



Match Report

Pre-Season Match

Gosport & Fareham 2nd XV 10 v Maidstone Mustangs XV 33

Played at Gosport Park, Saturday 31st August

KO: 1-00pm

In what was their first competitive fixture as part of their pre-season build up Maidstone's Mustangs XV put in an impressive performance to ensure that they had this match won by half time. With the forwards setting the platform and their set piece providing a good supply of ball as well as demonstrating good ball retention in the loose the Mustangs had too much firepower for a Gosport side that worked hard defensively but could not cope with Maidstone's high tempo style. First quarter scores by Mickael Majcher and Sam Weston were converted by Bradley Ford who as having an impressive debut in Maidstone colours gave the visitors a 14-point advantage before Gosport finally got on the score sheet on the half-hour. Maidstone kept up the pressure and a 38th minute score from front row Luke Debnam in his first competitive outing after a long injury break, followed by a Jason Smith try converted by Ford on the stroke of half-time gave the Mustangs a 26-5 advantage.

Both sides made changes at the interval with Gosport able to tighten up their defence such that it wasn't until the final 10 minutes of the match until the scoreboard was further troubled, when a Gosport try reduced the deficit to 16-points. Maidstone struck back with an Alex Hadi try in the final minute that was the pick of the afternoon's tries; after wing Jack Naismith broke and eluded half-a-dozen Gosport defenders to make the scoring pass for Hadi to touchdown; Ford predictably added the extras to cap an impressive afternoons performance as the Mustangs ran out 10-33 winners.

Next week sees a 'Double Header' at The Mote, as Maidstone's 1st XV host Dartfordians in the Kent Cup, whilst the Mustangs face stiff opposition as they take on 1st Bn PWRR for the President's Cup.