

DUDLEY KINGSWINFORD U17 V STOURBRIDGE U17 28-01-07

This weekend saw all of the North Mids teams on stand down for the benefit of county trials. DK supported the trial with four players.

With no league game to play we invited our close neighbours Stourbridge to play the fixture at Heathbrook as we had not met since DK beat Stourbridge to win the Rob Bick Memorial Trophy at Stourton Park last season.

With players unavailable due to county commitments and others with injuries DK just managed to get a starting 15, each player committed to the full 70 minutes.

Stourbridge started the game with determination and put DK under immediate pressure who in turn gave away a close range penalty within the first minute, this was scored. If ever there was a wake up call for DK then this was it and they had to start digging in.

From the restart DK forwards took the upper hand and controlled the possession within their opponents half. After many phases of hard fought play by the forwards the ball would make its way to the backs who wasted know time in passing the ball out wide leading the first try into the corner. This set the tone for the rest of the half as the DK forwards dominated rucks and mauls, line outs and scrums. Stourbridge defended magnificently and twice held up the ball after DK had crossed the try line but before the half was finished DK scored two more tries into the corners giving DK a deserved 17-3 half time score.

From the restart DK backs continued with possession and made good use of the open spaces. With passes going to hand and good yards being made DK backs again scored two more tries, both out wide towards the corners.

Half way through the second half it was Stourbridge's turn to gain structure and possession and they replied with a well worked try of their own. With time running out DK gained a final converted try to secure a well deserved win.

A well mannered and keenly fought game saw the final result Dudley Kingswinford 34 – Stourbridge 8.

Next week sees DK play Camp Hill in the quarter final of the North Mids Cup.