

Tring Extend Win Streak Against Tunbridge Wells

Tring 28 – 27 Tunbridge Wells by Ted Stanford

Tring welcomed Tunbridge Wells (TW) to Cow Lane on Saturday, in a huge game for both sides. TW came into the game having won their last four matches and faced a strong Tring side who boasted a three-match winning streak of their own. Alfie Robbins was selected on the wing after his hat-trick for the 2nd XV and Ben Hogan returned to the side at 15 after injury. Elsewhere, Nick Brown was re-instated in the front row and there was a welcome return to the side for Alex Harrison at inside centre.

TW got off to a fast start and scored early through a chip and chase (0-7). After the wake-up call that they needed, Tring began to control possession and eventually won a penalty deep within the TW 22. Hogan converted the penalty goal for Tring's first points of the game (3-7). 20 minutes into the game, Tring's attack came alive through excellent carrying from both the forwards and backs. After well worked phase play, Ben Criddle found a gap in the TW defence to score under the posts, Hogan successful with the conversion (10-7). Shortly after, Tring's excellent driving maul set up another try, however the referee judged the pass as forward. The pressure continued to build and Hogan converted another penalty kick after 28 minutes (13-7). TW scored shortly after (13-14), however it was once again met by a Hogan penalty goal (16-14). Despite brilliant Tring defence, it would be TW who had the last say in the half, converting their own penalty goal to leave the score 16-17 at half time.

The home side came out fighting in the second half, now with the wind and slope in their favour. 8 minutes into the half, another excellent driving maul saw Brown cross to give Tring the lead (21-17).

As the elements began to settle in, the two teams battled for possession and territory. TW received two yellow cards, resulting in uncontested scrums. This would prove the perfect launch for Tring's backline. With a scrum on TW's 22m, a well-crafted move saw outside centre Ted Stanford cross for Tring's third try, converted by Hogan. The forwards continued to battle in the middle of the pitch through excellent carrying from Ian Jarman and George Hayes. TW scored a breakaway try late in the game; however, it would not be enough. Tring extend their win streak to 4, going into another important game against Colchester this week.

Final score: 28-27

Tries: Criddle; Brown; Stanford

Cons: Hogan 2

Pens: Hogan 3

(photos courtesy of Stuart Seagrave)



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