

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

Oct 26

Home Cantabs 2

Won 16-13



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Michael Goode 2) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard 3) Josh Cox
- 4) Aaron Stevens 5) Jack 'Chinese' Mills
- 6) Jake Sweet 7) Ollie Witt 8) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 9) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Michael Did-Dell 12) Harry 'H-Bomb' Mills 13) Sam Weatherall 14) Jon Farrar
- 15) Ross Catchpole

Replacements

- 16) Stuart 'Fistycuffs' Faben 17) Ben Powell 18) Ryan Cox 19) Adam 'Speedie' Richards
- 20) Sam Jones

Report

The promised bad weather was holding off as Renegades and Cantabs gathered for the last game of the first half of the league. The Cantabs first team didn't have a game so quite a few of them rocked up to run out for the seconds. This would be a challenging fixture for Renegades.

Renegades kicked off into the wind which was blowing towards the school. The contest was fierce from the outset with both teams fighting hard to gain ground and the ball changed hands repeatedly. Eventually, a Cantabs penalty saw them open their account, 0-3.

Renegades upped their pressure in response and worked their way into the Cantabs 22. There a penalty saw Baz bring the sides level again, 3-3.

The 'war of attrition' continued with both sides evenly matched fighting hard for territory and possession. At one point, a cross field kick from Baz was taken by the Cantabs 14 who howled along the right touch for 2/3 the length of the pitch before being decisively taken off the pitch by Baz.

A while later, Jake carried the ball quite a few yards into the Cantabs 22 before being felled by a blatant no-arms tackle. This was accompanied by a clash of heads between BFT and the tackler. BFT will have a nice shiner as a result but the Cantabs player had his scalp opened up requiring considerable attention to stem the bleeding. Once that was under control, he received a well-deserved yellow card for his trouble. Baz converted the penalty, 6-3.



A while later a Renegades lineout on the right side of the pitch saw clean ball to Baz who fed Harry making one of his characteristic lightening runs. This time the defence was unable to catch him, and he cut through Cantabs and under the posts to score. Baz made light work of the conversion, 13-3.

As the rain sheeted down, the referee blew for half time and Renegades made for the shelter of a tree to escape the deluge. Michael Did-Dell came off, Jake moved to the wing and Ryan Cox came on on the flank.

Early in the second half, Farmer Sam made a lovely break through the Cantabs line and hared off down the pitch. As he approached the full-back he dinked it over his head and then hacked it towards the Cantabs line. Ollie was with him in hot pursuit. The pressure of Sam and Ollie forced a Cantabs defender to welly the ball over his own dead ball line. The 5m scrum followed but Cantabs managed to clear the ball to relieve the pressure.

A penalty for Cantabs inside the Renegades 22 missed but was followed shortly by a try in the right corner. The challenging conversion was well struck, and the ball sailed between the posts, 13-10. Ben Powell came on for Farmer Sam.

A couple of further penalties for Cantabs were given, the first missed but the second levelled the score at 13-13. Ryan Cox was forced off when his dodgy knee flared up making way for Fabs. Fabs wasn't long on the field when his opposite flanker elbowed him in the head. Fabs retaliated with a punch. Fortunately, only the Cantabs player received a yellow card. Baz slotted the subsequent penalty, 16-13.

That's how it remained until the final whistle. The delighted reaction of some Renegades when the final whistle blew was an indication of the closeness of the competition. Or maybe they were just delighted to get off the freezing wet pitch.

Scores

Tries: Harry 'H-Bomb' Mills

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay (3)



Josh Cox for all round work rate.



Farmer Sam for choosing internal exile in Northern Ireland over playing for the Renegades.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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





ManOfTheMatch
by Cambridged

Josh Fox