

## **PLUMPTON ARE THE BEST**

### *Abridged*

Plumpton Rugby Club's hosted fellow one team club Norfolk Arms at the weekend. Both clubs can boast to be the most physical clubs in the Sussex intermediate league, as well as the best one team rugby club in Sussex. However it was Plumpton who claimed the honors on this occasion, with a show of physical rugby combined with wide running rugby to win 20-0. Plumpton never looked like losing this game with tries either side of half time sealing the win.

### *Full*

Plumpton Rugby Club hosted fellow one team club Norfolk Arms at the weekend. Both clubs can boast to be the most physical clubs in the Sussex intermediate league, as well as the best one team rugby club in Sussex.

Both sides appeared up for the game, which for some is seen as a battle of two sides evenly matched given the size of both packs.

It was Plumpton who took the game on however, turning the tables and releasing their pacey backs from the first minute. Ten minutes into the game, Plumpton had already squandered 3 or 4 missed opportunities to score out wide with final passes going astray. Strong running by Dan Sherwin, Justin Smith and James Ellis turned the game from an expected forwards battle into a running spectacle.

With Barns Green unable to keep pace with the game, penalties started to be conceded, with Beale slotting the subsequent penalties.

Despite playing into a stiff breeze, Plumpton then camped on the Norfolk line for five minutes. They declined several penalty opportunities to run the ball, which eventually paid off. Gareth Lourens sniping run falling just short of the line before Dave Lamb bulldozed his way over to score.

With a half time 10-0 lead, Plumpton looked to immediately stamp their authority on the game in the second half. Again powerful running by the plump ton backs allowed the game to be played at an exciting pace, too much for the slower Norfolk Arms forwards who again looked to kill the ball and concede penalties, converted by Beale.

With 20 minutes to go, Beale brothers Lewis and Rhys combined in midfield for younger brother Rhys to score under the posts. The game was at this point won, which allowed Plumpton to make a number of substitutions to the field, including a new 2<sup>nd</sup> row partnership of Harvey and Brook to provide further muscle to the game.

Man-of-the-match Jason Thomas had an outstanding game in the Plumpton 12 shirt. His bullocking running cutting the Norfolk Arms midfield to shreds,

**making significant yardage and keeping the Plumpton pack on the front foot allowing Plumpton to take the honors as the best one team club in Sussex.**

**Club Captain Lewis Beale made special mention of his team and particularly Jason Thomas. “We knew we would win, our rollercoaster season meant we were due it. Probably the most structured and impressive display of the season, Jason Thomas was the key. He was simply unstoppable and made sure we played on the front foot all game”.**

**Final score 20-0 to Plumpton. Plumpton travel to Eastbourne this weekend, kick-off 2.15pm.**