

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

Oct 12

Home Writtle Wanderers

Won 27-22



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Jack 'Chinese' Mills 2) Callum 'Wilko' Wilkins 3) Josh Cox
4) Aaron Stevens 5) Adam 'Speedie' Richards
6) Craig Simpson 7) Ryan Cox 8) Tom 'BFT' Powell
9) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
11) Sam Weatherall 12) Harry 'H-Bomb' Mills 13) Ross Catchpole 14) Will 'Topknot' Blackwell
15) Ollie Witt

Replacements

- 16) Callum Laing 17) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben 18) Jon Farrar 19) Jake Sweet

Report

Writtle Wanderers were an unknown quantity as Renegades made their first venture into a national cup competition (the [RFU Junior Vase](#)). Renegades were up for it, whatever it was! The pre-game exercises and practice moves were conducted enthusiastically and there was anticipation from the pretty sizable crowd that gathered beside the pitch.

Writtle kicked off and the two sides went at each other hammer and tongs sizing each other up, probing, looking for weaknesses. It was Writtle who managed to string together the first decent attacking move which saw a good break through the middle and some good hands to score to the left of the posts. The conversion missed, 0-5.

Renegades countered with some strong pressure which was eventually relieved by a penalty to Writtle. Renegades came back again and were eventually awarded a penalty five or so metres outside the Writtle 22. Easy work for Baz, 3-5.

A period of ebb and flow followed before Craig made a break, offloading to Ross who powered over the line to the right of the posts and made the touchdown between the uprights. Baz added the two, 10-5.

A while later, Ross made another lovely break to feed Harry who made yards but was chopped. Writtle countered with a break of their own. The ball carrier beat a couple of tackle attempts before being dumped on his arse by Sam in what was a try-saving tackle for sure. A minute later Writtle got a penalty which they missed.



A break by Writtle saw them score in the left corner. They changed kicker and that was a good call as the challenging conversion was successful, 10-12.

As half time approached, Baz dinked a blue ball over the Writtle line. The full-back caught and countered and attempted a kick which Baz blocked; he then captured the ball and fed Ross who headed for the line before off-loading to Will who touched down in the corner. The conversion was difficult and missed, 15-12.

At half time, Callum Laing came on for Will.

The second half began in a similar manner to the first with both sides attacking and playing lovely flowing rugby but meeting good defence. Eventually, Writtle managed a try in the right corner. The conversion missed, 15-17 The restart was reversed and a penalty because of a high tackle by Renegades as the try was being scored.

Writtle kept the pressure up and, although they didn't dominate, they managed to get another try in the right corner which again wasn't converted, 15-22.

Renegades responded with significant pressure. A scrum in the Writtle 22 saw Baz give a long high pass to Callum Laing on the wing, who powered his way over the line in the right corner. The conversion missed, 20-22.

The game was close, and time was beginning to run out. Would Baz go for a drop goal? In the end, he didn't need to. A great carry by Aaron made good yards into the Writtle 22. The ball found Harry who charged at the line, breaking a tackle as he started. He crashed over to the delight of Renegades players and supporters alike. Baz slotted the conversion and a short while later the final whistle went to the relief of Renegades and the disappointment of Writtle who were in the game all the way through to the end.

It was a great performance by both teams. Exhibition rugby, maybe not quite Japan Scotland but pretty impressive for Level 9!

Scores

Tries: Ross Catchpole, Will Blackwell, Callum Laing, Harry Mills

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay (2)

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay



BFT for all round work rate and scrum heroism.



H-Bomb for giving a penalty and adding 10m for moaning at Sir.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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



