

# Renegades Rugby



## Match Report

**October 21**

**Home Cambridge 3**

**Lost 10:71**



### Team

#### *Starting Line-up*

- 1) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell 2) Callum Wilkins 3) Jamie Cohen
- 4) Aaron Stevens 5) Adam 'Speedie' Richards
- 6) Ren Pesci 7) Elliott Roberts 8) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 9) Dan Stockbridge 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Matt Faiers 12) Ross Catchpole 13) David Fletcher Morris 14) Tom Procter
- 15) Rhys Stephens

#### *Replacements*

- 16) Tom Wykes 17) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

### Report

Storm Brian was in full flow as the teams gathered for the much-anticipated game at CVC. Things started well for Renegades with a good period of sustained pressure eventually being rewarded with a kickable penalty. Kickable under normal circumstances but storm Brian could play merry havoc with any attempted kick. However, Baz was not intimidated by Brian and he put the ball between the posts, 3-0.

After the kickoff, a Cambridge player broke through the Renegades line and ran  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length of the pitch to score. The conversion was good, 3-7. This was followed fairly quickly by a break by the Cambridge number 8 from a scrum and he ran  $\frac{1}{2}$  the length of the pitch to score under the posts. The conversion was good again, 3-14. In depressingly little time, the Cambridge 15 broke again and scored under the posts and the conversion was good again, 3-21. And then they did it again, 3-28.

Things were not going well for Renegades when they held on to the ball and worked it well up into the Cambridge 22. A well-executed rolling maul advanced towards the Cambridge line and the ball spun out to Baz who nearly squeezed through a small gap. The ball went back through the hands to the opposite side of the pitch where Matt Faiers crashed over to the delight of his teammates. The conversion was a big ask but Baz slotted it confidently, 10-28.

However, Cambridge were not daunted by the Renegades recovery and their number 8 took the ball from the front of a lineout and broke through to score to the right of the posts. The conversion missed this time, 10-33. Then they ran in another converted try, 10-40.

Another good run of play by Renegades which approached the Cambridge line was spoiled when the ball was lost and the Cambridge number 15 went for another long run to score a try which was easily converted, 10-47. That's how it stood at half time.

The second half started with Renegades managing to stem the tide of Cambridge tries for a while. Speedie had to come off after a head knock and was replaced by Tom Wykes. Eventually the defences crumbled, and Cambridge were through again for a converted try, 10-54.

Not long after, play was stopped as Tom Wykes lay on the ground with a dislocated shoulder. He had to come off and go to A&E to get that seen to. Billbob came on and there was a re-jig of positions to fill the scrum.

The remainder of the game saw Cambridge score three tries with only one of these converted (the second conversion attempt came off the post). Play was halted when linesman Shaun and several others brought the referees attention to a headbutt on Ross Catchpole which he hadn't seen. He couldn't penalise the player involved as he didn't see the offence but the player was given a stiff warning. Ironically, it was Elliott who ended up walking not far from the final whistle for an alleged swinging arm.

The final whistle was a relief. The score finished at 10-71. Cambridge certainly played well and took their chances brilliantly. They gelled as a team on the day. The scoreline was harsh on Renegades who had flashes of really good play, not least leading up to Matt's try. The ball bounced well for Cambridge and badly for Renegades pretty much throughout. There is plenty of food for thought in advance of meeting Cambridge again at Volac Park on December 16.

## Scores

Tries: Matt Faiers

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay



Baz for the way he handled the pressure from the Cambridge defence (and for sacrificing his schnozzle)



No doughnuts

*Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy*

*Photos by Peter Haigh (you can see the full selection at [Peter's Flickr Page](#))*





