



Match Report

Sep 10

Away Ipswich 2

Won 0-22



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Ryan 'Duff' Duffy 2) Callum 'Wilko' Wilkins 3) Michael 'Big Mike' Goode
- 4) Tom 'BFT' Powell 5) Jack 'Chinese' Mills
- 6) George Mills 7) Ollie Witt 8) Aaron Stevens
- 9) Doug Ellis 10) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 11) Michael Did-Dell 12) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 13) Geoff Kirby 14) Josh Vail
- 15) Ross Catchpole

Replacements

- 16) George Collett 17) Joe Paddison 18) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard 19) Fraser Johnson

Report

The long awaited first league game was nigh as the Renegades gathered at Ipswich RFC. Assurances that the pitch was playable looked dubious as we drove past a number of completely parched pitches, but the word of their fixture proved true as we rounded a corner to see a verdant pitch glowing green like a Wadi in a parched desert. The lush grass, a couple of inches long really was a sight to behold. It was perfect.

The game was preceded by a two-minute silence to reflect the death of Queen Elizabeth the Second and was followed by a round of applause to celebrate a life well lived.

Ipswich kicked off and the first half settled into a pattern of complete domination of possession by Renegades, repelled by rock solid defence by Ipswich. Very fluid rugby from Renegades was marred by dropped passes regularly frustrating moves that may have led to a score. The scrum looked dominant, and George Mills was causing havoc with Ipswich lineouts, stealing the ball and disrupting their distribution of the ball.

Sadly, around halfway through the first half, Jack Mills's calf went ping and he was replaced by Joe Paddison. Aaron was wreaking havoc turning over a number of times and caused the Ipswich number 8 to have a swing at him. The referee was well placed to see what happened and the Ipswich 8 got a red card for his trouble.

It was beginning to look like it would remain scoreless at half time when Ross made a great break into the Ipswich 22. He was tackled and the ball recycled through hands to Joe Paddison who powered over for yet another try! Dan converted confidently, 0-7. This was followed by a penalty which Dan again converted, 0-10. That's how it remained at half time.

Half time changes were Shep on for Wilko and George Collett on for Big Mike. The second half settled into a pattern similar to the first half, except this time possession was more dominated by Ipswich and Renegades were forced to defend occasionally on their try line. The defence was good.

George Mills was forced off with cramp and Shep came back on the flank. A good driving maul saw Aaron slam the ball onto the line, but the referee didn't see it and gave a goal line dropout. Ipswich went on the attack again forcing Josh Vail to make a try saving tackle. As the second half was beginning to look like it might be scoreless, an Ipswich scrum was disrupted and intense pressure from Shep and BFT captured the ball. Through hands to Joe Paddison who added a second try to his tally to the left of the posts. Dan slotted the conversion, 0-17.

It looked like that might be that, but Ross made a great break from the Renegades 22, kicking ahead from halfway deep into the Ipswich 22. Great support running put the Ipswich defenders under enormous pressure, allowing Ross to recapture the ball and score to the left of the posts. The conversion attempt pulled just to the left, 0-22. The final whistle went.

It was an interesting game. A good win but marred by many dropped balls (which to be fair, must have been like a bar of soap). The penalties conceded in the first half (1) was not matched in the second half (7) and that gave Ipswich many opportunities they didn't have in the first half.



Callum Wilkins for brilliant throwing in and battling for the ball at every opportunity. Special mention also for George Mills whose disruption of the Ipswich lineout was a pleasure to behold!



Jack Mills for going on the piss on Friday Night and pulling up a quarter of the way through the game.

Scores

Tries: Joe Paddison (2), Ross Catchpole

Conversions: Dan Stockbridge (2)

Penalties: Dan Stockbridge

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Picture by Aaron Stevens

