

Guy's vs Beccehamians

14/02/04

venue: The Sparrows Den

score: 6-8

Another weekend, another match, another report, another crap ref. All did not bode well for our visit to the sparrows den. We had never won there and they were close behind us in the league. To make matters worse Joe "the Greek" pulled out hours before k.o. and as previous matches have shown, we struggle without our hooker, to compound this we were without the beast of a man Agunwa, thus the front row was without 2 from 3 and although the replacements were themselves very good replacing these two was a hard act to follow and was shown to be the case on the day. Also to make matters worse everybody kept saying that not all the forwards new the line out calls, HOW LONG HAVE YOU ALL BEEN PLAYING AND HOW HARD IS IT TO REMEMBER 4 CALLS? Plus the forwards said nobody knows the pod ball, bollocks! you can tell those who don't know it 5seconds before doing it, there were at least two pod ball opportunities and one of them I am sure would have resulted in a try. I know I am not playing and I don't know what is going on the pitch, but to win the UH cup we need to get rid of these mistakes and capitalize on all our possession and territory. We were and are a far superior team than Beccehamians but for some reason we did not win.

Anyway, the boys set out for the sparrows den, on a bitterly cold day and were well helped by granddad's horse to carrier the entire team, awesome. On arrival stato found a pitch and put and proceeded to give Tiger Woods a good lesson in the art of short play. Muff.

At kick off there was a good number of home supporters and it was a welcome site to see the goose back in a Guys shirt, as the 4 guys supporters huddled together for warmth on the far side of the pitch. Guys had the slope for the first half and needed to take advantage. The opening few minutes were tight, however concerted pressure from Guys and great attacking play from Rob Whyte gave Guys a penalty just in the oppo's 22. However back chat reversed the penalty and a scoring chance was wasted. Again back chat reversed a penalty and guy's found themselves in their own 22. The oppo duly converted their penalty chance and it was 0-3. The forwards were struggling in the scrums but were faster and more skillful at the breakdown. A quick penalty was taken and Christian boshed over for a try, however our friendly ref remarked that the ball was held up by his own hands, hmmm. However the vast Guy's pressure eventually showed and wee man converted 3-3. A similar pattern of play ensued with their captain and prop showing his aggressive side with his constant bickering and fisty cuffs, grrrrr. Again though Guy's got a penalty and it was 3-6, the dream. At half time positions were changed and Rob Hone was brought back into his position of inside centre after a quiet first half and the impact was instant. With constant shouts from the side-line of "He loves the bosh!". Rob, Roy and Relly started to make inroads, however we could just not finish off moves and their outside centre had a cannon of a right foot to keep them out of trouble every time we reached their 22. Guys got into their 22 with great play, then made a mistake, they had a scrum, passed it down the line to the centre who boomed it down the pitch and so the second half continued. They liked the kick over the top and this was well dealt with by Pricey

all afternoon, until 10mins before the end, they tried it again Pricey chased back, touched the ball down but with his momentum the ball kept on going and a chasing player touched it down. TRY???? “why you little!!!!”. The kick was missed 8-6.

The forwards and backs then really started to play and Relly subbed himself after a crunching run were the bosh was seen twice and Harvey ventured into the backs. Constant pressure was exerted on their line however excellent line out work by their number two jumper and an inability to vary it meant we didn’t convert what must have been 75% possession in the second half. Their captain eventually saw the bin after Christian put in a crunching tackle much to their captain’s consternation. The kick went agonizingly wide and the score was to remain at 6-8.

The players left the field heads drooped but “We must always see the positive in everything” (M.Collier, 2004). We were a far better team, we were missing two important players, we hardly won our own scrum and lineout through our own stupidity and we did not convert our considerable pressure. Work on these and we can beat anybody.

Sorry if this is a slightly off report, but I believe this to be the most passionate, skillful Guys side I have seen and believe we should win everything. If we were not I would be looking for where we went right during the game not where we went wrong.

Guys for the league and cup!

Stato’s prematch prediction:

Too close to call, we haven’t on here and are missing a few players.

Stato’s bend:

Dead straight, again too close to call. (3/4, 75%)

Ref.’s man of the match:

Didn’t consider the ref’s opinion to be worthy.

Stato’s man of the match:

Dave Berry, played with a chest infection, was aggressive and dedicated on the pitch and passion personified off it.

Moment of the match:

Christian absolutely nailing their back in a crunching tackle.

name	tackles made	tackles missed	ball carries	ball drops	bosh	boshed	kicks	kicks Of woe	tries	penalties	overall rating
Wheels	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Jamie J.	4	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Gurv	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kit	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Matt B.	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Rob W.	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Christian	5	2	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	7
Pete D.	6	1	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Riggles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Pete G	3	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	7
Relly	4	-	7	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	15
Rob H.	1	-	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	10
Roy	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	8

Carbass	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pricey	2	-	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	8
subs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thorpey	5	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	10
Harvey	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
John M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
score	1	-1	1	-1	2	-2	1	-1	3	