

Programme notes: Cardiff Blues v Cheetahs, Friday 28th September 2018

#### **Welcome to the Cheetahs**

After last weeks bonus point win over Munster with a powerful, controlled and ruthless performance more of the same tonight will see us climb the conference table from our current 6<sup>th</sup> place just above tonight's visitors the Cheetahs. After promising so much in the first 3 games the Blues delivered last week need to maintain this performance for the next 2 league games and into the Heineken Cup.

Watching the game back on Premier Sports it was noticeable how loud the fans are and the constant barracking of every ref decision with chants "TMO, TMO" even when it was for us was joyful. Our boys love the support and other teams fear it the, Arms Park is not a place other teams like to visit. Realistically a bonus point win is what is required against a Cheetahs team yet to win home or away. With both sides liking to play attacking rugby it should be a try fest tonight.

#### 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 2018/19 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 also gives you a vote in the end of season Player of the Year awards. Also included are discounted travel prices for official CBSC away trips in the PRO14 and for the upcoming European Champions cup fixtures.

## CBSC Player of the Match award

For games at the Arms Park this season CBSC will be organising the CBSC player of the match in cooperation with Cardiff Blues, a twitter vote with the selected players will run until 10 minutes after the game. For those without access to twitter you can vote in person in the Jack Matthews bar under the South Stand after the game. The wining player will come to the Jack Matthews bar to accept the award and meet the fans after the game.

#### Junior flag bearers

CBSC have agreed to supply flag bearers for the home game against the Dragons on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December KO 5:15pm 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 Sarah Hopkins, Catherine Smart, Graeme Prance, Carol Esposti, Simon Harrington, James Lewis, David Elsmere, Richard Taylor, Kate Parkinson, Mike Reynolds and Nicola Jenkins.

#### **CBSC** trips

CBSC are planning the following trips;

Sunday  $9^{th}$  December Saracens (Heineken Champions Cup) KO 1pm, coaches will leave The Arms Park at 8am for 1pm KO at Allianz Park and will leave approximately 1 hour after the end of the game for the return trip we should be back in Cardiff between 7pm and 8pm. Prices are £20 for adult CBSC members and £10 for junior members, £25 for adult non-members and £15 for junior non-members. The Blues will be receiving a ticket allocation for the game and we will advise members when details are available. CBSC are in discussions with Saracens supporters club who are offering to host visiting Blues fans in the Olympic Bar at Allianz Park from 11am.

Scarlets (PRO14) Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December KO 5:15pm and Ospreys (PRO14) 4/5/6<sup>th</sup> January KO (tbc dependent upon Swansea City's FA cup draw) we are planning these trips at this time and will release details when finalised. Usually for these trips we would leave around 2 hours before KO and return to the Arms Park around 2 hours after the end of the game.

We are not organising a trip for the Dragons (PRO14) game on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October KO 5:15pm as public transport is available, usually Blues fans congregate on the uncovered North Terrace at Rodney Parade.

For the Heineken Champions cup trips to Lyon and Glasgow CBSC are not organising official trips but will share travel and hotel options and organise away HQ'S for these games.

Round 1; Lyon Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October KO 2pm (local time), fans are flying direct from Birmingham to Lyon or Bristol to Geneva then by train to Lyon. Hotels are available around the main Lyon train station Part-Dieu at the terminus of the airport train transfer which are handy for the city centre and the old town. Or near the ground the Ibis budget Lyon Gerland is 5 minutes from the Stade de Gerland which is situated near the Lyon docks. The stadium is served by metro line B (blue on metro maps) and the stadium stop Stade de Gerland is approximately 15-20 minutes from the centre of Lyon.

When tickets are available CBSC will advise where in the ground we will be purchasing tickets.

CBSC away HQ will be The Wallace scottish bar 2, rue Octavio Mey 69005 LYON, this is situated in the Old town near the Cathedral and is open from 11am on Sunday's for breakfast (Metro line D, vieux lyon station, green on metro maps). For those staying near the ground the bar Ninkasi Geland 267 Rue Marcel Mereiux 69007 LYON, is right outside the ground (Metro line B, Stade de Gerland station) and is open from 10am on Sunday.

Round 5: Glasgow Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January KO 3:15pm, fans have booked Saturday to Monday flights from Bristol to Glasgow. Many hotels are available in the city some fans have already booked into Jury's Inn near the central train station and the Holiday Inn Express on the riverfront. Travel to the ground is around 20 minutes by train on Scotrail from the central station to Scotstounhill station or via bus number x4 from Argyle Street/central station to Westland Drive or N6 from Hope Street/central station to Anniesland Road. When tickets are available we will advise where fans can purchase tickets.

CBSC HQ will be the Horseshoe Pub, 17-19 Drury Street G2 5AE and is open from 9am on Sunday for breakfast, it is 2 minutes walk from the main station and bus stops for travel to the ground.

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 <u>information</u>, log onto our new official website <u>www.cardiffbluessc.co.uk</u> (e-mail <u>info@cardiffbluessc.co.uk</u>), joining our Facebook group <u>@cbsupportersclub</u> or following us on Twitter <u>@cardiffbluessc</u> or Instagram <u>@CardiffBluesSC</u>