



OFFICIAL MATCH-DAY PROGRAMME

CHIEFS

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EXETER CHIEFS VS GLOUCESTER

SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER 1.00PM

£3.00



MATCH REPORT

SATURDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2018



EXETER
CHIEFS

23 - 6

GLOUCESTER
RUGBY

TRIES

White, Cuthbert



CONVERSIONS

Stenson (2)



PENALTIES

Stenson (3)



PENALTIES

Cipriani (2)

LINE-UP



P Dollman (J Simmonds 74); S Cordero, I Whitten, O Devoto (S Hill 71), A Cuthbert; G Steenson, N White (J Maunder 66); M Low (B Keast 61), J Yeandle (capt, E Taione 66), G Holmes (M Street 66); M Lees, D Dennis (W Van der Sluys 58); D Ewers, D Armand (T Lawday 6-13), M Kvesic (T Lawday 66).



LINE-UP

J Woodward; C Sharples (T Hudson 74), H Trinder, B Twelvetrees, O Thorley; D Cipriani (O Williams 51), W Heinz (C Braley 66); V Rapava-Ruskin (K Traynor 51), H Walker (J Visagie 51), F Balmain (J Hohneck 51); T Savage (G Grobler 60), E Slater (capt); F Clarke, G Evans, B Morgan (A Hinkley 74).

REFEREE

M O'Grady



ATTENDANCE

12,772

“ I KNOW JULES (SALVI) WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH LAST WEEK AT BRISTOL WITH A FEW THINGS, AND HE LET THE GUYS KNOW THAT THIS WEEK, BUT YOU SAW THE RESPONSE FROM ALL OF THEM AND WE BUILT A GOOD WALL TODAY.”

ALI HEPHER



TODAY'S LINE-UP



Replacements
 16 ELVIS TA'ONE | 17 ALEC HEPBURN
 18 TOMAS FRANCIS | 19 OLLIE ATKINS | 20 TOM LAWDAY
 21 STU TOWNSEND | 22 JOE SIMMONDS | 23 IAN WHITTEN



REFEREE PASCAL GAUZERE TOUCH JUDGES MAXIME CHALON & JEAN-LUC REBOLLAL



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Replacements
 16 JACO VISAGIE | 17 VAL RAPA'VA RUSKIN | 18 CARAN KNIGHT
 19 FRANCO MOSTERT | 20 GARETH EVANS | 21 CALLUM BRALEY
 22 HENRY TRINDER | 23 TOM HUDSON

4TH OFFICIAL SIMON ADAMS TK ANDREW PEARCE TMO ERIC GAUZINS



GLOUCESTER RUGBY



EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS CUP RECORD

PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST
66	39	1	26

Founded: 1873
Ground: Kingsholm Stadium, Kingsholm Road,
Kingsholm, Gloucester GL1 3AX
Capacity: 16,121
Head Coach: Johan Ackermann
Captain: Willi Heinz
Website: gloucesterrugby.co.uk



HEAD COACH Johan Ackermann

- Born in Benoni, South Africa on June 3 in 1970.
- During a 12-year playing career, the imposing lock started his career with the Blue Bulls and went onto feature for the Golden Lions, Cats, Northampton Saints, Griquas and Sharks.
- He won 13 Test caps for the Springboks, becoming their oldest player to play for the national side at 37 back in 2007.
- Having retired from playing in 2008, Ackermann was appointed as Forwards Coach of the Lions in Super Rugby in 2010, where he worked alongside Head Coach John Mitchell, before taking on the top job himself in 2013.
- Named South African coach of the year in 2014, 15 and 16, he moved to Gloucester in 2017, where he led the Cherry and Whites to the European Challenge Cup Final in his first season, narrowly going down to Cardiff Blues in Bilbao.



CAPTAIN Willi Heinz

- Born on November 24, 1986 in Christchurch, New Zealand.
- Heinz started his senior career playing for Canterbury in the ITM Cup, before featuring over 50 times for the Crusaders in Super Rugby.
- He moved to Kingsholm ahead of the 2015/16 season, offering a proven scrum-half option to the Cherry and Whites.
- With 65 appearances to his name and nine tries for Gloucester, Heinz has proved a shrewd acquisition and was made captain last season, taking over the leadership role from Billy Twelvetrees.
- The former New Zealand Under-21s international was in 2017 invited to train with the England squad by Eddie Jones.



Just two weeks after they departed Sandy Park in the Gallagher Premiership, Gloucester Rugby find themselves heading West once more for the latest instalment of their three-game series against rivals Exeter Chiefs.

Although undone 23-6 by Rob Baxter's side in the most recent meeting, the Cherry & Whites will check in for today's encounter knowing that not only do they have chance to seek an almost immediate riposte, but victory in deepest Devon would not enhance their own European qualification claims, but all but end Exeter's hopes of advancing to the latter stages.

The stakes could not be any higher, but for Gloucester – beaten finalists in last season's European Challenge Cup – the chance to compete amongst the elite of the European game for the first time since the 2013/14 season is something they aren't going to give up without an almighty fight.

Indeed, head coach Johan Ackermann spelt out the club's intentions earlier this season, saying: "There is great excitement around the club about being back in the Champions Cup. It's my first involvement in the competition and there are a few other players in the squad who will be experiencing it too for the first time.

"It's a new challenge, new opponents and a new competition for a lot of people at the club. As a club it's

great to be back playing against the top teams in what is one of the best competitions in rugby."

Pitted against French champions Castres in Round One, Gloucester gave themselves a dream start as they claimed a 19-14 success at Kingsholm. With summer signing Danny Cipriani leading the way – he scored 14 of his side's points, alongside a try from scrum-half Callum Braley – Ackermann's side found themselves top of the tree in Pool 2 after Exeter Chiefs and Munster shared out a 10-10 draw at Sandy Park.

A week later, however, Cipriani went from hero to villain when he was sent off in Gloucester's 36-22 loss away to Munster at Thomond Park.

Underlining Ackermann's pre-tournament warning that 'mistakes are punished at this level' – it's meant the importance of securing success in the double-header against the Chiefs has become paramount to Gloucester's hopes of advancing.

"If you really want a shot, you have to win home games," said the South African coach. "It's a bonus if you win away, but the reality is there are lots of massive challenges to overcome."

Gloucester come into today's game brimming with confidence, having bounced back from their defeat to the Chiefs with a powerful six-try success over Worcester Warriors last weekend.

Winger Ollie Thorley led the way for the home side in their derby day win and Ackermann wasted little time in praising the talented speedster who has scored four Premiership tries in just three games.



"I'm just pleased for Ollie," said Ackermann. "He had his setbacks last season and at the start of this season, but right now he's in great form."

"I'm pleased for him just because of the person he is. He's a great team man, he's always smiling, always willing to work hard off the field, always willing to work hard around the players and the reality is he's always willing to listen and always willing to be coached and take advice."

"I'm so happy when stuff like that happens for people who put in the hard work. He shows a lot of heart and that you can't coach."

"I just think the thing that makes Ollie is good is obviously he's strong and fast but he's willing to put in the extra work and learn and be coachable."

Ackermann continued: "His attitude is right, the way he trains is the way he plays, there's no half measures with him and that's great for us."

"There are players around him that create opportunities and it is a team sport but, like I said, it's players like him that when the bad times are there he stays positive and therefore I'm so pleased he can experience the good part of it as well."

Ackermann was also pleased to be able to hand a debut to Franco Mostert, who came off the bench for the final eight minutes.

Mostert arrived at the club last week after playing for South Africa during the autumn internationals and the club received international clearance to register him after a long-running saga that saw the Lions dispute the move.

"It was good to see Franco," said Ackermann. "Hopefully the supporters will see the best of him in the future and the way forward."

"We just wanted him to have a taste of what it is to run out at Kingsholm and experience a little bit of The Shed and everything so it's not new when he does get an opportunity in the future."

"I think that was mission achieved and that is something he's experienced. Now he's got another week to learn more of the calls and learn more of the team and his players and environment and hopefully with time he'll be more comfortable."