brien(2P)	Kevin O'Byrne(T) Jack O'Donoghue(T) Darren Sweetnam(T) Sammy Arnold(2T) Rory Scannell(T) JJ Hanrahan(7C) Simon Zebo(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 29, Dragons won 8, Munster won 21.

Did you know?

- Dragons only win in the last four rounds of the Guinness PRO14 was by the narrowest of margins, 23-22 at home to Ospreys on 30 December.
- Dragons have lost twice at Rodney Parade in their last six Championship fixtures, to Cardiff Blues in round 6 and to Leinster in round 10.
- The Welshmen's most recent success against an Irish opponent was 21-8 at home to Connacht in September 2017.
- Munster have lost just once in the Guinness PRO14 since early October: 12-19 away at Ulster on 21 December, their only defeat in their last four away games in the Championship.
- Munster have lost on their last two trips to Wales, both against Cardiff Blues at the Arms Park in February and September 2018.
- Munster have won their last four encounters with Dragons since the Welshmen's 22-6 success at Rodney Parade in December 2015.

COMPARISON	Dragons	Munster
Last 3 PRO14 results:	21 Dec - Cardiff Blues (A) L 16-19 30 Dec - Ospreys (H) W 23-22 5 Jan - Scarlets (A) L 13-22	21 Dec - Ulster (A) L 12-19 29 Dec - Leinster (H) W 26-17 5 Jan - Connacht (A) W 31-24
PRO14 2018/19	Conf B: 6th - W4 D0 L9 - 18pts	Conf A: 1st - W9 D0 L4 - 44pts
PRO14 form	IWLWI (9pts)	wwWIWw (25pts)
Top try scorer	4 - Jared Rosser	5 - Keith Earls
Top points scorer	54 - Josh Lewis	75 - Joey Carbery

Saturday 26 January

TOYOTA CHEETAHS v ZEBRE RUGBY

At Toyota Stadium, Bloemfontein, 3pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS

Referee: Ben Whitehouse (WRU, 53rd competition game)

Assistant Referees: Cwengile Jadezweni, Ben Crouse (both SARU)

TMO: Johan Greeff (SARU)

Citing Commissioner: Christopher Boucher (SARU)



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	T	Z	Toyota Cheetahs scorers	Zebre scorers
Sat 16 Sep 17	Toyota Stadium	54	39	Torsten van Jaarsveld(2T) William Small-Smith(T) Makazole Mapimpi(2T) Tian Meyer(T) Luther Obi(T) Sergeal Petersen(T) Ernst Stapelberg(7C)	Guglielmo Palazzani(C) George Fabio Biagi(T) Mattia Bellini(T) Johan Meyer(T) Faialaga Afamasaga(T) Marcello Violi(2C) Carlo Canna(C/2P) Giulio Bisegni(T)
Sat 28 Oct 17	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	24	23	Makazole Mapimpi(2T) Fred Zeilinga(C/P) Ernst Stapelberg(3P)	Carlo Canna(2C/3P) Oliviero Fabiani(T) Matteo Minozzi(T)
Sun 6 Jan 19	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	27	12	Tian Schoeman(C) Benhard Janse van Rensburg(2T) Rabs Maxwane(T) Daniel Maartens(T) Reinach Venter(T)	Edoardo Padovani(T) Carlo Canna(C) Giulio Bisegni(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 3, Cheetahs won 3.

Did you know?

- Toyota Cheetahs only defeat in their last four Guinness PRO14 matches was 17-21 at home to Connacht on 1 December.
- Cheetahs have won only two of their last seven games in Bloemfontein – against Cardiff Blues in October and Benetton in November.
- The Cheetahs record against Italian sides is won four lost one.
- Zebre have lost their last six Guinness PRO14 matches since beating Edinburgh in Parma on 26 October.
- The Parma based side's most recent victory outside Italy in the Championship was at Connacht in February.
- Zebre's record against South African opponents is won two lost three.
- The two sides have met on three previous occasions with Cheetahs triumphant every time.

COMPARISON	Cheetahs	Zebre
Last 3 PRO14 results:	1 Dec - Connacht (H) L 17-21	23 Dec - Treviso (H) L 8-10
	6 Jan - Zebre (A) W 27-12	29 Dec - Treviso (A) L 10-28
	18 Jan - Southern Kings (A) W 24-17	6 Jan - Cheetahs (H) L 12-27
PRO14 2018/19	Conf A: 6th - W4 D1 L7 - 26pts	Conf A: 7th - W3 D0 L10 - 16pts
PRO14 form	WLWLww (21pts)	ILILIL (1pts)
Top try scorer	9 - Rabs Maxwane	3 - Carlo Canna
Top points scorer	53 - Tian Schoeman	66 - Carlo Canna

Saturday 26 January

CARDIFF BLUES v CONNACHT RUGBY

At Cardiff Arms Park, 5.15pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS

Referee: Mike Adamson (SRU, 29th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Adam Jones (WRU), Lloyd Linton (SRU)

TMO: Ian Davies (WRU)

Citing Commissioner: Paul Thomas (WRU)



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	CB	Co	Cardiff Blues scorers	Connacht scorers
Sat 3 Oct 15	Sportsground	31	36	Rhys Patchell(3C/P) Aled Summerhill(T) Gareth Davies(C) Dan Fish(T) Sam Hobbs(T) Josh Turnbull(T)	Tiernan O'Halloran(T) Danie Poolman(T) Nepia Fox-Matamua(T) Jack Carty(4C/P) Kieran Marmion(T) Aly Muldowney(T)
Fri 4 Dec 15	Cardiff Arms Park	20	16	Rhys Patchell(2C/2P) Tom James(T) Manoa Vosawai(T)	Ian Porter(T/P) Eoin McKeon(T) Jack Carty(P)
Fri 25 Nov 16	Sportsground	7	18	Steve Shingler(C) Tom James(T)	John Cooney(T/C/2P) Bunde Aki(T)
Sun 12 Feb 17	Cardiff Arms Park	13	19	Gareth Anscombe(C/2P) Nick Williams(T)	Matt Healy(T) Tiernan O'Halloran(D) John Cooney(C/2P) Craig Ronaldson(P)
Sat 23 Sep 17	Sportsground	17	15	Willis Halaholo(2T) Steve Shingler(C/P) Jarrod Evans(C)	Shane Delahun(T) Darragh Leader(T/C) Craig Ronaldson(P)
Fri 24 Nov 17	Cardiff Arms Park	36	30	Olly Robinson(T) Gareth Anscombe(2C/2P) Owen Lane(T) Matthew Morgan(T) Jarrod Evans(C/3P)	Steve Crosbie(C) Jack Carty(C/2P) Niyi Adeolokun(T) Shane Delahun(2T) John Muldoon(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 30, Cardiff won 22, Connacht won 6 with 2 games drawn.

Did you know?

- Cardiff Blues have won two of their last three Guinness PRO14 matches, which coincidentally were all against fellow Welsh Regions.
- Blues only home defeat this season in the PRO14 came in round 1 by a solitary point to Champions Leinster.
- Connacht Rugby have lost just twice in their last ten fixtures in all tournaments, both on the road in the Guinness PRO14, to fellow Irish provinces Leinster and Munster.
- Connacht have lost on their last five visits to Wales, whilst their only victory in their last nine trips there was over The Blues at Cardiff Arms Park in February 2017.
- Cardiff Blues have won their last two fixtures against Connacht but have not won three in succession against the Irish province since 2012.
- Connacht's three previous victories at The Arms Park in the Championship were against Cardiff RFC in August 2001, and The Blues in February 2013 and February 2017.

COMPARISON	Cardiff	Connacht
Last 3 PRO14 results:	21 Dec - Dragons (H) W 19-16	22 Dec - Leinster (A) L 29-33
	29 Dec - Scarlets (A) W 34-5	28 Dec - Ulster (H) W 21-12
	5 Jan - Ospreys (A) L 11-20	5 Jan - Munster (H) L 24-31
PRO14 2018/19	Conf A: 5th - W6 D0 L7 - 32pts	Conf A: 4th - W7 D0 L6 - 37pts
PRO14 form	WIIWwl (15pts)	WwwlWL (21pts)
Top try scorer	7 - Rey Lee-Lo	5 - Cian Kelleher
Top points scorer	96 - Gareth Anscombe	109 - Jack Carty

Saturday 26 January

ISUZU SOUTHERN KINGS v EDINBURGH RUGBY

At Madibaz Stadium, Port Elizabeth, 5.15pm.

Live on



PREMIER SPORTS

Referee: Dan Jones (WRU, 22nd competition game)

Assistant Referees: Stuart Berry, Ruhan Meiring (both SARU)

TMO: Sean Veldsman (SARU)

Citing Commissioner: Wilhelm de Villiers (SARU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	I	E	Isuzu Southern Kings scorers	Edinburgh Rugby scorers
Fri 1 Dec 17	Nelson Mandela Bay	21	48	Harlon Klaasen(T) Kurt Coleman(C/3P) Dries van Schalkwyk(T)	Jaco van der Walt(2C/P) Viliame Mata(T) Dougie Fife(T) Grant Gilchrist(T) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(3T/3C) Fraser McKenzie(T)
Fri 5 Jan 18	Myreside	7	37	Ntabeni Dukisa(T/C)	Duhan van der Merwe(T) Jaco van der Walt(3C/2P) Dougie Fife(T) Grant Gilchrist(T) Cameron Fenton(T) Blair Kinghorn(T)
Sat 5 Jan 19	BT Murrayfield	0	38		Dougie Fife(T) Simon Berghan(T) Simon Hickey(4C) Cameron Fenton(T) Rory Sutherland(T) Darcy Graham(2T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 3, Edinburgh won 3.

Did you know?

- Isuzu Southern Kings have lost their last eight Guinness PRO14 matches since beating Glasgow Warriors 38-28 at Madibaz Stadium in September - their only previous win against a Scottish opponent.
- Edinburgh have won their last seven matches in all competitions since their defeat to Munster in Cork in round 10 of the Guinness PRO14.
- Edinburgh's most recent victory outside Scotland in the Championship was on a visit to Connacht in March 2018.
- Edinburgh were defeated in their first fixture against a South African opponent in the Guinness PRO14 (at Cheetahs in November 2017) but have won the four fixtures since.
- The two teams have met on three previous occasion in the Guinness PRO14 with the Scotsmen gaining a bonus point victory every time.

COMPARISON	Kings	Edinburgh
Last 3 PRO14 results:	1 Dec - Treviso (H) L 19-22	22 Dec - Glasgow (H) W 23-7
	5 Jan - Edinburgh (A) L 0-38	29 Dec - Glasgow (A) W 16-8
	18 Jan - Cheetahs (H) L 17-24	5 Jan - Southern Kings (H) W 38-0
PRO14 2018/19	Conf B: 7th - W1 D0 L11 - 13pts	Conf B: 2nd - W7 D0 L6 - 35pts
PRO14 form	LLLLIL (6pts)	WIWwW (19pts)
Top try scorer	5 - Yaw Penxe	6 - Duhan van der Merwe
Top points scorer	75 - Masixole Banda	76 - Simon Hickey