

### Lancashire U18 Girls overcome Durham in Round 2 of the Northern Counties Festival

The Lancashire u18 girls got back to winning ways on Sunday in the Northern Counties Festival at Tynedale with a dominant display against a game Durham side.

From the moment the game got underway Lancashire were quick to put their opponents under pressure and after 3 minutes Hannah Worthington brushed aside three defenders on her way across the line to open the scoring. From the restart Lancashire were again threatening to score and after some spirited defending Anya Richmond was next to cross the line with Laura Perrin adding the extra points. In the early stage of the game it was evident that Lancashire were stronger across the field and that Durham would have to work hard to contain them. For the next 10 minutes Durham increased the intensity of their game and began to ask questions of the Lancashire girls although it was Lancashire that were again over the whitewash with Sarah Beckett breaking off the back of a scrum, with Laura Perrin again converting. Durham then held firm until the stroke of half time when Lancashire moved the ball swiftly out to the left for Emily Blyth to score and make 24-0.

At the interval the coaches were wary that a score from Durham would potentially turn the game on its head, and urged that the girls remained focussed on playing as a team in both defence and attack.

Within moments of the restart a darting run from Alicia Carlton moved Lancashire further ahead and put paid to any hopes that Durham may have had of getting back into the game. Further tries then came at regular intervals for Sarah Beckett, Alicia Carlton x2, Paige Travis and Holly Grimes who scored with the final try of the game, with Laura Perrin making good 4 of the conversions. Full time 62-0 and given the cold conditions it did not take long for everyone to retire to the clubhouse.

The coaches and girls were delighted with the result and will now turn their attention to the final game, to be played at Vale of Lune on 4<sup>th</sup> December ko 11:30, where they will be looking to avenge their recent defeat to Yorkshire.

Lancashire Tries: Alicia Carlton (3), Sarah Beckett (2), Hannah Worthington, Anya Richmond, Emily Blyth, Paige Travis, Holly Grimes

Conversions: Laura Perrin (6)