



Match Report

October 22

Home Cantabs 2

Won 17:14



Team

Starting Line-up

- 1) Tom Wykes 2) Harry Cowley 3) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 4) Dave Cook 5) Ren Pesci
- 6) Tom 'New Tom' Procter 7) Ollie Witt 8) Elliott Roberts
- 9) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben 10) Andrew 'Baz' Mackay
- 11) Richard 'BTW' Fickling 12) Ben Powell 13) Tom Heathcote 14) Josh Scupham
- 15) Ross Catchpole

Replacements

- 16) Tom Cowley 17) Adam 'Speedy' Richards 18) Dan Stockbridge 19) Lloyd Smart

Report

It was a really lovely afternoon for a game of rugby. This was going to be a test and there was a sense among the players and the sideline that this time we were up against it. After all, last season, Cantabs 2 beat us 100-0.

The game commenced and the concerns were justified. Cantabs were a match for Renegades and forced errors all the time. The game ebbed and flowed for the first ten minutes but it looked like Cantabs had the edge. This was confirmed when they drove over the Renegades line but were judged to have been held up. They came back again and on the 15-minute mark, their determination was rewarded with a try which was converted, 0-7.

A while later, Baz dinked a lovely kick over the Cantabs defence and managed to flatten their number 11 who caught it. The resulting melee resulted in a penalty for Renegades which Baz slotted over with ease, 3-7.

The game continued with Cantabs piling on the pressure. At one point, they had a really threatening attack with the ball spun wide on the left hand side and then back in but their prop spilled in a

fortunate let off for Renegades. The first half ended with Renegades having to carry the ball over our own line and touch down for what would have been a five-metre scrum had the half not finished.

Ren, Elliott and Rich BTW came off with Speedy, Tom Cowley and Dam Stockbridge coming on.

The second half started and Renegades had visibly stepped up a gear. It wasn't long before Ross broke through the defence and broke a few tackles to score. The conversion was straightforward for Baz, 10-7.

A lovely break by Tom Cowley along the left touchline was met with a high tackle. The resulting penalty was just wide. Cantabs responded by driving right up the Renegades line. Baz cleared but Cantabs came back. A penalty gave Baz the chance to relieve the pressure which he did getting almost to the half way line. The resulting lineout fed Baz again who this time kicked Renegades almost to the Cantabs 22. Renegades won the Cantabs lineout and Fabs fed Baz who broke through the defence, got very close to the Cantabs line before delivering a peach of an offload to Ben who was not going to be stopped. Baz made short work of the conversion, 17-7.

Cantabs piled wave after wave of pressure on Renegades and this was eventually rewarded with a try under the posts which they converted easily, 17-14. That's how it stayed for the rest of the game, with Renegades defending against determined Cantabs attacks. Eventually, as Tom Heathcote crocked his leg/ankle, the referee blew the final whistle.

It was a proper game of rugby and we had forgotten the adrenaline rush that is a close game. Cantabs are a very good side indeed and it was a very close game. Well done to all who played.

Scores

Tries: Ross Catchpole, Ben Powell

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' Mackay (2)

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' Mackay



Andrew 'Baz' Mackay for all round brilliance with Ollie Witt snapping at his heels.



Ross Catchpole for an uncharacteristic bit of referee backchat which cost us.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy