

## **Match Report - Saturday 20 October 2007**

### **Letchworth GC 7 Staines RFC 0**

Staines Rugby Club travelled to Letchworth on Saturday, expecting a regulation win, in the end, the game was deservedly lost, through a combination of chances not being taken, defensive errors, a sending off and the resilience of the home team playing percentage rugby in familiar surroundings.

Staines started the game in convincing fashion, playing up a slope, spending most of the first half in Letchworth territory, with the majority of possession, they put the home side under continuous pressure, nevertheless, they failed to convert this to points, with several moves breaking down with the try line at their mercy, including a three on one situation ten yards from the opposition line.

The second half started in much the same fashion, although the Letchworth forwards and in particular, their No. 8 who had an outstanding game, ensured that they remained in contention, their flyhalf missing four long range penalties, the match, however, was turned on its head, 10 minutes into the second period, when a Staines prop was sent off for stamping.

With Letchworth now gaining more significant possession, they worked the channels close to the forwards and employed an astute kicking game through their flyhalf, it was following a Staines fumble of a probing kick into the Staines 22 that Letchworth broke the deadlock, gathering the loose ball to score, their flyhalf duly converted.

Despite Staines 14 men pushing for an equalising score, Letchworth held on with ease to take the points.

This was a game that Staines should have wrapped up by half time, lessons will have been learned by a relatively new team who are taking time to gel together as a unit, there is no doubt that London 2 North is a competitive league throughout, with no easy fixtures, Staines cannot afford to take games for granted and have the early opportunity to redress the situation and jump back into promotion contention, when they entertain high flyers Tring at the 'Reeves' next Saturday kick off 3pm.

Team: 15 Tony Willis 14 Andy Turner 13 Jon Turner 12 Marinus Scheepers 11 James Cornish 10 Andy Regan 9 Richard Scott 8 Andy Norman 7 Luciano Silvera 6 Eddie Landsburgh 5 Junior Harrison 4 Tom Cleary 3 Rony Backour 2 Stefan Myburgh 1 Leonard Leibenburg.

Substitutes: 16 Mikey Wilmott 17 Giles Walker 18 Eddie Jones (Head Coach).