

Selkirk 'A' v Hawick Force – 03.11.23

Friday night may not have produced the fireworks the home crowd expected but there was enough action to light up the November night, with Hawick Forces' sparkling display of rugby giving them a nine try win over Selkirk 'A' to keep them top of the Border Junior League while Selkirk still seek out that first elusive win. It was Hawick who got out the blocks quickest when hooker Fergus Bell went over for the opening try after 5 minutes. But it was Selkirk who were creating all the running with half backs Finn Mallin and Cammy Easson controlling play in the back division.



However, against the run of play winger Owain Gray for the Force skipped by some slack Selkirk defence to increase their lead 0-10. A penalty for Selkirk gave Easson the chance to put Selkirk on the score sheet and from 28 metres out the Philiphaugh men finally got points on the board to take the score to 3-10. Selkirk were not without their chances with Blake Cullen asking questions of the Hawick defence, and with Finlay Wheelans producing the best chance of the night as he blazed past his winger, former Selkirk player Frazer Anderson.



However, the chance was soon snuffed out by an astute Force defence and the chance was lost. And as half time approached it was the men in green who would have the final word when Dan Brooker touched down for a converted try to leave to score at 3-17 at the break. The second half started the same way as the first

with Hawick continuing to break the Selkirk defence with substitute Ryan Purves scoring the converted try.

Further tries by Bell and Number Eight and Captain Sam Frizzel finished the game off as a contest, but Selkirks fighting spirit continued and it was Connor Ward who punched the first hole in the Hawick defence to allow powerhouse Declan Broatch to finish off some great interplay by the Souters to drive over from 5

metres out to give Eason the easy conversion to make the score 10-38. 2 further tries from Hawick by Brooker who claimed his hat trick and then by Purves completed the scoring, with the final result giving

Hawick Force a convincing 10-59 win. Another lesson in rugby was inflicted on the home team who continue to struggle both physically and competitively but who showed no lack of appetite throughout the 80 minutes. The front row of Max Bury, Sam Clark - Captain for the first time - and Ross MacFadzen showed up well against an experienced Terie pack, while flanker Frazer Eason who earned Man of the Match created line breaks and chances in abundance. In the backs, Archie Penman continues to grow in stature with an aggressive show of tackling during the game while Fraser Cullen coped admirably out of position at Full Back.



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