

## **"WE KNOW WE HAVE BEEN IN A GAME"**

### **BOURNEMOUTH 4's 0 – EAST DORSET 41**

"For the first time this season we know we have been in a game" were the words of the East Dorset Coach after the Bedouin's had given the runaway leaders something to think about.

East Dorset arrived with a squad of 28 players and a fan base of 30 men and a dog expecting an easy afternoon but despite the score this was not a stroll in the park, on a most pleasant Autumn day as from the kick off the buoyant Bournemouth team showed that they were not there just to make up the numbers.

The 4's pack although lighter than their counterparts held their own in a war of attrition up front, the backs performed with much credit and again young centre Ben Gardner helped control the midfield with excellent probing runs and when the ball was sent to the flanks Ryan Horan showed the opposition a clean pair of heels on more than one occasion.

The momentous effort on display became even more difficult when on 28 minutes Joe Worrall was unluckily yellow carded for tackling a man without the ball, a dubious decision.

But despite the numerical difference the Bedouin's kept attacking and were unlucky not to score when Horan scorched down the wing only to be brought into touch 5metres short, the fantastic resistance was unfortunately broken on the stroke of half time as East Dorset went over in the corner.

### **HALF-TIME: BOURNEMOUTH 4's 0 – EAST DORSET 7**

Bournemouth started the second half in the same manner and searched in vain for that elusive try but the turning point came on 51minutes when the impressive Matt Norman hobbled from the field with a badly twisted ankle, this meant that we now went to uncontested scrums and this was to prove Bournemouth's downfall as the visitors chalked up another 27 unanswered points.

The score appears to show a game involving one way traffic but this was far from the case and the team can hold their heads high knowing that they more than matched their opponents for long periods, the outstanding performance of the day was that of second row Salvatore Ponzio and he was duly awarded with the jesters hat in the bar following the match.

### **FULL TIME: BOURNEMOUTH 4's 0 – EAST DORSET 41**

**BOURNEMOUTH FOURTHS LINE UP:**

1: SEAN BUCKLE, 2: DAN THOMAS, 3: STEPHEN BOWES, 4: JOE WORRALL,  
5: SALVATORE PONZIO 6: STUART LAZENBURY, 7: MATT NORMAN,  
8: GEORGE THATCHER, 9: LUCA BUFFREY, 10: IAN CARSWELL, 11: JOHNNY BECKER  
12: CRAIG DEAN, 13: BEN GARDNER, 14: RYAN HORAN, 15: LEIGH BAILEY-PEARCE

SUBSTITUTES: 16: PAUL VENABLES (for TOM KITE 66mins),  
17: LEIGHTON JONES (for IAN CARSWELL 68mins), 18: LEE DEAN (for SEAN BUCKLE 40mins),  
19: PAUL VALENTINE (for MATT NORMAN 61mins), 20: TOM KITE (for RYAN HORAN 40mins)

### **MAN OF THE MATCH: SALVATORE PONZIO**