

OLDHAM RLFC MATCH UPDATE



OLDHAM RLFC
V
MIDLANDS HURRICANES RLFC



SUNDAY
12TH JUNE
3pm Kick-off

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD COACH

Hello and welcome to today's League 1 match up with the newly formed Midlands Hurricanes.

The Hurricanes come to us after a re brand which I feel has made them an even stronger outfit both on and off the field. I am friends with a couple of people from the Hurricanes club and they are certainly a team that has progressed year on year. We wish them all the best with the new venture but certainly not today.

Last week was a real tough one to take. I felt at times we matched and were the better side, but we couldn't manage to capitalise on our chances to make Swinton pay. Once we got into the lead, I felt we invited Swinton right back at us and they are a team who can strike if given enough opportunities. This week we have had an in-depth analysis of our discipline areas as it is definitely an area we need to get right. Another day some of the calls may go another way but that is Rugby League and as I said to the boys we need to generate our own luck by buying into our processes and systems whilst consistently demonstrating the effort markers and core values that we pride ourselves on.

As frustrating as the defeat was, I felt we did buy into the process last week and we had a real togetherness whilst finding energy, enthusiasm and desire that being honest wasn't where it should have been the week before. We are definitely still work in progress and our battle is one for consistency.

The Midlands have had a mixed start to the year but have pushed some of the top teams really close. We definitely need to bring our A games to the party today to start to generate some momentum in performance levels.

The crowd rose at times last week and we need you all to stand up today and do what you guys do best and get behind the boys.

Be loud and proud. One heart beat.

Enjoy today's game!

Stu - Head Coach

Tough tackle!



MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome, once again to the Vestacare Stadium after a generally good, performance last week albeit it was ultimately a disappointing loss.

Having said that, we set some standards last week which need to be the norm rather than the exception and it is very important that we show the same desire this week against a Midlands team that will, no doubt, be fancying their chances of winning today.

We need to be prepared for that and make sure that they go back down the M6 disappointed. Simple as.

We are still searching for consistency in our week to week performances and there is always good work put in during the week leading up to matches.

Right now we just need a little bit of luck, a bounce of the ball at the right time, a key decision to go our way and that could make one heck of a difference. Some of that comes with the hard work you put in on a game day and we are not looking for excuses but it is a reality of the situation when you are struggling that things go against you.

We need to make our own luck too and rip in today and show we mean business. Continued hard work will pay off and we have to show a determination to do the hard parts of the game, especially when it gets tough, that will enable us to turn this corner.

The squad is in good spirits, which is a good sign, but they are aware of where we are and what we need to be. Like us we need you to stick with us through this spell and to continue to show the lads your support. Together we will come through it more quickly.

Thanks, as ever, for your support. Please be loud and proud.

Enjoy the game!

Christopher Hamilton - Chairman & CEO



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OLDHAM RLFC – FOCUS ON: Declan O'Donnell



WHEN Irish eyes are smiling... its because they are joining Roughyeds on loan for a month!

Declan O'Donnell is a Wigan lad born and bred, but the name tells you a lot about him.

His grandad is Irish; Dec is an Irish international and his club, Workington Town, think so much about him that they've signed him TWICE.

We are delighted to sign Dec from Town on a month's loan but sad and bitterly disappointed to reveal that Brad Jinks has fractured a wrist. At least, we initially thought he had, but at Thursday's training session he was much better happily and his injury didn't seem as bad as first feared.

At the time of writing, we were waiting to see if Brad suffered any reaction to training on Thursday before Stu named his initial 210man squad for today.

Said head coach Stu Littler: "Brad might even have a chance to make the squad. He looked definitely out of it on Tuesday, but by Thursday he was different altogether.

"At the same time, we had to move forward and Dec will be a great addition to our squad, given that he can play in a few different positions.

"He's been at a lot of good clubs, including Wigan Warriors, Leigh Centurions, London Broncos and Workington Town and I'd like to personally thank everyone up in Cumbria for their help and co-operation in this."

Town have sanctioned his loan move because O'Donnell has been out injured and he is in need of game-time on his way back.

Added Stu: "Dec will bring a lot to the party. I know him well, as a former Ireland coach, and he has a high skill set, a great work ethic and a terrific attitude.

"He's been in international camps and he's keen to get back playing with us, albeit on a loan basis."

O'Donnell was initially due to play for Ottawa in 2021, but he returned to Workington instead when the Canadian outfit deferred their entry to League One and chose instead to take over the Hemel franchise and set up in Cornwall.

Town coach Chris Thorman said at the time: "Dec and myself have always had a close player-and-coach relationship. When it became clear his move to London Broncos wasn't going to work out for him, mainly because he was a long way from his northern roots, we acted quickly to bring him back."

The player said: "I'm looking forward to the Oldham challenge. I know Stu and Tom Spencer from our Ireland days – Stu gave me my first cap – and I know Ridders (Martyn Ridyard) well from when I was at Leigh.

"I know Calvin Wellington as well because we shared a house in Workington, so I've already got a lot of connections at Oldham.

"I've been out injured, but I'm fully fit and raring to go now and I can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to getting back into the game again."

Declan played for Wigan St Pat's as a boy, then with the Academy at Wigan Warriors before Workington, London Broncos, then Workington again.

OLDHAM RLFC 2022 SQUAD

PLAYER	SPONSOR
01 Owen Restall	Grant and Sheila Somerville
02 Tommy Brierley	Rugby Oldham
03 Will Cooke	John and Lynda McAndrew
04 Calvin Wellington	Grant and Sheila Somerville
05 Ben Holcroft	David and Val Webster
06 Martyn Ridyard	Sheddings 107
07 Dave Hewitt	Graeme Lee
08 Luke Nelmes	Robin Highfield
09 Brad Jinks	ORSA
10 Tom Spencer	David and Val Webster
11 Jason Muranka	Mike Harrop
12 Callum Cameron	Ginny and Adrian Alexander
13 Emmerson Whittel	Pam Taylor
14 Sean Slater	247blinds.co.uk
15 Jordan Andrade	YEDS Supporters Club
16 James Thornton	Anne kearns
17 Jack Coventry	Players' Association
18 Joe Hartley	ORSA
19 Dom Newton	247blinds.co.uk
20 David Mills	CPD Property Services Ltd
22 Liam Copland	Oldham RL Heritage Trust
23 Kian Morgan	Servo Group
24 Ethan Ferry	Roberto Longo
29 Robbie Butterworth	David and Val Webster
30 Dane Windrow	Mick Harrop
31 Connor Carr	Rugby Oldham
32 Nyle Flynn	CPD Property Services Ltd
34 Billy Yarrow	Gordon Sedgewick
35 Declan O'Donnell	County End Electrical



OLDHAM RLFC v MIDLANDS HURRICANES RLFC



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MIDLANDS HURRICANES RLFC 2022 SQUAD

AJ BOARDMAN

DELAINE
BEDWARD-GITTENS

TOM BLAKEY

ANTHONY BOWMAN

SAM BOWRING

WILL BUDD

JORDAN BULL

BRAD CLAVERING

PHIL COWBURN

SEAN CROSTON

JACK DAWSON

HAYDEN FREEMAN

BENN HARDCASTLE

KIERON LAWTON

NATHAN NEWBOUND

TRAVIS O'LOUGHLIN

TRAE O'SULLIVAN

JAMES PHILLIPS

ADAM REED

PETER RYAN

DAVE SCOTT

BRAD SHERIDAN

RUSS SPIERS

BEN STEAD

AARON STEPHENSON

TYLER WALTON

LIAM WELHAM

MATTY WELHAM

ELLIOTT WINDLEY

COACH:

RICHARD SQUIRES



MIDLANDS HURRICANES RLFC – ONE TO WATCH: Phil Cowburn



THE Ginger Prince is back... more mature in rugby terms, certainly more experienced and looking to turn in a top performance on his native heath and almost certainly in front of his extended family, headed by his dad, George.

Ginger Prince? That's his nick-name in rugby league circles and one with which Phil Cowburn has grown up in the game ever since he started his studies at the University of Gloucestershire on a Rugby League scholarship in 2011. He starred in the Uni side and played in the team that won the BUCS (British Universities and Colleges) title in 2012/13.

He fulfilled a boyhood dream (when watching Oldham at Watersheddings as a boy) when he turned pro with Gloucester All Golds and he comes to the Vestacare Stadium today wearing the colours of his third club, having played here previously with Gloucester and with West Wales Raiders.

In 2017, up at Barrow, he became the first All Golds player to reach 100 games for the club – an achievement he will never forget.

In his time at Gloucester, where he was coached by, among others, Lee Greenwood and Steve McCormack, Phil developed from a raw, inexperienced play-anywhere back into a senior member of the squad who could always be relied on to give 100 per cent.

He said at the time: "My first game was quite a shock to be honest – a massive step-up from university rugby. It took us a season to get used to the speed and intensity of the pro game. Rugby League is a brutal game, but playing alongside your best mates makes it easier."

In 2017, he played centre to Mo Agoro for a season, after which coach Greenwood paid tribute to his commitment, his desire and his reliability as a player on which his every colleague could depend.

But back to the beginning. As an Oldham lad with a dad who was a Watersheddings fanatic (Mum and Dad are still Oldham fans, living in Thornham), the young Phil was destined to become hooked on rugby league in general and on the Roughyeds in particular,

He was one of our mascots when we played Widnes Vikings at Spotland in 2001 for the right to return to Super League.

We didn't make it and the rest, as they say, is history... just like the rugby league life and times of the local lad who made a name for himself in the sport he loves hundreds of miles from the place he calls home.

Join the ROUGHYEDS CLUB CASH LOTTERY

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Weekly Draw WEEKLY DRAW



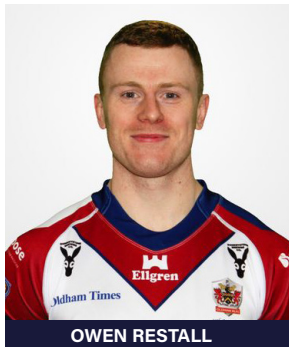
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Owen Restall and Calvin Wellington selected in an intial 30-man Wales squad



OWEN RESTALL



CALVIN WELLINGTON

OUR in-form full-back Owen Restall and centre/wing Calvin Wellington are included in an initial 30-man Wales squad for a Test against France in Albi on Sunday, June 19 (3.30pm local time).

Roughyedsn have a blank Sunday on June 19 so in the event of either of them, or both, escaping the cut when the squad is slashed to 21, that will work out fine.

Luke Nelmes (one game) and Robbie Butterworth (2) were suspended by the RFL disciplinary body this week, after receiving yellow cards against Swinton, but the bans don't kick in until Tuesday so they will miss games later in the month, reather than today.

Anyway, back to the Welsh squad. Restall and Wellington are among 14 uncapped players in the squad, which will be trimmed to 21 next week. Indeed, Restall is currently in his first season as a part-time pro, having signed for Oldham ahead of the current Betfred League One campaign from Yorkshire community club Underbank.

Aged 26, he has scored 12 tries this year and is joint second in the list of League One try scorers with the same number as Gav Rodden of North Wales Crusaders and two fewer than the leader, Mo Agoro of Keighley Cougars.

Interestingly and hugely significantly, Restall is joint second and is the **ONLY** player in the top NINE from a club that is currently outside the top four.

Indeed, his try-scoring ability is one of the division's current talking points and many Oldham fans will be rooting for him to add to his total against the Hurricanes today and so enhance his chances of making the final 21 in John Kear's Welsh squad.

Calvin Wellington's first season at Oldham has been disrupted by illness, but all that is behind him now and we expect to see a lot of this true Welshman in the second half of the season.

The Oldham duo are among eight League One players in the 30, which also include former Oldham prop Joe Burke, now of West Wales Raiders.

Familiar faces include Rhys Williams, who will become Wales' most capped men's international if he plays against the French. Williams currently shares that accolade with Jordan James and ex-Roughyeds captain Ian Watson, all with 30 caps to their name.

Regan Grace, with whom Wellington first came north to St Helens, is not included, having only recently returned to the Saints side following injury, while Gil Dudson is not available.

The match will be Wales's first 13-a-side international since they beat Ireland in November 2018 to qualify for the upcoming Rugby League World Cup.



The 30-man squad in full:

Caleb Aekins* (Leigh Centurions)
Bailey Antrobus* (York City Knights)
Gavin Bennion (Rochdale Hornets)
Joe Burke (West Wales Raiders)
Chester Butler (Huddersfield Giants)
Michael Butt (Swinton Lions)
Curtis Davies (Workington Town)
Connor Davies (Workington Town)
Rhys Evans (Bradford Bulls)
Ben Evans (Bradford Bulls)
William Evans* (Whitehaven)
Jude Ferreira* (London Broncos)
Dan Fleming (Bradford Bulls)
Matty Fozard (Widnes Vikings)
Dalton Grant (London Broncos)
Cobi Green* (Rochdale Hornets)
Tom Hopkins* (Barrow Raiders)
Kyle Huish* (Wigan Warriors)
Lewis Hulme* (Widnes Vikings)
Paddy Jones* (Swinton Lions)
Elliott Kear (c) (Bradford Bulls)
Kieran Lewis (Saint Gaudens XIII)
Rhodri Lloyd (Swinton Lions)
Lewis Pinder* (Wigan Warriors)
Owen Restall* (Oldham RLFC)
Luis Roberts* (Leigh Centurions)
Anthony Walker (Bradford Bulls)
David Weetman* (Workington Town)
Calvin Wellington* (Oldham RLFC)
Rhys Williams (Salford Red Devils)

*Uncapped