



# Sedbergh 500

# SPORTS REPORT

*Blackrock College Edition*

Saturday 11th October 2025

### **Boys U18A v Blackrock College (H) Lost 29-24**

Sedbergh's 500th Year Celebration match against Blackrock College was an occasion worthy of the school's proud rugby heritage. Played in front of a packed crowd featuring the squads of the previous eight fixtures, Old Sedberghians, parents, and friends of the school, the stage was perfectly set for a memorable encounter between two of the world's most renowned rugby institutions.

From the opening whistle, the contest exploded into life. Both sides played with ferocious intent, matching each other in physicality, pace, and precision. The intensity of the collisions and the quality of the rugby were a true credit to both programs. The scoreboard reflected the evenly matched nature of the game, as Blackrock narrowly edged a lead at the end of the first half.

Sedbergh's attacking mindset and defensive resilience kept them firmly in the contest, with moments of brilliance showcasing the talent and character within the side. However, as the match entered its final stages, Blackrock managed to edge the finer details - controlling possession and territory just enough to see out a 29-24 victory.

Though the result went the way of the visitors, the match embodied everything Sedbergh rugby stands for. It was a celebration not just of a milestone year, but of a rugby tradition that continues to inspire generations - past, present, and future.

### **Boys U18B v Blackrock College (H) Won 33-12**

Sedbergh 2XV claimed an impressive 33-12 victory over a strong Blackrock 2XV side, overcoming a slow start to produce a dominant second-half display.

The game began with Sedbergh struggling to find rhythm, spending too much time deep in their own 22. A handling error under pressure handed Blackrock the opportunity to strike first, and the visitors capitalised with a patient, forward-driven try to open the scoring.

Determined to respond, Sedbergh regrouped quickly after the restart. Despite facing a well-organised and physical Blackrock defence that offered little space, Sedbergh's persistence paid off. A crucial turnover allowed them to shift the ball wide and break through, levelling the score and building momentum.

By halftime, Sedbergh had edged ahead 14-7, showing glimpses of their attacking potential while tightening up defensively.

The second half saw a complete transformation. Sedbergh lifted their standards across the park, playing expansive, confident rugby. Every time the ball went wide, they looked threatening, combining pace and precision to stretch the Blackrock defence.

Equally impressive was Sedbergh's discipline without the ball—structured, physical, and relentless in denying Blackrock any real momentum. Their defensive organisation set the platform for several counterattacks, leading to further tries and sealing a convincing 33-12 win.

It was a strong all-round performance, marked by resilience, teamwork, and an evident step-up in quality after the break. A well-deserved victory for Sedbergh 2XV, capping off an excellent display from every player involved.

### **Boys U18C v Blackrock College (H) Lost 39-21**

On a beautiful day on Busk the 3rds gave there all against a strong well drilled Blackrock team. The visitors lineout was exceptional and not only did they win their own ball comfortably they caused the 3rds lots of problems in that area of the game. Martin and Dowson carried strongly throughout and Walufa looked dangerous in possession but the 3rds simply couldn't get the field position required to cause the visitors problems. Another learning curve for the 3rds who can only benefit from this type of game.

### **Boys U18D v Blackrock College (H) Lost 50-0**

The 4th team showed great resilience against a dominant Blackrock side. There were moments of promising attacking play and solid defence from Sedbergh, but Blackrock capitalised on any mistakes and displayed a strong kicking game and physicality that proved too much for Sedbergh to handle.

### **Boys U16A v Blackrock College (H) Lost 29-14**

In a much awaited game, A1 faced a Blackrock XV that had beaten them convincingly a year ago by 50 points. A1 buoyed by their performances to date, and eager to make amends for the result in Dublin started well.

The Visitors though were resolute in their defence and it was not long before they were camped in the Sedbergh 22. The Brown dug deep and made some excellent defensive plays but the strong ball carrying of the blue and white hoops led to a score near to the left upright. A successful conversion followed.

A reaction was needed by A1 and indeed it came in some positive attacking play and for centre Carss to crash over and for captain Keith to slot home the conversion to make it 7-7. It was Blackrock though that had the last laugh before the break, sneaking in a try in the corner from a kick through to make it 12-7 at half time.

The second half was just as physical, but Sedbergh continued to play the rugby, but to their detriment, as they tried too hard in their defensive third led to Blackrock pouncing on a mistake and scored a converted try to make it 19-7. The momentum remained with the visitors and with Sedbergh on the back foot, a kickable penalty was taken by the visitors to extend their lead 22-7.

Sedbergh were not willing to roll over and were relentless from the kick off and when fly half Keith got the ball just outside the 22, chipped over the rushing wall of defence for replacement hooker Moran to dot down and Keith converting. 22 – 14.

The final 10 minutes were intense and the ball transferred hands regularly. However it was Blackrock that were the most clinical when in the opposition 22 and finished off the game with a converted try after a loose ball by Sedbergh.



# 1st XI v Blackrock College





### **Boys U15A v Blackrock College (H) Lost 33-26**

Colts B again demonstrated their potential in this challenging encounter with Blackrock College, yet were second best over the 60 minutes played in excellent conditions on Powell Pitch. As has become an unfortunate theme of recent B1 performances, Sedbergh invited too much pressure through unnecessary errors and lapses in concentration.

Blackrock were clinical once inside the Sedbergh "22" and made the most of their possession despite some resolute defence from the boys in Brown. Eye-catching moments in the second half from Jelani I and Jake G led to some excellent scores but Colts B must recognise that a more complete performance is required to compete with the stronger sides on the fixture card and that this demands improved concentration and clearer thinking. When Sedbergh attacked from depth at pace it was wonderful to watch but this must become the norm rather than the exception.

### **Boys U15B v Blackrock College (H) Lost 19-14**

Early start on Lupton to start the 500 celebration fixtures.

From the start it was obvious that Blackrock would bring physicality and skill.

They pinned us in our 22 but the boys rose to the challenge and tackled everything in blue/white. The pressure told though and Blackrock scored the opening try.

The pattern of the game continued but we broke out and almost scored in the corner. Unfortunately Blackrock scored with the last play of the first half 0-12. A quick regroup at half time and the boys fired into the second half. Two quick tries saw us in the lead at 14-12. Unfortunately back to back penalties got Blackrock close and they crashed over for what proved to be the winning score. A great game of rugby played in an excellent spirit.

### **Boys U14A v Blackrock College (H) Lost 0-70**

The U14 side entered the day in good form with six wins from seven games. They had every right to be confident in their abilities. The opposition however were a step above what this young side had faced and it showed in almost all facets of their game. The Sedbergh boys battled bravely throughout and should take pride in their determination right to the end.

Injuries affected the squad which saw several boys get their debut and more players moving to unfamiliar positions. Ultimately the Blackrock side were too much for the squad at present, but have set a marker of where we want to be in the months ahead. The final score, although very one sided to anyone who did not see the game, does not tell the story of the Sedbergh teams continued resilience. It was superb to see both teams show each other respect at the end of the game and come together as larger playing group.

### **Boys U14B v Blackrock College (H) Lost 7-42**

The scoreline does not reflect the effort the boys who played for C2 invested in the game this weekend. We were 7-14 down just before half time, with Harry D having scored an incredible try to make it a very close game at that point.

We were unlucky to concede on the stroke of half time, and going into the break two scores down was not a reflection of the run of play for the first half. Finn M, Otto E and Tom P carried well and made a good number of yards with the ball in hand.

Milo C in particular, and Harry W and Will B were stoic in defence, and Bertie L and Nick K linked well in the 9-10 partnership despite this being their first run out together. Oscar S was outstanding for the entire game, with some crunching tackles and great passes to set the wingers and full back away. We dropped away in the second half as our defence tired and became too narrow, but nonetheless, all the boys should be proud of a good performance against an incredibly talented and organised Blackrock side.





2nd XI  
v  
Blackrock College







EST. 1525

# Sedbergh

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