

West Ladies Go Top

West of Scotland Ladies 72 Annan Warriors 0.

After three weeks of the National League, West of Scotland Ladies lead the division by a point from Garioch. The sides meet at Kellands Park, Inverurie next Sunday. On the back of their 59-13 victory at Ayr last week, the Burnbrae side gave their points difference another huge boost in defeating Annan 72-0 at Burnbrae. In the process, they scored twelve tries.

The opening exchanges suggested a close contest but once centre Bex Francis put her side ahead after eleven minutes, it was one way traffic. Two tries followed in quick succession, from Alex Watson and Eilidh Power. Both were converted by Alexa Smith. With West in a commanding 19-0 lead, the match took an unfortunate turn. The visitors' Nadine Barnes received a red card for leading with a forearm to the head. Almost immediately, West hooker Rachel Morrison followed Barnes to the dressing rooms for the same offence. Both players could consider themselves rather unfortunate. The orderings off had a negative impact on the match with little event of note for the next ten minutes before Erinn Foley secured West's try bonus point. At half-time, West led by 24-0.

Whatever coach Lindsey Smith said to her side at the interval, it clearly prompted them to step up a gear. Within six minutes of the restart, they had scored a further three tries through Ellie Williamson, Fiona Gassner and Francis with her second of the game. Smith converted the first of these scores. Despite trailing by forty-one points at this stage, the visitors did not stop competing. It took West another ten minutes to score again, this time through Lucy Gardner. Foley then got her second before a high tackle on Power prevented her scoring in the corner. The referee correctly awarded a penalty try and issued a yellow card. There was still time for Gassner and Watson to each record their second scores. Smith converted both.