

## **Barkers Butts Tanners 27 Alcester 2<sup>nd</sup>XV 0**

Alcester slipped to defeat despite a determined showing against a strong and experienced Barkers' side. Travelling with the bare fifteen they lost prop Joe Ewings to a shoulder injury midway through the first half, by which time they were two tries and a conversion down, despite a promising opening to the game. Ewings injury forced the game into passive scrummaging which probably suited the Alcester pack, who were giving away a considerable weight advantage to their larger hosts.

12-0 behind at the break and down to fourteen players, they were dealt a further blow when they lost Steve Wade to injury. The home side were unrelenting with their onslaught towards the Alcester line, but they were met with some determined defence by the depleted visitors, led by one of their youngest, flanker Steve Green who turned over two much larger opponents on separate occasions, both of whom were over the try line and in the act of scoring. Green's determination in defence led to him being nominated as man of the match by his skipper Pete Goddard.

The visitors lost another of their number, Rup Daffern, to a rib injury and now down to twelve men they did well to only concede another fifteen points in the second half.