

**Sports Report**  
**NEWPORT RUGBY CLUB**

**Newport Under 14      54 – 15      Shrewsbury Under 14**

Newport's under fourteen team continued their fine season with a comprehensive 54 – 15 defeat of local rivals Shrewsbury.

Newport scored seven unanswered tries in the first half, with man of the match Jono Wilson adding six conversions to his two tries for a personal tally of 22 points.

Shrewsbury had no answer to Newport's strong runners and Velcho Alexandrov again showed his pace and strength to score three tries. These were added to by an excellent solo effort from Zach Stamp and another individual try from Oliver Gernon.

Once again though, it was a fine team performance that created the platform for the win, with all the Newport forwards working hard to keep a much larger Shrewsbury pack at bay. While most of the tries came from individual runs, Newport's collective strength and cohesion was the reason that chances were created.

Newport's backs too showed good skill levels as well as excellent pace and handling, but as Newport's lead grew, the tendency for individuals to take contact, led to opportunities out wide being missed.

At half time Newport were able to make seven changes to the team and the disruption to the pattern of the game gave Shrewsbury a chance to come back at the home side. However, despite the pressure exerted, the new recruits tackled hard and they gave an excellent account of themselves.

Shrewsbury did score three unconverted tries to give them some encouragement for the season ahead, but Newport were not finished and from sustained pressure, some slick and simple handling put George Taylor into space and he dived over for an outstanding try.