



Puddletown 7 – Swanage & Wareham 2nd XV 23

Puddletown winless in the league since the beginning of the season, extended their poor league form disappointingly losing to Swans at home.

The villagers despite holding the authority in the scrum and having their fair share of the possession and struggling to convert this into points. Once the home side had weathered the visitors pressure from the kick off it seemed to the spectators that Puddletown were taking control and deserved the first score of the game when No 8 Cato was driven over by his forward counterparts for a converted try. With their forwards in the ascendancy this should have been a platform to take control of the game. The lead should have been extended if not for a forward pass as winger Mike Ball sprinted into score.

Swans, however, with a mixture of experience of youth, kept themselves in the running and began to first contain the home sides spirit and then as the opportunity rose take their chances and scoring one unconverted try and a penalty for themselves to take the lead at half-time 8-7.

This should not of been a problem to Puddletown who still had the chances to reverse this lead, but inexperience in playing to Swans strengths and countless mistakes turning over possession never enabled enough continued pressure of territory or possession to be built.

Swans influential fly half, continued to clear his lines and once he had good position a well placed “up and under” saw a fortunate bounce land in the hands of the chasers and the lead be extended by a converted try. This followed by a penalty put Swans 18-7 in front and Puddletown now needing two scores.

Unfortunately Puddletown could not reduce this deficit, at least two scoring passes went to ground and a further forward pass left the villagers frustrated and Swans finished things off when a loose ball was taken by their No 7 to score the winning, unconverted try.

The villagers are now looking at a tough remainder of the season and though they can compete with any team in the league, confidence and a winning attitude will be needed to climb their way out of their current lowly league position.

Scorers:

Tries: Tom Cato

Conversions: Dan Udell

Penalties:

1st XV Team:

(1) Roly Parks; (2) Toby Boatswain; (3) Rob Jameson; (4) James Perrett; (5) Matt Symes; (6) Harlan Hill; (7) Neil Cahill; (8) Tom Cato; (9) Josh Hiscock; (10) Tom Yeatman; (11) Ryan Snook; (12) Ben Carter; (13) Toby Musgrove; (14) Mike Ball; (15) Dan Udell