Renegades Rugby

Match Report

October 24 **Away** **Saffron Walden 2** **Lost 40-5**



Team

Starting Lineup

1) Geoff Kirby 2) Dan 'Happy' Proctor 3) Tom 'BFT' Powell
4) Nic Mainiero 5) Cameron Witheridge-Pearce
6) Kez Duxbury 7) Lewis Pannett 8) Bobby Menezes
9) Max Haddon 10) Doug Ellis
11) Ethan George 12) Ross Catchpole 13) Aaron Stevens 14) Dan Phillips
15) Nathan Williamson

Replacements

16) Jason Bruno 17) Alfie Salmon

Report

Any contest against Saffron Walden 2, the league leaders, was going to be a challenge. Storm Boelo added to the challenge with blustery wind and buckets of rain, the rain getting heavier as the game progressed, making handling very tricky. Saffron Walden's first team had had an influx of new players which resulted in quite a few of their first team dropping down to the seconds. All in all, it was a tough gig.

Saffron Walden kicked off playing with the slight slope. It was a very physical game throughout and that was signalled early with BFT and Doug taking big hits in the opening minutes. Walden looked dangerous, and they were, but it took them quite a while to open their account. Eventually, a scrum on the Renegades 22 was developed into a try in the left corner. The conversion missed, 5-0.

They went on to run in another three converted tries in the first half, having pinned Renegades in their own half for pretty much all that time. Stirling defence by Renegades stopped the score being even more unfavourable, with Ethan making a clear try-saving tackle and Bobby putting in a few crunching hits.

However, as half time approached, Renegades decided to take the game back to Walden and climbed the hill to penetrate first the Walden half and then the Walden 22. However, the Walden defence was steadfast and at half time the score stood at 26-0.

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The second half was a much less unbalanced affair. This time the slope favoured Renegades and much more time was spent in the Walden half and 22. However, the Walden defence was impenetrable and herculean efforts went unrewarded.

Walden managed to climb the hill themselves with a break through the Renegades defence and claim another converted try, 33-0. Renegades kept battering away and eventually after quite a few repelled efforts, Bobby crashed over for a welcome try well to the left of the posts. Max's conversion attempt went just to the right of the posts, 33-5.

Renegades kept plugging away, but Walden managed another breakaway converted try before the final whistle, 40-5.

It was a very tough game, played in a very good spirit by both teams. At no point did Renegades' heads go down. Walden were a very disciplined side that harried Renegades in every situation and made playing very difficult. Renegades look forward to welcoming them to Cottenham on a level playing field!



Ethan for a great shift and a crunching try-saving tackle.



Ross, for forgetting to bring his boots and having to wear boots two sizes too big which made kicking tricky.

Scores
Tries: Bobby Menezes

Match Report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy and Alfie Salmon

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