

# Renegades Rugby



## Match Report

Oct 29

Away Newmarket

Lost 38-22



### Team

#### Starting Lineup

- 1) George Collett 2) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard 3) Michael 'Big Mile' Goode
- 4) Aaron Stevens 5) Jack 'Chinese' Mills
- 6) George Mills 7) Danies Philips 8) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 9) Doug Ellis 10) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 11) Josh Vail 12) Tom 'Proccy' Procter 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 14) Matt 'Fairsey' Faiers
- 15) Ross Catchploe

#### Replacements

- 16) Ollie Witt 17) Mike Did- Dell 18) Ryan 'Duff' Duffy

### Report

The unseasonably warm weather continued as Renegades assembled at Newmarket, for the first time in a while. A strong team and a full bench contrasted with the starting conditions in recent games. Renegades were up for a good game.

Renegades kicked off and an intense battle for dominance began. In the first quarter, Renegades dominated possession, scrum and lineout, with Newmarket getting very little ball to do anything with. Unfortunately, in early play, one of the Newmarket lads fell on Jack Mills's foot twisting his ankle badly. Jack was forced to retire and was replaced by Duff. Renegades employed a driving maul to good effect and Fairsey had a great kick and chase along the left touchline forcing Newmarket to carry over their own line and touch down. However, the Newmarket defence was very solid and repeated Renegades attacks were repelled.

Eventually, as the first quarter ended, the pressure told. A Newmarket scrum inside their 22 was utterly destroyed by a solid Renegades push. The penalty advantage went to Renegades and the ball went loose. A vigilant BFT was on it like a flash and powered over the line to open Renegades account. The conversion missed, 0-5.

A couple of minutes later, Renegades were in the Newmarket 22 and Newmarket stopped assuming Renegades had knocked the ball on. Dan read the situation well and picked the ball up and sauntered over the Newmarket line. The referee awarded the try without hesitation. Stockers added the cherry on top with a simple conversion, 0-12.



Newmarket responded to the second try by going on the attack and won a penalty inside the Renegades 22 near the right touchline. They tapped and went, spinning the ball across the field to score near the left touchline. The conversion missed, 5-12.

A few minutes later, as Renegades tried to run the ball out of their 22, Newmarket were awarded a penalty and ran in another try. This time the conversion was good, 12-12. It was disheartening to build a 12-0 lead after a great battle and to lose it again in a few minutes. The sides remained level until half time.

Ollie Witt came on for Dan Philips and Dids came on with Fairersey moving into the scrum to relieve a broken Duff. As the second half began, it emerged that Newmarket had asked for the scrums to be uncontested. This was controversial as Renegades were utterly dominating the scrums and winning ball and penalties from Newmarket Scrums. Shaun and Rolando argued that Newmarket should lose a man, but the Referee countered that that rule only applied with 23-man squads. An unkind person might think that this was a cynical move by Newmarket.

A few minutes into the second half, the ball went loose and was kicked forward by Newmarket. They recovered the ball and a couple of passes were all that was required to get around the Renegades defence. The conversion missed, 19-12.

Newmarket attacked and got a scrum inside the Renegades 22. They executed a perfect grey ball to outflank Renegades and score in the left corner. The challenging conversion was good, 31-12. Renegades responded by going on the offensive and worked their way into the Newmarket 22. A penalty, quickly tapped by Shep, saw the ball move left to Big Mike who was not going to be stopped. The conversion was just wide, 31-17.

Shortly later, Ollie was yellow-carded for a high tackle. This was followed by a Renegades attack which saw Newmarket intercept the ball and run the length of the pitch to score under the posts followed by a simple conversion, 38-17.

A Newmarket lineout was stolen by Aaron who rampaged well into the Newmarket 22. Renegades drove towards the line and a try was denied for double movement. However, as the game drew to a close, Renegades kept up the pressure. An attack with a three-man overlap was thwarted by a cynical slap down from a Newmarket player. He got a yellow card for his trouble.

In the dying minute of the game, Renegades had a scrum inside the Newmarket 22. BFT picked up from the back of the scrum and drove forward while drifting left and the Newmarket defence couldn't cope. He touched down to secure the four try bonus point. The conversion attempt, the last play of the game went just wide, 38-22.

It was a game laden with controversy. Going uncontested removed Renegades strongest advantage on the field. Had contested tries continued, Renegades may not have won, but it would have been a much closer contest.



George Collett for great work in the scrum and around the field.





Tucker for passing to the opposition twice.

### Scores

Tries: Tom 'BFT' Powell (2), Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge, Michael 'Big Mike' Goode

Conversions: Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

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





