

MATCH REPORT



24-10



This week saw us in a Friendly against the newly formed Chingford / Bancroft team – not sure what there going to be called Chingcroft or Banford ??

Unfortunately despite merging of the two teams they could only make 13 players and whilst we had a few spare none were two keen to join the opposition so 13 a side it was . An opportunity missed for several players today as everyone was getting good game time.

It makes quite a difference to the structure and in particular to a well organised team used to playing in pods especially defensively - something Zig will work on with everyone Wednesday !

We had the joy of the muddiest of pitches and the weather threatened the rain but never delivered.

Off to the game – we started brightly and were dominating possession and little surprise we took the lead with a try from Owen with plenty of room on the outside. Baily converting. The ball and game was broken up a bit due to the conditions but with continued pressure Louis H spotted a gap from a ruck and dived over for a try. Despite our dominance Ching came back at us and after giving away too many penalties found themselves in the usual position of our 22 and through the forwards made their way through over the line.

HT Westcliff 12 Ching 5

We made our changes and even offered Haydn to prop when the Ching lad went off – it was possibly the shortest appearance for the opposition ever as he came straight back on !

With the wind behind them Ching started the second half the better and brought

themselves right back into it by scoring to make it 12-10. This seemed to give West the kick they needed and they upped the tempo and energy and started to actually play . Making continual probes into the Ching half we managed to butcher a couple of decent opportunities before a smart offload found Michael midfield and with a dummy out wide he set off for the try line - it was like watching a nature programme with 2 cheetahs trying to catch the gazelle – would he or wouldn't he make it he did and cost me money !! Baily converted.

We were in full flow now and it was a matter of how we would score not when - this time a great kick through from Baily left Ben in a race to the ball waiting over the tryline – this time the Cheetah (Ben) won !

West were dominating and looking to put more points on the board and sent on Charlie B to see how long it would take him to score – in quite farsical circumstances however the game ended a little early – without Charlie even touching the ball.

FT Westcliff 24 Ching 10

Not the greatest of games and the best of it was probably the continued game time for several players who continue to progress and develop with each game they play.

The next 2 weeks we return to League action and will need to raise the intensity and performance if we wish to continue our good start to the season.