

## MATCH REPORT

### AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS V ENGLAND U19 SOUTH REGIONAL ACADEMY

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Hartpury College, Gloucester

The Australian Schoolboys have suffered a 36 – 10 loss against England Under 19 Regional Academy at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire in the penultimate rugby match of their tour to the UK and Ireland on Wednesday. Australia were made to pay for a couple of early handling errors and were behind 12-nil after 19 minutes and left to play catch-up for the remainder of their six-tries-to-two loss.

At the initial Kick off Jack Kimmince was able to pilfer the ball from the English hands and it appeared the Australians may be able to score some early points. Unfortunately it was soon turned over and England was able to cross the Australian line out wide in the sixth minute. With an unsuccessful conversion attempt the score was 0 – 5. Captain and half back, Matt Lucas, took a long range penalty attempt in 13<sup>th</sup> minute, but in the muddy conditions, the ball did not get the distance.

Just as the Australians were launching their first real attacking opportunity and stretching the defence, the England winger intercepted an Australian pass and sprinted the 80 metres to score under the posts which was converted taking the score to 0 – 12.

In the 23<sup>rd</sup> minute Schoolboys No.8 Nathan Paila opened the scoring for the visitors when he crossed for his first try of the tour. Some good lead up work with Jack Kimmince, Curtis Browning working hard at the breakdown to get the home side going backwards. 5 - 14.

England replied in the 28<sup>th</sup> minute with their winger Alex Lewington finding some space out wide from a mid field turnover to cross the line taking the score to 5 – 19. In the final minute of the half, England crossed the tourist's line for the fourth time making it 5 – 24 at the break.

In the fourteenth minute, England scored their fifth try of the game, making it virtually impossible for the Australians to catch up with a 5 – 29 score line. Undaunted however, Schoolboys flanker Curtis Browning hit back to put Australia into double figures with a try in the 57th minute after some strong driving work by the Australian forwards. England scored their second and last try of the half in the 60<sup>th</sup> minute with a conversion final score was 10 – 36.

The last 10 minutes was a dour affair. With the courageous schoolboys, ravaged by several injuries during the match, never gave up. There were several chances for the Australians to score, only to be thwarted by the tenacious defence that forced turnovers.

Schoolboys coach Rob Nowlan said the scoreboard wasn't reflective of the close battle on the field.

“Our boys are very proud to wear the gold jersey and they played with good spirit and never left the contest. I was particularly pleased with our performance in the second half, especially at the set piece.”

**REGIONAL ACADEMIES 36** (Alex Lewington 2, Henry Staff, Earl Collins, Sam Edgerley tries; Sam Stanley 3 cons) def. **AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS 10** (Nathan Paila, Curtis Browning tries)