

U13 Rugby

24th November 2012

Limavady 31 - 12 Portora

Frost was losing it's grip on the ground as Portora's U13 team disembarked after another northward bus journey. After a short warm-up the game kicked off and Limavady were the first to score, taking an early 7-0 lead after 6 minutes. Having competed well at the rucks against Coleraine, Portora lapsed back into weakness in this area both in terms of slowness to reach the contact and poor body position when there. This improved during the first half, however, and scrum half Ewan Haire finished off a spell of Portora pressure using his trade mark sidesteps and dummy to successfully cross the line. The conversion brought the scores level on 22 minutes.

Limavady were eager to make ground through kicking on several occasions, but backs man of the match Joshua Kennedy dealt comfortably with all that was launched at him and with a safe pair of hands transformed defence into attack. Aaron Thompson made his characteristic strong runs and broke the line in his own half to run three-quarters of the pitch and score, taking Portora in at half-time leading 12-7.

Limavady maintained strong pressure in the second half, turning over much possession from fading Portora rucks and had soon levelled the scores at 12-12. Despite solid tackles from wing Sam Holden and flanker Alex Armstrong, and some good work from forwards man of the match Jack Coalter, the defence was breached on several occasions registering 19 more points on the board for Limavady. Portora had significant pressure at times with forwards pounding the last line of defence and backs waiting hungrily for the ball out wide, however opportunities were taken too late and Limavady were able to frustrate any further score from the visitors.

After a better contest than the final score might suggest, the boys left the pitch at 31-12, but it was pleasing to hear the volume of the cheer for Limavady.

Limavady	31 – 12	Portora
		<i>Tries:</i>
		Haire 6'
		Thompson 22'
		<i>Conversions:</i>
		Clyde 6'