

March Bears 17 V Saffron Waldon 2nds 13

Saffron Waldon kicked off with the wind behind them, and indecision from March resulted in a penalty being conceded, which the visitors slotted over to take a 0-3 lead. Both sides had several opportunities to score, but both defences stood firm.

Good rucking and mauling from the March forwards created the space for Veteran Ian Raynor to score his first try for several seasons, the windy conditions did not favour Matty Days conversion, March's lead lasted 10 minutes when Saffron's pacey backs, breached the home side defence, to score a converted try to retake the lead 5-10.

Both sides were playing open attaching rugby, the bears forwards going through phase after phase before releasing the ball to their backs, which resulted in young winger Conner Harris touching down in the corner to level the scores, with his first try for the club, again conversion attempt fell short.

With minutes to go before half time March again conceded a penalty which Saffron converted to take the lead yet again 10-13.

Second half saw a much-improved performance from the March Bears, again the game was fast and furious, with Saffron Backs just having the better attacking ideas, and last ditch tackles kept them at bay.

March's pack just started to get the upper hand against Saffron in the set pieces, with Jonathan Beavis magnificent in the line-outs, poaching most of Saffron line-out ball.

The confidence started to rise among the March Bears side, with the ever dependable Jamie Kerse, who is developing quite a partnership with his out side centre Jason "Rambo" Rainbow, created the space that Jason needed, to run in from 60 yards, who's pace enabled him to touch down, this time Matty Day slotted over the conversion to retake the lead 17-13.

The last ten minutes of the game was played at a frantic pace, with Saffron hammering away at March's defence, but only to come up against a brick wall. March hung on for a well-deserved victory. Full credit to both sides for playing an entertaining game which was enjoyed by all spectators, again the game was well refereed.

Praise to March's Pack who's second half performance was outstanding with 4 players over 40 years of age.

Next week March Bear's are away to Potton in the IPA Premiere Merit Table, meet 12.45pm sharp. Training is Thursday evenings at the Braza sports field.