

Hove RFC 12-13 Guy's RFC 6th October

Lady luck was certainly smiling down on Guy's as they made the long, but eventful journey to Brighton. Arriving at the ground with ten minutes to spare before kick-off is not ideal preparation, and this more than showed itself in a lacklustre performance from Guy's. Dai Woodsford somehow managed to get lost again after finding the ground before any of us, meaning that the pack had to play the first 25 minutes of the game with only seven men. Christian Smith acquitted himself brilliantly in the front row as we awaited the imminent arrival of our AWOL prop. Nevertheless, signs were ominous after an almost dream start. Price at fly-half sold a dummy that opened up a gap in the Hove defence, like Moses going through the Red Sea. Taking advantage of the situation, Price went through a number of tackles to score a great solo try in the first minutes of the game. Yet once again dominance over another side could not be capitalized on. Despite having some of the older (but perhaps not wiser) warhorses back in the team, in the shape of Clinton, Davis, and Challacombe, forward dominance could not be taken advantage of. Poor decisions, silly mistakes and a lack of concentration let Hove off the hook far too often, and to their credit at half time Hove kept themselves in the game with three penalties to Berry's one to trail 9-10.

The second half was very much like the first with the monotony only broken up by breaks firstly from Berry from a quickly taken 22 drop out and then by Vaughton. Yet it looked again as though the game had slipped from Guy's grasp when Hove converted a penalty in front of the posts to lead 12-10. Guy's now threw everything to try and grasp the game back, Ed Behn made a break only to fall short of the tryline by a desparate few inches. Etok too had chances to score but couldn't quite get over the line. All seemed lost before a penalty close to the touchline was awarded to Guy's and Berry unflinchingly stepped up to slot the difficult kick between the uprights to win the game by a hairs breadth.

Team

D. Woodsford, M.Edmondson, R. Clinton, K. Rowland, B. Challacombe, W.Llewelyn (O. Quinn), C. Smith, P.Davis, N.Evans, T.Woodeville-Ponce (c), R. Turntable, D. Berry, A. Vaughton, E Behn, R. Etok

Tries

Pricey

Conversions

Berry

Penalties

Berry

Gin

Pricey, D. Woodsford