



The Online Welsh Rugby Championship has been devised and created by All Wales Sport Ltd.

The Online Welsh Rugby Championship - Wednesday Round Up

by Ian Davies - chief Rugby writer

We're at the finals

Cae Carwyn James will be the venue for Grand Finals Day on Wednesday, October 21st. It is the ground of Cefneithin RFC, my village club, and named after the former Llanelli RFC and British Lions coach.

All three finals will be played behind closed doors, kicking off with the Bowl showdown at 6pm. The Plate final will get underway half an hour later, and at 7pm the Cup final between Cardiff Met Ladies and Whitland will bring the curtain down on the inaugural online championship.

It has been a remarkable turnaround for Rhydyfelin, who finished bottom of Pool 13 with just five wins and one draw from their 26 league games. This was 23 points behind the team above them, Glynneath.

But with the same squad of players it has been a different story in the knockout stages, and Rhydyfelin are through to the Grand Final after defeating Llandaff 22-10 at home in the semi-finals. It was their sixth victory on the bounce.

Facing Rhydyfelin the final will be Amman Valley giants Tycroes, who also made ground advantage count in knocking out Old Iltydians 27-22.

Second game up will be the Plate final between Abercarn and Aberaeron, who finished the stronger in winning 29-12 at Ystradgynlais.

Aberaeron reaped the benefits of a youthful bench, with replacements Gruff Morgan and Iwan Lloyd grabbing all-important tries in the second half. No.8 Jack Richards crossed early on.

Grand Final opponents Abercarn fielded a mixture of past and current players for the semi-final against Kidwelly at Parc Stephens and Abercarn produced a big performance in edging a 29-27 victory. Kris Kinsey came off the bench to drop the winning goal in the last 10 minutes for Abercarn whose team included big performances from Jeff Martin, Greg Baker and Barry Peebles. Abercarn were led superbly by club captain Aaron 'Dogzie' Davies.

After being drawn in the same Pool, Cup final opponents Cardiff Met Ladies and Whitland will play each other for the third time in the online season. The score between them is 1-1.

While Whitland ended the dream for Llandybie when winning a tense semi-final 29-23, Port Talbot Panthers and Cardiff Met Ladies were left searching for the rules when the tie finished 21-21. Cardiff Met Ladies make it to the final on the away team rule.

There are cash prizes awaiting the six beaten semi-finalists, Llandaff and Old Iltydians get £25 each in the Bowl, Kidwelly and Ystradgynlais £40 each in the Plate, and Port Talbot Panthers and Llandybie will collect £50 each in the Cup. Llandybie are donating their prize to the Jac Lewis Foundation, established to provide a preventative wellbeing and mental health service in the area.

RESULTS (Wednesday, October 10)

CUP SEMI-FINALS

Port Talbot Panthers 21 Cardiff Met Ladies 21

(Cardiff Met Ladies won on away team rule)

Whitland 29 Llandybie 23

PLATE SEMI-FINALS

Kidwelly 27 Abercarn 29

Ystradgynlais 12 Aberaeron 29

BOWL SEMI-FINALS

Rhydyfelin 22 Llandaff 10

Tycroes 27 Old Iltydians 22