

# Brown Men's Rugby

## Weekly Match Report

Saturday, September 10, 2022  
 Hookway Athletic Fields  
 Syracuse, NY

### Brown v. Syracuse – First Side

Scoring Summary	Brown	Syracuse
<b>First Half</b>		
3 min Penalty (Dylan Lewis '24)	3	
21 min Converted Try		7
28 min Brown Try (Campbell O'Connor '23)	5	
28 min Conversion (Dylan Lewis '24)	2	
34 min Penalty (Dylan Lewis '24)	3	
39 min Penalty (Dylan Lewis '24)	3	
<b>First Half</b>	16	7
<b>Second Half</b>		
43 min Penalty Syracuse		3
49 min Brown Try (Antonio Esteves '25)	5	
65 min Brown Penalty Try	5	
70 min Brown Try (Joe Al-Hasso '25)	7	
Conversion (Dylan Lewis '24)	2	
72 min Penalty Syracuse		3
78 min Brown Try (Max O'Donahue '25)	5	
78 min Brown Try (Campbell O'Connor '23)	5	
Conversion (Dylan Lewis '24)	2	
<b>Second Half</b>	31	6
<b>Final Score:</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>13</b>

The Bears traveled to Syracuse NY to take on the Hammerheads from Syracuse University. This was Brown's first league match of the season, entering the Liberty Conference. The Liberty Conference was a group of 20 teams organized into three groupings... the Empire Division (primarily upstate NY teams), the I-95 Division (mainly NY city and CT teams), and the New England Division (Boston area teams). Last season, Syracuse won the Empire Division.

This year, the Liberty Conference restructured into two groupings... D1 and D1AA. At the present time, Brown, Harvard and Dartmouth are too strong for the other Ivy teams to compete so the decision was made that the three teams would enter the D1 grouping. Columbia and Yale have entered the D1AA grouping and Cornell, Princeton and UPenn organized a home and away league against each other.

Liberty D1 is comprised of two groupings: Brown is lumped in with Colgate, Fairfield, Fordham, Iona and Syracuse. The other grouping has American International College, Dartmouth, Harvard, Nazareth, Northeastern and the University of Buffalo. The top teams from each grouping will move on to playoff the end of October and early November.

Brown will play both Harvard and Dartmouth on what would have been bye weeks. To determine an Ivy Champion, the Ivy League decided that, for this year, the best winner of Brown, Dartmouth and Harvard will be determined the Ivy Champion. This will be revisited again at our AGM in January.

Brown's last encounter with Syracuse was over 20 years ago... prior to the establishment of the Ivy League Conference (it was under the old Northeast Conference). As with our previous encounter, Brown came out victorious.

Summer like conditions gave way to clear skies with temperatures in the low 80's. With just 3 weeks of training under their belts, and only one preseason game, Brown struggled in the first half to find their shape and control their own possession. Credit needs to be given to the home team for coming out of the gate strong. As one might expect from a bunch of "Hammerheads", the locals came out ready to disrupt their Ivy opponents from the south. Syracuse is comprised of a big and athletic team. They used this to their advantage, putting Brown under pressure the entire first half forcing the visitors to play off script. Brown were slow to the contact area and, at times, were their own worst enemies. Low percentage off-loads provided attacking opportunities for the men in orange. Brown was able to strike first however, despite having scoring opportunities, had to settle for just three points ten minutes in to the game. Eleven minutes later, the sharks smelled blood in the water and attacked. Aggressive running and a poor defensive effort by Brown allowed Syracuse over the line. This ignited the home team as they were now up 7-3. Brown, however, was slowly starting to find its rhythm. This platform was due mainly to the inability of the locals to deal with the Brown scrum. The pressure exerted by the Bears scrum was at times painful to watch. Penalty after penalty piled up as the Syracuse back row was unable to hang on for dear life, forcing them to disengage before the scrum was over. Despite all this, Brown still struggled to convert these opportunities into points. Brown was able to score and convert one more try 3/4 of the way through the half but had to settle for two penalty goals rather than tries. The half would end 16-7 in favor of the Bears however there was no celebrating during the halftime recap.

The second half started off relatively slow. Slightly better than half one, Brown started to fix their earlier mental lapses. Syracuse did score first off of a penalty to close the game to just 6 points but Brown was starting to mount their own barrage of hurt on the home team. Over a ten-minute period, Brown would run in three tries. The first of these was a pushover try from a scrum (not converted). Then, a penalty try was awarded for a collapsed scrum on the goal line. Lastly, sophomore Joe Al-Hasso found his way into the try zone with Dylan Lewis converting to move the point total up to 35-10. Syracuse would add another three points, but Brown would add a couple more nails to the coffin with tries by Max O'Donahue and Campbell O'Connor.

Brown's second half surge demonstrated they had the ability to play however, with six more games to go in league play, slow starts will be a recipe for disaster if they continue to have substandard starts against some of the stronger teams they have yet to face.

Next week Brown travels to Harvard's Robert Mignone Stadium for an important Ivy matchup. Harvard lost a close one today to Nazareth College (a varsity program) 19-15. The kick-off is slated for 3pm. More details to follow later this week.

Brown Squad:

1. Henrique Gabriel '26 – replaced by Omar Al-Jendari'24 @ minute 60
2. Joe Al-Hasso'25
3. Dan Archer'23
4. Brett Geiss '23
5. Oliver Beiling'25 – replaced by Tony Zhao '26 @ minute 53
6. Kaspar Pitblado '26
7. Cameron McAlpine '26
8. Antonio Esteves'25
9. Dylan Lewis' 24

10. Campbell O’Conor’23
11. Keigo Hachisuka ’24 – replaced by Pablo Lavilla ’23 @ minute 53
12. Pablo Lavilla – replaced by William Zeller ’23 @ minute 53
13. JT Dyer’25
14. Max O’Donahue ’25
15. Santiago Cortabarría’25

Referee: Percy Niedzielski

### Brown v Syracuse University - Second XV

Scoring Summary		Brown	Syracuse
First Half			
10 min	Penalty (James Horkan’25)	3	
21 min	Brown Try (Garett Mann ’26)	5	
	Conversion (James Horkan’25)	2	
30 min	Brown Try (James Horkan ’25)	5	
	Conversion (James Horkan’25)	2	
<b>First Half</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>
44 min	Brown Try (Antonio Cortabarría ’25)	5	
69 min	Brown Try (Dan Betensky ’23)	5	
74 min	Brown Try (Jack Elliott ’25)	5	
	Conversion (James Horkan’25)	2	
<b>Second Half</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Final Score:</b>		<b>34</b>	<b>0</b>

Brown second XV side play also came out victorious on the day. Everyone was able to get a run out on the field with the team playing two 35-minute halves. Some improvements in areas for this team from the week before however still more consistent structure needed if this team will look to challenge for places in the first side squad.

#### Brown Squad:

1. Garrett Mann ’26
2. Shaan Lalvani’23
3. Omar Al-Jendari’24
4. Paul Muser’24
5. Jimmy Phelan ’26
6. Jack Forgione ’25
7. Tony Zhao ’26
8. Jack Elliott ’25
9. Dylan Maloney ’25
10. James Horkan’25
11. Toby Achleitner ’26
12. Dan Betensky ’23
13. Elliott Winoker ’23
14. Aaron Mertz’25
15. Keigo Hachisuka ’24

#### Reserves:

16. Milo O’Donahue ’26
17. Antonio Cortabarría ’25
18. Jack Kirkpatrick ’23
19. Ian Liu ’24
20. Eugene Oh ’24
21. Pietro Pignatti-Moreno ’26
22. Chris Wai ’25
23. Matt Wong ’26

Referee: Percy Niedzielski

Next week Brown takes on Harvard at Mignone Field. Kick off is scheduled for 3:00pm