

### Selkirk 2<sup>nd</sup> XV v Melrose Storm 19.11.22

With the recent heavy rain causing the back pitch at Philiphaugh to be unplayable, Selkirk A moved their home game across the road to Burnmill. However it was Melrose Storm who flooded the game with tries while Selkirk tried to keep their head above water, losing the game 5-29. It didn't take the Melrose men long to get on the score sheet, scoring a converted try within the first 2 minutes of play. A further converted try extended their lead 10 minutes later, but it was the Souters who looked the most active, with the home pack dominating in loose play. And they were rewarded after a series of pick and drives, with flanker Declan Broatch touching down just right of the posts. More pressure from the Philiphaugh men should have resulted in more points for the home team, but a turnover by the Melrose pack prevented a score just before half time, with Melrose just ahead 5-14. The inclusion of Ex captain Frazer Harkness brought a harder edge to the back line for Selkirk, but some uncharacteristic handling by the 'A' team backs left them coming away from the visitors 22' without any points on several occasions. A further 3 unconverted tries by the Storm in the last 10 minutes of play brought them not only their bonus point but an end to this Tennent's East Reserve League Division 1 fixture, with Melrose claiming all the points, with Selkirk still seeking their first home win of the season. Special mention must go to Frazer Easson moving to hooker for the day and scrum half Ethan McVicker on his return to competitive rugby after his ankle surgery, completing 80 minutes of Rugby with a Man of the Match performance.







Match report by Bryan Hoggan

Photos by Grant Kinghorn (<https://www.grantkinghornpics.co.uk/>)