

Wyles at 13 for Premiership Final

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USA fullback Chris Wyles will start Saturday at outside center for Saracens in the Aviva Premiership Rugby final against Leicester Tigers.

"We're really looking forward to the game after a good week of preparation," said Saracens Director of Rugby Mark McCall. "We know that concentration and mental strength will be very important as finals can be decided by very small margins. Leicester have a great record of reaching finals and as a club, we have a huge amount of respect for them. We go into the game in a good place with some good results behind us and an understanding among the team as to what their roles are and what they need to do in order to win rugby matches."

Wyles has been a hugely important player for Saracens, which finished second to Leicester in the regular season, but actually had a better won-loss record and beat Leicester twice in close matches. But they also remember last year's final, which Leicester won 33-27.

"I wouldn't call it payback," Wyles told the BBC earlier. "I think it's an absolutely mouth-watering fixture for us. We look forward to it, we know Leicester are an extremely strong team with all the experience in the world."

Wyles, who spent most of last season playing wing for Saracens and getting a little time at fullback, started this season playing a lot of fullback, but has been moved to outside center. His defense, passing and attacking running have been used well at that position.

USA lock Hayden Smith, as expected, is not in the 22 for Saracens, but finished a very strong season for the club. Both Smith and Wyles have re-signed with the club for 2011-2012.

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Saracens lineup vs Leicester Tigers

15 Alex Goode
14 David Strettle
13 Chris Wyles
12 Brad Barritt
11 James Short
10 Owen Farrell
9 Neil de Kock
1 Matt Stevens
2 Schalk Brits
3 Carlos Nieto
4 Steve Borthwick ©
5 Mouritz Botha
6 Kelly Brown
7 Jacques Burger
8 Ernst Joubert

Reserves

16 Jamie George
17 Rhys Gill
18 Petrus du Plessis
19 Hugh Vyvyan
20 Andy Saull
21 Richard Wigglesworth
22 Nils Mordt
23 Noah Cato