

FOUR'S CAUGHT IN DOLPHIN'S NET

POOLE RFC: 22 – BOURNEMOUTH 4's 13

Despite a fine effort the Bedouin's were unable to escape the net laid by Poole 1sts, we all hoped for a better outcome especially after winning a penalty midway to the left in the Poole half directly from the kick off.

Unfortunately Leighton Jones's kick slid just to the left of the upright and it was not to be, Bourne were finding it difficult to gel in the forwards, all but 3 of whom were playing together for the first time and hesitation caused the Dolphins first try after 8 minutes, the fours were right back at them and the next five minutes was almost constant Bournemouth pressure and the reward for the improving pack was Greg Hilton diving over the line after some fantastic rucking.

The tails were now up and the vocal home support now took a worried tone as the sable d'ors drove forward but on 20 minutes a slip in midfield allowed Poole to break and score, despite the setback Bourne forced the home side onto the back the foot with centres Jones and Horan controlling the midfield and it was on 35 minutes that Leighton's delicate kick found the corner for Ramon Mallette whose pace worried Poole all afternoon to outpace and outwit 3 defenders to touch down.

The equalising try appeared to upset the Poole No 4 and his tantrums earned him the receipt of a yellow card and an extra long half time rest.

HALF TIME: POOLE 10 – BOURNEMOUTH 4's 10

As well as the Dolphins No4 it then appeared that the whole Bournemouth side decided to take an elongated break as Poole stormed to a 5 point advantage from the kick off, the Red Bull then appeared to kick in as Bourne again came forward in waves and were rewarded by two moments of Poole indiscipline in front of the posts, the first penalty from Jones came off the post and once the ball had rebounded Poole instantly went over the top to give away another kick and this time Leighton made no mistake to get the away side within 2 points.

Upon the return of Poole's second row from the sin bin aggravation again reared its ugly head and this time the No.8 decided to do an impression Of Joe Calzaghe, but unfortunately not from his current Strictly Come Dancing Roll.

Even with the man advantage the Bedouin's seem to run out of steam as Poole's substitutes took control and Bournemouth hearts were broken as Poole ran in a 4th try from half way and for the first time in the afternoon a try was converted.

This was the fourths second game and much improvement was witnessed and having played probably 2 of the better teams in the division a win can only be around the corner, special mention must go to the youth and minis Salvatore Ponzio who was persuaded to come to the game and maybe play 10minutes, but he started and finished the game in the 2nd row for his first game in 20years!!!!!!.

Once they had ironed out their early problems the pack got it together with an outstanding performance by the front row of Norman, Thomas & Bowes and the non stop enthusiasm of George Thatcher which earned him the man of the match accolade.

FULL TIME: POOLE 22 – BOURNEMOUTH 4's 13

BOURNEMOUTH FOURTHS LINE UP:

1: STEPHEN BOWES, 2: DAN THOMAS, 3: MATT NORMAN, 4: GREG HILTON,
5: SALVATORE PONZIO, 6: GEORGE THATCHER, 7: LEE DEAN, 8: NICK DARVILL
9: CRAIG DEAN, 10: IAN CARSWELL, 11: RYAN ROGERS, 12: RYAN HORAN,
13: LEIGHTON JONES, 14: RAMON MALLETTE, 15: LEIGH BAILEY- PEARCE

SUBSTITUTES: 16: JOHNNY BECKER (for RYAN ROGERS, 40mins), 17: COLIN LAZENBURY
(for STEPHEN BOWES 55mins)

MAN OF THE MATCH: GEORGE THATCHER