

ALCESTER RFC MATCH REPORTS

Thursday 1st May 2008

Alcester XV 19 City Link XV 21

The season at Kings Coughton ended on a real high with this game in aid of the children's charity CHASE. The charity provides funding for terminally ill children who won't make it out of their teens, and support for parents. City Link as a company have pledged to raise £75k for them and this game contributed £1,800 to this target.

Both sides used their big squads to operate rolling substitutes throughout the game, and players on both sides and all spectators were honoured by the presence of former England international and current Harlequins head coach, Dean Richards, who played just over a half for the City Link side and galvanised his side's performance so much so that they turned around a 19-0 half time deficit to win the game 21-19.

Alcester took the lead with a Phil Birks try, before colts captain James Muitt and Robbie Parker added further scores, two of which were converted by James Randall to give the home side a healthy looking half time lead.

Richards had as big hand in his side's first try by gathering an over throw at an Alcester line out and powering into space before feeding his back line for a move which culminated in Warwickians player Stefan Harris opening his sides account. Harris's score was followed by tries for Jon Lock and Petar Cvetkovic, with two of the tries converted by man of the match Tom Stokes.

The legend was also instrumental in closing out the game for his side, as he moved to the unfamiliar position of loose head prop in the closing stages, and used every trick in the book to ensure that the dominant home pack didn't shunt his eight back over the line from the five yard scrum they had been awarded.

The City Link side of former players (and internationals!) current players and some who have never picked up a ball before, were formed specifically for this game and now wish to make this match an annual event, an aim which is shared by the Kings Coughton men.