

Zurich 33 Yverdon 10

Zurich win Home and Away

A snowbound pitch and a back logged fixture list meant that the Zurich management decided to play this home fixture in Yverdon. This decision was soon vindicated as Zurich ran in 5 tries against a spirited Yverdon team.



Starting with a strong wind at their backs, a dynamic performance from Zurich's back division soon gave them a 2 try advantage. Shane "Williams" Peter skipped around 2 defenders and bulldozed through another to score an excellent opener from a Dip miss pass which was soon followed by a Lawry touchdown after a half break in the centre. Surprisingly both tries were converted by Nicholas. Zurich fell asleep from the restart and gave away a penalty for offside which Yverdon converted to bring them back to 14-3.

The Zurich pack failed to dominate like it did last week in Geneva and it took another 20 minutes before Zurich scored another try, with Gary O'Graf using his great girth to pummel over from 5 centimetres. Normal service was restored with the conversion being missed.

Half Time 19-3

Yverdon started the second half strongly but did not quite take advantage of the strong wind as they should have. In the first 20 minutes Zurich had plenty of ball and territory but tended to take the wrong option and not make the last pass tell. However, 25 minutes into the half Zurich scored the try that secured the bonus point. The forwards continued to drive on the right and then the ball span left to be set up in the centre. From the resulting ruck, Nichols fed Leohann Alberto Vera Solorzano whose angled run and pace deceived the bamboozled defenders. Nichols added the conversion to his assist to take the score to 26-3.

Coach Murphy immediately decided to change the tone of the game by pulling off 3 of the more senior players and entering 3 youngsters. Kev, Shane Peter and Henderson were the ones to be relieved while Chris Höchli, Paul Easy and Yanick were given the opportunity to please the coach. O'Graf, tired from continually taking it up the blindside, moved from blindside flank to centre.

The Zurich pack relentlessly pounded their opposite men and were rewarded when Tati used all his strength to power his way over the line. Yverdon kept their spirits high and were rewarded with a consolation score when O'Graf slipped and let his opposite man come inside him and finish powerfully. The conversion was added leaving the **final score 33-10**.

Verdict:

A competent team display gave Zurich the bonus point.

Points:

3 points Tati - another great performance leading from the front
2 points Yves - Mr Versatile did a job for us at prop
1 point Ramiro - good in line-outs and around the park

Jaffa Cake:

Dirk Stevens - talking and giving ten yards away after everyone being FORBIDDEN to talk to the ref