

Amlin Opta Index player head to head (Backs)

Stephen Myler (Northampton Saints)

Stephen Myler has accrued 1,229 Amlin Opta Index points in the Heineken Cup this season, ranking him as the 32nd best player in Europe. 671 of these points have come thanks to his kicking, only two other players have a higher AOI kicking score this season. The Northampton Saints fly-half has notched up 68 points this season, thanks to seven conversions, 17 penalties and one drop goal. In attack, Myler made just 10 carries in his six appearances for a gain of 23 metres, beating two defenders along the way.

Ian Humphreys (9th) makes it into the top 10 players on the



1229	Overall Points	1458
185	Attack	417
373	Defence	437
0	Lineouts	18
671	Kicking	586

Ian Humphreys (Ulster Rugby)

AOI with a score of 1,458. The Ulster number 10 has a balanced collection of AOI points, with 417 coming in attack, 437 in defence and 586 from his boot. Humphreys has scored 64 points in the Heineken Cup this season, thanks to 10 conversions, 13 penalties and one try. In attack, Humphreys has made 25 carries for a gain of 113 metres, he has also made five offloads compared to none by Myler. Humphreys has passed 76% of the ball he has received so far, carrying 10% and kicking 14%. Myler has carried just 5% and kicked 27% while passing 68% of the possession he has received.



Amlin Opta Index player head to head (Forwards)

Brian Mujati (Northampton Saints)

Brian Mujati (54th) and Tom Court (56th) almost sit side by side in the Amlin Opta Index this season. Mujati is the top ranked scrummager on the AOI with a score of 674 in this facet of the game; Court sits in 6th position in this ranking with a score of 577. The rest of their AOI points are made up from the attacking and defensive components of the index, with Court excelling in defence and Mujati accruing more points in attack.

The South African has made 17 carries and gained 39 metres for his side, going past two defenders and making one clean break along the way. The Irishman has made more carries (33) but gained fewer yards



1152	Overall Points	1149
301	Attack	226
178	Defence	346
674	Scrum	577

Tom Court (Ulster Rugby)

(26) and he has not managed to get past any defenders.

In defence, Court has made almost twice as many tackles as Mujati (38 v 20) and missed just two, compared to three by his opponent in this quarter-final fixture. Only one player at Ulster has made more tackles than Court, Johann Muller has made 47. Both players have shown a lack of discipline at times in the Heineken Cup this season, with Mujati conceding four penalties and Court five.

The winner of this head to head battle in the front row will give his side a big chance of reaching the semi-finals of the competition.



Heineken Cup quarter-final

Northampton Saints v Ulster Rugby, stadium:mk, Sunday 10th April, 14:00

Player	Score*	Av. Score**		Av. Score**	Score*	Player
Phil Dowson	1536	1057	Top Rated Player	1149	1458	Ian Humphreys
Ben Foden	930	767	Top Rated Attacker	679	841	Ruan Pienaar
Tom Wood	743	486	Top Rated Defender	356	630	Johann Muller
Dylan Hartley	501	300	Top Rated Lineout	230	460	Johann Muller
Brian Mujati	674	473	Top Rated Scrummager	473	577	Tom Court
Stephen Myler	671	362	Top Rated Kicker	362	586	Ian Humphreys

Northampton's star man so far in the 2010/11 Heineken Cup has been Phil Dowson. The flanker's AOI score of 1,536 ranks him as the 5th best player in Europe this season according to the Amlin Opta Index. The 29-year-old has accrued his AOI points across all aspects of the index, however it has been his defence that has helped his cause the most. He has notched up 710 points in this area, ranking him as the 6th best player in this facet. He has made 54 tackles, missed just three and conceded just one penalty. Despite this he is not Saints' leading defensive player; that honour lies with Tom Wood who has 743 points in this aspect of the game. The England flanker has made 67 tackles, missing just three, only two players have

made more hits than this. In attack Ben Foden has led the way, he has made 346 metres on 42 carries for the club, beating 13 defenders and making eight clean breaks and five offloads in the process. In the lineout Dylan Hartley has been their key performer, he has thrown 72 successful lineouts, 10 more than any other player in the competition, misplacing just eight.

For Ulster, Ian Humphreys has stood out this season. With 1,458 AOI points he is the 4th ranked back in Europe this season, according to the Amlin Opta Index. The Ulster number 10 has a balanced collection of AOI points, with 417 coming in attack, 437 in defence and 586 from his boot. For the Irish side, Humphreys has scored 64 points in the Heineken Cup

this season, thanks to 10 conversions, 13 penalties and one try.

In attack, Ruan Pienaar has been Ulster's best performer, the scrum-half has notched up 841 AOI points in attack so far this season. The South African has made 20 carries for a gain of 124 metres, beating four defenders and making an impressive seven clean breaks. Defensively, Johann Muller has the best AOI score for Ulster, 630. He has made 47 tackles and missed just one; that is more hits than any other player at the club. He is also Ulster's key lineout man, in fact his score of 460 is the 3rd best in this area of the game. He has won a competition-high 34 lineouts for his side, as well as stealing one opposition throw.

*Based on cumulative scores **Average score based on position