



Vs LEICESTER TIGERS
1ST OCTOBER 2011 • KICK OFF 3.15pm

2011/2012 OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME • £3.00



THATCHERS

NOVIA

6X

IPL

THRINGS
SOLICITORS

TODAY'S
MATCHDAY
SPONSOR

TODAY'S TEAMS



BATH RUGBY



LEICESTER TIGERS

FULLBACK	XV	Nick Abendanon
WING	XIV	Matt Carraro
CENTRE	XIII	Dan Hipkiss
CENTRE	XII	Ben Williams
WING	XI	Tom Biggs
FLY HALF	X	Sam Vesty
SCRUM HALF	IX	Michael Claassens C
PROP	I	David Flatman
HOOKER	II	Pieter Dixon
PROP	III	Kane Palma-Newport
LOCK	IV	Dave Attwood
LOCK	V	Ryan Caldwell
FLANKER	VI	Ben Skirving
FLANKER	VII	Guy Mercer
NO. 8	VIII	Simon Taylor
REPLACEMENT	XVI	Ross Batty
REPLACEMENT	XVII	Charlie Beech
REPLACEMENT	XVIII	Duncan Bell
REPLACEMENT	XIX	Will Spencer
REPLACEMENT	XX	Andy Beattie
REPLACEMENT	XXI	Mark McMillan
REPLACEMENT	XXII	Tom Heathcote
REPLACEMENT	XXIII	Jack Cuthbert

XV	FULLBACK	Scott Hamilton
XIV	WING	Matt Smith
XIII	CENTRE	Billy Twelvetrees
XII	CENTRE	Anthony Allen
XI	WING	Niall Morris
X	FLY HALF	George Ford
IX	SCRUM HALF	James Grindal
I	PROP	Boris Stankovich
II	HOOKER	C George Chuter
III	PROP	Michael Holford
IV	LOCK	Ed Slater
V	LOCK	Graham Kitchener
VI	FLANKER	Steve Mafi
VII	FLANKER	Ben Woods
VIII	NO. 8	Julian Salvi
XVI	REPLACEMENT	Rob Hawkins
XVII	REPLACEMENT	Jonny Harris
XVIII	REPLACEMENT	Peter Bucknall
XIX	REPLACEMENT	Tom Youngs
XX	REPLACEMENT	Tom Armes
XXI	REPLACEMENT	Mickey Young
XXII	REPLACEMENT	Jeremy Staunton
XXIII	REPLACEMENT	Mathew Tait

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Gloucester Rugby 23 Bath Rugby 6

Leicester Tigers 25 Saracens 50

TODAY'S REFEREE - TIM WIGGLESWORTH

ASSISTANT REFEREES - PAUL BURTON AND

THOMAS

TODAY'S MATCHDAY SPONSOR

THRINGS

SOLICITORS



Premiership finalists in each of the last seven campaigns, Leicester Tigers travel to the Recreation Ground this afternoon for the 177th meeting with old rivals Bath.

A rivalry between the clubs has been a feature of top-flight club rugby in this country for decades, with collisions in league and cups providing some of the biggest games of the season for both sides, year in, year out.

Tigers have started the season with just one win in the opening three Aviva Premiership rounds – at Newcastle in round three – as a lengthy injury list has added to the problems thrown up by having 12 players on World Cup duty.

But Tigers have lost just one game on the road in the Premiership since last October, that a 35-29 defeat at London Wasps earlier this season.

Leicester took a losing bonus point from the fixture at Adams Park, where Billy Twelvetrees set a new

club record. The 22-year-old centre scored all 29 points – two tries, two conversions and five penalties – to claim the biggest individual tally in Tigers' history when only one player has been on the scoresheet.

Tigers followed up with their first victory of the campaign at Newcastle Falcons in their last away trip. Tonga international Steve Mafi scored a late try to secure victory, and there were first Aviva Premiership tries for fellow forwards Ed Slater and Julian Salvi in the 27-26 victory at Kingston Park.

Director of rugby Richard Cockerill began the pre-season programme with 14 players away in international training camps, and only George Chuter, Thomas Waldrom and Mafi returned to the club ahead of the new league campaign. Uncapped back rower

Waldrom has since linked up with England as an injury replacement.

The timing of injuries to experienced leaders Craig Newby, Jordan Crane and Julian White could therefore not have come at a worse time. Geoff Parling is back from a lengthy spell on the sidelines and Mathew Tait made his debut as a replacement last weekend against Saracens after picking up a groin injury just before the opening-day fixture against Exeter Chiefs.

Despite the tough start, there have been some highlights for the Tigers, with teenage fly-half George Ford showing maturity well beyond his years as he becomes accustomed to Aviva Premiership rugby, and the impressive early form of wing Niall Morris, who has scored three tries in four starts,

and former Bath back-rower Salvi, who has scored a try in each of the last two games as well as adding some experience and added leadership in the pack.

The pre-season period saw defeat to Montpellier during a training camp in France, followed by victories over Lyon and Nottingham before the first whistle in the Aviva Premiership campaign.

Tigers welcomed three England Saxons among their summer recruits, with scrum-half Mickey Young and prop Kieran Brookes moving south from Newcastle Falcons and second-row Graham Kitchener switching from Worcester Warriors. However, Brookes joined the injury-list when he suffered a foot injury shortly after coming off the bench as a replacement against his former employers at Kingston Park.

Back-rower Richard de Carpentier, an England Students and Sevens cap last season while studying in Cardiff, is looking to make the most of his first professional contract and Morris arrived from Leinster to

challenge for a place in the back three, announcing his arrival with two well-taken tries against Exeter after receiving his call-up when England international Tait withdrew with injury.

Waldrom, voted Supporters Player of the Year and Rugby Players Association Player of the Year in 2010/11, was also on the scoresheet against the Chiefs who got off to a flying start at Welford

Road with a try inside 30 seconds and then held on in the face of late Tigers onslaught.

Tigers went down to defeat last game to Saracens, the club who beat them in the Grand Final at Twickenham in May. Moriarty and Ben Woods' first of the season scored the tries for a depleted Tigers side but were unable to prevent a heavy defeat to the defending champions.

**HEAD COACH
RICHARD COCKERILL**



Richard Cockerill was confirmed head coach in April 2009 and led Tigers to the league title and

Heineken Cup Final in his first season. Cockerill, who became director of rugby in July 2010 and retained the Premiership in 2011 and led Tigers to a third successive Grand Final last season. A member of the famous 'ABC' front row, Cockerill joined Tigers in 1992 and made 262 first-team appearances, winning five league titles, two domestic cups and two-back Heineken Cups, as well as enjoying a two-year stint at Montferrand in France. He was also capped 27 times at hooker for England.