

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1914

FOOTBALL

RUGBY

GLOUCESTER v. CINDERFORD

CITY TEAM IN THE FOREST

SURPRISE DEFEAT FOR GLOUCESTER

BEATEN BY A POINT

MEEK'S DROPPED GOAL DOES THE TRICK

Gloucester's annual visit to Cinderford aroused the usual keen interest in the Forest, and one of the best gates of the season assembled at the Recreation Ground.

Though Cinderford have not done so well as in some past years, the Foresters are still a power to be reckoned with, and they generally rise to the occasion when opposed to Gloucester. In the first match at Kingsholm the teams played a draw of three points each, the City scoring a penalty goal to a try.

For to-day's game Gloucester were short of C. Cook, Webb, Washbourn, and Smart, and gave a trial to O. Walwin at full-back. The latter has only recently come into the Seconds, and it was a rather severe test to play him at Cinderford.

Cinderford had a good side out, the final selection being made from some 18 players.

The kick-off did not take place till 4.30.

GLOUCESTER	POSITIONS	CINDERFORD
O. Walwin	Backs.	J. Hall
A. Lewis	Three-Quarter	J. Powell
L. Hamblin	Backs	F. Niblett
S. Sysum	"	F. Beard
R. A. Clarke	"	G. Bevan
A. Hall	Half-Backs	M. Meek
J. Baker	"	Ivor Woolford
G. Halford (capt.)	Forwards	J. Watkins (capt.)
J. Meadows	"	A. Redding
N. Hayes	"	A. Colwell
F. Ayliffe	"	G. Bowkett
J. F. Lawson	"	G. Lodge
A. Saunders	"	A. Hewlett
S. Millard	"	W. Robbins
W. Parham	"	G. Leighton

Referee : Mr. W. A. Thomas

Much amusement was caused before the match by Gloucester enthusiasts wearing fancy dress and letting off fireworks. Cinderford started, Walwin punting to Bevan, who sent the ball to the Citizens' 25, where Cinderford were awarded a free. Play got dangerously near the visitors' line.

Then the Gloucester forwards got going, but Meek pulled them up in the home 25. Powell was conspicuous with a fine burst, play reaching half-way. Hall burst through, and when tackled got in a kick to touch. Bowkett marked, but although the punt was a good one play remained in the home half. A free to Cinderford took play over the dividing line, and the homesters getting in a good position Lewis kicked straight to Bevan, who plunged over the line with a try. Lodge failed at goal.

Following the drop out Cinderford again attacked hotly, and Bevan looked like scoring again, but the pass rolled behind him. A free to Gloucester gave them no relief, and Cinderford, being equally favoured a kicking bout ensued which terminated with the Citizens getting a foothold in the home territory.

Exciting play followed, and Cinderford, with a splendid combined movement, transferred play to the visitors' half. From a scrum Woolford got the ball, and with a short burst made a considerable slice of ground, Lodge just failing to take his pass when favourably placed. Gloucester were sorely pressed, Hall being tackled on his own line. A moment later Lodge looked to have scored, but a touchdown was awarded.

Play continuing in the visitors' half. Hall tried to burst through, but the home tackling was sure. Getting over the border line, Gloucester were awarded a free, kicking to touch in the home 25. Then the Cinderford forwards got going, but off-side spoilt the effort, and half-way was the venue.

From a scrum at the centre Gloucester passed, but Lewis was well tackled by Bevan. Gradually the Citizens worked their way into a favourable position, Hall trying to burst through. Cinderford rushed to the half-way, and then a splendid piece of footwork by Gloucester saw Halford drop on the ball for a try. Hamblin failed to convert.

Cinderford were now in difficulties, a repassing movement by Gloucester ending with a repass to Baker who made a futile drop at goal.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester	1 try
Cinderford	1 try

Halford restarted the game, Watkins replying finely well inside the Gloucester half. The Gloucester front got going and rushed to the home 25. Bowkett, Powell, and Bevan worked the ball out of danger, but Walwin was safe, and with a useful punt confined the Foresters to their own half.

Hamblin and Hall combined nicely in a short passing movement, but the tackling was sure. Crossing the half-way mark, Woodford passed out to Meek, who made a nice slice of ground. Then Gloucester came away, and a mull by a Forester gave Sysum a chance, and he made no mistake, crossing with a try. Hamblin again failed to goal.

The drop out saw the game contested at mid-field. Gloucester passed, but Meek pulled the movement up, and a moment later Watkins shone with a splendid bit of individual play. Then the home team got a footing in Gloucester territory, and Woolford worked the "dummy," and only a forward pass to Meek prevented a score by the latter.

The Foresters now had a good footing in Gloucester territory, and a fine passing movement resulted in Bevan crossing, but the referee ruled the final pass forward, a decision which was very unpopular. A portion of the spectators got rather noisy, feelings running high, and the game was stopped for a few minutes to allow things to cool down.

Bowkett placed Cinderford in a dangerous position with a fine punt to the corner flag. Following a scrum in front of the Citizens' posts Woolford passed out to Meek, and the clever little half dropped a neat goal.

A. Hall initiated a movement which finished in the home half, and Gloucester worked desperately hard to score again, but the Foresters' excelled themselves and succeeded in keeping them out. A rush by Cinderford was finely checked by Lewis. Midfield was now the scene of operations, and Cinderford were penalised, but the kick gained Gloucester little advantage, and gradually the home team gained ground. The final whistle came with Cinderford winners.

RESULT :

Cinderford 1 goal (d) 1 try (7 points)
Gloucester 2 tries (6 points)

REMARKS.

Our Cinderford correspondent says : It was a great struggle, and the pace was terrific. Outside the scrum Gloucester were more clever, but Woolford and Meek fairly beat Hill and Baker, Woolford working the dummy cleverly on several occasions. The home forwards were at the top of their form, and although the Gloucester eight were good the palm lay with the homesters.

Lodge had extremely hard lines in not being awarded a try, for he touched down before the 'Cestrian. All things considered Cinderford deserved their win, and although the Citizens played a great game, the Foresters were the better side.

It was a regrettable incident that the crowd did not take the referee's ruling kindly when Bevan crossed. Meek's goal was a splendid effort and received well-deserved applause.

GLOUCESTER A v. OLD BOYS

SCRAMBLING GAME AT KINGSHOLM

SECONDS WIN EASILY

This was the Seconds' last match of the season at Kingsholm, and with a ground record to maintain, and a defeat of 8 points to nil to avenge, the A team were naturally very keen on the game.

There were two changes in the home ranks owing to Walwin and Meadows being called upon to go to Cinderford for the premiers, but the side which did duty carried every confidence.

Gloucester A. – T. Miller; T. Powell, W. Wilkes, Staunton, and F. Bloxsome; T. Burns and W. Wotton; H. G. Kingscott, A. Comley, C. Mumford, W. Dovey, J. H. Webb, J. Harris, E. Osborne, and J. Lewis.

Old Boys. – A. Marshall; J. M. Baldwin, W. Egerton, T. H. R. Lewis, and M. Lewis; A. Mackay and W. B. Dix; P. Simmonds, W. W. S. Aas, W. S. Robertson, R. Gilson, J. Gray, S. G. Bennett, J. Vance, and C. T. Coulson.

Referee : Mr. Lawrence.

The Old Boys started, and opening play was contested in the visitors' half. Penalty kicks to the Old Boys were well taken by Egerton and ground gained, and further headway was made with a good loose rush. Bloxsome saved cleverly when matters looked dangerous, and the Seconds, getting well away, transferred operations to the other end. Here Wotton was laid out with an injury to the leg, necessitating his retirement – a serious loss to the A team. Mumford took the scrum half position, and at once got the ball away, but Burns passed badly to Wilkes and nothing resulted.

Play was very scrambling, the whistle going constantly for infringements. From a long punt down by Mackay Miller failed to field, and T. Lewis racing up was only stopped in time by Wilkes, who got back and effected a good save. With the extra man forward the Old Boys controlled the ball in the scrums, but the A team showed up now and again in the loose. From one of these rushes Staunton gathered and opened out, but Wilkes fumbled, and later there was a lot more faulty handling.

Holder was prominent with a good breakaway for the Old Boys, but Bloxsome again came to the rescue of his side, though there was an element of luck in getting in a flying kick clear of his opponents. The Seconds gradually made their way to the Old Boys' 25, where from a penalty Burns landed a fine goal.

Resuming, play continued to favour the Seconds, but there was an absence of finish. The forwards got in a dashing burst which took the home team close, and following a nice opening by Burns, Staunton raced over with a good try. The place-kick failed.

On the re-start there was an occasional smart movement, but the back play was very feeble. Mumford was anything but a success at the scrum, and the Seconds' three-quarters got little to do. It was from a wild pass that the visitors worked down to the home half, where Dix started a round of passing, but Baldwin was collared before he could move.

A lot of loose forward play ensued in which neither side gained any advantage, but the Old Boys being penalised Burns kicked another fine goal. This gave Gloucester A the substantial lead of nine points, but they were not with it on the play. There was no improvement in subsequent play, and half-time came with the score unaltered.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester A 2 goals (p) 1 try
Old Boys Nil

One would have thought a better arrangement could have been made than retaining Mumford at half-back when the game resumed, but the old order was continued, with no improvement in the play. The game generally had the "end-of-the-seasonitis" about it, the players on both sides appearing totally unable to settle down to anything like decent football.

The Seconds had the better of the exchanges, but fumbling was frequent when in a scoring position. Powell eventually relieved the monotony with a smart individual effort, which ended in his scoring in the corner. Burns failed with the place-kick.

The Old Boys were immediately on the defensive when the game was resumed, and Bloxsome, charging down a kick, gathered the ball and scored easily. No goal resulted.

Only a few minutes elapsed ere Gloucester added to their score, Burns kicking his third penalty goal – another splendid effort. The game continued to be a hopeless scramble, with not a solitary feature, and the end came as a pleasant relief.

RESULT :

Gloucester A ... 3 goals (p), 3 tries (18 points)
Old Boy's Nil