

# Renegades Rugby



## Match Report

Jan 14

Home Woodbridge

Won 22-14



### Team

#### Starting Lineup

- 1) George Collett 2) Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard 3) Michael 'Big Mike' Goode
- 4) Aaron Stevens 5) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 6) George Mills 7) Ollie Witt 8) Joe Paddison
- 9) Doug Ellis 10) Dan 'Stockers' Stockbridge
- 11) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote 12) Harry Mills 13) Ben Powell 14) Dan Philips
- 15) Ross Catchpole

#### Replacements

- 16) Michael Did-Dell 17) Josh 'Slugz' Vail 18) Ben 'Scrabble' Hetherington-Molyneux

### Report

In stark contrast with the previous week, Renegades had a strong line-up including a full complement of replacements. Harry Mills made a welcome comeback having been out of play for the whole season due to back problems. There was a sense of optimism around Renegades which lifted everyone.

Renegades kicked off and in an almost carbon copy of the start against Colchester last week, their very fast scrum half cut through the Renegades line and powered his way well into the Renegades 22 where Ross took him down, but not before he was able to offload to a supporting runner who touched down to the right of the posts. The conversion was good, 0-7.

Renegades restarted and the ball is quickly stripped from Woodbridge and Aaron had a nice canter through the Woodbridge line making many yards. A scrum saw Renegades display real dominance and push Woodbridge back. They conceded a penalty and Stockers put the ball in the right corner. The lineout set up a strong driving maul which drove Woodbridge back over their goal line, allowing Shep to touch down. The conversion missed, 5-7.

The game settled into a familiar Renegades performance for the next quarter of an hour, with Renegades dominating the play but failing to convert the dominance into any points. As the half hour approached, the Woodbridge number 8 threw a punch at Harry and received a red card for his trouble.



Woodbridge rallied and looked threatening advancing well into the Renegades half. Finding it difficult to get to the Renegades line, they opted to shoot for goal when awarded a penalty. The kick was decent, but the ball just pulled to the left and wide.

Renegades restarted with a 22 drop out and advanced up the pitch. Another of the Woodbridge players received a card, this time a yellow. A scrum was awarded to Renegades inside the Woodbridge 22. Doug passed to Stockers who passed to Ben running a strong line at a gap in the Woodbridge defence. Woodbridge failed to close the gap and Ben went crashing over the line to score under the posts. The conversion was no challenge for Stockers, 12-7.

Woodbridge went on the offensive again and were camped on the Renegades line for a while before the referee blew for half time.

Changes were Joe off (because of concern about a knock to his head). Dan Philips moved to the scrum and Michael Did-Dell came on the wing. Scrabble came on for Big Mike.

The second half saw the stalemate that dominated the middle part of the first half repeated with both sides working hard but not scoring. Eventually, a kickable penalty saw Stockers end the score drought by slotting the shot nicely, 15-7.

Woodbridge responded by scoring a breakaway try in the left corner and followed this by slotting the challenging conversion, 15-14.

A while later, Big Mike received a yellow card for no apparent reason. A few minutes later renegades were advancing towards the Woodbridge line. Ross called for the kick ahead and Stockers delivered with a beautifully weighted kick. Ross tore through the defensive line and caught up with the ball as it approached the line. It kicked up slightly, enough for him to grab it and touch down. Stockers duly added the conversion, 22-14.

That's how it stayed. There was much Renegade jubilation when the final whistle went. It was a well-deserved win and played in a good spirit after the early handbags were dispensed with. It was a performance the like of which we will hopefully see again this season. Well done to all 18 players who put in a great shift.



Harry Mills for a very strong performance after a long break from the game.



Jack Mills for scratching his eye and having to pull out at the last minute.

### Scores

Tries: Ryan 'Shep' Sheppard, Ben Powell, Ross Catchpole

Conversions: Dan Stockbridge (2)

Penalties: Dan Stockbridge

*Pictures by Peter Haigh. See [Peter's Flickr page](#) for the full set*







