

GRFC SEASON RECORD 1952-53

Season Record	Played 42, Won 23 , Lost 15 , Drawn 4 Points for 416, against 317
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Notebook compiled by A Hudson, Hon Sec

Sep 13	Gloucester 11 Lydney 17	Tries: J Taylor, D Jones; Conversion: T Halls; Penalty: T Halls John Gwilliam, last season's Welsh Captn played his first game for Gloucester (now master at Brownstone School).
Sep 18	Stroud 11 Gloucester 11	Tries: J Gwilliam, R Sutton; Conversion: T Halls; Penalty: T Halls
Sep 20	Gloucester 14 Exeter 8	Tries: Beaven, Ibbotson, Ford, Nield; Conversion: Halls
Sep 27	Bristol 6 Gloucester 9	Tries: Thomas, Ibbotson; Penalty: Halls
Oct 2	Cheltenham 6 Gloucester 3	Penalty: T Halls Owing to late cry off, Gloucester had difficulty in completing team.
Oct 4	Gloucester 6 Bedford 14	Penalties: M Baker (2) W Smith (ex-Crypt) selected for first time for senior team after promising form in United. Now in RAF Innsworth during his National Service. Bedford's grand rally in the closing stages deserved to bring victory. Gloucester had their opportunities, but slowness in the centre and deadly marking by the visitors proved their undoing.
Oct 11	Gloucester 30 Old Paulines 0	Tries: E Turner (2), D Jones (2), H Terrington, C Crabtree, P Ford, H Wells; Conversions: Terrington (2), Wells Old Paulines were run off their feet by speedier and more clever opponents. Increasing tempo of attack as game progressed, Gloucester made it a rout

			against plucky and game-to-the-last Old Boys.
Oct 18	Cardiff 8	Gloucester 0	This was Cardiff's luckiest escape of the season at Arms Park. Gloucester showed better teamwork and thanks to splendid forwards and grand backing up, faster Cardiff back division had little scope. Gloucester deserved to draw. Cardiff got rather lucky try when ball was kicked over Gloucester line right on time and Morris scored for Tamplin to convert.
Oct 25	Gloucester 24	Old Blues 3	Tries: Ford (3); Bainbridge, Thomas, Crabtree; Conversions: Smith (4) Game full of interest and incident. Old Blues played bravely, but out-matched forward; had no answer to Gloucester's Cartmell, man of match.
Nov 1	Leicester 3	Gloucester 6	Tries: J Taylor, C Crabtree Gloucester were good value for their win. Their team work was good and with the forwards winning plenty of handling chances the backs handled freely.
Nov 8	Llanelly 22	Gloucester 6	Penalties: W Smith (2) Gloucester, weakened by County calls, were no match for Llanelly behind scrum, but their storming pack held their own in loose, where Ford gave outstanding display. Smith also earned applause for fine performance at fullback.
Nov 15	Newport 8	Gloucester 3	Drop Goal: Ibbotson Newport's strength behind the scrum was the deciding factor though Gloucester's pack gave a fine display in the loose and Newport had to fight every inch of the way.

Nov 22	Gloucester 20	Clifton 0	Tries: Taylor (2),Crabtree(2), Ibbotson, Ford; Conversion: Smith Originally County match date. Clifton's first visit to Kingsholm for over 30 years. Put up very good show but could not last 40 minutes each way.
Nov 29	Oxford University v Gloucester		Cancelled owing to severe frost & snow
Dec 6	Gloucester v Neath		Cancelled – frost & snow
Dec 13	Gloucester 11	Bath 3	Tries: Crabtree, Baker, Parry; Conversion: Baker A hard exciting game in which there was not a great deal to choose between two well-matched sides. Gloucester had slightly more of play, however, and their splendid rally well deserved to bring them victory.
Dec 20	Coventry 3	Gloucester 3	Penalty: M Baker Bob Hodge, Gloucester Captn, playing for Possibles in English Trial match at Exeter. Draw perhaps fitting result in hard battle in which both sides had good share of play.
Dec 26	Gloucester 10	Old Merchant Taylors 8	Tries: E Turner (2); Conversions: M Baker (2) In one of the most thrilling Boxing Day encounters ever seen at Kingsholm, Gloucester nearly allowed Old Merchant Taylors to get away with their first victory over the Cherry and Whites since the 'thirties. When it seemed that all was lost, however, Gloucester pulled a magnificent effort out of the bag and "pipped" their traditional visitors 10pts-8.
Dec 27	Gloucester 11	Universities Athletic Union 5	Try: P Ford, Conversion: M Baker;

		<p>Penalties: M Baker (2)</p> <p>Gloucester had revenge for the loss of their ground record last season when they defeated UAU at Kingsholm by 11-5, but only sections of the 5,000 crowd saw the points scored. Fog, which hung over the city all day, descended so heavily half-way through the game that the white ball was used for the first time in the club's history in a home match. But even the white ball could not pierce the gloom sufficiently to follow play throughout. A deep-throated roar, rising to crescendo, was the only indication that Gloucester were pounding away at the visitors' line on the opposite side of the ground. And when Michael Baker landed his second penalty goal – a magnificent kick – the referee had to consult the linesman before allowing the points.</p>
Jan 3	Gloucester 23 London Scottish 3	<p>Tries: J Taylor (2), P Ford (2), M Baker;</p> <p>Conversion: M Baker;</p> <p>Drop Goals: M Baker, H Terrington</p> <p>Bob Hodge, Capt'n, Playing for the Rest in final International trial at Twickenham & J Gwilliam playing in Welsh final trial. In the last half Gloucester, playing fine rugby, made it a real Scottish lament by increasing their lead.</p>
Jan 8	Gloucester 13 The Army 6	<p>Tries: D Ibbotson, M Baker;</p> <p>Conversions: M Baker;</p> <p>Penalty: M Baker</p> <p>Gate: £89</p>
Jan 10	Gloucester 10 Leicester 6	<p>Tries: H Terrington, E Turner;</p> <p>Conversions: M Baker (2)</p>

Jan 17	Wasps 11	Gloucester 3	Penalty: M Baker J Gwilliam playing for Wales, Capt'n R Hodge reserve for England at Cardiff. Gloucester lost outside-half, Bill Cartmell, with a damaged stomach muscle
Jan 24	Gloucester 6	Bristol 12	Try: J Taylor Penalty: M Baker Disappointing game. Bristol resorted to too much kicking. Gloucester fought hard to avoid defeat in the last half, but Bristol went on to lay their Kingsholm bogey.
Jan 31	Neath 8	Gloucester 5	Penalty Try: P Ford; Conversion: Terrington Gordon Hudson played centre in place of Michael Baker. L Morgan, fly half from Old Centralians, played his first game for Gloucester.
Feb 7	Gloucester 17	United Services 11	Tries: Gwilliam, J Taylor, E Turner; Conversion: M Baker; Penalties: M Baker (2)
Feb 14	Gloucester 11	Cambridge University 9	Tries: J Hobbs, E Turner, M Baker; Conversion: T Halls R Hodge, Capt'n, was a reserve forward for England v Ireland at Dublin. This was first meeting of Gloucester v Cambridge University since 1900-1. Match originally arranged at Cambridge but Cambridge agreed to transfer game to Kingsholm to aid Cathedral Restoration Fund.
Feb 21	Swansea 8	Gloucester 10	Tries: Turner, Terrington; Conversions: Baker (2) Despite the bad conditions the game was a real "thriller". During one period in the second half Swansea crowded on terrific pressure, but a super-human effort by Gloucester kept them out. Though Principal honours

		went to the pack the whole Gloucester team again rose to the occasion splendidly to bring off a fine victory.
Feb 28	Gloucester 14 Cardiff 9	Tries: J Hobbs, E Turner; Conversion: M Baker; Penalty: M Baker Weather & ground perfect. Gate 11,000, £650. R Hodge was attending as reserve for England v France. Gloucester proved that last season's great win was no fluke. Though play was too keen to produce a great deal of open play, the whole team again pulled together grandly. Cardiff's dangerous outsiders could have won the match, but were splendidly held by Gloucester's first-rate marking and tackling and the home forwards won new glory by their display in the loose.
Mar 7	Gloucester 6 Northampton 6	Try: P Ford; Drop Goal: L Morgan Very vigorous forward struggle. Fair result. Ground perfect. Weather fine. Gate 7,000, £340
Mar 14	Gloucester 6 Royal Air Force 5	Try: P Ford; Penalty: M Baker J Gwilliam playing for Wales v Ireland. Very good hard game. Visitors excelled in loose & lineout. Crowd 5,500, gate £211.
Mar 21	Gloucester 20 Guy's Hospital 10	Tries: Cartmell (2), G. Hastings, J. Taylor Conversions: T. Halls (4)
Mar 28	Gloucester 6 Newport 14	Try: R Stower; Penalty: M Baker John Gwilliam playing for Wales v France in Paris. Gloucester very disappointing display. Weather stormy, kept down attendance, gate £300.

		Newport won largely because they made more of their opportunities. With more handling chances than Gloucester they showed greater thrust behind the scrum. The Gloucester pack again played a grand game in the loose but the Newport eight had the better of the lines-out and set scrums.
Apr 2	Gloucester 14 Stroud 9	Tries: Turner (2), Hodge; Conversion: T Halls; Penalty: T Halls Weather very wet; match & gate (£39) ruined
Apr 4	Gloucester 3 London Welsh 3	Try: Turner Weather cold & stormy, hard struggle, back play disappointing, gate £200.
Apr 6	Gloucester 9 Sale 0	Tries: J Taylor, P Ford, R Parry
Apr 7	Lydney 6 Gloucester 3	Try: Turner
Apr 11	Gloucester 11 Blackheath 3	Tries: R Sutton (2), R Hodge; Conversion: M Baker This game originally fixed at Blackheath; given special guarantee of £100. Blackheath handled well without penetration. Gloucester should have won with much bigger score.
Apr 16	Gloucester 8 Cheltenham 0	Tries: G Hastings, P Ford; Conversion: M Baker
Apr 18	Harlequins 13 Gloucester 11 (Played at Twickenham)	Tries: Bowdler, Gwilliam; Conversion: M Baker; Penalty: M Baker
Apr 23	Bath 11 Gloucester 0	Rearranged game, Gloucester very weak side
Apr 25	Devonport Services 13 Gloucester 9	Tries: Ford, Burford; Penalty: Wells Gloucester lost when they seemed set for victory but they fell away after the interval. Services staged a remarkable recovery which turned the tide in their favour
Apr 27	Penzance 3 Gloucester 14	Tries: Ford, Ibbotson, J Taylor;

		Conversion: Halls; Penalty: Hudson
Apr 28	Teignmouth 13 Gloucester 6	Tries: Turner, Bainbridge Weak Gloucester side owing to injuries & too many matches.
Gloucester United		
Season Record	There are four games where the results are known, but not the scores. Played 32, Won 26 , Lost 5 , Drawn 1 . Points for 381, against 148.	
Captain	Ivor Jones	
Sep 13	Gloucester United won at Bream, score unknown	
Sep 18	Gloucester United 17 Stroud Nomads 3	Tries: G.Jones (2), A.Baimbridge, G.Hudson Conversion: J.Brumfitt Drop goal: J.Brumfitt
Sep 20	Drybrook 11 Gloucester United 25	Tries: R.Blair (2), I.Oakes (2), J.Hobbs Conversions: W.Smith (2) Penalties: W.Smith (2)
Sep 22	Gloucester United 10 North Gloucester Combination 8	Tries: G.Hudson, Tompkins Conversions: T.Halls (2)
Sep 27	Gloucester United 8 Bristol United 0	Tries: R.Blair, E.Turner Conversion: W.Smith
Oct 4	Worcester 0 Gloucester United 8	Tries: R.Sutton, L.Evans Conversion: T.Halls
Oct 11	Chepstow 3 Gloucester United 17	Scorers unknown
Oct 18	Gloucester United 9 Cardiff Athletic 6	Try: D.Jones Penalties: T.Halls (2)
Oct 25	Malvern 9 Gloucester United 38	Tries: R.Blair (3), W.Nield (2), J.Hobbs, L.Jones, J.Brumfitt, F.Daniels, E.Turner Conversions: T.Halls (4)
Nov 1	Gloucester United 16 Leicester 'A' 0	Tries: R.Sutton, R.Blair Conversions: T.Halls (2) Penalties: T.Halls (2)
Nov 15	Gloucester United 9 Newport United 3	Try: R.Sutton Penalties: T.Halls (2)
Nov 22	Old Luctonians 3 Gloucester United 29	Tries: R.Sutton (3), E.Turner, G.Hudson, T.Halls Conversions: T.Halls (4) Penalty: T.Halls
Nov 29	Gloucester United 6 Worcester 0	Tries: G.Hudson, E.Turner
Dec 6	Newport High School Old Boys	Cancelled due to frost and

	v Gloucester United	snow
Dec 13	Bath United 6 Gloucester United 0	
Dec 20	Gloucester United 0 Coventry Extra Firsts 3	
Jan 10	Leicester 'A' v Gloucester United	Probably cancelled due to thick fog over East Midlands
Dec 27	Cleeve 3 Gloucester United 6	Tries: R.Blair, G.Hudson
Jan 3	Bristol Aero drew with Gloucester United	Score unknown
Jan 17	Gloucester United 26 Old Luctonians 0	Tries: R.Blair (3), D.Jones (2), C.Crabtree Conversions: T.Halls (4)
Jan 24	Bristol United 17 Gloucester United 8	Tries: C.Crabtree (2) Conversion: T.Halls
Jan 31	Gloucester United 14 Newport High School Old Boys 3	Tries: D.Jones, A.Baimbridge, M.Burford + ? Conversion: T.Halls
Feb 7	Barry 9 Gloucester United 12	Tries: D.Jones, C.Crabtree Penalties: D.Jones, T.Halls
Feb 14	Gloucester United beat Bath United	Score unknown
Feb 21	Gloucester United 21 Cleeve 8	Tries: W.Nield (2), D.Jones, I.Oakes Conversions: W.Smith (3) Penalty: W.Smith
Feb 28	Cardiff Athletic 16 Gloucester United 3	Penalty: W.Smith
Mar 7	Berry Hill 3 Gloucester United 11	Scorers unknown
Mar 14	Bromsgrove 5 Gloucester United 17	Tries: G.Hudson (2), D.Jones, D.Meadows Conversion: R.Blair Penalty: G.Hudson
Mar 21	Coventry Extra Firsts 14 Gloucester United 13	Tries: W.Nield, D.Jones Conversions: W.Smith (2) Drop goal: L.Morgan
Mar 28	Newport United 6 Gloucester United 12	Tries: M.Sutton, D.Jones, D.Meadows Penalty: G.Hudson This was Newport United's first home defeat since the 1948-49 season.
Apr 2	Gloucester United beat Stroud Nomads away	Score unknown
Apr 4	Hereford 0 Gloucester United 9	Try: R.Beamish Penalties: G.Hudson (2)
Apr 11	Chepstow 6	Tries: M.Sutton (3),

	Gloucester United 26	R.Beamish, B.Cartmell, G.Hudson Conversions: W.Smith (4)
Apr 18	Gloucester United 11 Bristol Aero 3	Tries: G.Hudson, W.Nield Conversion: W.Smith Penalty: W.Smith
Gloucestershire		
Oct 11	Devon 14 Gloucestershire 6 (County Championship, played at Exeter)	Penalties: S.T.J.Walter (2) Gloucester players: J.Taylor, M.Baker, W.Cartmell, V.Davies, G.Hastings
Oct 25	Gloucestershire 6 Somerset 9 (County Championship, played at Bristol)	Penalties: S.T.J.Walter (2) Gloucester players: H.Terrington, J.Taylor, G.Hastings, H.G.Wells, D.Ibbotson This was Dennis Ibbotson's first game for the county
Nov 8	Gloucestershire 3 Cornwall 8 (County Championship, played at Gloucester)	Penalty: S.T.J.Walter Gloucester players: J.Taylor, W.Cartmell, V.Davies, G.Hastings, H.G.Wells, R.Hodge, D.Ibbotson Defeated in all their championship matches this season, the Gloucestershire County rugby side have suffered a similar fate on only two previous occasions. In 1904-5 and again in 1932- 3 the County lost all their South West Group matches.
Other		
Dec 20	Probables 12 Possibles 12 (Played at Exeter)	R.Hodge played for Possibles
Jan 3	England 14 Rest 3 (Played at Twickenham)	R.Hodge played for Rest