

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1913

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. CINDERFORD

FORESTERS AT KINGSHOLM

VIGOROUS FORWARD GAME

HONOURS EASY

This annual Barton Fair match was played at Kingsholm on Monday before a good crowd.

Both clubs were on the losing side on Saturday, Gloucester being defeated by Northampton by 3 tries to 1, and Cinderford going down before Cross Keys by 19 points to nil.

The weather was more genial for football than on Saturday, and the ground was in fine condition. Gloucester were weak behind, the absentees including C. Cook, W. Washbourn, L. Hamblin, and F. Webb. The vacancies were filled by players from the Seconds. Cinderford had Nelmes away in the third line, but had the assistance of A. Robbins, Pontypool and late of Cinderford and Bream.

The teams were as follows : –

Gloucester. – F. W. Hayward; T. Powell, A. Lewis, S. Sysum, and F. Bloxsome; A. Hall and J. Baker; G. Halford (capt.), N. Hayes, S. Smart, S. Millard, J. Meadows, W. Parham, J. F. Lawson, and A. Cook.

Cinderford. – J. Hall; F. Beard, W. Rhodes, F. Niblett, and M. Reeves; A. Robbins and Ivor Woolford; A. Redding, G. Bowkett, A. Hewlett, O. Colwell, A. Lodge, G. Lodge, G. Leighton, and F. Russell.

Referee : Mr. Feltham (Bristol).

THE GAME.

Cinderford kicked off, but their forwards getting in front a scrum was ordered at the centre. Gloucester heeled from the first scrum, but Woolford robbed Baker of possession, and punted to Hayward, who found touch with a beautiful shot to half-way. The City made further headway, and then from passing between Baker and Hall and Lewis, the Cinderford 25 was visited, a forward transfer checking the movement. From the ensuing scrum off-side was given against the visitors, and Hayward, with a lovely kick, landed a goal, giving Gloucester a 3 points' lead within three minutes of the start.

A knock-on by Halford on the re-start gave Cinderford a footing in the home half, but Baker dribbled away, and Reeves only getting in a poor kick, Gloucester were back at the other end. The Foresters worked out with loose rushing, and later attempted passing, but Rhodes fumbled, and centre play followed.

A free to Cinderford did not avail the visitors much, and Hayes cross-kicking, Rhodes was forced over his line to save. A scrum ensued five yards outside, but Baker could not get the ball away, and Cinderford rushed out a short distance. Fumbling between the visiting half-backs saw Baker taking advantage, Rhodes being collared close in. Fly kicking enabled Cinderford to clear, but the ball went to Hayward, who only missed dropping a goal by a yard.

Gloucester resumed the attack on the drop out, Lewis, Hall, and Powell shining, but the wing man was finely tackled by J. Hall. Then Lewis, with a clever run, put Sysum in possession, and Bloxsome, who next received, had a dash for the line, but he was hemmed in and his career cut short.

Cinderford worked out to more favourable quarters, where Baker was twice smothered by Woolford at the scrum. A. Hall, however, recovered and passed, but Beard intercepted and ran and punted past Hayward. The latter, however, got back and punted to touch.

Cinderford heeling there was a series of exchanges, ending in Niblett attempting a drop at goal, but it was a feeble effort, and Hayward cleared in good style. The Gloucester backs next came away, Lewis, although failing to gather a transfer, dribbling through nicely. The movement was checked, as was another attempt at one combined effort a minute later.

Subsequent play was scrambling at mid-field until Woolford and Robbins combined in a neat effort on the short side of the scrum, the latter punting across to Lewis, who got in a splendid punt to touch. Baker's slowness at the scrum was again apparent, and Cinderford took full advantage, dribbling away and causing anxiety to Hayward, who had to be very quick in getting in his kick.

From a scrum Woolford got the ball away to Robbins, who dropped for goal, but the ball went wide. Reeves and Powell jumped for possession, but there was a knock-on, and a possible try averted. Cinderford, however, persevered, and the forwards working desperately, they took the ball over the line, and Redding scored. Niblett missed the goal kick.

With the scores level the contest raged furiously, and there was some vigorous tackling on both sides. Out of some loose play Hayes picked up and brought off a splendid run, but Lewis, to whom he passed, was collared from behind.

Immediately after Hayes was again conspicuous with a grand effort and pass, but Meadows' transfer – a high lobbing pass – was intercepted by Beard, who ran and punted. The ball was captured by A. Cook, who returned, and play was again in the Cinderford half. More passing by the Gloucester backs saw Powell make a praiseworthy effort to beat the defence, but he quickly succumbed to a good tackle. Cinderford cleared with some useful kicks, and a bad pass from Baker nearly ended in disaster, Hall saving in the nick of time.

Gloucester eventually worked back, and near the centre there was some clever passing amongst the forwards, Hayes, Lawson, and Parham taking part. There was a tackle right on the line, and the ball rolling loose a Gloucester player touched down, but the referee ordered a scrum five yards out. Here Baker handed out to Hall, who fed Lewis, but the latter instead of passing to Powell took a drop at goal, and only a minor resulted. Play was keen to the interval, which arrived with honours easy.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester 1 goal (p)
Cinderford 1 try

Halford restarted for Gloucester, and the forwards following up keenly prevented a return, The Cinderford forwards rushed a scrum, but they lost the ball, and Millard gathering started a return movement which took a lot of stopping. Off side by Woodford gave Gloucester a penalty, but Hayward made a poor attempt to goal, and Robbins sent back to touch.

A dangerous rush by the Forest forwards was checked by A. Cook marking, but Cinderford were soon on the move again, gradually forcing the City men to their 25. Here Robbins received from Woolford, and though collared by the jersey by Baker he shook himself free and punted, a minor being given.

Cinderford were going the stronger now, but play was rather scrambling. Gloucester tried to open out, but the transfers were badly fumbled and no ground was gained. There was an improvement later, Baker, Hall, Lewis, and Bloxsome handling smartly, but the wing man was upset before travelling far. Then for some serious infringement Cinderford were penalised, and Hayward had a shot for goal, but failed to cover the crossbar.

A penalty to Cinderford changed the venue, and the position was further improved by another penalty. Gloucester heeling, Baker and Hall started passing, but Lewis failed to accept and it was left to Hayward to recover the mistake.

Well inside their own half the Gloucester forwards broke away with a glorious dribble, Woolford fouling A. Cook badly in the movement, which allowed the visitors to save. Robbins twice cleared effectively when matters looked dangerous for his side, but Hayward put the City well down with a fine kick to touch a couple of yards from the line. Cinderford, however, got out of the difficulty by the aid of a penalty, and Robins came again to the rescue when things looked ugly. A dashing burst by the home front was well stopped by J. Hall, and then Lewis marked in front of goal from some loose kicking. No charge was allowed, but Hayward's attempt at goal was a poor one.

After this Cinderford played up strongly, and had the better of the exchanges, but few openings occurred. Robbins, however, forced a minor with a fruitless drop at goal, the ball going under the bar. Gloucester took up the running before the end, but their efforts were barren, and the game ended in a draw.

RESULT :

Gloucester 1 goal (p) (3 points)

Cinderford 1 try (3 points)

REMARKS.

It was the usual vigorous game when these teams meet, in which the forwards bore the brunt. The back play attempted on both sides was of rather poor quality, pace, skill, and judgment being rarely seen. Baker was again slow at the scrum, and he was watched so closely by Woolford that it was on few occasions he got the ball away cleanly. Hall, too, was a marked man, and although he made strong efforts to get openings the opposition was too great. The forwards were well matched, Redding, Russell, and the Brothers Lodge being prominent for Cinderford, whilst Hayes, Halford, and Millard did excellently for Gloucester. Lawson, too, created a good impression, and should be given a further trial. The backs were mostly in defence, but there was no outstanding player on either side.