

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

Nov 17

Home Cantabs 2

Won 48-22



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Stuart 'Booey' Cracknell
- 2) Callum Wilkins
- 3) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben
- 4) Jack Branton
- 5) Dave Cook
- 6) Elliot 'Elbow' Roberts
- 7) Ollie Witt
- 8) Harry Mills
- 9) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 10) Jack Weatherly
- 11) David Fletcher Morris
- 12) Ben Powell
- 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote
- 14) Matt 'Fairersey' Faiers
- 15) Will Blackwell

Replacements

- 16) Tobi Rayner
- 17) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 18) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Report

It was a glorious Autumn afternoon as the Renegades gathered for what seemed like the first home game in a while. The President's Lunch which was at the Cottenham Club preceding the game was a great success with more than 30 participants, including many old Renegades.

Renegades kicked off and Ollie very nearly captured the ball but knocked it on. The first scrum looked ominous – Renegades were pushed all over the place by a strong Cantabs pack. However, it wasn't long before Renegades re-gained the ball and applied pressure. Cantabs defended well but a break through their line by Jack W saw the ball go through the hands to Harry who scored under the posts. The conversion went awry, 5-0. It wasn't long before Harry broke through the defensive line before offloading to Ollie who was running a lovely line. He scored under the posts and this time the conversion was good, 12-0.

It looked like the flood gates might be opening but Cantabs had other ideas. They raised their game and applied pressure to Renegades. They advanced into the Renegades 22 and it wasn't long before they were awarded a scrum near the Renegades line. They used their superior scrum to go for the push over try. Elliot made a brave attempt to stop them thinking the ball was out of the scrum. The referee disagreed and awarded a penalty try, 12-7. Cantabs kept the pressure up from the kick off and it wasn't long before they added a second try. The conversion missed, 12-12.

Renegades struggled to reassert their early superiority but lots of handling errors in the offload regularly cost a lot of territory gained and missed tackles saw Cantabs players breaking through the middle and piling the pressure on Renegades. Renegades managed to win a kickable penalty in the minutes before the interval, but the kick just missed. It remained 12-12 at half time.

The team talk at half time was passionate with failings highlighted and the will to win strongly reinforced. Dodgy offloading was identified as a particular weakness.

Cantabs kicked off to start the second half. A few early dodgy offloads were made but the game settled down and nerves steadied. Cantabs advanced and got a couple of kickable penalties, the first missed but the second made it between the posts, 12-15. Side line nervousness increased.

Maybe it was because Cantabs were now ahead, but something changed. Renegades actually played a white ball (the first of the game) and when the ball came back to Will he powered along the left wing. As tacklers approached, he lofted a perfectly weighted kick and regained the ball himself before offloading to Ollie who made yards before offloading to Elbow who scored under the posts. Jack W slotted the conversion, 19-15.

This try certainly lightened the mood. It was followed almost immediately by Ben breaking through the Cantabs defence and scoring just to the right of the posts. Jack W again converted, 26-15. Ollie caught the kickoff and powered towards half way before offloading to Harry who ran more than half the length of the pitch to score in the right corner. The challenging conversion missed, 31-15. There was a little lull in the scoring frenzy before another break saw Ben score again and Jack W converted, 38-15. Cantabs came back into the game and advanced into the Renegades 22. They scored and in the aftermath of the try, Tucker was carded for lip (he says he was talking to other Renegades and not the referee). The conversion was good, 38-22.

Cantabs kicked off and Ben ran back at them before off-loading to Harry, who made yards before offloading to Elbow who completed his hat trick. The conversion missed. As the game drew to a close Ben made another break and offloaded to Ollie who completed the job. The conversion just missed, and the final whistle went.

It was a dream second half, and a great relief for players and spectators alike. And Newmarket lost so Renegades are snapping at their heels again!

Scores

Tries: Elliot Roberts (2), Harry Mills (2), Ben Powell (2), Ollie Witt (2)

Penalties: Jack Weatherly (4)



Ollie for all round blistering performance.



Tucker for getting a yellow card for talking to his team mates.

Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy

Pictures by Peter Haigh (for the full set of pictures see [Peter's Flickr Page](#))



