

MATCH REPORT



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This week started our Essex Cup campaign against opposition that despite being in a lower league somehow we had never managed to beat ! Would today be the day ??

The weather was good, conditions good and the squad all arrived in plenty of time .

The Epping boys were warming up and you may be forgiven for thinking the u18s or even seniors were playing – a couple of monstrous sized lads were waiting for us. Clearly the forwards were where their strength lay.

The game started and as expected Epping were clear on their game plan of pushing through the forwards – it took about 10 minutes for Westcliff to work it all out and double up on the tackles where needed and press the back line when they ball moved out.

The first try came from Charlie B after some good hands in the backs and despite being the more expansive Westcliff failed to capitalise on their possession until later in the half when once again Charlie B scored – Baily converted.

Epping pressed before half time but the Westcliff defence held strong and went in at the break leading .

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The second half game plan from West was a simple one – keep matching them up front and then move it through the backs . Simple !

It wasn't long before the plan was working - Owen scooted through for a try that probably ended any hopes Epping had. Another try out wide from Mihai and converted by Michael .

West were now in full flow and looked rampant – a try from Ben G with the conversion in front of the posts shockingly missed by Harry Hollington – props never kick for a reason !! Charlie B was in for his third when he unselfishly passed to James L to get him on the score sheet. A melee for the conversion with Woody duly obliging this time – just !

To be fair to Epping they kept at it and with some good kicks from penalties found themselves strangely in our 22 – they were keen to score a consolation and after several attempts managed it. Dave was unimpressed and demanded a retaliatory try to compensate with only 2 mins left – hard taskmaster !! Woody duly obliged !

To be fair the forwards were magnificent today and whilst it's the backs that got all the tries today it was down to the superb defensive display of the forwards who to a man were outstanding. Even the Epping coach said afterwards it was one of the best defensive displays they have seen – not bad seeing as we scored 7 tries !

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