

Llandrindod Wells RFC- Cup Match Report 2012-13

SWALEC Bowl Competition- Round 1

Llandrindod Wells 15 - St Albans 45

This was a cracking Cup tie with Division 5's St Albans going in to the next round of the Cup, thanks mainly to their more experienced and dynamic back line. Not that Llandrindod succumbed tamely despite the evidence of the score line. The work of very many players, in particular hooker for the day Tom Hughes, No 5 Dave Smith who turned his former identity as a goal keeper to good effect as he acted as a second full back to catch and then kick some devastating clearances, and flanker Geraint Evans who continued his good form to cause St Albans all sorts of problems, much to the approval of their own officials. Not to be overlooked was full back Bon Williams whose Will-o-the-wisp running bemused the opposition.

Really it was in the backs that St Albans shone. Held up front for much of the game, their more experienced back line, and their movements well rehearsed in Division 5, created holes in the Llandrindod back line that proved difficult for them to fill. This was evidenced in the first 3 minutes when Lewis Skrimmer powered his way to a try, converted, as most of the St Albans tries were, by Dan Millard. Immediately after this try, Llandrindod camped for a while on the St Albans line to be rewarded in the corner with a David Harris try, unconverted because of the difficult angle as indeed were all of Llandrindod's tries.

This scenario was repeated shortly afterwards with another converted St Albans try, yet again matched by a Llandrindod try, again in the corner. By now, the enthusiasm of the moment was starting to affect St Albans and a red card for a flanker for kicking reduced the visitors to 14 men. Not that this affected them overmuch in the backs as they ran in a further 3 tries to lead 10-31 at half time.

The second half saw Llandrindod with the benefit of the slope and a fast and furious 40 minutes ensued with the referee having to lay down the law to the forwards on both sides on numerous occasions. A further unconverted try in the corner by Tom Hughes reduced the deficit for Llandrindod somewhat but two St Albans converted tries put the game beyond reach.

Regardless of the scoreline, this was a good display by Llandrindod, notably in the forwards. A degree of personnel consistency in the back would advance their cause in Division 6 significantly.

The scorers for St Albans were:

Tries by Lewis Skrimmer, Nathan Hill, Jamie Boyle, Dan Milward, James Furnish, and Josh Mille. Millard kicked 3 conversions and a penalty and Hill 3 conversions.