

Old Belvedere Top AIL Division 1A

With six wins from seven games our senior team are leading the way at the halfway stage of the AIL Division 1A. Excellent performances away from home against Young Munster and at home against Shannon typify the quality and spirit shown by our senior team so far in the campaign.

A number of former and current Academy team players have appeared for the senior team this season including both Andy Dunne and Simon Keogh who played together on the Old Belvedere Under 19s in 1999.

The senior team performances have put pressure on the Academy teams to perform to similar levels over the remainder of the season. Performances befitting the Academy of the top club in the country.



Leo Auva'a is congratulated by recent Academy player Karl Miller after scoring a try last weekend against Garryowen

All Ireland League Tables

2010-2011 All Ireland League Division 1A

Pos	Team	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	TB	LB	Pts
1	➡ Old Belvedere	7	6	0	1	166	75	91	2	1	27
2	➡ Cork Constitution	7	5	1	1	143	118	25	2	0	24
3	➡ St. Mary's College	7	4	0	3	148	87	61	1	2	19
4	⬆ Young Munster	7	3	0	4	120	119	1	1	2	15
5	⬆ Shannon	7	3	0	4	117	181	-64	1	2	15
6	⬇ Blackrock College RFC	7	3	0	4	135	160	-25	0	1	13
7	⬇ Dolphin	7	2	0	5	102	147	-45	0	3	11
8	⬇ Garryowen	7	1	1	5	99	143	-44	1	3	10

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Academy Update



The Season So Far

Overall we are satisfied with the season to date for both our premier and pennant teams. Both teams are very competitive and the quality of the players in the Academy is excellent. We are now entering the key stage of the season when over the next six weeks qualifiers for the All Ireland Play-offs and the Pennant Play-offs will be determined. Both of our sides are in strong positions to qualify out of their leagues, which is what we set out to do at the start of the season.

The efforts of all players on match day has been excellent. We do require a marked improvement in the attendance at training as the recent poor weather and ongoing exam commitments have resulted in a fall-off. We expect to see a big improvement after this weekend when all exams will be completed.

The club would like to thank the players for their efforts so far this season and we are looking forward to both Academy Teams qualifying for the Play-offs.

Our New Gym

The long awaited new Old Belvedere Gym will be open by the end of January. It will be available to all paid-up Academy members at all times of the day. The new equipment has been selected in consultation with the IRFU and Leinster and is rugby specific. This 1,500 sq ft facility will be the best in any rugby club in the city.

Andy Dunne will be performing tests on all Academy players at the end of January and will give everyone individual player and position specific programmes.



Robin O'Sullivan wins excellent lineout ball in recent game against Blackrock



The new Old Belvedere Gym which will be open by the end of January

League table for JP Fanagan Premier - Super Six (Phase 2) - Section A

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points For	Points Against	Points Diff	Bonus Points	Deductions	Points
1	Clontarf	4	4	0	0	96	67	29	3	0	19
2	Lansdowne	4	3	1	0	126	38	88	1	0	13
3	UCD	4	2	2	0	72	70	2	3	0	11
4	Old Belvedere	4	2	2	0	47	88	-41	0	0	8
5	Dublin University	4	1	3	0	52	92	-40	1	0	5
6	Blackrock College RFC	4	0	4	0	60	98	-38	3	0	3

Team that finishes 1st wins the League. Top 3 teams qualify for All Ireland Under 21's. 4th team plays off with winner of Section B to qualify for All Ireland Under 21's. - (Updated: 10 January 2011)

Remaining Super Six Fixtures

Old Belvedere	v	Dublin University	Anglesea Road	16/01/2011	14:30
UCD	v	Old Belvedere	Belfield Bowl	23/01/2011	14:30
Clontarf	v	Old Belvedere	Castle Avenue	30/01/2011	14:30
Lansdowne	v	Old Belvedere	Ballycorus Rd	06/02/2011	15:00
Old Belvedere	v	UCD	Anglesea Road	20/02/2011	15:00
Blackrock College RFC	v	Old Belvedere	Stradbrook	06/03/2011	15:00

With six matches remaining we are well in contention to qualify for the All Ireland U21s. A win against Trinity next Sunday is vital as it will allow us to pull away from the two sides below us. We still have to play UCD twice so the outcome of these games will also play a big part in our final position in the table.

In comparison to the other teams in the Super Six we have the most potential for improvement. The teams above us have already peaked. With our backline recently starting to gel and if we can cut out the turnovers and massively improve our discipline then this team can go all the way.

The next two weekends results will really impact on our final position so lets go all out for two wins from these games



Stephen malone offloads to Michael Oyuga in recent win over Blackrock

League table for JP Fanagan Pennant - Section A

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points For	Points Against	Points Diff	Tries For	Tries Against	Try Diff	Bonus Points	Deductions	Points
1	Lansdowne	7	7	0	0	174	79	95	28	10	18	4	0	32
2	St. Marys College RFC	7	6	1	0	153	80	73	23	10	13	4	0	28
3	Old Belvedere	7	5	2	0	170	95	75	25	14	11	4	0	24
4	UCD	7	3	4	0	106	92	14	13	11	2	4	0	16
5	Coolmine	8	3	5	0	112	89	23	15	11	4	3	0	15
6	Naas	7	3	4	0	64	124	-60	6	18	-12	0	0	12
7	Skerries	8	2	6	0	84	136	-52	10	19	-9	3	0	11
8	Bective Rangers	7	0	7	0	64	232	-168	9	36	-27	0	0	0

Top 4 teams qualify for playoffs. - (Updated: 10 January 2011)

Remaining Pennant Fixtures

Old Belvedere	v	St. Marys College RFC	Anglesea Road	16/01/2011	12:00
UCD	v	Old Belvedere	Belfield Bowl	23/01/2011	12:00
Skerries	v	Old Belvedere	Holmpatrick	30/01/2011	12:00
Naas	v	Old Belvedere	Forenaughts	06/02/2011	12:30
Old Belvedere	v	Coolmine	Anglesea Road	20/02/2011	12:30
Bective Rangers	v	Old Belvedere	Donnybrook	06/03/2011	12:30
Old Belvedere	v	UCD	Anglesea Road	13/03/2011	15:00

Halfway through our league campaign we are in a very strong position. We play St Marys this weekend and a win is very important if we are to qualify for the Play-offs. Both teams ahead of us have still to play each other twice so winning this section is still a possibility.

We have been very impressive so far this season particularly in excellent away wins in Coolmine and St Marys. As we have not played a match in six weeks we need to really focus this Sunday and get the show back on the road.

As our Pennant team is a development team the performances to date are very encouraging for the future of the Academy.



Our pack against Blackrock in the Super Six contained four players who have made a major impact on the Pennant team to date.