

Match Report

Dorset & Wilts RFU Under 18's Girls vs Berkshire RFU Under 18's Girls

Chippenham RFC, 20th March 2022

As is our usual way we seemed to be asleep in the 1st half as Berkshire had most of the possession and were much more fluid, commanding the breakdown, and passing along the line, taking an early lead (0-5). They scored a try which was unconverted and a few minutes later were awarded a penalty making it 0-8. The restart didn't go our way and within a few phases Berkshire had scored again (unconverted), making the score 0-13.

We finally started to exert some pressure and it looked like we would have gone into half time with points on the scoreboard, but with the try-line defending that wasn't the case.

In the second half, we seemed to wake up and started dominating the ruck area allowing us clean ball for the backs to run on to - ultimately ending in a try for Bryony, unfortunately not converted. From the restart and the next five minutes, it was a bit scrappy, but we eventually managed to make a line break and a few phases later Rita scored, and Olivia converted (12-13).

Berkshire then came back using their big forwards and eventually crossed the whitewash bringing the score to 12-20. Our girls suddenly realised there was an opportunity to win even though they had just conceded a try and they switched up a gear. After multiple line breaks and good clean rucks, Milli managed to hand off and break through the line scoring under the posts. Olivia, with the aid of the upright, converted making it a very tense 19-20.

With self-belief and the newfound teamwork, we pressed up the field until Fearn-Maia spotted a lazy defender next to the ruck allowing her to burst through and score under the posts which Olivia converted 26-20. As with all good oppositions, Berkshire pressed and came within a few meters of scoring, but resilient defence, and some luck, we held them out to get the win.

Squad:

Hannah Perry (Oakmeadians RFC),
Gabriel Coyne (Bournemouth RFC),
Tilly Smethurst (Chippenham RFC),
Ellie Smith (Oakmeadians RFC),
Alex Vergottini (Chippenham RFC),
Maddi Jackson (Chippenham RFC),
Daisy Stone (Sherborne RFC),
Milli Berry (Co-C) (Weymouth & Portland RFC),
Fearn-Maia White (Wimborne RFC),
Olivia Taylor (C) (Oakmeadians RFC),
Tilly Gravelle (Thomas Hardye School),
Ruby Pike (Co-C) (Chippenham RFC),
Harriet Woodward (Chippenham RFC),
Milly Gomm (Sherbornes RFC),
Rita Richardson (Oakmeadians RFC),
Eve Wright (Dorchester RFC),

Georgie Richardson (Chippenham RFC),
Isla Holmes-McGeachy (Oakmeadians RFC),
Lily Selmán (Chippenham RFC),
Gina Richardson (Royal Wootton Bassett RFC),
Bryony Duchesne (Oakmeadians RFC),
Jessica Welford (Oakmeadians RFC),

Kate Berry (u18's) / Caroline Durston (u15's)
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D&W Team Managers

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