



GWERNYFED
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Match Report

Gwernyfed v Penarth

GWERNYFED 18 PENARTH 19

BONUS NO CONSOLATION

Penarth arrived without full front row meaning that one of Gwernyfed's more potent weapons was neutralized by uncontested scrums from the start. Maybe the plight of a Club once pitted against the best in Wales and the Barbarians says much about the state of Welsh rugby below international level. Whatever the root, the ensuing eighty minutes consisted largely of sporting gruel.

The seashiders took an early lead through two penalties from James Docherty, a kicking hooker. Gwernyfed fought back and James Brute touched down with the refs unsighted, positioning that was to prove critical as the visitors scored tries through Chris Lakin and Mike Crake, those interspersed with the minutes rest for lock Dai Roberts for slowing the game down.

Before the break Gareth Dodd posted three points on the scoreboard for the green, white and blacks and upon the resumption the home side at last looked likely to turn the game around, particularly when a fine run by Dodd himself was finished by Craig Fuller, Dodd adding the conversion.

Opportunities continued to be few and far between and it was until the hour mark that Lee Hammond ploughed over from short range wide out to reduce the arrears to a point. Had the tough conversion gone over the spoils would have stayed at home but with the two kickers exchanging penalties it was left until the last ten minutes for the fates to be sealed.

Some desperate defence by Penarth inevitably resulted in penalties and when Dodd put the ball into the corner the resultant line out and maul had Craig Fuller over the line. Unfortunately the ball was held up and denied Gwernyfed a further 5 points.

There was little to relish in this game and as Gwernyfed prepare to travel to Pentyrch in a fortnight coach Chay Billen will be looking to inspire his men to put this one behind them.

