

West Ladies Back to Winning Ways

West of Scotland Ladies 58 Ayr Ladies 24

Following last week's home defeat to Stewartry Sirens, it was imperative West of Scotland Ladies took maximum points when Ayr Ladies visited Burnbrae on Sunday. West did just that, scoring ten tries in the process to secure the bonus point.

Earlier in the season, West had had to come from behind at Millbrae before securing what proved in the end to be a comfortable victory. Once again, Ayr started the better side with the hosts having to battle hard in defence. It was actually from a scrum in their own 22 that West took the lead in the ninth minute. No 8 Alex Watson picked up at the back of the scrum and blasted through a huge hole in the Ayr defence to go the length of the park to score. Further tries from Watson's back row partner Amanda Paterson and hooker Hannah Foster-Rain quickly followed. Alexa Smith's conversion of that last try gave West a 17-0 lead. Just before the half hour mark, Paterson got her second score of the game and secured the try bonus point. There was some concern when two tries from Ayr, the first of which was converted, narrowed the gap but right on half-time, Paterson completed her hat-trick, Smith's successful kick giving West a 29-12 lead at the interval.

As in the first half, Ayr started on the attack and were rewarded with their third try of the afternoon, it being successfully converted. It took West some time to get going again but Paterson's fourth try quickly followed by further scores from Foster-Rain, the hooker showing a great turn of pace, and scrum half Aimee Watson secured the victory for West. West will have been disappointed by conceding a fourth try which gave Ayr a bonus point. Before the end, though, Watson got her second try of the afternoon before Fi Gassner joined her back row colleagues on the scoresheet. Emily Irving converted both of these tries. The score at No Side was West of Scotland Ladies 58 Ayr Ladies 24.

Stewartry Sirens failure to take a point from their trip to Garioch has left West in second place in the table, behind the Inverurie side. Next Sunday, West travel to Annan in what will be a difficult match.