

Enniskillen – 25 Carrick – 3

Enniskillen bounced back followed last week's defeat at Omagh with a comprehensive bonus point victory at home to Carrick.

The pre-match hospitality overran somewhat and by the time a lot of the supporters had ventured into the wind 'Skins were already five points clear, the forwards having rumbled to the visitors' line, and over, whilst the referee played advantage for an infringement by Carrick. Felix Quigley was credited with the final touch. Having already seen a penalty effort sail wide, Chris McVitty missed the conversion in a strong crossfield breeze.

It wasn't long before 'Skins added to their lead and again it was excellent work from the forwards, recycling and retaining possession that ended up with Eddie Roofe getting the touchdown. Again the conversion attempt sailed high and wide on the wind, but 'Skins were ten points to the good with a quarter gone.

'Skins continued to take the game to the visitors and some strong running in the backline allied with a powerful forward display prevented Carrick from making any inroads into 'Skins territory and it came as no surprise when the hosts extended the lead through a McVitty penalty shortly after the half hour mark.

Carrick did rally late in the half and managed to make a foray towards 'Skins line, but some good defence kept them out. Skipper Alan Wilkinson led by example as 'Skins stifled the life out of any Carrick attempt to cross the line, and Carrick had to settle for a solitary penalty just before the halftime break to leave the score 13 – 3, with 'Skins halfway to the try scoring bonus.

'Skins started the second half like an express train and went further ahead with barely two minutes on the clock. The backs and loose forwards were finding spaces to run into, typified by the team's third try, when centre Andrew Dixon broke in midfield and raced clear of the visitors' defence to score. McVitty added the conversion and the scoreboard now read 20 – 3.

'Skins continued in the same vein and both Gavin Parke and Eddie Roofe made a number of excellent breaks through Carrick's line, which was becoming more porous as the game went on. On the first few occasions the final ball was disappointing, but on sixteen minutes Parke did find Ally Duncan who sprinted clear of the covering defender to score the bonus point try.

The game continued much in the same vein as 'Skins threatened to inflict further damage on the visitors with Robbie Murray also finding himself in a footrace for the line, but it wasn't to be and 'Skins settled for the 25 – 3 final scoreline.

A great win to boost the team's confidence as they face two tricky road trips in consecutive weeks. This Saturday they make the journey to Belfast to face Grosvenor and will be looking for some revenge on the side who knocked them out of the Junior Cup, and then travel to unbeaten UUC for a game that could define the season.