

Amlin Opta Index Team of Rounds 1-4

The Amlin Opta Index uses unique mathematical formulae and modelling to objectively compare player performance in both European club competitions.

| Position | Name | Team | Competition* | Score | Av. Pos. Score |
|----------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| 15. | Mike Brown | Harlequins | HC | 1484 | 842 |
| 14. | Laurent Ferreres | Bordeaux Begles | ACC | 1203 | 670 |
| 13. | Jonathan Davies | Scarlets | HC | 956 | 666 |
| 12. | Wesley Fofana | Clermont Auvergne | HC | 1041 | 666 |
| 11. | Tim Visser | Edinburgh | HC | 1287 | 670 |
| 10. | Jonathan Sexton | Leinster | HC | 1196 | 781 |
| 9. | Conor Murray | Munster | HC | 1038 | 797 |
| 1. | Allan Jacobsen | Edinburgh | HC | 870 | 655 |
| 2. | Ross Ford | Edinburgh | HC | 1290 | 840 |
| 3. | Gethin Jenkins | Cardiff Blues | HC | 783 | 655 |
| 4. | Bradley Davies | Cardiff Blues | HC | 1055 | 689 |
| 5. | Cornelius Van Zyl | Benetton Treviso | HC | 990 | 689 |
| 6. | Chris Robshaw | Harlequins | HC | 1152 | 841 |
| 7. | Roddy Grant | Edinburgh | HC | 1284 | 841 |
| 8. | Nick Easter | Harlequins | HC | 1392 | 891 |

*ACC = Amlin Challenge Cup HC = Heineken Cup

Amlin Opta Index top performing player: Mike Brown (Harlequins)

Harlequins' Mike Brown is ranked as the top performing player in European Club Rugby this season. The fullback is the top try scorer in the Heineken Cup so far in 2011/12 with four, including a memorable brace away at Toulouse in the previous round. The England hopeful has been key to Quins' success this season, as proved by the fact that no player at the club has made more metres (202) and no player in the entire competition has made more clean breaks (8) or beaten more defenders (16).

| Points Breakdown | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Attack..... | 1033 |
| Defence..... | 349 |
| Lineouts..... | 26 |
| Kicking..... | 76 |

Amlin Rugby Ambassador Lawrence Dallaglio said...

It is no surprise to me that a number of Harlequins players are leading the way in Europe this season, and following their epic win at Toulouse they have every chance of backing up their Amlin Challenge Cup win from last season with another title in 2011/12.

Nick Easter has been a key player for the London based side over a number of years and his appetite to carry the ball just grows and grows. In fact only four forwards in the Heineken Cup have made more carries than Easter (45) so far. It's also good to see Mike Brown get some recognition for his efforts, having been on the fringe of the England set up for a few years, he could now push Ben Foden for that number 15 shirt.

Other players that have caught my eye this season in Europe are Edinburgh duo of Ross Ford and Roddy Grant. Although they may not steal the headlines they are definitely vital cogs in the wheel that make the

Scottish side successful. Also at Edinburgh, Tim Visser has impressed, the Dutch flyer has made more offloads than any other player in Europe as well making 294 metres from 41 carries.

Heading back to Quins and Chris Robshaw has only enhanced his profile with a string of top quality performances in this campaign. Having made 51 tackles and 48 carries (both top fives) he has proved he has the all-round modern game needed to make it at the top.

Following a highly impressive World Cup campaign, Toby Faletau has continued this form into his club performances and he is definitely a player to keep an eye on over the next 12 months.



Amlin Opta Index Top 10 forwards of the season:

| Player | Team | Score* | Av. Score** |
|------------|------|-------------|-------------|
| N. Easter | HAR | 1392 | 891 |
| R. Ford | EDI | 1290 | 840 |
| R. Grant | EDI | 1284 | 841 |
| C. Robshaw | HAR | 1152 | 841 |
| T. Wood | NOR | 1107 | 841 |
| A. Zanni | BEN | 1071 | 841 |
| B. Davies | CAR | 1055 | 689 |
| T. Faletau | DRA | 1044 | 891 |
| S. Ferris | ULS | 1029 | 841 |
| E. Joubert | SAR | 1022 | 891 |

Amlin Opta Index Top 10 backs of the season:

| Player | Team | Score* | Av. Score** |
|---------------|------|-------------|-------------|
| M. Brown | HAR | 1484 | 842 |
| T. Visser | EDI | 1287 | 670 |
| R. Kearney | LNR | 1230 | 842 |
| L. Ferreres | BOR | 1203 | 670 |
| L. Fitzgerald | LNR | 1203 | 670 |
| J. Sexton | LNR | 1196 | 781 |
| B. Foden | NOR | 1085 | 842 |
| W. Fofana | CLE | 1041 | 666 |
| C. Murray | MUN | 1038 | 797 |
| C. Loamanu | TOU | 992 | 670 |

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