

THE  
SNELLING SEVENS  
TOURNAMENT



MAY 5th, 1979

NATIONAL GROUND  
CARDIFF ARMS PARK

**Official Programme 10p**



**SCOTTISH AND  
NEWCASTLE  
BREWERIES**

are delighted to have the  
opportunity to support the

26th Snelling Sevens Tournament today

Best wishes and good luck  
to all the teams taking part

**It can satisfy you.**



## Snelling Sevens Tournament Organising Committee

*President:* Elvet Jones, Llanelli

*Chairman:* R. T. Carter, Newport

*Secretary:* B. Mark, Cardiff

*Treasurer:* J. Perry, Glamorgan Wanderers

P. Nyhan, Cardiff T. Griffiths, Glamorgan Wanderers A. Panting, Newport  
K. Bush, Penarth A. Daniel, Penarth R. Jeremiah, Pontypool  
M. Jones, Pontypool S. Thomas, Pontypridd G. Gittins, Pontypridd

### BILL EVERSON AWARD (Man-of-the-tournament)

The adjudicators for the above award will comprise a panel of the following:

Elvet Jones, Llanelli, President Kevin Bush, Penarth  
Berwyn Lewis, Pontypool Sam Simon, Pontypridd John Llewellyn, Swansea

## RULES OF THE TOURNAMENT

1. The sixteen competing teams will be divided into four pools of four with each team playing a game against the other three teams in the pool.
2. Each game in the pools will consist of two halves each of five minutes duration with one minute interval.
3. Each team will be represented by 10 players whose names will be given to the Organising Committee prior to the start of the tournament. From these names seven must be nominated to play throughout the tournament except for injury (see rule 10).
4. A scrummage will be formed by not less than three players on each side.
5. The winning team will be awarded two match points. In a drawn game one match point will be awarded to each team.
6. In the event of two teams in the same pool having the same number of match points after playing three games, the winner will be the team which has:
  - a) scored the greatest number of tries, or if these are equal
  - b) scored the greatest number of points, or if these are equal
  - c) conceded the least number of points
7. The four winners of the pools will contest the semi-finals which will be of seven minutes duration each half.
8. The final game will be of ten minutes duration each half.
9. In the semi-finals and final, if the scores are equal at the end of the second half, the winner will be the first team to score in extra time.
10. If an injured player is declared unfit by the tournament doctor, he may be replaced immediately during the game. No player who has been replaced may take any further part in the tournament.
11. The decision of the referee on all questions relative to play will be final.
12. In the event of any contingency arising which is not covered by these rules, the decision of the Organising Committee will be final.



• A desperate Pontypridd tackle is just too late to stop John Davies of Cardiff plunging over for a try in the 1977 Snelling Sevens tournament at Cardiff Arms Park.



• Cardiff's Julian O'Brien bursts away to score a second half try chased by Newport's John Churchill in the 1977 final.

Photographs by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

## An attractive new format!

By J.B.G. THOMAS

After twenty-five glorious years of the Snelling Sevens there will be a change of format for today's 26th annual tournament. It will be run on a Pool system with the matches divided between the National and the Club grounds at the Cardiff Arms Park.

Thus there promises to be an afternoon of interest with six hours of keen competition and new tournament secretary, Brian Mark, tells me that he expects it to prove popular, once followers get used to it. The four pools are A, B, C and D, and it is fitting that in the first match of the day, in Pool A, the W.R.U. Cup winners, Bridgend, one of the best of modern sevens sides, will kick off against Pontypool on the club ground.

At the same time, Llanelli will kick off against Newbridge on the National Ground (please do not call it Stadium!). Between 12 and 2 p.m. matches will be played on both grounds, and then all remaining matches will be on the National Ground with the final starting at 5.40 p.m.

In all there will be eight matches on the club and eight on the National during the first session, and eleven matches plus the Under 11 Schools final on the National Ground in the second session. A full afternoon's entertainment and something for everyone!

In Pool A the four clubs are Bridgend, Pontypool, Swansea and Glamorgan Wanderers. In Pool B Newport, Ebbw Vale, Abertillery and Aberavon. In Pool C Llanelli, Newbridge, Pontypridd and Cross Keys and in Pool D Cardiff, Neath, Penarth and Maesteg.

Thus every club participating will play in at least three matches which will make their journey worthwhile. Previously, the sudden "death in the afternoon" left eight clubs out in the cold after the first round, and the new system is deserving of success because it keeps the family of clubs together.

The leaders of the Pools will be decided by 4 p.m. and following a twenty minutes interval, the winner of Pool A will meet the winner of Pool B. The winners of Pools C and D will then meet to leave the two finalists, and these two clubs can be anyone's guess. However, Bridgend must be favourites and the non-availability of a considerable number of Cardiff players means that they will have to fight hard to reach the final or even win Pool D.

Cardiff have figured in the last four finals but were well beaten by Bridgend last year, who went on to win the National Sevens. On Tuesday, Bridgend fly out to Canada for a deserved short tour after a successful season and they would like to be holders of the Snelling Cup as well as the W.R.U. Cup.

It will be up to Pontypool, Swansea or the Wanderers to hold them but one expects them to win Pool A. Newport, despite an ordinary season in fifteen a side rugby, generally field a good seven, and should be favourites in Pool B. Pool C looks open and will depend on the composition of the Llanelli team. If they are at full strength then it could be a close call with Pontypridd.

In Pool D Cardiff could have done well with a full side but will be struggling against Maesteg and Neath. Working on to the semi-finals and final, it still looks like Bridgend, and if any club should beat them, automatically, they will become favourites during the afternoon.

In the Pools each winning side will gain two points per match and one point apiece in a drawn game. In the event of two teams having the same number of points at the end of a Pool, it will be based on the greater number of tries and then the greater number of points and finally, if these are equal, the side conceding the least number of points.

In the semi-finals and final, if the scores are equal, the winners will be the first team to score. It sounds a little complicated; but everyone should get used to it and, as they say "down under", give it a go!



• The Cardiff seven (Stuart Lane hidden) and supporters after Cardiff beat Newport in the final of the 1977 Snelling Sevens to win the trophy for the second year running. On the left former Cardiff player C.D. Williams holds back the crowd as the 'seven' are photographed.



• Bridgend's Viv Jenkins nips through to score against Cardiff in the final of the 1978 tournament.

Photographs by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

Our thanks to  
**Mitre**  
 for donating the  
 Rugby balls used  
 during today's Tournament

Please help to keep the ground tidy



# THE SNELLING SEVEN-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT 1979

## SPONSORED BY SCOTTISH & NEWCASTLE BREWERIES LTD.

### CARDIFF ARMS PARK

Match Time	POOL A	POOL B
1A 12.00	18 BRIDGEND v PONTYPOOL 6 (R.O.P. Jones)	
2A 12.15	6 SWANSEA v GLAM. WANDS. 10 (C.R. James)	
3A 12.30		4 NEWPORT v EBBW VALE 8 (A.W. Bevan)
4A 12.45		4 ABERTILLERY v ABERAVON 10 (K. Rowlands)
5A 1.00	4 BRIDGEND v SWANSEA 10 (G.M. Challenger)	
6A 1.15	8 PONTYPOOL v GLAM. WANDS. 14 (J.D. Samuel)	
7A 1.30		16 NEWPORT v ABERTILLERY 4 (R.O.P. Jones)
8A 1.45		10 EBBW VALE v ABERAVON 4 (J.S.P. Evans)

### WELSH NATIONAL GROUND

Match	POOL C	POOL D
1B	10 LLANELLI v NEWBRIDGE (J.D. Samuel)	
2B 6	PONTYPRIDD v CROSS KEYS 18 (J.D. Wilkins)	
3B		0 CARDIFF v NEATH 4 (K.D. Bidder)
4B		6 PENARTH v MAESTEG 6 (D.O. Hughes)
5B 18	LLANELLI v PONTYPRIDD 6 (C.R. James)	
6B 12	NEWBRIDGE v CROSS KEYS 0 (Winstone Jones)	
7B		4 CARDIFF v PENARTH 12 (Alun Richards)
8B		8 NEATH v MAESTEG 0 (J.D. Wilkins)

### WELSH NATIONAL GROUND

9 2.00	34 BRIDGEND v GLAM. WANDS. 12 (K.D. Bidder)
10 2.15	16 PONTYPOOL v SWANSEA 30 (A.W. Bevan)
11 2.30	0 NEWPORT v ABERAVON 18 (G.M. Challenger)
12 2.45	16 EBBW VALE v ABERTILLERY 16 (J.D. Samuel)
13 3.00	
14 3.15	
15 3.30	
16 3.45	
4.00	SOUTH GLAMORGAN YOUTH BRASS BAND (Musical Director: Mr. Dewi Jones)
17 4.20	Winner of Pool A v Winner of Pool B BRIDGEND 0 EBBW VALE 22 (Winston Jones)
18 4.40	Winner of Pool C v Winner of Pool D LLANELLI 22 PENARTH 6 (Alun Richards)
19 5.00	Schools Under 11 Finals PONTYPOOL 4 LLANELLI 12
5.15	SOUTH GLAMORGAN YOUTH BRASS BAND
20 5.40	FINAL EBBW VALE 16 LLANELLI 26 (J.S.P. Evans)

20 LLANELLI v CROSS KEYS 4  
(D.O. Hughes)

18 NEWBRIDGE v PONTYPRIDD 4  
(R.O.P. Jones)

10 CARDIFF v MAESTEG 10  
(K. Rowlands)

6 NEATH v PENARTH 12  
(C.R. James)

The Trophies will be  
presented immediately  
after the Final

## Teams and Players in today's matches

### ABERAVON

Colours: Red and Black

Billy James	2
Adrian Owen	4
Ashley Jones	7
Brian Williams	8
John Greenway	9
Bernard Thomas	10
Keri Coslett	11
Les Keen	12
Wynford Lewis	13
Neil Hutchings	14

### ABERTILLERY

Colours: Green and White

Dawson Jones	3
Robert Phillips	4
Allan Higgins	5
Mark Lloyd	7
Paul Clark	8
Andy Grey	9
Allan Austin	10
David Rees	11
Wayne Hagley	13
Paul Fowler	14

### BRIDGEND

Colours: Blue and White

J.P.R. Williams	1
A. N. Other	2
Gareth Williams	3
Lyn Davies	4
Robbie Llewellyn	5
Gerald Williams	9
Ian Lewis	10
Viv Jenkins	11
Alan Rose	12
Francombe Owen	13

### CARDIFF

Colours: Cambridge Blue and Black

Bob Newman	2
Hans de Goede	4
Bob Lakin	7
Carl Smith	8
Julian O'Brien	10
Chris Camilleri	11
Derek Preece	13
Nick Ward	14
Paul Rees	15
Steven Miller	16

### CROSS KEYS

Colours: Black and White

Clive Jayne	2
Viv Williams	4
Gareth Fynn	5
Kerry Williams	8
Gwynfor Williams	9
Mike Kelleher	10
Lyn Jones	11
Ray Chicken	12
Wayne Powles	14
Glyn Bram	15

### EBBW VALE

Colours: Red, Green and White

David Fryer	1
Robert Holmes	2
Clive Burgess	3
Michel van der Loos	4
Andrew Morris	5
Chris Edward	6
Neil Matthews	7
Neil Collins	8
Mostyn Richards	9
Ian Goslin	10

### GLAMORGAN WANDERERS

Colours: Camb. Blue, Black, White

Phil Adamson	2
Mike Thomas	5
John Prytherch	6
John Biggar	7
David Morgan	10
Wayne Pritchard	11
Kenny Poole	12
John Campbell	13
Nigel Parry	14
Wayne Tyrer	15

### LLANELLI

Colours: Scarlet and White

Charles Thomas	1
Howard Thomas	2
Alun Davies	4
Steve Thomas	6
Vernon Richards	7
Peter Morgan	10
Martin Gravelle	11
Keith Hughes	12
Andy Hill	14
Clive Griffiths	15

## Teams and Players in today's matches

### MAESTEG

Colours: Black and Amber

Islwyn Thomas	2
Mike Griffiths	5
Rhodri Lewis	6
Baden Evans	7
John Thomas	8
Leighton O'Connor	9
John Rees	10
Phillip Martell	11
Robert Stevens	12
Ian Hopkins	15

### NEATH

Colours: Black, White Maltese Cross

Chris O'Callaghan	1
Mike Richards	2
Phillip Pugh	3
Gareth Jones	4
Carl Gnojek	9
David Cole	10
Bleddyn Taylor	11
Robert Mogford	12
Don Davies	13
Elgan Rees	14

### NEWBRIDGE

Colours: Blue and Black

Phil Jones	4
Parry James	6
Alan Morgan	7
Clive Davies	8
Huw Harries	9
Justin Robinson	10
Julian Robinson	11
Jeff Harris	13
Tony Browning	14
Mike Grey	15

### NEWPORT

Colours: Black and Amber

David Waters	4
Bryan Lease	5
Ian Brown	6
Geoff Evans	7
Mark McJennett	8
Alan Billinghurst	9
Mark Morris Jones	11
Neil Brown	12
David Burcher	13
John Churchill	14

### PENARTH

Colours: Royal Blue

Mike Gooding	2
Charles Marshall	3
Ernie Williams	5
Dave Hancock	6
Andy McIntyre	7
Alun Davies	9
Lee Goddard	11
Kiernan MacDonnell	12
Steve Evans	13
Clive Hopwood	15

### PONTYPOOL

Colours: Red, White and Black

Steve Williams	1
Andrew Clark	2
Eddie Butler	3
Mark Jones	4
Adrian Parry	9
Richard Owen	10
Guy Leleu	11
Nigel Haines	12
Mike Cashman	13
Mei Stark	14

### PONTYPRIDD

Colours: Black and White

Tommy David	1
Mike Alexander	2
Chris Seldon	3
Mike Shellard	4
David Shellard	5
Bob Dyer	6
Jeff Hazzard	7
Stuart Lewis	8
Colin Bolderson	9
Steve Flynn	10

### SWANSEA

Colours: White

Phil Llewellyn	1
Jeff Herdman	2
Trevor Cheeseman	3
Huw Davies	4
David Richards	5
Alan Meredith	6
Gareth Jenkins	7
Mark Wyatt	8
Tony Swift	9
Roy Woodward	10

The organising committee wish to acknowledge the co-operation and assistance of the Welsh Rugby Union and the Cardiff Athletic Club

The support given by Scottish & Newcastle Breweries Ltd. is greatly appreciated

## Teams and Players in the interval match

5.00 p.m.

PONTYPOOL JUNIORS		LLANELLI JUNIORS	
Graham Court	1	Anthony Rees	3
Julien Matthews	2	Gareth Bassett	4
Craig Adams	3	Neil Evans	5
Chris Nicholls	4	Richard Edwards	6
Chris Cokeman	5	Craig Raymond	7
Alan Harris	9	Phil Rowddal	8
Shaun Smith	10	Mark Bowen	9
Leigh Jones	12	Stuart McKibbin	10
Robert Stephens	13	Richard Jenkins	11
Geoffrey Norman	14		

# Maesteg waited 15 years for that first win

By JOHN BILLOT (Western Mail)

Virtually everyone knows Newport have won the Snelling Sevens almost as many times as Terry Holmes has scored tries for Cardiff this season. Perhaps, on closer analysis, this is rather an outrageous example of journalistic licence, particularly as Mr. Holmes seems intent on scoring every time he steps on a rugby field. Anyway, Newport have won the Snelling Trophy on nine occasions—and that was during the first 14 years of the tournament.

Furthermore, the Rodney Parade men appeared in 12 of the first 14 finals so these giants of the mini-game became ogres in the eyes of rugby watchers who felt this was too much of a good thing. A glance at the records reveals all this, but how sharp is the memory of the sevens connoisseur who has watched the Snellings down through the years?

Who was the player who pipped Newport in a final, but the referee got it wrong? Yes, everyone but the poor old ref saw Penarth's Slogger Templeman slot over a high dropped goal at Swansea in 1956. So instead of winning, Penarth were 5-3 losers. The Seasiders had to wait four years to avenge that result and then they slammed Newport to a sensational 20-5 defeat. Fancy Penarth putting 20 points on the Kings of Sevens! It is almost like Bob Penberthy winning the Olympic 100 metres—or Colin Smart holding a pass.

Slogger's drop-goal that did not count goes down into rugby folklore. Anyway, he dropped three goals in a club match against Newport at Rodney Parade so that made up for matters in some respects. Now for a harder test for memories. Who were the first team to put Newport out in the first round?

Yes, it has happened. In fact, twice. Top marks if you said Neath. The Gnoll club toppled the holders 6-0. Then in 1969 the sky fell on the Black-and-Ambers. They didn't just go out in the first round—they were "done" 11-8 by, of all people, Maesteg. These days Maesteg are a power in the land—and especially on their own land of the Old Parish twmp—but back in 1969 Maesteg had never won a Snelling Sevens match in 15 years of trying. It was lucky 16 for Maesteg's VII of Tudor Davies, Norman Davies, Brian Jones, Ray Hopkins, Billy Pole, Paul Davies and Ralph Evans. Cardiff won the 1969 title but the Old Parish stole the glory.

Maybe that defeat put a counter-spell on Newport's seven-a-side magic, because they have never won the trophy since. Cardiff and Bridgend have generally put their Rodney Parade rivals to flight and monopolised the Sevens scene.

Ian Lewis has proved a particularly resourceful exponent of Sevens strategy, captaining his Bridgend VII from outside half, though Cardiff fans doubtless recall that he played for them in the Snelling Sevens before taking his under-valued talents to the Brewery Field. Of course, it might be pointed out that Cardiff enjoyed the services of one Barry John for their fly-half spot.

Ian Lewis has been for Bridgend what Tony Williams was for Cardiff: a masterly Sevens operator. And Ian is still there, plotting, planning and generally creating chaos in opposition ranks. He expands the principles of making the ball do the work far beyond the realms of possibility, or so it seems. Which is why Bridgend invariably are favourites to win the Snelling Sevens. We'll soon know.

## The winners of the 1978 Snelling Sevens Tournament



• The victorious Bridgend team with skipper Ian Lewis holding the cup after their 1978 Snelling Sevens triumph on Saturday, 6th May. Bridgend beat Cardiff in the final.

Photograph by courtesy of Western Mail & Echo

## Bill Everson Award Winners (For the Man-of-the-Tournament)

This award was instituted in 1967, and perpetuates the name of a very popular and widely known Newport secretary.

The winners so far have been:—

1967	David Watkins (Newport)
1968	John Williams (Bridgend)
1969	Barry John (Cardiff)
1970	Dai Parker (Neath)
1971	John Thomas (Llanelli)
1972	John Davies (Cardiff)
1973	Roy Bergiers (Llanelli)
1974	Viv Jenkins (Bridgend)
1975	Stuart Lane (Cardiff)
1976	Chris Camilleri (Cardiff)
1977	John Churchill (Newport)
1978	Gareth Williams (Bridgend)

## PREVIOUS WINNERS

1954	Newport beat Ebbw Vale 6-0 (Newport)
1955	Cardiff beat Newport 8-3 (Newport)
1956	Newport beat Penarth 5-3 (Swansea)
1957	Newport beat Abertillery 11-8 (Swansea)
1958	Ebbw Vale beat Newport 10-5 (Cardiff)
1959	Newport beat Pontypool 6-3 (Newport)
1960	Llanelli beat Penarth 14-10 (Cardiff)
1961	Newport beat Pontypool 8-3 (Cardiff)
1962	Newport beat Neath 19-3 (Swansea)
1963	Newport beat Bridgend 8-0 (Cardiff)
1964	Neath beat Cardiff 10-5 (Cardiff)
1965	Newport beat Newbridge 9-8 (Swansea)
1966	Cardiff beat Newport 23-20 (Cardiff)
1967	Newport beat Cardiff 21-15 (Cardiff)
1968	Bridgend beat Pontypool 25-5 (Cardiff)
1969	Cardiff beat Llanelli 18-15 (Cardiff)
1970	Neath beat Ebbw Vale 18-8 (Cardiff)
1971	Llanelli beat Newport 31-10 (Cardiff)
1972	Cardiff beat Bridgend 15-4 (Cardiff)
1973	Llanelli beat Newbridge 52-6 (Cardiff)
1974	Bridgend beat Swansea 30-14 (Cardiff)
1975	Bridgend beat Cardiff 32-12 (Cardiff)
1976	Cardiff beat Newport 18-8 (Cardiff)
1977	Cardiff beat Newport 24-16 (Cardiff)
1978	Bridgend beat Cardiff 38-16 (Cardiff)



# It can satisfy you.

