

Brown Men's Rugby

Weekly Match Report

Saturday, October 8, 2022
Lt. Hans Grauert Memorial Field
Fairfield, CT

Brown v. Fairfield – First Side

Scoring Summary		Brown	Fairfield
First Half			
2 min	Brown Try (Brett Geiss '23)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
9 min	Fairfield Penalty		3
14 min	Brown Try (S. Cortabarría '25)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
21 min	Penalty (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	3	
33 min	Brown Try (Sam Jana '24)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
First Half		24	3
Second Half			
54 min	Brown Try (Dylan Lewis '24)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
67 min	Brown Try (Antonio Esteves '25)	5	
74 min	Penalty (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	3	
80 min	Brown Try (Pablo Lavilla '23)	5	
Second Half		20	3
Final Score:		44	3

Six games in and Brown remains undefeated in their quest to make it once again to the National playoffs. The Liberty D1 group of 12 teams is divided into what we'll call the Left Side (which Brown is in) and the Right Side (housing Dartmouth and Harvard). And yes, for those that are trying to figure out the rhyme to the reason... there wasn't one for choosing who went where. The Bears have only Fordham remaining to conclude our league play. Harvard and Dartmouth are crossover games. We'll cap off the regular season with Dartmouth on Brown's Family Weekend, Saturday, October 22nd with a 2:30pm kickoff.

This weekend's matchup was a much anticipated one by many as NCR #2 team Brown travelled down to Fairfield, CT to hunt down the Stags of Fairfield University. Going into the match, Fairfield was also undefeated. They had shown this season they knew how to score points with convincing wins over U. Buffalo, Iona and Fordham. The scouting report had them as a big, athletic and physical team. Unfortunately, like rock breaks scissors and scissors cuts paper, so too does Bear eat Stag.

As with all previous games this season, it didn't take long for the Bears to strike. Brown has been scoring in the first 4 minutes of all our games. It only took 1:30 minutes against Fairfield to draw first blood. Fairfield committed a penalty soon after the opening kick-off, deep in their own half. Brown opted to kick for a lineout, crossing the touch line 5 meters out on the left side of the field. A well-executed catch and drive allowed senior Brett Geiss to touch down for Brown's first score on the day. An excellent conversion by Lansonneur added the 2 extra points. While this first score was a bit of a gut punch for the home side, this took nothing away from their heightened emotional state fuelled by an equally emotional crowd. In fact, 7 minutes later, the home side would score from a mistake by the visiting team. Rather than the full 7 points Brown had earned, the home team had to settle for a 3-point penalty.

Unfortunately for Fairfield, "that's all she wrote". No more points would be had for Lucas the Stag or any of the Fairfield boys.

Brown next scored after Fairfield were awarded a scrum. Brown's power in the scrum exploded Fairfield forcing a penalty. Quick thinking by Dylan Lewis caught the opposition napping. Lewis hit Corbett with a flat pass who then drew a defender and put S. Cortabarría over the line. Another stellar side-line conversion by Lansonneur put Brown up 14-3. Raph would then slot a penalty 7 minutes later as Brown began to pile up the points. The next score for Brown was a mirror of the first. Fairfield penalized... Brown kicked to touch... lineout on the 5-meter line (left side) ... caught... maul... driven... score... converted. The half would end with Brown having a three score lead.

The second half went no better than the first for Fairfield. Brown's fourth try was the result of a lineout on the right side of the pitch. This time, Brown had more real estate to cover as they were 22 meters out from the goal line. Brown won the lineout but Fairfield was once again penalized, this time for not releasing. Vice-captain Corbett took advantage quick tapping the ball. As Ollie charged up the field, he drew 2 Fairfield players and hit Lewis who made a b-line for the corner flag. Three larger Fairfield players gave chase. With 600 lbs of athletes bearing down on him, Lewis put on the brakes. Two flew past landing several meters outside the playing enclosure. Only one was able to make any contact but Dylan quickly ducked under and twisted his way over the line. And yes, Lansonneur added the two extra points from another side-line kick.

As the wheels started to fall off the bus for Fairfield, the game too slowly eroded from the referee's control. Several incidents of dangerous play were just ignored. While it is difficult for one referee to account for the actions of all 30 players on the field, this game should have been different. The league had provided two additional officials acting as AR's (side-line referees). Some heated conversations by the Brown coach with the referee and one of the AR's were simply dismissed by this officiating team.

As the game continued to spiral out of control, so too did the opposition's discipline and, in this next case, their scrum. With 13 minutes remaining in the game, Brown was awarded a scrum, 8 meters out from the Fairfield goal line. Nigel Tufnel (Christopher Guest) turned the dials up to 11 in the movie *This Is Spinal Tap* and so did the Brown scrum. As the ball was put into the scrum, the forwards put the train into gear, pushing forward until #8 Esteves had crossed the white line and touched the ball down. Not long after, another penalty allowed Lansonneur to notch up another three.

With less than 5 minutes remaining, the game took a turn for the worse. A Fairfield player was tackled just after the whistle. This resulted in lots of pushing and shoving by all 29 players on the field (Brown had received a yellow card just prior). Like randomly picking the lottery balls on a Saturday night, the referee decided to card two additional Brown players handing out yellows to both. This placed Brown at a three-man disadvantage. Despite the 12 on 15-man inequity, Brown had another opportunity for points. A missed penalty kick resulted in a 22 meter drop out for Fairfield with an attempt to clear their lines. Well, to add insult to injury, their kick found the hands of McAlpine. McAlpine ran, and then passed left to Gabriel who then hit fellow prop Archer. Archer took the ball into contact setting up a ruck. The ball was then moved back right to O'Connor who realized the red sea had parted as he strutted 10-meters up the field. As the defence converged, Campbell found Lavilla accelerating forward in support. The pass hit Pablo's hands with one defender in front for him to beat. It was just a little too late for the defence as Pablo smashed his way over the line for the final score of the day and an end to the match.

Next weekend Brown travels on **SUNDAY** to Jack Coffey Field in the Bronx to take on Fordham. Kickoff will be at 2:00pm.

Brown Squad:

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| 1. Henrique Gabriel '26 | 9. Dylan Lewis' 24 - Keigo Hachisuka '24 (66 min) |
| 2. Joe Al-Hasso'25 | 10. Raphael Lansonneur '25 - JT Dyer'25 (78 min) |
| 3. Dan Archer'23 | 11. Pablo Lavilla '23 |
| 4. Brett Geiss '23 | 12. William Zeller '23 |
| 5. Ollie Corbett '23 | 13. JT Dyer'25 - Campbell O'Connor'23 (78 min) |
| 6. Sam Jana '24 | 14. Campbell O'Connor'23 – Aaron Mertzels '25 (78 min) |
| 7. Cameron McAlpine '26 | 15. Santiago Cortabarría'25 |
| 8. Antonio Esteves'25 | |

Referee: Camille Juzwik

Other Liberty D1 conference results from this weekend:

- Iona and Colgate – idle
- Fordham – beat Syracuse 28-24
- Nazareth – beat Northeastern 43-29
- Dartmouth – beat U.Buffalo 33-17
- Harvard – lost to Yale 31-26

Current League Standings:

Liberty - "Right"

		Win	Loss	Tie	For	Against	Differential	Winning %
1st	AIC	4	0	0	121	70	51	100.00%
2nd	Dartmouth	3	1	0	110	82	28	75.00%
3rd	Harvard	1	2	0	62	77	-15	33.33%
4th	Nazareth	1	3	0	94	107	-13	25.00%
5th	Northeastern	1	3	0	87	119	-32	25.00%
6th	Buffalo	0	3	0	69	88	-19	0.00%

Liberty - "Left"

		Win	Loss	Tie	For	Against	Differential	Winning %
1st	Brown	4	0	0	211	21	190	100.00%
2nd	Fairfield	2	1	0	81	79	2	66.67%
3rd	Iona	2	2	0	98	116	-18	50.00%
4th	Fordham	2	2	0	72	102	-30	50.00%
5th	Syracuse	1	3	0	118	119	-1	25.00%
6th	Colgate	0	3	0	12	155	-143	0.00%

Brown v Fairfield University - Second XV

Scoring Summary

First Half

		Brown	Fairfield
18 min	Brown Try (Milo O'Donahue '26)	5	
	Conversion (James Horkan '25)	2	
33 min	Fairfield converted try		7
40 min	Fairfield converted try		7
First Half		7	14
41 min	Fairfield converted try		7
62 min	Fairfield try		5
75 min	Brown Try (Dylan Maloney '26)	5	
Second Half		5	12
Final Score:		12	26

With some depleted numbers from the previous week, several players were awarded some more game time than in previous weeks. Brown started strong but gave in to the size and athleticism of the home team. There were moments where Brown looked to get it together but defensive lapses allowed Fordham to cross the line twice as many times as the bears.

Brown Squad:

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|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Pietro Pignatti-Morano '26 | Chris Wai '25. (40) | Pietro Pignatti (65) |
| 2. Garrett Mann '26 | Shaan Lalvani '23 (60) | |
| 3. Omar Al-Jendari '24 | Hugo Mullen '26 (40) | |
| 4. Tony Zhao '26 | | |
| 5. Ollie Bieling '25 | Jack Elliott '25 (40) | |
| 6. Jack Elliott '25 | Shaan Lalvani '23 (40) | |
| 7. Kaspar Pitblado '26 | Vinh Legros '26 (60) | |
| 8. Antonio Cortabarría '25 | | |
| 9. Dylan Maloney '25 | | |
| 10. James Horkan '25 | Keigo Hachisuka '24 (40) | Nick Prior '26 (60) |
| 11. Aaron Mertzell '25 | Craig Michalowski '26 (33) | |
| 12. Nick Prior '26 | Jake Ehrenkranz '24 (40) | Jack Kirkpatrick '23 (60) |
| 13. Dan Betensky '23 | Toby Achleitner '26 (40) | Mark Appleman '23 (60) |
| 14. Milo O'Donahue '26 | | |
| 15. Keigo Hachisuka '24 | Elliott Winoker '23 (33) | Jake Ehrenkranz '24 (73) |

Here's NCR's Coach's Poll as of this week...

