

Amlin Opta Index team of rounds 1- 5

The Amlin Opta Index uses unique mathematical formulae and modelling to objectively compare player performance in both European club competitions.

Position	Name	Team	Competition*	Score	Av. Pos. Score
15.	Mike Brown	Harlequins	HC	1736	1028
14.	Julien Malzieu	Clermont Auvergne	HC	1289	805
13.	Jonathan Davies	Scarlets	HC	1333	801
12.	Wesley Fofana	Clermont Auvergne	HC	1104	801
11.	Tim Visser	Edinburgh	HC	1402	805
10.	Jonathan Sexton	Leinster	HC	1613	940
9.	Greig Laidlaw	Edinburgh	HC	1295	971
1.	Census Johnston	Toulouse	HC	1090	810
2.	Ross Ford	Edinburgh	HC	1399	1022
3.	Allan Jacobsen	Edinburgh	HC	1091	810
4.	Bradley Davies	Cardiff Blues	HC	1274	859
5.	Alastair Kellock	Glasgow Warriors	HC	1183	859
6.	Alessandro Zanni	Benetton Treviso	HC	1364	1011
7.	Roddy Grant	Edinburgh	HC	1372	1011
8.	Nick Easter	Harlequins	HC	1642	1084

*ACC = Amlin Challenge Cup HC = Heineken Cup

Amlin Opta Index top performing player: Mike Brown (Harlequins)

Harlequins' Mike Brown is ranked as the top performing player in European Rugby this season. The fullback is the joint top try scorer in the Heineken Cup so far in 2011/12 with five, including a memorable brace away at Toulouse in the fourth round. The England hopeful has been key to Quins' success this season, as proved by the fact that no player at the club has made more metres (248) and no player in the entire competition has beaten more defenders (21) than him.

Points Breakdown	
Attack.....	1235
Defence.....	373
Lineouts.....	26
Kicking.....	102

Amlin Opta Index Top 10 forwards of the season:

Player	Team	Score*	Av. Score**
N. Easter	HAR	1642	1084
R. Ford	EDI	1399	1022
A. Zanni	BEN	1372	1011
R. Grant	EDI	1364	1011
P. O'Mahony	MUN	1317	1011
C. Robshaw	HAR	1312	1011
S. Ferris	ULS	1277	1011
A. Kellock	GLA	1274	859
B. Morgan	SCA	1271	1084
T. Faletau	DRA	1266	1084

Amlin Rugby Ambassador Lawrence Dallaglio said...

After an exhilarating weekend of European club rugby last week we now come to the final round of pool matches. A couple of the Heineken Cup pools have been decided but there is still a lot to play for, especially in the Amlin Challenge Cup where none of the pool winners are yet confirmed.

With the Six Nations on the horizon this is the final chance the players have to impress at the highest level before squads are finalised. For me the battle for the England full-back shirt is one of the most intriguing. Mike Brown has had a superb season and indeed tops the Amlin Opta Index, however Ben Foden is also at the top of his game and on a per game average he has actually outperformed Brown.

In the forwards it has been the back-rowers that have been scoring the most AOI points this season, and with the workload they get through it is no surprise.

The unfortunate Nick Easter is the top performing forward so far, but compatriots Chris Robshaw and Ben Morgan also make it into the top ten rankings. With Morgan now in the England set-up it will be interesting to see if he catches the eye this weekend.



Edinburgh have probably been one of the biggest surprises in Europe this season, and as the top performing team based on the Amlin Opta Index it would be good to see them continue their form and make it through to the quarter-finals. With Ross Ford, Tim Visser and Roddy Grant all in the top ten players they have the makings of a squad that can go all the way, first however they must overcome London Irish.

Amlin Opta Index Top 10 backs of the season:

Player	Team	Score*	Av. Score**
M. Brown	HAR	1736	1028
J. Sexton	LEI	1613	940
B. Foden	NOR	1572	1028
T. Visser	EDI	1402	805
R. Kearney	LEI	1369	1028
J. Davies	SCA	1333	801
G. Laidlaw	EDI	1295	971
C. Murray	MUN	1289	971
J. Malzieu	CLE	1289	805
L. Ferreres	BOR	1203	805

*Based on cumulative scores **Average score based on position