

## Norfolk Secures #1 in MARFU

Written by Alex Goff

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The Norfolk Blues clinched 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Mid-Atlantic DI club league with a 38-12 defeat of NOVA Saturday.

Almost all the season had been played in the fall, but the MARFU league ended after a long break, something that was welcome to Norfolk Head Coach Chris Porter.

“Friendly matches are nice, but it’s great to get a meaningful league game under our belts before the playoffs,” Porter told RUGBYMag.com. “This helps us ramp things up. We’re proud of coming in first and we want to represent MARFU well in the playoffs.”

Scrumhalf Jonathan Grasso had a strong game for Norfolk and is a welcome addition, as Porter has been looking for a true #9. Ed Stockunas had been filling in at scrumhalf, but it’s not his best position. Stockunas moved back to flyhalf with the arrival of Grasso and the two worked well together. Flanker Kevin Mott was outstanding both offensively and defensively for the Blues, while Torrence Rogers had a good day kicking.

With the win Norfolk confirms their date with NRU 4<sup>th</sup> seeds Long Island in Virginia April 30. PAC finishes 2<sup>nd</sup> and will host New York, while Raleigh travels to Boston Irish Wolfhounds and NOVA goes to Mystic River.

“The guys are raring to go,” Porter.

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