



NORTHPOWER vs UNISON

Unison rugby team exacted revenge against their rivals, Northpower at Okara Park, Whangarei, on 24 September 2010, in what has become an annual fixture between the two rival electricity network teams.

In the weeks leading up to the return match, both network companies experienced heavy gales in their respective regions - which saw players from both companies committed to working extended hours in appalling conditions to repair storm-damaged lines. The chance to get together, play rugby and then relax together with friends, family and supporters was a welcome respite from those exhausting few weeks.

In what turned out to be a mostly dominant away-game performance, Unison won the match 33 – 16 and bragging rights for 2010.

Unison's win evened the game tally at one a piece, as Northpower took out the inaugural match, played in Rotorua in September last year.

Although out-classed for most of the match, Northpower managed to stay within range through penalties, then added two tries in the closing minutes of play, to bring some respectability to an otherwise one-sided result.

In the end the scoreboard told the story - Unison scored 5 tries to Northpower's 2.

According to OHUG Power Equipment Director, Steve Rigby, the game was mostly played in good spirits, although tempers were tested, as time and again, Northpower could not break down Unison's well marshalled defence.

OHUG sponsors the Unison team, providing after match shirts, caps and gear bags and was on hand as a match sponsor, to support the event.

Said Steve Rigby, "Many thanks to Northpower for hosting this year's game. We enjoyed their kind hospitality at the after-match function and we look forward to the two teams meeting again in 2011".



Unison team in OHUG sponsored after-match shirts and caps.



Northpower feeds the scrum as Unison backs are up flat, ready for defensive action.



The score board tells the story.