

# Windsor Rogues v Stratford RFC Match report...

June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016

The Rogues put on a feast of rugby on Saturday June 4th. Starting at 11am, the Juniors (aged 13-17) enjoyed a Tournament arranged by the Junior Co-ordinator Alex Oulette, assisted by Chris Patten and Mike Park.

The participants enjoyed a fun filled morning, after which they were treated to lunch whilst watching the Senior team prepare for their game.

The Seniors then took on the Stratford Swans in the Home Opener for NRU B League, in front of a healthy crowd of 200+.

Both sides were able to start strong squads, which made for a very entertaining game. Windsor had 30 players dressed to play, tough decision for Coach Scott Murphy to pick his squad of 23.

Windsor started the stronger of the two teams and just 2 minutes after kick off, and after an excellent off-load from centre Simon Kazibwe, were awarded a try scored by the newly appointed 8-man, Zac Cushing (son of President Shaun Cushing). The ball was touched down wide, and made for a tough conversion, narrowly missed by full back, Chris Shaw. After a small shoving match, Stratford's Lock had to leave for a blood sub, which stirred up the visitors. The Swans started to make up ground by converting a penalty kick, making the score 5-3.

The Rogues replied with their second try, again awarded to Cushing. Although, this time he touched down closer to the posts, creating an easier conversion for Shaw. 12-3.

The score remained until a few minutes from half time, when Stratford again converted a penalty. The half ended with a yellow card being awarded awarded to rookie lock, Carlos and the score 12-6.

Starting the second half short a player for 10 minutes, Coach Murphy made some good choices replacing the starters. Fresh legs were able to maintain the Rogues lead, and furthermore, increase the lead to 13 points with a strong run by Chris Suchy. Suchy, crashed through three defenders for a well taken try, which Shaw duly converted, 19-6.

Windsor, now back at full strength continued to pile on the pressure, and were awarded a fourth try when Stephen Rosenberg touched down after poor handling in the visitor's end zone. Shaw converted, the score line now 26-6.

Shaw further extended the lead with his first and only successful penalty kick of the day – now 29-6.

Windsor now dominating the play, and enjoyed extended periods of interplay resulting in 2 further tries by Rookie Ryan Dmytrow and Peter Comisso, Shaw converting one of them to take his tally to 11 points for the day.

Final score – a very rewarding 41-6 for Windsor, in what is traditionally a much tighter scoring game.

Man-of-the-match (unanimously awarded by the home supporters) was the ever present Zac Cushing, who instilled some much needed hard-nose play that was missing the week before against Chatham in the season opener.

