

WCRFC 23 V Clanwilliam 29 – Garryowen ¼ final



In a rematch of last year's heart stopping semifinal where Michael Hayes kicked city to the Garryowen Cup final, this was a game that city were keen to test themselves against opposition a league higher. The first forty minutes saw City play the best 15 man rugby under the stewardship of head coach Peter Jones with some flowing rugby leading to three first half tries giving city a lead of 15-10 at the interval. A combination of some great forward breaks, led by Joe Delahunty and Sean O 'Mahoney with some great support lines from the pack gave lively scrum half Darren Walsh and fly half Aaron Foskin the platform to release the backs and score some scintillating tries with Nicky Jacob in majestic form at full back. The only disappointment at half time was a few errors from city due to over eagerness which cost points.

The second half showed this was city's first competitive game of the season, and despite the off season gym work and conditioning, the squad showed signs of a lack of match fitness in the last 15 minutes where the penalty count and Clanwilliam's deadly kicker ensured they won the game.

City can be pleased they outscored the opposition with four tries to two but will rue the missed opportunities and errors. That said, we are in a good place heading into our first league game in three weeks' time with expansive rugby to be promised at Kilbarry.

Many thanks to all of our supporters, families and friends, particularly the Griffin family and our sponsors Kingfisher Club and Done Deal.

WCRFC u18's –Clonmel 15 V WCRFC 10 (friendly)

Facing a physically bigger home side our young team made up mostly of u17s were in for a stern test. The first 15 minutes were evenly contested with Clonmel keeping things tight and City trying to keep the ball alive in contact. The first try scoring opportunity fell to City with the impressive Tom Doolan getting the ball out of the ruck quickly which allowed centre Ciaràn Holloway to punch over the gain line. From the resulting ruck the ball was put through the hands and Cian Lally went close to scoring in the corner.

Clonmel, however, were first to score. After a series of big carries near the City line the ball was spun wide and the Clonmel fullback scored in the corner. City came roaring back and got the score they deserved just before half time. Finally after a brilliant carry from Killian Power, David Jarmolosivic burrowed over.

The second half saw City lose their shape a little as in form Lorcan Lynch had to be replaced due to injury. City were forced into some uncharacteristic play which allowed Clonmel to score a couple of tries. In the last ten minutes City settled down again and started to play with structure and purpose. Carries from forwards Eoin Phelan, Eoin Mullally and Michael McKinley and brilliant rucking from Kieran Meagher & Cian O'Reilly who made a big impact from the bench put us back in opposition territory. A superb break from Andrew White set up Liam Hayes for a brilliant try. A positive start but plenty to work on for the coming weeks.