



Match Report

Feb 28 Home Mildenhall/Red Lodge Won 52-5

Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Tom 'BFT' Powell 2) Matt 'Faiersy' Faiers 3) Jake Smith
- 4) Bobby Menezes 5) Nic Mainiero
- 6) Ollie Witt 7) Lewis Pannett 8) Aaron Stevens
- 9) Brendan Salmon 10) Tom 'Proccy' Procter
- 11) Ross Catchpole 12) Alfie Salmon 13) Ben Powell 14) Geoff Kirby
- 15) Nathan Williamson

Replacements

- 16) Matt Green 17) Ethan George 18) Kez Duxbury

Report

Feb 28 waws a long time coming. No games for well more than a month gave Renegades players a chance to recover from injuries and a squad of 18 was a luxury for the occasion. Mildenhall had reported that they only had 10 players. As it happens, 15 showed up on the day and the decision was to play a league fixture rather than the game-on rules that had been proposed.

Mildenhall kicked off and Renegades took the game to then from the off. A well-judged kick over the top was chased by Brendan who harried the Mildenhall 15 and forced a ruck. The ball was spun right to Ben who crossed the line and ran back to touch down under the posts. Proccy converted, 7-0.

A few minutes later a lovely interplay between Nathan and Ross saw Ross powering along the left touchline only to be taken down by a good tap tackle. A while later the Mildenhall 10 kicked into the Renegades 22, Nathan had it covered but was stripped of the ball. Some good scramble defence by Alfie prevented what looked like a certain Mildenhall try. On the 15-minute mark a loud pinging sound signalled the end of Ben's participation in the game, and he was replaced by Matt Green.

A Renegades break on the right petered out, but the game was taken back for a penalty. The ball was given to Proccy who danced through the Mildenhall defence and scored under the posts. He converted his own try, 14-0.

Five minutes later a set of nice plays by Renegades stretched Mildenhall to the right of the pitch and then back to the left with the ball finding Ross who crashed over in the left corner. The conversion was too challenging, 19-0.

As half time approached, another good build of pressure by Renegades saw them attacking the Mildenhall line. The ball found Aaron and it was a simple finish for him. Brendan slotted the conversion, 26-0. A short while later, the referee blew for half time.

Half time changes: Ethan on for Matt Green, Kes on for Lewis.

Renegades kicked off the second half. A Mildenhall player was damaged in the melee from the kickoff and was forced to come off. Lewis donned the lurid pink of Mildenhall and gave them solid service for the rest of the game. A lovely kick over the top by Proccy saw Ross and Nathan hunt down the Mildenhall defender who had the misfortune to catch it and dump him into touch. "That's exactly what I intended", Proccy was heard to say.

Over to Stockers on the sideline: "It's wonderful play. Really good recycling. We pound through the middle a couple times, out to the flank, and then back into the centre and it's great link up between the two second rows with lovely soft hands and inside pass Bobby in under sticks. Kick is good. 33-0".

This was followed shortly by a fantastic break by Ethan who made half the length of the field and was felled only just short of the line. Geoff recycled the ball rapidly and popped a pass to Faiersy, who was not stoppable and moved the touch down to directly behind the posts. Brendan converted, 40-0.

And back to Stockers again: "Another lovely phase. Quick tap 22 out and Proccy fizzes a nice one off the left that cuts out three and puts Faiersy in... he's just short, but BFT is at the base and Waltzes around the fringes. Taunts the defender as he dots down. Kick short. 45-0."

Later a maul inside the Mildenhall 22 makes many yards before Brendan passes to Geoff who charges towards the posts, is taken down by a trip tackle, but just rolls onto his feet again and powers over the line with two defenders hanging off him. His touchdown was firmly made. Brendan added the extras, 52-0.

Mildenhall managed to get a try through sheer hard work, but the conversion missed, 52-7. The game restarted but the Mildenhall 10 took a blow to the head. After a consultation with both captains, the referee blew off the game with around 10 minutes left on the clock.

It was a very good Renegades performance. It was a strong squad to start with, and the potential was fully realised. The atmosphere in the Cottenham Club was great. Winning is so much better than losing!



Bobby Menezes for an all-round great performance.





Lewis Pannett for being stepped my Nic M when playing for Mildenhall. Harsh!

Scores

Tries: Ben Powell, Tom 'Proccy' Procter, Ross Catchpole, Aaron Stevens, Bobby Menezes, Matt 'Faiersy' Faiers, Tom 'BFT' Powell, Geoff Kirby

Conversions: Tom 'Proccy' Procter (2), Brendan Salmon (4)

Match Report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy with contributions from Dan Stockbridge's live commentary.