



Bournemouth RFC
The English Clubs Rugby Union Championship – SSE National 3 South West
Season 2011/2012

Saturday, 21 January 2012, KO 2.15 p.m. at Scotland Lane



Old Redcliffians 12pts

HT: 0pts
Tries: Jed Hooper/C7 56, Kai Blankley/8 71.
Conversions: Simon Mortimore/13 71.



Bournemouth Lions 35pts

HT: 35pts
Tries: Collier 4, Connolly 16, Dunkerley 19, Mallard 22, Pollard 33.
Conversions: Pollard 4 16 19 22 33.

Not certain what was in Bournemouth's oranges at half-time this time.

Result: Old Redcliffians 12/2tc v 35/5t5c Bournemouth. **HT:** 0 v 35/5t5c.

Weather: Fine but overcast with a strongish south-westerley breeze that blew diagonally across the pitch.

Ground: The ground was very soft and sticky with a considerable slope that sloped right to left as viewed from the clubhouse.

Kick-off: Bournemouth (Scott Chislett) kicked off from right to left as viewed from the clubhouse and to his left, i.e down the slope and with the wind.

Bournemouth were forced to make a change to the threes when James Flynn cried off Saturday morning having been sick all night. Dan Mallard took his place. In the forwards, there was one change as Chris Hughes had not recovered from an injury sustained against Barnstaple and his replacement that day, Tim Collier, partnered Tim Seward at lock. Dan Cawley, appearing in a 1st XV shirt for the first time in eleven months, was on the bench.

Playing down the slope and with the wind proved to be a considerable, if not overwhelming, advantage. Bournemouth secured their try-scoring bonus point after barely twenty minutes but were to complete their scoring after a further ten or so. This commanding, and what proved to be match-winning position, was the result of some scintillating play at times to which Old Redcliffians had little answer but a resolve to keep battling with at times dangerous raids up the slope. Bournemouth were terrific in support and it was typical relentless play on their part that opened up the opportunities. Each of the tries were excellent examples of different aspects of the game of rugby football; strength from the forwards as lock Collier drove over, scintillating running and sidestepping skills as centre Connolly wove his way through the defence, tremendous support play by flanker Dunkerley who was there to support his threes as the defence ran out of numbers, pace on the wing as Mallard, grateful for the perfectly timed pass by full back Karim Lynch, was too quick for the covering fullback to score wide out and finally fly-half Pollard spotting the gap and taking on the responsibility to score. The latter also had a 100% kicking record including a very fine effort to convert Mallard's try from the left-hand touch line. The wind helped mind you but a very fine kick nonetheless. However folks that was it I am afraid!

In the second half Bournemouth could not break the shackles of the Old Redcliffians defenders. Despite not being able to score there is always that feeling can we 'nil' the opposition at least. However that notion went for nought when after a period of considerable pressure captain Jed Hooper forced his way over from a 5-metre scrum. With Bournemouth frustratingly making a number of handling errors they weren't able to make any credible threat to the Old Redcliffians line. Pinned back by long raking kicks, progress back up field was always difficult. Almost inevitably, with ten minutes to go, No 8 Dan Fry broke free from a scrum and was over. The try was converted to make the score 35-12. With the Old Redcliffians urging each other to even greater efforts to get a try-scoring bonus point at least Bournemouth came back at them with Connolly again making a searing run deep into enemy territory but right wing Searle on receiving his pass was swallowed up by the defence. At least Bournemouth had got into Old Redcliffians's 22-metre area, once of just a couple of occasions in that second half. Despite all the pressure Bournemouth didn't yield another score and in the end ran out comfortable winners. The scoreboard, I am grateful to say, doesn't tell the whole story.

Despite their lowly position, teams find it tough at Scotland Lane although there was one strange, if not bizarre, result against Oxford Harlequins when a 19-nil lead yielded a 45-19 loss! Undoubtedly the slope is a telling factor and winning the toss the home side chose to play up the slope. However we did enough to put the game beyond reasonable doubt in that first half but it was quite a scrap in the end.

Doug Warren.

Teams

Bournemouth: Karim Lynch, Robbie Searle, Dan Connolly/t, Scott Chislett, Dan Mallard/t (Ben Stewart 56), Dan Pollard/t5c, Sam Hardcastle, Joe Tarrant (Riad Lynch 74), Frazer Wilford (Tarrant 74), Alan Manning/C, Tim Seward, Tim Collier/t (Hennings 33), Jack Hennings (Dan Cawley 33), Anthony Dunkerley/t (Yellow card 51), Gavin Hart.

Yellow Card: Anthony Dunkerley 51

Coaches: David Dunn, Tim Collier.

Medical Team: Andy Curtis.

Video Analyst: Helen Ryan.

Old Redcliffians: Craig Owen, Sam Britton, Simon Mortimore/c, Joe Hall, Matt Coles, Graeme Beveridge, Josh Mortimer, Jason Owen, Liam McCreight, Jake Morse, Ben Chase, Antony Davies, Kai Blankley, Jed Hooper/C/t, Dan Fry/t. **Substitutes:** Lewis Wilson.

Referee: Ed McWalter; Gloucestershire.

Touch Judges: Gavin Fisher, Bournemouth; Jim Hanks, Old Redcliffians.

League Points: Bournemouth 5 (Win plus try-scoring bonus point), Old Redcliffians 0.

League Positions: Bournemouth remain first on 80 points. Old Redcliffians drop one place to 11th on 27 points.

In All Matches: Dan Connolly scores 100 points (20 tries); Dan Pollard passes 350 points (359); Tim Seward starts his 200th game. **In the League:** Scott Chislett extends his own record as inside centre to 60; Dan Connolly plays for the 25th time and scores 100 points (20 tries); Sam Hardcastle extends his own record of appearances as scrum-half to 149; Gavin Hart extends his own record of consecutive appearances as No 8 to 17 this is also, ipso facto, a debut season record; Alan Manning extends his own record of consecutive appearances as tighthead prop, as a forward and as captain to 55 and extends his own record as captain to 61; Dan Pollard scores 100 (104) conversions).

Season 2011/2012 • SSE National 3 SW Table • As at 21 January 2012

Team	P	W	D	L	For	Ag	Diff	Pts	T	L	A	Tot	Opponents on 28 January 2012
1 Bournemouth	17	16	0	1	888	157	731	64	15	1		80	Newbury Blues (a)
2 Chinnor	16	16	0	0	669	188	481	64	11			75	Weston-super-Mare (h)
3 Redingsians	15	13	0	2	543	193	350	52	11	3		66	Exmouth (h)
4 Exmouth	17	10	0	7	562	398	164	40	7	4		51	Redingsians (a)
5 Barnstaple	16	10	0	6	343	266	77	40	6	2		48	Newton Abbot (a)
6 Weston-s-Mare	17	9	0	8	419	402	17	36	7	1		44	Chinnor (a)
7 Newton Abbot	17	9	0	8	380	351	29	36	3	2		41	Barnstaple (h)
8 Chippenham	17	7	1	9	415	508	-92	30	9	2		41	Amersham & Chiltern (h)
9 Old Patesians	16	8	0	8	447	448	-1	32	8			40	Old Redcliffians (h)
10 Amersham & C	17	5	0	12	287	511	-224	20	6	4		30	Chippenham (a)
11 Old Redcliffians	16	5	1	10	301	464	-163	22	3	2		27	Old Patesians (a)
12 Oxford Hqns	17	6	0	11	257	572	-315	24	2		-5	21	Bridgwater & Albion (a)
13 Bridgwater & A	17	1	0	16	238	718	-480	4	2	4	-5	5	Oxford Harlequins (h)
14 Newbury Blues	17	0	0	17	169	743	-574	0	1	2		3	Bournemouth (h)

Match Results • 21 January 2012

Amersham & C 26 - 19 Newton Abbot
 Barnstaple 45 - 0 Newbury Blues
 Exmouth 46 - 5 Chippenham
 Old Patesians 10 - 44 Chinnor
0 Redcliffians 12 - 35 Bournemouth
 Oxford Hqns 8 - 24 Redingsians
 Weston-s-Mare 30 - 8 Bridgwater & A