



EUROPEAN RUGBY
CHALLENGE
— CUP —

2020/21 SEASON

ROUND 2 REVIEW

Results

Round 2

Click on the score to access the official statistics for each match

Date	Time	Home	Away	Score
18/12/2020	17:30	Castres Olympique	Newcastle Falcons	17-26
18/12/2020	20:00	Brive	Zebre Rugby Club	16-18
19/12/2020	-	Benetton Rugby	Agen	0-28
19/12/2020	20:00	Bayonne	Leicester Tigers	20-28
19/12/2020	20:00	Worcester Warriors	Ospreys	29-38
20/12/2020	15:00	London Irish	Pau	26-17
20/12/2020	-	Cardiff Blues	Stade Français Paris	28-0

Fixtures

Round 3

Date	Time	Home	Away	Venue
15/01/2021	17:30	Pau	London Irish	Stade du Hameau
15/01/2021	19:45	Leicester Tigers	Bayonne	Mattioli Woods Welford Road
15/01/2021	20:00	Agen	Benetton Rugby	Stade Armandie
15/01/2021	20:00	Ospreys	Worcester Warriors	Liberty Stadium
16/01/2021	13:00	Zebre Rugby Club	Brive	Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi
16/01/2021	15:00	Newcastle Falcons	Castres Olympique	Kingston Park
16/01/2021	20:00	Stade Français Paris	Cardiff Blues	Stade Jean Bouin

2020/21 season weekends

Round 1 - 11/12/13 December 2020

Round 2 - 18/19/20 December 2020

Round 3 - 15/16/17 January 2021

Round 4 - 22/23/24 January 2021

Heineken Champions Cup quarter-finals, 1st leg - 2/3/4 April 2021

Challenge Cup Round of 16 - 2/3/4 April 2021

Heineken Champions Cup quarter-finals, 2nd leg - 9/10/11 April 2021

Challenge Cup quarter-finals - 9/10/11 April 2021

Semi-finals - 30 April – 1/2 May 2021

Marseille 2021 finals

Challenge Cup final - Friday 21 May, Stade Vélodrome

Heineken Champions Cup final - Saturday 22 May, Stade Vélodrome

Standings

Rank		Pl	W	D	L	PF	PA	Diff	TF	TA	TB	LB	Pts
1	London Irish	2	2	0	0	60	25	35	9	3	2	0	10
2	Ospreys	2	2	0	0	77	44	33	9	6	2	0	10
3	Cardiff Blues	2	2	0	0	61	20	41	7	2	1	0	9
4	Leicester Tigers	2	2	0	0	67	37	30	7	3	1	0	9
5	Zebre Rugby Club	2	1	1	0	43	41	2	5	4	0	0	6
6	Agen	2	1	0	1	36	34	2	5	5	1	0	5
7	Benetton Rugby	2	1	0	1	44	48	-4	7	7	1	0	5
8	Newcastle Falcons	2	1	0	1	46	50	-4	5	6	0	0	4
9	Pau	2	1	0	1	41	46	-5	5	6	0	0	4
10	Bayonne	2	0	1	1	45	53	-8	5	6	0	0	2
11	Worcester Warriors	2	0	0	2	49	62	-13	6	7	1	1	2
12	Brive	2	0	0	2	33	57	-24	2	6	0	1	1
13	Castres Olympique	2	0	0	2	32	65	-33	5	8	0	0	0
14	Stade Français Paris	2	0	0	2	20	72	-52	3	11	0	0	0

Round 2 Top Performers

		Points
STEPHEN MYLER	Ospreys	16
ZACK HENRY	Leicester Tigers	13
TEDO ABZHANDADZE	Brive	11
BRETT CONNON	Newcastle Falcons	11
GAETAN GERMAIN	Bayonne	10
ANTOINE BOUZERAND	Castres Olympique	10
JAMES STOKES	London Irish	10

		Carries
TOM ARSCOTT	Newcastle Falcons	15
CHARLIE MADDISON	Newcastle Falcons	15
ARTHUR DUHAU	Bayonne	14
ROB FARRAR	Newcastle Falcons	13
DAN EVANS	Ospreys	13

		Metres
TOM ARSCOTT	Newcastle Falcons	174
DAN EVANS	Ospreys	119
ZACH KERR	Newcastle Falcons	82
KINI MURIMURIVALU	Leicester Tigers	82
GEORGE NORTH	Ospreys	79

		Defenders Beaten
TOM ARSCOTT	Newcastle Falcons	11
GEORGE NORTH	Ospreys	8
JORIS JURAND	Brive	8
OLLIE LAWRENCE	Worcester Warriors	6
6 PLAYERS	-	5

		Offloads
AGUSTIN CREEVY	London Irish	3
11 PLAYERS	-	2

		Tackles
LOUIS LE BRUN	Castres Olympique	18
MAXIME MBANDA	Zebre Rugby Club	17
MATT ROGERSON	London Irish	16
STÉPHANE ONAMBELE MBARGA	Castres Olympique	16
CAMERON HENDERSON	Leicester Tigers	16
DORIAN CLERC	Castres Olympique	16
JAKE KERR	Leicester Tigers	16

2020/21 Challenge Cup - Leading Scorers

Points

Rank			Matches	Points	Penalties	Conversions	Drop Goals	Tries
1	Stephen Myler	Ospreys	2	30	6	6	0	0
2	Jamie Shillcock	Worcester Warriors	2	17	3	4	0	0
3	Jarrold Evans	Cardiff Blues	1	16	4	2	0	0
4	Sam Parry	Ospreys	2	15	0	0	0	3
4	Antonio Rizzi	Zebre Rugby Club	2	15	2	2	0	1
6	Tommaso Allan	Benetton Rugby	1	14	1	3	0	1
7	Zack Henry	Leicester Tigers	1	13	3	2	0	0
8	Enzo Herve	Brive	1	12	4	0	0	0
9	Brett Connon	Newcastle Falcons	2	11	3	1	0	0
9	Tedo Abzhandadze	Brive	1	11	3	1	0	0

Tries

Rank			Matches	Tries
1	Sam Parry	Ospreys	2	3
2	Albert Tuisue	London Irish	2	2
2	Antoine Bouzerand	Castres Olympique	1	2
2	James Stokes	London Irish	2	2
2	Phil Cokanasiga	London Irish	2	2
2	Sam Stuart	Newcastle Falcons	2	2
7	56 Players	-	-	1

Goalkicking %

Rank			Matches	Penalties	Conversions	Attempts	%
1	Jarrold Evans	Cardiff Blues	1	4	2	6	100%
2	Stephen Myler	Ospreys	2	6	6	14	86%
3	Zack Henry	Leicester Tigers	1	3	2	6	83%
4	Enzo Herve	Brive	1	4	0	5	80%
4	Manuel Ordas	Bayonne	1	2	2	5	80%
4	Tedo Abzhandadze	Brive	1	3	1	5	80%
7	Antonio Rizzi	Zebre Rugby Club	2	2	2	6	67%
7	George Ford	Leicester Tigers	1	2	2	6	67%
9	Jamie Shillcock	Worcester Warriors	2	3	4	11	64%
10	Carlo Canna	Zebre Rugby Club	1	2	1	5	60%

2020/21 Challenge Cup – Top Performers

Carries

Rank			Matches	Carries
1	Lekima Tagitagivalu	Pau	2	24
2	Clement Clavieres	Castres Olympique	2	23
2	Tom Arscott	Newcastle Falcons	2	23
4	Dan Evans	Ospreys	2	22
5	Stéphane Onambele Mbarga	Castres Olympique	2	21
5	Watisoni Votu	Pau	2	21
7	Mathieu Ugena	Pau	2	20
7	Rob Farrar	Newcastle Falcons	2	20
7	Thibault Debaes	Pau	2	20
10	Albert Tuisue	London Irish	2	19
10	Charlie Maddison	Newcastle Falcons	2	19
10	Eoghan Barrett	Pau	2	19
10	James Stokes	London Irish	2	19

Metres

Rank			Matches	Metres
1	Tom Arscott	Newcastle Falcons	2	225
2	Dan Evans	Ospreys	2	171
3	Remy Baget	Bayonne	2	169
4	Clement Clavieres	Castres Olympique	2	142
5	Kini Murimurivalu	Leicester Tigers	2	121
6	Tom Parton	London Irish	2	120
7	Brandon Fajardo	Bayonne	2	117
8	George North	Ospreys	2	109
9	Eoghan Barrett	Pau	2	102
10	Ed Fidow	Worcester Warriors	1	97

Breaks

Rank			Matches	Breaks
1	Cooper Vuna	Newcastle Falcons	2	5
2	James Stokes	London Irish	2	4
2	Jayden Hayward	Benetton Rugby	1	4
2	Remy Baget	Bayonne	2	4
2	Zach Kerr	Newcastle Falcons	1	4
6	Arthur Duhau	Bayonne	2	3
6	Dan Evans	Ospreys	2	3
6	Hallam Amos	Cardiff Blues	1	3
6	Hugo Zabalza	Bayonne	2	3
6	Joel Matavesi	Newcastle Falcons	2	3
6	Marco Barbini	Benetton Rugby	1	3
6	Sam Stuart	Newcastle Falcons	2	3
6	Tom Arscott	Newcastle Falcons	2	3

Defenders Beaten

Rank			Matches	Defenders Beaten
1	Tom Arscott	Newcastle Falcons	2	11
2	George North	Ospreys	2	10
3	Bill Meakes	London Irish	2	8
3	Joris Jurand	Brive	2	8
3	Remy Baget	Bayonne	2	8
6	Morgan Morris	Ospreys	2	7
6	Thibault Debaes	Pau	2	7
8	Dan Evans	Ospreys	2	6
8	Jasper Wiese	Leicester Tigers	1	6
8	Matt Protheroe	Ospreys	2	6
8	Monty Ioane	Benetton Rugby	1	6
8	Ollie Lawrence	Worcester Warriors	1	6
8	Rob Farrar	Newcastle Falcons	2	6

Offloads

Rank			Matches	Offloads
1	Stéphane Onambele Mbarga	Castres Olympique	2	5
1	Thibault Debaes	Pau	2	5
3	George North	Ospreys	2	4
4	Agustin Creevy	London Irish	1	3
4	Jayden Hayward	Benetton Rugby	1	3
6	27 Players	-	-	2

Tackles

Rank			Matches	Tackles	Missed Tackles
1	Stéphane Onambele Mbarga	Castres Olympique	2	29	2
2	Dorian Clerc	Castres Olympique	2	28	1
2	Justin Clegg	Worcester Warriors	2	28	1
4	Dan Lydiate	Ospreys	2	26	3
5	Albert Tuisue	London Irish	2	25	1
6	Maxime Mbanda	Zebre Rugby Club	2	24	1
7	Rhys Davies	Ospreys	2	23	2
8	Joe Heyes	Leicester Tigers	2	22	3
9	Sam Lewis	Worcester Warriors	1	20	2
10	Gareth Thomas	Ospreys	2	19	1
10	Louis Le Brun	Castres Olympique	2	19	3
10	Lovejoy Chawatama	London Irish	2	19	1
10	Tom Marshall	Newcastle Falcons	2	19	0

Lineouts

Rank			Matches	Lineouts Won (inc. steals)	Lineout Steals
1	Darren Barry	Newcastle Falcons	2	16	0
2	Guillaume Ducat	Bayonne	1	14	2
3	Baptiste Heguy	Bayonne	2	13	2
3	Justin Clegg	Worcester Warriors	2	13	0
5	Esteban Abadie	Brive	2	11	2
6	Maxime Mbanda	Zebre Rugby Club	2	10	0
7	Antoine Erbani	Pau	1	9	0
7	Denis Marchois	Pau	2	9	1
7	Mick Kearney	Zebre Rugby Club	2	9	0
10	Steve Mafi	London Irish	2	8	2

Turnovers

Rank			Matches	Turnovers
1	Morgan Morris	Ospreys	2	4
2	George North	Ospreys	2	3
2	Jeremy Fernandez	Castres Olympique	2	3
2	Kyle Cooper	Newcastle Falcons	2	3
5	Ashley Beck	Worcester Warriors	2	2
5	Dan Lydiate	Ospreys	2	2
5	Jaco Taute	Leicester Tigers	1	2
5	Jake Kerr	Leicester Tigers	1	2
5	Jordan Taufua	Leicester Tigers	2	2
5	Josh Turnbull	Cardiff Blues	1	2
5	Kevin Kornath	Castres Olympique	2	2
5	Ma'afu Fia	Ospreys	2	2
5	Sione Tui	Stade Français Paris	1	2
5	Tomas Baravalle	Benetton Rugby	1	2
5	Tommy Reffell	Leicester Tigers	1	2

Disciplinary Update

Yellow Cards

Round	Name	Club	Opposition	Match Date
1	Mark Wilson	Newcastle Falcons	Cardiff Blues	11/12/2020
	Waisea Nayacalevu	Stade Français Paris	Benetton Rugby	11/12/2020
	Luc Mousset	Bayonne	Zebre Rugby Club	12/12/2020
	Armand Batlle	Castres Olympique	Ospreys	12/12/2020
	Hubert Texier	Pau	Worcester Warriors	12/12/2020
	Charly Malie	Pau	Worcester Warriors	12/12/2020
	Caleb Montgomery	Worcester Warriors	Pau	12/12/2020
	Marco Manfredi	Zebre Rugby Club	Bayonne	12/12/2020
2	Mesake Doge	Brive	Zebre Rugby Club	18/12/2020
	Alexis Decaux	Castres Olympique	Newcastle Falcons	18/12/2020
	Joe Heyes	Leicester Tigers	Bayonne	19/12/2020
	Nephi Leatigaga	Leicester Tigers	Bayonne	19/12/2020
	Cyle Brink	Leicester Tigers	Bayonne	19/12/2020
	Richard Palframan	Worcester Warriors	Ospreys	19/12/2020
	Ethan Waller	Worcester Warriors	Ospreys	19/12/2020

Red Cards

Round	Name	Club	Opposition	Match Date
1	Charlie Rorke	Stade Français Paris	Benetton Rugby	11/12/2020
	Leonardo Sarto	Benetton Rugby	Stade Français Paris	11/12/2020

Key Tournament Rules

The following is a summary of the rules of the 2020/21 Challenge Cup tournament:

1 FORMAT

Preliminary Stage

1.1 Fourteen clubs – six from the TOP 14, four from the Gallagher Premiership and four from the Guinness PRO14 – will compete in a preliminary stage of four rounds of matches.

1.2 During this stage, each club will play two matches at home and two away.

1.3 In order to create the fixtures, the clubs were divided into two tiers based on their qualifying positions in their respective league tables, or on other qualification criteria, as follows:

TIER 1 (7 clubs)

TOP 14 clubs ranked 9th, 10th and 11th

Premiership clubs ranked 9th and 10th

PRO14 clubs ranked 9th and 10th

TIER 2 (7 clubs)

TOP 14 clubs ranked 12th, 13th and 14th

Premiership clubs ranked 11th and 12th

PRO14 clubs ranked 11th and 12th

1.4 The higher-ranked clubs in Tier 1 will only play against clubs in Tier 2.

1.5 Clubs in the same tier will **not** play against one another and clubs from the same league will **not** play against one another.

1.6 One Premiership club and one PRO14 club will play against TOP 14 opposition only.

1.7 Four points for a win, two points for a draw. A bonus point will be awarded to a club scoring four or more tries and to a club losing by seven points or fewer.

1.8 The eight highest-ranked clubs from the preliminary stage will qualify for the Round of 16 and if two or more clubs are equal on match points, the ranking will be decided as follows:

(i) the best aggregate points difference, or

(ii) if equal, the number of tries scored, or

(iii) if equal, the club with the fewest number of players suspended for disciplinary incidents, or

(iv) if equal, by drawing lots.

1.9 Eight clubs from the Heineken Champions Cup pool stage (clubs ranked 5 to 8 from Pool A and 5 to 8 from Pool B) will also qualify for the Round of 16

Knockout Stage - Round of 16

1.10 The ranking of the clubs which qualify for the Round of 16 will be as follows:

(i) the top four Challenge Cup clubs will be ranked 1 to 4

(ii) the eight Heineken Champions Cup clubs will be ranked 5 to 12 based on the usual criteria of match points, aggregate points difference, tries scored etc

(iii) the four remaining Challenge Cup clubs will be ranked 13 to 16

1.11 The four highest-ranked Challenge Cup qualifiers and the four highest-ranked Heineken Champions Cup qualifiers will have home advantage in the Round of 16 as follows:

CC 1 (ranked 1) v **HCC 8** (ranked 12)
CC 2 (ranked 2) v **HCC 7** (ranked 11)
CC 3 (ranked 3) v **HCC 6** (ranked 10)
CC 4 (ranked 4) v **HCC 5** (ranked 9)

HCC 4 (ranked 8) v **CC 5** (ranked 13)
HCC 3 (ranked 7) v **CC 6** (ranked 14)
HCC 2 (ranked 6) v **CC 7** (ranked 15)
HCC 1 (ranked 5) v **CC 8** (ranked 16)

Quarter-finals

1.12 The quarter-final matches, with home venue advantage awarded to the highest-ranked clubs, will be as follows:

QF1: winner CC 1-HCC 8 v winner HCC 4-CC 5
QF2: winner CC 3-HCC 6 v winner HCC 2-CC 7
QF3: winner CC 2-HCC 7 v winner HCC 3-CC 6
QF4: winner CC4-HCC 5 v winner HCC 1-CC 8

Semi-finals

1.13 The semi-final matches, with home venue advantage awarded to the highest-ranked clubs, will be as follows:

Semi-final 1: winner QF1 v winner QF2
Semi-final 2: winner QF3 v winner QF4

Final

1.14 The 2021 final will be played in Marseille.

NB In the event of a tie at full-time in the Round of 16, quarter-finals, semi-finals or final, extra time of 10 minutes each way will be played. If the scores remain tied, the winner will be determined as follows:
(a) the club that scored the most tries in the match (including extra time) or
(b) if equal, by a place kick competition.

2 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

2.1 Each club must nominate a squad, however, there is no limit on the number of players nominated at first registration of the season. A minimum of 10 of the players nominated by the club must be capable of playing in front row forward positions. The First Registration deadline was midday (GMT) on **Thursday 19 November 2020** and all players must be fully and properly registered with their club and Union.

2.2 A club must nominate a squad of between 19 and 23 players for each match.

2.3 A minimum of six front row players must be included in each match day squad such that on the first occasion that a replacement is required in each position, a replacement can be made. Where uncontested scrums are ordered due to the departure of a front row player and there is no suitable replacement, the player whose departure caused the uncontested scrums may not be replaced (i.e. the club will be required to play with 14 players).

2.4 Each club may register up to five Additional Players during the Preliminary Stage but none during the knockout stage, each to replace a player previously registered. A minimum of three Additional Players must be front row players, one Additional Player can be from any position and one Additional Player must be a medical replacement. Players must have a three-month contract with the club and must not have played for another club in the same tournament. Additional Player registrations must be submitted by 12 noon (GMT) on the Wednesday before the match. De-registered players may be re-registered (in place of the relevant Additional Players) during the Preliminary Stage.

2.5 For Second Registration, clubs can add up to three players to supplement their squads and one of the players must be a front row player. The deadline for Second Registration is midday (GMT) on 25 March 2021.

2.6 Each club is permitted an unlimited number of 'non-European players' in each match day squad for the 2020/21 season.

3 ABANDONMENT

3.1 Where a match is abandoned after 60 minutes or more, the result will stand.

3.2 Where a match is abandoned after fewer than 60 minutes, (a) if both clubs and the EPCR Board agree, the result will stand, or (b) the match will be replayed in full no earlier than 48 hours after kick-off of the abandoned match (unless both clubs and EPCR agree otherwise), with both clubs entitled to select new match day squads.

4 MEDIA REGULATION – Match Day Squad announcements

4.1 Each club must announce its match day squad by midday (GMT) on the Thursday before a Friday match and by midday (GMT) on the Friday before a weekend match. The match day squad announced must not differ from the squad that plays save in exceptional circumstances. Breaches of match day squad regulations may result in fines being imposed by the Board of EPCR.