

West 12-24 Hillhead/Jordanhill

West faced old friends, neighbours and rivals Hillhead/Jordanhill on a dry but slightly blustery day at Burnbrae. These matches have been high scoring affairs in the last few seasons, but that's not how it panned out.

The first half was scoreless, virtually unheard of at this level of rugby. Both sets of half backs were trying some enterprising stuff, kicks forward from Dru Nicholson and Rory Harte looking to cause trouble but the defences dealt with anything thrown at them. Usually matches are won and lost at the breakdown – but there was hardly any breakdown activity to report. There were a few high tackles and plenty of offside, but neither side could trouble the Frank Hogarth electric scoreboard.



West struck first after the break, when Blair Smith passed to the excellent Sean Carden who initially juggled it but ran through the Hills defence to score, and converted his own try.

The visitors from Hyndland pegged back the score through an Angus Twaddle penalty before playing their ace – Nick “Big Vinnie” McAuley. Vinnie is as large a prop as you are likely to see and has played at a much higher level than this, being on the edges of the pro game at one stage. He duly scored a pushover try converted by Angus Twaddle, and made sure West didn't get much change from the scrums for the rest of the game.

Hills won a penalty, elected for a scrum, and from it out half Rory Harte fooled the West defence with a show-and-go to run in a try converted by Angus Twaddle.

West pegged a try back when West had a good driving maul near the Hillhead line, Martin Wallace breaking through to score, unconverted to bring the score back to 12-17.

Hills completed the scoring and denied West any points from the match, when another elected scrum saw the ball passed to centre Ciaran Halligan converted by Angus Twaddle. West couldn't get back into the match and the final score was 12-24.

Next week is a break followed by away trips to Berwick and Perthshire, and West will be hoping to chalk up some much needed wins.



West team: 1. Peter Rhodes, 2 Daniel York, 3. Andrew Love, 4. Scott Cochrane, 5. David Thomson, 6 Tom Smith, 7. Max Bowie, 8. Marc Zoma, 9. Jamie Carruth, 10. Dru Nicholson, 11. Fraser Bland, 12. Blair Smith, 13 Calum Booth, 14. Martin Wallace, 15. Sean Cardin. Subs 16. Dylan Dawson, 17. John Vasconcelos, 18. Ronan McLaren, 19. Rory Cuthbertson