



Match Report

Nov 18

Away Bedford Athletics

Lost 61-17



Team

Starting Lineup

- 1) Tom 'BFT' Powell
- 2) Ryan 'Shep; Sheppard
- 3) Toby Sanders
- 4) Ben 'Scrabble' Molyneux-Hetherington
- 5) Nic Mainero
- 6) Geoff Kirby
- 7) Ollie Witt
- 8) Dan Phillips
- 9) Doug Ellis
- 10) Tom 'Proccy' Procter
- 11) Michael Did-Dell
- 12) Harry Mills
- 13) Tom 'Tucker' Heathcote
- 14) Josh 'Slugz' Vail
- 15) Will 'Topknot' Blackwell

Replacements

There were no replacements.

Report

It was a relief to be able to field a team for an away fixture, albeit only the bare 15. Renegades arrived at a buzzing Bedford Athletics ground as they celebrated with their retired players at their annual retired players dinner, to which four Renegades were generously invited. Their hospitality was excellent!

The weather was kinder than expected with rain holding off for the whole afternoon. The pitch was very wet though and it proved heavy work in the second half. Bedford kicked off and Renegades had a promising start with a lot of possession and really took the game to Bedford. About 10 minutes in, Bedford managed to counterattack and crossed the Renegades line, but the ball was held up. A short while later, Bedford came again and this time managed to get the ball down for a try which was converted, 7-0.

Undaunted by the Bedford lead, Renegades managed to dominate possession but failed to turn this into scores. Kicking penalties to the corner failed to yield a try and kicking for goal also missed. A period of sustained Bedford pressure as half time approached saw them under the Renegades posts and one of their big forwards crashed over for their second try. The conversion was simple for their kicker, 14-0.

The Renegades mood at half time was buoyant. They had been in significantly worse positions at half time and the feeling was that the game was in reach.

The second half proved to be more challenging though with Bedford scoring early in the right corner. The conversion was a beautiful kick against the wind, and it sailed between the posts, 21-0. A while later, Bedford came again with a kick ahead chase being disrupted by Will and the ball went dead. A while later they came again and a beautifully executed cross field kick was rewarded with another converted try, 28-0. A few minutes later, Bedford were on the attack again and crashed through the middle off the back of a 5m scrum for their fifth converted try, 35-0.

Despite the constant stream of tries, there was still life in Renegades. A good attack saw Bedford concede a scrum inside their 22. The ball was passed to Harry, running one of his impeccable lines cut through the Bedford defence to score to the right of the posts. Proccy, slotted the conversion, 35-7.

Bedford managed to cross the Renegades and got held up for the second time. However, they kept the pressure up and scored again in the right corner. This time the challenging conversion missed, 40-7. Another Renegades attack was amplified by Geoff who managed a great break through the Bedford defence before being chopped. However, the ball went to Proccy who fed Harry who screamed over the line for his and Renegades second try. This time the conversion went astray, 40-12.

There followed a trio of converted tries from Bedford, one a cheeky kick over the top which was well judged, the second was a great run along the left touch line and back in to their seven who took the ball closer to the posts for a straightforward conversion and another in the left corner, 61-12

The kickoff following the third try went straight out. However, Renegades managed to regain the ball and put it through the hands to Proccy who crashed over for a third Renegades try. Sadly, the conversion missed, 61-17.

That's how it stood when the final whistle went. The game was a better contest than the scoreline would suggest. Renegades didn't have the luxury of being able to bring on fresh legs in the second half and that told in the last quarter.



Geoff Kirby for a great shift.



No dicks on the field – everyone played well.

Scores

Try: Harry Mills (2), Tom 'Proccy' Procter

Conversion: Tom 'Proccy' Procter

Match Report by Eddie Murphy.