

Ricoh Black Rams Rugby Review

Ricoh Black Rams

12/4/2014

[Edition 1, Volume 1]

Ricoh Black Rams (21) vs. Sanix Blues (16)

Trial match review: Ricoh (47) – Suntory (24)

Coming off the back of a convincing trial match win against **Suntory Sungoliath** the Rams placed themselves in a positive mindset and promising position starting the week ahead of there Sunday game against **Munakata Sanix Blues**.

Promising performances from fly half Colin Bourke and hooker Yoshiyuki

Takizawa steered the team into a dominant position over a weakened but competitive Suntory outfit. An electrifying

defensive effort from Tamati Ellison helped the Rams keep composure over Suntory as he led by example when the opposition had ball in hand. The Ricoh side came away with a convincing win **47-24** against **Suntory Sungoliath**.

With an all-round solid performance and a blistering first half filled with ecstatic defense and some great running rugby, the confidence of the team was evident in their attitude and eagerness to train and prepare for the following weeks competition game against Sanix.

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Coaches Corner

Head Coach Damien Hill presented at the beginning of the week what he believes should be the key focus's going into last week's Sunday game against **Munakata Sanix Blues**.

Focus: *"Currently our line speed and work rate post tackle have been our focus."*



With teams sitting so close on the competition ladder defense has proved crucial this season in order for Ricoh to be competitive.

The coach also said "Defense has been a major area of improvement this season and remains a key focus going into the second round"

Ricoh Black Rams vs. Sanix Blue

The Game

Last week's draw placed the Rams away in a Sunday clash against **Munakata Sanix Blues**. This scheduling meant a change in the usual training preparations. As a result, some early morning weights sessions at the beginning of the week and some vigorous hit-outs in double training days on Wednesday and Friday.



A captain's run on Saturday completed a well-rounded training program and finished the

Rams preparation for their weekend game.

This resulted in a **21-16** win in soggy conditions. Stand out performances contributing to this win were seen by Daniel Peters, Tamati Ellison and Takehiro Fujiwara. A man of the match performance saw fullback Peters score a try and provide the turning point which seemed to give Ricoh added momentum and the confidence they needed to see out the game.

When commenting on the game, Dan noted the platform set by the forwards in the set piece,

particularly at scrum time as well as their defense. The coaches echoed this, in their comments noting that strong performances from Ellison at the breakdown and Fujiwara at scrum time allowed them to edge their opponents in the wet conditions; this allowed them to maintain the lead throughout the game.

An accurate kicking game provided by Colin Bourke as well coupled with the added impact of returning back rower Michael Broadhurst were also noted as key to the win.

Ricoh Black Rams Vs. Munakata Sanix Blues

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