

Alresford vs Overton

7th January 2017

Match Report

What a start to the New Year! A top of the table clash between the top two sides of 2016.

ARFC went into the game knowing that a defeat would all but end our ambitions of finishing 1st in the league.

With a good crowd and the mist not shifting ARFC kicked off. From the start ARFC showed their intent. The first 5 minutes were played entirely in ORFC half.

On 8 mins ARFC relentless pressure told and after a massive surge by the resurgent Billy saw a fantastic offload to Shaun Memory who again touched down to give ARFC a calm nerving 5-0 lead which was then converted by James Airey to give a deserved 7 point lead.

With ARFC not content with a slender lead the pressure kept coming.

The boys were not satisfied to sit on a fragile advantage and in the 35th minute Shaun kicked to the corner. From the lineout, won by the impressive Pete, gave a great off load to Hancock, who in turn found Olly who was on hand to score to give ARFC a very convincing score at half time 12-0. Although the overwhelming feeling amongst supporters and probably coaches was, with all that possession, have we done enough?

HALF TIME

ALRESFORD RFC 12-0 OVERTON RFC

The second half started as expected. Overton were not losing without a battle. ARFC's XV were against the wall. Booner, Billy and Shem hit every attack in front of them, and with great leadership from captain Batho and the always impressive Shaun Memory ARFC held our ground.

Every player hit their man and although ARFC didn't threaten their line, rugby and sometimes in any sport, it is not always about the scoring, but holding what you have and not conceding.

Absolute credit to a very good Overton side, ARFC were on the back foot for the majority of the 2nd half, but you learn more about a man under pressure when times are tough and today 18 boys and their coaches proved that point.

Thank you to all that supported

FINAL SCORE: ALRESFORD RFC 12-0 OVERTON RFC

MAN OF THE MATCH: ROB WALLS