



Match Report

November

Home Saffron Walden 2

Won 86:21



Team

Starting Line-up

- 1) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell
- 2) Harry Cowley
- 3) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 4) Daniel 'Ginger Dan' Leith
- 5) Adam 'Speedie' Richards
- 6) Tom Procter
- 7) Ollie Witt
- 8) Elliot Roberts
- 9) Dan Stockbridge
- 10) Tom Cowley
- 11) Rhys Stephens
- 12) Ben Powell
- 13) Tom Heathcote
- 14) Matt Faiers
- 15) Ross Catchpole

Replacements

- 16) Dylan Paul
- 17) Will Blackwell
- 18) Ren Pesci
- 19) Dave Steward
- 20) David 'Captain Dave' Fletcher-Morris
- 21) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Report

Occasionally torrential rain in the morning gave way to cloudy but dry and cold weather as the teams gathered for the game. Many Saffron Walden players were delayed by bat traffic on the M11, but they managed to get to CVC in time for kick-off. Unfortunately, Tom Cowley twisted his ankle warming up and started the game in some discomfort.

Saffron Walden kicked off. It wasn't long before Ollie broke through the Walden line before feeding Tom Cowley, who fed Ben who made many yards before passing to Rhys who made a great support run. He touched down under the posts. Dan Stockbridge slotted the conversion, 7-0. This was followed by a Saffron Walden attack which ended in a kickable penalty which missed.

A Renegades scrum saw Ross break on the blind side with support from Rhys who received the ball and touched down to the right of the posts. Unfortunately, Dan S blew his 100% kicking record on the conversion, 12-0. Another scrum saw Ross pick the ball and go from just inside the Saffron Walden half to score under the posts. Dan S found his form again and got the two points, 19-0.

Saffron launched a period of sustained attack, but Renegades defence held, and no points were conceded. Eventually, a quick tap penalty went through the hands to the right touch line where Elliot carried and cut back in to touch the ball down to the right of the posts. Unfortunately, the conversion attempt missed, 24-0.

Ross went for one of his long runs from inside the Renegades half and scored to the left of the posts. The conversion went awry, 29-0. A little while later Ross went again, breaking ½ dozen tackles before passing top Ben who scored under the posts. Dan added the two points, 36-0. That's how the score stood at half time.

Half time changes: Tom Cowley, Tom Heathcote and Matt Faiers off. Will Blackwell, Dylan and Capt Dave on. Ross moved to 10, Rhys to 15.

Ollie chased and managed to secure the kickoff. In a subsequent line out, he took the ball again and broke through the Saffron Walden line to score under the posts. Dan got the conversion, 43-0. A scrum inside the Saffron Walden saw Dan feed Elliott who crashed up towards the Walden line before offloading to Captain Dave who scored just to the left of the posts. The conversion attempt was good, 50-0.

Walden went on the offensive again and one attempt was saved by a try-saving tackle from Rhys. However, they kept the pressure up and an attempt to run the ball out was caught and punished with a try which was converted, 50-7.

The Walden try was followed by another blow as Ross had to come off with a nasty cut to his nose which needed stiches. Tom Heathcote went back on. Ollie went on one of his rampaging runs covering 2/3 the length of the pitch. The ball went through the hands to the left touch and back again to Ginger Dan who scored under the posts. Dan slotted the conversion, 57-7.

Tom Powell broke through the Walden line and made many yards before being brought down. Dan S fed the ball quickly and a fantastic set of really quick hands shot the ball out to Will on the right wing. With his speed he left Walden players standing and touched down under the posts. Dan S did the needful, 64-7.

The kickoff by Walden was allowed to bounce and they came through and kicked on and managed to touch down close to the posts. Their conversion was good, 64-14.

Another example of good quick hands to Ollie yields another try. The conversion misses this time, 69-14. And then Ben went through for a long run to score another. Stockers missed the conversion, 74-14.

Walden responded by upping the pressure on Renegades. A fairly scrappy run of play followed with Renegades conceding zillions of penalties. Dave Steward was binned for a high tackle. Eventually Walden scored and converted again, 74-21.

Scrappy play continued, and the referee's frustration was evident at the rate of infringement. Tom Heathcote eventually got a yellow for going in from the side.

The scrappiness waned and Renegades re-established control on the game with Ben getting the third of his hattrick which Stockers converted, 81-21. Tom Procter concluded the try fest with a try which remained unconverted.

It was a good display from Renegades with some brilliant individual efforts and also some excellent handling. Credit to Walden who ever gave up and put up a serious challenge late in the second half.

Rolando wants to point out that the biggest overlap of the day was the 15-man overlap we had in the bar!

Scores

Tries: Ben Powell (3), Rhys Stevens (2), Ross Catchpole (2), Ollie Witt (2), Elliot Roberts, David 'Captain Dave' Fletcher Morris, Dan Leith, Will Blackwell, Tom Proctor.

Conversions: Dan Stockbridge (8)



Elliot for a strong controlled performance.



Captain Dave for falling in the ditch when going for a piss.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Pictures by Peter Haigh (see [Peter's Flickr page](#) for the full set of photos)







