



Puddletown 0 Frome 2nds 17

by Geoff Puryer 23/01/10

After last week's defeat at league leaders Bridport, the Villagers entertained mid-table Frome Seconds at Greenfields looking to put an end to their poor run of form which has seen them without a Dorset & Wilts Division 1 South victory since the end of September.

Once again though Puddletown's inability to turn possession into points cost them dearly and in a game of few chances it was the Somerset side who took theirs to seal a narrow but nevertheless deserved win.

Both teams began brightly with the home forwards settling to the task of countering Frome's experienced pack, and the Villagers enjoyed the better of the opening spell until, somewhat against the run of play, the visitors broke away to score a simple try. The conversion gave them a 7-0 lead which they rarely looked like adding to as Puddletown pinned them in their own half for the rest of the first period.

But for all their territorial advantage and promising build up play the home side just could not find a way through the Frome defence, and the score remained unchanged as the teams turned round at half time.

With everything still to play for the Villagers pushed forward yet again and came close on several occasions only to be caught out by the visitors scoring twice more, firstly from a rare visit into the home twenty two, and then late in the game with a rather fortunate steal deep in their own half which saw the Frome winger outrun the home defence to touch down in the corner.

After the game captain Dan Udell commented: "I thought that we played the better rugby today but it all counts for nothing if we continue to squander the chances we get to put points on the board. They had once decent attacking spell early in the second half, and two half chances, but made them all count."

"I can't fault the effort out there today and we've got to keep positive as we work to turn things round. With such solid performances from the likes of number eight Harlan Hill and fly-half Tom Yeatman we have to believe that we can end our scoring drought soon."

Puddletown 1st XV:

1. Jon Wilson 2. Tim Yeatman 3. Ed Richardson 4. Paul Chidley 5. Dave Phillips
6. Toby Boatswain 7. Martin Spicer 8. Harlan Hill 9. Andy Meacham 10. Tom Yeatman
11. Rob Franks 12. Dan Udell (capt) 13. Nigel Smith 14. Matt Isaac 15. Mark Thomson

Replacements: 16. Jim Talbot (for Dave Phillips - 65 mins) 17. Harry Foot (for Nigel
Smith - 65 mins) 18. Ed Malpas (not used) 19. Chris Thomson (not used)

Scorers:

Tries:	none
Conversions:	none
Penalties:	none

Dorset Piddle Brewery Man of the Match: Tom Yeatman