THE SKINK'UN

ATHENA BLOOD BOWL LEAGUE SEASON 8 WEEK 8 REVIEW



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Autumn still...

NORTH DIVISION

SOUTH DIVISION

EAST DIVISION

ABBL CUP

CONFERENCE, 7'S & COFFIN CORNER

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

Heading out of Week 8, some teams have already fulfilled the criteria to qualify for the Play Offs - this of course doesn't mean they will make it, but you know how we love a table so here's an updated one for you to peruse.

North 1st	Underworld Chiefs	10 games played	21 league points	6 bonus points	21 points total		
North 2nd	Wolfenburg Bulls	played	1				
South 1st	Midden Moor Mudlarks	11 games played	26 league points	0 bonus points	26 points total		
South 2nd	Sub City Skavengers	8 games played	25 league points	6 bonus points	31 points total		
East 1st	Kirchenstein Templars	8 games played	27 league points	3 bonus points	30 points total		
East 2nd	Ratmaninovs	Not enough games played yet					
Wild	Fire Valley Fateweavers	Not enough games played yet					
Wild	Green Glade Packers	Not enough games played yet					

As usual, we'll calculate possible most and least points achievable for each team when their season ends giving an idea of that teams prospects and we'll even share it with you sometimes! Four teams now have enough games played and are placed in 1st and 2nd to automatically qualify for the Play-Offs (points pending of course). We think the Skavengers and Templars will hold on for their spots but we're not so confident that the Chiefs and Mudlarks will hold in there. This may be just as well, the Play Offs are probably no place for Snotlings....



NORTH DIVISION

Team	Played	Un-	Won	Drawn	Lost	Net	Net	Points	Skink	Skink
		played				T/D	Cas		un rating	un coach rating
Underworld Chiefs	10	2	3	2	5	-5	-13	21	48.9	45.0
Wolfenburg Bulls	5	7	5	0	0	6	-4	20	59.1	36.0
Daylight Gobbery	7	5	3	1	3	-6	2	17	-0.4	21.4
Middenheim Mindbreakers	3	9	1	2	0	5	-5	8	48.2	32.4
Da Gobsnaperz	6	6	0	0	6	-11	7	6	27.5	33.4
The Mc's	1	11	1	0	0	4	4	4	45.7	40.4

Divisional Results

Daylight Gobbery 2 2 Middenheim Mindbreakers

Wolfenburg Bulls 2 1 Underworld Chiefs

Inter-Divisional results

Luton Lizards 2 3 Underworld Chiefs

Another quiet week for the North, maybe they're saving all their games for the final quarter of the season? The Vampires of the Mindbreakers have finally felt able to come out now that the summer time daylight has abated and they travelled to the home of the Daylight Gobbery for what they hoped would be a repeat of their 5-0 thrashing from way back in Week 3. Unfortunately for them, despite an inspired Touchdown from Katabasis, the Mindbreakers' resident Vargheist and some equally inspired Team-mate throwing from George Eats'Em, neither team could get the edge on the other and the game ended in a 2-2 Draw.



The Wolfenburg Bulls are quietly going about their season, winning every game they have played so far, having the only 100% Winning record left in the League! Their fifth outing was against the Underworld Chiefs who they had already beaten earlier in Week 3 (some deja-vu going on there...) and this week was no different although the Chiefs only missed out on a draw due to a strong gust of wind blowing a

Snotling off course in the dying seconds of the game, leaving him unable to reach the Endzone for the equaliser.

The final game of this week for the North saw the Chiefs visiting the Luton Lizards in the South and, although they got a win, they suffered two fatalities. For now, they top the table but if the Bulls keep up their streak, that's not likely to last for very long!



Most of the Bonus Points are currently being gobbled up by the Underworld Chiefs but both of those categories are hotly contested with the Gobbery on 14 Touchdowns and the Bulls on 12 Completions. Da Gobsnaperz are also biting at the Gobbery's heals, just one behind on the Casualties front.

Category	Team	Amount
Touchdowns	Underworld Chiefs	16
Casualties	Daylight Gobbery	15
Completions	Underworld Chiefs	13
Deflections/Interceptions	None yet	0

It's all to play for in the North! As you can see from the table below, all of the teams have a chance of doing well come the end of the season although the Mc's are looking unlikely to cause anyone any problems as they seem to have dropped off the face of the planet! How any points will be attributed at seasons' end due to these unplayed games will be down to the Commissioner's Office if they don't show up - it could be crucial...

Team	Best points	Worst points
Wolfenburg Bulls	48	27
The Mc's	48	15
Middenheim Mindbreakers	44	17
Daylight Gobbery	37	22
Da Gobsnaperz	30	12
Underworld Chiefs	29	23



SOUTH DIVISION

Team	Played	Un-	Won	Drawn	Lost	Net	Net	Points	Skink	Skink
		played				T/D	Cas		un	un
									rating	coach
										rating
Midden Moor Mudlarks	11	1	4	3	4	-2	-21	26	25.7	59.6
Subcity Skavengers	8	4	5	2	1	15	-7	25	65.2	38.8
Fire Valley Fateweavers	7	5	4	1	2	3	10	20	43.1	47.7
Mileham Villans	8	4	1	3	4	-3	23	14	47.9	45.0
Skryre Fyreblades	4	8	1	1	2	-2	1	8	70.7	48.9
Luton Lizards	7	5	0	1	6	-13	-5	8	44.9	33.7

Divisional Results

1	1	Skryre Fyreblades
2	2	Midden Moor Mudlarks
1	2	Midden Moor Mudlarks
0	2	Subcity Skavengers
2	3	Underworld Chiefs
2	0	Luton Lizards
	1 0	2 2 1 2 0 2 2 3

The South has been busy as ever in week 8, mainly due to the efforts of the Villans and Mudlarks being involved in no less than 5 of the 6 games played this week! First the Villans and the Fyreblades were left equally frustrated in a classic game of 2 halves although, as may be expected, the Skaven walked off the worse for wear...

The Mudlarks first game saw them take on the Luton Lizards in a match that saw one of the most improbable yet incredible throws the ABBL will ever likely see. Hemmed in at the sideline on the Line of Scrimmage by Varag Ghoulchewer and a Snotling, Saurus Amari'i Block hefted his arm back and launched the ball, throwing a perfect Long Bomb to a skink waiting in the Endzone who caught it to put the Lizards ahead! The Snotlings equalised however, denying the Lizards their first victory of the season.



Our 3rd game of the week saw The Mudlarks emerging victorious in their clash against the Villans. Two notable moments from this game – the first was a rare mistake from Star Player Morg 'N' Thorg when he ploughed a poor little Snotling in to the ground and the 2nd was when Crackscratcher, the Villans' Troll got a little peckish and wolfed down Dead Eye Bett instead of throwing her for the equaliser in the closing moments of the game!

The Villans misery continued in their final game of the week as they took on the Subcity Skavengers in their return fixture. Unfortunately, where previously they had got a Draw, this time, despite inflicting 6 casualties, they lost 2-0.

Inter-Divisional matches saw the Underworld Chiefs visiting the Luton Lizards and walking away with a narrow victory. It didn't come without cost however as 2 of their team were killed (Amari'i Block causing one of them, the 2nd time his name has been mentioned this week, a star of the future perhaps?). The 2nd match saw the Luton Lizards in action once again, this time taking on the Petty Hate Machines from the East in their Magic Hate Bowl. The game was closer than the scoreline suggests with the Lizards only just missing out on an equaliser early in the 2nd half but they are still seeking their first win of the season.

Where are the bonus points going? Each category awards 3 points to the team that owns it. As you can see, there's a fairly even spread with the Skavengers the only team to have two categories. It's looking unlikely anyone will catch the Villans for Casualties – they may not have a great record this season but it certainly hurts to get those wins against them!

Category	Team	Amount
Touchdowns	Subcity Skavengers	22
Casualties	Mileham Villans	38
Completions	Skryre Fyreblades & Luton Lizards	3
Deflections/Interceptions	Subcity Skavengers	1

Let's have a look at the best and worst possible points for these teams and their potential for success.

Team	Best points	Worst points
Subcity Skavengers	41	29
Fire Valley Fateweavers	40	25
Skyre Fyreblades	40	16
Midden Moor Mudlarks	30	27
Mileham Villans	30	18
Luton Lizards	28	13

Everyone is still in with a shout of the North Division title although we would need to see some major shifts of fortune to knock the top runners off of their spots. But, with Bonus Points, who knows? We could see an upset apple cart yet!

EAST DIVISION

Team	Played	Un-	Won	Drawn	Lost	Net	Net	Points	Skink	Skink
		played				T/D	Cas		un	un
									rating	coach
										rating
Kirchenstein Templars	8	4	6	1	1	6	17	27	48.5	67.6
Ratmaninovs	7	5	5	1	1	7	-5	23	93.6	46.0
Green Glade Packers	7	5	3	4	0	3	-7	20	59.5	45.5
Hel Fenn Harriers	9	3	2	3	4	-1	-14	18	47.0	69.9
Woods Wiccan Wonders	6	6	1	2	3	-2	0	11	70.3	64.5
Petty Hate Machines	6	6	1	1	4	-5	15	10	72.4	52.5

Divisional Result

Green Glade Packers	2	2	Ratmaninovs
Woods Wiccan Wonders	1	1	Hel Fenn Harriers
Green Glade Packers	2	1	Petty Hate Machines
Hel Fenn Harriers	2	2	Green Glade Packers
Green Glade Packers	3	2	Kirchenstein Templars
Inter-Divisional			
Petty Hate Machines	2	0	Luton Lizards

The Green Glade Packers have set their campaign underway in ernest this week with 4 games played. Their first was a draw against the much-fancied Ratmaninovs who they held to 2-all, killing a Linerat along the way. Their second game was against the much harder hitting Petty Hate Machines who, despite having a very violent season, have not had the kind of success they were hoping for in Season 8. The Wood Elves certainly felt the pain in this one with no less than 4 players having to miss the next game due to the violence unleashed by the Chaos Dwarves but, despite getting beat up beyond recognition, they still managed to win 2-1.

The Hel Fenn Harriers have had a miserable season and were hoping to get some revenge on the Wonders for their 3-2 defeat back in Week One but the best either team could do was score 1 TD each. Nothing much happened in the first half but the Vampires went ahead 1-0 in the 2nd with a dead thrall, killed by Star Player Maple Highgrove. The Dark Elves scored back quickly and almost over-ran the subsequent Vampire offensive to win but Lord Notefinuff managed to deflect the pass to prevent the loss.

For the Harrier's second game of the week, they took on the Green Glade Packers who also took on the services of Maple Highgrove as well as Eldril Sidewinder in a bid to improve on their 2-2 draw in the first fixture between these teams. Moles under the pitch and pouring rain made the ball game tough for both teams but the Vampires went ahead to begin with only to be pegged back by the end of the first half. The Wood Elves scored under pressure, giving the Harriers time to equalise but almost lost their chance to do so when Prince Vorschtang failed to catch a simple pass in the backfield. Oakley Acorn Jr almost managed to do his usual thing but Wood Elf, Holly Ferngrove was the star for the Vampires as she fumbled her pass to score, allowing Lord Notefinuff to pick up and fire off a Long Bomb to Duchess Varkan who was within striking distance of the Endzone! She scored and another unlikely end of game play saves a loss for the Vampires, despite taking out 3 of their own Thralls throughout the game!

In the final Divisional game of the week, the Packers were in action once more, this time against the undefeated Kirchenstein Templars. The game went back and forth with the Wood Elves scoring first courtesy of Oakley Acorn Jr and the Humans equalising with a perfectly thrown Halfling at the death of the first half. The second half saw the Elves steal the ball away after a fumbled catch from Obadiah the Zealot and Oakley getting his 2nd. The Humans managed to equalise with little time left on the clock but some well-managed blocking and pushing on the front line saw Oakley get his 3rd of the game and the Templars first defeat of the season!

Speaking of firsts of the season, the Petty Hate Machines finally broke their Season 8 duck when the Luton Lizards came to visit. Hthark the Unstoppable made his first recorded appearance in the ABBL for the Chaos Dwarves although his appearance didn't seem to make much of an impact as he wasn't even mentioned in the match report! The Chaos Dwarves first score came from receiving the initial kick off although a brave little skink (Ross Skinkly) managed to single-handedly bring down the Bull Centaur Bo-Riz Ztrukat-Zki leading to a big old ruckus although he eventually got himself up and managed to score at the end of the half. The Dwarves blunted an aggressive Skink attack in the second half and recovered the ball allowing Hobgoblin, Vail 3.0 to run in the winner. Despite the win, the Machines are still languishing at the bottom of the table however.

Bonus points are as below. It's unlikely anyone will catch the Vampires for the Completions category but Touchdowns are hotly contested while the Machines are temporarily lifted off the bottom with the Casualties.

Category	Team	Amount
Touchdowns	Kirchenstein Templars	21
Casualties	Petty Hate Machines	26
Completions	Hel Fenn Harriers	33
Deflections/Interceptions	Ratmaninovs	1

ABBL CUP

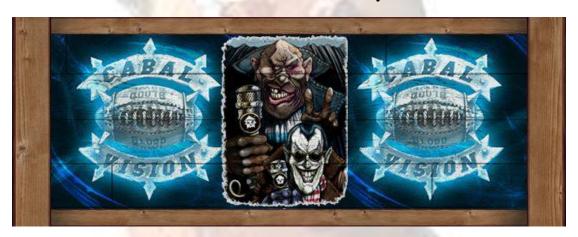
SEMI-FINAL DRAW

Semi-final match ups and how we rate the teams at the Skink 'Un

Skryre Fyreblades 70.7 v 65.2 Sub City Skavengers

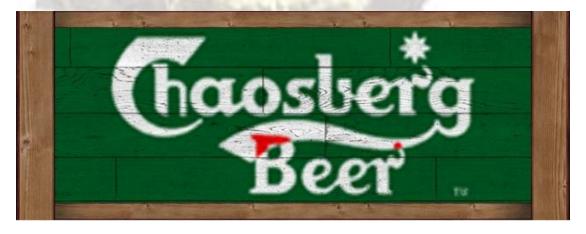
Fire Valley Fateweavers 43.1 v 34.0 Carroburg Cryptstealers

We've had no reports of any Cup Semi-Final action this week, we expect we will see some in week 9, stay tuned!



ABBL CONFERENCE

Cuckleys Boys made their ABBL debut with a 1 - 1 draw against the Thundergut Bills. That's all we know about that unfortunately and we aren't aware of any other Conference games taking part this week.



ABBL FRIENDLY NEWS

Only one friendly that we know of. After taking a beating from the Mileham Villans, the Subcity Skavengers needed some relief, so they persuaded the Goblins of Afeena Afletik to visit them. What took place wasn't particularly friendly with 7 casualties all told and the game ended 3-1 to the Skavengers, leaving them relatively fit for their next game in the League.



ABBL 7'S

Back to the normal level of apathy in the sevens, perhaps the sevens tournament that runs alongside the Play Offs will raise some interest.



FIRSTLY IN COFFIN CORNER THIS WEEK, WE HAVE AN APOLOGY TO MAKE. WE MISSED REPORTING ON THE GHOUL, BURKE OF I TOLD YOU I WAS ILL MEETING HIS END AT THE HANDS OF STUMBLES OF THE SKRYRE FYREBLADES WHO SENT HIM BACK TO HIS HOLE IN THE GROUND WHEN THESE TEAMS MET IN THE CUP LAST WEEK. THE RELEVANT

SKINK'S HAVE BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR SUMMARY
PUNISHMENT, WE WILL NOT MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE
AGAIN!

FIVE GHOULS

BURGERS and FLIES

THE TREES WERE OUT IN STRENGTH FOR WEEK 8 WITH THE RATMANINOVS LOSING ANOTHER PLAYER, THIS TIME IN THE SHAPE OF SODOVSKI - GETTING BURIED UNDER A FARAWAY TREE THAT PLAYS FOR THE GREEN GLADE PACKERS. ALSO IN THE EAST, THE HEL FENN HARRIERS LOST ARFUR POUNDER TO MAPLE HIGHGROVE (NEW ON THE SCENE, MAPLE IS PROVING TO BE VERY POPULAR IN THE ABBL...) PLAYING FOR WOODS WICCAN WONDERS ON THIS OCCASION. A COUPLE OF PLAYERS WENT IN THE CLASH BETWEEN THE MIDDEN MOOR MUDLARKS AND MILEHAM VILLANS -ONE AN OWN GOAL WHEN THE TROLL, CRACKSCRATCHER SNACKED ON POOR LITTLE DEAD EYE BETT! THE BLACK ORC MIA STEPPED ON A CÚIG — WE'RE NOT SURE HE EVEN NOTICED HE HAD KILLED HIM!

ANOTHER COUPLE OF SNOTLINGS HAD THEIR CAREERS CUT SHORT. CHOP CHECK, THE UNDERWORLD CHIEFS COACH, HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO OFFER ANY HIGH VALUE HITS TO HIS OPPONENTS AND SO HAS BEEN PUTTING SNOTLINGS ON THE LINE OF SCRIMMAGE! USUALLY THEY DODGE AND RUN AWAY BUT NOT IN THE GAME AGAINST THE LUTON LIZARDS. SAURUS'S AMARI'I BLOCK AND ISSA KABLOCKSKI

MANAGED TO GET HOLD OF PONT AND VERNEAU RESPECTIVELY AND IT DIDN'T END WELL FOR THEM...

IN THE UNFRIENDLY FRIENDLY BETWEEN THE SUBCITY
SKAVENGERS AND ÅFEENA ÅFLETIK, DAVE SICKS
(AFLETIK'S RESIDENT TROLL) FILLED PLASTIK BAG OF THE
SKAVENGERS WITH SOME ACIDIC NASTINESS AFTER A
DODGY BREAKFAST. FINALLY FOR WEEK 8 THE PACKERS
INCREASED ACTIVITY TOOK ITS TOLL ON THE PLAYERS WHEN
MOSS MINT DIDN'T SEE DONATELLA HEXANMORD OF THE
TEMPLARS BEARING DOWN ON HIM. BIG HIT, DEAD ELF!



QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"Despite an attempt to get close, the gobbos are unable to find their target and, with a timely snack on Plummy the badly hurt lineman, Katabasis reaches the end zone for the equalising TOUCHDOWN"

"Big Arfa broke No 3s arm so he'll MNG and won't ever throw a ball as well again."

"First block of the game see's Sasha CAS'ing Lord Pompadou! MNG but regens."

"Nichtstein somehow doesn't fail his Bloodlust, dodges out, grabs the ball in a TZ, dodges again and Rushes towards the EZ."

"Ralph picks up and goes to make a pass for the win but Notef OTB's and DEF's to end the game!"

"...the second came from a Saurus ,#3 - Amari'i Block, who threw a perfect long bomb, and expertly caught by #9 - Elijah Adebayskink"

"Crackscratcher time to shine. First he didn't understand what he was supposed to be doing when told to TTM. He then did move forward as directed to the half way line where fan favourite Dead Eye Bett was waiting patiently with the ball. Crackscratcher was not too stupid this time but as he eyed the stalwart goblin a disconcerting look came over his face which was immediately recognised by the MVs team chef. Before

anyone could stop him and before Dead Eye could wriggle free and to the astonishment of the expectant crowd Crackscratcher ate him. The Villans lose 2-1."

"Federar Rocher opens up the game by CAS'ing himself vs Eldril Sidewinder on a Both Down (MNG)."

"Lord Notefinuff gets the ball, fails Bloodlust, bites Thrall, passes successfully to Vorschtang who then fails to catch it..."

"It looks like the Elves are going to get a third but Holly Ferngrove Fumbles after rerolling! Lord Notefinuff picked up the ball, dodged out, throws a Long Bomb to Duchess Varkan waiting up the pitch who catches it (INT failed with a 1) and runs in to score the equaliser out of nowhere! Game ends 2-2."

"Troll no. 2 (Dave Sicks) killed Plastik Bagg (goblin lineman with sprint) by vomiting on him."

"But it wasn't to be, as Chiedozie Ogbenskink (#7 Skink) fumbled the hand-off so badly he ended up giving the ball to the Dwarf Blocker Artur Z Klerk!"

"Adamski ran off handing off to Cadel the Rat lineman, who blitzed Doctor Cox, knocking him out and sprinting into the open, before slipping before the endzone dropping the ball, fortunately Adamski, who had been everywhere this game, followed up to collect the ball and get the Chiefs back into the game. 2-1."

"Then came the first real highlight of the match, Sampson expertly throwing his halfling counterpart deep into elf territory to allow him to duck his way through the despairing dives of the elves to run in a TD."

"The Elves were happy to let the Humans run down the clock and score on T8 to allow the one turner for the win. They did just that and Oakley completed his hattrick to inflict the Templars first defeat of the season."

