



Stonyhurst College First XV Clinches U18 Lancashire Rugby Cup



STONYHURST

Lytham St Annes, Lancashire – In an electrifying match that will be remembered for years to come, Stonyhurst College’s First XV team emerged victorious over Merchant Taylors’, Crosby, securing the U18 Lancashire Rugby Cup with a commanding 38-10 win.

The victory was particularly special for Stonyhurst College as it marked Mr. Simon Charles’ final 15-a-side fixture as Director of Sport and 1st XV Coach, culminating a remarkable 33-year tenure. Adding to the evening’s significance, it was also Mr. Charles’ birthday, making the triumph a doubly joyous occasion for him and the Stonyhurst community.

Commenting on the win, Simon Charles said: “Tonight’s match was more than just a game; it was a celebration of hard work, dedication, and the incredible spirit of teamwork. Watching these young athletes take the field with such passion and drive was truly inspiring.”



He continued: “To end my tenure with this 1st XV performance and victory, is an honour I could have never imagined. I am profoundly grateful to have been a part of Stonyhurst’s rich sporting traditions for many years and to have witnessed the growth of so many remarkable individuals and outstanding teams. Congratulations to both teams tonight for showcasing the true spirit of rugby. This match will forever hold a special place in my heart.”

The match itself was a testament to the spirit of competitive sport, with both Stonyhurst College and Merchant Taylors’ playing with pride and courage. Despite the scoreline, Merchant Taylors’ displayed commendable skill and determination, contributing to an entertaining and competitive encounter that was enjoyed by all in attendance. ▶



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In a post-match statement, Marcus Jackson, Director of Rugby, said: “This victory is a testament to our team’s hard work, our school’s strong sporting culture, and Mr. Charles’ incredible leadership over the years. We are immensely proud of the team and what our young people have achieved. It epitomises our Quant Je Puis spirit which inspires our pupils to give as much as they can, both on and off the field.”

He concluded: “As Stonyhurst College celebrates this triumphant win, the legacy of Mr. Simon Charles and the exhilarating U18 Lancashire Rugby Cup final will undoubtedly inspire future generations of rugby players in Lancashire and beyond. Congratulations to both teams for an outstanding showcase of U18 rugby.



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