



Cardiff Blues Supporters' Club

#StayStrongForOws

Programme Notes : Cardiff Blues v Saracens, Saturday 15th January 2018

European Challenge Cup Champions welcome Saracens to the Arms Park

Following last weeks game at the Allianz Stadium Cardiff Blues will be looking to repeat their first half performance for the full 80 minutes in front of a capacity home crowd at the Arms Park. With both sides playing open attacking rugby last week this should be another exciting and raucous game.

After an early 8am start to the day the travelling Blues support last week were in heaven at half time last week with a try from Blaine Scully and THAT TRY from Nipper along with the boot of Gareth Anscombe giving us a deserved 18-13 halftime lead. Unfortunately, with early second half Saracens scores and several injuries in the Cardiff backline causing defensive disruptions the Blues challenge faded in the third quarter of the game. A consolation try for Olly Robbo with minutes remaining did give hope of a try bonus point, but the Blues fell short as a final turnover ended the game at 51-25 to Saracens.

With pride to play for we will be looking for another result like the 2013 Toulon game when Gareth Davies's second half try had the full to capacity stands bouncing as the Blues ran out 19-15 winners over our millionaire visitors. Allez les Blues !

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 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 winning player will come to the Jack Matthews bar to accept the award and meet the fans after the game.

CBSC Junior flag bearers for Christmas Dragons game

Because of the switch to an evening kickoff on Friday 21st December CBSC will not be providing the flag bearers for this game and will be looking to rearrange access for junior members or one of the Blues games after Christmas to add to the Leinster and Uruguay flag bearer games already this season.

Stay Strong For OWS and #ItsOkayNotToBeOkay

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.

ODDGODS have released a Cardiff Blues calendar featuring the Blues squad to help raise money for the #StayStrongForOws fund, they are priced at £8.95 (£1 going to the fund). We have a number available in the Jack Matthews bar at today's game if you wish to purchase them in time for Christmas.

CBSC are also happy to support Tom James and the #ItsOkayNotToBeOkay campaign. TJ and ODDGODS have produced a 'TJ11' mug to raise money for Merthyr and the valleys MIND, CBSC will be selling the mugs in the Jack Matthews bar under the South Stand before and after the game priced £5.99.

CBSC trips

CBSC are planning the following trips;

Scarlets (PRO14) Saturday 29th December KO 5:15pm and Ospreys (PRO14) 5th January KO 3pm, we are registering interest for these trips at today's game and the Dragons home game on Friday 21st December. Coach prices have yet to be finalised but will be available soon.

For the Heineken Champions cup trip to Glasgow CBSC are not organising an official trip but will share travel and hotel options and organise an away HQ'S for the game. When tickets are available CBSC will advise where in the ground we will be purchasing tickets.

Round 5: Glasgow Sunday 13th 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.

The Glasgow supporters club have offered to arrange a meet up on the Saturday night before the game. If you are travelling and are interested then let CBSC know so we can give them some idea of numbers.

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 information, log onto our new official website www.cardiffbluessc.co.uk (e-mail 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)