

Waterford City RFC

Club Notes 28.09.2015

WCRFC – Newport 9 v WCRFC 13

Tries: Joe Delahunty, Aidan Power Penalty: Michael Hayes

With Ireland's World Cup campaign in full swing, City made the long trip to Newport to open their league campaign, just as they did two years ago in their first season in the division but with high hopes of improving on last year's fifth place. City pride themselves on their squad mentality which has been achieved through training numbers and togetherness and with a few injuries, that training squad was utilised with players stepping up to the mark admirably.

City decided to play with the wind in the first half. Despite this City fell foul to a few decisions at ruck time and after 10 minutes Newport slotted a penalty to go 3-0 up. City worked hard with Joe Delahunty making yards and with Aidan Power sniffing space from new fly half Darren Walsh's distribution, City began to gain some territory. With Michael Hayes having an uncharacteristic off day with the boot, pressure told with Michael slotting over penalty to tie the scores at 3 a piece at the break.

A few honest words were spoken at half time but this didn't stop Newport going into a 9-3 lead with 20 minutes to go. This left City wondering if they had the mental strength to match their skill dominance on the field of play. The introduction of Cian Foskin, and Darren Walsh reverting to scrum half changed the pace of the game and City began to build phases and exploit their advantage out wide. From a scrum, forwards coach Simon O'Hara would be proud of Joe Delahunty bursting through Newport's tackling to score a try. Although a missed conversion still left city a point behind with 15 minutes to play. City began to create plenty of chances with some great driving mauls and crisp handling from the backs and Aidan Power, who is having a stellar season so far in the city backline stepping through Newport's tackling to score to put us ahead. There were some anxious moments in the last few minutes as Newport pounded away at the city line but Cian Foskin and Joe Delahunty

repelled attack after attack and finally Aidan Power capped a fine performance winning a penalty at the breakdown to secure a four point victory for City.

Whilst the squad was disappointed with the performance, what is notable is that City began with an away victory whilst not playing well, particularly showing mental strength to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. As can be seen from results in this division, every game will be a battle as City head into next weekend's fixture vs. Charleville, determined to put things right on the training paddock with coach Peter Jones and ready to put down a marker in Kilbarry next Sunday.

WCRFC:

Colm Lynch, Brian Walsh, Alex Fitzmaurice, Jason Power, Sean O 'Mahoney, Simon O'Hara, Tom Bowe, Joe Delahunty, Mark Hayes, Darren Walsh, Damien Kennedy, Connor Power (captain), Michael Hayes, Aidan Power, Nicky Jacob,

Stephen O'Rourke, Kevin Whelan, Cian Foskin, John McNicholas, Stephen Walsh, Connor White

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Mini's Rugby

Another good day at Waterford City RFC Mini's this Sunday. Excellent weather conditions and our best turnout so far this season which is good news with next Sunday's blitz (k.o. 10:30).

Pat, Keith and Caroline have come on board with the coaching staff; it's great to have some new faces in that department. Also thanks to Jack Jacob for stepping in again.

Other good news was the first meeting of what we hope will be a new Minis Parents' Committee so well done to those who came along today. More news to follow.

Waterford City RFC minis train every Sunday at our club grounds beside Tesco, Kilbarry from 11 to 12 except on blitz days. All children born between 2004 and 2009 are welcome.

Follow us on Facebook for ongoing news.

Pictures – Senior team warming up



