Renegades Rugby

Match Report

September 1 Away Cambridge 3

Won 31:28



Team

Starting Line-up

1) Tom 'BFT' Powell 2) Elliot Roberts 3) Chris 'Psycho' Edwards
4) Adam Richards 5) Dave Cook
6) Chris 'Machine' Machen 7) Ollie Witt 8) Harry Mills
9) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben 10) Andrew 'Baz' Mackay
11) Michael did-Dell 12) Ben Powell13) Tom Heathcote 14) Doyle Olney
15) Ross Catchpole

Replacements

16) Ren Pesci 17) Rolando Pesci 18) Jack Branton 19) Dan Stockbridge 20) Rory Naylor 21) Mark Elwood 22) Tom Elwood 23) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Report

It was a beautiful sunny September afternoon as the Renegades gathered for the first game of the season. It was a great relief that Cambridge were available at short notice and the game was approached in a competitive but sporting manner as both teams were keen to try things out. It was agreed with the referee that the game would be conducted over four quarter with unlimited changes, so everyone had some time on the field. The starting lineup included two players debuting as Renegades: Harry Mills and Doyle Olney.

The kickoff by Baz went straight out and the resulting scrum was a revelation as Renegades crucified the Cambridge scrum and won the ball. A lovely dart by Baz through the Cambridge line gained a good 30 metres before offloading to Ben who made a similar distance before being brought down. Renegades maintained pressure and within a few minutes Fabs had crashed over for the opening try of the season. Baz converted easily, 7-0.

Cambridge counter attacked but were stopped before the Renegades line. Renegades moved back up the pitch and some lovely flowing passing culminated in nice handling between Elbow and Ross resulting in Ross's first try which Baz converted, 14-0.

Renegades sustained the pressure and shortly before the end of the first quarter, Ross got the ball inside the Cambridge 22 and broke through several tackles to score his second try. Baz converted

and the whistle went for the end of the first quarter, 21-0. It was an amazing start to the game and to the season.

Some changes to the lineup for the 2nd quarter: Jack Branton came on to make his debut as a Renegade replacing Dave Cook; Tom Elwood made his debut by replacing Psycho with Elliot moving to prop; Stockers took over as scrum half from Fabio.

Cambridge came storming out of their traps with their fly half making an impressive run to score under the posts. This was converted, 21-7. Renegades responded by piling on the pressure and advancing towards the Cambridge line. A good move saw Doyle crash over in the right corner only to have the referee judge that the pass to him had been forward. Cambridge came back and another break by their backs saw a long run by them result in another try despite the best efforts of Ollie who chased their player hard. Ollie sustained an eye injury and was replaced by Ren. The try was converted, 21-14. Shortly afterwards, Renegades were awarded a kickable penalty which Baz duly slotted, 24-14. That was how things remained at half time.

Half time changes included Rory coming on for Doyle and Mark Elwood making his debut as a Renegade coming on for Michael. Early in the second half, the Cambridge 10 showed his skills by breaking through Renegades again, this time though he was brought down. Cambridge maintained the pressure and at one stage looked very threatening with a three man overlap which they managed to squander by spilling the ball. Mark's good leg decided to compete for the title of bad leg, so Doyle came back on. The Cambridge 10 made another of his breaks and this time he was not brought down resulting in a converted try, 24-21. The gap was looking very narrow at the end of the third quarter.

Machine replaced Jack and Ollie came back on for Ren. Renegades had a better start to the fourth quarter and had a number of chances. Eventually BFT crashed over for a long-awaited try. Baz converted, 31-21. Cambridge really piled on the pressure and towards the end of the game scored another converted try, 31-28. Renegades managed to hold on and the final whistle welcomed.

It was a relief that Cambridge didn't manage to overturn the 21-0 advantage Renegades had at the end of the first quarter. Some very good performances, particularly from the newbies all of whom had great games.

Scores

Tries: Ross Catchpole (2), Stuart 'Fabio' Faben, Tom 'BFT' Powell

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' Mackay (4)

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' Mackay



Harry Mills for a very impressive debut.



Stockers for removing the ball from a scrum that was advancing towards the Cambridge line

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy
Pictures by Peter Haigh (for the full set of pictures see Peter's Flickr Page)





















