

Northwich v Wirral RUFC U'16 – Cheshire Cup Won 19-0

Quarter Final of the U16 Cheshire Cup and a game in which Wirral knew they were going to be tested. The strong wind was going to play a key role in the game too. Wirral played with the wind in the first half. The first 35 minutes were played for the most part in Northwich's half but possession was more evenly shared between the two teams. Line outs and scrums were keenly contested. Wirral were playing rugby in Northwich territory but the game itself was more evenly balanced. Northwich's defence held up well under the continuous pressure from Wirral. After 15 mins a short-side break from a ruck and good interplay between forwards and backs saw Phil Brocken go over the line. Lloyd Hayes neatly took the 2 points from the conversion.

It was a quickly taken penalty 5 metres from the Northwich try line by the quick thinking James Kolokotroni that gave Wirral its second try. Lloyd again expertly slotted home the conversion. 25 minutes gone and the score was 0-14.

Wirral continued to drive home their advantage with the wind behind them and again a break from a ruck, a strong driving run and neat passing gave Sam Edgar Wirral's third try. This time the conversion attempt proved too difficult.

Half time and score was 0-19.

The big question at half time was whether 19 points would be enough. The wind was now behind Northwich and Wirral could expect to be under continuous pressure deep in their half. Northwich certainly tested Wirral's try line but some great defensive work held them at bay. Will Flaherty was having a superb game and he was fearsomely good in denying Northwich. Wirral kicked well to give respite to the pressure and ran the ball well out of defence. Tries might have come Wirral's way in the second half after some fine running but there was no final pass to spirit the wingers away.

The Final Score was 0-19. It was a well crafted and fine performance from Wirral against a well organised and tenacious Northwich side. Many thanks to Northwich for hosting the game. The next big question is who will be Wirral's opponents in the semi-finals?