

**Guy's 2<sup>nd</sup> XV vs. Sevenoaks 2<sup>nd</sup> XV-Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**  
**Lost 7-13**

The drizzle and grey skies of Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November welcomed Sevenoaks 2<sup>nd</sup> XV to HOP. The league leaders turned up with a swagger and air of confidence, that the Guy's XV tore apart in a hard fought battle. Readers, it does not need me to tell you that results thus far have been a disappointment, but currently it is the improving performances from the Guy's band of brothers that bring comfort to their captain as he licks his wounds on Sunday mornings.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV welcomed back Jim Rudd and James to their ranks, and a weekend off from playing soldiers saw the return of Rhys 'High-Tower' Davis and Oli 'Trapesius' Laird.

Sevenoaks dominated the early encounters, however the Guy's pack held their ball well in the scrum and stole opposition lineout ball with ease. This gave half-backs, Brigstocke and Gush rare time on the ball to ply their trade and release their runners. Sevenoaks weighed in at a mere 4.2 on the pie-o-meter and with both teams looking to spread the ball with a festival of running rugby followed in less than favourable conditions. Sevenoaks unleashed their greatest weapon, in the shape of a mute inside centre early doors, however the midfield defence of Gush and Reading held firm. However, when the same centre tried to call his back moves, his habit of 40 cigarettes a day, left his own backline tuning their hearing aids and the Guy's boys in stitches.

The teams swapped early tries and with Brigstocke adding the conversion Guy's entered the break 7-5 up. The second half was tense, with both defences remaining firm until a young Sevenoaks whippersnapper crashed over from following a succession of scrums on the Guy's line. Luckily for the boys in Blue and Gold the accuracy of the Sevenoak's kicker left something to be desired as he repeatedly spooned easy chances, setting up a tense finale. Sevenoak's held firm and proved why they sit at the top of the league and grafted out the result.

The performance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> XV must be highly commended. However, currently confidence is low and the boy's lack the swagger of previous campaigns. Each week this young side are taking giant steps in the right direction and with their great team spirit, surely that first win is not far away. Keep dreaming the dream, and soon we will live it.

Team: M.Henderson, M.Wiggans, E.Major (R.Hone 65), S.Reading, M.Carbasse, P.Gush, G.Brigstocke, J.Rudd, O.Laird, G.Josam, T.Wright (I.Wilson), R.Davis, J.Jackson, S.Cartwright, James.

Tries: S.Cartwright

Conversions: G.Brigstocke