



Match Report

Maidstone Mustangs XV 65 v Bromley 2nd XV 0

Home, Saturday 9th February 2013, Kick-off 2:30pm

This long awaited return fixture against Bromley was not as one sided as score line might suggest, but without doubt the home team were fired up and ready to continue their winning run.

The visitors kicked off with Alex Hadi receiving the kick and immediately making good yardage, with the ball quickly recycled and moved to the left wing Bromley's defence was stretched from the start and some good offloads saw Sam Weston on the end of the final ball to open the Mustangs scoring account.

This early alarm for the Bromley prompted them into action forcing a series of penalties from the home side gave the visitors a chance to test the home side's defensive organisation, which held strong, repelling the pressure from the attacking team.

Maidstone then scored again, this time from a planned training ground move started from the lineout, which saw Weston cross for his second score with Dan Eastwood adding the extra points. Debutant centre Maciej, one of two players currently trialling with the club, crossed next after receiving an offload and again, Eastwood kicking the conversion.

The Mustangs were by now really on the front foot and continued to press Bromley straight from the restart, however, a rare handling error by the Mustangs handed possession back to the visitors who were unable to capitalise. The Mustangs next score again came from a planned move with the ball moved from a set scrum to release Jason Smith to touchdown a score with Eastwood again adding the extras. Scrum Half Tom Matley was next on the score sheet, benefiting from a strong line breaking run from Hadi and the Mustangs demonstrating superb support play leaving Matley on hand to touchdown.

The next try by Maidstone was a special one after a series of piercing runs by both forwards and backs with the ball recycled through nine offloads out of the tackle, leaving Maciej to cross for his second of the match.

The second half saw Bromley start the brighter side and some great defence kept them at bay. However, once the Mustangs obtained possession they were reluctant to relinquish it; with Jason Smith, on the end of a move to crossed for his second score followed shortly after by Dan Taylor getting on the scoresheet as he was able to carry over to score in the corner. Fullback Jack Hart got his first try of the season, scampering over the line following a break down the flank. Another great run by Smith to commit the Bromley defence saw him reverse-pass the ball to Weston who crossed to complete his hat trick.

The final score came after a period of solid teamwork and several phases of play from the side and saw Weston complete a successful afternoon as he dotted down for his fourth of the match with replacement Will Miles converting successfully.

In summary, this was type of rugby that the Mustangs have been threatening all season, it was difficult to pick any outstanding player as this was a solid team effort with the players doing what was asked of them and effectively implementing the basic skills and drills that have been worked on in training.