

## **Waterford City RFC**

### **Club Notes 05.10.2015**

#### **Waterford City Rugby Club**

Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> was a very busy day in Kilbarry as Waterford City held their IRFU club day. The day started at 10.30am where City hosted Tramore and Clonmel for a Mini's blitz. At 12pm the under 14's were in action against Carrick and finally at 2pm Waterford City senior team played newly promoted Charleville. A big thank you to all to helped make the day a great success.

#### **Match Reports:**

##### **WCRFC 27 V Charleville 5**

WCRFC: 27 Tries: Jason Power, Nicky Jacob, Darren Walsh, Damien Kennedy

Conversion: Michael Hayes 2 Penalties: Michael Hayes

MOM: Jason Power (pushed hard by Joe Delahunty and Damien Kennedy)

On Sunday 4th October, Waterford City welcomed newly promoted Charleville to fortress Kilbarry. With both teams recording opening day victories, and with opening round results showing how close this league will be, City were determined to place a marker of their season intentions and were well deserving of their bonus point victory.

City began brightly with real intense and purpose to their play with the forwards punching holes in the Charleville defence and the backs exploiting the space created. With half backs Darren 'Chicky' Walsh and Aaron Foskin exerting a calm and purposeful influence on proceedings, Waterford City exuded an aura of a team that would not be beaten. For once, City's scrum came under some pressure from a strong Charleville pack, but Joe Delahunty, a revelation this season so far at eight, managing to give us go forward ball at the back of the scrum, City scored the opening try of the game through Jason Power. Aaron Foskin kicked

us into lineout territory, with Darren Walsh marshaling the pack, Jason Power scored a well deserved try. Michel Hayes was back on kicking form and nailed a tricky conversion to put City 7-0 ahead. Shortly afterwards, from a Charleville kick, Damien Kennedy, rediscovering his best form, picked up a loose kick, handed off a defender before showing soft hands to draw and pass to Nicky Jacob for a well worked City try. Michael Hayes again converted from the touchline. At this point city were playing some great stuff with Simon O'Hara and Jason Power putting in some massive hits and Alex Fitzmaurice entering the 'fitz' zone clearing countless rucks and countering Charlevilles impressive front row. It was from a City scrum where Joe Delahunty picked up and drove over the gain line and offloaded neatly to Darren Walsh to canter in under the post from 50 metres giving City a 17-0 lead after 30 minutes. Charleville sprung into life and pounded the City line, ignoring the three points on offer and backing there scrum, eventually scoring a try after a number of pick and drives around the ruck.

City's discipline waivered in the second half, but offensively they looked sharp and were guilty of wasting three opportunities for the bonus point. However, with fifteen minutes remaining, the impressive Damien Kennedy exploited a gap in the Charleville defence to poach a try and the bonus point victory was secured. City continued to attempt to keep the score board ticking over, but were reduced to 14 men after a succession of penalties at ruck time. However, City repelled Charlevilles best efforts to record a 27-5 victory leaving City with a 100% record and in third place and the best defensive record in the league.

As always, many thanks to all of our supporters and sponsors Done Deal and the Kingfisher club.

Team: Karl Reade, Colm Lynch, Alex Fitzmaurice, Jason Power, Eamonn O'Keeffe, Simon O'Hara, Tom Bowe, Joe Delahunty, Darren Walsh, Aaron Foskin, Damien Kennedy, Connor Power (captain), Michael Hayes, Aidan Power, Nicky Jacob,

Dave O'Connor, Brian Walsh, Kevin Whelan, Mark Hayes, Stephen Walsh,

**J2 Squad - Cashel 18 V WCRFC: 5**

MOM: Liam Hayes

Waterford City traveled to Cashel for a Saturday night meeting between the two sides in favorable conditions. This was our lad's first competitive game of the competition and we also had the opportunity to introduce some new players. We started badly conceding a converted try within the first five minutes and just did not seem to get off the blocks until John McNicholas ran in a try following a great set piece move. Cashel had meanwhile scored a second try increasing their margin to 12-5. We started to move the ball with some impressive play and covered our defense well, notably through Jim Halligan who ran over seventy meters from the opposite side of the pitch to make a try saving tackle inside our 22.

It was a game where a little lack of experience in our first game against a full Cashel side and some decisions not going our way, let Cashel run out the eventual winners of a margin 18 to 5.

While this was a negative result for us on the night, we can still take a lot of positives away with us. Our defense once we settled into the game did not allow Cashel any further incursions into our territory with some great tackling by Aaron Whelan, Connor Brennan and Elliot O Mahoney and wing Connor White. We were very strong in the line out and won all our own ball, through Kevin Whelan, Brian Kinsella, Liam Hayes and Aidan O Neill and we maintained our scrum well through Paddy Halloran, John McNicholas and Stephen O Rourke. Opposition field incursions were orchestrated by experienced Captain Liam McCarthy and Fly Half Jack Fenton. Mark Hayes covering the full back position also stood out and made his presence felt in both attack and defense. Completing the squad were veteran Mark Power, Dean Halley, Derek White, Dave Healy and Shane Purcell.

Man of the match would go to Liam Hayes for his aggressive tackling and carries throughout the match, with Paddy Halloran, Kevin Whelan, Aaron Whelan and Jim Halligan also impressing.

### **U18's - Waterford City v Midleton**

A young City side containing 11 of last seasons under 16's took on a much bigger Midleton side on Saturday last in Kilbarry.

From the start it looked like a day of defense lay ahead for City as Midleton held on to the majority of possession. City held out with great tackling in defense but eventually Midleton broke through for a number of tries before half time.

The second half was a similar story to the first. Credit to our young lads for never dropping the heads. A tough learning curve but better days lie ahead for this talented squad.

The whole squad would like to extend their best wishes to captain John Harte who suffered a nasty injury while playing for his school. Get well soon John.