



MEDIA RESULTS FORM

Venue	Kerikeri Rugby Football Clun
Grade	U16 Cardinal
Date	01 September 2018
Opposition	Northland North

Details	Half-time Score	Full-time Score
North Harbour	29	34
Opposition	5	5

North Harbour Points Scorers

Scorers Name	Tries	Con.	Pen.	D/Goals
Rory Taylor	4			
Tim Carter	1			
Metui Telefoni	1			
Cameron Howell		2(5)		

Opposition Points

Tries	Con.	Pen.	D/Goals
1	0	0	0

Game Highlights

Harbour won the toss and elected to play with the slight breeze at the Kerikeri Rugby Football Club.

Northland kicked off and the ball was put into touch by Harbour. From the subsequent line out Northland scored in the corner. In the first minute of play, 5 – 0 to Northland. Conversion missed, not a good start for Harbour.

From the kick off Harbour were able to apply pressure with a series of forward moves before releasing the ball to the backs with Centre Rory Taylor scoring close to the posts after the first of a number of impressive runs by 2nd Five Eru Kaio. Converted by Cam Howell, 7 – 5 to Harbour.

A sustained period of attack with Harbour threatening the line on numerous occasions saw Rory Taylor cross over for his second try in the eleventh minute. Conversion missed, Harbour now leading 12 – 5.

Again the Harbour forwards controlled the ball from the kick off with a number of hit ups before sending the ball out to the backs for Rory Taylor to complete his hat-trick in the 15th minute. Another successful conversion by Cam Howell in tricky kicking conditions, Harbour leading 19 – 5.

Northland were a well drilled side and what followed was a series of sustained attacks by Northland as both teams were guilty of throwing too many 50/50 passes which failed to go to hand.

Northland had a very good fullback and equally impressive left wing and time and time again excellent defence by Harbour held them out.

Despite some missed opportunities Harbour were building momentum and pressure and capitalised on this in the last five minutes of the half with unconverted tries to fullback Tim Carter and blindside Metui Telefoni. Harbour went to the break leading 29 – 5.

Turning around and playing into a tricky breeze, together with the mandatory replacements, it was important that Harbour started the second well.

In the beginning of the second half despite an injury break and a couple of errors, Harbour's Rory Taylor scored his fourth try after an intercept and a footrace to the Northland line. The conversion was missed and Harbour had increased its lead to 34 – 5 in the fifth minute of the second half.

That would be the end of the scoring for the match although both sides had many opportunities to change that with numerous chances missed throughout a brutal slug fest of a second half.

Particularly pleasing for Harbour was the team defending a sustained period of attack from Northland midway through the second half.

For a ten minute period, Northland were camped on the Harbour five metre line. Throwing everything they had through pick and go's, forward rushes and numerous scrums. The Harbour pack showed tremendous courage and fortitude to defend their line. In particular the front row of Sam Davies, Ben Macmillan and Ofa Selsoni made some crunching tackles on the line, not just stopping the repeated attacks but driving those ball runners back from the try line to the five metre line.

Not to be out done, fullback Tim Carter made a crucial one on one tackle on the Northland centre who was cutting back inside pulling him down millimetres from the line in a try saving tackle.

After ten minutes a penalty to Harbour allowed the boys to relieve the pressure and get off their line.

The game then lost a bit of structure in final ten minutes with a number of Harbour line breaks which they failed to capitalise on.

When the referee blew the final whistle, Harbour had a hard fought and well deserved 34 – 5 victory, against an organised and competitive Northland North side. Northland

played the game in good spirit with their No. 8 one of their best on the day.

If a man of the match was to be chosen it would have been Rory Taylor for his four tries although other players put their hand up including those already mentioned.

Others include Lock Forward Alefosio Aho for his work in the lineout at four and his work rate both on attack and defence, Captain Gavin Barlow at eight for leading from the front and for a number of clean breaks, and also Tai Blair, brought into the team late due to the unavailability of both halfbacks for this match. He played the whole game, slotting in seamlessly and impressing with his general play, decision making and strong pass.

A good start to the campaign but still a lot of areas to work on and improvements to be made before the next game against Auckland Central at the Silverdale Rugby Club in Round Two.

Thank you to Northland Rugby and the Kerikeri Rugby Football Club for hosting us and for feeding the team after the game.

Thank you also to our Ritchie's Bus Driver, Allen Aitken, for his friendly and professional manner with the team, and together with the Coaches and Managers, being able to put up with the many many dubious music choices by the team. Luckily Harbour won because music definitely was not the winner on the day.

This Form is to be faxed (447 2101) or emailed to (sachin@harbourrugby.co.nz)
ASAP Monday morning following the game