

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

Dec 1

Away Cambridge 3

Won 15-14



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Chris 'Psycho' Edwards 2) Callum Wilkins 3) Tom 'BFT' Powell
4) Jack Branton 5) Aaron Stevens
6) Elliot 'Elbow' Roberts 7) Ren Pesci 8) Harry 'H-bomb' Mills
9) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
11) Will Blackwell 12) Ben Powell 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 14) Matt 'Fairersey' Faiers
15) Jack Weatherly

Replacements

- 16) Tobi Rayner 17) David Fletcher-Morris 18) John 'JB' Bateson 19) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Report

It was a dull grey early-December afternoon as Renegades assembled at Volac Park. The temperature was un-seasonably high for the time of year and it was clear that Cambridge were determined to win the game from their disciplined warm-up while the Renegades were still gathering themselves.

Renegades kicked off and Cambridge piled on the pressure immediately. However, it wasn't long before Renegades won a penalty. The resulting lineout was won, and the ball came to Ben who broke through the Cambridge line and made significant yards before offloading to Will who put the pedal to the floor and ran around the Cambridge defence to score 5m from the left corner. The conversion was a decent attempt which refused to curl around, just missing to the right of the posts, 5-0.

Cambridge re-started, and Psycho was taken by the Cambridge 7 while in the air catching the ball. The referee didn't hesitate to produce the yellow card. Despite being a man down, Cambridge came back and drove into Renegades territory. Renegades pushed back and were approaching the Cambridge 22 when the Cambridge 11 intercepted a pass and ran $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of the pitch to score under the Renegades posts. The conversion was a simple affair, 5-7. This was a blow as the scoreline did not reflect the run of play which was pretty well dominated by Renegades.

The first half ground on and the Cambridge 7 was allowed back on the pitch. A lot of play between the two 22's carried on without much by way of scoring opportunities. Both teams played good defensive rugby. After a while, Cambridge conceded a penalty on their 10m line, which Baz punished with a super kick, 8-7. The grinding play continued and neither team managed another score before half time.

The second half continued in the vein of the end of the first half, with both teams working very hard to make not a lot of progress. It was getting on for half-way through the second half, when Cambridge pressure was reversed with a Renegades penalty. A good kick by Baz saw the ball well into the Cambridge half. The resulting lineout was won, and the ball found its way to Ben who again broke through the Cambridge defence. This time he managed to go all the way himself and scored under the posts. Baz made short work of the simple conversion, 15-7. Fabs pointed out that this score was achieved at exactly 15:07 which was very satisfying.

The try put a spring in the Renegades' step and they upped the pressure on Cambridge, who defended well. A great break by Harry saw him make many yards before being pulled up. He chucked the ball backwards over his head to Ben who continued the advance before offloading to Toby who powered along the right wing before being chopped into touch only 5m short of the line. Callum did his best to claim the lineout for Renegades and he almost got away with it, but not quite. Cambridge saw off the attack and piled the pressure on Renegades again.

A Cambridge penalty offered the opportunity to bring them within a converted try of victory, but it missed. This was just as well as shortly afterwards, Cambridge scored and converted to narrow the gap to a single point, 15-14. Renegades managed to take the game back into the Cambridge half before last play was called, a Cambridge knock-on saw a Renegades scrum and the ball was given to Baz who belted it off the pitch in double quick time.

It was a super game of rugby which saw two well-matched teams giving their all. The result could have gone either way although, through much of the first half, Renegades had the edge.

Scores

Tries: Will Blackwell, Ben Powell

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay



Aaron for astonishing work rate



Baz for a couple of mis-kicks that he can do better (harsh!).

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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





