

North Berwick 7s
Saturday 21 April

The squad of 9 players assembled at the clubhouse at North Berwick and spent time getting to know each other ahead of the first tie. The team, led by Cammy Gray, put in a cracking performance for a scratch team against Dunbar, scoring 6 unanswered tries through Gray (3), Nigel Kelly (2), and Campbell Wilson and looked strong for the cup quarter final against the tournament hosts. The attacking shape was developing well and the defensive effort was superb, with Grant Pyle putting himself about well in the close quarters. Cammy Gray scored what can only be described as a ridiculous try when he dropped the ball behind his back, heeled it over his head to break the line and then re-gathered it to trot in under the posts!

The second match was more of a test and was played against an abrasive and physical team. Unfortunately the Merchistonians spent much of the time defending, which is energy sapping in 7s, but managed to forge a 21-7 lead through what little possession they were afforded. Tries were scored through Scott Derrick, Cammy Gray and Nigel Kelly. It was always going to be a hard ask to compete against the home side, and in other circumstances MFC would have won the tie quite comfortably. However, it was not to be and North Berwick won the game with the last play against a very fatigued defence. They would go on to lose in the final to Musselburgh.

The effort from the whole squad was superb and bodes well for future tournaments. Massive thanks go to Andrew McDonald and Polly Gray in their roles as manager and physio respectively.

Squad:

1. Campbell Wilson
2. Scott Derrick
3. Grant Pyle
4. Jamie March
5. Matt Clark
6. Cammy Gray (C)
7. Nigel Kelly
8. Johnny Byrne-Leitch
9. Matt Smith

Freddie Main
Director of Merchistonian Football Club