

Queen Mary 1st XV 56-3 Guys Hospital 2nd XV

A game which saw the debut of the second team in their new league saw a heavy defeat with the score inflated by poor fitness, negative confidence and missed tackles in midfield.

The first half saw a very defensive game with both Guys and Queen Marys spending extended periods in the opposition 22. With the score locked at 0-0, guys conceded a penalty for trying to pull down the maul using the oppositions legs, Imraan was lucky to escape a yellow card, after trying to claim innocence using the ELVs. The ensuing penalty saw Queen Marys lead 3-0. Guys responded very quickly with a lot of great set piece play, which meant that the backline could get good ball and do their 'pretty' stuff. Some hard, but illegal defence meant that Guys could come away at 3-3, with a good penalty from Ed Marshall.

It was after this, and when players were starting to tire, that Queen Marys started breaking through the line, and it was only due to debutant Freddy at 15 that more tries were not conceded. Eventually too much pressure from Queen Marys led to Guys conceding the first try just before the break.

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The second half....well it is hard to write anything about this, and is something which most of the team would like to forget. With Queen Marys getting two early tries, heads went down and despite rallying cries from older players like Marcus and Diggles, Queen Marys just kept putting on the points, despite the Guys pack still controlling the set piece. The famous 'Guys spirit' was not to be found on the pitch, until the last five minutes of the game when the team decided to wake up and try and earn some pride, a spell in the Queen Marys 22, with some great rugby led to a rolling maul being held up over the line. This was the end of the game and a game which we must learn from our mistakes and get the first W next week against Kents 2nd XV.

Some positives to take out of the game were the debuts of Alex Smith at prop and Freddy at Full back. It must also be added that we outstayed our hosts in the bar after a weird 'ginning' procedure that Queen Marys like to use, with may I add, only 2-3 shots of juniper juice. A local drinking establishment was then found in Chislehurst, before we made our way back to Guys bar.

Starting XV: Alex(sean), Naveen, Tom G(Oli), Frazer, Sam G(polish), jon, Diggles(deirdre), Imraan. Will Ball, Ed M, Marcus, Justin(jack), Lewis, Harry(ed H), Freddy.

Tries: none

Penalties: Ed Marshall

Gin: Frazer, Alex fresh, Deirdre fresh, Freddy fresh, Jack fresh, Ed Marshall, Sean fresh, Jon fresh, (Will Ball, Lewis, Justin....GFJ).