

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2007

## **OA U8's Weekly News**

### **The Matches played away at Hertford on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2007**

#### **The Blues**

The Blues were down in strength, missing Jonathan Olive and Luke Simpson, but put on a show nonetheless.

The first game was played against the Hertford As. The Blues won a hard fought game by 6 tries to 3. Tries were scored by Cameron Clark (2), William Stewart (2), Archie Radavanovic (1) and William Parkinson (1). At half time it looked like we would struggle, but we got the upper hand in the second half to restore "normal service".

We won the second game easily against the Hertford Bs - 11 tries to 1. Those of you who know the rules will have spotted that the referee should have stopped this one to prevent the humiliation of those poor Hertford players. Our numerous tries were scored by Cameron Clark (4), William Parkinson (3), Daniel Hanlon (2) and Archie Radavanovic (2).

By the third game we were cruising – winning against the Hertford Cs by 8 tries to 1 (application of the same rule required!). Our tries this time were scored by Cameron Clark (4), William Parkinson (1), Daniel Hanlon (1), Ruairi McGowan (1) and Charlie Moffatt (1).

By the time the fourth game came around, the boys had become complacent. However, they learned to never give a "wounded" Hertford A team a second chance! Hertford played with passion and ambition to grind out a 3-3 draw against some Blues who had already finished for the day, at least in defence anyway. We did have 3 tries disallowed and these would have redressed the balance and reproduced the score of earlier in the day. On this occasion, the try scorers were Cameron Clark (1), William Stewart (1), and William Parkinson (1).

The top attacker of the day was given to Daniel Hanlon for his new approach to straight fast running in the true spirit of a winger. William Stewart was voted the best all round player of the day.

*Report by Brian Clark*

#### **The Reds**

The boys played in good in patches yesterday but waited until the last game to deliver their best performance.. but still they were good enough to win 3 out of 4 overall, beating the Hertford 'B' side twice and the 'C' side, only losing to the 'A' team.

We could have scored 3/4 more tries against the 'C' side but for: dropped passes close to their try line; touching the ball down before the try line; and a couple of borderline refereeing decisions.

Boys' that stand out are Toby Spence and James Lear who both scored 5 plus cracking tries; the last a 25 metre break by James who, when caught inches from the line, off-loaded to Toby to score - our best try of the morning.

The flankers had a mixed morning as too many of Hertford's tries came down the middle, but I thought Toby Palmer was the pick of the bunch for both defence and good straight running.

The scores .....

Reds 5 Hertford B 2

Reds 5 Hertford C 3

Reds 1 Hertford A 5

Reds 5 Hertford B 1

*Report by Tim Birchinall*

### **The Yellows**

This Sunday the Yellows put in their performance of the season away at Hertford. Playing four games, one after the other, was never easy but the Yellows concentration was admirable throughout.

In total, 20 tries were scored over the morning, so please forgive the coach's inability to remember all the scorers. In fact 13 players got on the score sheet and so, although Harry Newman-Booth, Paul Greener, Kane White, John Greener and Rory Superfine scored some fine individual tries, this week I am pleased to say that I will not give a single top attacker award.

The passing was very pleasing, with a number of players passing to their team mates, into space, and before they were tagged. We still need to work on our defence, although there was certainly no lack of effort.

I also want to say a special thank you to each player. This week we played with 15 squad members and so we had to rotate the players frequently. It is never easy to be a substitute, but it is important that everybody plays. So thank you all very much for substituting without any complaints.

The final tally was:

Yellows 7 Hertford C 3

Yellows 4 Hertford A 6

Yellows 3 Hertford B 3

Yellows 6 Hertford C 5

Well done boys!

*Report by Simon Mitchell*