



# The Bluesletter

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017

## Note from the Editor

If you have anything to pass on to our Bluesletter subscribers ensure I get the details by Tuesday 1200hrs and I will endeavor to get that information into Wednesdays' issue.

## D1 - Washington Irish 18 Norfolk Blues 31

This weekend the Blues travelled North to D.C. to renew their rivalry with recently promoted Washington Irish. Irish have started off the season on the right foot with a hard fought win against Baltimore-Chesapeake and a tough loss to Pittsburgh in their previous outings. The match started off with both teams looking for gaps and



weaknesses in each other's defence. The Blues fell behind from a penalty kick from 22 metres out. The Blues responded with an unconverted try from wing **Adam Brubaker**. The first half scoring continued in this same pattern, with Irish putting points on the board through the boot of their flyhalf and the Blues crossing the whitewash; the Blues scoring another two tries, one from fullback **Matt Ball** and the other from lock forward **Mic Minichello**, the second converted by **Jake Humphrey**. Irish then responded with a try of their own and at the half time whistle the score was 11-17 to the Blues.

The second half started off well for Irish when their centre dotted down for their second try of the day and when the conversion went over it took Irish into the lead, 18-17. The Blues soon settled down and took control the match, during the last 20 minutes the Blues scored a further two tries with prop **Sam Johnson** and "out of retirement" No8 **Fred Wintermantel** bagging one each, flyhalf **Jake Humphrey** converting both to take the scoreline out to 18-31. Irish began to make some changes and keep the ball in hand, but the Blues defence held strong and put in some big hits causing Irish to cough up the ball.



**Matt Holsopple** lead the charge with a Man of the Match performance with **Dutch Jones** and **Sam Johnson** not far behind him.

The Blues earn a 5-point win and now sit on top of the MAC D1 standings with a big home match double header looming, versus Rocky Gorge, on 7<sup>th</sup> October at Lafayette Park.

Final Score: Washington Irish 18 Norfolk Blues 31

Tries: Brubaker, Ball, Minichello, Johnson and Wintermantel Cons: Humphrey 3 (from 5) Pens: None

# Norfolk Blues Youth Rugby:

Prior to this weeks' D2 home game versus Raleigh, the Youth Rugby Program will be running its 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the year at Lafayette Park at 1100hrs.

Open to all aged 7 – 14 years of age, male or female.

Please pass this information to any youth aged potential players,



**NORFOLK CITY BLUES  
YOUTH RUGBY**

- We will be hosting youth clinics on Saturdays coinciding with Men's home games this fall.
- These are non-contact/co-ed events that will cover basic rugby skills and have touch rugby scrimmages.
- Current ages range from 7-14 years old and growing.
- High School players are encouraged to attend as well.

**Dates (11:00 am)**  
 September 9<sup>th</sup>  
 September 30<sup>th</sup>  
 October 7<sup>th</sup>  
 October 21<sup>st</sup>

If you have any questions please email us at [bluesyouthrugby@gmail.com](mailto:bluesyouthrugby@gmail.com)

**LAFAYETTE PARK  
NORFOLK, VA  
FREE ADMISSION**

## Practice schedule:



Practices are normally on Tuesday and Thursday evening (1900-2100hrs) at Cutter Park, but if Cutter Park is closed we could move to Norfolk Collegiate or the Virginia Beach Field House, so if inclement weather is forecast check our social media for updates. **Over the last two weeks attendance at training has dropped off with little or no notification, use our social media pages to let us know availability, no shows aren't good enough!**



## Social media:

Please sign-up to our social media:

Current players "**Norfolk Blues Rugby - current players**" and WAGs "**The Official Norfolk Blues WAGs**" on Facebook.

**norfolkbluesrfc** on Instagram and Twitter.

Our website is at [www.bluesrugby.org](http://www.bluesrugby.org)

You can sign-up to join our "**Yahoo Email Group**" and receive email updates including The Bluesletter.

## Fixtures for 2017/18 Season:

Date	Home		Away		D1B Match?
09-Sep-17	Norfolk Blues	43	Potomac Exiles	10	Potomac Forfeit
16-Sep-17	Schuykill River	28	Norfolk Blues	29	W 15 - 41
23-Sep-17	Washington Irish	18	Norfolk Blues	31	No
30-Sep-17	Norfolk Blues		Raleigh		No
07-Oct-17	Norfolk Blues		Rocky Gorge		Yes
14-Oct-17	Baltimore-Chesapeake		Norfolk Blues		Yes
21-Oct-17	Norfolk Blues		Washington Irish		No
04-Nov-17	Rocky Gorge		Norfolk Blues		Yes
11-Nov-17	Potomac Exiles		Norfolk Blues		Yes
17-Mar-18	Norfolk Blues		Pittsburgh		No
24-Mar-18	Norfolk Blues		Baltimore-Chesapeake		Yes
07-Apr-18	Norfolk Blues		Schuykill River		Yes
14-Apr-18	Pittsburgh		Norfolk Blues		No
28-Apr-18	MAC Championship				
18-May-18	USA Eastern Regionals				
02-Jun-18	USA Rugby Championships				

**\*\*Start sorting your calendar now! If you are unavailable, let the selectors/coach know in plenty of time\*\***

## The Blues Vision

"As a premier Rugby Football Club in the United States of America, the Norfolk City Blues will promote a sustainable brand as a cornerstone of East Coast rugby based on a winning tradition for all ages".