

Karim Neseiyif

7:00 PM (23
minutes ago)

to me

Match Report

03 November 2018

Footscray II vs. Maidstone Vets

Ref : Simon Wright

Half Time 28 -05

Full Time 40 -05

Squad

01 Mark Arnold (1st half) / Pete Gray (2nd half)
02 Peter Antoniou
03 Bob Purfit / Mark Arnold
04 Mick Duggan
05 Karim Neseiyif (skipper 1st half) / Chris May 2nd half
06 Chris May (1st half) / Neil Cole (skipper 2nd half)
07 Nick East (injured 2nd half) replaced by Bob Purfit
08 Ben Court
09 Ben Tugwell (1st half) / Gary Whitehead (2nd half)
10 Gary Whitehead (1st half) / Richard Cutbill (2nd half)
11 Anthony Round
12 Richard Cutbill (1st half) / Ben Tugwell (2nd half), injured replaced by Brian Costello
13 Marco Trismegisto Bauchiero
14 Liam May (1st half) / Brian Costello (2nd half) moved to centres & Liam back on.
15 Chris Leggat
00 David Tugwell - Head Coach (snr)/ Waterboy / Photographer

Match report by 'anonymous' again standing in for birthday boy Matthew Ellesmere, now 50! (Happy Birthday Matt)

Confident of finding suitable opposition El Capitan trawled through the exchange and after seconds of research opted for Footscray II. Apparently they struggle to get three teams out, "how hard can they be", so game on!

Blessed with a "full team" of 14 players El Capitan was confident something/one would turn up ! Luckily a prop from up north was in town to celebrate Sport Billy's big 50 and so he was pressed into service, a very useful & welcome addition to the ranks.

Early kick off at Footscray's revamped grounds was arranged by El Capitan and the bright eyed bushy tailed ranks were bolstered with late additions resulting in the

luxury of having 3 subs. Sadly, minus the water bottles as El Capitan only had 'one' job to do and failed miserably.

Luckily Snr Vets Coach Tuggy was on hand to save the day, falling back on all his years of Waterboy experience managing to secure the vital bottles from the home team.

Enthused with his first significant success in his long rugby career, Snr Coach Tuggy, then put the squad through his now customary warm up routine which paid immediate dividends as Maidstone hit the ground running taking the game to Footscray, dominating possession and territory in the opening exchanges.

With the ball secured at the back of a ruck close to the side line just inside the half way, Nick East opened the score by ghosting through, with a pick and go handing off the defence as he nimble footed his way to the try line.

Footscray's response was almost immediate as their kick-off was not cleared and after a brief exchange they broke through to level the score.

Notwithstanding this set back Maidstone proceeded to dominate both territory and possession as the forwards dominated the hits only for one or the other to infringe, knock on or otherwise stuff up at the crucial moment.

Footscray took advantage of each mistake and with a paucity of possession ran in tries through their youthful fast running backs and their mobile number 8.

At half time the score sat at 28 to 5 to the home team with Footscray making the most of their opportunities whilst Maidstone were left to lament not taking theirs.

With El Capitan ringing the half time changes Maidstone adapted immediately and set about the come back with renewed energy, only to suffer a blow as the dynamic Nick East was laid low by a shoulder injury. A sad loss to the team.

With a commanding lead Footscray were able to pick their moments to widen the gap as they scored twice more.

They were able to keep Maidstone at bay by fair means and otherwise as time and again they infringed and continually argued with the ref eventually incurring a yellow in addition to numerous penalties. Unfortunately Maidstone were unable to take advantage.

Full time 40-5 - If ever a scoreline did not reflect the game then this was it.

The home team had struggled to organise a referee for the match, fortunately Simon Wright was on hand and was pressed into action, so many thanks to him for giving up his motivational heckling from the sidelines to make sure the game went ahead.

Also a big thank you to Mark Arnold who stepped in to make sure we had a front row, despite having a hangover he got up early to purchase boots and kit.

Post script: Footscray II have only lost one game this season (that loss as a result of being down to 12 players) and were on an unbeaten run of 6 games. Great research El Capitan !

Man of the match contenders;

David Tugwell, for saving El Capitan's bacon with the H2O debacle, even extending his water duties post match by providing the crucial water when the fun bus broke down with a coolant leak.(Cheers Tuggy)

Chris Leggat, for putting in a master class time and again with his silky smooth fast running.

Nick East, for a great try and all round game, a big loss when injured early 2nd half.

Mick Duggan, playing his first full 40 minute game in 13 years. Making the hard yards , tackling hard and carrying like he'd never been away from the game. Hopefully we won't have to wait another 13 years, welcome back Mick.

Winner ; Mick Duggan.

TW@T of the match contenders;

Neil Cole, one job Neil, one job !

Karim Neseyif, for having a terrible first half which was pointed out at every opportunity by the waterboy / coach through the rest of the day. (Cheers Tuggy)

Winner ; Neil Cole (match reporter's privilege Neil :))

KN 07/11/18