

## **Southsea Nomads vs Alresford**

**14<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

### **Match Report**

ARFC travelled to Southsea knowing that beating Overton, the league leaders the week before, that this would be in many ways a bigger test of our mindset.

In a cold blustery wind on the south coast ARFC started the match and although not conceding ground for the first 5 minutes it was clear Nomads were up for a game. ARFC regrouped and started to put the pressure back on Nomads and in the 6th minute a great run from Rob T allowed Greg to touch down. Nomads came back and Olly L relieved pressure with a superb kick to put ARFC again on the front foot. More strength and power from the ARFC forwards kept Nomads pinned in their own half. The 20th minute saw the introduction of Jack M after coaches had spotted an imbalance with the forwards and 2 minutes later after a great catch from the lineout from Billy saw Jack grab ARFC's second try of the match. Kicking into the wind somehow the superb James Airey converted to give ARFC a 12-0 lead. Credit to Nomads, back they came and in the 25th minute missed an opportunity to cut the deficit to 9 points after a missed penalty kick. With captain Batho off injured the game to and flowed towards half time but without ARFC under any real danger of conceding.

#### **HALF TIME**

##### **Southsea Nomads 0 - 12 ARFC**

The start of the second half saw some good use of substitutions from the coaches, which resulted in Aiden scoring from a great run to give ARFC breathing space of a 17 point cushion. As Shem jogs back he reminds the boys to play the wind and 'the lucky bounce'. What a coach! ARFC kept the pressure on and with every player switched on to add to the score. In the 45th minute saw a fabulous off load from the mightily impressive Billy for Greg to touch down in the corner. An Aiden conversion gave ARFC a lead of 24 - 0.

With Ryan Cooper sacrificing creativity for defensive work and Tom Andrews everywhere there was going to be nowhere back for the Nomads.

In the 56th minute a brilliant run from Tom saw ARFC captain Batho score a much celebrated try. Aiden so unlucky, hitting an upright from the conversion.

60 minutes and a fantastic run from Muzzer and Ryan left Shaun to pick up and score to give ARFC a 34 point lead.

With ARFC on the front foot but with the Nomads not letting their heads drop, ARFC pressure was to tell and in the 66th minute Jack M scored his second of the game which Aiden converted to give ARFC a deserved 41 - 0 lead.

The 69th minute saw a run from the ever impressive Muzzer and Tom A and Tom R finished by Billy knocking out their player to give ARFC a 46-0 lead which became 48 after Aiden's conversion. In these seaside conditions catches, passing and kicking cannot be understated. In the 78th min ARFC were down to 14 but with the last action of the game Greg rounded off a superb display to touch down.

For the second consecutive match no one had scored a single point against ARFC.

#### **FINAL SCORE: SOUTHSEA NOMADS 0 - 53 ALRESFORD RFC**

#### **MAN OF THE MATCH: TOM RODWELL**

TEAM - Shem, Tom A, Rob W, Captain Batho, Tom R, Billy, Muzzer, Rob T, Ollie, Shaun, Booner, James Airey, Ryan, Ollie P, Greg, Jack M, Aiden, Cam