

## **Bournemouth RFC**

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### **Season 2009/2010**

#### **The English Clubs Rugby Union Championship**

#### **National 3 South-West**

#### **Bournemouth Lions v Barnstaple**

Saturday 12 December 2009, KO 2.30 p.m. at Chapel Gate.

**Result:** Bournemouth 5/t v 16/tc3p Barnstaple. **Half-time:** 5/t-6/2p.

**Referee:** Richard Bennett; Buckinghamshire. **Adviser:** Jim Firth; Hampshire. **'Shadowed' by:** Simon Thomas; Hampshire.

**Touch Judges:** Steve Buffery; Bournemouth. Martin Mogford, Barnstaple.

**Bournemouth Team:** 15: Mike Pope; 14: Rory Hearson; 13: James Payne; 12: Robert Bruce ('Eddie' Edwards 70); 11: 'Eddie' Edwards (Simon McFarlane 70); 10: 'Puks' Ngapaku; 9: Scott Chislett/t; 1: Jo Burns (Tim Wareham 40 (Riad Lynch 64)); 2: Frazer Wilford (c); 3: Tim Wareham (Alan Manning 40); 4: Tim Seward; 5: Chris Hughes; 6: Peter Armstrong; 7: Harry Stevenson; 8: Matt Kiely/3t.

**Coaches:** Junior Paramore, Robert Todd.

**Sports Therapist:** Elle Lemprière.

**Yellow Card:** Harry Stevenson 39m.

**Scorers:** Tries 1: Chislett (10).

**Milestones:** Matt Kiely starts his 100th match in all matches

**Barnstaple Team:** 15: Jo Wearne/c3p; 14: Mark Galliford; 13: Si Watkins; 12: Mark Fatialofa; 11: Johnny Carter/t; 10: Neil Giddy; 9: Ian Wilson; 1: Brad Slade; 2: Sam Roberts; 3: Phil Gordon (c); 4: John Ovenell; 5: Kele Tofin'u; 6: Mikey Sumner; 7: Winston James; 8: Jack Elliott. **Substitutes:** Leon Incledon; Mark Luxton; Danny Ewing.

**Scoring Sequence:** 2m: 0-3 Wearne/15/p; 10m: 5-3 Chislett/9/t; 39m: 5-6 Wearne/15/p; 40m: Half-time 5/t-6/2p; 47m: 5-13 Carter/11/t, Wearne/15/c; 70m: 5-16 Wearne/15/p; 80m: 5-16 Full Time.

**League Points:** Bournemouth 0, Barnstaple 4.

**League Positions:** Bournemouth drop from 5th to 7th. Barnstaple remain 9th.

**Weather:** Fine and sunny but with a cold north-easterly breeze.

**Ground:** Firm underfoot having had some respite from the almost constant wet weather recently.

**Kick-off:** Barnstaple (Neil Giddy) kicked-off from right to left as viewed from the stand and to his left.

Bournemouth found themselves three points behind when they gave away the first of a number of damaging penalties after just two minutes. Full-back Jo Wearne kicked the first of his four goals from the 22-metre line. A lively Bournemouth response found it difficult to find a way through a defence was going to give nothing away but when they were awarded a penalty on the Barnstaple 22-metre line scrum-half Scott Chislett quickly took the penalty. He seemed to be held up just short of the line but nonetheless had the strength to force his way over. Pope from left of the posts pulled his kick badly left of the upright but Bournemouth were leading 5-3 after ten minutes. With Bournemouth gaining very little possession and, what they did have being fiercely contested by the visitors, were not able to create any scoring opportunities of note. In fact as the half drew to a close found themselves under severe siege with openside-flanker Harry Stevenson being 'yellow carded' for illegal defence which Wearne duly punished with his second goal to put his side 6-5 with the last act of the half.

Bournemouth started the second half lively enough with No-8 Matt Kiely fielding the Barnstaple clearance from the restart and driving to the 22-metre line in midfield where Bournemouth were awarded a penalty. Fly-half 'Puks' Ngapaku found touch to his left on the Barnstaple 5-metre line. Bournemouth drove off the line-out but Barnstaple were awarded a scrum. From a clearance kick

Pope had a rather ambitious drop at goal which was well under the bar. From the drop out Barnstaple regained possession and quickly put the ball through the hands left and all it took was the last of the defence to be drawn and left-wing Johnny Carter was left free to score wide out. Wearne kicked the third of his goals and the visitors had stretched the lead to 'two scores' just seven minutes into the half. Barnstaple almost repeated the dose immediately when poor defence alignment meant that Carter was again let loose but a knock-on on the Bournemouth 10-metre saved the home side's bacon. Nonetheless with Bournemouth's scrum under much pressure, which it had been all afternoon, a pass through his legs by Kiely didn't find Chislett and scrum-half Ian Wilson pounced and was almost through. Desperate Bournemouth defence held out but there was referee Richard Bennett's hand being held out showing 'advantage' to Barnstaple. When none came Wearne had a kick at goal from outside the 22-metre line but he pushed his effort wide of the near post. A let off! Try as they might however, Bournemouth could not break Barnstaple down being frustrated by not having good first phase possession from either the line-out or scrum which was working much better for Barnstaple. Penalties were also being given away at the contact and bemused Bournemouth offenders were further penalized ten metres on a number of occasions when they protested. As the game entered its final stages there was much hootin and a hollerin from a triumphant Barnstaple side as successive Bournemouth attacks foundered to the sound of the referees whistle. The feeling of despair was heightened when a typical robust Robert Bruce tackle was judged to be unfair and Wearne put, what was to prove, the final nail in the coffin with his fourth goal as the game slipped further and further away from the home side.

A very disappointing result especially after the euphoria of last week but the set piece plays of line-out and scrummaging didn't work effectively enough against a side who simply played better than us and deserved the win on the day. Shrewder observers of the game than me will have to work out why so much of what good work we did do foundered to the sound of a shrill blast on the whistle.