

## PLUMPTON RUN OUT OF TIME

### Abridged

Plumpton Rugby Club's travelled to Steyning to face Norfolk Arms in what proved to be a tough battle. Turning round at half time only 10-3 down Plumpton looked in the game, however they conceded two weak tries early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and to put the game out of reach.

However, a fight back with two tries in 8 minutes showed the determination of the Mighty Plums, albeit all too late. Final result 27:22 to Norfolk Arms.

Man of the Match: Evasive runner, wing Justin Smith. Plumpton host Eastbourne 2's this weekend, Kick off 2.30pm at the Racecourse.

### Full

Plumpton Rugby Club travelled to Norfolk Arms, Steyning for what is always a physical encounter.

Plumpton took 22 players to the game, taking the opportunity to try a new back row and trial a couple of new faces to the club. It was Norfolk Arms however who started the brightest, as they pushed Plumpton deep into their own half.

The pressure resulted in a try, which showed Plumpton they were in a game. Plumpton immediately replied with a powerful attack on the Norfolk Arms line. Despite not scoring a try from the pressure, Plumpton converted an ensuing penalty. A further penalty from Norfolk arms closed off the tight first half.

Two tries early in the second half by Norfolk Arms however, both scored through stretching the Plumpton backline put the hosts into a clear lead at 27-10.

The supporters witnessed a physical and frontal battle for most of the second half, as both sets of forwards and centre three quarters looked for supremacy in their own game. A try from fly half Rhys Beale looked to show Plumpton's intent to stay in the game however.

With 20 minutes to go two back row substitutions in the back row for Plumpton made a difference. Newcomer Matt Wragford and experienced flanker Mike Upton were able to exert significant pace into the Plumpton pack. Matt Wragford took a kick in his own half, running diagonally through most of the Norfolk Arms team before being cut down 5 metres from the line. Frantic defence led to a number of infringements, the referee deciding to yellow card only one of the N.Arms offences.

The penalty led to a try for Nigel Box, as he crashed through a number of weak tackles to score. Minutes later Centre Jason Thomas also took advantage of the weakening Norfolk Arms side to score an individual try.

However time as running out fast, and Plumpton were unable to score a final try which would have won them the game. Final score 27 – 22 to Norfolk Arms.

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