



Match Report

Dec 11

Away Cambridge 3

Lost 26-10



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Ryan Duffy 2) Callum Wilkins 3) Michael Goode
- 4) Aaron Stevens 5) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 6) Ryan Cox 7) Ollie 'Mad Dog' Witt 8) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 9) Dougie Ellis 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Matthew Faiers 12) Harry Mills 13) Jon Farrar 14) Michael Did-Dell
- 15) Matt Greene

Replacements

- 16) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard

Report

It was a busy afternoon at Volac Park with Cambridge 1s playing Rosslyn Park. Cambridge made many attempts to extract £15 a head from Renegades supporters and players with a success rate of 0%! Because the big boys had commanded the main pitch, Renegades were relegated to the enormous second pitch.

Cambridge kicked off. And the game ebbed and flowed for a few minutes. Then a Cambridge player broke a tackle and rampaged up the pitch with their tall 15 running in support. Matt did his best but had no chance on a classic 2 on 1. The attacking player drew him and passed allowing the 15 to score under the posts. The conversion was good, 7-0.

Renegades rallied and went on the attack. A good through the hands from Harry saw Matt threaten the Cambridge line only to be chopped just short. Cambridge cleared but Renegades came back. Again, Renegades moved the ball out to the left and threatened the Cambridge left corner. However, when stopped, they swung the ball to the right through the hands to BFT who made many yards towards the posts and them out to a ruck and Dougie dived over to score. Baz slotted the conversion, 7-7.

A while later Cambridge had another break through the middle leading to another try between the posts. The conversion was simple, 14-7. Renegades rallied again and went hunting in the Cambridge

half. Several promising moves were repulsed and eventually a kickable penalty was awarded and converted by Baz, 14-10.

It wasn't long before Cambridge went wide on the left again, running from inside their own half to score in the corner. This time, the conversion missed, 19-10.

Renegades were not deterred, and the scrum started to really motor absolutely annihilating the Cambridge scrum as the second half was drawing to a close. Cambridge, however managed another breakaway try along the left wing and converted it, 26-10. They then tried to do the same again just before half time, but their ball carrier was blasted off the field by Ryan Cox. The whistle went for half time a minute later.

Shep arrived just in time to take over from Callum who was suffering from a trapped nerve in his upper back.

The second half was a real battle. The score remained unchanged for the rest of the game. A number of close calls from Cambridge were seen off close to the line. One in particular, when the Cambridge 13 looked sure to score only to be taken out by Matt.

The complete dominance of the Renegade scrum also needs to be acknowledged. One occasion was particularly sweet: Renegades powered the Cambridge scrum off the ball. Cambridge brought on some fresh large legs for the reset and Renegades destroyed them again.

As the game drew to a close, the Cambridge scrum half, increasingly frustrated at their inability to add to their half-time tally, threw a punch. Not sure if Aaron was the punchee or just outraged on behalf of a teammate, but he was the angriest I have seen him in all the years he has played for Renegades.

Great credit is due to Renegades for holding Cambridge out for the whole second half. It was a great achievement and lesser teams would have crumbled. There were moments when things got heated during the game, but it was played in a much better spirit than the game at Cottenham. We may meet again this season in the cup competition. Something to look forward to.



Matt Greene for a brilliant try-saving tackle and many yards in attack.



Andrew 'Baz' MacKay for a number of missed touches (although recognising heroic tackling to prevent tries)

Scores

Tries: Dougie Ellis

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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







