



Match Report

26 October Home Saffron Walden 3 Won 26:7



Team

Starting Line-up

- 1) Tom 'Fat Tom' Powell 2) Dan Jerred 3) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell
- 4) Matt 'Stan' Hughes 5) Lee Gawthroup
- 6) Ren Pesci 7) Jonathan Burch 8) Daniel 'Ginger Dan' Leith
- 9) Rolando Pesci 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy 12) Tom Heathcote 13) Rick 'Reggies other mate' Cleland 14) Russell Attle
- 15) Reggie Campbell

Replacements

- 16) Chris 'Machine' Machen 18) John 'JB' Bateson 19) Brian Smith 20) Dave Cook 21) Richard Cowley

Report

It was a great pleasure to welcome our old friends Saffron Walden 3 back to Cottenham for this long-awaited friendly. The breeze was strong as the teams assembled and both teams warmed up for a long period before the game began.

Walden kicked off and Renegades piled on the pressure immediately with some great runs and offloads by Fat Tom. However, the breeze favoured Walden and skilful kicking repeatedly sent Renegades back into their 22 when they ventured into the Walden half.

Renegades continued attacks into the Walden half, one started by Fat Tom with some swift hands out to Reggie's mate, but was spilled into touch. Another looked promising but a last minute knock on brought it to an end.

The large Walden prop got a bit arsey with Tom. Tom looked as interested as he would at a weight watchers catalogue.

Eventually persistence in attack was rewarded as Reggie made a storming run sliding through the opposition and eventually he was brought down just outside the Walden 22. The pressure was maintained and Reggie's other Mate scored in the right corner. The conversion was difficult and the breeze took the ball to the right of the posts (5-0). Despite repeated attacks from Walden the score remained unchanged until the interval.

The second half kicked off and very quickly Chris Machen flattened one of the Walden players – a sign of things to come. Heavy pressure from Renegades and a free kick lead to a try by Chris Machen, kick converted by Baz 12-0.

In a light hearted interlude, Ren punched the opposition full-back in the throat, and insists it was a hand off and Dan Jerred performed a high tackle. Both received a stern talking to from the referee.

Beaky squeezed (and I mean squeezed) into a number 13 shirt and came on to a despondent response. Within seconds Chris Machen was off again, this time crashing through the Walden line and breaking several tackles to score just to the right of the posts. Baz's boot was good for the conversion (19-0).

Walden came back at the Renegades in waves. They were by no means finished. The pressure paid off and they touched down under the posts and the conversion was good (19-7). They kept the pressure up and Reggie was forced to make a try-saving tackle after a long run back to cover. Renegades had to dig deep in defence and many tackles were required to keep Walden at bay.

Renegades made a good foray into the Walden half and some good off-load ball fed Reggie whose legs were strong and fast and he cut through the Walden Defence to touch down to the right of the posts. Baz added the two points (26-7). That's how it remained until the final whistle/

Scores

Tries: Chris 'Machine' Machen (2), Richard 'Reggie's other mate' Cleland, Reggie Campbell

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay (3)



Chris Machin



Baz for slipping over

Report by Matt 'Paperboy' Turner