

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

Nov 13

Home Mildenhall/Red Lodge

Won 31-7



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Tom 'BFT' Powell 2) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard 3) Geoff Kirby
- 4) Dan Philips 5) Doyle Onley
- 6) Tom Procter 7) Ryan Cox 8) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 9) Dougie Witt 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Jon Farrar 12) Ian Balfour 13) Will Blackwell 14) Michael Did-Dell
- 15) Matt Green

Replacements

- 16) Michael Goode 17) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 18) Adam Lane
- 19) Ren Pesci 20) Rolando Pesci

Report

The greyness was typical for a November match day, but it wasn't as cold as it usually is at this time of year. Renegades were slightly depleted in that some of our best players were away on a birthday weekend. Nevertheless, it was a reasonable starting and the biggest bench we have managed this season. Despite playing at home, Renegades turned out in blue because of the colour similarity between the home strip and Mildenhall's strip. What we hadn't bargained for was the ref had an almost identically coloured blue shirt. He was persuaded to don a yellow training bib a few minutes into the game after nearly getting clobbered by Mildenhall.

Renegades kicked off and quickly recovered the ball from Mildenhall. A beautiful running line was executed by Ryan Cox who cut through Mildenhall and scored one of the fastest first tries of a game in the history of the club. Baz made short work of the straightforward conversion, 7-0.

The start was ideal for Renegades but it became apparent that this Mildenhall Team was much improved from the team Renegades faced at Red Lodge. The next 25 minutes or so saw sustained pressure from Mildenhall spending most of that period well inside the Renegades half. However, the Renegades defence was resolute, and they got nothing on the scoreboard for all that effort.

Eventually, a great break by Baz and a good interplay with Ian fed the ball to Geoff who powered for the line only to be chopped just short of scoring. Mildenhall saw off the challenge, but Renegades

came back with another great break, this time by Will who fed Ian who passed to Matt who went over for a nice try. Baz converted comfortably, 14-0.

Renegades kept up the pressure and a few minutes later got a good driving maul going. A blatant side entry gave Renegades the penalty and the Shep took it quickly and crashed over only for the ref to decide he was held up. The goal line drop out was put straight to touch giving Renegades a 5m scrum. This time Ryan Cox crossed the line and was judged to have been held up. This time the goal line drop out went nowhere near touch!

As half time approached, Renegades were awarded another penalty inside the Mildenhall 22. Again, Shep tapped a quick one and powered for the line clearly grounding the ball on the line. This time the try stood. The conversion missed, 19-0. Half time followed shortly.

The half time changes saw some shuffling. Tucker came on for Matt with Will moving to full back. Geoff moved to second row with Big Mike taking the prop position and Doyle taking a well-earned rest.

Mildenhall kicked off and their swift 14 captured the kickoff beautifully. As in the first half, Mildenhall sustained pressure for a long period but didn't manage any points. Eventually, Renegades went on the offensive with a lovely kick over the top by Baz. Proccy chased and displayed admirable soccer skills before touching down. The conversion missed, 24-0.

Mildenhall responded by putting the ball wide to their 14 who lit the afterburners and left the defence standing to score under the posts. The conversion was good, 24-7. Renegades responded with another attack which saw Will float a lovely long pass to Ian who touched down in the left corner. However, the referee called the pass forward, no try.

As the game drew to a close and the light was fading, a quick penalty fed Proccy who powered for the line and scored. Baz slotted the conversion, 31-7. Renegades were into another onslaught when the referee blew for full time.

It was a very enjoyable game to watch with both sides playing nice rugby. The spirit on the pitch was competitive but friendly, in stark contrast to the last Renegades home game.

Scores

Tries: Ryan Cox, Matt Green, Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard, Tom 'Proccy' Procter (2)

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay (3)



Ian Balfour for a sparkling Renegades debut!



Proccy for ignoring a significant overlap and going himself. He did score so harsh!

Special mention also for Ollie Witt who had a birthday weekend on a rugby weekend.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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







