

# Renegades Rugby



## Match Report

Mar 23

Home Thurston

Won 31-20



### Team

#### Starting Lineup

- 1) Toby Sanders 2) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard 3) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 4) Nic Mainero 5) Miguel Hernandez Rodriguez
- 6) Matt 'Faiersy' Faiers 7) 8) Aaron Stevens
- 9) Ollie Witt 10) Tom 'Proccy' Procter
- 11) 12) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 13) Geoff Kirby 14) Michael Did-Dell
- 15) Josh Vail

#### Replacements

There were no replacements.

### Report

As the week progressed it looked like there was a danger of Renegades being unable to honour a home fixture through lack of numbers. However, as Saturday approached Renegades agreed to play a friendly to avoid another points deduction and get some game time. With new recruit Miguel and Ryan Cox willing to try 40 minutes it looked like we might have 14 on the field for some of the match.

A shower of rain caused a bit of dampness before kickoff but the game began at 3:00pm. Thurston kicked off and Renegades spilled the ball. They advanced steadily up the field and scored to the right of the posts. The conversion missed, 0-5.

Renegades responded well and from the first scrum it became apparent that, even with only seven in the scrum, the Renegades scrum was totally dominant. This was used to considerable effect with scrums being used to win penalties and Renegades advanced towards the Thurston line. A scrum inside the Thurston 22 saw a flurry and Proccy crashed over to open the Renegades account. The kicking tee could not be located and Proccy's drop kick attempt missed, 5-5.

A few minutes later, a great break through the middle by Shep made many yards and took Renegades deep into the Thurston 22. Renegades piled on the pressure and Proccy scored again, this time to the right of the posts. The kicking tee had been recovered and the conversion attempt was good, 12-5.



Renegades employed their scrum dominance to advance up the field and into the Thurston 22. As the line was approached, BFT picked and went and crashed over for a try. Proccy's conversion was good, 19-5.

Shortly after, Toby was given a yellow for a no arms tackle. Thurston used their even greater numerical advantage to advance into the Renegades 22. They did cross the line near the left corner but were judged to have been held up. The goal line drop out was taken well by Thurston who ran back at the Renegades line and scored to the right of the posts. The conversion missed, 19-10.

Renegades responded by advancing again and a great cutting run by Ollie took Renegades deep into the Thurston 22. The ball was recycled to Proccy who powered over for his third try of the game. The conversion missed, 24-10.

As half time approached, Miguel had to come off, dead on his feet. Renegades were advancing into the Thurston 22 when Proccy was penalised for crossing. That relieved the pressure on Thurston, and they held their line until the half time whistle a little while later.

The second half saw Ryan Cox join the fray, his first game back since a knee ligament injury put him out of action a couple of years ago. He proceeded to boss the lineout with his characteristic style!

After five minutes or so, Thurston scored having benefited from Renegades ill-discipline giving them a lot of penalties. Their conversion missed. 24-15. A while later, a Thurston player got a yellow card for a high tackle. Despite being down a player, Thurston manufactured a big overlap which saw them score in the corner. The conversion missed, 24-20.

A great break through the middle by Proccy saw him chopped just short of the line. The resulting scrum was wheeled, and the referee called another scrum. Overenthusiasm by the Renegades pack saw them shove to early, ceding a free kick and allowing Thurston off the hook.

About 10 minutes from the end, Renegades had another scrum in the Thurston 22. The shove was timed better, and the scrum began to advance inexorably towards the Thurston line. However, Ollie picked up from the back and cut through. He was chopped on the 5m line but managed a beautiful offload to Aaron who was powering in his wake. There was no stopping Aaron. The conversion was good, 31-20. And that's how it stayed.

It was a great performance by an outnumbered Renegades team. The second half had periodic visits to the field by Miguel who in his first game in years, gave his absolute all.



Miguel for giving his all and then some.



Toby for getting a yellow card.

### Scores

Tries: Tom Proctor (3), Tom 'BFT' Powell, Aaron Stevens

Conversion: Tom Proctor (3)

*Match Report by Eddie Murphy*

