



Match Report

Sep 7

Away St Ives

Lost 12-47



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 2) Callum Wilkins
- 3) Jack 'Chinese' Mills
- 4) Adam 'Speedie' Richards
- 5) Chris 'Psycho' Edwards
- 6) Ryan Cox
- 7) Ollie Witt
- 8) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 9) Roland Pesci
- 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Michael Did-Dell
- 12) Harry 'H-Bomb' Mills
- 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote
- 14) John Bateson
- 15) Tobi 'Spanish Pikey' Rayner

Replacements

- 16) Tom Vajzovic
- 17) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy
- 18) Richard 'BTW' Fickling

Report

As Renegades assembled at St Ives, it was becoming clear that the numbers were not as good as expected and some old legs would need to be running out again. We were the beneficiaries of Tom Vajzovic of Cambourne, who texted in the morning to see if he could have a game. It turned out his presence was very valuable – thank you to him.

Once again, a pre-season friendly was played as a game of four quarters. Renegades kicked off and the first minutes of the game saw both sides probing, trying to get a measure of the opposition. Gradually St Ives began to get the upper hand and a period of pressure from them saw them score to the right of the Renegades posts. The conversion was good, 0-7.

A few minutes later, Ryan was forced to come off due to injury. Tom Vajzovic came on for him. Meanwhile, Richard Fickling rocked up, dog in tow, and said he had his kit in his car if we needed him. Tom Wykes was identified as dog-sitter and Richard got changed.

As the end of the first quarter approached, Renegades made a nice break but spilled the ball. St Ives hacked the ball back past the Renegades defence and managed to touch down to the left of the posts. The conversion was, again, true, 0-14.

At the Interval, Billbob replaced John on the right wing. The second quarter started with another early try from St Ives. It was another spilled ball in a tackle that St Ives picked up and ran through the Renegades defence to score and convert, 0-21.

Renegades were rattled but some more structure began to appear with some promising running off the back of scrums. Eventually this approach bore fruit with a move off the back of a scrum feeding Tucker who made many yards forward and across the field. The ball came to Callum who powered over the line in the left corner to open the Renegades account. The conversion was tricky, especially for a left footed kicker. The ball pulled in front of the posts, close, but the cigar stayed in its box, 5-21.

St Ives upped the pressure again and they drove up to the Renegades line. They were resisted with some strong defence, but the pressure was maintained and eventually, their number eight piled over for another try. The conversion missed, 5-26.

That's how it stayed. At Half time, Billbob returned to his notebook with John coming back on the right wing. The third quarter started very well for Renegades. A scrum fed the ball to Baz who passed to Harry making one of his legendary finely angled runs at a blistering pace. He was through St Ives like a hot knife through butter. Nothing could catch him, and he touched down to the left of the posts. Baz made light work of the conversion.

Sadly, building on the good start was dealt a cruel blow when Stockers was forced off with a damaged ankle. Fortunately, Richard Fickling was able to come on at eight to replace him.

St Ives upped the pressure again and were camped in the left corner just short of the Renegades line. They passed the ball out through h the hands to one of their props in front of the posts who was able to saunter over the line. The conversion was never in doubt, 33-12.

Some minutes later, a scrum to St Ives saw the ball fed to their 14 who cut through the Renegades and scored to the left of the posts. The conversion was good, 40-12. As the third quarter drew to a close, BFT launched himself at one of the St Ives forwards and connected a bit high with his shoulder. He got the first yellow card of the season for his trouble. The whistle for the end of the quarter came as he walked.

Billbob and John swapped again but this time John stayed on to replace Speedie who was feeling twinges that were best not ignored. The final quarter was better played by Renegades. Only one try conceded when a St Ives flanker stormed through the Renegades, brushing off Billbob's hopeless tackle attempt and scored. The conversion was good.

Scores

Tries: Harry Mills, Callum Wilkins

Conversions: Andrew Baz MacKay



Harry Mills for all round work rate and a great try



Tucker – for reasons nobody nose

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy