

Mitcham 3XV 7

Reeds Weybridge 1XV 24

Saturday 28th November 2009

This match was billed as our toughest yet this season and it did not disappoint. A strong squad of 20 made the trip to Mitcham where we were expecting a strong, heavy and street wise pack supported by young legs outside. We were not to be disappointed!!

The weather held out with the ground very soft under foot – it was clear that the forwards would have a large part to play if our winning run were to continue. We welcomed a few new players to the team (Ollie at 6, Hector at 4, Jon at 15, Gareth and Paul on the bench) as well as welcoming a few injured players back. In typical style we took 10 minutes to find our shape – the highlight of that period was seeing the Mitcham pack being shoved off their own ball!!! Fantastic effort by our front 5.

The first half was very even with both sides spending long periods in the others 22. Reeds were first on the scoreboard with a finely worked try by our American speedster Michael Munro – his first ever try!! I look forward to the embellishment as the memory fades!! The try was converted by John Tyndale who slotted it beautifully between the posts from just inside the left hand touchline!!

The remainder of the 1st half saw Mitcham pushing hard for a score – Reeds defended bravely but failed to hold out. Half time called at 7-7.

The 2nd half saw Reeds play with the slope and they were quick to capitalise with a perfectly executed kick by Alwyn Donnell which split the Mitcham full back and wing. At great speed the Reeds fullback Jon Don-Carolis timed his run to perfection to gather the ball on the bounce to score under the posts. The conversion followed to put Reeds 14-7 up. A few substitutions were made by both side and the remainder of the game was dominated by Reeds with their last try being scored by centre, John Colwell, and the ensuing conversion and further penalty by ex 1st XV captain Chris Gore. The final whistle went with Reeds unbeaten run extending to 6 games – who would have thought that at the beginning of the season?

The performance on Saturday was the best this season – our mobile back row of Toby, Zak and Ollie caused havoc all day. Hector at 4 and John at 15 settled in very well and didn't put a foot wrong all day. Next Saturday sees us at home to Merton 3rd XV – fingers crossed for fine weather and a packed touchline.

Simon Wallis
George's stand in!!!!