

THE CITIZEN

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1920

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER'S FOURTH VICTORY OVER CHELTENHAM

TOWN FORWARDS PLAY HARD GAME

Gloucester and Cheltenham met at Kingsholm on Tuesday afternoon for the fourth time this season. In the three previous games – all won by Gloucester – the City aggregated 64 points to 9. The start was delayed owing to the Gloucester team being incomplete, A. Hall failing to put in an appearance. Hayes, who did not intend to play, filled the vacancy.

Teams : –

Gloucester : G. Welshman; N. Daniell, T. Millington, A. Hudson, and S. A. Brown; W. Dix and J. Humphries; G. Holford, F. Ayliffe, S. Smart, F. Ward, S. Bayliss, E. Richardson, F. Mansell.[*sic*]

Cheltenham : B. Davy; W. Fennell, H. Rudge, H. Hughes, and W. Watson; B. S. Bloodworth and P. Speck; H. Wixey, J. Gardner, E. Taylor, W. Burford, G. Taylor, F. Jackett, B. Dimond, and J. Cocks.

Referee : Mr. Hancock, Bristol.

THE GAME

Gloucester started, and play was at once taken to the Town half. From a scrum Humphries gathered neatly, and feinting to pass beat Rudge and Hughes, and finally sending a pass to Hudson, who had a "walk over" for a try. Welshman converted with a fine kick, Gloucester being five points up within three minutes of the kick-off.

Resuming, the Cheltenham forwards showed up with some dashing footwork which took play down to Welshman. Gloucester quickly worked back, and Dix opened out cleverly, but the movement was checked. Cheltenham made headway with another fine forward burst, and Welshman was called upon to defend. In subsequent play Cheltenham went very close, but relief came by the aid of the Gloucester forwards, who, with Dix, dribbled to Davy, who checked in daring fashion. Gloucester got away again immediately after, but were stopped, and in turn Cheltenham rushed to the other end and over the line, a minor being conceded.

Play now hovered near the centre, where Dix and Humphries served the threes nicely, but Hudson was partly tackled, and his pass was not taken. Gloucester attacked strongly in the next few minutes, but Davy saved twice splendidly. From this point Cheltenham cleared in effective style, and the Gloucester end was visited. The ball was once got over the line, but Welshman ran it out and sent to touch.

Dix was instrumental in changing the venue with a clever touch-finder, and later the same player sent Daniell away on the short side of the scrum. When he faced Davy the wing man cross-kicked beautifully to the open field. Millington was all alone with a certain try, but in taking the ball he slipped and fell.

Dix was again in evidence a minute later, serving Brown on the left cleverly. The latter made a sharp dash for the corner, but just failed to reach the mark. A Cheltenham forward, with a strong run, eased the pressure, and long kicking took the visitors further down. Inside the Gloucester 25 Dix got the ball away, and after all the backs had handled Daniell raced away. He punted over Davy's head, and Ayliffe, being well up, gathered the ball, and was going over the line when the referee whistled for off-side – a very questionable decision.

Cheltenham worked to the centre, and with a passing run Fennell reached the home 25 before being upset. Gloucester responded with a clever bit of combined work which enabled Hudson to have a clear field with the exception of Davy. But the centre hesitated and passed forward.

Cheltenham rushed well after this, and gained a good footing in the home 25. Bloodworth, receiving from his forwards, sent a nice pass to Watson, who easily beat Welshman and ran over behind the posts. Davy converted and Cheltenham drew level.

Ensuing play favoured Cheltenham, and from a charge down of a kick by Dix Dimond had a clear opening. But the Cheltenham player made two attempts in taking the ball, and the referee called him back for a knock-on; very hard lines. Cheltenham had the better of the play to the interval.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester	1 goal
Cheltenham	1 goal

The game was resumed, and in some keen tackling amongst the forwards Jackett was laid out, but was able to continue after a brief rest.

Cheltenham heeling, Bloodworth opened out, but a pass checked the movement, and Millington dribbled away to Davy, who saved with a flying kick to touch. Scrappy play followed until a penalty to Gloucester was well taken by Welshman, who sent well inside the Town half.

The City now got the ball out, but the threes fumbled badly and nothing resulted. At length Dix, spotting an opening on the blind side, ran round and served Brown, who after covering a short distance tried a punt, but he missed the ball. Dix, however, was on the scene, and picking up gave Brown another transfer and enabled the latter to score easily. Welshman added the goal points.

On the resumption, Millington was conspicuous with a fine run straight up the field to Davy. Holford was in attendance and receive a nice pass, but the captain was pounced upon from behind by Hughes and Cheltenham save the situation. Gloucester played up strongly after this, and twice in quick succession the Town narrowly escaped.

Keeping up the pressure, Gloucester attacked resolutely, but Cheltenham defended gallantly, the tackling being terrific. For a scrum infringement Cheltenham were penalised, and for arguing with the referee, Speck (the Cheltenham half-back) was ordered off. Welshman only just failed to land a goal. Gloucester were in a good attacking position, and from a long pass out Hudson took the ball and romped over between the posts for Welshman to kick a goal.

After this score Hudson brought off a grand "solo" run, in the course of which he rounded the opposition and reached Davy. He then tried a nice inside pass to Brown, but the latter failed to accept with an open goal. Gloucester, however, scored again a few minutes later. Dix initiated the movement near the centre, and though Brown was tackled outside Humphries picked up and put the ball over the mark. Welshman's shot for goal hit the upright.

Cheltenham restarted, but Gloucester were playing a winning game now. Humphries cutting up the field drew the defence, and then transferred wide to Hudson, who took the ball on the bounce and ran over behind the posts. Welshman landed a goal. This was all the scoring.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER 4 goals 1 try (23 points)

CHELTENHAM 1 goal (5 points)