

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

1 October

Home

St Neots

Won 60:8



Team

Starting Line-up

- 1) Rik Relph 2) Ren Pesci 3) Richard Cowley
4) Chris Leith 5) Jonathan Burch
6) Chris (Glove) Milne 7) Mark Holdsworth 8) Dan Leith
9) Stuart Faben (Capt) 10) Daray Horn
11) Ant Brown 12) Dave Sayer 13) Harry Cowley 14) Eddie (Bill Bob) Murphy
15) Jeff Mercer

Replacements

- 16) John Bateson 17) Jonni Sewell

Report

First game of the Season and a warm wind was blowing from the South West. Pitch is still hard as rock so well done for everybody who put their bodies on the line for this game.

The match began in the expected fashion, I was trying to get 2 sweaty children out of the car and into the pushchair as I was running late and had just realised the wife wasn't lying when she said it had a puncture! I rallied through and managed to hobble to the pitch before anyone had scored.

Renegades seemed to be quite positive and were playing mainly in the St Neots half. The St Neots team seemed to be young, big and strong in the forwards and were defending and running well and their backs were well-drilled and it appeared we were in for a hard fought and difficult game.

Fabio settled nerves with a penalty (3-0) and the game opened up slightly. Just as we looked to be settling St Neots ran in a try (3-5). It sparked Renegades into life and after crashing through a couple of tackles Ginger Dan sauntered over the line and for the benefit of the slow-mo replay decided to place the ball down in instalments, at which point he was tickled by their smallest back dropped the

ball 3 yards over the try line, thereby guaranteeing himself doughnut of the match with barely 10 minutes gone!

After this Renegades got serious and a lot more clinical. After a lineout on the halfway line and some great passing and straight running Darey crossed the line to finish an excellently worked try, converted by Fabio (10-5). Harry showed his mate Dan how to place the ball down over the line after entering a ruck and emerging with the ball to barge over for a solid try (15-5). Ant Brown joined the fun and guaranteed a win with a hard running try, note to self: you are not allowed to jump tackles when someone is diving at your ankles, Converted (22-5).

Ren was duly shouted at and reprimanded for taking a quick tap penalty, this was instantly withdrawn when Darey scored from it and he was then duly congratulated on his quick-thinking! Fabio converted (29-5). St Neots then had a bit of continued pressure in our 22 and scored one out of two penalties (29-8) before half time arrived and everyone had a well-earned drink and rest from the intense Hotober Heat!

Renegades came out positively and Dan crossed the line from a short tap penalty after crashing through the defence, in an amazing change of tactics he decided to place the ball down and take the points (34-8).

At this point I was coping admirably with both taking notes for this rampage and babysitting and feeding 2 children, whilst unnamed others (Flora) pranced around the sidelines doing nothing to assist me.

Our backs then started a move from our own 22 and worked the ball up the park for Harry to cross for his second try of the afternoon. Fabio converted again (41-8). Some felt this was getting too easy and decided to even the match up. Holdsy took it on himself to try to put the advantage with St Neots by getting himself sin-binned for raking a St Neots player from the bottom of the ruck! It didn't affect the bias of possession and the St Neots forwards at this point had all but given up in getting round the park and were obviously disheartened by the ever growing score.

Big Dave scored a try through the backs move from a lineout (48-8) and then Gilbert put down in the right corner, thankfully, as JB was outside him for the whole move waiting for the ball to arrive or to berate him if he failed to score (53-8). Harry completed his hatrick right near the end and completed a rout of a decent St Neots team and showing that Renegades can be clinical when they apply themselves and run straight, hard and off-load when able. We still need to adopt the gameplan more actively and against stronger opposition we will find it harder to score the tries we did today. The forwards need to hit rucks harder and secure ball but they were all moving as a unit across the park. The backs showed their attacking flair and all played well with notably Ant Brown having a stormer and Darey proving he is a better player now he has retired getting my man of the match vote.

60-8 Final score, one of the most convincing wins ever for Renegades, well done guys.

Quotes:

"Looking at the Renegades archive there have only been two 50+ margin victories; Sawston last season, we were good, and Shelford for my 50th birthday, they were shit. So well done to you all!!" Flora

*"Well played everyone! We were pretty clinical, for a change, which was great to see!
Positives from Saturday were lineouts, on our own ball, some of our ball carrying and off-loading and our overall defence.*

Forwards need to step up, particularly front 5! Saturday gave the props opportunities to have a run with the ball, but the hunger wasn't there!

Big game, let's keep the momentum going into it and up our commitment 10%. ie: more physical, more aggressive at breakdowns!" Fabio

Scores

Try: Daray 2, Harry 3, Ant Brown 1, Dan 1, Dave 1, Gilbert 1

Penalty: Stewart Faben 1

Conversion: Stewart Faben 6



Daray Horn



Dan Leith

Report by Rob Bevington