

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

**Whitchurch Under 14 26 – 35 Newport Under 14**

Newport under 14s finally registered their first win against Whitchurch at this age group, with a well deserved 35 – 26 away victory. Only two late Whitchurch tries gave the impression of a close contest, as Newport ran in four first half tries.

Sloppy tackling in midfield allowed Velcho Alexandrov to run sixty metres to open the scoring. Soon afterwards superb work by the forwards, involving man of the match Kritian Boote, Oliver Gernon, Rob Mayer and hooker Huw Davenport set up Newport's second try. The pack mixed aggression and deft handling to punch holes in the home side's defence, with skipper Matt Fleckney receiving the scoring pass.

Newport went down to fourteen men when Keiran Porter failed to control his mouth and this silly error led to Whitchurch scoring a try and gaining some hope. His indiscipline put pressure on his team mates, but an amazing solo try by Chris Massey let Porter off the hook.

A Whitchurch attack broke down near the Newport try line and Carter Champion-Westwood and Zach Stamp did well to win the ball. However, Massey showed great strength to brush off three would be tacklers, before out pacing everyone to run the length of the field and score under the posts.

Just before half time Newport again won quick ball in the Whitchurch half and half backs Ed Foulkes and Matt King fed Velcho, but with the defence up flat he chipped ahead and re-gathered his own kick to score.

Newport then relaxed a little and allowed Whitchurch to score another try and so go into half time 28 – 12 ahead.

Soon after the break Porter atoned for his earlier mistake with a try after good work from Andy Nurser and William Webster. Jono Wilson completed an immaculate kicking game, with his fifth conversion from five attempts.

The introduction of Matt Drummond at loose head prop gave Newport real strength in the scrum and George Taylor and Ben Hinks fitted in well out wide making some excellent tackles. The scoring was completed by two late Whitchurch tries, but both came from Newport giving away silly penalties and allowing the home side to run at them.

A richly deserved victory for the lads who are developing a great team spirit and improve as every game comes round. Next week Stoke on Trent will visit Newport for the first time.