

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

September 8 Away Newmarket

Lost 7:24



Team

Starting Line-up

- 1) Tom 'BFT' Powell 2) Callum Wilkins 3) Elliot Roberts
- 4) Aaron Stevens 5) Dave Cook
- 6) Tom Procter 7) Ollie Witt 8) Harry Mills
- 9) Dan Stockbridge 10) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben
- 11) Michael Did-Dell 12) Ben Powell 13) Tom Heathcote 14) Will Blackwell
- 15) David 'Captain' Fletcher-Morris

Replacements

- 16) Jack Branton 17) Harry Cowley 18) Tobi Rayner 19) Rolando Pesci
- 20) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell 21) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Report

Newmarket was the destination for our Christmas fun game at the end of 2017, but we hadn't faced a full-strength side from there recently and they were a bit of an unknown quantity. As they had come down from the league above they were likely to be stiff opposition. It was also an exciting day as we tried out our blue away-strip for the first time. Thanks to the Fen Edge Community Association who funded it.

The game was very evenly balanced for the first quarter with both teams ebbing and flowing. Captain Dave worked hard at 15 running the ball back at Newmarket on several occasions and on one occasion really cutting through before being chopped.

Both teams worked hard in a very physical competition. Newmarket got a penalty in Renegades 22 and took a quick tap and scored only to have the referee call them back to re-take the tap. At the other end a kick by Fabs was magnificently tapped back in to Ben by Ollie as it was about to go into touch. Ben was away but the referee called the tap back as forward.

Eventually, well into the second quarter, Newmarket kicked into the Renegades 22 and worked the ball well resulting in the opening score of the game: a try to the right of the posts. The conversion was a simple affair, 0-7. Not long later, consistent Newmarket pressure was rewarded with a break through the middle resulting in another try and conversion, 0-14.

There the score remained until half time; not the first half score-line that Renegades would have wished for. Tobi made his Renegades debut replacing Michael Did-Dell for the second half.

Ollie managed a nice break from the restart making many yards before offloading to Ben who gained more ground before being brought down. Very early in the second half, Elbow was forced to retire suffering from 'dead hip' and was replaced by Jack Branton.

The end to end 'war of nutrition' continued and eventually Newmarket got a kickable penalty. They sensibly chose to take the three points, steepening the hill for Renegades to climb, 0-17. It wasn't long before they converted the hill into a cliff with another converted try, 0-24.

To Renegades credit, heads did not go down and efforts were redoubled. A period of sustained Renegades pressure saw Fabs cross the Newmarket line but was judged to have been held up. From the resulting scrum there began a period of intense attack being met with determined defence. It was a titanic battle of wills and bodies. Renegades came again and again. Eventually the determination paid off and Ben crashed over to open the Renegades account. Dan made the non-trivial conversion look easy, 7-24.

Newmarket came back and attacked again but the Renegades defence held. Towards the final whistle, a long pass to their winger looked very threatening but Will managed to bundle him into touch just on the line. The final whistle blew.

It was a tough game against a well-drilled side. The score was not a fair reflection of the Renegades performance and we look forward to Jan 12 when we go again in Cottenham.

Scores

Tries: Ben Powell

Conversions: Dan Stockbridge



Ollie Witt for giving his all.



Tom Procter – it being his second last game before going to Uni.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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



