

Cardiff Res. v. Newport 2nd

GEORGE BOOTS STILL AT IT.

At Cardiff. Cardiff had a strong side out, whereas Newport were compelled to make five changes in the forwards. Teams:—

Newport Seconds—Back, A. Hobbs; three-quarters, J. Evans, J. B. James, J. Kerr, and C. B. Francis; half-backs, Ivan Pritchard and P. Baker Jones; forwards, Mapson Williams, George Boots, Charlie Anderson, Neil McPherson, J. Pritchard, W. Norster, J. McLoughlin, and Brains.

Cardiff Reserves—Back, F. Spencer; three-quarters, Stanley Williams, T. Williams, P. Ross and F. Rogers; half-backs, M. McLean and G. Davies; forwards, P. C. Birch, P. C. Michael, P. C. May, C. Palmer, T. Whitney, D. Callan, R. Jones, and E. Thomas.

Referee Mr J. McLellan Bridgend.

Newport had a short spell at attack in the commencement, but lost one good opportunity when Williams's final transfer to J. Pritchard went forward before Cardiff got to the other end as the result of a long kick by Ross. The advantage was lost to Cardiff, however, when J. B. James intercepted from a likely passing movement and took play to halfway before losing possession. Cardiff returned, and Ross, neatly bluffing the defence, broke through, and slinging a long pass to Rogers the latter scored on the extreme left, Spencer failing to goal. After Ross had neatly crossed from another feint and cut through. McLean crossed from a scrum, Spencer this time converting. Cardiff did all the attacking, and Birch next scored, after robbing a Newport forward of the ball from a line out. Spencer failed to goal.

	HALF-TIME—	G. T. P.
CARDIFF RESERVES....	1	2 11
NEWPORT 2nd	0	0 0

Hobbs missed by inches from a magnificent penalty kick on the resumption, and then within a minute Stanley Williams brought off one of the greatest runs seen on the Park for years. Newport were looking dangerous with passing, when Williams intercepted, and beating all opposition ran from his own 25, and scored a magnificent try, which Spencer converted. Newport now did better, but they passed wildly, and forward transfers lost them many chances of reducing the big lead. There were frequent warnings for over zeal to both sides, but this was rather to keep the players under control than for any unnecessary roughness shown.

	Final—	G. T. P.
CARDIFF RESERVES....	2	2 16
NEWPORT 2nd	0	0 0

REMARKS.

It was a game in which strenuousness was carried to its fullest limit without being foul. Newport had quite as many opportunities as Cardiff, but there was not that degree of anticipation that characterised the home men, who have rarely shown such headiness. Ross was the chief figure on the home side, his feinting and cutting through time after time eliciting well-merited approbation from a crowd of about 4,000. In the first half Cardiff monopolised play and fully deserved their lead, but Newport had chances on the cross over—they attacked for three parts of the time—but there was absent those long swinging passes which characterises Welsh play; they lobbed the ball instead, and suffered as was painfully evidenced to them when Stanley Williams intercepted and made his great try. P. C.'s Birch, May, and Michael and Callan, Whitney and Palmer were the best of the home pack. Rogers played well, as in fact did all the home quartette, and Spencer. McLean is fast developing to a class half, and hit it off well with Davies to-day. Newport did not possess any outstanding player except perhaps Hobbs, at full-back, the backs and halves being very poor. Partridge, Anderson and Boots were the best of the forwards.