

Brown Men's Rugby

Weekly Match Report

Saturday, November 20, 2021, 2:00 PM
Pennsylvania State University Rugby Field
State College, Pennsylvania

Brown v. Penn State University – First XV

Scoring Summary		Brown	Penn State
First Half			
4 min	Penn State Penalty Kick		3
10 min	Brown Try (Jon Kim'22)	5	
12 min	Brown Try (Duncan Grant'22)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
21 min	Brown Try (Duncan Grant'22)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
24 min	Penn State Try		5
37 min	Penn State Converted Try		7
First Half		19	15
Second Half			
52 min	Brown Try (Oliver Corbett'24)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur'25)	2	
58 min	Penn State Try		5
74 min	Penn State Converted Try		7
Second Half		7	12
Final Score:		26	27

“One and Done” tournament formats bring drama and ultimately disappointment to all but the ultimate winner of the competition. Yesterday Brown was eliminated from National Collegiate Rugby’s fall season playoffs, but not before the Bear squad through superb team work and a gigantic defensive effort had led Penn State from the 10th to the 74th minute of the match.

As the game unfolded, this match pit the skills of Brown versus the power and physicality of Penn State. Penn State pressed early and were rewarded in the 4th minute with a Penalty Kick and a 3-0 lead. Brown followed 7 minutes later as the Bears won a lineout deep in the red zone and worked the ball across the field where fullback Jon Kim’s try put the Bears in the lead 5-3.

During the first quarter of play neither forward pack could gain a clear advantage but the physical size and strength of the Penn State forwards was a focus for the Bears, shutting down the Penn State attack and scoring twice, both on 50 +/- meter break-a-way runs by left wing Duncan Grant. On the kickoff following Kim’s try, Grant intercepted a pass and scored. Ten minutes later, a Brown clearing kick was fielded by Penn State and dropped. Grant alertly picked up the ball and scored his second try, outsprinting the Penn State defense. Number 10 Raphael Lansonneur converted both tries and Brown was sitting on a 19-3 lead with sixteen minutes left to play in the first half.

The Penn State forwards began to assert themselves. A lineout catch and drive from 5 meters at 24 minutes upped Penn State’s point total to eight. Some overly aggressive contact caused two blood subs as scrum half Pete Smith and hooker Adam Eberle were replaced by Joe Al-Hasso and Dylan Lewis respectively. Also, Omar

Al-Jendari replaced Al-Hasso at prop. A converted Penn State try at 37 minutes cut Brown's halftime lead to 19-15.

It had been 28 minutes without a Brown score when the second half began. At 52 minutes Brown put a penalty kick into touch at the Penn State 5-meter line. The Bears caught the ensuing lineout and drove the maul over the line with Ollie Corbett scoring and "Raph" converting from a very difficult angle. Brown was back up 26-15.

The front row substitutions and the unavailability of prop Dan Archer due to injury was causing Brown some difficulty winning consistent scrum and lineout balls. As well, the Brown forwards to this point had put in a tremendous effort to hold off the opponent's attack. Penn State kept the ball in the Brown half and scored a try at 58 minutes to narrow the Brown lead to 26-20 with 22 minutes on the clock.

Brown needed to cause some turnovers and get their offensive system back on track but were unsuccessful. Seven minutes later Penn State took the lead on a converted try 27-26. Penn State continued to press the attack but a massive 15-man defensive effort by Brown and subsequent Penn State penalty, allowed Brown to gain some breathing room, kicking the ball into touch at mid-field. In spite of Penn State's one point lead, the Bears had a "last gasp" opportunity, winning the lineout and passing short side to Duncan Grant who broke his third 50-meter sprint, but was stopped just short of the line as time expired. Brown had lost 27-26 but the entire program must be proud of the team's heroic effort on the day and the progress this season. Please know that every one of the players and reserves listed below gave a 100% effort in this match.

In two years of recruiting, a full 2021 fall league season, the combination of skill, depth, teamwork, coaching and great player confidence and effort, this team and coaching staff have moved the Brown program to the next level of play and commitment. Penn State and Dartmouth have represented the level of competition that Brown has aspired to compete against and win. The Bears, after defeating Dartmouth for the Ivy Title, have demonstrated they can compete at a higher level and will be back next fall to take up the challenge again.

The Brown Squad finishes the fall season with a First XV record of 10 wins and 2 losses with special thanks to the staff: Head Coach, David Laflamme, Assistant Coaches Oliver Julyan and Dan Collins and Athletic Trainer, Kelly Teixeira. A full fall wrap-up of the season will be forthcoming.

And to you, our Alumni, Parents and Friends, we are deeply appreciative to all for your incredible support this season.

Brown Squad:

1. Brett Geiss '23
2. Adam Eberle'22 replaced by Joe Al-Hasso @ 27 min.
3. Joe Al-Hasso'25, replaced by Omar Al-Jendari @ 27 min.
4. Ollie Corbett'24
5. Matt Mitchell '24
6. Sam Jana '24
7. Santiago Cortabarría'25
8. Antonio Esteves'25
9. Alwyn "Pete" Smith, blood subbed by Dylan Lewis '25 @ 28 min, replaced @ halftime by Smith, then replaced by Lewis @ 67 min.
10. Raphael Lansonneur'25
11. Duncan Grant'22
12. William Zeller'23
13. JT Dyer'25
14. Hudson Lee'22
15. Jon Kim'22
Reserves
16. Omar Al-Jendari '25

17. Dan Archer'24
18. Jack Forgione'25
19. Chase Bekkerus'22
20. Dylan Lewis'24
21. Pablo Lavilla'23
22. Campbell O'Conor'23

Referee: John Abom