



Salisbury 2nds 90 Puddletown 0

by Geoff Puryer 06/02/10

Captain Dan Udell will struggle to take away anything positive from this latest defeat as the Villagers were thrashed 90-0 by a resurgent young Salisbury outfit eager to climb away from the bottom of the Dorset & Wilts Division 1 South league table.

For the second week running Puddletown travelled with the bare minimum of fifteen players and no replacements, and things just went from bad to worse when they were forced to play most of the second period with just thirteen men.

The hosts on the other hand, seemed to have overcome the similar problems they experienced earlier in the season, and on the day had players to spare for all three of their teams on duty at Castle Road.

No wonder then that an anxious looking Villagers line-up was caught napping straight from the kick-off, and within twenty minutes the rampant home side had built up a 24 point lead. The visitors stuck to their task though and once Jack Foot started to settle down as emergency scrum half they enjoyed a prolonged spell where they matched their hosts in midfield, only for a breakaway try right on half time to spoil all of their patient build up play.

Another ten minutes of relative parity at the start of the second period proved a false dawn for the luckless visitors, now reduced to thirteen men, and once Salisbury fully appreciated their numerical advantage the flood gates opened, and they ran in a further ten tries. This time there was to be no repeat of last week's spirited fight back in the final minutes at Warminster and the referee's whistle saved the weary Villagers from further punishment, not to mention the spectre of a hundred point drubbing.

Coach Ian Ring said afterwards: "That was the worst performance we've given for a long time, but I'm not going to criticise any of the individuals who played. As always they did their best, but as a team we simply weren't at the races today".

"My issue is with all those players who, for whatever reason, declared themselves unavailable again this week. I hope that they will look at this result, examine their consciences, and answer the captain's call to arms without further delay. With six of our remaining seven league games at home we still have a chance of rescuing something from our season, but we'll need a full squad available to do so."

Puddletown 1st XV:

1. Justin Owers 2. Tim Yeatman 3. Jim Talbot 4. Peter Gordon 5. Matt Williams
6. Toby Boatswain 7. Martin Spicer 8. Paul Chidley 9. Jack Foot 10. Barry Dovell
11. Matt Isaac 12. Jon Wilson 13. Dan Udell (capt) 14. Rob Franks 15. Mark Thomson

Replacements: None

Scorers:

Tries: None
Conversions: None
Penalties: None

Dorset Piddle Brewery Man of the Match: Matt Isaac

Next Match:

Saturday 13th February 2010

Dorset & Wilts Div.1 South - Puddletown v North Dorset 2nds - kick-off: 2:30 pm