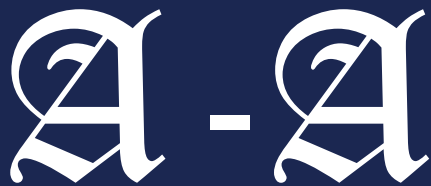


Annual Challenge Match



Anti-Assassins RUFC

V



Lancashire
RFU
THE
ROYALS



Saturday 28th December 2024, 2.30pm KO
at Broughton Park FC

The Anti-Assassins Rugby Union Football Club (A-As) was founded in 1950 when three Old Sedberghians, all members of Bury RUFC, Stewart Faulds, Geoff and Arthur Kenyon, were invited to pick a Northern team to play against the masters and Old Boys (The Assassins) of Sedbergh School, Cumbria. This invitation team carried on playing a variety of fixtures, mainly in the North, helping to develop rugby football at leading schools, celebrating special club occasions and raising money for established charities. 'Semper Mores Boni', (Good Behaviour Always), is the motto of the club!!

As the Game has changed, the A-As have modified their programme. Initially they played against the 1st XVs of independent schools in the North, such as Sedbergh, Rossall and Stonyhurst, with current Internationals occasionally playing against the schoolboys and always passing on coaching tips over a half-pint of shandy. When the Game went professional in 1995 and players were contracted to their clubs, it became more difficult for current representative players to turn out for invitation sides. At the turn of the century, when regulations forbade adults to play against under-age players, the A-As changed to playing against Old Boys' teams of schools such as Giggleswick and Kirkham as well as the Oxbridge sides.

One of the main priorities of the A-As' committee, led by the legendary Monsieur le President Stewart Faulds for 48 years, was to arrange tours to rugby playing locations all over the world. In the amateur days, the A-As visited Australia, Canada, East Africa, South Africa and USA, amongst other countries. Local destinations over the water included Galway, the Isle of Man, Jersey and Ulster and tours were also undertaken to European countries such as France, Holland, Italy and Spain. During the last couple of decades, the regular travels abroad have been to participate in Sevens or Tens tournaments. These have included visits to Trinidad for the Caribbean Sevens; Dubai for the International Tens which was part of the World Rugby Sevens; Madrid; Stockholm and more recently to the Ibiza Tens.

In 2004 the Anti-Assassins RUFC teamed up with Wooden Spoon to further promote its charitable work. (Wooden Spoon is the children's charity of rugby which funds projects to support children with disabilities across the UK & Ireland). Following a generous grant from Wooden Spoon, the club became the SpoonA-As and changed its jerseys to the colours of the charity - red, green and white. Each fixture helped with fundraising, increased the profile of Wooden Spoon and encouraged new membership. Several fund-raising events were also held. As personnel changed, and their policy towards support for Rugby Clubs altered, the relationship with the charity has become less formal. It was therefore decided by the Committee in 2020 to revert to the name Anti-Assassins RUFC. The club will however continue to support Wooden Spoon as its' charity.

Past A-As' players include over one hundred internationals, sixteen of them England players and three England captains.

Peter Hughes

A brief history of.....

A - A

Anti-Assassins RUFC



The Royals were formed following a meeting at Preston Grasshoppers in early 2016 when it was clear there was a desire from players playing at the middle to lower tier clubs of the county to represent Lancashire as the Senior XV tended to select from Levels 3,4 and 5 clubs in Lancashire.

Given Lancashire's close historical links to the Crown it was a straightforward thing to adopt the name "The Royals" for our community county side. Therefore, our first game duly took place at Preston Grasshoppers on Wednesday 27th December 2016 against the A-As and resulted in a 20-12 victory.

To date the Royals have a playing record of 4 wins to 2 over the A-As.

Exactly 160 players have represented the Royals and each of those who do are allocated a Heritage Number.

Most Appearances

Jack Weare (Firwood Waterloo) 6 Apps

Heritage Number 8

Most Tries

Mark Dickinson (Tyldesley) 3 Tries

Heritage Number 27

Most Points

Kurt Gledhill (Thornton Cleveleys) 16 points

Heritage Number 84



Royals v A-As at Preston 2016



Royals v A-As at Wigan 2018

Lead Coach
Martin Scott

Assistants
Jonty Wilson
Darren Fletcher

Manager
Stephen "Baz" Bailey



Anti-Assassins RUFC

White Hooped Shirts
Navy Shorts



Lancashire RFU The ROYALS

Red & White Hopped Shirts
Navy Shorts

1. Darren Wilson
2. Rob Cox
3. Tom Loveday
4. Adam Lewis
5. Richard Loveday
6. Tom Burtonwood
7. Kyle Ringwood
8. Wayne Bullough ©

9. Greg Nicholls
10. Will Smith
11. Jack Muckalt
12. Chris Ramwell
13. Shannon Morgan
14. Miles Roper
15. Kenny O'Shea

Replacements from:

Chris McGarvey, Joe Randa
Joe Koehler, Jack Schofield
Jordan Pearson, James Hesketh
Cameron Railton, Alex Gaughan
Patrick Selkirk, Scott Davidson,
Zac Round, Jacob Atherton
Angus McColl, Sam Firth

1. Eben Stander (Tarleton)
2. Matt Goldthorpe (Littleborough)
3. Ross Pillow (Vale of Lune)
4. Adam Pierce (Wigan)
5. Marcus Morris-Williams (Leigh)
6. Luke Banks (Tarleton)
7. Nathan Clare (Aldwinians)
8. Connor Braddock (Leigh)
9. Alex Leadbetter (Leigh)
10. Ryan Littler (West Park St Helens)
11. Ben Roby (Aspull)
12. Chris Carr (Wigan)
13. Joe Knight (Aspull)
14. Tom Smith (Bury)
15. Danny Cassidy (Wigan)
16. Owen Mills (Didsbury Toc H)
17. Joe Crompton (Thornton Cleveleys)
18. Dave Miler (Garstang)
19. Ben Tordoff (Aspull)
20. Jake Greenhalgh (Aspull)
21. Will Andrews (Garstang)
22. Sam Mallinson (Tarleton)
23. Aaron Booth (Tyldesley)
24. Jake Westwell (Leigh)
25. Ethan Brewster (Burnage)

Sponsored By



**Today's Match Officials provided by
Manchester & District RU Referee's Society**

Referee: Mr. John Pemberton
AR 1 Mr. Nathan Power
AR 2 Mr. Nathan Mountain



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