

Brown Men's Rugby

Weekly Match Report

Saturday, November 13, 2021, 1:00 PM
 Brown University Rugby Field
 Providence, Rhode Island

Brown v. Fordham University – First XV

Scoring Summary	Brown	Fordham
First Half		
6 min Fordham Try		5
13 min Brown Try (Alwyn "Pete" Smith'22)	5	
15 min Fordham Penalty Kick		3
18 min Brown Try (Santiago Cortabarría'25)	5	
25 min Brown Try (Duncan Grant'22)	5	
Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
29 min Brown Try (Hudson Lee'22)	5	
Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
First Half	24	8
Second Half		
44 min Brown Try (Antonio Esteves'25)	5	
Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
50 min Brown Try (Campbell O'Conor'23)	5	
Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
61 min Brown Try (Campbell O'Conor'23)	5	
Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
69 min Brown Try (Duncan Grant '22)	5	
Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
Second Half	28	0
Final Score:	52	8

In spite of our 38-14 defeat of Fordham University on September 11 and our defeat of Dartmouth last weekend, the powers that be of National Collegiate Rugby (NCR) determined Brown had to win a "play in" game in order to qualify for the NCR final eight, so today was our opportunity to prove our season to date was no "fluke". The coaching staff was understandably nervous about this match. Brown was coming off the ultimate Ivy High having dispatched Dartmouth (15-13) last week in the Ivy Conference final in Hanover, and a letdown was possible. The field was wet and slick from a night of rain and several players who played against Dartmouth were nursing injuries and on the bench or unavailable for this game.

The first 18 minutes seemed to confirm our concerns as Brown conceded an easy Fordham try in the sixth minute of play and committed several penalties that allowed Fordham to park in the Brown half of the field and pressure the Bears. This was also the first match this season that Brown had not scored first. Expecting breaks off the first or second phases of play frustrated Brown and caused unnecessary turnovers which sporadically plagued the Bears throughout the first half. As well, Brown dropped its share of passes throughout the match.

At 11 minutes, however, Brown put together a sequence of ruck attacks and ball retention from sideline to sideline and back to the right wing Pete Smith who scored a try to tie the score. But the home team immediately lost its momentum with a penalty in front of the posts allowing Fordham to notch the kick and go up 8-5.

Eighteen minutes into the first half, fullback Hudson Lee fielded a Fordham kick and ran the ball well into the Fordham half, creating great field position for #7, Santiago Cortabarría to score. Brown was now on top 10-8 and would build on that lead and shut out Fordham for rest of the match.

In spite of the wet, slick surface of the field, the day was bright and sunny with a modest breeze. Brown seemed energized by the Santiago score which was followed closely in the 25th and 29th minutes of play, as left wing Duncan Grant and then fullback Hudson Lee scored with Raphael “Raph” Lansonneur converting both tries to put Brown ahead 24-8. Unfortunately, the magic of the moment seemed to desert the Bears, finishing the first half with no further scoring.

The second half was much more productive for Brown as they dominated field position, retained ball possession, forced turnovers, and disrupted Fordham’s scrum and lineout possession. Dropped passes probably prevented Brown from at least 3 additional tries, but the Bears did manage to score 4 tries all converted by Raph. #8. Antonio Esteves scored at 44 minutes, center Campbell O’Conor scored at 50 minutes and again at 61 minutes, and left wing Duncan Grant scored Brown’s final try of the match at 69 minutes.

Brown’s Antonio Esteves was yellow carded at 55 minutes and left wing Duncan Grant was yellow carded in the 69th minute, causing Brown to play a man short for most of the team’s last 25 minutes of the match.

With this victory, Brown has qualified for the final 8 teams of the NCR. Brown travels to Penn State University in State College, PA. next Saturday, November 20 to take on the Penn State Nittany Lions. The winner goes on and the loser goes home.

Brown Squad:

1. Brett Geiss '23 replaced by Omar Al-Jendari@ 69 min
2. Adam Eberle'22
3. Joe Al-Hasso'25
4. Ollie Corbett'24 – replaced by Brett Geiss@ 69 min.
5. Matt Mitchell '24
6. Jack Forgione '25
7. Santiago Cortabarría'25
8. Antonio Esteves'25
9. Dylan Lewis '24
10. Raphael Lansonneur'25
11. Duncan Grant'22
12. Campbell O’Conor'23
13. JT Dyer'25
14. Peter Smith'22
15. Hudson Lee'22
- Reserves
16. Omar Al-Jendari '25
17. Daniel Archer'24
18. Paul Muser,25
19. Antonio Cortabarría'25
20. Jon Kim'22
21. Jake Ehrenkranz'24
22. Keigo Hachisuka'24

Referee: Tom Beriau