



Issue 26

01 March 2023

Season 2022-23

PARK FALTER AFTER A PROMISING START

Welcome to Parknews For the second week running, Park played really impressively away from home against one of the top two teams only to crash and burn later in the match. They worked hard and skillfully against a fierce wind to build a 21-7 lead on 21 minutes, only to concede three tries in the last 12 minutes of the first half to go in at the interval down by 19-26. In the second period, Park competed on equal terms for much of it, only to concede another three tries in the last 20 minutes. At least we still had the resolve to secure a fourth, bonus point, try in the last minute and did not come away empty-handed. With the other three of the four top sides winning Park are now 14 points behind the third-placed club, Sale, whom we have still to play at the Rock. There is a crumb of comfort inasmuch as we are six points ahead of the fifth club, Bishops Cleeve. If we can win our remaining matches – including Sale in the last home match of the season – then we could still finish in the top three.

However, before we begin to think too far ahead we face Birmingham Moseley at home this Saturday, kicking off at 3:00PM. It is always a pleasure to welcome old friends and Birmingham Moseley are certainly that, from way back before the professional era (and well before they added 'Birmingham' to their name). They had been having a mixed season: difficult to beat at home (they have lost only to Rams, Sale, ourselves and Chinnor) but thus far struggling on their travels, though with wins at Cinderford and Chinnor. Last weekend they excelled themselves, stretching Rams all the way and only falling behind 24-21 to a try three minutes from time.

Earlier in the season we beat them away by 47-36 in a match that swung both ways: Park looked to be out of sight at half-time, but playing for pride in the second half Moseley caused us a lot of trouble before we held out for the win. Doubtless Moseley will be out to build on that this Saturday. As one of the best-supported sides in National One they will doubtless bring a coachload of supporters to roar them on. For Park, this is a 'must win' match if we are to end the season in style so it should be a cracker! Please do come along and add your vocal support.

None of the Clubsides played last weekend and the Rangers' match at Barnes had to be postponed, so no other rugby to report. However our **RPNC netballers** played away to **Claygate** in Surrey Premier A and stretched the second-in-the-table side all the way, eventually going down by 50-44.

This weekend, in addition to the **First XV v Birmingham Moseley** at 3:00PM. The **Rangers** are due to play **Amptill** in the Halbro competition at home, but the match has yet to be confirmed and may well take place in Richmond Park of Bank of England ground. Check out the website or Twitter nearer the time. At the Rock we also have the **Fours v Belsize Park** at 5:00PM in Middlesex Merit Premier action, so please do stay on and give them a shout. In the same competition the **B XV** are away to **Hammersmith & Fulham**. The weekend starts on Friday evening for the **Nomads**, who play away to **Reeds Weybridge** in the Surrey Championship. If you are in the area, Reeds ground is at North Avenue, Whiteley Village (off Burwood Road) Hersham, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12 4EJ and a warm welcome awaits you in their clubhouse if you are in the area. Last but certainly not least, our two top-of-the-table Kingston



NEXT HOME GAME

ROSSLYN PARK

VS **BIRMINGHAM MOSELEY**

3PM

SAT 4TH MARCH
THE ROCK | SW15 5JH

A CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN SPORT

PRE-MATCH HOSPITALITY FROM £30

25% OFF ALL DRINKS 4.45PM-6PM

BURGER KITCHEN

LIVE MUSIC POST GAME

TICKETS ONLINE FROM £12

UNDER 16S GO FREE

BUY TICKETS NOW AT

WWW.ROSSLYNPARK.CO.UK

Upcoming events

Friday 03 March

Reeds Weybridge v Nomads

Surrey Championship
Away KO TBA

Saturday 04 March

Park

v

Birmingham Moseley

National 1
Home KO 3:00PM

Park Rangers v Amptill

Halbro Div 1
Home KO TBA

Fours v Belsize Park

Middx Merit Prem
Home KO 5:00PM

Hammersmith & F v B XV

Middx Merit Prem
Home KO 5:00PM

Netball

Park Reds v Fetcham Hawks

Kingston League Div 5
Home 09:30

Park Blues v Putney

Kingston League Div 9
Home 11:00

League **netball** sides are at home on Saturday morning and would love to see some new supporters (Froebel College, Roehampton Lane – entrance next to top of Clarence Lane). The **Reds** play **Fetcham Hawks** at 09:30, followed by the **Blues** in a local Derby with **Putney** at 11:00. It's great entertainment – give it a try.

Cambridge 50

Park 28

National 1

Park started into a strong wind and the hosts were soon on the attack. Winning a Penalty at a scrum, they clearly felt they had an edge in that area and opted to scrummage when awarded a penalty close to the Park line. Park were defending well, but eventually prop Seb Brownhill barged his way over, converted by fly half Steff James for 7-0 on ten minutes.

Against the wind, long clearance kicks were nigh on impossible for Park, but they profited from running the ball when some neat interplay between winger Charlie Walker and fly half Craig Holland was stopped by a 'professional foul' by full back Joe Tarrant. Park made hay on fourteen minutes, taking a quick tap at a penalty and prop Sam Garvey touching down, for 7-7 with Holland's conversion.

Things got better only three minutes later when flanker Arthur Ellis seized the ball, roughly on half way and just sprinted away from the still short-handed defence, Holland's conversion giving Park the lead by 14-7.

Park were playing very well and beginning to dominate the second-placed club, even when they returned to full-complement. On 21 minutes Park won a penalty, Holland kicked to touch and a fine team try was rounded off by winger Max Trimble, Holland again adding a ver difficult conversion for 21-7.

Cambridge came back on 28 minutes, winning a penalty at a scrum and kicking to touch in the Park 22. They quickly swung the ball wide for left wing Matt Hema to gallop home for 21-12 after James failed to convert.

Park were still competing on equal terms despite the fierce wind, but were undone when gifting an interception try, gratefully accepted by Hema and converted by James for 21-19.

Worse followed with the winger completing his hat-trick after Park were penalized and from the subsequent lineout the ball was worked wide. The conversion missed but Cambridge were back in the lead by 26-19 with only a minute to half time.

Park very nearly snatched back the lead with a terrific move that saw Theo Alexis sweep down the left to dive in, but unfortunately the centre lost control of the ball in grounding it and the effort was disallowed.

However, as Park emerged for the second half, with the elements decidedly in their favour there was no reason to be pessimistic.

Park started well, gaining possession in the Cambridge 22 only to knock on. They won a penalty, hoofed to the 22, but the maul was held up. They survived a spell of Cambridge pressure to gain a penalty, hoofed to the 22 and exerted immense pressure, winning a penalty and deploying the tap and go only to be held up.

But Park's tendency to incur penalties came back to bite them. Penalties in rapid succession allowed Cambridge to escape from their own 22 and get into Park's, where they spread the ball for winger Kwaku Aseidu to rocket over, extending the home lead to 31-21 on the hour.

Soon after that Theo Alexis was yellow carded for a high tackle and Cambridge pressed home their advantage. Cambridge soon broke and – despite a heroic try-saving tackle from Walker – replacement Keiran Duffin took the ball on to score, converted by James for 38-21 on 64v minutes.

Five minutes later a poor kick surrendered possession and replacement Joe Green added to Park's agony, converted by James for 45-21. That was followed by a clever chip to send in Green again to bring up 50 for the home side.

Park managed to salvage a bonus point with the last play of the match, Holland propelling a penalty to the corner and prop Jake Buckingham forced his way over, converted by Holland for 50-28. **Park:** Robinson; Walker, Alexis, Gordon, Trimble; Holland; Lewis; Garvey, Piper, Zeiss; Martin, Gillanders: Bolwell, Ellis, Laventure **Bench:** Spencer, Buckingham, Rasor, Baldwin, Addams.

Apologies, but we were unable to get any match photos this week.

Clubsides

Will Thorogood reports: No matches at all last weekend, but this weekend we have B XV away to Hammersmith & Fulham 2's in MMT Prem and 4's v Belsize Park 2's Home, ko 5pm, on the 4G after the First team match. That is also in MMT Prem. Nomads v Reeds Weybridge 2's was due to be at home in the Surrey Championship, but this match will now be away on Friday evening as a double points game. No home game so that should be easier for everyone on Saturday.

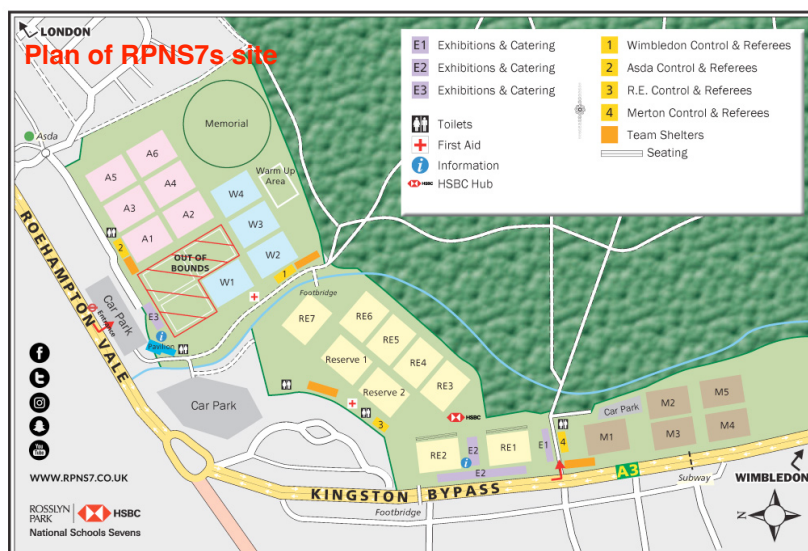
Away travel

Next weekend we break new ground while visiting old friends in the form of Leeds Tykes. They have moved from the palatial Headingley stadium to groundshare with West Park at the more homely Sycamores at Bramhope (Leeds LS16 9JR). Leeds is the station to book to, and get in quickly because there are few of the cheapest tickets left as we go to press. It's a fair distance from Leeds station to Bramhope, so a cab may be expensive if there aren't a few of you to club together. Bus X84 from Leeds bus station takes 29 minutes, leaving at 03 and 33 past the hour and passes close to the ground. The bus station is a 0.7 mile walk from the rail station according to Google maps. This information was taken from the internet and given in good faith, but do check things for yourself.

After that it's Taunton Titans away, which is a lovely trip. Normally the advice would be to get in now for the cheapest rail tickets, but that Saturday has been declared a strike day on the railways so you might want to exercise some caution. But if you want to risk it, Paddington is the station to book from, and it's a fair walk along the river to the ground so you might want to catch a cab.

Rosslyn Park National Schools 7s

It's less than three weeks to the start of the biggest, best and most prestigious junior Rugby tournament in the world, the Rosslyn Park National Schools 7s. The attention of the great and good of the rugby world will be focussed on our club. Yet many of our own members and supporters seem unaware of it – that cannot be right! Do yourself a favour: book your leave now and come along and enjoy a feast of sport. This year's tournament runs from Monday 20



March until Friday 24 March.

The sheer logistics of the tournament are staggering. During the week 3535 matches will be played on 22 pitches more-or-less adjacent to the Robin Hood roundabout on the A3 (by the big Asda store). This year there are 1006 school teams competing, comprising some 10,000 players – and there are several more teams waiting in the wings, hoping someone will drop out! In addition to schools from the home nations there are two schools from Dubai, two from Belgium plus teams from Sweden and Netherlands; the most distant is Mugwana school from Uganda.

Many of the great and good of the Rugby world will be there, many of them having played in the tournament themselves as youngsters, rubbing shoulders with the crowds and you're bound to see some future international starts on the pitch. That's one reason there will be Premiership talent scouts and coaches among the crowds. There are bars and food outlets plus trade stands. Amazingly the whole thing comes with free admission (though there is a charge for parking). The site is easily accessible by public transport: the 85 (Putney Bridge – Kingston) and 265 Putney – Tolworth, via Rosslyn Park) buses stop outside. If you really can't make it then the matches on the main pitch are all broadcast live on the tournament website at <https://www.national7s.co.uk/Competition.asp?TID=Rosslyn-Sevens&TSID=6867>

This year's timetable is:

20 March: Early rounds of the boys U-18 vase plus the whole of the girls' U-16s.

21 March: Final matches in boys U-18 vase, entire girls U-14s plus start of the boys U-14s.

22 March: Final matches in boys U-14s plus the start of the U-16s Colts.

23 March: Final matches in the Colts competition, the whole U-13 Prep schools tournament, the start of the flagship U-18 Cup plus the girls U-18 early rounds and the U-18 girls ACE competition (this is for the very top schools, where many of the players will be going on to play in the Premier 15s).

24 March: Under 18 Cup final stages, both boys and girls, plus U-13 Junior boys and a new U-11 mixed gender tournament.

Walking Rugby

If you are over 55 and still hanker after playing, we have the answer. Regardless of your standard of play, fitness or gender why not turn up on Monday mornings 10:00-11:30 when you can participate in a social game of walking rugby. The first game took place this Monday and one former First XV member who took part reported that it was great fun. But you don't need to be anything like that standard to enjoy taking part. Great social atmosphere and refreshments afterwards. For more information, contact community@rosslynpark.co.uk or call 07821 650 912.



ALL LEVELS
OF FITNESS WELCOME

WALKING RUGBY

Walking rugby is a fun way to keep fit for Men & Women over 55 years of age

POST-TRAINING REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!

MONDAYS 10AM-11.30AM

ROSSLYN PARK FC
SW15 5JH

FREE TO ATTEND

SCAN TO
SIGN UP

VISIT: www.rosslynpark.co.uk
EMAIL: community@rosslynpark.co.uk
PHONE: 07821 650912

www.rosslynpark.co.uk 0208 876 1879
Rosslyn Park FC, Priory Lane, Upper Richmond Road, London SW15 5JH

Obolensky Dinner

A message from Tom Baigrie about this season's Obolensky Dinner: The 2023 Obolensky Dinner is now 8 weeks away on 8 March 2023 - and I am delighted to say that we are now 85% full so space is limited! To those of you who have responded already – thank you.



SAT 4TH MARCH | FROM 12.30PM | THE ROCK

**A CELEBRATION
OF WOMEN
IN SPORT**

12.30PM U11s-U14s Girls Rugby Taster Session
with local primary schools and
England/CB 7s Players Abi Burton
and Celia Quansah

1.15PM Netball Tournament featuring
Rosslyn Park Netball Club

To everyone else please do let us know if you can join us. We now have our speakers announced (Nick Mullins and Topsy Ojo) and as ever it promises to be a fantastic night. Please let us know ASAP (via Karen Richard (karen.richard@rosslynpark.co.uk) if you would like to take a table or part thereof.

Can you help?

The club is really grateful to our sponsors, and would urge everyone to support them as they have supported us. If you, your business or anyone you know might be interested in joining in with sponsoring Rosslyn Park, then Kenny Moore would be delighted to talk with you. Kenny can be contacted at the Club Office (020 8876 1879) or e-mail kenneth.moore@rosslynpark.co.uk

PITCH BOARDS

Great for a local business to promote awareness and been seen throughout the year by all that use the club, and exposure through our live streaming of select games.

£1,500.00 + VAT

1 x Branded pitch board located on the 1st XV pitch (6m x 0.9m) for one year

MATCHDAY BALL SPONSORSHIP

£150.00 + VAT

- Company name and logo on Club website
- Company name mentioned as official game Match Ball Sponsor for the day on PA announcements.

MATCH DAY SPONSORSHIP

£1,500.00 + VAT

- 10 x Tickets to a 1st XV home game of your choice
- Lunch for 10 people at a 1st XV home game of choice
- Company name and logo against player profile on Club website
- Presentation of Man of the Match
- A5 full-page advert to be featured in match day programme
- Company name and logo on the main scoreboard
- PA announcements through the day and at lunch

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME ADVERT

£650.00 + VAT

- Company name and logo on Club website
- A5 full-page advert to be featured in a total of 13 Men's 1st XV programmes at home game

Keep in touch

There is always something going on at Rosslyn Park - keep in touch check regularly for Parknews on the website and subscribe to the club's social media channels, which include news, reports and match video highlights:

Twitter: <http://bit.ly/2PqDIQy>

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/2NG7bxV>

Instagram: <http://bit.ly/34d652t>

YouTube: <http://bit.ly/2PQSpqC>

You can also receive a tweet immediately Parknews appears on the website by following [@RPNoseyParker](https://twitter.com/RPNoseyParker) on Twitter.