

FAT BOYS SEVEN'S – RUNNERS UP

Congratulations to all those who played at Reading Abbey on the 21st of July in the “Fat Boys” 7's tournament, you were absolutely fantastic and a huge credit to BRFC and yourselves. The attitude on the pitch was brilliant; with players giving the team their best game even when injured and being up against some **NON** fat, very young athletic teams !!

We started the day with just 7 players against Jason's Leopards which was an ideal start for all the team with a 31-0 win. This was followed by a closer game against the Arabian Knights starring Wayne Jackson, Kwong and Nick Stroud. Another win at 26-12.

All morning there had been a team warming up called the X Factor who it was rumoured were Henley first team ! They certainly looked the part in tight shirts with proper muscles underneath, however despite this, BRFC Beeks played their socks off and deservedly won 5 tries to 3 with the entire crowd behind us.

The following game was a bit tougher as the team from the West Country were a bit “feisty” and so, true to form, it got a bit punchy, which unfortunately resulted in both sides losing a player to red cards. Nevertheless we again won a hard fought victory.

The last pool game was a fun event against Leeds Lardies with the Yorkshire Pudding Haka. The game was easily won in spite of them having 11 players on the pitch at one point.

So having won our Pool, it was onto the cup semi final, against CHP, who were the event sponsors. They had the best stash of the day, were super fit and fairly talented.

With Mark Huggins taking on the mantle of hard hits, he absolutely flattened one of their players early on. This was a much closer game and we were 2 points down with a minute to go. Again the Beeks found something from deep down and released Mark Huggins from his own 10 yard line to take off, and with only one man to beat stepped round him to score under the posts, thank you Mark.

Onto the final against – “ The Army” who had players flown in especially from Cyprus, Belfast, Germany etc. The furthest our players came from was Tooting !

Needless to say these were seriously big fit guys. Nevertheless we scored the first 2 tries through sheer guts including Tom Leitch staying on despite pulling his groin. The Army came back to level the game and then another to go one try ahead. Despite valiant efforts by all, they then breached our defence for the last time to seal the game in the dying minute.

Despite this BRFC should be very proud as we lost to the best team, but we made them work for it. Well done guys!!

A few special moments from the side line were:

Dave Waldron doing 3 pints of Cider through a funnel after Rennuci got sent off.

The 2 right handers that got Paul sent off.

Mark Huggins massive hit against CHP.

Mark Matthews controlling every game from number 10, he looks better now than 5 years ago.

Chris Eyres playing on despite his shoulder going again.

Richie Foster who ran and ran all day.

Laurie and James who must have been amongst the taller props on the day and who have promised to come back and play at Beaconsfield!!

Dan and Tom who with the exuberance of youth, along with talent and pace, expected to win everything and we nearly did.

Wayne and Kwong for helping out when our numbers were dropping with injury, red cards and early nights.

Dave Wood for making sure we played sevens not fifteens with seven people.
Lastly Brokenribs who surely played the rugby of his life, tackling, try scoring and encouragement.

Well done one and all, a great day out, organised as usual by Dave Waldron with out whom it would not have happened!