



Match Report

5 November

Home

Cambourne Exiles

Won 30:12



Team

Starting Line-up

1) Sam Vail 2) Ren Pesci 3) Richard Cowley

4) Tom Wykes 5) Brian Smith

6) Chris Milne 7) Tom Powell 8) Chris Leith

9) Tom Cowley 10) Darey Horn

11) Jonni Sewell 12) Harry Cowley 13) John Bateson 14) Eddie (Bill Bob) Murphy

15) Jeff Mercer

Replacements

16) Carl Goodey 17) Graham Beckford

Report

“Remember, Remember the 5th of November” is what 22nd Century Renegades will be saying in many years time. They will be referring to the seasonally warm, still day in 2011 when Cambourne came expecting fireworks but went away more than slightly fire-damaged and their hope of success extinguished by a recurrently rampant and creative Cottenham team, playing the consistently best rugby they have produced since they were formulated by the father of Renegades, Colonel Mustard!

The mild weather was perfected by a nice thin layer of dew to make conditions ripe for an expansive, open game which has become the trademark of this season. At kick-off the small but fervent crowd were eagerly anticipating the battle and within 3 minutes a penalty was won just outside the Cambourne 22 and Tom Cowley (Tom C) was spot on with the kick (3-0). In another game of “3 Toms” Tom C converted his second penalty after continual pressure within the Cambourne half after 15 mins (6-0). We were only being ruffled in one area which was in the scrums against a large and strong pack, their size however, was also their undoing as they could compete with the pace and fitness of the Renegades forwards.

On the half hour, the game probably peaked with the best try of the match, possibly the season? Cambourne kicked deep into our half and Medic collected on our 5 metre line before outpacing the oncoming attack and opening himself into space on the left side. He galloped a full three-quarters of the pitch before popping a perfectly timed pass out to Darey who had worked hard to support, who then in turn drew the defender before passing to Gilbert who crossed over and got inside to make the conversion easy for Tom C (13-0).

Another penalty followed for Tom C (16-0) before a powerful crash through try excellently taken by Harry to make it 23-0 before half-time.

The call was made to all absent players to start looking for other clubs as it was going to be difficult to get into this marauding team. Beaky came on for Rich C with Tom Powell moving to prop to try to steady the scrum as we were being lifted in the first half. ZigZag came on for Gilbert who'd had a really strong first half.

The 2nd half was a bit difference to the first. We gave away a few penalties after sustaining a bit of pressure and they eventually made us pay and scored a try after muscling over our line (23-7). It went back and forth for a while with neither team able to string many phases together. Then Cambourne, who had their belief back and thought they could still win the game went over for another try and looked to be making an unexpected comeback but it wasn't converted (23-12).

The Status Quo was restored and nerves which were starting to get frayed (possibly only mine!) were calmed when Glove went over near the posts under some confusion as to whether it was a penalty try, but he duly celebrated and JB converted to make the game safe at 30-12. The final whistle was a relief for a tired and aching Renegade team who showed both their creative and their resilient sides during this hard fought match.

Great game to watch, we really are starting to get consistency and creativity in all aspects of our gameplan. Fitness was an issue in the 2nd half but as we only had 2 subs that was to be expected and if we can continue to keep our shape in attack and defence throughout the entire game we will be very hard to beat. Difficult game to choose Man of the Match, special mentions to Medic, Tom's C & P and Glove.

Scores

Try: Glove 2, Harry 1, Gilbert 1

Penalty: Tom Cowley 3

Conversion: Tom Cowley 2, John Bateson 1



Ginger Chris Leith



Richard Cowley

Report by Rob Bevington