

# CORNWALL RFLFC

ROUND ELEVEN BETFRED LEAGUE 1 - SUNDAY JUNE 12 - 1.00PM - MEMORIAL GROUND PENRYN -

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2022  
ISSUE  
05



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chosen device and watch  
the Choughs this year.

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# NEIL KELLY

HEAD COACH

**WELCOME TO THE  
MEMORIAL GROUND  
FOR TODAY'S  
LEAGUE 1 MATCH.**

**WE HOPE OUR  
VISITORS KEIGHLEY  
COUGARS ENJOY  
THEIR AFTERNOON  
IN CORNWALL.**

After the London Skolars game, I said I was frustrated but encouraged at the same time.

I feel we were on the wrong side of the result against London Skolars but that was a decision that took place in our changing room.

London Skolars won the game and I'm not taking anything away from them, but I felt it was in our remit to improve in certain areas and it would lead to a win.

It would be wrong of me to not acknowledge the 80 per cent we put into the game but if we could have just given a little bit more, the outcome may have been different.

It is up to us to improve both collectively and individually and then results will come, regardless of how any opposition play.

I was pleased with what I saw from Aaron Jones-Bishop who started off on the wing and then finished up playing in the middles.

It was good to see Nathan Conry and Adam Rusling start to gel at half-back although Adam is missing today.

It is such a daunting task to play Keighley with the star-studded team they've got.

But in some ways it has taken the pressure off my players and the game is a free hit for us. It is an opportunity to test ourselves and although it will be so tough to get a result, every now and then, a bit like upsets we have seen in the Challenge Cup or football's FA Cup, you do get a result.

I don't think anybody will look detrimental at my team if the result does go in Keighley's favour because they are a great team.

We are shorn of a few players for various reasons and against London Skolars we had decent strength in our side. Unfortunately, for this one, we are not as strong as we want to be but that is because we want to be stronger for what's left in June and July because we have some winnable games in that period.

Thanks again for your support today.



# KEIGHLEY COUGARS

The hangover from a disappointing end to 2021 will seem to have cleared at Cougar Park as Rhys Lovegrove's men are in pole position for promotion to the Championship.

It all looked like being so different last year for the Cougars when they were leading Doncaster in the preliminary final before Luke Johnson's try, converted by Jake Sweeting, ended Keighley's season.

Surprisingly knocked out of the Challenge Cup this year by Hunslet, Lovegrove will also have to do without the services of Phoenix Lалу-Togaga'e after he returned to parent club Hull Kingston Rovers.

A prudent 2021 for the Australian born Samoan saw him claim League 1's Young Player of the Year and it comes of little surprise that Super League appearances are under the 18-year-olds belt.

In the last week, Keighley have secured the services of both Eddy Pettybourne and Junior Sa'u.

## CLUB INFORMATION

Ground: Cougar Park (7,800)

Coach: Rhys Lovegrove

Captain: Jack Miller

Last season: 4th League 1 (preliminary final)

## QUICK FACTS

- Much of the modern-day glitz and glam associated with rugby league on these shores is credited to Keighley who started this trend - nicknamed Cougarmania - in the mid 1990s.
- Prolific Keighley winger Nick Pinkney was part of the England squad at the 1995 Rugby League World Cup.
- Keighley chairman Mick O'Neill was awarded an MBE for services to rugby, Keighley and the community during the covid pandemic, in 2021.

# MEDIA WATCH

...with Cougars' press officer  
Joshua Chapman



*CW) With a perfect 100 per cent record this season, would it be fair to say that 2022, so far, couldn't have gone any better for the Cougars?*

JC) Sometimes I have to pinch myself to make sure I'm not dreaming!

It's been a beyond belief start to the season and the atmosphere not just around the club, but the town of Keighley as a whole, is absolutely buzzing to say the least.

The aim though is to keep our feet on the ground, continue to improve and get better as players, staff, and human beings away from rugby league, and make sure we don't let the standards we have set slip.

It is going to be another tough test this week with a different set of challenges, but it is important that we focus on ourselves and prepare to meet what Cornwall will throw at us come 1.00pm on Sunday.

*2) Did the play-off defeat to Doncaster last year galvanise the club into wanting to right those wrongs of 2021?*

What happened in the play-offs last season hurt, and it hurt deep. To lose both those games against Workington and Doncaster at the death like that was heartbreaking.

But in a weird sort of way, it feels like the best thing that could have happened to us.

Workington's struggles in the Championship have shown that whoever won the play-offs was on a hiding to nothing due to being a month behind the eight ball in terms of recruitment and preparation.

It has allowed Andrew (Henderson, director of rugby) and Rhys (Lovegrove, head coach) to recruit the right sort of players and characters for what they are building here.

There will never be another Cougarmania, but I feel we're getting ever closer week-by-week to a modern-day version.

*3) The win against North Wales was a huge statement of intent. So is the challenge now to keep that momentum going and not feel like promotion is done and dusted already?*

We take each game as it comes. That might sound like a cliché, but that is our attitude as a club. No match is important as the next and we'll only think about promotion once it is confirmed.

The momentum we've generated so far this season has been fantastic, and it is safe to say nobody would have thought it was possible to go 9 wins from 9. Even more so in a division as competitive as League 1.

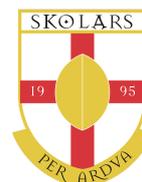
*4) The signings of Eddy Pettybourne and Junior Sa'u have raised eyebrows in League 1. A clear barometer of Keighley's ambition?*

The signings of Eddy (pictured below) and Junior are a barometer of our ambition, but also a sign of where we are at now as a club.

Since the O'Neill family returned in 2019, the goal has been to build the club back up and make it a sustainable but competitive Championship club in a similar vein to what you can see at clubs such as Batley.



# CORNWALL RLFC 20 LONDON SKOLARS 24



Cornwall came oh-so-close to a maiden Betfred League 1 victory with London Skolars just pipping the Choughs in a fiery Memorial Ground encounter.

The visitors had three players sent to the sin-bin by merry whistle blower James Jones, with interchange Michael Greenhalgh fortunate in the extreme not to see red for a clear punch on Josh Hartshorne just before the break.

After the turnaround, London's ill-discipline continued as Luciano Bejanidze saw yellow for dissent while Judd Greenhalgh also incurred the wrath of Jones for a high shot on Cornwall's outstanding half-back Adam Rusling.

Despite their numerical advantage, Cornwall couldn't capitalise fully but still led 14-12 with 10 minutes left. Back to a full compliment as the game entered its closing stages, Michael Greehalgh went from villain to hero for the Skolars as his try snuck the visitors ahead.

They finally broke brave Cornish hearts when full-back Jarred Bassett cut a brilliant line to cross four minutes from time. Joe Purcell did manage to score in the dying embers for Cornwall but it was a case of too late for the brave Choughs.

Before the late heartbreak, the match had started so well for Cornwall with new signing Aaron Jones-Bishop registering eight minutes into his debut. Nathan Conroy's perfectly weighted grubber was picked up by the Jamaican international and he finished brilliantly. Rusling booted a fine touchline goal and for the first time in Cornwall's short nine game history, they found themselves ahead on the scoreboard.

But home joy was short-lived as London replied just before the mid-way point of the opening stanza. After Cornwall were forced to defend three repeat sets, Lameck Juma twisted in the tackle to dot down right underneath the sticks and Phil Lyon converted.



The next 10 minutes of the match was a real arm-wrestle with neither side taking a backward step. But it was the Skolars who snuck ahead on 29 minutes as Judd Greenhalgh powered his way over from dummy-half. Lyon, again, converted.

London sensed blood at this point and went for broke with only a wonderful cover tackle from home full-back Liam Whitton denying Leighton Ball.

The game then exploded two minutes shy of the half-time hooter when Michael Greenhalgh pressed the self-destruct button. Cornwall hooker Luke Collins did well to force a Skolars error and after words were exchanged, Michael Greenhalgh punched Josh Hartshorne.

Despite referee Jones being well-positioned and after consultation with his two touch-judges, only a yellow card was brandished.

But that wasn't the end of the first half drama as Cornwall were denied what appeared to be a second try when interchange Purcell got his fingertips to another fine grubber but the try was chalked off. In the second-half, the next four-pointer was going to be crucial and it came from Cornwall with London down to 12. Rusling's cleverly disguised reverse grubber bounced perfectly for Purcell who did the rest.

Rusling converted and the game was back to all-square at 12-12.

Cornwall then got their noses back in front with a Rusling penalty coming after Judd Greenhalgh's high shot. Crucially, in the context of the game, there were no further Cornish points until London were back to 13 men.



And the capital outfit kicked on as time ticked down to claim a second successive win in 2022.

For Cornwall, they were left with a feeling of what might have been. However, this feeling was tempered with a realisation that an elusive maiden win isn't too far away.

**Cornwall:** Whitton, Jones-Bishop, Aaronson, Tora, Trerise, Conroy, Rusling, Mullally, Collins, Prisk, Hartshorne, Odgers, Collinson. Interchange (all used): Bolger, Chard, Turton, Purcell

**Tries:** Jones-Bishop, Purcell (2); **Goals:** Rusling 4/4

**London:** Bassett, Ball, Yates, Small, Rance, Ramsey, Lyon, J Greenhalgh, Bell, Kaufman, Juma, Bejanidze, O'Callaghan. Interchange (all used): M Greenhalgh, Cox, Chrinside, Korang.

**Tries:** Juma, J Greenhalgh, M Greenhalgh, Bassett;

**Goals:** Lyon 4/4

**Sin bin:** M Greenhalgh (punching), Bejanidze (dissent), J Greenhalgh (high tackle)

Referee: James Jones; Touch-judges: Guy Pallett and Graham Shaw; Reserve referee: James Flood

Attendance: 827

# PLAYER SPONSORS



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Joe Purcell     



Anthony Mullally     



Jake Lloyd     Louis Turner



Jack Ray     



Aaron Thomson     



Sam Gilder     

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# TODAY'S SQUADS



Betfred League 1 Round 11  
Sunday, June 12 2022  
Memorial Ground 1.00pm

## CORNWALL RLFC

Head coach: Neil Kelly

**LIAM WHITTON**

**HARRY AARONSON**

**AARON JONES-BISHOP**

**JOSH TORA**

**DECARLO TRERISE**

**NATHAN CONROY**

**JOE PURCELL**

**ANTHONY MULLALLY**

**LUKE COLLINS**

**JAMIE PRISK (C)**

**JOSH HARTSHORNE**

**WILL ODGERS**

**LOUIS COLLINSON**

**NATHAN CULLEN**

**AARON THOMSON**

**JACK RAY**

**PAUL BOLGER**

**SAM SNELL**

**MATTY TURTON**

**CHRISTOPHER CHARD**

**COBY NICHOL**

## KEIGHLEY COUGARS

Head coach: Rhys Lovegrove

**2 CHARLIE GRAHAM**

**3 JAKE WEBSTER**

**5 MO AGORO**

**7 JACK MILLER (C)**

**8 BRENDAN SANTI**

**9 KYLE KESIK**

**10 ANESU MU DOTI**

**11 DAN PARKER**

**12 AARON LEVY**

**13 SCOTT MURRELL**

**14 BILLY GAYLOR**

**18 ALIX STEPHENSON**

**19 MATTHEW BAILEY**

**20 DANE CHISHOLM**

**21 JOSH LYNAM**

**27 NATHAN ROEBUCK**

**28 HARVEY SPENCE**

**30 LEWIS YOUNG**

**32 BRADLEY HO**

**35 TOBY EVERETT**

**36 JAMES FEATHER**

Referee: JOHN MCMULLEN; Touch Judges: ALEX MCDONALD & PETE WROE; Reserve Referee: PHIL JOHNSON

# BETFRED LEAGUE 1 FIXTURES

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This weekend's Betfred League One action got underway on yesterday, with **West Wales Raiders** hosting **London Skolars**.

The visitors, who defeated Cornwall 24-20 at the Mem last Saturday, prevailed due to a strong second half performance.

West Wales led 16-10 at the break but 28 unanswered points from Joe Mbu's men saw them triumph 38-16 and make it three wins on the trot.

Round 11 continues today **Cornwall RLFC** host **Keighley Cougars**.

It's top versus bottom in Penryn, after the Cougars laid down a marker last week – their demolition of second-placed North Wales Crusaders has well and truly put them in pole position for promotion, and with Keighley already looking close to unstoppable, they've added former NRL and Betfred Super League prop forward Eddy Pettybourne to the ranks this week too.

Sunday could also be a momentous day for half back Jack Miller, who is just ten points away from making it 500 in Keighley colours.

The Choughs will be fuelled by the disappointment of such a narrow defeat last time out – leading at the break against London Skolars but just fell short, losing by four points.

The South Leeds Stadium sees **Hunslet** hosting **North Wales Crusaders**.

The two sides have already met this season, when they were drawn together in the Betfred Challenge Cup Fourth Round – the Crusaders came out on top that day in a 30-8 victory, and have pushed on since with a vein of form that has seen them become strong contenders for promotion.

Their impressive eight-game winning run was put to an end by Keighley last time out, and Anthony Murray's men will be looking to dust themselves off and go again when they take on a resolute Hunslet side this week. Hunslet sit in sixth despite defeat in two of their last three games, and have to make amends following their

36-6 loss to fellow play-off hopefuls Doncaster in round 10.

Across the Pennines, **Oldham Roughyeds** welcome **Midlands Hurricanes** to the Vestacare Stadium.

The Hurricanes leapfrogged Oldham into seventh last week following a dominant home win over West Wales Raiders.

This put a halt to an unwanted losing streak, and a clinical attacking display that saw them cross the line ten times means they've scored more points than anyone else outside of the top four teams, with 278. Oldham's torrid run of form continued last time out, a home defeat to Swinton Lions made it four losses on the bounce, and four points adrift from the play-off spots.

They may be buoyed by their head-to-head record against their opponents, though. The Roughyeds have won their previous seven meetings against the Midlands outfit.

The final fixture of round 11 sees **Rochdale Hornets** travel to **Swinton Lions** – it's third vs fourth at Heywood Road, with both sides level on 14 points as promotion hopes grow.

Swinton have triumphed in their last four meetings against the Hornets, and know that a fifth consecutive win would give them some breathing room in the table – if results go their way, two points could even take them into second as they look to bounce straight back up to the second tier.

Rochdale will also share their opponent's ambitions of promotion, and their only league defeats this season have come to Keighley and North Wales Crusaders, first and second respectively. They also boast the best attack in the division statistically, having scored more points than any other side with 376.

They may also look to the in-form scrum-half Lewis Sheridan for a spark this weekend, who has scored more points than anyone else in Betfred League One with 140.

# LEAGUE 1 RESULTS & FIXTURES

DATE	OPPOSITION	V	SCORE	ATT	REFEREE	FULL BACK	WINGER	CENTRE	CENTRE	WING	STAND OFF	SCRUM HALF
<b>APRIL</b>												
Sat 02	North Wales Crusaders	A	L 22-62	590	M Mannifield	Whitton 1T	Aaronson 1T	Snell 1T	Johns 3G	Symons	Turton 1T	Purcell
Sun 10	Midlands Hurricanes	H	L 14-60	1,453	J Jones	Aaronson 1T	Trerise	Tora	Johns 1G	Symons	Jones 1T	Purcell
Sat 17	Doncaster	A	L 16-52	943	M Mannifield	Aaronson 1T	Trerise	Burton 1T	Johns	Myers 1T	Jones	Purcell
Sun 24	Oldham Roughyeds	A	L 22-48	621	L Rush	Whitton 1T	Nichol	Arundel	Aaronson 2T	Myers	Jones	Purcell 2G
<b>MAY</b>												
Sun 01	Rochdale Hornets	H	L 0-50	903	A Sweet	Whitton	Trerise	Tora	Johns	Turner	Turton	Purcell
Sun 08	Hunslet	A	L 16-52	565	M Rossleigh	Whitton 1T	Aaronson 1T	Kay	Gibbons	Turner	Field	Purcell 2G
Sun 15	West Wales Raiders	H	L 0-20	1.153	K Moore	Whitton	Trerise	Tora	Aaronson	Adams	Collings	Rusling
Sat 21	Swinton Lions	A	L 16-54	678	M Mannifield	Whitton	Purcell 1T	Aaronson	Johns 2G	Adams	Conroy	Rusling 2T
<b>JUNE</b>												
Sat 04	London Skolars	H	L 20-24	827	J Jones	Whitton	J-Bishop 1T	Aaronson	Tora	Trerise	Conroy	Rusling 4G
Sat 12	Keighley Cougars	H										
Sat 25	West Wales Raiders	A										
<b>JULY</b>												
Sat 02	Hunslet	H										
Sat 09	Doncaster	H										
Sun 17	Keighley Cougars	A										
Sat 23	Swinton Lions	H										
Sat 30	London Skolars	A										
<b>AUGUST</b>												
Sun 07	North Wales Crusaders	H										
Sun 14	Rochdale Hornets	A										
Sun 21	Oldham Roughyeds	H										
<b>SEPT</b>												
Sun 04	Midlands Hurricanes	A										

# LEAGUE 1 LEADING SCORERS

## TRIES

- 1 Mo Agoro (Keighley Cougars 14)
- 2 Gav Rodden (North Wales Crusaders 12)
- = Owen Restall (Oldham Rougyeds 12)
- 4 Gregg McNally (Rochdale Hornets 11)

## GOALS

- 1 Dan Abram (Swinton Lions 55)
- 2 Tommy Johnson (North Wales Crusaders 51)
- 3 Lewis Sheridan (Rochdale Hornets 50)
- = Jack Miller (Keighley Cougars 50)

## POINTS

- 1 Lewis Sheridan, right (Rochdale Hornets 140)
- 2 Jack Miller (Keighley Cougars 128)
- 3 Tommy Johnson (North Wales Crusaders 122)
- = Dan Abram (Swinton Lions 122)





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