



Match Report

January 13

Away Bury St Edmunds 3

Won 19:12



Team

Starting Line-up

- 1) Jamie Cohen 2) Jack Cowley 3) Chris 'Psycho' Edwards
- 4) Aaron Stevens 5) Adam 'Speedie' Richards
- 6) Tom Procter 7) Chris 'Machine' Machen 8) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 9) Rhys Stevens 10) Andrew 'Baz' Mackay
- 11) David 'Capt. Dave' Morris 12) Jack Weatherly 13) Tom Heathcote 14) Will Blackwell
- 15) Ross Catchpole

Replacements

- 16) Paul Cryer 17) Dan Stockbridge 18) Ollie Witt 19) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Report

This was the big one - travelling to Bury to meet the only team in the league we haven't beaten this season. A strong side assembled, and the mood was upbeat. The weather, which looked benign when we left Cottenham, was feeling decidedly chillier in Bury.

Bury kicked off and the intense competition began from the outset. It wasn't long before Bury advanced and broke through to score to the right of the Renegades posts. The conversion was good, 0-7. This was followed by a series of tit-for-tat exchanges with the ball moving to and fro. After a few minutes, Renegades advanced and a break by BFT was followed by some nice through the hands balls and the ball returned to BFT who made many yards into the Bury 22 before offloading to Capt. Dave who finished in fine style. The conversion was challenging as it was not far from the touch line, but Baz rose to the challenge, 7-7.

The game continued with serious battling for advantage marred by pretty poor refereeing. The players and spectators were getting frustrated by the number of decisions that were dubious and many of which were just plain wrong. Bury crossed the Renegades line at one point and the try was disallowed. Stout defence by Renegades prevented further scoring.

The score remained 7-7 at half time. Ollie came on for Machine (who survived the half). Tom Heathcote came off and Jack W moved to 13, making way for Paul for his Renegades debut. Baby Dave came on for Psycho.

The second half started well. A Bury pass was captured by Jack W, who popped the ball to Paul who made good ground before returning the ball to Jack who fed Tom Procter who scored in the left corner. Another challenging conversion for Baz who was unlucky to hit the upright, 12-7. Ren assured everyone on the sideline that he could have done anything that was done in the lead up to that try had he been on the pitch.

Play continued with both sides advancing and retreating. A Bury penalty was missed (to much relief on the sideline). Eventually Ren was given the chance to prove himself replacing Jack. Shortly afterwards, a Bury player was yellow carded for kicking Jamie in the knee forcing him to retire. BFT moved to the front row and Dan came on at 8.

A few minutes later, an attempted Bury clearance kick was blocked and the ball bounced to Will who opened up the throttle and stormed up the right side of the pitch to score. Baz slotted the conversion, 19-7. Unfortunately, Will had to retire as he hurt his back in the score and Tom Heathcote came back on the wing.

Bury came back and after some scrappy play managed to clinch a try back. The conversion missed, 19-12. That's how it remained. It was a hard-fought game which was undermined by very poor refereeing. As a result, nobody looked very happy coming off the field. However, it was a good win!

Scores

Tries: David 'Capt. Dave' Morris, Tom Procter, Will Blackwell

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' Mackay (2)



BFT for limiting the damage of the superior Bury scrum. Great performances also from Jamie (again), Aaron (again) and to Paul on his debut and to Jack for super hands.



The referee - by universal acclaim

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy