

Dudley Kingswinford RFC



Est 1920

Season 2022 – 2023

Regional 1 Midlands

Regional 1 Midlands Fixtures and Results

Date	Opponents	Venue	Score	Result
3 September 22	Kenilworth	A	<u>27 – 21</u>	Lost
10 September 22	Lichfield	H	<u>38 – 14</u>	Won
17 September 22	Nuneaton	A	<u>17 – 36</u>	Won
24 September 22	Oundle	H	<u>45 – 0</u>	Won
1 October 22	Stoke on Trent	A	<u>22 – 27</u>	Won
15 October 22	Bridgnorth	H	<u>44 – 10</u>	Won
22 October 22	Broadstreet	A	<u>26 – 29</u>	Won
29 October 22	Bromsgrove	H	<u>11 – 16</u>	Lost
5 November 22	Burton	A	<u>3 – 27</u>	Won
12 November 22	Derby	H	<u>46 – 14</u>	Won
26 November 22	Syston	A	<u>24 – 17</u>	Lost
3 December 22	Lichfield	A	<u>22 – 42</u>	Won
7 January 23	Stoke on Trent	H	<u>26 – 13</u>	Won
28 January 23	Bromsgrove	A	<u>25 - 27</u>	Won
4 February 23	Nuneaton	H	<u>53 - 7</u>	Won
11 February 23	Burton	H	<u>20 - 14</u>	Won
18 February 23	Derby	A	<u>28 - 41</u>	Won
25 February 23	Oundle	A	<u>22 - 25</u>	Won
4 March 23	Syston	H	<u>19 - 20</u>	Lost
11 March 23	Kenilworth	H	<u>19 - 14</u>	Won
18 March 23	Bridgnorth	A	<u>29 - 17</u>	Lost
25 March	Broadstreet	H	<u>41 - 5</u>	Won

Regional 1 Midlands Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	DIF	B PTS	TOT
1	Dudley Kingswinford	22	17	0	5	671	372	299	17	85
2	Bridgnorth	22	16	0	6	631	499	132	18	82
3	Syston	22	16	0	6	761	414	347	15	79
4	Bromsgrove	22	13	1	8	666	480	186	21	75
5	Kenilworth	22	14	0	8	621	507	114	15	71
6	Burton	22	9	0	13	560	595	-35	19	55
7	Oundle	22	9	0	13	481	617	-136	18	54
8	Derby	22	10	1	11	562	691	-129	11	53
9	Stoke on Trent	22	8	0	14	607	699	-92	19	51
10	Broadstreet	22	8	0	14	504	698	-194	14	46
11	Lichfield	22	6	0	16	544	836	-292	13	37
12	Nuneaton	22	5	0	17	485	685	-200	15	35



The Matches

The information for each match includes the squad that played, all match events and if you click on the photo it will open the full Gallery on our website.

It also includes the DoR review which was written before each home game for the match programme.

Sat 3 Sep 2022

Kenilworth 27 – 21 DKRFC

(HT 14 – 15)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Thomas Walker
13 Ryan Smitheman
12 William Hancox
11 Mark Harrison
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Joshua Brown
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Scott Lovell
7 Michael Protheroe
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Ryan
17 Leo Davies
18 Joseph Heatley

Match Events

5' Try Benjamin Rhodes
5' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
12' Substitution Off William Hancox
12' Substitution On Joseph Heatley
31' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
34' Try Jake Thompson
40' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
40' Substitution On James Ryan
54' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
58' Substitution Off Mark Harrison
58' Substitution On Leo Davies
62' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
70' Yellow Card Kieron Williams
79' Yellow Card Frederick Morgan

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As the season 21/22 came to a close, we looked back and could be pleased with the targets set we had achieved. It was very much about consolidation and learning what was required to be competitive at this level again. We looked forward to a well-earned rest for the summer. But in what seemed like a blink of an eye we were back. As per most seasons you get to June and realise what you haven't organised or arranged. Luckily, I have senior coach Tom Huggins who takes on a massive amount of player communication and organisation. I truly thank him for this. A few changes in the backroom staff are, new forwards coach C.J Osazuwa and Physio Adam Obrien. Both CJ and Adam have fitted in nicely and we look forward to working with them over the coming season. We have worked hard to recruit and attract players across all teams. We learnt early in last years campaign that the strength in depth of the larger squad was crucial. When unavailability's and injuries kick in it is important to have those players who can seamlessly drop in and get the job done. Moving forward, we must continue to develop and improve. With the group of players and coaches we have I am confident we can do this. Preseason went well. Training numbers and quality of sessions were some of the best I have been involved in. The only frustration was lack of preseason fixtures. For varying reasons games which had been structured in never happened. The Development squad managed a fixture against Bridgnorth, and 1st team squad had a conditioned game against Newport. The lack of competitive match time was evident during last weeks opening fixture against newly promoted Kenilworth RFC. We new from seasons past that Kenilworth were a good outfit, especially at their Glasshouse Lane headquarters. We struggled to put any control the game, something we had worked hard on last season. We allowed the home pack to control speed and tempo of the match and ultimately paid the price. A losing bonus point on the road can be seen as a positive. We know that come the end of the season every point is crucial. This week we look forward to welcoming Lichfield. Another team that we know well from past campaigns. They were promoted as champions and already have a lot of experience at this level from previous seasons.

As per any week we expect a tough encounter. Hopefully we will have got rid of that ring rust and can get the first W on the board.

DoR

Sat 10 Sep 2022

DKRFC 38 – 14 Lichfield

(HT 26 – 7)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Leo Davies
13 Thomas Walker
12 Joseph Heatley
11 Mark Harrison
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 James Ryan
4 Jess Smith
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Scott Lovell
7 Michael Protheroe
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Jake Thompson
17 Peter Griffiths
18 William Hancox

Match Events

5' Try Benjamin Rhodes
25' Try Benjamin Rhodes
25' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
27' Try Leo Davies
27' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
39' Try Daniel Marsh
39' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
57' Try James Ryan
57' Substitution Off James Ryan
57' Substitution On Jake Thompson
57' Substitution Off Scott Lovell
57' Substitution On Peter Griffiths
57' Substitution Off Thomas Walker
57' Substitution On William Hancox
79' Try Mark Harrison
79' Conversion Samuel Vaughan

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Sat 17 Sep 2022

Nuneaton 17 – 36 DKRFC

(HT 5 – 22)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Leo Davies
13 Joseph Heatley
12 William Hancox
11 Mark Harrison
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 James Fildes
3 James Ryan
4 Jess Smith
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Scott Lovell
7 Michael Protheroe
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Jake Thompson
17 Peter Griffiths
18 Thomas Walker

Match Events

18' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
22' Try James Fildes
27' Substitution Off Scott Lovell
27' Substitution On Peter Griffiths
29' Try Jess Smith
29' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
31' Try James Ryan
31' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
45' Try Mark Harrison
45' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
55' Try Joseph Dunn
55' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
55' Substitution Off James Ryan
55' Substitution On Jake Thompson
55' Substitution Off Leo Davies
55' Substitution On Thomas Walker
56' Red Card Jess Smith

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Previously I had mentioned, how not playing enough preseason fixtures had affected performances in our first league fixture at Kenilworth. The last two weeks have felt very much the same. Although we have secured two bonus point wins the feeling within the squad was performances across the eighty minutes could have been better. I think this shows the belief and desire of the squad to be the best they can be.

Lichfield are always a tough side to play against and to get the bonus point win was pleasing. At times we managed to control the pace and tempo of the game which is something we have been discussing a lot. Our attacking patterns were much improved from the previous week, but we still need to play heads up rugby and identify opportunities when they arise. A good win but still only a 6 out of 10 performances.

Last week we travelled to Nuneaton. The previous season we had lost over at their place albeit on their tough outside pitches and in heavy weather conditions. It was pleasing we played this year's fixture on their lush green stadium pitch. The same as any away trip you must make sure the heads are switched on come kick off.

So, to concede a score in the first five minutes was disappointing. In the past this could have led to more mistakes and bad decisions but now having a squad with experience at this level we controlled the situation well. We adapted well to the opposition and the attacking shape and options we have been working at lead to some well worked points on the board. Another bonus point win but still not the complete performance 7.5/10.

This week sees the visit from Oundle RFC. We know from last season how dangerous they can be. We will need to be on our game for the full eighty minutes and a hard defensive shift will be required.

With three games now gone the excuse of lack of game time doesn't fit.

DoR

Sat 17 Sep 2022

DKRFC 45 – 0 Oundle

(HT 25 – 0)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Thomas Walker
13 Mark Harrison
12 William Hancox
11 Leo Davies
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 James Ryan
7 Michael Protheroe
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Fildes
17 Jack Bull
18 Ryan Smitheman

Match Events

3' Try Thomas Walker
8' Try Callum Nicholls
21' Try Joseph Dunn
21' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
30' Try Thomas Walker
30' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
51' Substitution Off Mark Harrison
51' Substitution On Ryan Smitheman
54' Yellow Card James Ryan
61' Try Samuel Vaughan
61' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
66' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
66' Substitution On James Fildes
76' Try Callum Nicholls
76' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
76' Substitution Off Peter Griffiths
76' Substitution On Jack Bull

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Sat 1 Oct 2022

Stoke on Trent 22 – 27 DKRFC

(HT 8 – 13)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Thomas Walker
13 Ryan Smitheman
12 William Hancox
11 Leo Davies
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 James Fildes
7 Michael Protheroe
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Ryan
17 Jack Bull
18 Stefan Shillingford

Match Events

5' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
10' Yellow Card Frederick Morgan
13' Try Callum Nicholls
13' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
13' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
29' Substitution Off James Fildes
29' Substitution On James Ryan
32' Substitution Off Leo Davies
32' Substitution On Stefan Shillingford
46' Try Benjamin Rhodes
46' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
66' Substitution Off Benjamin Rhodes
66' Substitution On James Fildes
72' Try Callum Nicholls
72' Conversion Samuel Vaughan

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One of the main lessons we learned during last seasons campaign was the importance of strength in depth of the larger squad. The last two fixtures have seen that tested for the first time this season. For the first few games we managed to field pretty much the same players. Due to injury, suspension, and unavailability we went into the Oundle fixture with changes to personal and positional. It was one of the most complete performances we had put together so far and from a coaching perspective it was pleasing to see the shape and patterns we had worked so hard at put into play. One of the main pluses was not only the offensive play but a superb defensive effort which resulted in a nil for the opposition.

The following week saw us travel to Stoke. For some reason in previous seasons, we have regularly struggled to put a performance in when visiting their Hartwell Lane ground. In the past there has been the excuse such as weather conditions, pitch conditions or time of year. None of these were true this year. Great conditions, good surface, and no excuses. I do feel Stoke are a much tougher opponent at their ground, but our performance fell short of what we expected. Again, we had some enforced changes, but we had previously proven we could cope with these if we stuck to our processes and shape. The positive is we still came away with the win something I feel we may have struggled to do in previous seasons.

Having had a rest week, we are in a far better place regarding availabilities.

This week we face our near neighbours Bridgnorth. We know it will be a tough encounter as always. They have started well and I'm sure they will be up for the game and well supported.

We again need to firstly focus on ourselves and what we need to bring to the game.

I'm sure it will be a cracker!

DoR

Sat 15 Oct 2022

DKRFC 44 – 10 Bridgnorth

(HT 12 – 3)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Ryan Smitheman
13 Joseph Heatley
12 Stefan Shillingford
11 Mark Harrison
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 James Ryan
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 Michael Protheroe
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Jake Thompson
17 William Hancox
18 Thomas Walker

Match Events

10' Substitution Off James Ryan
10' Substitution On Jake Thompson
15' Try Joseph Dunn
20' Try Peter Griffiths
20' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
35' Yellow Card Joseph Heatley
35' Substitution Off Ryan Smitheman
35' Substitution On William Hancox
35' Substitution Off Mark Harrison
35' Substitution On Thomas Walker
48' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
48' Try Thomas Walker
48' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
54' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
64' Try William Hancox
70' Yellow Card Jake Thompson
73' Try Joseph Heatley
73' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
75' Try Stefan Shillingford
75' Conversion Samuel Vaughan

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Sat 22 Oct 2022

Broadstreet 26 – 29 DKRFC

(HT 14 – 8)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 William Hancox
13 Joseph Heatley
12 Stefan Shillingford
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 Michael Protheroe
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Richard Kelley
17 Thomas Dodge
18 Joshua Walker

Match Events

16' Try Callum Nicholls
20' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
44' Try Callum Nicholls
44' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
56' Try Stefan Shillingford
56' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
56' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
56' Substitution On Richard Kelley
62' Substitution Off Peter Griffiths
62' Substitution On Thomas Dodge
63' Try Samuel Vaughan
63' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
73' Substitution Off William Hancox
73' Substitution On Joshua Walker

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Since I last wrote for the programme, we have faced our near neighbours Bridgnorth and travelled to Coventry to face Broadstreet. The Bridgnorth encounter was always going to be a big game for us. We knew it would be a physical battle and only a full eighty-minute performance would give us the result we desired. There was no need to psyche the players up for this one. They were all very self-motivated and took that motivation onto the pitch. As predicted it was a very physical first half and the lads really revelled in the competition. As in most games there are key moments that stand out and can have a major influence on the result. The key moments for me were firstly the small mele that occurred in front of the stands. Nothing too sinister just two very committed teams but it is easy to lose focus when these things happen. I think we did lose a little focus and that let Bridgnorth in for a score. The next key moments were how we responded to this. We immediately created an opportunity and Tom Walker backed himself and got the score. We were then awarded a penalty off the restart where again Sam Vaughan backed himself and slotted it over. The rapid 10-point gain clearly boosted our energy levels and negatively affected theirs. We went on to control the rest of the game and post a top result. Last week we travelled over to Broadstreet. A quick look at their results would tell you again it had potential to be a game where points could be lost. They are a tough opponent at home. We travelled over with a confidence from the previous week's performance. Broadstreet are a side that like to run the ball and have pace in their backline. We struggled to settle and a few bad discussions and unforced errors put us under pressure. We got to the half and refocussed. A better middle third saw us 29- 14 up but again self-inflicted pressure made it a little tighter at the final whistle than we would have liked. But an ugly bonus point win on the road it was. Back in the clubhouse to hear Syston had slipped up was also an unexpected bonus to the day. So, this week we go into the fixture sitting top of the league. As league leaders you have a target on your back. Other sides will use it as motivation and want to knock you off the perch. We take nothing for granted and know there is an awful lot of rugby to be played before you can be thinking about winning titles.

This week we have a visit from our old foes Bromsgrove. They are coming over off the back of some decent results but once again we need to focus on us and our game. As usual we look forward to a good battle.

DoR

Sat 29 Oct 2022

DKRFC 11 – 16 Bromsgrove

(HT 6 – 10)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 William Hancox
13 Joseph Heatley
12 Stefan Shillingford
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 Michael Protheroe
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Ryan
17 Thomas Dodge
18 Joshua Walker

Match Events

2' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
6' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
41' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
41' Substitution On James Ryan
48' Substitution Off Jess Smith
48' Substitution On Thomas Dodge
59' Substitution Off Peter Griffiths
59' Substitution On Jess Smith
75' Try Joseph Heatley
75' Substitution Off Joseph Dunn
75' Substitution On Jake Thompson

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Sat 5 Nov 2022

Burton 3 – 27 DKRFC

(HT 0– 0)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Joshua Walker
13 Stefan Shillingford
12 Joseph Heatley
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 James Ryan
4 Jess Smith
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Michael Protheroe
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Jake Thompson
17 Cameron Brown
18 Peter Griffiths

Match Events

7' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
14' Try Joseph Heatley
14' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
40' Try Benjamin Rhodes
52' Try Thomas Walker
64' Substitution Off James Ryan
64' Substitution On Jake Thompson
70' Try Thomas Walker
70' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
70' Substitution Off Michael Protheroe
70' Substitution On Cameron Brown

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Since last writing we have seen one loss and one win to our collection of results. Having reviewed the match video of the Bromsgrove encounter we knew we had created enough opportunities to have won that game. Did we deserve to win it was a different question. Bromsgrove had arrived with a game plan more about stopping us playing our style of rugby rather than creating an exciting spectacle for the supporters in attendance. This they did well. A game with no flow and regular stoppages led to us trying to force things to happen rather than showing patience and control. As I said we still had enough opportunities to take the win but need to take them when available. The importance of bonus points is already showing when looking at League positions. So, to come away from the loss with a losing bonus point had to be seen as a positive. A quick look at other results when back in the clubhouse showed we still retained top spot.

Last week we had a trip away at Burton. Always a tough encounter. A few tactical positional changes were made. Their new Battlestead Croft pitch is a lot more conducive to our game than their previous town ground. So, no excuses! The only element to deal with was a strong wind blowing straight up the pitch. We opted to go against first half and managed it well. We asked a lot of questions around set piece and disrupted a lot of Burton's ball. To reach the half up on the scoreboard and to have limited the opposition to only a penalty score was very pleasing. We have been in that position too often when you think it's job done and don't finish the job off. I believe we are far too experienced a squad now to make that error. We totally controlled the second period and achieved all our goals. A bonus point win on the road and denied Burton any chance of getting any points from the game. JOB DONE!

Again, back in the clubhouse to see how the other results had gone. This season it is very much that anyone can beat anyone on any given day. But we had managed to stretch our lead at the top of the table by one extra point. Again, the importance of collecting those bonus points is crucial.

This week we see the visit of Derby to Heathbrook. It's been a long time since we have met in competitive fixtures.

They have had a good run of results and sit in second place, so a top of the table clash it is.

As always, we look forward to the challenge. DoR

Sat 12 Nov 2022

DKRFC 46 – 14 Derby

(HT 36– 7)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Stefan Shillingford
12 Joseph Heatley
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Ryan
17 Cameron Brown
18 Leo Davies

Match Events

3' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
6' Try Joseph Heatley
6' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
14' Try Mark Harrison
14' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
22' Try Stefan Shillingford
30' Try Joseph Dunn
30' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
36' Try Thomas Walker
36' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
41' Substitution Off Peter Griffiths
41' Substitution On Cameron Brown
59' Substitution Off Mark Harrison
59' Substitution On Leo Davies
62' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
62' Substitution On James Ryan
65' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
72' Substitution Off Kieron Williams
72' Substitution On Jake Thompson
79' Try William Hancox
79' Conversion Samuel Vaughan

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Sat 26 Nov 2022

Syston 24 – 17 DKRFC

(HT 24– 0)

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Squad

- 15 Samuel Vaughan
- 14 Mark Harrison
- 13 Stefan Shillingford
- 12 Joseph Heatley
- 11 Thomas Walker
- 10 Frederick Morgan

- 9 Joseph Dunn
- 1 Kieron Williams
- 2 Benjamin Rhodes
- 3 James Ryan
- 4 Jess Smith
- 5 Daniel Marsh
- 6 Michael Protheroe
- 7 William Hancox
- 8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

- 16 Cameron Brown
- 17 Peter Griffiths
- 18 Leo Davies

Match Events

- 21' Substitution Off Thomas Walker
- 21' Substitution On Leo Davies
- 46' Try Benjamin Rhodes
- 50' Substitution Off Samuel Vaughan
- 50' Substitution On Thomas Walker
- 52' Try Thomas Walker
- 52' Substitution Off Callum Nicholls
- 52' Substitution On Peter Griffiths
- 52' Conversion Frederick Morgan
- 65' Substitution Off Jess Smith
- 65' Substitution On Callum Nicholls
- 76' Try Mark Harrison

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Sat 3 Dec 2022

Lichfield 22 – 42 DKRFC

(HT 17– 14)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Joseph Heatley
12 Stefan Shillingford
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Benjamin Rhodes
3 James Ryan
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Jake Thompson
17 Michael Protheroe
18 Ryan Smitheman

Match Events

22' Try William Hancox
22' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
27' Try Samuel Vaughan
27' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
41' Substitution Off James Ryan
41' Substitution On Jake Thompson
41' Substitution Off Peter Griffiths
41' Substitution On Michael Protheroe
44' Try Frederick Morgan
44' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
58' Try Michael Protheroe
58' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
60' Try Joseph Heatley
60' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
64' Substitution Off Thomas Walker
64' Substitution On Ryan Smitheman
72' Try Benjamin Rhodes
72' Conversion Samuel Vaughan

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The early December weather dictated that the Christmas break was longer than expected and far from perfect for continuity in performances. The postponed fixtures means that now it is a straight run in of constant fixtures with no breaks till the end of season. For some clubs this could really test the strength of their squads. Not having those free weeks to rest or recuperate injuries could effect some of the outcomes of fixtures.

As usual we can only focus on ourselves and try to maximise our opportunities to stay top of the pile.

With our development team currently on a great run of performances we are confident that as a squad we have that strength in depth if called upon. With a tough block of games in January there will be no time to ease ourselves back into the season. We managed a few good training sessions over the break but because of difficult pitch conditions it was nowhere near what we have liked it to be. This week it has almost felt like a mini pre-season.

To get back to the level of performance required we will, as always need to firstly concentrate on the basics.

We know our opponents this week Stoke will provide a stern test. A look at the table will tell you how dangerous they can be. They have similar bonus points to us so defence will be another key factor.

At the beginning of the season, we set our targets. The aim was to reach the Christmas break and then reassess.

Although losing the last two fixtures of the year to weather slightly changed the dynamic I think we can confidently say we had achieved our targets. We know the second half of the season will be tough, but we have put ourselves into the best position possible.

Hopefully we have seen the last of weather affected games and we can get back to playing good open Rugby.

As always, we look forward to it.

DoR

Sat 7 Jan 2023

DKRFC 26 – 13 Stoke on Trent

(HT 0 – 6)

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Squad

- 15 Samuel Vaughan
- 14 Mark Harrison
- 13 Joseph Heatley
- 12 Stefan Shillingford
- 11 Thomas Walker
- 10 Frederick Morgan
- 9 Joseph Dunn

- 1 Kieron Williams
- 2 Benjamin Rhodes
- 3 Jake Thompson
- 4 Peter Griffiths
- 5 Daniel Marsh
- 6 Jess Smith
- 7 William Hancox
- 8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

- 16 James Ryan
- 17 James Fildes
- 18 Ryan Smitheman

Match Events

- 42' Try Joseph Dunn
- 42' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
- 52' Try Callum Nicholls
- 52' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
- 53' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
- 53' Substitution On James Ryan
- 70' Try Samuel Vaughan
- 70' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
- 70' Substitution Off Peter Griffiths
- 70' Substitution On James Fildes
- 70' Substitution Off Thomas Walker
- 70' Substitution On Ryan Smitheman
- 77' Try Jess Smith

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Sat 28 Jan 2023

Bromsgrove 25 – 27 DKRFC

(HT 6 – 22)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Stefan Shillingford
12 Joseph Heatley
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 James Fildes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Ryan
17 Michael Protheroe
18 Ryan Smitheman

Match Events

11' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
15' Try Stefan Shillingford
15' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
25' Try Joseph Heatley
25' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
29' Try Thomas Walker
58' Substitution Off Joseph Heatley
58' Substitution On Ryan Smitheman
62' Substitution Off Ryan Smitheman
62' Substitution On Joseph Heatley
64' Substitution Off William Hancox
64' Substitution On Michael Protheroe
67' Try Thomas Walker
68' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
68' Substitution On James Ryan
71' Substitution Off Callum Nicholls
71' Substitution On William Hancox

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Coming off the back of two strong performances, against both Burton and Derby it was one of those times when the break week did us no favours.

We always knew a trip to Syston was going to be tough, we would need to hit the levels of those previous performances if we were to get anything from the game. As previously mentioned, sitting at the top of the table really puts that target on your back. It can be a massive motivation to opponents who want to be the ones who knock you off that spot. Syston didn't disappoint and really came at us in the first period. Unfortunately, no matter how much we had spoken and identified the need to switch on early we didn't really get off the bus until the halftime break. At four scores down we knew we had to up the tempo and chase those tries. Unfortunately, we came up just short. On the positive side we earned a bonus point.

Last week was the start of the second rotation of games, so another away fixture at Lichfield.

A look at the league table and results proves that any given week anyone can beat anyone. Although Lichfield were showing in the bottom half they couldn't be taken lightly. Again, they would be highly motivated and playing at home would be looking to take our scalp. Once again, frustratingly we were slow out of the blocks. Luckily the players responded quicker and altered what was needed. A period of playing in the right areas of the park at the right times allowed us to control the scoreboard. The score line was convincing in the end, but I don't think it truly reflects how tough a battle it was for long periods of the game.

This week's opponents Nuneaton sit at the base of the table at present but again we will not be taking anything for granted. They will also be highly motivated and battling for every point. Always a physical side we will expect another tough encounter. As always, we look forward to it.

DoR

Sat 4 Feb 2023

DKRFC 53 – 7 Nuneaton

(HT 27 – 7)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Thomas Walker
12 Stefan Shillingford
11 Ryan Smitheman
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 James Fildes
3 James Ryan
4 Jess Smith
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Michael Protheroe
7 William Hancox
8 Peter Griffiths

Substitutes

16 Jake Thompson
17 Callum Nicholls
18 Leo Davies

Match Events

11' Try Ryan Smitheman
17' Try Stefan Shillingford
17' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
27' Try Stefan Shillingford
30' Try James Fildes
37' Try Mark Harrison
40' Substitution Off Peter Griffiths
40' Substitution On Callum Nicholls
50' Try Kieron Williams
50' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
50' Substitution Off James Ryan
50' Substitution On Jake Thompson
50' Substitution Off Kieron Williams
50' Substitution On James Ryan
60' Try Mark Harrison
60' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
64' Try James Ryan
64' Substitution Off Samuel Vaughan
64' Substitution On Leo Davies
67' Try Ryan Smitheman
67' Conversion Frederick Morgan

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Last weeks fixture saw us welcome Nuneaton to Heathbrook. As I have stated many times this season no team can be underestimated no matter where they sit in the table. We knew Nuneaton always bring a physical game and would have to be on top form to deal with the challenge. After the previous weeks visit to Bromsgrove where a top of the table clash needs little motivation it was important, we went into the Nuneaton fixture with clear targets and focus on performance. One of the main areas we had focused on in previous fixtures was controlling the tempo of the game. Once again, we managed this very well. Another focus was playing in the right areas of the park, and again we achieved this with a good mix of strong running rugby and kicking at the right times. We also showed good discipline with one of the lowest penalty counts against this season. From the coach's point of view it was probably one of our most complete performances of the current campaign so far.

This week we welcome our old foes, Burton.

Always a tough encounter and yet again we will have to be on top of our form to take the points. Burton tend to play a similar game to ourselves so hopefully it should be a great game for the spectators who make it down to DK.

Once again, our target for the game must be to chase the 5 points. It is important to maintain or even extend the gap between us and the chasing teams if we are to achieve our goal of becoming league champions.

As always, we look forward to the challenge.

DoR

Sat 11 Feb 2023

DKRFC 20 – 14 Burton

(HT 3 – 14)

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Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Thomas Walker
12 Stefan Shillingford
11 Leo Davies
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 James Fildes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Ryan
17 Michael Protheroe
18 Joshua Walker

Match Events

10' Substitution Off William Hancox
10' Substitution On Michael Protheroe
31' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
52' Try Thomas Walker
53' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
53' Substitution On James Ryan
59' Try Samuel Vaughan
65' Try James Ryan
65' Conversion Samuel Vaughan

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Sat 18 Feb 2023

Derby 28 – 41 DKRFC

(HT 21 – 17)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Thomas Walker
12 Stefan Shillingford
11 Leo Davies
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 James Fildes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 Thomas Dodge
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Patrick Pritchard
17 Jack Moore
18 Joshua Walker

Match Events

10' Try Daniel Marsh
10' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
10' Yellow Card Leo Davies
14' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
30' Try Daniel Marsh
30' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
44' Try Mark Harrison
51' Try Joseph Dunn
70' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
70' Substitution On Patrick Pritchard
72' Try Frederick Morgan
72' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
72' Substitution Off Jess Smith
72' Substitution On Jack Moore
74' Substitution Off Leo Davies
74' Substitution On Joshua Walker
78' Try Daniel Marsh
78' Conversion Samuel Vaughan

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Sat 25 Feb 2023

Oundle 22 – 25 DKRFC

(HT 10 – 14)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Thomas Walker
12 Stefan Shillingford
11 Leo Davies
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Cameron Brown
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 Thomas Dodge
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Ryan
17 William Hancox
18 Ryan Smitheman

Match Events

1' Try Mark Harrison
6' Try Thomas Walker
6' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
25' Substitution Off Thomas Dodge
25' Substitution On William Hancox
25' Substitution Off Thomas Walker
25' Substitution On Ryan Smitheman
40' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
40' Substitution On James Ryan
41' Try Ryan Smitheman
41' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
56' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
58' Substitution Off Jess Smith
58' Substitution On Thomas Dodge
76' Penalty Samuel Vaughan

The last three weeks have been tough. The lack of rest weeks has meant a few players have taken the field carrying knocks and maybe not at 100%. But this is the same for everyone I expect.

The Burton fixture we were slow to start along with being on the wrong side of the referees' decisions this saw us go in at half time two scores down. A side of Burtons quality you don't want to give a head start to but this we did. The half break gave us the opportunity to refocus and target the areas we needed. This we managed and ground out the win. Unfortunately, the bonus point was missed which we hope won't come back to haunt us! The following week was a trip to Derby. The first time we have visited their ground in a long time and the first time on their 3G pitch. The surface you would think would suit our style of play but when it is something you are not used to it takes a while to adapt. The bounce of the ball and how the ground absorbs the push off in footwork is totally different to grass. They play their pitch very well and even though the final score looked comfortable it was far from it. Right up to the last few minutes there was only a score in it. Some dogged defence and then taking the opportunity for a length of the field try meant we came away with the points and also that all important bonus point too.

Last week we knew from the previous season was going to be a tough trip to Oundle. Once again a few walking wounded were patched up but the knowledge of this being the last long road trip of the season made it a little more bearable. The difference in playing surfaces was once again very noticeable. Different from the wide plastic surface at Derby the Oundle pitch is smaller and due to the rainfall pre game was heavy and sticky. We had discussed our disciplined in the first quarter of the game. This is the period of the game when you now the referee will want to make calls and show teams what he expects. All that is fine, but you don't want the penalties against you. Previously we had struggled managing this and found ourselves on the wrong end of decisions and therefore playing at the wrong end of the park. The first ten minutes of the Oundle fixture was probably the best first ten we had put in all season. This saw us move the scoreboard early but once again our opponents play their pitch and conditions well. You can see why they have a good home record. Thanks to Sam's trusty boot we came away with the win. No Bonus point but the feeling was very much Job done let's just move on. We are now at the sharp end of the season. The next two weeks fixtures will decide who takes the title.

Currently we sit at the top of the pile, and this is where we intend to stay. Everyone in the group is focused on finishing the job but with quality tough opposition to come this ambition will be tested.

As always. We look forward to the challenge. DoR

Sat 4 Mar 2023

DKRFC 19 – 20 Syston

(HT 13 – 3)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Stefan Shillingford
12 Joseph Heatley
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 James Fildes
3 James Ryan
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Thomas Dodge
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Jake Thompson
17 Jess Smith
18 Ryan Smitheman

Match Events

8' Substitution Off James Ryan
8' Substitution On Jake Thompson
17' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
28' Try William Hancox
38' Try Thomas Dodge
48' Substitution Off Thomas Dodge
48' Substitution On Jess Smith
52' Penalty Samuel Vaughan
61' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
61' Substitution On James Ryan
72' Substitution Off Mark Harrison
72' Substitution On Ryan Smitheman
78' Penalty Samuel Vaughan

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Disappointed? Yes. Frustrated? Yes. Surprised? No.

We knew we would have to be at the top of our game to get a result from last Saturdays fixture.

Syston are a side who will punish your mistakes and take opportunities if given. To be honest I don't think our level of performance has been where we want it to be for the last four fixtures. Our success over previous seasons has been based on an agreed understanding that we chase try's and bonus points. Although at times I have had to defend this philosophy in the clubhouse after games, it has led to us playing an exciting style of rugby, which when it works is great for both spectators and players alike. When it comes to the maths those bonus points have been the difference in promotion or not. I think over the previous weeks trying to overthink the maths has been the problem. Trying to work out who needs what and who has games in hand, who has to play who has led to us making decisions on the park that we wouldn't usually do. Again, it may be something that everyone doesn't agree with but taking the points when on offer with a penalty is not always the best decision. Sometimes you have to use the kick to maintain tempo, territory and pressure on the opposition. Over the previous weeks we haven't done that. We have chosen to take those points to just keep our noses in front. Yes, we did get away with it on a couple of occasions but against better sides that gift of possession and territory can be costly. I truly believe this mentality has affected the intensity of our performance. I don't know why and can't really explain it, but I just know it does. There was a lot of discussion regarding the officiating and length of time played in the second period of Saturdays game. It is sometimes an easy excuse to look for something or someone to blame. The fact is, we didn't lose the game in the last ten minutes, we lost it in the first ten minutes of the second half. We still sit top of the table, although with a slightly reduced buffer. With three fixtures to go, whatever happens we know we will need to get points from at least two of them if we are to achieve our ambition of becoming league champions.

We know that as always, all the fixtures are going to be tough and competitive. With the greatest respect to our opposition, we must focus on ourselves. If we play to the levels, we know we can,

The results will sort themselves out.

As always. We look forward to the challenge.

DoR

Sat 11 Mar 2023

DKRFC 19 – 14 Kenilworth

(HT 19 – 0)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Stefan Shillingford
12 Joseph Heatley
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 James Fildes
3 James Ryan
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Jess Smith
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Jake Thompson
17 Thomas Dodge
18 Ryan Smitheman

Match Events

6' Try Stefan Shillingford
6' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
14' Try Samuel Vaughan
14' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
33' Try Thomas Walker
37' Substitution Off James Ryan
37' Substitution On Jake Thompson
55' Substitution Off Joseph Dunn
55' Substitution On Ryan Smitheman
79' Substitution Off Peter Griffiths
79' Substitution On Thomas Dodge

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Sat 18 Mar 2023

Bridgnorth 29 – 17 DKRFC

(HT 17 – 12)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Samuel Vaughan
14 Mark Harrison
13 Stefan Shillingford
12 Joseph Heatley
11 Thomas Walker
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 Cameron Brown
3 Jake Thompson
4 Jess Smith
5 Daniel Marsh
6 James Fildes
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 Patrick Pritchard
17 Joshua Brown
18 Ryan Smitheman

Match Events

5' Try Mark Harrison
28' Try Thomas Walker
28' Conversion Samuel Vaughan
40' Substitution Off Cameron Brown
40' Substitution On Joshua Brown
52' Yellow Card Daniel Marsh
62' Substitution Off Jess Smith
62' Substitution On Cameron Brown
73' Try Stefan Shillingford
73' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
73' Substitution On Patrick Pritchard

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Without a doubt we should have the league title wrapped up by now. But we haven't.

Honestly our form after Christmas has been down from what we produced in the early months of the season.

The prolonged break in January due to weather conditions did us no favours. The quality of training sessions was affected due to pitch conditions and then the unbroken run in of games was tough on the players when it came to managing injuries and fitness. The frustrating thing is when we look back on match footage a lot of the pressures were self-inflicted. Poor discipline and execution especially around set piece meant we gifted opposition too much possession and territory at times. So, down to the last game it is. Although there are still various mathematical variations that could decide who finally takes the title, our approach must be winner takes all and no more chances after this week.

Our visitors today will be motivated to have a say in the final outcome. Broadstreet are always a physical side and if given room to run will cause problems. Therefore, we must strap up one last time and hopefully produce that title winning performance that we know we are capable of. To be able to do it at Heathbrook in front of a large home crowd must be seen as an advantage. Whatever happens we can confidently say we have surpassed our targets we set back at the beginning of the season and have laid the foundations of future success.

Bring it on!

DoR

Sat 25 Mar 2023

DKRFC 41 – 5 Broadstreet

(HT 19 – 5)

[Back to Fixtures and Results](#)

Squad

15 Mark Harrison
14 Thomas Walker
13 Leo Davies
12 Joseph Heatley
11 Ryan Smitheman
10 Frederick Morgan
9 Joseph Dunn

1 Kieron Williams
2 James Fildes
3 Jake Thompson
4 Peter Griffiths
5 Daniel Marsh
6 Thomas Dodge
7 William Hancox
8 Callum Nicholls

Substitutes

16 James Ryan
17 Joshua Brown
18 Samuel Vaughan

Match Events

7' Try Callum Nicholls
7' Conversion Frederick Morgan
16' Substitution Off Thomas Dodge
16' Substitution On Joshua Brown
20' Try Mark Harrison
20' Conversion Frederick Morgan
20' Substitution Off Joshua Brown
20' Substitution On Thomas Dodge
29' Try Joseph Heatley
41' Try Leo Davies
45' Try Thomas Walker
45' Conversion Frederick Morgan
50' Try Frederick Morgan
50' Substitution Off Jake Thompson
50' Substitution On James Ryan
60' Yellow Card William Hancox
66' Substitution Off Thomas Dodge
66' Substitution On Joshua Brown
68' Substitution Off Leo Davies
68' Substitution On Samuel Vaughan
73' Try Joseph Dunn
77' Yellow Card Mark Harrison

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Regional 1 Midlands DKRFC Statistics

Overall Record	W 17	L 5	D 0
Total Points For & Against	671	372	
Home Record	W 9	L 2	D 0
Home Points For & Against	362	127	
Away Record	W 8	L 3	D 0
Away Points For & Against	309	245	
Average Points per Game	30.5		
1 st of 12 in Regional 1 Midlands			
Total Points Scored	671		
1 st of 12 in Regional 1 Midlands			
Biggest Winning Margin	46		
Longest Winning Streak	7 games		

DKRFC Top Try scorers

** Denotes DK Youth Section*

Thomas Walker*	14
Mark Harrison	10
Callum Nicholls*	8
Stefan Shillingford*	8
Joseph Dunn*	7
Joseph Heatley	7
Benjamin Rhodes	7
Samuel Vaughan*	6
William Hancox*	4
Daniel Marsh*	4
James Ryan*	4
Frederick Morgan	3
Ryan Smitheman*	3
Leo Davies*	2
James Fildes*	2
Jess Smith	2
Thomas Dodge	1
Peter Griffiths*	1
Michael Protheroe	1
Jake Thompson*	1
Kieron Williams*	1

DKRFC Top Points Scorers

** Denotes DK Youth Section*

Samuel Vaughan*	204
Thomas Walker*	70
Mark Harrison	50
Callum Nicholls*	40
Stefan Shillingford*	40
Joseph Dunn*	35
Joseph Heatley	35
Benjamin Rhodes	35
Frederick Morgan	25
William Hancox*	20
Daniel Marsh*	20
James Ryan*	20
Ryan Smitheman*	15
Leo Davies*	10
James Fildes*	10
Jess Smith	10
Thomas Dodge	5
Peter Griffiths*	5
Michael Protheroe	5
Jake Thompson*	5
Kieron Williams*	5

Regional 1 Midlands League Statistics

Highest Points Home	
Syston	388
Bromsgrove	381
Dudley Kingswinford	362
Bridgnorth	347
Kenilworth	340

Highest Points Away	
Syston	373
Dudley Kingswinford	309
Burton	292
Bromsgrove	285
Bridgnorth	284

Least points conceded Home	
Dudley Kingswinford	127
Bromsgrove	191
Syston	193
Oundle	232
Kenilworth	238

Least points conceded Away	
Syston	221
Dudley Kingswinford	245
Bridgnorth	257
Kenilworth	269
Bromsgrove	289

Longest Winning Streak	
Kenilworth	8
Syston	8
Dudley Kingswinford	7
Bromsgrove	6
Bridgnorth	4

Try Bonus Points	
Bromsgrove	14
Bridgnorth	13
Dudley Kingswinford	13
Stoke on Trent	13
Syston	13

Biggest Fortress	
Bridgnorth	11
Dudley Kingswinford	9
Bromsgrove	8
Kenilworth	8
Syston	8

Best travellers	
Dudley Kingswinford	8
Syston	8
Kenilworth	6
Bridgnorth	5
Bromsgrove	5

DOR Neil Shillingford

THE FINAL TAKE

I have found this final view difficult to write.

Most of my season is spent looking forward to the next game and setting targets so to reflect on the past season was strange.

Firstly, the main point must be that all those targets set we either achieved or surpassed. We had recruited strongly during the off season and most of the players we had brought in had experience of national league rugby. Pre-season was disrupted due to late cancellation of games, and we went into the first game of the season slightly under prepared. A tough fixture away and close loss at Kenilworth was just what we needed to focus the minds. Having finished mid table the previous season our aim was to improve on that position and be involved in the top four or five where the big games usually decide who goes on to be champions.

From previous seasons you know which clubs will be tough but at that level no one can be taken for granted. Any given week either home or away anyone can beat anyone.

“Let’s get to Christmas and see where we sit” That was the first marker point.

We arrived at that point top of the table. “Good Job Boys”.

Some great performances but a few disappointing close losses as well. The important thing about the close losses is to make sure you collect the bonus points. The weather took a turn for the worse and games were postponed. Along with the Xmas break we started the new year having not played for four weeks. This in turn meant the run-in till the end of the season would be without any rest weeks.

I think it is fair to say that apart from the first half against Bromsgrove those early fixtures in 2023 were scrappy performances at times. Scrappy but we still managed to pick up the wins we needed to keep us top of the pile.

The unbroken run of games was tough on the bodies and the strength of the squad was tested. At this point for some reason, we started to try and play the maths. Decisions on the park when it came to penalty options became conservative. DK have always strived to play fast open rugby. I have always encouraged teams to chase the try bonus points. To some this may seem not the most tactically sensible at times but a team with that mentality is always dangerous. It also makes great viewing for the spectators!

So, after a quick reboot we refocused and targeted what was required to get the job done.

Because of games in hand and cancelled fixtures going into the last month it was still mathematically possible that four different clubs could possibly become champions. Simple fact was it was ours to lose. Altered fixtures again kept the run in interesting for all. We could and should have had the championship wrapped up two weeks previous but down to the last game it went. We required two points from our fixture against Broadstreet to claim the title.

Once again mathematically if we failed to gain the points Bridgnorth could take the crown.

Once again, we don't do maths. Infront of a great home crowd swelled with members from all areas of the club, with legions of our mini junior players decked in their blue and blue kit, there was no way we were going to disappoint.

A convincing win and a display of true DK running rugby and then let the party begin. What a great club day it was.

It has taken a while for me to realise what we as a club have achieved over the last six seasons. Credit must go to all.

Directors and management, Staff and volunteers, Coaches and players, Members and supporters have all played their part. I probably hadn't realised because as normal I had been so focused on looking ahead. Planning what will be required to compete at National League Rugby. It will be a massive challenge both on the pitch and off.

On the pitch we will be facing a long list of quality opposition and off the pitch logistically things will have to change.

As always, we relish the challenge. Bring it on!

DOR



The Players

The information for individual player statistics was taken off the RFU Game Management System Electronic Match Card.

A * by the players name shows that he came through DK's Youth Section.



CAMERON BROWN *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
4	3	187	0	0	0	0
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
3	1	75.00	25.00	0	0	22



JOSHUA BROWN *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
3	2	138	0	0	0	0
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
1	2	33.33	66.67	0	0	31



JACK BULL *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
1	1	4	0	0	0	0
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
1	0	100.00	0.00	0	0	21



LEO DAVIES *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
12	4	667	2	0	0	10
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
10	2	83.33	16.67	1	0	28



THOMAS DODGE

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
7	5	288	1	0	0	5
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
5	2	71.43	28.57	0	0	30



*Supported by
Gail Smith*



JOSEPH DUNN *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
22	0	1730	7	0	0	35
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
17	5	77.27	22.73	0	0	22

JAMES FILDES *



Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
12	3	787	2	0	0	10
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
10	2	83.33	16.67	0	0	28



Craig & Nicki Moore
Moore-Elec Ltd

PETER GRIFFITHS *



Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
19	3	1212	1	0	0	5
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
16	3	84.21	15.79	0	0	28

Supported by
Andy Lobb &
Simon Dowding

WILLIAM HANCOX *



Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
21	4	1411	4	0	0	20
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
16	5	76.19	23.81	1	0	27



Supported by
Wayne Farmer



MARK HARRISON

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
18	0	1315	10	0	0	50
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
14	4	77.78	22.22	1	0	27



Supported by
Ianto Jones



JOSEPH HEATLEY

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
16	2	1264	7	0	0	35
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
11	5	68.75	31.25	1	0	32



RICHARD KELLEY *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
1	1	24	0	0	0	0
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
1	0	100.00	0.00	0	0	33



SCOTT LOVELL

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
3	0	164	0	0	0	0
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
2	1	66.67	33.33	0	0	34

*Supported by
Ken & Alison
Morrissey*



DANIEL MARSH *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
22	0	1760	4	0	0	20
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
17	5	77.27	22.73	1	0	28



JACK MOORE *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
1	1	8	0	0	0	0
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
1	0	100.00	0.00	0	0	20



FREDERICK MORGAN

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
22	0	1760	3	0	5	25
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
17	5	77.27	22.73	2	0	26

*Supported by
Ian Bratt*



CALLUM NICHOLLS *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
22	2	1698	8	0	0	40
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
17	5	77.27	22.73	0	0	22



PATRICK PRITCHARD *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
2	2	17	0	0	0	0
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
1	1	50.00	50.00	0	0	30



*Supported by
The Tartan
Army*



MICHAEL PROTHEROE

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
14	3	995	1	0	0	5
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
11	3	78.57	21.43	0	0	32



*Supported by
Gail Evans*

BENJAMIN RHODES

CAPTAIN



Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
12	0	946	7	0	0	35
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
9	3	75.00	25.00	0	0	28

*Supported by
Chris & Sarah Rhodes*

JAMES RYAN *



Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
19	11	815	4	0	0	20
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
15	4	78.95	21.05	1	0	23



Moldwel Products Ltd
Supported by Andy Penn



STEFAN SHILLINGFORD *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
17	1	1328	8	0	0	40
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
13	4	76.47	23.53	0	0	32

Supported by



JESS SMITH



Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
18	2	1318	2	0	0	10
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
14	4	77.78	22.22	0	1	27



Supported by
Bob Fice



RYAN SMITHEMAN *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
12	7	502	3	0	0	15
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
10	2	83.33	16.67	0	0	27

Supported by



JAKE THOMPSON *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
21	10	1064	1	0	0	5
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
17	4	80.95	19.05	1	0	25

*Supported by
Jackie Bullock*



SAMUEL VAUGHAN *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
22	1	1646	6	22	54	204
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
17	5	77.27	22.73	0	0	29

*Supported by
Bob Dryden*



THOMAS WALKER *

Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
22	3	1537	14	0	0	70
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
17	5	77.27	22.73	0	0	24

JOSHUA WALKER



Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
3	2	93	0	0	0	0
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
3	0	100.00	0.00	0	0	22

Supported by Ray Stokes

KIERON WILLIAMS *



Appearances	Sub On	Total Playing Time	Tries	Penalties	Conversion	Total Points
22	0	1722	1	0	0	5
WINS	LOSS	WINS %	Loss %	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	Age At Start of Season
17	5	77.27	22.73	1	0	27

The information for individual player statistics was taken off the RFU Game Management System Electronic Match Card.

More Stats

Over 1000 minutes Played (Max Mins 1760)		
Player	Mins	Appearances
Dan Marsh	1760	22
Freddie Morgan	1760	22
Jo Dunn	1730	22
Kieron Williams	1722	22
Callum Nicholls	1688	22
Sam Vaughan	1646	22
Tom Walker	1537	22
Will Hancox	1411	21
Jake Thompson	1064	21
Pete Griffiths	1212	20
Jess Smith	1318	18
Mark Harrison	1315	18
Steff Shillingford	1328	17
Joe Heatley	1264	16

Players Used	29
From DK Youth Section	20
Average Age	26yrs 3mths
Oldest Player	34 years
Youngest Player	20 years
Players under 30 years old	20

Matchday Staff



N. SHILLINGFORD
DIRECTOR OF
RUGBY



TOM HUGGINS
HEAD COACH



CJ. OSAZUWA
FORWARDS COACH



ADAM O'Brien
PHYSIO



IAN BRATT
SATISTICS



IAN JACKSON
PHOTOGRAPHER



IAN JONES
LOGISTICS



ANDREW WEEKS
Scoreboard
Technician



Regional 1 League



DKRFC 1st XV

A. O'Brien CJ. Osazuwa M. Harrison J. Heatley J. Smith P. Griffiths*
S. Vaughan* J. Dunn* K. Williams* F. Morgan



P. Pritchard*



R. Kelley*



J. Fildes*



J. Walker



J. Brown*



S. Shillingford*

Midlands Champions



2022 ~ 2023

**D. Marsh* T. Walker* W. Hancox* L. Davies* J. Thompson* N. Shillingford T. Huggins*
B. Rhodes (Capt) S. Lovell J. Ryan* M. Protheroe C. Nicholls***



C. Brown*



J. Bull*



T. Dodge



R. Smitheman*



J. Moore*

#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



KIERON WILLIAMS

DK 1ST XV
COACHES PLAYER OF THE SEASON
2022/2023



#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY



#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



WILL HANCOX

DK 1ST XV
PLAYERS PLAYER OF THE SEASON
2022/2023



#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY



#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



FREDDIE MORGAN

DK 1ST XV TIE
20 PLUS GAMES IN ONE SEASON
2022/2023



#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY



#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



SAM VAUGHAN

DK 1ST XV
TOP POINT SCORER
2022/2023



#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY



Other Award Winners

#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER

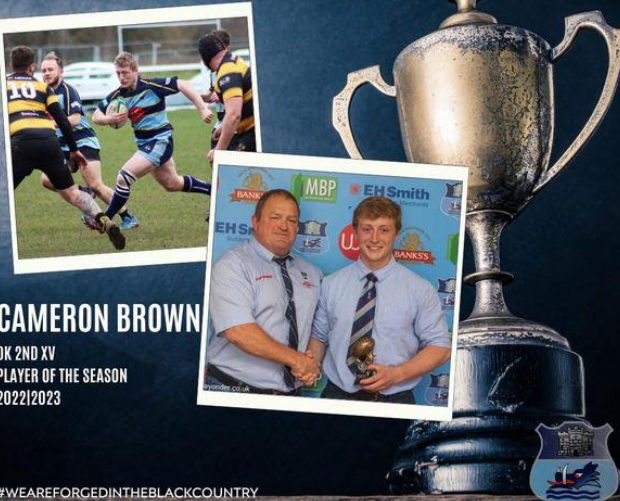


JIM EVANS
DKRFC
CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR
2022/2023

#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY

#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



CAMERON BROWN
DK 2ND XV
PLAYER OF THE SEASON
2022/2023

#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY

#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



JACK MOORE
DKRFC
YOUNG PLAYER OF THE SEASON
2022/2023

#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY

#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER

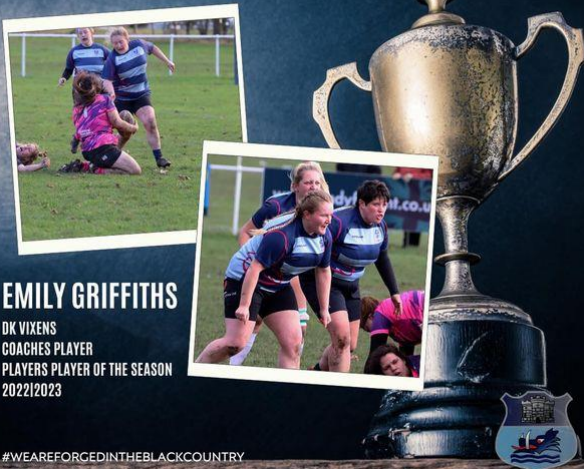


BEN FARMER
DK WASPS
PLAYER OF THE SEASON
2022/2023

#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY

#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



EMILY GRIFFITHS
DK VIXENS
COACHES PLAYER
PLAYERS PLAYER OF THE SEASON
2022/2023

#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY

#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



JAMES GIBBONS
DK COLTS
PLAYER OF THE SEASON
2022/2023

#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY

#WEAREDKRFC

AWARDS WINNER



JOSH TREASURE
DK COLTS
MOST IMPROVED PLAYER
2022/2023

#WEAREFORGEDINTHEBLACKCOUNTRY

DKRFC Season Records 2022~2023
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