



## Match Report

Feb 16

Home Colchester 3

Won 36-22



### Team

#### *Starting Lineup*

- 1) Michael Goode 2) Elliot Roberts 3) Jack Cowley
- 4) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben 5) Jake Sweet
- 6) Harry Mills 7) Ollie Witt 8) Beardy Dave
- 9) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Tobi Rayner 12) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 13) Ross Catchpole 14) Josh Scupham
- 15) John 'JB' Bateson

#### *Replacements*

- 16) Callum Laing 17) Rolando Pesci

### Report

Colchester got off to a great start, dominating the first 10 minutes which were spent entirely in Renegades' half. Despite a strong defence, Renegades conceded a try in the corner which Colchester did not convert, 0-5

Thereafter, Colchester continued to apply pressure, but Renegades defended well and were rewarded with a penalty after 15 minutes which Baz kicked into the corner. Sadly, the throw-in was not straight. Despite this temporary set-back, great pressure from Renegades and some great handling brought Renegades their first try from Fabs after 20 minutes and Baz converted, 7-5

Soon afterwards Renegades made the best of another penalty to get deep into the Colchester half and following more great handling, another darting run from Callum, and a great offload to Ross, Renegades had their second try. Baz again converted, 14-5

Following the restart, play centred in midfield until a sudden loose ball after a Colchester scrum was smartly followed up by Tucker for a well-deserved try after a handy rebound off the post. Once again Baz converted, 21-5

Colchester were quick to reapply the pressure after the restart and soon found themselves deep in the Renegades half. A five-metre scrum was quickly followed by a try after 34 minutes for them but they could not convert from the side of the pitch where Renegades had contained them, 21-10

Sadly, another penalty kick to Renegades after 36 minutes resulted in nothing more than some choice language from Baz who was clearly disappointed by his near miss. Nonetheless, Renegades ended the half very pleased with their great recovery after a tricky start.

The second half began strongly with some great handling and pressure from Renegades which took them to the Colchester 5m line but unfortunately this great period of play ended in Elbow sustaining an injury which forced him to come off after five minutes. Rolando came on and took over the scrum half role with Stockers moving to flanker. However, continued pressure from Renegades brought them a kickable penalty shortly afterwards and Baz made sure of it this time to leave Colchester with 3 scores to win, 24-10

After 10 minutes, a penalty gave Colchester their first chance to close the gap and the kick for touch took them to seven metres from the Renegades line. From here they almost made their way over the line, but a careless high tackle gave Renegades the opportunity to take the game out of their 22 after a tense period of play. After 20 minutes another penalty kick took Colchester to Renegades' five-meter line once again but once more Renegades defended superbly and worked their way back to midfield from where, after 26 minutes, Callum offloaded after another strong run and Rolando scooped the ball up superbly from his bootlaces with one hand and dived over for a try close to the posts. Baz converted, 31-10. As ever, despite the score margin, Colchester were not ready to concede and soon fought back with a well-deserved try after a strong run down the side line. Once again though, they could not convert from the edge of pitch, 31-15

Renegades too were determined not to let Colchester back in the game and made another strong restart which ended in a great charge through the middle from Mikey and a great offload to Harry who went over for a fifth try for Renegades after 36 minutes, putting the losing bonus point well out of reach for Colchester, 36-15

With the clock ticking down fast Colchester made one last valiant attempt to pull the score back and some great teamwork, and strong rucking, they were rewarded with another try which, at last, they managed to convert, 36-22. What was thought would be the final play of the game began with a scrum which eventually gave Colchester a penalty and one last chance at the losing bonus point. Unfortunately for them their kick for touch only made it as far as Stockers who took great pleasure in taking the ball out of play.

### Scores

Tries: Stuart 'Fabio' Faben, Ross Catchpole, Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote, Rolando Pesci, Harry Mills

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay (4)

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay



Ross Catchpole – for all round impressive performance.



Harry Mills for gifting a score to Colchester

*Match report by Kevin Stockbridge*

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



