

Student Middlesex VII's 2009

With Mark Halls ending up where he usually ends up after a night out (a & e) and JK succumbing to a hangover and weakness, the original 7s squad travelling to Richmond yesterday was slightly smaller than expected. Nevertheless there were 10 excellent 7s players who braved the hard ground, heat and exhaustion of our first tournament of the summer.

There were some strong teams in the student competition, with the likes of Imperial and Brunel competing this year, but despite this Guy's were confident of going one better than our 2nd place in this tournament last year.

With Kingston not turning up there were only going to be two group games followed by a straight final, so we knew it was imperative to get a good start against Royal Holloway.

After spending the majority of the first half knocking the ball on and taking it into contact, Alex Witek finally opened the scoring with a sniping run from scrum half. The rustiness was clear but strong defence from the team ensured that we weren't punished for our mistakes. New club captain Duncan Steele scored early in the 2nd half, Holloway clearly regretting not chasing him after he broke through the line with a huge dummy. Freddy Hartley pierced the Holloway defence with a try, Hugh Roberts continued his good form from 15s with a runaway effort and Witek added a 2nd late in the game. There was a long wait for the 2nd match against Roehampton, and again Guy's struggled with taking too much contact early in the game. Forsythe scored a first half brace, and despite Rauri's sinbining Guy's began to find a degree of fluency with Roberts adding another couple of tries and Waldron getting in on the action from the wing.

So after overcoming those two potential banana skins, it would once again be a final against Imperial on the pitch of our UH cup triumph.

After an excellent start capped by a try from Witek, Guy's continued to play all the early rugby. However after an injury to Hadlington, and perhaps a lack of fitness, the floodgates opened and a strong Imperial side took advantage with 4 unanswered tries.

So it was another runners up plaque for Guy's but a great effort from everyone who came down and I think everyone had an enjoyable day. Thanks to all involved.

Malthouse
Hadlington
Steele
Witek
Forsythe
Roberts
Hartley
Waldron
Devenport
Amin

Top Try Scorer: Roberts(4)

Player of Tournament : Witek

