



# Cardiff Blues Supporters' Club

## #StayStrongForOws

**Programme notes: Cardiff Blues v Edinburgh, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

### **Better start than last year !**

Following on from a strong pre-season win at Bedford Blues the Blues started off the PRO14 with a battling away bonus point win in Port Elizabeth against the

Southern Kings. After the three game last gasp losses start of last season this win was welcome, but we do like to make it exciting.

The Blues looked like a side playing their first competitive game of the season and struggled to put together a structured first half performance with two yellow cards and an Olly Robbo try being the only replies to the Kings scores to leave the Blues 13-5 down at half time. After exchanging tries in the third quarter to leave the score at 20-12 to the kings, a clinical 15 minutes from the Blues saw Nipper, Dacey and Millard run in tries to give the Blues a 30-21 bonus point lead with 8 minutes to go. Despite conceding a try and another yellow card with 4 minutes to go the Blues managed to hang on for a deserved win. The downsides from the game, the injury to Nick Williams, poor discipline with 3 yellow cards and a still malfunctioning lineout, better sides would have beaten us.

Tonight's visitors Edinburgh had a 7 try rout of Zebre last week and will provide a stern test at the Arms Park, with the missing World Cup players from the PRO14 squads it is essential the Blues take advantage of the relatively few missing Blues players to win the first home game with tough trips to Glasgow and Ulster and home games against Munster and the Cheetahs coming up before the European competitions start.

### CBSC Player of the Year 2019/20 event

Following the voting after the CBSC Annual General Meeting at Summerfest the winners of the awards for the 2018/19 season were;

Player of the Year: Owen Lane

Newcomer of the Year: Jason Harries & Harri Millard

Juniors player of the Year: Olly Robinson & Owen Lane

The players will be awarded their trophies at a CBSC event to arranged hopefully by Christmas.

### Cardiff Blues Supporters Club membership

CBSC membership for the current season is on sale from the CBSC website or in person from committee members in the Jack Matthews bar under the Arms Park South stand before or after home games. Membership costs £10 for adults with 2 free junior (under 18) places with each adult membership. Your membership pack includes a specially designed 2019/20 season CBSC membership pin in and a CBSC membership card

All members get priority access to CBSC events throughout the season and junior members also have a chance to be CBSC flag bearers at a home match during the season. Membership discounted travel prices for official CBSC away trips in the PRO14 and for the upcoming European Champions cup fixtures.

### Junior flag bearers

CBSC will arrange a game for junior flag bearers in the near future, if you would like your child to be considered please register an interest with the CBSC via e-mail or talk to me in the Jack Matthews bar pre or post game. Priority will be given to CBSC Junior members.

### Stay Strong For OWS

Once again Cardiff Blues Supporters Club will be focusing our fundraising efforts on the Owen Williams charity fund through the Cardiff Blues Benevolent Trust. Throughout the season we will be running fundraising events and as a start £1 from every membership fee will be donated to the Trust.

Our committee this season is confirmed as James Lewis, Carol Esposti, Simon Harrington, David Elsmere, Richard Taylor, Kate Parkinson, Mike Reynolds, Nicola Callan and Andy Lee.

#### CBSC trips

CBSC are planning the following trips (Scarlets away will be played as part of Judgement Day Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April);

PRO14:

Ospreys: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, KO 7:35pm

Dragons Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May, date & KO to be confirmed

European Challenge Cup:

Leicester Tigers Sun 12 Jan KO 3:15pm

CBSC will not be running trips to Calvisano or Pau but groups of supporters are travelling independently to these games.

Round 1; Calvisano Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November KO 2:30pm (local time), fans are flying direct from Gatwick to Verona on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November then by train to Brescia. Hotels are available around the main Brescia train station as Calvisano has no hotel facilities itself. On gameday we will travel from Brescia to Calvisano by train, around 30 minutes travel time. The ground will not be sold out so tickets can be bought on entry, Calvisano is a small village and the ground is only a 15 minute walk (last train back to Brescia is around 8:30pm!) We will announce a Brescia away HQ as soon as decided. Most fans are returning to Cardiff Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>. Away HQ's for both Brescia and Calvisano will be announced nearer the time.

Round 4: Pau Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December KO 8pm (local time), fans are flying Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December from Bristol to Toulouse and staying overnight in Toulouse then travelling to Pau by coach early Friday morning. Some fans are booked into the Hotel Ibis Pau Centre, but many other hotels are available. The Galway Irish bar on the Boulevard des Pyrennes was our away HQ last time but we will confirm nearer the time. The main taxi rank is located here and as the ground is quite a way out of the centre of Pau we shared taxis to get to the game. The club do run buses for the return journey for the centre of Pau or the University campus. When we have details of the tickets that are available we will let fans know. Most people are returning Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December on the late night flight from Toulouse to Bristol.

If we progress to the Challenge cup knockout stages then we will look to arrange any European away trips if feasible.

If you want to book or register an interest in any of these trips then you can do so on the CBSC website or in person with a committee member in the refurbished Jack Matthews bar before or after home games.

#### **Come on the Blues!**

*Simon Harrington*

Juniors Ambassador

#bluesfamily #staystrongforows #walescapitalregion

For more information, log onto our new official website [www.cardiffbluessc.co.uk](http://www.cardiffbluessc.co.uk) (e-mail [info@cardiffbluessc.co.uk](mailto:info@cardiffbluessc.co.uk)), joining our Facebook group [@cbsupportersclub](https://www.facebook.com/cbsupportersclub) or following us on Twitter [@cardiffbluessc](https://twitter.com/cardiffbluessc) or Instagram [@CardiffBluesSC](https://www.instagram.com/CardiffBluesSC)