

Today's Teams



Bath Rugby



L	אוו ווע	SUY	Т	С	Р	D
15	FULLBACK	NICK ABENDANON				
14	WING	MICHAEL STEPHENSON				
13	CENTRE	MATT CARRARO				
12	CENTRE	SHONTAYNE HAPE				
П	WING	MATT BANAHAN				
10	FLY-HALF	NICKY LITTLE				
9	SCRUM-HALF	MICHAEL CLAASSENS (C)				
	PROP	DAVID FLATMAN				
2	HOOKER	LEE MEARS				
3	PROP	DAVID WILSON				
4	LOCK	STUART HOOPER				
5	LOCK	PETER SHORT				
6	FLANKER	ANDY BEATTIE				
7	FLANKER	JULIAN SALVI				
8	NO.8	LUKE WATSON				
16	REPLACEMENT	PIETER DIXON				
17	REPLACEMENT	NATHAN CATT				
18	REPLACEMENT	DUNCAN BELL				
19	REPLACEMENT	DANNY GREWCOCK				
20	REPLACEMENT	BEN SKIRVING				
21	REPLACEMENT	SCOTT BEMAND				
22	REPLACEMENT	RYAN DAVIS				
23	REPLACEMENT	TOM CHESEMAN				

HALF TIME SCORE:

MATCHDAY SPONSOR:



FULL TIME SCORE:

REFEREE: Sean Davey

REFEREE'S ASSISTANTS: Robin Goodliffe and Andrew Pearce

CloucesterRugby



T	C	P	D			1
				OLLY MORGAN	FULLBACK	15
				CHARLIE SHARPLES	WING	14
				JAMES SIMPSON-DANIEL	CENTRE	13
				TIM MOLENAAR	CENTRE	12
				TOM VOYCE	WING	
				NICKY ROBINSON	FLY-HALF	10
				RORY LAWSON	SCRUM-HALF	9
				NICK WOOD	PROP	
				SCOTT LAWSON	HOOKER	2
				PAUL DORAN-JONES	PROP	3
				DAVE ATTWOOD	LOCK	4
				ALEX BROWN	LOCK	5
				ALASDAIR STROKOSCH	FLANKER	6
				ANDREW HAZELL	FLANKER	7
				GARETH DELVE (C)	NO.8	8
				DARREN DAWIDIUK	REPLACEMENT	16
				ALASDAIR DICKINSON	REPLACEMENT	17
				GREG SOMERVILLE	REPLACEMENT	18
				ADAM EUSTACE	REPLACEMENT	19
				LUKE NARRAWAY	REPLACEMENT	20
				DAVE LEWIS	REPLACEMENT	21
				ELIOTA FUIMAONO-SAPOLU	REPLACEMENT	22
				CARLOS SPENCER	REPLACEMENT	23





today's visitors gloucester rugby

It's fair to say that a lot of things have changed at Gloucester Rugby this season!

In comparison to some of their Guinness Premiership rivals, it was a relatively quiet post season but there were significant changes at Gloucester Rugby all the same.

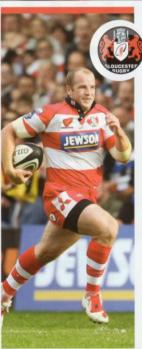
Following the Twickenham setback against the Blues and the failure of the side to make the end of season Guinness Premiership playoffs, Chairman Tom Walkinshaw announced an end of season review.

The departure of Director of Rugby Dean Ryan was the change that grabbed all the headlines with Bryan Redpath taking over as Head Coach.

However, there has also been an overhaul of the playing squad. A number of the gifted but inconsistent youngsters who shone brightly before dimming on the big stage have moved on with significant international experience added to the back line in particular.

As a result, there has been no repetition of the "... Gloucester simply have to win something this year..." statements uttered in the rugby press this summer which have been so prevalent in recent seasons.

Expectations at the club coming into the season





Captain: Gareth Delve

During his debut season at Kingsholm, Delve showed the glimpses of brilliance and talent that prompted Dean Ryan to sign him from local rivals Bath.

2009-10 has seen him benefit from being able to put in a full preseason and the Kingsholm crowd have once again seen the best of his physicality and brutal ball.

His leadership qualities have once again been to the fore this season as he was named joint club captain with Mike Tindall.

were still high but there has been an air of realism circling Kingsholm as it has been universally acknowledged that a new Head Coach and a new look playing squad need time to develop.

Things did get off to the best possible start with the televised opening day victory over local rivals Bath which sent the Kingsholm faithful into raptures.

However, even at that

early stage, injuries were starting to affect a playing squad that is significantly reduced in numbers from the previous season.

In addition, the club has found itself on the wrong end of an unusually large number of yellow cards and unfortunately caught the eye of the citing commissioner with Gareth Delve, Olivier Azam, Adam Eustace and Charlie Sharples all having to serve bans.

That said, a number of the club's younger players have stepped forward to advance their claims.

Summer signings
Dave Attwood and
Paul Doran-Jones may
not have generated
many headlines when
they put pen to paper.
Both joined from
Championship clubs
when other Guinness
Premiership teams
were spending big on
international talent.

fact file



NICKNAME
Cherry and Whites

FOUNDED 1873

LOCATION
Gloucester England

GROUND Kingsholm Stadium

CAPACITY

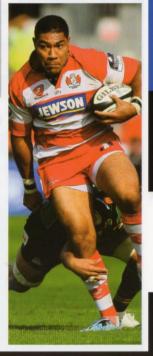
CHAIRMAN

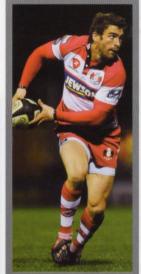
HEAD COACHBryan Redpath

TOP SCORER (GP) Ludovic Mercier (855)

MOST TRIES (GP) James Simpson-Daniel (48)

2008-09 POSITION 6th





SEASON 2009/10:

- NICKY ROBINSON* CHARLES SHARPLES
- FREDDIE BURNS
- **JAMES S-DANIEL**
- CARLOS SPENCER TOM VOYCE
- **GARETH DELVE**

often from overseas.

However, both have stepped up to the plate thus far and delivered a series of committed performances quickly endearing themselves to the Gloucester supporters.

And, of course, the club's Academy has continued to do its sterling job in delivering talent ready for first team action with Freddie Burns, Jonny May and Henry Trinder all appearing in recent weeks.

What Gloucester have really needed recently is a bit of luck. Recent

Head Coach: Bryan Redpath

The former Scotland scrum-half retired from playing in May 2005 after a successful professional career that saw him represent Sale, Narbonne, Edinburgh and Melrose with distinction and also win 60 international caps including appearing at two Rugby World Cups.

The 33-year-old initially signed a two-year contract as backs coach at Gloucester Rugby and was named Head Coach in June 2009 following the departure of Dean Ryan.



defeats against Sale Sharks in the Guinness Premiership and Cardiff Blues and London Wasps in the LV= Cup were cruel and could so easily have been wins. What could not be doubted is the effort being put in on

And that effort was once again in evidence recently as the team shrugged off the absence of 17 internationals, three of them withdrawing on the day itself, to down the Leicester Tigers by 12 points to 9 on a damp Friday evening at Kingsholm.

the pitch.

This was followed up

with a narrow defeat at Harlequins which could so easily have been a Gloucester win and a home victory over a rapidly improving Newcastle Falcons side who have taken some notable scalps on the road.

A brief foray into European action in the Heineken Cup with the double header against the Glasgow Warriors has completed Gloucester's build up to this local derby and Bryan Redpath's side will be giving it everything as they go in search of their first Guinness Premiership 'double' of the season.







SEASON 2009/10:

TOM VOYCE*	9
DAVID ATTWOOD	9
GREG SOMERVILLE	8
GARETH DELVE	8
ALASDAIR STROKOSCH	7
LESLEY VAINIKOLO	7
JAMES S-DANIEL	7
NICKY ROBINSON	7
RORY LAWSON	7
SCOTT LAWSON	6

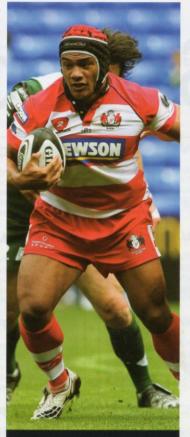
Dave Attwood

Attwood's signing from Bristol Rugby didn't create back page headlines unlike those of Nicky Robinson or Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu but the big second row has started his Gloucester career in a similarly impressive manner.

Capped by England at U19 and U20 level, Attwood has also been a Saxons call up before his summer move up the A38.

Impressive during preseason, he has gone on to form a promising second row partnership with Alex Brown.





Eliota Fuimaono-Sapolu

Eliota became an instant hero with the Shed following his summer move from local rivals Bath Rugby with his passionate display against his former club on the opening day of the Guinness Premiership season.

Capable of playing fly half or inside centre, Eliota brings the solid defence to the Gloucester backline that you'd expect from a Samoan international but also soft hands and an eye for a gap.

His presence was missed in the Gloucester midfield when he was away on international duty in the autumn but will be keen to feature today.

Nicky Robinson

The Welsh international made a dream start to his Guinness Premiership career with a Man of the Match performance in the televised victory over Bath.

The fly half joined Gloucester Rugby in the summer having spent his entire career to date with the Cardiff Blues.

His performance on the opening weekend against Bath which included 14 points with the boot, has gone a long way to making Gloucester supporters forget about his performances against them for Cardiff last season!

