

# EDINBURGH

vs Zebre Parma  
BKT United Rugby Championship  
Saturday 7 January 2023



UNITED RUGBY  
CHAMPIONSHIP





# 16 TEAMS 5 NATIONS 1 CHAMPION





# THE ULTIMATE URC EXPERIENCE

*JOIN FOR FREE*



Personalised team  
experience



Exclusive offers  
& competitions



Premium opinion  
articles & analysis



Match highlights &  
exclusive video content



[WWW.UNITEDRUGBY.COM/MYURC](http://WWW.UNITEDRUGBY.COM/MYURC)



# DOUGLAS STRUTH WELCOME

**Good afternoon, and a happy New Year from everyone at Edinburgh Rugby.**

Welcome back to DAM Health Stadium for today's BKT United Rugby Championship clash against our Scottish x Italian Shield rivals, Zebre Parma. Last season's match up with today's opposition was a nail biter, with a last-minute penalty from Jaco van der Walt securing a narrow win.

Our recent encounters with Zebre have shown that they aren't a team to be taken lightly, and that we'll have to be at the top of our game to get our league form back on track.

The result against Glasgow before the New Year was a tough one to take, however it will always fill me with pride seeing so many of our fans packing into BT Murrayfield. The event was a fitting celebration of 150 years of rugby in the capital.

The festive period also showed the progress of the URC, with our attendance contributing to the 123,307 people that went to matches across the last round of the year, a record for the league. This is a hugely competitive league that is constantly growing, and one that is incredibly exciting to continue to be a part of.

Away from the pitch, we've been able to announce a new signing, and a re-signing either side of the New Year. Retaining the services of Emiliano Boffelli is a serious coup for the club, and one that has been noticed across the rugby world. This is a significant re-signing for the club and a huge amount of work has gone in across the board to structure his deal.

Emiliano would have undoubtedly had several high-profile options elsewhere but the fact that a truly world class and ambitious player is so happy to stay with Edinburgh Rugby long-term is testament to the positive direction that the club continues to move in.

As well as retaining Boff, we have announced the signing of Fly-Half Ben Healy from our URC rivals Munster. Ben will join the squad next season, and brings with him a wealth of experience, and a pretty handy boot as well.

We've experienced first-hand the cool-headed nature that Ben brings, breaking Edinburgh hearts once or twice with last minute kicks! He's an exciting addition to the squad, and I'm sure everyone at the DAM will make him feel welcome when he arrives.

Today is all about Zebre, however, and I'm sure you'll raise the roof to help us start our 2023 on the front foot.

Enjoy the game!

Douglas Struth  
Edinburgh Rugby Managing Director  
#AlwaysEdinburgh



SAVINGS

# Savings accounts that work hard for you

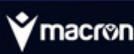
Open an account with us today  
and we could help your money  
work harder

[scottishbs.co.uk](https://scottishbs.co.uk)





# New home and alternate kits 2022/23





Every Edinburgh game  
live home and away.





“Everyone at DAM  
Health wishes  
Edinburgh Rugby all  
the best successes this  
season.”



Professor Frank Joseph  
Director of Medicine, DAM Health

**DAM**  
HEALTH



Galbraith

**ALWAYS**  
**FIRST CHOICE**

Official Property Advisors to Edinburgh Rugby



# TEAM LINEUPS

## EDINBURGH

HARRY PATERSON

**15**

JACK BLAIN

**14**

MARK BENNETT

**13**

CAMMY HUTCHISON

**12**

BLAIR KINGHORN

**11**

CHARLIE SAVALA

**10**

CHARLIE SHIEL

**9**

BOAN VENTER

**1**

DAVE CHERRY

**2**

ANGUS WILLIAMS

**3**

SAM SKINNER

**4**

JAMIE HODGSON

**5**

LUKE CROSBIE (C)

**6**

CONNOR BOYLE

**7**

NICK HAINING

**8**

16. PATRICK HARRISON 17. NICK AUTERAC

18. LUAN DE BRUIN 19. MARSHALL SYKES

20. VILIAME MATA 21. BEN VELLACOTT

22. JACO VAN DER WALT 23. JAMES LANG

## ZEBRE PARMA

JACOPO TRULLA

PIERRE BRUNO

TOMMASO BONI

ENRICO LUCCHIN (C)

SIMONE GESI

TIFF EDEN

ALESSANDRO FUSCO

PAOLO BUONFIGLIO

LUCA BIGI

MATTEO NOCERA

DENNIS VISSER

JOSHUA FURNO

GIACOMO FERRARI

MJ PELSER

MATT KVESIC

16. JACQUES DU TOIR 17. ALESSIO SANAVIA

18. MUHAMED HASA 19. LEONARD KRUMOV

20. DAVIDE RUGGERI 21. RATKO JELIC

22. GERONIMO PRISCIANTELLI 23. FRANCO SMITH JR

A photograph of Mark Bennett, a rugby player, wearing a blue jersey with orange accents. He is looking back over his right shoulder. The jersey has several logos, including 'BREADALBANE' and 'MURRAY'. The background is dark and out of focus.

# MARK BENNETT

## READY FOR ZEBRE CLASH

**Mark Bennett won't be underestimating bottom of the URC side Zebre Parma as they visit DAM Health Stadium this Saturday afternoon**

The Italian team have yet to win in this year's Championship but have impressed in all matches with a swashbuckling style of attack and typical passion in defence.

"I think it's harsh when people say they've not been great. Watch the way they're playing," explained Bennett.

"They play great rugby and at the start of the season they ran four good teams close and got four losing bonus points I'm sure.

"So they're going to be a good challenge. But we need a result. It's as simple as that. It doesn't matter who it was next. But Zebre won't be any pushovers, that's for sure."

Bennett returned to Edinburgh's starting line-up in last weekend's close-run contest with Glasgow and provided his usual flurry of pace and threatening breaks in the 13 channel.

With a chance to hit the restart button this Saturday, Bennett has backed he and his teammates to put in a performance in front of the Edinburgh support.

"Absolutely, I back us this weekend. But there aren't many games – if any – where I'm not thinking we're going to do it and we're going to win this.

"For us it's just business as usual. We need to dust ourselves down. At the weekend there it wasn't good enough in the second half. So we need to get ready for this weekend.

"I'm not quite sure why we've fallen short. We've made individual errors at key moments that have cost us. But we're not far away which is the most frustrating thing.

"If you look at all the games that we've lost, they've all been within seven points. So they are games we could have won. We're just not quite there.

"But it's been a good couple of days. We had a good meeting on Monday and then a good training session on Tuesday and I feel we've washed that away. We're now getting ready for what will be a huge game on Saturday."

Part of that 'washing away' and reflection in defeat comes almost immediately for Bennett who now has a ritual habit of watching back the full 80 minutes of every match he plays in.

It's a therapeutic process for the Scotland international and gives Bennett the opportunity to 'switch off' his brain after the rigours of a professional match.

"I need to watch the game again before I can switch off. So, on Friday night I got home and watched the whole thing," explained Bennett.



“That helps me get rid of it and I can move on. I do that after every home game as I struggle to switch off otherwise.

“Away from home, the boys are there to distract you and you’re usually in a hotel. But when I’m at home I find it hard to switch off without seeing it again.

“You’ll replay things in your head. And half the time it’s not what it looked like in reality! I do that win or lose. It’s the easiest way for me to switch off. I don’t take notes or anything like that as we’ll watch again usually as a team.

“But straight after a game it’s just for me so I can marry up the pictures with what I was thinking and what actually happened. Quite often there’s a big gulf between your memory and actual reality. It can be quite funny. You think you’ve absolutely smashed someone and then you watch it and it’s a passive tackle...

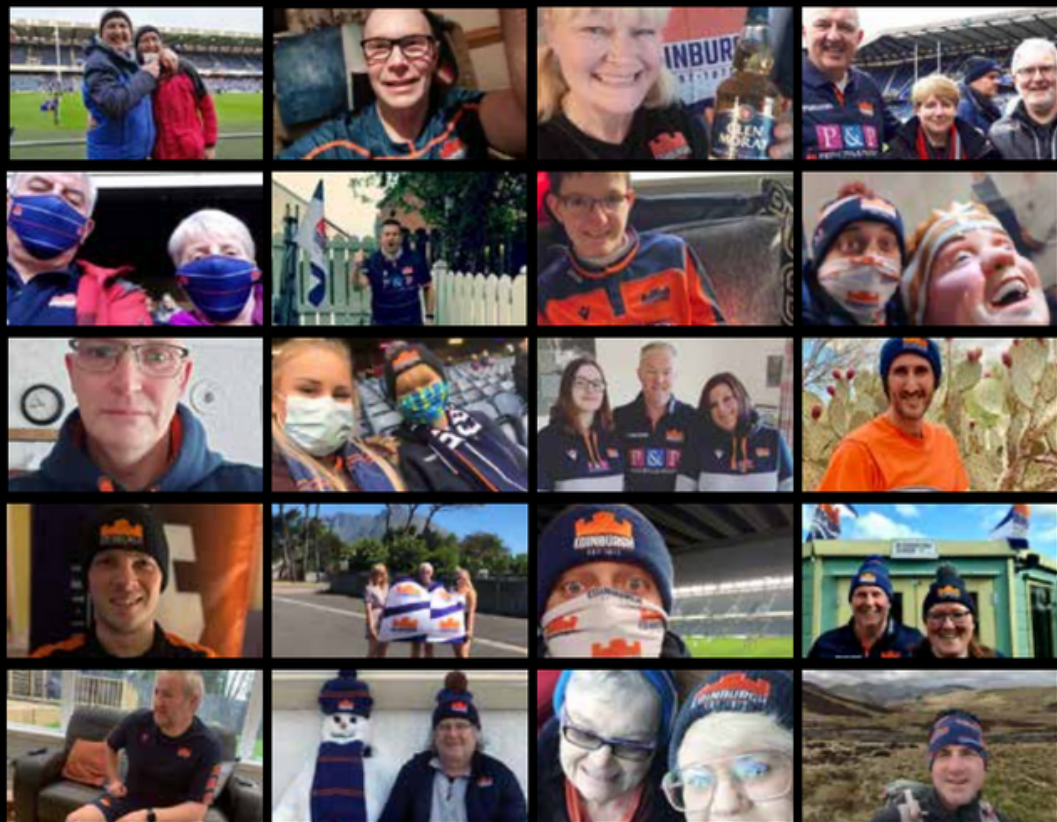
“I’ve got a series link for all the URC games on Viaplay so it’s always there when I get home. I fast forward all the stoppages in play and scrums to save a bit of time!”



**NO SUGAR.  
TASTES  
AMAZING.**



**OFFICIAL SOFT DRINK  
PARTNER OF  
EDINBURGH RUGBY**



# TEAM SPIRIT

**GLEN MORAY**

SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY



**EDINBURGH**  
EST - 1872



# CB7

"We've talked about what our strengths are in our game, we've got a really good driving maul at the moment so maybe leaning on that a bit more and trying to grind out teams a bit more and being physical in the last half of the game.

"I don't think it's a mentality thing. I think it's just being in every moment and making sure we don't let off the switch.

We've got a lot of stuff we want to prove, it's been a really important week for the club after losing the 1872 Cup. I think it's really important we go out and show everything we've learnt from that and show how we can be resilient as a club and go out and keep getting better."





SHOW US YOUR  
SEASON OR MATCH  
DAY TICKET FOR

**20%**

OFF YOUR BILL!

# OFFICIAL EDINBURGH RUGBY SUPPORTERS VENUE

WE'RE THE OFFICIAL AWAY GAME AND  
PRE + POST HOME GAME MATCH VENUE

**JOIN US FOR THE PERFECT MATCH DAY EXPERIENCE**

DRINKS | PIZZA | BIG SCREENS | ROOF TERRACE

**BOOK YOUR TABLE FOR THE BEST VIEW IN TOWN...**

Call 0131 357 2865 or email [blether@coldtownhouse.co.uk](mailto:blether@coldtownhouse.co.uk) to **MAKE A RESERVATION**

4 GRASSMARKET | EDINBURGH EH1 2JU



# HEALY TO JOIN EDINBURGH

**Edinburgh Rugby has secured the signing of stand-off Ben Healy who will join the club from Munster on a two-year deal ahead of the 2023/24 season.**

Healy, 23, qualifies for Scotland through his grandparents and will make the move to Edinburgh in the summer at the end of his current deal.

The highly regarded playmaker has been in fine form this current campaign and recently helped Munster to a dramatic 14-15 win against Ulster with a last-gasp try and conversion at Kingspan Stadium.

On joining Edinburgh, Healy said: “Edinburgh is a hugely welcoming club with a really tight-knit playing squad. It’s also been great to see the club move into a new home in DAM Health Stadium which looks to have a brilliant atmosphere.

“Having played against them several times it’s clear how much they want to play. They’ve really developed their game under Mike and I believe that style will suit me. I’m looking forward to putting myself into a new environment and seeing how I go.

“I’d like to thank everyone at Munster for their support over the last few seasons. I’ve loved every minute of my time playing with the club, but I felt now was the right time to take on a new and exciting challenge in Edinburgh.”

A product of Glenstal Abbey School and the Munster Academy, Healy made his professional debut against Edinburgh Rugby in November 2019, notching up 11 points in a 18-16 defeat to the capital side.

A deadly accurate goal kicker, Healy’s talents from the tee have been on show throughout his career so far.

The stand-off struck home an 80th minute 50m penalty to beat Scarlets in Round 1 of the 2021/21 season, while notching up a 20-point haul from his boot against Edinburgh in that same campaign.

Healy was then awarded the John McCarthy Award for Munster Academy Player of the Year for his performances throughout the 2020/21 season.



The stand-off started in Munster’s 28-14 win against a South Africa XV in Páirc Uí Chaoimh this past November, grabbing eight points with a 100% kicking record during the historic victory.

Edinburgh Rugby Head Coach Mike Blair has welcomed the signing of Healy, and added:

“We’re absolutely delighted to secure Ben’s [Healy] signature. He’s a quality playmaker who brings excellent game management and kicking ability to our already talented group of 10s.

“He’s kicking at goal at over 90% accuracy so far this season while his performances – from both the bench and in starts for Munster – have been hugely impressive. He’s got great calmness around the way he dictates play and influences matches.

“With Ben being Scottish qualified, that was another important factor in the decision to bring him in, and I know he’ll be really excited to hit the ground running at a new club, and in a new city, while competing for a place in our squad.

“All of us at the club are looking forward to welcoming Ben to Edinburgh this coming summer.”



**GET INVOLVED**  
**FOLLOW**  
**ALL THE**  
**ACTION**



**URC**



**URCOFFICIAL**



**URCOFFICIAL**

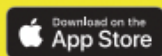


**URC**



# EVERY FIXTURE, EVERY TRY, EVERY TACKLE,

DOWNLOAD THE OFFICIAL URC APP NOW



# SARACENS

# SARACENS

# SARACENS

# SARACENS

# SARACENS



SUNDAY 22 JANUARY  
DAM HEALTH STADIUM



Heineken  
CHAMPIONS  
— CUP —

BOOK TICKETS AT  
[EDINBURGHRUGBY.ORG](http://EDINBURGHRUGBY.ORG)

# EDINBURGH FAN LOGAN TO DELIVER MATCH BALL

**Edinburgh Rugby will welcome a very special guest to DAM Health Stadium this Saturday afternoon as 13-year-old Edinburgh supporter Logan delivers the match ball!**

Edinburgh supporters may well recognise Logan as he was paid a special visit over the festive period by his favourite player, Pierre Schoeman.

With the heart-warming video shared widely across the club's social channels, Schoeman was able to deliver a package of Edinburgh Rugby goodies to Logan after his favourite ball was stolen at school.

We now go one better for Logan and invite he and his family to DAM Health Stadium where he'll deliver the match ball ahead of tomorrow's BKT URC clash against Zebre Parma.

Logan – who will be treated to hospitality as a guest of honour at the fixture – has spoken about his delight at being given the opportunity to play such a significant role on match day

He said: "I was very surprised when Schoe came to my house. I didn't know anything about the visit, and it was such a shock to see him standing at my front door!

"I felt truly honoured that he had chosen me out of everyone that he could have visited.

"I am really looking forward to delivering the match ball at Saturday's Zebre game! It's not something you would normally get the chance to do. I'm very excited to meet everyone and see the players up close."

Edinburgh Rugby Community Manager Ruaridh Pye says he and the Edinburgh Rugby family can't wait to welcome Logan to DAM Health Stadium for what he hopes will be a memorable day.

Pye said: "It was absolutely brilliant to see the smile on Logan's face last month when he opened the door to a true Edinburgh legend in Pierre Schoeman. I think he and his mates all got a very pleasant surprise and we were delighted to share such a positive video across the club's social socials.

"Rugby is all about family and engaging with our local community, and visits – such as taking an hour of our day to get along and catch-up with Logan – is what makes our sport so special.

"I'm sure the Edinburgh supporters will give Logan a very warm welcome when he delivers the match ball on Saturday afternoon."







## Family Dentist | Implant Centre

### Cosmetic Dentistry | Hygienist | Facial Aesthetics

As the official dentist to both Edinburgh Rugby and Scottish Rugby, SmilePlus is proud to treat many of the players on the pitch today. A friendly, trusted practice, SmilePlus has a team of highly experienced, caring dental practitioners, led by principal dentist Fiona Davidson. Rest-assured, you will be in safe hands with our experienced team.

Considering cosmetic dentistry treatment? Check out some patient transformations on our website [smileplusdentalcare.co.uk](http://smileplusdentalcare.co.uk).

Book an appointment today

[info@smileplusdentalcare.co.uk](mailto:info@smileplusdentalcare.co.uk) | 0131 334 1581



Fiona Davidson



Chris Chisholm



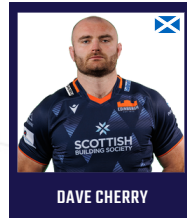
Fiona Mulryan



Umair Mohammed

# EDINBURGH RUGBY

## FIRST TEAM SQUAD





**HENRY IMMELMAN**



**JAMIE JACK**



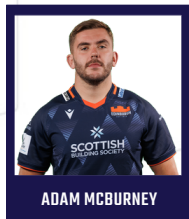
**BLAIR KINGHORN**



**JAMES LANG**



**BILL MATA**



**ADAM MCBURNEY**



**STUART MCINALLY**



**BEN MUNCASTER**



**WP NEL**



**PIERCE PHILLIPS**



**HENRY PYRGOS**



**JAMIE RITCHIE**



**CHARLIE SAVALA**



**PIERRE SCHOEMAN**



**CHARLIE SHIEL**



**SAM SKINNER**



**MARSHALL SYKES**



**DUHAN VAN DER MERWE**



**JACO VAN DER WALT**



**BEN VELLACOTT**



**BOAN VENTER**



**HAMISH WATSON**



**ANGUS WILLIAMS**



**GLEN YOUNG**

# EDINBURGH RUGBY

## ACADEMY 2022/23



**RUDI BROWN**



**JAMIE CAMPBELL**



**ROBBIE DEANS**



**FINN DOUGLAS**



**BEN EVANS**



**DAN GAMBLE**



**PATRICK HARRISON**



**JAKE HENRY**



**MIKE JONES**



**LIAM MCCONNELL**



**HARRI MORRIS**



**HARRY PATERSON**



**MATT RUSSELL**



**CAMERON SCOTT**



**NATHAN SWEENEY**

# PLAYER TRY TRACKS

Lee-Roy Atalifo	Four String Love	Rosie Sagaitu
Nick Auterac	Surfing Bird	The Trashmen
Mark Bennett	You're Welcome	Dwayne Johnson
Jack Blain	Saturday Night (radio mix)	Whigfield
Emiliano Boffelli	Quevedo (Tries)	Bizarrap
	Pepas (Kicks)	Farruko
Connor Boyle	Batman Theme Song	Neil Hefti & his Orchestra and Chorus
Dave Cherry	Boys are back in town	Thin Lizzy
Harrison Courtney	Bohemian Rhapsody	Queen
Luke Crosbie	B.O.T.A (Baddest of them all)	Eliza Ross, Interplanetary Criminal
Tom Cruse	Who Let The Dogs Out	Baha Men
Matt Currie	Samba de Janeiro	Bellini
Luan De Bruin	Paradise City	Guns N Roses
Chris Dean	Born to be Wild	Bruce Springsteen
Grant Gilchrist	Rocking all over the World	Status Quo
Wes Goosen	The Greatest	SIX60
Darcy Graham	Yabba Dabba Doo / CanCan	[Custom]
Nick Haining	Live it Up	Mental as Anything
Jamie Hodgson	Underdog	Kasabian
Bruce Houston	Right Here, Right Now	Fatboy Slim
Damien Hoyland	Walking on the Waves	Skippinish
Cammy Hutchison	Toxic	Britney Spears
Henry Immelman	WWE: Stone Cold Steve Austin	Jim Johnston
Jamie Jack	Can't Stop	Red Hot Chili Peppers
Blair Kinghorn	Teach me how to Dougie	Cali Swag District
James Lang	Hound Dog	Elvis Presley
Bill Mata	Ukulele	Blad P2a ft. Khazin
Adam McBurney	Tell Me Ma	Sham Rock
Stuart McInally	Don't Stop me Now	Queen
Ben Muncaster	Crazy Frog	Axel F
WP Nel	Umfaan	Far East movement
Pierce Phillips	Man I feel like a woman	Shania Twain
Henry Pyrgos	Light it Up	Major Lazer
Jamie Ritchie	Edge of Seventeen	Stevie Nicks
Charlie Savala	Down Under	Men at Work
Pierre Schoeman	The Greatest Show	The Greatest Showman Ensemble
Charlie Shiel	Yes Sir I Can Boogie	Baccara
Sam Skinner	California Dreamin'	The Mamas & the Papas
Marshall Sykes	Candy Shop	50 Cent
Duhan van der Merwe	L'Amour Toudjous	Gigi D'Agostino
Jaco van der Walt	Seven Nation Army	White Stripes
Ben Vellacott	Can't be Touched	Roy Jones
Boan Venter	WWE: The Game (Triple H)	Jim Johnston
Hamish Watson	This is the One	Stone Roses
Angus Williams	Back in Black	ACDC
Glen Young	We like to Party	Vengaboys



[CLICK HERE  
TO LISTEN](#)

# EDINBURGH RUGBY PARTNER FAMILY

## MAIN CLUB PARTNER



## STADIUM NAMING PARTNER



## OFFICIAL KIT SUPPLIER



## OFFICIAL PARTNERS



## AFFILIATE PARTNERS



## OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS



EDINBURGH RUGBY WOULD LIKE TO THANK ITS BUSINESS CLUB AND DÙN ÈIDEANN CLUB MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Brewin Dolphin  
A & J Littlefair  
Aitken Turnbull Architects  
Burgess Salmon LLP  
Cazenove Capital  
CBS Consulting  
Davidson Chalmers Stewart

Eastern Western  
Good Stuff Coaching Ltd  
H M Raitt  
Hampden & Co Plc  
Johnston Carmichael  
Lindsays  
RSP Consulting Engineers LLP

Southside Property Management  
GSS Developments  
Canon  
Ennova Law



OFX

Official currency exchange partner of the URC



# Don't let the euro hold back your game

Tackle currency fluctuations to help protect your bottom line

- Fast, easy money transfers in 50+ currencies
- Game-changing exchange rates
- Make secure payments online or in-app
- Talk to a real person on the phone 24/7
- Eight global offices including London, Dublin and San Francisco
- Listed on the Australian Stock Exchange

From front row to full back, we've got your currency needs covered.

Visit [ofx.com/bkturc](https://ofx.com/bkturc) to find out more





STAIR 27-32



# RIVERSIDE STAND



STAIR 1-4

Accessible Parking

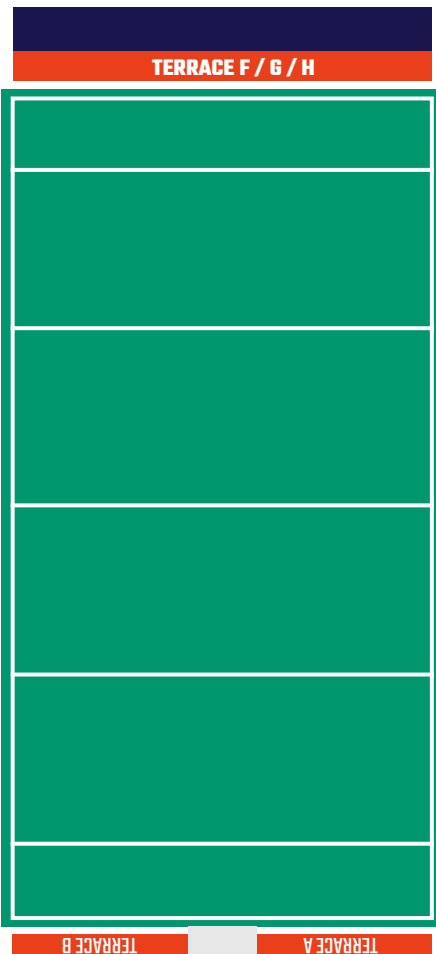
STAIR 5

MAIN STAND

STAIR 6-9

WHEELCHAIR TERRACE

Saughtonhall Entry



STAIR 24-26



LOTHIAN STAND

STAIR 20-23

STAIR 17-19



# MURRAYFIELD STAND

STAIR 14-16



STAIR 10-12



the Cap & Thistle BUSINESS CLUB

Centenary Hospitality

THISTLE SUITE

THE CLUBHOUSE

macron STORE

Roseburn Street Entry

BT Murrayfield Stadium





# UHURU

TASTE OF FREEDOM

UHURUSPIRITS.CO.UK | @UHURUSPIRITS



*P. Petroianu*

# PRESS PASS

WITH  
MIKE BLAIR



## ON RECRUITMENT

“The recruitment in Scottish rugby is more intricate than English rugby because we are owned by a common owner. We have a number of different people involved in the recruitment process.

“The bit I probably found a little bit harder was that period between Matt Cornwell leaving and Dave Bassett coming in [as Head of rugby Operations].

“That meant myself and Douglas Struth were more involved in the numbers side of things. The beauty of having Dave Bassett now is that he came up from Wasps and is a really experienced technician of recruitment.

“He understands the big picture, budgets, and it kind of means that we can say ‘these are the kind of guys we’re looking at – can you get them’.

“We obviously have input from upstairs as well. There is no ruling on how many overseas players you can have, but if you have three overseas nines then that is not going to work.

“Or they might suggest players through the data collection they do. For me it is something new but the support network around me helps to take the pressure off.”

## ON CHALLENGES OF THE ROLE

"I was interested in the comments after the Glasgow game where I said I was finding the job a challenge – interested that that's been taken as a negative.

"I don't see a challenge as being a negative, I see it as being an opportunity to show what you can do. Me saying the job is a challenge is not a cry for help or anything.

This job is a challenge and we've got to do some work to get better. A challenge is a positive thing – it focuses the mind.

"I had a couple of messages from people to ask if I was okay. I told them that of course things are a challenge and had they tried being a Head coach. It's not a negative thing, it's a positive driver."

## ON CHALLENGES OF THE ROLE

"The advice I've been given by people I respect is mainly around being true to myself. My authenticity is around energy and enthusiasm, having a smile on my face. At times it is difficult to do that because I get caught up in the detail of what I'm doing or the result.

"I'm becoming more and more conscious that I need to keep being authentic to how I am. That was a big driver to our success last season – the confidence and belief.

"I still have that 100 percent but I need to keep projecting it so the players see it and everyone else sees it as well.

"I did manage to switch off at New Year. It's a work-on. On Saturday I managed to not open my laptop at all. I wanted to enjoy time with the family. On Sunday I was right back in it."



# M A S C O T S



**Finn Boyd**

**Age: 11**

**Club/School: Edinburgh Accies**

**Favourite Player: Darcy Graham**



**Ritchie Fearn**

**Age: 5**

**Club/School: Minishant Primary School**

**Favourite Player: Jamie Ritchie**



**Zander Stott**

**Age: 11**

**Club/School: Edinburgh Accies**

**Favourite Player: Duhan vd Merwe**



**Finlay Armstrong**

**Age: 11**

**Club/School: Edinburgh Accies**

**Favourite Player: Jamie Ritchie**



**Lewis Thyne**

**Age: 11**

**Club/School: Edinburgh Accies**

**Favourite Player: Jamie Ritchie**



#LeaveYourMark

PROUD TITLE SPONSOR OF THE  
BKT UNITED RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP

**BKT**  
GROWING TOGETHER



# Share a Smile.

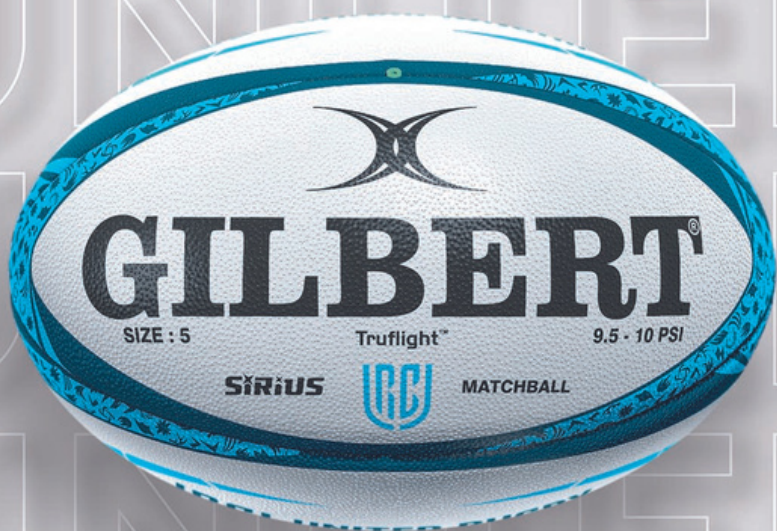
**Support Young Cancer Patients  
and Their Families Today.**



[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)



**TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT: [HTTPS://WWW.ITSGOOD2GIVE.CO.UK/](https://www.itsgood2give.co.uk/)**



**GILBERT IS RUGBY**  
[gilbertrugby.com](http://gilbertrugby.com)

# LAST TIME OUT

19 ZEBRE

38 EDINBURGH



**Edinburgh were 38-19 victors over Zebre Parma but faced a stern second-half test from their hosts despite MJ Pelsers first-half red card.**

Mike Blair's side ran in three tries before the hosts had Pelsers sent off just 22 minutes into the match and led 31-0 early in the second half.

However, Zebre rallied despite their numerical disadvantage, with Alessandro Fusco, Luca Rizzoli and Jacopo Trulla all going over after the break.

Adam McBurney had touched down twice and Jamie Hodgson and debutant Wes Goosen also crossed as Edinburgh bagged a bonus point before half-time, with Henry Immelman and Matt Currie going over in the second half.

Edinburgh scored the opening try in the seventh minute when hooker McBurney picked up the ball and darted for the line.

Emiliano Boffelli added the extras before McBurney was held up as he came agonisingly close to a second try five minutes after his first.

McBurney's close call had come from a lineout drive and a similar move soon after led to Hodgson burrowing over, with Boffelli sending his conversion attempt wide.





The Argentina international rediscovered his range after Edinburgh spread the ball out to the left wing for debutant Goosen to go over, and things went from bad to worse for Zebre when Pelser saw red for a dangerous clearout on Nick Haining.

McBurney wrapped up the bonus point from a driving maul in the 26th minute, with Boffelli's conversion making it 26-0.

Boffelli was then sin-binned following an offside offence in the closing moments of the half as Zebre enjoyed their best period of the match to that point, but Pierre Bruno spilled the ball forwards in the act of scoring as a golden opportunity went begging.

Immelman collected Currie's looping pass to touch down within two minutes of the second half getting under way. Jaco Van Der Walt – kicking in Boffelli's absence – struck a post from the tee.

Fusco had a try disallowed for a forward pass in the build-up, but a quickly taken penalty soon after saw the scrum-half belatedly get his side off the mark.

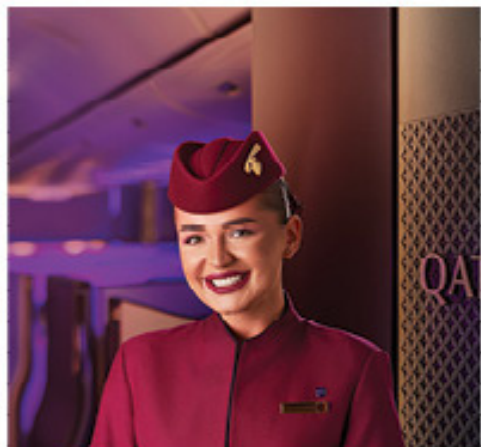
Tiff Eden was wayward with the conversion, but a Rizzoli try – converted by replacement Geronimo Prisciantelli – showed the hosts would not lie down.

Currie crossed to give Edinburgh more of a cushion, but it was Zebre who edged the second-half scoring after Trulla added his name to the scoresheet. Replacement Charlie Savala and Prisciantelli converted the two late tries respectively.

Number 8 Bill Mata capped off a memorable birthday by winning BKT Player of the Match on his 100th appearance for the club.



25  
YEARS OF  
EXCELLENCE



Explore the world  
with unrivalled  
elegance

Wherever you go in the world,  
one airline goes further to make  
it feel unforgettable. Fly with  
the World's Best Airline and  
experience the exceptional.

[qatarairways.com](http://qatarairways.com)



**QATAR**  
AIRWAYS  
الخطوط القطرية

GOING PLACES TOGETHER

# PROUD TO SUPPORT EDINBURGH RUGBY



Peter Vardy

## OFFICIAL CAR PARTNER

Our Edinburgh BMW Centre is home  
to the **LARGEST SELECTION OF  
APPROVED USED BMWs**  
in Scotland.



---

# TRY

SCOTLAND'S  
LOWEST CALORIE BEER

---

## TENNENT'S LIGHT

---

#KEEPITLIGHT



The Official Beer of Edinburgh Rugby

TENNENT'S AND THE RED T ARE REGISTERED  
TRADEMARKS OF THE C&C GROUP  
[drinkaware.co.uk](http://drinkaware.co.uk)

    
[@TennentsLager](https://www.instagram.com/TennentsLager)

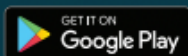


**WATCH ALL  
MATCHES LIVE\*  
& ON DEMAND,  
HIGHLIGHTS  
& MORE.**



**SIGN-UP NOW  
WWW.URC.TV**

**DOWNLOAD THE URC TV APP**



\*Restrictions apply.

# We try harder.

Scottish Building Society are proud to support  
Edinburgh Rugby. A partnership bound by  
heritage and community. Forward together.



Main club partner



**#ALWAYS**EDINBURGH