

Warwickshire Second XV League

Alcester 2nd XV 36 Claverdon 2nd XV 21

Alcester started well in the opening stages, playing down the slope and put immediate pressure on their local derby visitors from the kick off. However the game remained scoreless for the first 25 minutes until the home side's first break through came from a Jamie Randall grubber kick which winger Jamie Bowen collected from a fumble in the visitors defence to cross the line. The extra points were converted by Randall.

Claverdon hit back after Alcester failed to receive the ball from the kick off and a series of missed tackles led to the visitors edging toward the try line. Claverdon were then awarded a penalty five yards from Alcester's try line which powerful forward pressure led to them crossing for the try which was converted to level the scores.

Just before half time Alcester turned the ball over and kicked a high ball towards the Claverdon full back who failed to catch cleanly. Alcester capitalized on this and Randall went over to score a second try for the home side who led 12-7 at the break.

Playing against the conditions in the second half Alcester's defence seemed to fall asleep and Claverdon took advantage of this by scoring two quick tries, both converted. With the visitors now ahead in the game Alcester won a penalty just outside the visitors 22 which Randall kicked the three points from.

From the kick off Alcester found themselves under pressure from a now fired up Claverdon side but a turnover ball led to quick hands through the Alcester backs and Ian King made a dashing 80 yard run up the touch line to go over for Alcester's third try. Randall kicked the conversion.

Buoyed by this score, Alcester seemed to regain their composure and from some well executed backs moves Ash Newdick and Jamie Bowen were able to exploit the visitors defence to both cross the line. Randall converted both to make the final score 36 – 21.

Stand in skipper for the day Brian Wade nominated Steve Green for Alcester's Man of the Match for his outstanding forward work.