

Quins Ladies 1st XV v Derry

AIL2, Philips Arena , Deramore
Sunday 7th February , 1pm

Quins ladies fielded a slightly weakened side arising out of injuries and unavailabilities:

**1 Cree McKeown 2 Jen Goodall 3 Michelle Laffin 4 Anete Wigman 5 Jenna Donaldson
6 Hilary Faith 7 Natalie Bryant 8 Eileen McIlroy 9 Jenna Stewart 10 Claire Knipe 11
Sally Nelson 12 Danielle Robinson 13 LesleyAnn Stirling 14 Rebecca Francis 15
Ashleigh Baxter.**

Further injuries were received and in particular Marta Enriquez came on for Cree Keown. Perhaps we could use Spanish line-out codes! The kick-off was 15 minutes late following some problems on the M2. Quins played purposely, with vigour, and were well in the game for the first half. At that stage Derry led 15-6, the six coming from the boot of Michelle Laffin and the 15 being three unconverted tries. I thought Jen Goodall holding the ball for Michelle was a good idea. In the 2nd half uncontested scrums ensued and Derry started to play Wednesday XV style and scored five further tries (thus securing the bonus point) and only the 3rd going unconverted.

Final Score: Quins 6 Derry 48.

Derry received at least two yellow cards for high tackles and were fortunate not to receive a third.

My player of the match was Michelle Laffin for her improved kicking. As usual Ashleigh Baxter was impressive at full-back. The Quins' ladies tackling, scrummaging and rucking were good; perhaps covering, backing-up, lineouts and punting need attention. Keep at it, ladies.

I look forward to the next game v Carrickfergus.

Derrick Crothers(prof)

Belfast Harlequins RFC PRO