



SCOTLAND

WORLD RUGBY
U20 CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

MEDIA GUIDE

SCOTLAND

World Rugby U20 Championship

MATCH **SCHEDULE**

SUNDAY 29 JUNE

ENGLAND U20 v SCOTLAND U20

2.30pm Payanini Centre, Verona

FRIDAY 4 JULY

AUSTRALIA U20 v SCOTLAND U20

2.30pm Stadio Luigi Zaffanella, Viadana

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY

SOUTH AFRICA U20 v SCOTLAND U20

2.30pm Stadio San Michele, Calvisano

SCOTLAND U20 COACHES



KENNY MURRAY
HEAD COACH

Murray's coaching career began at Glasgow based Cartha Queens Park, the club he previously played for. In 2008, after a period working for Scottish Rugby as a Regional Development Officer, Murray returned to coaching when he joined Ayr Rugby Club as Head Coach. He joined Scottish pro club Glasgow Warriors as Assistant Coach. His time at the pro side lasted eight years before Murray took on the role as Scotland U20 Head Coach in 2022.



SCOTT FORREST
ASSISTANT COACH

Forrest competed at the 2010 Commonwealth Games, serving as captain of the Scotland Men Sevens team. He was also a high performance manager with the Scotland national women's team, and Head Coach of Scotland Women Sevens at the 2022 Commonwealth Games and held the equivalent position with Team GB at the 2020 Olympic Games. Forrest joined the Scotland U20 coaching set up in 2022. In August 2025 he will join Glasgow Warriors as Defence Coach.



SCOTT LAWSON
ASSISTANT COACH

After a playing career that included 42 caps for Scotland, Lawson was appointed Director of Rugby at the University of St Andrews. He later transitioned into Scottish Rugby as a Specialist Skills Coach, working across both the men's and women's performance pathways. In 2025, Lawson took on the role of Interim Assistant Coach with Scotland U20 for the 2025 World Rugby U20 Championship, and will join Bristol Bears as women's team Head Coach at the conclusion of the Championship.

MEDIA CONTACTS



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World Rugby U20 Championship

SCOTLAND U20 SQUAD

FORWARDS

Ollie Blyth-Lafferty

Dylan Cockburn

Freddy Douglas (CC)

Oliver Duncan

Oliver Finlayson-Russell

Mark Fyffe

Bart Godsell

Dan Halkon

Reuben Logan

Oliver McKenna

Charlie Moss

Will Pearce

Joe Roberts

Jake Shearer

Seb Stephen

Jamie Stewart

Ben White

BACKS

Jack Brown

Isaac Coates

Noah Cowan

Jed Findlay

Jack Hocking

Angus Hunter

Nairn Moncrieff

Hector Patterson

Matthew Urwin

Cameron van Wyk

Johnny Ventisei (CC)

Fergus Watson

Kerr Yule

PLAYER
PROFILES

FORWARDS

FREDDY DOUGLAS (CC)

Flanker



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

14/05/2005

Place of birth:

Edinburgh, Scotland

Height:

1.85m

Weight:

95kg

Caps:

12

Tries:

9

Freddy Robert Douglas was born in Edinburgh and is a product of Stewart's Melville College.

Freddy played for Stewart's Melville College team from 2009-2023, before joining Edinburgh Rugby's FOSROC Scottish Rugby academy. He also had a stint with Edinburgh Vikings from 2018-2021. He was part of the FOSROC Future XV in 2023.

Douglas represented Scotland Under-18's in Dublin in 2023. After a stellar 2024 World Rugby U20 Trophy campaign, and strong performances for Edinburgh A, he was selected by Gregor Townsend for the 2024 Autumn Nations Series. He became cap number 1234 when he came off the bench against Portugal, the youngest Scotland men's player since Donald White in 1963. He then played for Scotland A against Chile the following weekend.

He also used to compete in shot putt.

OLLIE BLYTH-LAFFERTY

Tighthead Prop



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

06/04/2006

Place of birth:

Edinburgh, Scotland

Height:

1.92m

Weight:

136kg

Caps:

9

Tries:

2

A product of Boroughmuir RFC, Ollie is the second Blyth-Lafferty to make it into the Scotland U20 set up.

Ollie started with Boroughmuir in Primary 1, playing all the way up to U18 level where he won the U18 Boys' Youth Cup.

He was named as one of the FOSROC Contracted Academy players aligned with Edinburgh Rugby for the 2023/24 season.

Still just 17, Ollie had his first experiences of adult rugby via Currie Chieftains and the FOSROC Futures XV. He has also represented Heriot's Rugby in the Premiership in the 2024/25 season.

Before being brought into the Scotland U20 set up, Ollie was a standout player at Scotland U18 level, having represented the side in all three games of the 2024 Under-18 Six Nations Festival.

Ollie and his brother Jerry became the first brothers to play for Scotland U20 together on an international stage when they started in the front row in the team's first pool match against Samoa in the 2024 World Rugby U20 Trophy.

OLIVER DUNCAN

Back Row



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

24/08/2005

Place of birth:

Edinburgh, Scotland

Height:

1.91m

Weight:

106kg

Caps:

6

Tries:

2

Edinburgh-born Oliver Duncan began his rugby journey at Kilkenny RFC.

He went on to represent Edinburgh Academical as well as Edinburgh Academy, where he was a 2022 U18 Schools Cup finalist.

Duncan is now part of the Edinburgh Rugby pro-academy.

Internationally, Duncan has previously represented Scotland U18, and came off the bench for Scotland U20 in their 2024 World Rugby U20 Trophy final victory over USA U20.

OLIVER FINLAYSON-RUSSELL

Back Row



Club:

University of St Andrews

D.O.B:

09/08/2006

Place of birth:

Edinburgh, Scotland

Height:

1.88m

Weight:

101kg

Caps:

0

Oliver Finlayson-Russell is a former Edinburgh Academical RFC youth player.

He also played for Edinburgh Academy, and was part of an U18 team, alongside fellow U20 back row Oliver Duncan, that played in the 2022/23 Schools Cup final at Scottish Gas Murrayfield.

Finlayson-Russell is a rugby scholar at St Andrews University, where he studies Management.

He featured for Scotland U20 in two friendlies against Wales U20 in December 2024, and was selected for the 2025 U20 Six Nations.

DAN HALKON

Lock



Club:
Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:
18/06/2006

Place of birth:
Worcester, England

Height:
2m

Weight:
120kg

Caps:
5

Dan Halkon first picked up the oval ball at Driotwich RFC.

The towering second row also played for RGS Worcester and the Worcester Warriors Junior Academy.

Ahead of the 2024/25 season, he joined the Glasgow Warriors Pro-Academy.

Previously a Scotland U18 representative, Halkon also played for Emerging Scotland in the December 2024 fixture against Italy U23. He then made his U20 debut in the 2025 Six Nations, playing every minute of the tournament.

Outside of rugby, he studies Business Studies at Strathclyde University.

OLIVER McKENNA

Loosehead Prop



Club:

Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:

28/03/2006

Place of birth:

Glasgow, Scotland

Height:

1.82m

Weight:

109kg

Caps:

5

Oliver McKenna came through Lenzie RFC's minis, and played for St Aloysius' College throughout his time there.

Briefly a GHA player at U16 level, he is currently with Glasgow Hawks.

Having played for Scotland U18 in the 2024 Six Nations Festival, McKenna was called up for Scotland U20 ahead of the 2025 U20 Six Nations, featuring in a friendly against Wales U20 in the December before.

Outside of rugby, McKenna is studying Law at Strathclyde University.

WILL PEARCE

Prop



Club:

Cardiff Metropolitan University / Bristol Bears

D.O.B:

22/05/2006

Place of birth:

Bristol, England

Height:

1.86m

Weight:

113kg

Caps:

0

Will Pearce began his rugby journey at Clifton Rugby.

He has also played for Bristol Cathedral and Collegiate School, and is currently in the Bristol Bears Academy while also playing for Cardiff Metropolitan University where he is a student.

Qualifying for Scotland through his grandfather born in Glasgow, Pearce has previously represented Scotland U18.

JOE ROBERTS

Hooker



Club:

Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:

04/08/2006

Place of birth:

Bristol, England

Height:

1.87m

Weight:

105kg

Caps:

5

Tries:

2

Joe Roberts is a former Scotland U18 captain, who started his playing days at Robert Gordon's College in Aberdeen.

In his final year of school, Roberts got his first taste of senior rugby at Dundee RFC in National League Division 1. He then played for Stirling Wolves in 2024 during their victorious Super Series campaign.

Roberts spent two years with Scotland U18, and trained with Scotland U20 at the age of 17. He is currently a Glasgow Warriors pro-academy player, and made his U20 debut in the 2025 Six Nations, featuring in all five matches and scoring two tries.

JAKE SHEARER

Loosehead Prop



Club:

Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:

09/11/2005

Place of birth:

Drongan, Scotland

Height:

1.85m

Weight:

110kg

Caps:

7

Prop Jake Shearer began playing rugby at Cumnock RFC.

He played with the east Ayrshire outfit from U13 to U16, before moving to Ayr RFC.

In 2024, Shearer progressed to the Ayr FOSROC Super Series side Ayrshire Bulls and made four appearances for the team.

He made his Scotland U20 debut in the final of the 2024 World Rugby U20 Trophy, coming off the bench as Scotland beat USA U20 to win the trophy.

Outside of rugby, Shearer is studying Business Analysis and Technology at Strathclyde University.

SEB STEPHEN

Hooker



Club:

Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:

29/08/2005

Place of birth:

Aberdeen, Scotland

Height:

1.89m

Weight:

113kg

Caps:

8

Aberdeenshire born Seb Stephen started playing rugby at a Garioch RFC at the age of six.

He played for his school team Glenalmond College before having his first taste of adult rugby at Aberdeen Grammar Rugby.

In 2023, Seb represented Scotland U18 in the 2023 Under-18 Six Nations festival before travelling to New Zealand to play for University of Waikato. He returned to Scotland to play for Scotland U20 in the 2024 World Rugby U20 Trophy.

In 2025, Seb made his Glasgow Warriors professional debut away to Leinster in the URC.

JAMIE STEWART

Tighthead Prop



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

21/04/2006

Place of birth:

Kirkcaldy, Scotland

Height:

1.94m

Weight:

130kg

Caps:

4

Jamie Stewart's rugby journey began in Edinburgh, with Edinburgh Academical minis and Cargilfield School.

A move to Devon followed, where Stewart played for Kingsbridge RFC, Brundell's School and the Exeter Chiefs Academy.

In the summer of 2024, Stewart returned to Scotland to join the Edinburgh Rugby pro-academy.

A previous Scotland U18 player, he was called up for the Scotland U20 squad for the 2025 U20 Six Nations, making his debut against Ireland.

BEN WHITE

Prop



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

20/03/2005

Place of birth:

Melrose, Scotland

Height:

1.83m

Weight:

110kg

Caps:

4

Ben White was five years old when he first picked up a rugby ball at local club Biggar RFC.

He then moved to his high school's club Peebles RFC before returning to Biggar RFC, and is currently representing his hometown club, Melrose RFC.

At the start 2024, Ben was one of three up and coming Scottish players awarded the coveted MacPhail Scholarship and spent five months immersed in South Africa's renowned rugby culture at the high-performance training facility at Stellenbosch University.

Ben has represented Scotland at both U17 and U18 level, and made appearances during both the 2022 and 2023 Under-18 Six Nations Festival. He went on to represent Scotland U20 in summer 2024 during their World Rugby U20 Trophy win.

PLAYER
PROFILES

BACKS



Club:

Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:

05/04/2005

Place of birth:

Glasgow, Scotland

Height:

1.80m

Weight:

96kg

Caps:

9

Tries:

2

Johnny Ventisei is a FOSROC Scottish Rugby contracted academy player at Glasgow Warriors.

Johnny began his rugby career at GHA RFC and played all of his age-grade rugby at the Glasgow club. He also played at his school St Aloysius' College. In 2022, he competed alongside Scotland U20 teammate Matthew Urwin in the U18 Schools Shield Final at Murrayfield Stadium, where they were victorious against The High School of Glasgow.

Ventisei now trains with Glasgow Warriors as part of the 2023/24 FOSROC Scottish Rugby contracted academy. He has also played for FOSROC Futures XV and Boroughmuir Bears.

The inside centre previously represented Scotland U18. Having featured for Scotland U20 throughout 2024, he captained the side against Wales U20 in a friendly in December. It was announced the he would maintain captaincy of the side ahead of the 2025 U20 Six Nations.

Outside of rugby, Ventisei is studying business at Strathclyde University, which he has deferred for the 2024/25 academic year in order to focus on rugby.

JACK BROWN

Full Back



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

18/06/2005

Place of birth:

Livingston, Scotland

Height:

1.88m

Weight:

94kg

Caps:

6

Conversions:

1

Tries:

2

Penalties:

1

Jack Brown began playing rugby when he was in Primary 3 at Watsonian FC.

Brown worked up the age grades of the club alongside playing for his school George Watson's College. In 2023, he made three appearances for the Watsonians FOSROC Super Series team in the Sprint.

He was named as one of the fifteen FOSROC Scottish Rugby contracted academy players aligned to Edinburgh Rugby for the 2023/24 season.

Previously, Brown captained Scotland at the 2023 U18 Six Nations festival, and made his Scotland U20 debut against Ireland in the 2024 U20 Six Nations. He was selected for Scotland A against Chile in November 2024, coming off the bench in the second half.

Jack was also a competitive swimmer and represented Heart of Midlothian Swim Club at national level. He decided to stop swimming during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown to prioritise rugby.

ISAAC COATES

Stand-off



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

30/08/2005

Place of birth:

Scarborough, England

Height:

1.72m

Weight:

84kg

Caps:

6

Conversions:

7

Penalties:

1

Isaac George Edward Coates started his career at Bridlington Rugby Club at the age of six.

He has represented Scotland at Under-18 level, and attended Merchiston Castle school in Edinburgh. In December 2022, Coates was part of the U18 Merchiston Castle School team that won the U18 Schools Cup Final. He captained this team along with current Scotland U20 team mate Tom Currie, and was named Player of the Match.

In 2023, Isaac was named as one of the FOSROC Scottish Rugby contracted academy players aligned with Edinburgh Rugby and played for the FOSROC Future XV side during the FOSROC Super Series Championship.

Isaac also played at cricket at the Yorkshire County age grade.

NOAH COWAN

Scrum-half



Club:

Ealing Trailfinders

D.O.B:

02/03/2005

Place of birth:

Chelsea, England

Height:

1.80m

Weight:

79kg

Caps:

5

Noah Cowan began his rugby journey at Henley Hawks, and has also represented Stowe School.

Formerly in the London Irish youth ranks, he now represents the Ealing Trailfinders Rugby Academy.

He first played for Scotland U20 in two friendlies against Wales U20 in December 2024, before being selected for the 2025 U20 Six Nations squad. Cowan qualifies via his grandfather born in Falkirk.

ANGUS HUNTER

Centre



Club:

Heriot's Rugby

D.O.B:

01/03/2005

Place of birth:

Perth, Scotland

Height:

1.83m

Weight:

87kg

Caps:

2

Angus Hunter started his playing days at Kinross RFC, and was involved there throughout his primary school years.

He then moved to Stirling County RFC for three years, before completing his youth rugby at Dollar Academy.

He then joined Heriot's Rugby, where he has played for the Super Series and Premiership sides.

Hunter has previously played for Scotland U18 against England U18 and Wales U18 in development games, and was selected for Scotland U20 for the 2025 U20 Six Nations.

Outside of rugby, he studies Construction and Built Environment at Heriot Watt University.

NAIRN MONCRIEFF

Wing



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

29/09/2006

Place of birth:

Galashiels, Scotland

Height:

1.78m

Weight:

89kg

Caps:

5

Tries:

1

Nairn Moncrieff spent his early playing days representing Galashiels Academy and Gala Rugby. He has also represented Stewart's Melville and Edinburgh 'A'.

Moncrieff featured for Scotland U18 in the 2024 U18 Six Nations festival. In December 2024, he played for Emerging Scotland in the fixture against Italy U23.

A member of the Edinburgh Rugby pro-academy, Moncrieff is the son of Scotland winger Mark Moncrieff, who received a retrospective cap in 2024 and became cap number 1189.

HECTOR PATTERSON

Scrum-half



Club:

Edinburgh Rugby

D.O.B:

10/01/2005

Place of birth:

Denholm, Scotland

Height:

1.79m

Weight:

85kg

Caps:

10

Tries:

2

Hector Patterson first picked up a rugby ball at Jed-Forest RFC.

He played all of his youth rugby for Jed Thistle, before moving to Hawick RFC where he was part of the team that won the 2022/23 Premiership title.

In 2023, Hector was named as one of the fifteen FOSROC Scottish Rugby academy players aligned with Edinburgh Rugby. He also played for FOSROC Super Series side Watsonians during the 2023 Sprint.

He has previously played for Scotland U18, and was part of the 2024 World Rugby U20 Trophy-winning Scotland U20 squad.

MATTHEW URWIN

Stand-off



Club:

Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:

17/04/2005

Place of birth:

Glasgow, Scotland

Height:

1.81m

Weight:

83kg

Caps:

7

Conversions:

17

Penalties:

2

Drop goals:

1

Matthew Urwin began playing rugby at West of Scotland RFC.

He also played all throughout the age-grades at his school, St Aloysius' College. In 2022, he competed alongside Scotland U20 teammate Johnny Ventisei in the U18 Schools Shield Final at Murrayfield Stadium, where they were victorious against The High School of Glasgow.

In 2023, Urwin was named as one of the FOSROC Scottish Rugby contracted academy players aligned with Glasgow Warriors. He also made eight appearances for the FOSROC Future XV side during the FOSROC Super Series Championship.

In December 2024, having played for Scotland U20 in the U20 Six Nations and World Rugby U20 Trophy earlier in the year, Urwin represented Emerging Scotland, coming off the bench in the second half of their game against Italy U23.

Urwin is currently studying Finance and Accountancy at Strathclyde University.

CAMERON VAN WYK

Wing



Club:

Ayr RFC

D.O.B:

14/11/2005

Place of birth:

Boksburg, South Africa

Height:

1.83m

Weight:

93kg

Caps:

3

Tries:

1

Cameron van Wyk got started in the game of rugby at Witfield primary school in Boksburg, South Africa.

He has also played for Boksburg Rugby Club, Dr EG Jansen High School and Titans Rugby Club, and was in the Falcons Academy setup.

van Wyk then made the move over to Scotland, the homeland of his mother who was born in Kilmarnock, and joined Ayr RFC.

He made his Scotland U20 debut in the 2025 U20 Six Nations, coming off the bench against England U20. van Wyk then scored his first try in a Scotland jersey away to France U20 in the final round with an acrobatic finish after catching a cross-field kick.

FERGUS WATSON

Wing



Club:

Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:

26/06/2005

Place of birth:

Biggar, Scotland

Height:

1.91m

Weight:

97kg

Caps:

13

Tries:

8

Fergus found his passion for rugby at the age of six at his local club Biggar RFC.

After playing his youth rugby for both the Biggar RFC and his school Biggar High School, Fergus was named as one of the fifteen FOSROC Scottish Rugby contracted academy players aligned to Glasgow Warriors for the 2023/24 season.

In 2023, he made six appearances for the FOSROC Future XV outfit in the FOSROC Super Series Championship before making his Scotland U20 debut against Wales in February 2024.

His grandfather, Bill Watson, has 10 Scotland caps and is a former Chief Executive of Scottish Rugby.

**Club:**

Glasgow Warriors

D.O.B:

08/07/2005

Place of birth:

Livingston, Scotland

Height:

1.89m

Weight:

102kg

Caps:

20

Tries:

2

Kerr Yule is a centre, currently plying his trade with Glasgow Warriors.

Yule started playing rugby at GHK RFC aged 8, then moved to West of Scotland from age 10-17. He then moved to Glasgow Hawks in 2022 before playing for FOSROC Super Series side Ayrshire Bulls during the 2023 FOSROC Super Series Sprint.

The 19-year-old was named as one of the fifteen FOSROC Scottish Rugby academy players aligned with Glasgow Warriors for the 2022/23 season and also made five appearances for the FOSROC Future XV side during the 2023 FOSROC Super Series Championship.

Previously, Kerr was part of the Glasgow Warriors U18 and Scotland U18 squads. He was part of the Scotland U20 squad that won the 2024 World Rugby U20 Trophy, scoring a try in the final against USA U20.

SCOTLAND U20 TEAM MANAGEMENT



NEIL HOWIE

Team Doctor

JOHAN VAN KESSEL

Physiotherapist

BRIAN KING

Physiotherapist

EMILY GEDDES

Physiotherapist

ELLA KAY

Sport Scientist

TONI LAMB

Nutritionist

LIAM MITCHELL

Strength & Conditioning Lead

CLAIRE BAIN

Rugby Operations Lead
& Kit Manager

BRUCE FRAME

Assistant Team Manager

CAMERON WALKER

Lead Analyst

EUAN CRAWFORD

Analyst

JOE ANDERSON

Media Manager

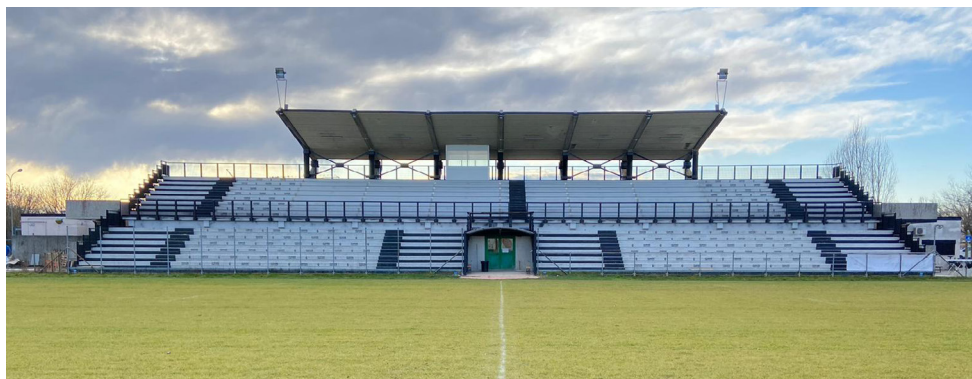
STADIUM & HOTEL DETAILS



Hotel

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Via Miranese, 85, 30035 Mirano VE, Italy



Training Facilities

Rugby Mirano

Via G. Matteotti, 51, 30035 Mirano VE, Italy



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