



Stafford Rugby Club

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News & Match Reports

Stacey Maguire makes England Line-Up!

14th March 2010



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Stacey Maguire who faces France on Sunday.

Stacey Maguire has been selected for the starting line-up in Second Row for England U'20s on their first outing this season against France. Maguire (ex-Stafford player who currently plays for Lichfield) joins another eight players in the starting line-up that featured in England's victorious U20s Nations Cup campaign last season.

The historic game will be played as a curtain raiser to the men's Under 20s Six Nations match and it's expected the games (which includes games against Wales in April and May) will draw crowds that the female young guns will never have experienced before.

RFUW Coach Kevin Moggridge said "This is the first ever England Women's Under 20s

match against France and what an opportunity it is for the players involved. To play in France, in the curtain raiser to the men's U20s match and in front of a packed stadium full of thousands of fans will be very special. Our players will certainly never have experienced anything like this before. The French are a really passionate rugby nation so this is going to be a big experience for everyone involved."

This term the England Under 20s programme is headed up by Programme Manager Tom Stokes and England Assistant Coach Graham Smith, who comes in as technical advisor. Specialist coaches have also been brought in, including Moggridge.

Moggridge added "England U'20s is more about the long term development for our players, getting them ready to play England A and England senior rugby so this game is going to be an important stepping stone for them. A lot of these girls have come through our Talent Development Group and that shows that this programme is working well."

England U20s Squad

- 15 Sophie Watkiss (*Worcester*)
- 14 Kay Wilson (*Richmond*)
- 13 Rose Fong Darlington (*Mowden Park Sharks*)
- 12 Hannah Gallagher (*Saracens*)
- 11 Garnet Mackinder (*Lichfield*)
- 10 Emily Scott (*Welwyn*)
- 9 Jessie Flowers (*Oxford University*)
- 1 Sarah George (*University of Exeter*)
- 2 Natalie McClarmon (*Saracens*)
- 3 Charlotte Male (C) (*Bristol*)
- 4 Amy Millar (*Worcester*)

5 Stacey Maguire (*Lichfield*)

- 6 Marlie Packer (*Bristol*)
- 7 Hannah Field (*Wasps*)
- 8 Harriet Mills (*Lichfield*)

England U20s playing schedule

France U20s v England U20s, March 21st, KO 1pm, Sainte Nazaire
England U20s v Wales U20s, April 6th, Surrey Sports Park, KO 3pm
Wales U20s v England U20s, May 9th, venue and KO TBC

Stafford XV 17–24 Lichfield

13th March 2010

Midlands West 2 (North) League Fixture

Stafford 1st XV gave second placed Lichfield a huge scare before going down 24–17 in a high tempo

match at Castlefields last Saturday. Stafford went into the match with nothing to lose, facing a Lichfield side who have lost only once this season in the Midlands North (West) 2 Division. As a result the home side played with no fear, which set the tone for an open and expansive match. Stafford shocked the visitors by taking the lead, after great work on the wing by Will Richards, who put Oli Greatholder clean through for the try. Tom Hodgkinson's conversion gave Stafford a 7-0 lead. Lichfield were clearly taken by surprise – having won the reverse fixture 41-7 they would have been hoping for an easier game ahead of a game semi-final on Wednesday. Stafford continued to match their opponents in all areas of the field, turning over the Lichfield scrum on more than one occasion. Lichfield finally responded after a sustained period of pressure saw them break through on the left wing to make the score 7-5. They then took the lead with the last play of the half, finally breaking through Stafford's resolute defence for their second try.

Only trailing 12-7 at the break and with the wind now in their favour, Stafford knew they had a chance to pull off a remarkable scalp against the leagues in form side. The Newport Road side were next on the score sheet too, Darren Mottershead setting up Tom Smith to drive through a gap in the Lichfield defence to draw the scores level at 12-12. The match continued to be played at a high pace, with chances aplenty for both sides. Ross Donovan was brought down by Lichfield's full-back just metres from away from a try and Tom May actually crossed the line before the ball was wrestled from his grasp at the last moment. The visitors were next to score as they engineered another overlap in the backs to take the lead again and go 19-12 up. But Stafford, who came from behind to beat Ashbourne last week, hit back again, with a well worked line out move giving Rich Whatling a simple finish to take the score to 19-17. Being only two points behind, Stafford knew a penalty or drop goal would see them re-take the lead. As they pushed on looking for the score however, Lichfield won turnover ball and countered quickly to score their fourth try. Even then Stafford pushed forward looking for the try that would grab them a draw, but Lichfield held on in the last few minutes to win a match which could have gone either way. Despite being disappointed at the loss, Stafford could be proud of a fine team performance against a side amongst the favourites to win the league. Their next match is at home to Wolverhampton, with a win all but guaranteeing them survival.

Stafford Development XV 27-7 Newcastle

13th March 2010

Staffordshire Second Team League Fixture

No Match Report.

Stafford Veterans XV –~~Score Not Recieved~~– Linley & Kidsgrove

13th March 2010

Staffordshire Merit Table C North League Fixture

No Match Report.

Watch the Six Nations at the Club!

Saturday, 20th March 2010

Stafford XV vs Wolverhampton
Midland West 2 (North) League Fixture
KO 2-30pm

Wales vs Italy
KO 2-30pm

Ireland vs Scotland
KO 5-00pm

FRANCE vs ENGLAND
KO 7-45pm

Watch them on our Big Screen!
Stafford Rugby Club

The County Ground, Castlefields, Newport Road, Stafford, ST16 1BG, Telephone 01785 211241



On Saturday 20th March 2010, Wolverhampton visit Castlefields to face Stafford XV. Development XV travel to Walsall whilst Third XV also play Walsall at home whilst Veteran XV travel to Ashbourne. Whilst the last of the 2010 Six Nations championship is showing on our Big Screen with Wales vs Italy KO 2-30pm; Ireland vs Scotland KO 5pm and France vs England at 7-45pm.