

JERSE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



Jersey Colts v Alton RFC Sunday 11th December 2011

The match played on home turf at Jersey Rugby Club took place in wet and windy conditions. Clearly a day to stick to basics with a need to keep a wet and slippery ball to hand

Jersey Colts wearing a new strip maintained the pressure from the start and the tries came thick and fast. Within the first five minutes Banks (prop) supported by the pack forced his way over the opposition try line only to be held up. The Jersey forwards won the ball from a scrum on the Alton 5 metre line and drove forward to allow No 8 Howgate to pick and run to score the first try. The blustery wind conditions made kicking a hit and miss affair throughout the game, but mainly miss.

Alton took the restart which was cleanly caught by Cochrane, showing his versatility on the wing, who ran straight at them before deftly shipping the ball out to Burroughs whose speed and agility saw him through the Alton defence to touch down in the corner.

It was certainly not a one-way game and Alton had several good attacking phases, which to their credit tested the Jersey defence several times during the match. This was mainly attributable to Jersey giving Alton too much room.

Try three also came from a scrum, Hubert feeding the ball out to the backs along the line and into the hands Cochrane who managed to find Gollop. Gollop showing his ability to turn on the gas at the right time sprinted over the line to score the try.

The danger that Jersey faced from Alton was self generated by allowing them to play a more expansive game and run the ball at Jersey.

The Alton forwards in a good display of their ability to recycle the ball mounted a strong attack. This forced Jersey to defend their line time and time again. The effort Alton put in was rewarded with a try just before the half time whistle. The half time score was 15 –5.

Shortly after the restart the ball was passed to team captain, Huelin who made an excellent run involving a brilliant change of direction which confused the Alton defence before slipping the ball to Hubert who scored try number four. Having assisted in try No 4 for Jersey, Hubert showing a consistent approach in league matches so far, went on to score the next try for Jersey. Mayo went on to kick the conversion.

Burroughs (currently training with the 1st team) put in a sterling individual effort producing what is becoming his standard weaving individual run evading all who attempt to stop him. This resulted in try number 6 for Jersey.

Following a concerted attack by the Jersey forwards Howgate scored a second try which came from an opportunist pick and run followed by a concerted drive forward to cross the line and win the try. Mayo converted the kick resulting in a final score of 39-5 to Jersey.

The benefits of playing a home game cannot be underestimated. Giving the team the opportunity to put on a display of their skill in front of friends, family and supporters provides an additional boost. It was good to see so many turn out in such poor weather. Six games, six wins. The Colts next game is against Basingstoke and is currently scheduled for March. Once again the local team are hopeful that it may result in another home game for them and another opportunity for the supporters to see them.

Jersey Colts remain grateful for the support of their sponsors Bedell.

Team: George Banks, Tom Seedhouse, Jack Lowe, Oliver Smith, Alex Szerezla, Zac Taylor, James Farley, Ed Howgate, Luke Huelin ©, Charles Hubert, Sam Fuller, Dominic Mayo, Jack Burroughs, Harry Cochrane, Harrison Gollop, George Thomas, Brad Ferguson, Warwick Palmer, Myles Wood-McGrath, Nick Dawson.