

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

Apr 23

Home Wymondham 2

Won 38-14



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Michael 'Big Mike' Goode
- 2) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard
- 3) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 4) Aaron Stevens
- 5) Jack 'Chinese' Mills
- 6) Elliot 'Elbow' Roberts
- 7) Ollie Witt
- 8) Tom 'Proccy' Procter
- 9) Doug Ellis
- 10) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 11) Michael Did-Dell
- 12) Andrew 'Baz' McKay
- 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote
- 14) Ross Catchpole
- 15) Matt Green

Replacements

- 16) Jake Sweet
- 17) Geoff Kirby
- 18) Jon Farrar
- 19) Matt Turner
- 20) Chris 'Machine' Machen
- 21) Dan Philips
- 22) Will 'Topknot' Blackwell

Report

The sun shone and it was windy as Renegades and Wymondham gathered for the last game of the season. It was high stakes for Renegades as a win made the possibility of promotion a real prospect when the RFU eventually decides what is happening. Baz, having returned earlier than expected from his torn calf injury, opted to play inside centre leaving Stockers at 10.

The game started well with Renegades advancing quickly into the Wymondham 22. A penalty was taken as a scrum and was followed quickly by another penalty advantage. Renegades span the ball wide but nothing resulted, so it was back for another penalty – again taken as a scrum. The Renegades pack got a great drive on and trundled towards the line. As the line approached, Doug picked the ball and dived over for the opening try. Baz slotted the conversion, 7-0.

A short while later, a great break from Tucker carried the ball well out of the Renegades 22 before offloading to Ross who advanced before feeding Matt Green who powered towards the Wymondham 22. He passed to Proccy who was chopped just short of the line. Nothing was added to the scoreboard, but it was great to watch.

The two teams battled in the middle of the pitch for a while without looking threatening. About 30 minutes in, Baz went down with what turned out to be a dislocated knee. Geoff came on on the wing, Ross moved to full back, Tucker to 12 and Matt G to 13.



A few minutes later, after a period of sustained pressure, Wymondham scored about 5m from the left corner. The conversion was well struck and true, 7-7.

Renegades came straight back from this blow. Ollie received the kickoff and ran back at Wymondham before offloading to Geoff who powered up the field into the Wymondham 22 where he passed to Dougie who went over for his and Renegades second try. The conversion missed, 12-7. The half time whistle followed closely.

Matt Turner came on in place of Mike Did-Dell.

Early in the second half, Ross managed an excellent 50-22 kick giving Renegades an attacking lineout inside the Wymondham 22. Renegades won the lineout and spread the ball right across the pitch before moving it back again. This stretched the Wymondham defence giving Ross the gap he needed to carve through and touch down his 100th Renegades try! The wind caught the conversion kick lifting it very high but short of the posts.

Minutes later, Renegades drove into the Wymondham corner and came very close with Aaron being driven back as he drove for the line. Wymondham, then drove the renegades pack into touch. Big Mike damaged his shoulder in the melee and Jake came on in the second row with Jack moving to prop.

Another period of Renegades pressure on the Wymondham line was rewarded when Proccy powered over to score. Dan added the extra two, 24-7.

It was the turn of Wymondham to apply pressure and they threw everything at the Renegades defence which held firm. Eventually, Ollie broke through the Wymondham line and made good yards before offloading to Shep who powered towards the Wymondham line. The ball came to Elbow who sold a lovely dummy to his defender and cut inside him to cross the line and run to touch down under the posts. The conversion was simple, and Dan slotted it, 31-7.

The restart saw some confusion over the catch and a penalty to Wymondham for crossing. They took the penalty quickly and caught the Renegades off guard. They scored under the posts and the conversion was never in doubt, 31-14.

As the full-time whistle approached, a scrum saw the ball go through the hands to Ross who powered over for his 101st try. Dan added the final two points, 38-14. And that's how it remained. It was a really great exhibition of flowing rugby from both sides. The game was played in a good spirit and benefited from the best refereeing Renegades have experienced in a long time.



Matt Green for a great shift.



Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard for going himself when he could have served Dougie up a hat-trick.



Scores

Tries: Doug Ellis (2), Ross Catchpole (2), Tom Procter, Elliot 'Elbow' Roberts.

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay, Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge (3)

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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





