

MATCH REPORT



63 – 24



This week we had arranged a friendly with Eton Manor (pre season) not realising we would play them twice at the Brentwood Festival !

With both teams missing players at the DPP it gave everyone a chance to fully utilise their squads – we took full advantage and gave as much game time as possible to those that hadn't played as much this season.

A rather reluctant Billy found himself refereeing – a splendid job though !

Westcliff started brightly and a fine individual run from Finley opened the scoring . On the next possession Manor equalised and on the next Louis H popped over to retake the lead. All this in the first 6/7 mins and we wondered what sort of scoreline we could be in for !

Manor came back again with a well worked try and with all the conversions missed the score was 10-10 after 10 !

However West were getting into their stride and with some good hands through the backs Luke Mason scored his first try for the club . The forwards were looking strong and with a 5m scrum taken against the head Matt C in his revised No.8 role went over for the try.

Not to be outdone the backs moved sweetly and Baily banged the ball on the line for another score . Baily unable to score with his first 4 conversions was replaced but Michael faired no better. There was time for one more try a fine individual effort from Owen – with Harry Hollington eagerly looking for his chance in front of the posts – Baily resumed kicking duty and duly scored.

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The second half saw Manor lose both wingers so we lent them Mihai and Luke switched sides to join Haydn who had been at prop the first half (replaced mid way by JJ who we all know loves playing against his own team !)– tremendous rugby spirit boys.

The game restarted and West were on the attack again with Owen landing his second of the day. With no Harry H – he left to go to Harlequins – Harley stepped up and did what Harry couldn't and duly converted !

Manor kept the effort up and were rewarded with a really well worked try and conversion to reduce the deficit .

It probably spurred West on and Matt scored his second before taking a well earned break. Woody tried but missed the conversion.

Charlie B entered the game with about 10 mins left and unsurprisingly managed to bag 2 tries in his short time on the pitch ! Finley converting both.

Still Manor kept coming but with a Westcliff player and it was a fine individual try from Mihai that looked like the last of the day. The bench made their feelings known that Mihai was in a spot of trouble for that score !

The final try of the day though fell to the forwards and Finn L popped over from a yard maybe yard and half to finish off the day.

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An excellent day all round – great opposition and like minded coaches made for a thoroughly enjoyable day – appreciating Manor were not at their best – and for Westcliff a great opportunity for so much game time for many players.

Next week we resume to League action at home to Southend – lets hope this winning run continues !