

UUC – 34 Enniskillen – 18

A disappointing first-half display from 'Skins left them with far too much to do and allowed Coleraine a deserved but slightly flattering victory.

The hosts were quickly into their stride and their speedy winger and back three quickly tested the 'Skins defence. Some poor first-up tackling conceded two tries and combined with a penalty 'Skins found themselves 15 points down in as many minutes.

'Skins then started to get the journey out of their system and camped in the opposing "22" where a series of scrums followed but alas no try came. Then following a turnover deep in the UUC half the ball was transferred to their winger, who outpaced the cover and passed to the supporting no 8 to score and leave the scoreboard 20 - 0.

The only thing 'Skins had to show for a disappointing start was a Dale McMaster penalty, making it 20 - 3 at the interval.

UUC scored first in the second half with a converted a try, but for much of the remainder of the game there was only one team in it. The 'Skins forwards totally dominated the home pack with some powerful scrummaging and terrific mauling. They started to offer themselves as runners and time and time again, Murray, Ferguson, Parke and Brien carried the ball forward. Two tries followed from Buchanan and Brien, but several more chances were missed.

At 27 – 18, and with time running out 'Skins tried to run the ball from their own line, a mistake was made and the hosts were gifted a try under the posts.

It was a fine second half display by 'Skins who will rue the loss of so many points from missed kicks. If they continue this style of play then they can remain competitive in all matches for the rest of the season.