

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

December 5

Home

Haverhill

Won 7:0



Squad

- 1) Tom Powell 2) Dan Jerred 3) Chris 'Psycho' Edwards
- 4) Chris 'Ginger Chris' Leith 5) Ren Pesci
- 6) Dan Tiezzi 7) Terry Hills 8) Daniel 'Ginger Dan' Leith
- 9) Rolando 'Welcome Back' Pesci 10) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben
- 11) Ross Catchpole 12) Ben Powell 13) Tom 'Strong Tom' Heathcote 14) Tim Hutchison
- 15) Mitchell Standing

Replacements

- 16) Jake Sweet 17) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell 18) Tom Cowley.

Report

The wind was howling around the Village College as the game kicked off. This was one of the strongest teams that Renegades had assembled in a long while. It needed to be, Haverhill is second in the league and although they were limited in numbers they looked lean, keen and fit. They also had significant numbers of supporters which was quite impressive for an away game.

From the outset, it was clear that the teams were evenly matched and it was going to be a fiercely contested game. The renegades scrum was strong and drove Haverhill backwards more often than not. That was just as well as Haverhill was dominating the lineouts, made tricky by the strong wind.

The first half was exciting end-to-end rugby with both teams showing flair and fluffing the ball in equal measure. As the game progressed, it became clear that Renegades had the upper hand and took the game into the Haverhill 22 more often than the reverse. Psycho threw himself into things with his usual enthusiasm and had to come off with a damaged back. Booey was on.

In the end the half time whistle went without either team scoring. Renegades had a few good opportunities with a bit of luck could have been more than 10 points to the good at half time. The worry was that the wind now favoured Haverhill and the Suffolk lads could turn that to their advantage. Tom Cowley and Jake Sweet came on, relieving Terry and Tim.

The second half continued the intensity of the first half but the wind advantage didn't seem to help Haverhill. Renegades dominance of everything but the scoreboard was looking more assured. In fact for the first 30, play stayed in the Haverhill half. Eventually the pressure paid off and when Haverhill did manage to ding the ball over into the Renegades half it was picked up by Ross who had the space to build up some speed before he encountered any tackle attempts. He ducked and weaved evading and breaking tackles from the Renegades well into the Haverhill 22. When he was eventually brought down he popped the ball up to Tom Cowley who completed the run scoring to the left of the Haverhill posts (5-0). Fabio put in a brilliant conversion kick which arced through the air driven by the almost gale-force winds and ended up beyond the left touchline but having passed between the posts (7-0).

The score seemed to wake Haverhill who looked more dangerous for the last 15 minutes and threatened the Renegades line on a few occasions. Dan Jerred had to come off with a twisted ankle and was replaced by Psycho whose back seemed to be better. However, the Renegades defence was good and they failed to score. There was genuine celebration when the final whistle eventually went after what seemed like a 90 minute second half.

It was a strong Renegades team and that team played really well. It was an unexpected and very welcome victory.

Scores

Try: Tom Cowley

Conversion: Stuart 'Fabio' Faben



Ross Catchpole for making many hard yards in a break from inside the Renegades half well into the Haverhill 22, breaking several tackles on the way and offloading successfully to Young Tom who scored.



No evidence of any doughnuts.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy