

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

January 9 **Away** **Mildenhall/Red Lodge** **Won 51:20**



Squad

- 1) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell
- 2) Harry Cowley
- 3) Matt Bullen
- 4) Tom Wykes
- 5) Dawie Horn
- 6) Ren Pesci
- 7) Dan Tiezzi
- 8) Dan Stockbridge
- 9) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben
- 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Josh Scupham
- 12) Ben Powell
- 13) Tom Cowley
- 14) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy
- 15) Lloyd Smart

Replacements

- 16) Rolando Pesci
- 17) Darey Horn
- 18) Doug Smith

Report

A strong squad arrived at Red Lodge, conscious that the home team would be keen to avenge their defeat in Cottenham earlier in the season. We welcomed Dawie and Darey Horn back to the squad after differing periods in retirement.

Renegades played with the wind in the first half with a low sun to their backs. The pressure was on to build up a decent lead before half time and the situation was reversed.

Mildenhall started strongly capturing the ball from their own kick off and advancing towards the Renegades line. Baz relieved the pressure with a long kick towards the Mildenhall line which was knocked on giving Renegades an early opportunity to attack the Mildenhall line. However, the scrum was lost and play moved back to the centre. After some to and fro, Mildenhall conceded a kickable penalty. Baz lined up and, despite his expression of frustration on kicking the ball, it sneaked over (3-0).

Shortly after the restart, Renegades had advanced into the Mildenhall 22 and the pressure told when a clearance kick attempt went straight up. Josh Scupham was there to compete when the ball came down and crashed over to score near the left touchline (8-0). Baz slotted the challenging conversion (10-0).

A couple of additional penalties slotted by Baz took the score to 16-0. Mildenhall responded by attacking and winning a kickable penalty which they converted to narrow the gap (16-3). However, Renegades came back and shortly after Dan Tiezzi went over followed by a conversion by Baz (23-3).

Renegades went on the attack again and after a couple of assaults on the Mildenhall line, Billbob stumbled over the line and was awarded a try but had it withdrawn after the Referee consulted the linesman (Richard C). However, the resulting five metre scrum was turned over by Renegades and they drove across the line allowing Ren to pick up and put down (28-0). The conversion was straightforward for Baz (30-3).

Mildenhall came back and powered up the field to score a try just before half time which they duly converted (30-10). It was a good performance by Renegades in the first half but was it good enough?

The second half started well. Early in the half there was a scrum in the middle of the pitch. Rolando picked and sailed a beautiful pass to Tom Cowley who ignited his afterburners and shot off around the opposition to score in the right corner. This time the conversion was too much even for a very on-form Baz (35-10).

Mildenhall however, were down but not out. Their response to this try was to up their game and take the attack back to Renegades. They managed to score another two unconverted tries but conceded three penalties in the process which Baz punished with unerring accuracy. Towards the end of the game a break down the left wing saw Ben Powell break through and score with Baz slotting the conversion with the final kick of the game (51-20).

It was a really enjoyable game, played in an excellent spirit. The Renegades put in a very good squad performance. We hope Dawie enjoyed the next few days!

Scores

Tries: Josh Scupham, Dan Tiezzi, Ren Pesci, Tom Cowley, Ben Powell

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay (4)

Penalties: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay (6)



Baz for amazing kicking and overall command of the middle of the park. Must also mention Josh, who scored a try, made many yards and put in some critical try-saving tackles in the second half.



Tempting as it is to nominate Richard for excessive honesty, I cannot doughnut honesty. Ben P and Billbob for both fluffing the ball over the line.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy