

ROUND 18 – PREVIEWS

After five mouth-watering weekends of Six Nations Rugby, Guinness PRO14 Rugby returns this weekend. After Wales' magnificent win over Ireland to seal the Grand Slam, the Irish contingent will be particularly keen to take out their frustrations this weekend, however, almost all of the men in red who were involved at the Principality Stadium on Saturday will be happy enough to play against their international teammates as two big derbies mean no Welsh player has to depart a nation in celebration this week.

In the Conference tables, Glasgow Warriors now hold a slight advantage over Munster Rugby in Conference A, while Leinster have cemented their home semi-final, Benetton lead the chasing pack in Conference B. 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.

Pick of the Round – Cardiff Blues (A4) v Scarlets (B4)

The weekend kicks off on Friday night with a triple header of action most noticeably involving **Cardiff Blues (A4)** hosting **Scarlets (B4)** at Arms Park in an all-Welsh cross-conference clash (live on Premier Sports 1 and eir Sport 2, 19:35).

Scarlets are up 20-11 in previous meetings between these two fourth places sides and have also outscored the Blues in the Guinness PRO14 this year. Yet their most recent meeting, in the Christmas to New Year period certainly was Blue, Cardiff prevailing 34-5 at the Scarlets home ground. Both sides have won their most recent two matches whilst losing the preceding match heading into this one.

If Scarlets lose, their challenge for the third qualification spot in Conference B is effectively over, whilst the Blues can just about afford to lose as they're currently level on points with third place Connacht – neither of who have a good chance of catching Munster in second.

What's at stake?

Unbeaten in eight, **Benetton Rugby (B2)** travel to Galway's Sportsground to face **Connacht (A3)** in a key battle across the conferences (live on Free Sports, eir Sport 1, DAZN and TG4, 19:35). The Treviso-based side have historically lost more than they have won (10-4) vs Connacht, but their dazzling recent form makes them arguably favourites for this one, despite it being played in the much chillier West of Ireland.

Connacht smashed the Ospreys last time out but were downed by Glasgow Warriors the match beforehand and have a lot of ground to make up on their South-West Ireland rivals Munster, 11 points clear in second.

Another 19.35 Friday night kick off sees **Edinburgh (B5)** face **Leinster (B1)** at Murrayfield (live on Premier Sports 1, eir Sport 1, 19:35). Edinburgh are aiming to regain momentum in Conference B. Having won three on the trot over the Christmas and New Year period, the Warriors have won just one in four since, most recently losing to the up and coming, ever improving Benetton. Edinburgh have it all to play for against a Leinster side who triumphed 31-7 in their last meeting and have not yet lost in the new year.

Returning Grand Slam heroes battle it out at the Liberty Stadium in another Welsh derby in the shape of **Ospreys (A5)** v **Dragons (B7)** (live on Premier Sports 1 and eir Sport 2, 15:00). Dragons are playing for pride now whilst Ospreys need both Connacht and Cardiff Blues to falter to have a chance of joining Munster and Glasgow in the knockout stages. There was just a single point in 45 between the two sides at the Dragons' home on New Year's Eve's Eve, many of South Wales' rugby fans hope for an equally enthralling match-up this Saturday.

The Saturday tea time game sees **Ulster (B3)** take on **Isuzu Southern Kings (B6)** at Kingspan Stadium (Premier Sports 1, eir Sport 2, Super Sport CSN 17:30). The Kings have never beaten the Ulstermen in three previous meetings, the Irish side could do with this record continuing as they aim to catch Benetton in their close battle for the home quarter-final spot in Conference B. Ulster have not lost in four whilst the Southern Kings have not won in four.

Glasgow Warriors (A1) play **Toyota Cheetahs (A6)** at Scotstoun with Munster breathing down their neck three points behind in Conference A (Premier Sports 1, eir Sport 2, Super Sport 1 & CSN, 19.45). The only side below Cheetahs in the table, Zebre, have exactly half their points tally at this stage. So, whilst little danger of being caught, a late run from the Bloemfontein side could take them above Ospreys to a more respectable fifth placed finish come the end of the Championship season in the last weekend of April. Similar to Ulster's record against the other South African side (the Kings), the Cheetahs have never beaten the Warriors in their three meetings, Glasgow prevailing 52-24 in the Southern Hemisphere last time they met.

Zebre (A7) travel to Thomond Park **Munster (A2)** hoping to end the longest one-sided head to head record in the Guinness PRO14 (Premier Sports 2, eir Sport 1, TG4, DAZN, 19:45). Munster lost a tight affair at the home of the Scarlets 10-6 last time out, but are still well set to challenge Glasgow right to the wire for Conference A top spot. Zebre are merely playing for pride having not won since beating Edinburgh 34-16 in October in one of just three victories all season for the Parma-based side.

Opta Top Performers – Round 17

Most tackles: 31 Rhys Lawrence (Dragons)
Most carries: 21 Arno Botha (Munster)
Defenders Beaten: 8 Dave Kearney (Leinster)
Offloads: 3 Marco Barbini (Benetton)
Clean Breaks: 4 John Cooney (Ulster)
Metres made: 138 Dave Kearney (Leinster)
Turnovers Won: 3 multiple players
Lineout Steals: 2 Dries van Schalkwyk (Kings)

Opta Top Performers – Overall

Most tackles: 225 Olly Cracknell (Ospreys)
Most Carries: 221 Bill Mata (Edinburgh)
Defenders beaten: 61 Duhan van der Merwe (Edinburgh)
Offloads: 26 Tom Farrell (Connacht)
Clean breaks: 28 Sibhale Maxwane (Toyota Cheetahs)
Metres made: 996 Malcolm Jaer (Toyota Cheetahs)
Turnovers won: 23 Olly Robinson (Cardiff Blues)
Lineout Steals: 7 Junior Pokomela (Toyota Cheetahs)

Friday 22 March

CARDIFF BLUES v SCARLETS

At Cardiff Arms Park, 7.35pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS



Referee: John Lacey (IRFU, 78th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Frank Murphy, Sean Gallagher (both IRFU)

TMO: Simon McDowell (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: Dennis Jones (WRU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	C	S	Cardiff Blues scorers	Scarlets scorers
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)
Sun 31 Dec 17	Cardiff Arms Park	11	14	Gareth Anscombe(2P) Ellis Jenkins(T)	Rhys Patchell(T) Tom Prydie(T) Leigh Halfpenny(2C)
Sat 29 Dec 18	Parc y Scarlets	34	5	Rey Lee-Lo(2T) Gareth Anscombe(T/4C/2P) Lloyd Williams(T)	Johnny McNicholl(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 31, Blues won 11, Scarlets won 20.

Did you know?

- Cardiff Blues only defeat in their last five first team games was 34-38 to Glasgow Warriors at The Arms Park in round 15 of the Guinness PRO14.
- Blues have lost just twice at Cardiff Arms Park in the Championship this season, by a single point to Leinster in round 1 and to Glasgow in round 15.
- Scarlets have won their last two Guinness PRO14 matches, both at home, to Cheetahs and Munster.
- Scarlets only away victory this season in any tournament was 41-34 over Isuzu Southern Kings in Port Elizabeth in October.
- Scarlets recent record since 2016 against fellow Welsh regions in the Guinness PRO14 is won eleven, lost two.
- Blues ended Scarlets 26 match unbeaten run at Parc y Scarlets in the Championship with their 34-5 victory in round 12 and are aiming to achieve a season's double over the west Walians for the first time since 2015/16.

COMPARISON	Blues	Scarlets
Last 3 PRO14 results:	16 Feb - Glasgow (H) L 34-38 23 Feb - Edinburgh (A) W 19-17 2 Mar - Southern Kings (H) W 26-19	16 Feb - Treviso (A) L 19-25 24 Feb - Cheetahs (H) W 43-21 2 Mar - Munster (H) W 10-6
PRO14 2018/19	Conf A: 4th - W9 D0 L8 - 47pts	Conf B: 4th - W9 D0 L8 - 45pts
PRO14 form	wlWLwW (20pts)	LWlIWW (15pts)
Top try scorer	7 - Rey Lee-Lo	8 - Johnny McNicholl
Top points scorer	96 - Gareth Anscombe	58 - Dan Jones

Friday 22 March

CONNACHT RUGBY v BENETTON RUGBY

At The Sportsground, Galway, 7.35pm.

Live on



Referee: Mike Adamson (SRU, 32nd competition game)

Assistant Referees: Sam Grove-White, Graeme Ormiston (both SRU)

TMO: Andrew McMenemy (SRU)

Citing Commissioner: John Cole (IRFU)

FREE SPORTS

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	C	B	Connacht scorers	Benetton Rugby scorers
Sun 1 Mar 15	Sportsground	53	5	Matt Healy(2T) Tiernan O'Halloran(T) Danie Poolman(T) Denis Buckley(T) Jake Heenan(T) Aly Muldowney(T) Craig Ronaldson(6C/2P)	Sam Christie(T)
Fri 6 Nov 15	Sportsground	33	19	Matt Healy(T) Robbie Henshaw(T) Tom McCartney(T) Craig Ronaldson(3C/4P)	Edoardo Gori(T) Jayden Hayward(2T/2C)
Fri 29 Apr 16	Stadio Monigo	21	22	Rory Parata(T) John Cooney(3C) Fionn Carr(T) Peter Robb(T)	Braam Steyn(T) Jayden Hayward(2C/P) Luca Morisi(T) Penalty Try(T)
Sat 3 Dec 16	Sportsground	47	8	Danie Poolman(T) Dave Heffernan(T) Denis Buckley(T) John Cooney(T/4C) Marnitz Boshoff(C) Jack Carty(T/C) Tom McCartney(2T)	Braam Steyn(T) Ian McKinley(P)
Sun 26 Feb 17	Stadio Monigo	34	19	Tiernan O'Halloran(T) Caolin Blade(T) Jack Carty(C) Finlay Bealham(T) Craig Ronaldson(T/3C/2P)	Luca Sperandio(T) Andrea Buondonno(T/C) Tito Tebaldi(C) Andrea Praticchetti(T)
Sat 24 Feb 18	Stadio Monigo	22	19	Eoin Griffin(T) Jarrad Butler(T) Jack Carty(2C/P) Finlay Bealham(T)	Marty Banks(2C) Marco Fuser(T) Monty Ioane(T) Tito Tebaldi(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 15, Connacht won 10, Benetton won 4 with 1 game drawn.

Did you know?

- Connacht Rugby's last four matches in Guinness PRO14 have all been won by the home side on the day whilst Connacht's only defeat at The Sportsground in any competition since September was 24-31 to Munster on 5 January.
- Benetton are unbeaten in Guinness PRO14 since their defeat to Toyota Cheetahs in Bloemfontein in round 9.
- The Italians have won only once against an Irish opponent since April 2016: 17-15 against Leinster at the RDS Arena in round 20 last year.
- Connacht have lost only one of their last eight encounters with Benetton and that was by a single point in Treviso almost three years ago.
- Benetton's only previous victory in Galway was 15-13 in December 2011.

COMPARISON	Connacht	Benetton
Last 3 PRO14 results:	16 Feb - Cheetahs (H) W 25-17	16 Feb - Scarlets (H) W 25-19
	22 Feb - Glasgow (A) L 17-43	23 Feb - Dragons (H) W 57-7
	2 Mar - Ospreys (H) W 46-5	2 Mar - Edinburgh (H) W 18-10
PRO14 2018/19	Conf A: 3rd - W9 D0 L8 - 47pts	Conf B: 2nd - W10 D1 L6 - 50pts
PRO14 form	WLIWIW (15pts)	WWdWWW (23pts)
Top try scorer	6 - Tom Farrell	6 - Luca Sperandio
Top points scorer	119 - Jack Carty	67 - Tommaso Allan

Friday 22 March

EDINBURGH RUGBY v LEINSTER RUGBY

At BT Murrayfield, Edinburgh, 7.35pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS



Referee: Ben Whitehouse (WRU, 55th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Wayne Davies, Rhys Jones (both WRU)

TMO: Neil Paterson (SRU)

Citing Commissioner: Douglas Hunter (SRU).

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	E	L	Edinburgh Rugby scorers	Leinster scorers
Fri 15 Apr 16	RDS Arena	23	30	Tom Brown(T) Sean Kennedy(T) Mike Allen(T) Jason Tovey(C/P) Sam Hidalgo-Clyne(P)	Ian Madigan(2C/2P) Fergus McFadden(2T) Luke McGrath(T) Josh van der Flier(T)
Fri 16 Sep 16	BT Murrayfield	20	33	Duncan Weir(C/P) Mike Allen(T) Magnus Bradbury(T) Hamish Watson(T)	Jamison Gibson-Park(T) Garry Ringrose(T) Dan Leavy(2T) Isa Nacewa(T/4C)
Fri 17 Feb 17	RDS Arena	10	39	Duncan Weir(T/C/P)	Ross Byrne(3C) Barry Daly(2T) Bryan Byrne(T) Joey Carbery(2T/P) Dan Leavy(T)
Fri 29 Sep 17	RDS Arena	13	21	Jason Tovey(T/C/2P)	Ross Byrne(C) Jordi Murphy(T) Joey Carbery(T) Jamison Gibson- Park(T) Johnny Sexton(2C)
Fri 9 Feb 18	Myreside	29	24	Nathan Fowles(T) Duhan van der Merwe(T) Jaco van der Walt(C) Mark Bennett(T) Sam Hidalgo- Clyne(C) Murray McCallum(T) Luke Crosbie(T)	Ross Byrne(2C) Max Deegan(T) Barry Daly(2T) Scott Fardy(T)
Sat 22 Sep 18	RDS Arena	7	31	Jaco van der Walt(C) Magnus Bradbury(T)	James Lowe(T) Garry Ringrose(T) Jordan Larmour(T) Fergus McFadden(T) Johnny Sexton(T/3C)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 31, Edinburgh won 11, Leinster won 20.

Did you know?

- Edinburgh Rugby have won just one of their last four Guinness PRO14 fixtures: 34-17 at home to Dragons in round 15.
- Edinburgh were defeated 17-19 by Cardiff Blues in their most recent home game but have not lost successive matches at BT Murrayfield in the Championship since 2015.
- The Scotsmen's only victory in their last six matches against Irish provinces was 17-10 at home to Connacht in September.
- Leinster have suffered only two reversals in Guinness PRO14 this season, both on the road, to Scarlets in round 2 and to Munster in round 12.
- Leinster's only Championship victory in Scotland since May 2015 came on their visit to BT Murrayfield in May 2016.
- Leinster have lost just one of their last six matches against Edinburgh: 24-29 at Myreside in February 2018.

COMPARISON	Edinburgh	Leinster
Last 3 PRO14 results:	15 Feb - Dragons (H) W 34-17	16 Feb - Zebre (A) W 40-24
	23 Feb - Cardiff Blues (H) L 17-19	22 Feb - Southern Kings (H) W 59-19
	2 Mar - Treviso (A) L 10-18	1 Mar - Cheetahs (H) W 19-7
PRO14 2018/19	Conf B: 5th - W8 D0 L9 - 42pts	Conf B: 1st - W15 D0 L2 - 72pts
PRO14 form	wWIWLI (16pts)	IWWwWW (23pts)
Top try scorer	8 - Duhan van der Merwe	6 - Max Deegan, Conor O'Brien
Top points scorer	76 - Simon Hickey	86 - Ross Byrne

Saturday 23 March

OSPREYS RUGBY v DRAGONS

At Liberty Stadium, Swansea, 3pm

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS



Referee: Nigel Owens (WRU, 175th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Ian Davies, Craig Evans (both WRU)

TMO: Olly Hodges (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: Paul Thomas (WRU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	O	D	Ospreys scorers	Dragons scorers
Fri 1 Apr 16	Rodney Parade	26	20	Jeff Hassler(T) Sam Underhill(T) Dan Biggar(3C) Dan Evans(T) Rhys Webb(T)	Hallam Amos(2T) Carl Meyer(T/C/P)
Sat 29 Oct 16	Liberty Stadium	35	17	Keelan Giles(2T) Scott Baldwin(T) Tom Habberfield(T) Josh Matavesi(5C) Brendon Leonard(T)	Matthew Screech(T) Pat Howard(T) Geraint Rhys Jones(2C) Nick Macleod(P)
Sun 1 Jan 17	Rodney Parade	10	0	Dan Biggar(C/P) Justin Tipuric(T)	
Fri 27 Oct 17	Liberty Stadium	28	14	Ma'afu Fia(T) Dan Biggar(T/C/2P) Sam Parry(T) Brendon Leonard(T)	Elliot Dee(T) Leon Brown(T) Gavin Henson(2C)
Sun 31 Dec 17	Rodney Parade	22	9	Sam Davies(T) Cory Allen(T) Scott Baldwin(T) Dan Biggar(2C/P)	Arwel Robson(3P)
Sun 30 Dec 18	Rodney Parade	22	23	Sam Davies(C/5P) Justin Tipuric(T)	Elliot Dee(T) Jason Tovey(P) Josh Lewis(2C/2P) Jared Rosser(T)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 31, Ospreys won 21, Dragons won 10.

Did you know?

- Ospreys Rugby have slipped to six straight defeats in all tournaments since their 20-11 victory at home to Cardiff Blues in round 13 of the Guinness PRO14.
- Ospreys lost to Munster 13-19 in their most recent Championship fixture at Liberty Stadium but have not lost successive matches at the venue in the tournament since October 2017, when Scarlets became the latest Welsh region to win at the venue.
- Dragons are still without a win in the Guinness PRO14 in 2019 with their most recent victory being by a single point over Ospreys at Rodney Parade on 30 December.
- Dragons have not won away from home in the Championship since a victory in Treviso in March 2015, whilst they have not beaten a fellow Welsh region on their own turf since a trip to the Arms Park at Christmas 2014.
- Dragons have already beaten Ospreys in round 12 this season but have not achieved a season's double over them since 2010/11, on the only previous occasion they were victorious at Liberty Stadium.

COMPARISON	Ospreys	Dragons
Last 3 PRO14 results:	15 Feb - Ulster (H) L 0-8	15 Feb - Edinburgh (A) L 17-34
	22 Feb - Munster (H) L 13-19	23 Feb - Treviso (A) L 7-57
	2 Mar - Connacht (A) L 5-46	3 Mar - Ulster (H) L 15-28
PRO14 2018/19	Conf A: 5th - W8 D0 L9 - 39pts	Conf B: 7th - W4 D0 L13 - 19pts
PRO14 form	IWILLI (7pts)	WILLIL (5pts)
Top try scorer	7 - Luke Morgan	4 - Jared Rosser
Top points scorer	124 - Sam Davies	66 - Josh Lewis

Saturday 23 March

ULSTER RUGBY v ISUZU SOUTHERN KINGS

At Kingspan Stadium, Belfast, 5.30pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS

Referee: Lloyd Linton (SRU, 28th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Sam Grove-White, Graeme Ormiston (both SRU)

TMO: Andrew McMenemy (SRU)

Citing Commissioner: Eddie Walsh (IRFU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	U	I	Ulster scorers	Isuzu Southern Kings scorers
Sat 4 Nov 17	Isaac Wolfson Stadium	43	36	Sean Reidy(T) Clive Ross(T) John Cooney(T/C) John Andrew(2T) Christian Leall'ifano(3C) Andrew Trimble(T) Robbie Diack(T)	Michael Makase(T) Oliver Zono(3C/P) Yaw Penxe(2T) Kurt Coleman(C) Berton Klaasen(2T)
Fri 9 Feb 18	Kingspan Stadium	59	10	Craig Gilroy(3T) Stuart McCloskey(T) Rob Lyttle(2T) John Cooney(7C) Kieran Treadwell(T) Darren Cave(T) Johnny McPhillips(T)	Masixole Banda(P) Harlon Klaasen(T) Benhard Janse van Rensburg(C)
Sun 16 Sep 18	Nelson Mandela Bay	28	7	Billy Burns(C) Angus Kernohan(T) John Cooney(3P) Marcell Coetzee(T) Peter Nelson(C) Angus Curtis(T)	Mike Willemse(T) Masixole Banda(C)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 3, Ulster won 3.

Did you know?

- Ulster Rugby are unbeaten in their last six first team games since their reversal to Leinster at the RDS Arena in early January.
- The Ulstermen have lost just once at Kingspan Stadium in any tournament in the last thirteen months: 15-22 to Connacht in round 6 of the Guinness PRO14.
- Isuzu Southern Kings have lost their last four matches since their 25-21 win at home to Edinburgh on 26 January.
- Kings are still without a win on the road since they joined the Guinness PRO14 at the start of last season.
- Ulster's record against South African opponents in the Championship is won four, drawn one with three of those victories coming against the Kings.

COMPARISON	Ulster	Kings
Last 3 PRO14 results:	15 Feb - Ospreys (A) W 8-0	15 Feb - Munster (A) L 0-43
	23 Feb - Zebre (H) W 54-7	22 Feb - Leinster (A) L 19-59
	3 Mar - Dragons (A) W 28-15	2 Mar - Cardiff Blues (A) L 19-26
PRO14 2018/19	Conf B: 3rd - W10 D2 L5 - 49pts	Conf B: 6th - W2 D0 L15 - 20pts
PRO14 form	lIDwWw (16pts)	LWlllll (8pts)
Top try scorer	6 - Rob Herring	7 - Yaw Penxe
Top points scorer	76 - John Cooney	103 - Masixole Banda

Saturday 23 March

GLASGOW WARRIORS v TOYOTA CHEETAHS

At Scotstoun Stadium, Glasgow 7.45pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS

Referee: George Clancy (IRFU, 112th competition game)

Assistant Referees: Andrew Brace (IRFU), Dunx McClement (SRU)

TMO: Brian MacNiece (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: John Kirk (SRU)

HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	G	T	Glasgow Warriors scorers	Toyota Cheetahs scorers
Fri 6 Oct 17	Toyota Stadium	29	26	Henry Pyrgos(T) Callum Gibbins(2T) Finn Russell(3C/P) Rob Harley(T)	Rosco Specman(T) Sergeal Petersen(T) Ernst Stapelberg(2C/4P)
Fri 16 Feb 18	Scotstoun Stadium	37	23	Henry Pyrgos(T) Adam Hastings(3C/2P) Nikola Matawalu(T) Sua Halanukonuka(T) George Horne(T) Ruaridh Jackson(T)	Malcolm Jaer(T) Clayton Blommetjies(T) Niel Marais(2C/3P)
Sat 15 Sep 18	Toyota Stadium	52	24	Callum Gibbins(T) Ali Price(2T) Adam Hastings(T/7C/P) DTH van der Merwe(T) Tommy Seymour(T) George Horne(T)	William Small-Smith(T) Tian Schoeman(C) Nico Lee(T) Malcolm Jaer(2T) Benhard Janse van Rensburg(C)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 3, Warriors won 3.

Did you know?

- Glasgow Warriors have won their last four matches since their defeat in Treviso on 5 January, their best run in the competition since December 2017.
- The Warriors solitary defeat at Scotstoun in the Guinness PRO14 this season was 8-16 to Edinburgh on 29 December.
- Cheetahs last five matches have all been won by the home side on the day whilst their most recent away win was 24-17 at their closest rivals, Southern Kings, on 18 January.
- The two sides have met on three previous occasions with Glasgow winning them all.
- The Warriors only previous loss to a South African opponent came in their most recent encounter, to Isuzu Southern Kings in Port Elizabeth in September.

COMPARISON	Warriors	Cheetahs
Last 3 PRO14 results:	16 Feb - Cardiff Blues (A) W 38-34 22 Feb - Connacht (H) W 43-17 2 Mar - Zebre (A) W 42-10	16 Feb - Connacht (A) L 17-25 24 Feb - Scarlets (A) L 21-43 1 Mar - Leinster (A) L 7-19
PRO14 2018/19	Conf A: 1st - W12 D0 L5 - 61pts	Conf A: 6th - W6 D1 L10 - 36pts
PRO14 form	LIWwWw (20pts)	wWWWll (14pts)
Top try scorer	7 - George Horne	13 - Rabs Maxwane
Top points scorer	69 - Adam Hastings	94 - Tian Schoeman

Saturday 23 March

MUNSTER RUGBY v ZEBRE RUGBY

At Thomond Park, Limerick, 7.45pm.

Live on

PREMIER SPORTS

Referee: Dan Jones (WRU, 23rd competition game)

Assistant Referee: Adam Jones (WRU), Mark Patton (IRFU)

TMO: Colin Stanley (IRFU)

Citing Commissioner: Kevin Beggs (IRFU)



HEAD TO HEAD - RECENT CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS

Date	Venue	M	Z	Munster scorers	Zebre scorers
Fri 25 Mar 16	Thomond Park	47	0	CJ Stander(T) Johnny Holland(5C) Conor Murray(T/C) Ronan O'Mahony(T) Penalty Try(2T) Simon Zebo(2T)	
Sat 1 Oct 16	Thomond Park	49	5	CJ Stander(2T) Darren Sweetnam(T) Conor Murray(T) Tyler Bleyendaal(4C) Stephen Archer(T) Ian Keatley(3C) Penalty Try(T) Simon Zebo(T)	Gabriele di Giulio(T)
Sat 25 Mar 17	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	50	14	James Cronin(2T) Niall Scannell(T) Tyler Bleyendaal(4C/P) Ronan O'Mahony(2T) Rory Scannell(T/2C) Tommy O'Donnell(T)	Serafin Bordoli(C) Marcello Violi(C) Lloyd Greeff(T) Derick Minnie(T)
Sun 26 Nov 17	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	36	19	Rory Scannell(T) JJ Hanrahan(4C/P) James Hart(T) Calvin Nash(T) Alex Wootton(2T)	Jacopo Sarto(T) Guglielmo Palazzani(2C) Giovannibattista Venditti(T) Giulio Bisegni(T)
Sat 10 Feb 18	Thomond Park	33	5	Sammy Arnold(2T) Rory Scannell(T) Brian Scott(T) Robin Copeland(T) JJ Hanrahan(C) Ian Keatley(3C)	Guglielmo Palazzani(T)
Sun 25 Nov 18	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	32	7	Kevin O'Byrne(T) Ronan O'Mahony(T) Rory Scannell(T/C/P) Bill Johnston(2C/P) Fineen Wycherley(T)	Renato Giammarioli(T) Francois Brummer(C)

Overall Guinness PRO14 head to head record:

Played 13, Munster won 13.

Did you know?

- Munster Rugby's seven game winning run in all tournaments ended last time out at Scarlets.
- The Munstermen have not lost at home in any tournament since December 2017 when Leinster visited Thomond Park in the Guinness PRO14.
- Munster have won their last eighteen matches against Italian opponents in the Championship.
- Zebre's only victory in the Guinness PRO14 since round 3 was 34-16 at home to Edinburgh at the end of October.
- Zebre have visited Irish provinces on 25 previous occasions in the Guinness PRO14 and won just once, at Connacht in February 2018.
- The two sides have met on thirteen previous occasion with Munster winning them all.

COMPARISON	Munster	Zebre
Last 3 PRO14 results:	15 Feb - Southern Kings (H) W 43-0	16 Feb - Leinster (H) L 24-40
	22 Feb - Ospreys (A) W 19-13	23 Feb - Ulster (A) L 7-54
	2 Mar - Scarlets (A) L 6-10	2 Mar - Glasgow (H) L 10-42
PRO14 2018/19	Conf A: 2nd - W12 D0 L5 - 58pts	Conf A: 7th - W3 D0 L14 - 18pts
PRO14 form	WwwWwl (23pts)	lLlLlL (2pts)
Top try scorer	5 - Andrew Conway, Keith Earls	3 - Carlo Canna, Apisai Tauyavuca, Francois Brummer
Top points scorer	75 - Joey Carbery	81 - Carlo Canna