



Overton v Midhurst – EDF Junior Vase

Overton hosted the Sussex side, Midhurst, in the EDF Junior Vase, with a number of players unavailable due to injury or other commitments. The visitors started off well and applied early pressure to the Overton line. The dogged defence by the Overton team ensured that Midhurst were unable to gain any advantage and although an early penalty was awarded, the kick was missed. Overton were the first to cross the line and score when Simon Rainbow charged down a clearance kick by the Midhurst fly half and was able to pounce on the loose ball and score. Conversion missed. Midhurst once again were on the attack and were awarded a try of their own when they moved the ball wide, used the extra numbers and scored through their centre. Conversion scored. Following on from their first try, Midhurst looked to score again by sending the ball out wide and were awarded with a try to their winger. Conversion missed. Half time score 12-5 to Midhurst.

Midhurst opened the 2nd half with a penalty after an infringement at the breakdown by Overton. Overton, looking to make amends, changed their game plan and used their big forwards to drive the Midhurst pack towards their own line. Gavin Plows crossed for Overton after a solid driving maul that was kept tight. Conversion missed. Midhurst hit straight back after some poor defence from Overton and sent the ball out wide to score their 3rd of the day. Conversion missed. Overton, picking themselves up, drove hard and were camped in the Midhurst half of the field. Some good rolling mauls and interplay between the backs and the forwards saw a pop ball to Francois Stoop who was able to crash over for a try. Conversion added by Francois Stoop. The game then see-sawed between the 2 halves of the field before a handling error by Overton in their 22m saw the Midhurst fly half pick up the loose ball and step through 3 tackles before crossing the line. Conversion scored. Overton, wanting to end the game on a high, applied pressure on the Midhurst line. A good lineout won Overton some good ball to setup a maul. An infringement at the ruck gave Overton the opportunity to setup their attacking line. The tap was taken and passed to Gavin Plows who crashed over the line for his 2nd try of the day. Conversion scored. Final score 27-24 to Midhurst.

This weekend Overton start their campaign in the newly formed Hampshire Division 2 against local rivals Chineham at Laverstoke Park. Kick off at 3pm.

Team: A. Varker, G. Plows, J. Davenport, G. Harwood, C. Syrett, A. McLeod, D. Harms, A. Brighty, S. Rainbow, F. Stoop, T. Harper, R. Cornell, D. Clark, M. Meggison, D. Wade, N. Hall.

grass roots rugby at its best

www.overtonrugby.com