



Match Report

Apr 9

Home Ipswich 1.5

Lost 18-24



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Michael 'Big Mike' Goode
- 2) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard
- 3) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 4) Aaron Stevens
- 5) Chris 'Machine' Machen
- 6) Ryan Cox
- 7) Jack 'Chinese' Mills
- 8) Ollie Witt
- 9) Doug Ellis
- 10) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 11) Michael Did-Dell
- 12) Tom 'Proccy' Procter
- 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote
- 14) Geoff Kirby
- 15) Jon Farrar

Replacements

- 16) Elliot Roberts
- 18) Matt Turner
- 19) Dan Philips
- 20) Bryn Ellis

Report

The sun shone strongly but there was a biting cold wind as Renegades and Ipswich 2 gathered for the second last game of the season. Ipswich's first team didn't have a game and it looked like the team that arrived was liberally sprinkled with first team players.

Ipswich kicked off and both teams took a few minutes to settle into the game. Ipswich gained their composure first and dominated their way to the Renegades line to score under the posts. The conversion was good, 0-7. It was looking like it could be a long afternoon.

However, Renegades had an answer. A great break by Ollie Witt got Renegades well into the Ipswich 22. A scrum just outside the 5m line provided a platform from which Renegades drove over the Ipswich line with Ryan Cox touching down for Renegades opening score. The conversion missed, 5-7.

Renegades advanced again and inside the Ipswich half, they were awarded a penalty. Dan put the ball in the corner. The resulting lineout gave the ball to Ryan Cox, and he spotted a gap when he hit the ground and went for it ruthlessly. Ipswich just stood and watched as he crashed over. The conversion missed, 10-7.

As half time approached, Ipswich went on the offensive and drove deep into the Renegades 22. The Renegades defences was determined and the onslaught was held off for quite some time. However,

the inevitable try came when Ipswich spun the ball wide to their right wing who scored in the corner. The difficult conversion missed, 10-12. That's how the score stood at half time.

Half time changes included moving Ollie to 15 to relieve Jon and Elliot replaced him on the back row and Matt Turner came on for Mike.

Renegades kicked off the second half and drove up the field. They quickly won a penalty and decided to take the points. The kick was beautifully struck and sailed between the posts, 13-12. There followed a long period where both teams battled it out in the middle of the field with the ball changing hands occasionally but neither side threatened their opponent's line.

This period came to an end when Renegades advanced and won a penalty deep inside the Ipswich half. Dan put the ball in the corner and Renegades won the lineout and drove over with BFT touching down in the right corner. The conversion was difficult and sadly missed, 18-12.

Shortly later, Jack was forced off with an injury to his heel. Dan P took his place. Ipswich really turned up the pressure and kept it at high intensity for the rest of the game. This was rewarded with a controversial try in the left corner which most Renegades maintain that the scorer was clearly in touch. However, the referee didn't agree. The conversion missed, 18-17.

The pressure remained intense, and Ipswich spent another long period inside the Renegades 22. Eventually, the ball came to Matt Turner, whose clearance kick attempt was blocked down, and Ipswich were able to scramble over the line to score under the posts. The conversion was easy and good, 18-24.

Unfortunately, Ryan Cox sustained a nasty knee injury in that attack and was forced to come off. Ollie returned to the back row and Jon returned to full back. Renegades spent the closing minutes of the match trying to claw back the lead. The final minutes saw an Ipswich player rewarded with a yellow card for kicking the ball away. Eventually, the clock was run down and, Ipswich were mighty relieved to hear the final whistle.



Ryan Cox for a great all-round performance and two tries.



Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote for butchering a two-man overlap!

Scores

Tries: Ryan Cox (2), Tom 'BFT' Powell

Penalties: Dan Stockbridge

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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





