



Puddletown 0 Wimborne 2nds 64

by Geoff Puryer 10/04/10

With just one league game left to play, this latest defeat in Dorset & Wilts Division 1 South surely now confirms that the Villagers will be competing in Division 2 next season, a move that after such a disappointing run of results will at least give them the opportunity of rebuilding their squad and restoring some much needed confidence to their game.

No such problems though for Wimborne where the success of the club's first XV this season has clearly cascaded through to the lower sides, and compared to the team that won 37-12 in December, it was a much changed, and much improved second string that dominated the game from the start, scoring a total of eight tries, and restricting Puddletown to just a couple of half-chances.

Things started badly for the home side when, after just three minutes, on their first attack deep into home territory, the visitors won turn-over the ball in a ruck and their fly-half took a quick pass, sold the defence the simplest of dummies, and ran through the gap himself to score under the posts. The conversion was a formality.

The Villagers managed to force their way back into the game with their ever-dependable forwards competing well in the set pieces, but Wimborne were proving to be quicker and stronger in open play and at the breakdown, so giving themselves plenty of chances to counter-attack, and eventually a penalty, then late in the half, two further tries, saw them turn round with a 22 point lead.

The home side stuck to their task and early in the second spell twice got themselves into a good position close to the line, but each time the Wimborne defence held firm and the chances were lost.

Meanwhile, as the game wore on the visitors' well drilled backs began to really stretch the home defence, particularly after Marcus House, having a fine game at full-back, was forced off with a shoulder injury. Inevitably the gaps appeared, passes increasingly went to hand and Wimborne ran in a further five tries, all of them converted, to complete the rout.

After the game skipper Dan Udell said: "I won't make any excuses, we were well beaten today and we have to take what we can from our performance and move on. Our season is far from over though and with a local derby against Blandford on Saturday, and then a Plate semi-final with East Dorset on Sunday we've still got plenty to look forward to."

Puddletown 1st XV:

1. Jon Wilson 2. Tim Yeatman 3. Justin Owers 4. Pete Gordon 5. Jim Talbot
6. Toby Boatswain 7. Harry Foot 8. Martin Spicer 9. Gareth Price 10. Toby Musgove
11. Rob Franks 12. Dan Udell (capt) 13. Dave Davies 14. Matt Isaac 15. Marcus House

Replacements: James Green (for Marcus House - 40 mins) Gary Hull (for Justin Owers -
40 mins) Matt Williams (for Jim Talbot - 50 mins)

Scorers:

Tries:	None
Conversions:	None
Penalties:	None

Dorset Piddle Brewery Man of the Match: Martin Spicer

Next Matches :

Saturday 17th April - kick off 3:00 pm

Dorset & Wilts Division 1 South - Puddletown v Blandford

Sunday 18th April - kick off 3:00 pm

Dorset & Wilts Plate Semi-Final - Puddletown v East Dorset