Woking secure first league win in 2 seasons as summer of hard work pays off

Woking RFC 31 vs Mitcham & Carshalton 12

The 2022/23 season kicked off with Woking hosting old foes Mitcham and Carshalton on a bright and breezy afternoon at the Rec. Building on the success of the Richard Grady Memorial Day at the end of last season the club had a successful summer attracting plenty of new faces and some more familiar ones.



With the squad having returned to pre-season training in June the first match of the season had been a long time coming. Further heightened by the fact that, unlike their opponents, Woking had not had a single warm up match prior to this one.

Mitcham kicked off and started well with Woking looking like a new team who had yet to play together competitively. That said to a man Woking remained committed and gradually worked their way into the game. Most notably through some impressive breaks from scrum half Jordan Baker. One of which lead to the first try by Baker following some good forward play by the Woking pack. Debutant Keihlan Watson converted.

Soon after it was another debutant Robbie Elder who broke from just inside the Mitcham half to beat several defenders and out sprint the cover to go over. Visibly buoyed by their first couple of tries Woking were high in confidence and playing like a team with something to prove. Further tries followed with Baker darting over followed by Watson soon after.

After some poor Woking play and indiscipline Mitcham were able to progress into the Woking half. Following some sustained pressure Mitcham grabbed a try out wide, which was converted just before half time.

Half time: Woking 24 - 7 Mitcham & Carshalton

Woking now found themselves in unfamiliar territory having secured a try scoring bonus point and a healthy lead by the start of the second half.

There was little action of note in the opening period of the second half as both teams cancelled each other out and the game was disrupted by a series of injuries to both sides that meant it did not really flow as it had in the first half. The highlight though was Woking's 5th and final try as KJ Nissen made a breakthrough the Mitcham defence from well inside his own half to within 15 meters of the opposition line. As the full back came into tackle, Nissen nonchalantly flipped a one handed under arm pass to fellow countryman Watson who went in under the posts for his second try.

Towards the end Mitcham grabbed a late consolation try and Woking's Max Knight saw yellow for a perfect, but somewhat late tackle on the Mitcham scrum half.

Final Score: Woking 31 – 12 Mitcham & Carshalton

Woking Line-up: 1. T J Yuvidu, 2. S Kendall, 3. S Power, 4. R Benn, 5. F Hassett, 6. P Price, 7. K J Nissen, 8. M Knight, 9. J Baker (c), 10. K Watson, 11. R Henson, 12. A Colley, 13. R Elder, 14. G Nearn, 15. M McGiven Bench: 16. A Lewska, 17. O Scuthecook, 18. J Plowright

Man of the Match: J Baker

Committed Woking come up just short of upsetting title favourites.

Woking RFC 24 vs Old Hamptonians RFC 34

Looking to build on their opening day victory Woking hosted preseason title favourites Old Hamptonians RFC at Byfleet Rec. Due to injuries and unavailability the Woking starting line up was much changed from the week before with several players playing in unfamiliar positions and skipper Jacob Woods returning from a long-term injury a little earlier than planned.



Playing into a strong wind Woking knew they were up against a side who would look to run the ball from all areas of the pitch at every opportunity. Old Hamptonians didn't disappoint and did so from the off, putting the home side under pressure probing for weaknesses in the Woking defence. However, poor decision making and some committed defence from Woking meant the visitors were unable to convert their early pressure into points. It was Woking who struck first, against the run of play, with a moment of individual brilliance that left the opposition and supporters on the touchline speechless. Under pressure, just 10 meters from his own try line fly half Watson chipped over the Old Hamptonians defensive line before catching his own kick. Still in his own half there was little on but other than to take on the covering defenders which he successfully did to out sprint them to score under the posts.

Visibly buoyed by the try Woking took the game to Old Hamptonians and had a period of pressure that wasn't converted into points. Old Hamptonians made Woking pay for this with a good team try that saw their winger score out wide. With just 2 points in it Old Hamptonians came back hard looking to make the most of the conditions before the break. A second converted try soon followed and on the stroke of half time a penalty kick also.

Half Time: Woking 7 – 15 Old Hamptonians

Rattled by Woking's performance in the first half Old Hamptonians started the second half strongly. Once again, they pushed Woking back and this time were able to make the pressure count with a third converted try. It looked ominous for Woking that the early season favourites were starting to go through the gears.

However, unlike previous seasons Woking didn't crumble and lead by skipper Woods they worked their way up to within 10 metres of the visitor's line. Several good phases of forward play and several infringements putting the defence on the back foot eventually paid off as Woods crashed over from a couple of metres out.

Woking continued to take the game to their opponents and just a couple of minutes later, some quick thinking from KJ Nissen as Woking were awarded another penalty saw him score. Conversion was missed.

As the game approached the final quarter Woking had fought back to within just 5 points and believed that the game was theirs for taking. However, it wasn't to be as on their own try line a clearance kick was charged down from which Old Hamptonians were able to score a converted try. A final try for the visitors followed as Woking were forced into further changes due to injuries.

Continuing with their never say die attitude Woking finished strongly with some strong running from Romelfanger taking them up to the try line. Following several phases of good forward play the opportunity was created for Worrell-Thompson to burst over securing the home side a well-deserved try scoring bonus point. Watson converted the try with the final kick off the game.

Final Score: Woking 24 – 34 Old Hamptonians

"12 months ago, this side beat us by over 100 points. The passion and commitment the squad showed today was immense considering the changes we had to make. Changes which meant we couldn't get our best players at the breakdown into the game which would have made a big difference, especially in the first half. I'm disappointed to lose but not in the manner of the defeat. There are things to improve on but I am really happy with how everyone pulled together and just reinforces everyone's belief within the club that the hard work is paying off and we are on the right track ".

Jacob Woods, Woking Captain

Man of the Match: C Wallis

Woking make hard work of victory but move up to second in table.

Woking RFC 26 vs Egham Hollowegians RFC 20

On a bright but blustery afternoon Woking RFC hosted Egham Hollowegians at Byfleet Rec. Playing into the wind first half Woking took a few minutes to hit their stride as once again players were asked to step into unfamiliar positions. As the game developed so did Woking's confidence and they started becoming the dominant side with forwards and backs linking up well to put Egham on the back foot. Evergreen second row Shaun Gilbert caught the eye with some direct running which almost lead to him scoring the first try on a couple of occasions, only to be denied by some last ditch defending and questionable decision making by the officials.



Woking pressure finally told when fly half Watson collected his deftly executed grubber kick to take out the Egham defence before passing to scrum half Baker to go in under the posts. Watson converted to give Woking an early lead to the enjoyment of a healthy home support. Now firmly on top Woking scored a second try through Watson who continued his run of scoring in every game so far.

Rather than press home their dominance Woking deviated from the game plan that had given them their early success and allowed Egham into the game. With frustration growing in their own performance and some decisions not going their way Woking found themselves camped in their own half for the remainder of the half. Egham finally got on the scoreboard shortly before break with a penalty.

Half time: Woking 14 – 3 Egham



The break gave Woking the chance to regroup and with the words from skipper Woods ringing in their ears and the wind behind them the home side started the second half strongly taking the game to Egham. Egham were reduced to 14 with a yellow card and with Woods leading by example Woking made their numerical advantage count as he crashed over from short range. Watson converted. However, good Egham defence, injuries and ill-discipline meant any momentum Woking had built up was once again lost allowing the visitors to work their way back in the game. A further Egham

penalty followed and shortly after their first try with a fortuitous ricochet forward of several players that went unseen.

With a sense of injustice about the Egham try Woking struggled to recover the performance levels that had got them in front. With the game in the balance Woking centre Rose was yellow carded for dissent following some questionable Egham tackling. Now in the ascendency and with the numerical advantage Egham sensed the opportunity to get their noses in front. To a man Woking hung in there and were finally able to relieve the pressure with some exceptional running from their own half by winger Henson, who had been a handful all afternoon, and full back McGiven.

Once back at full strength Woking flanker Price scored his first try for the club, claiming a try bonus point, following some good play by the Woking pack. Despite a late error leading to Egham scoring the final try of the match Woking were able to see the match out and move up to second in Surrey Counties 5.

Final Score: Woking 26 – 20 Egham Hollowegians

Man of the Match: Ross Henson

'Once again, I am pleased to win but not so much with how the game went. Having started so well and getting in front we should have reacted and managed the game better when decisions didn't go our way. We lost focus and made much harder work of the game than was necessary, but we must remember we are still a new team who can learn from this afternoon and benefit from it in the future.'

Jacob Woods

Reality check for Woking as visitors take the spoils.

Woking RFC 0 vs Haslemere RFC 26

Woking welcomed old rivals Haslemere to Byfleet rec for a fourth consecutive home game of the 22/23 season. Having had the weekend before off Woking were able to name another strong squad. However, Woking found themselves on the back foot before they took to the field due to several late arrivals due to several players work commitments.



Playing into a strong wind they couldn't have got off to a worse start. Starting the match, Woking kicked off to Haslemere who set a solid platform. They then exposed an overlap on the left-hand side to score under the posts within 2 minutes.

Falling well below the standards that they had set during the opening month of the season captain Jacob Woods read the riot act in effort to galvanise his. The skipper's words had the desired impact as Woking settled into the game. Woods once again led from the front with strong running, aided by Dave Garvey and Lucas Romelfanger, all supplied by good ball from the half back combination of Jordan Baker and Mark Rose.

This allowed Woking to get into Haslemere territory. Unfortunately, all too often Woking went into contact without support which allowed Haslemere to turn over ball and utilise a dangerous counterattack. It was only down to some fine defensive play from full back, and man of the match, Marc McGiven that saved Woking on more than one occasion. Eventually the home sides resistance was broken as Haslemere grabbed two late tries before half time.

Half time: Woking 0 – 19 Haslemere

With the wind behind them in the second half, Woking managed to make progress deep into Haslemere territory. As the hosts performance improved Ross Henson continued his fine form following his man of the match performance on the wing as he looked dangerous whenever he had the ball in hand. There was a devastating break by centre Keihlan Watson, linking with compatriot Nissen that eventually saw hooker Nearn bundled into touch in the Haslemere 22.

Despite Woking's best efforts the visitors continued to turnover numerous attacks which in turn created pressure with their dangerous counter attacking style. Eventually, Woking were made to pay as Haslemere scored a fourth try for their efforts. In attempt to make a difference, debutant Josh Claydon came on for Baker, Shaun Gilbert for Richard Benn and Matt Brennan for Phil Price all to no avail.

Final Score: Woking 0 – 26 Haslemere

Jacob Woods reflecting on the performance after the game "Although the score doesn't reflect it, we played some good rugby at times against an experienced and well drilled Haslemere team. There are a lot of good individual performances, however we need to focus on playing as a team if we are to have a serious shot at pushing for promotion this year. We have two tricky games now on the road so will regroup at training on Tuesday and take it from there."

Man of the Match: Marc McGiven

Afternoon to forget for Woking as they slip to defeat against bottom club.

Wandsworthians RFC 27 vs Woking RFC 0

Woking made the short journey up the A3 to take on Wandsworthains for their first, and long overdue away fixture of the 2022/23 season. Looking to bounce back from a disappointing home defeat the previous week Woking travelled to the leagues bottom club with a much-changed squad due to many players being unavailable through injury, work, or personal commitments.



On a bright but blustery afternoon Woking kicked off into a strong wind looking to avoid a repeat of the slow start they had been guilty of the previous Saturday. Despite the many changes and players playing out of position the visitors dominated the early exchanges without really making deep inroads to Wandsworthians territory.

The hosts who had yet to win this season and failed to field a side the previous 2 weeks took their time to find their feet. As they grew into the game they were aided by a number of penalties against Woking which allowed them to camp in their 22m. Excellent defensive work by Phil Price and KJ Nissen prevented Wandsworthians on more than one occasion.

With the penalty count growing Wandsworthains pressure paid off as they finally breached the overstretched Woking defence. Soon after Wandsworthians extended their lead with further tries as Woking were penalised for a wide variety of offenses and at times baffling decisions.

The second half continued in much the same vein. To a man Woking remained committed but were never allowed to get a foothold in the game or build up any momentum. Visibly buoyed with the way the game was going and cheered on by a vocal home crowd Wandsworthians killed the game off with further tries whilst Woking were down to 14 following a yellow card for Lucas Romelfanger. All in all, it was an afternoon to forget for Woking and one they will be looking to move on from quickly.

Captain Jacob Woods, 'This was a tough one to take, two poor results in a row. A lot of decisions went against us. We have a fortnight until the next game when a few more players will be able to return. We need to respond better in adversity and when things go against us. I believe with the group of players we have there will be a response and we will return to winning ways sooner rather than later',

Woking return to winning ways.

Woking RFC 41 vs Wandsworthians RFC 34

After several weeks without a competitive fixture due to a combination of fixture scheduling, player availability and weather conditions, Woking returned to Surrey Counties 5 league action hosting Wandsworthians RFC. With their usual home ground at Byfleet Rec unavailable for the foreseeable future the game was held at neighbours Chobham RFC.



Despite losing skipper Jacob Woods on the morning of the match due to illness, vice-captain Marc McGiven had a full squad at his disposal as the club welcomed back several familiar faces as well as some new ones. Woking were also looking to avenge the 27-0 defeat they experienced earlier in the season and pick up their first league win since October 1st 2022.

Woking made a strong start to the game with a solid platform set by the forwards. This allowed outside half Elvis Fitzgerald to sail through a gap in the defence, only to be brought down short with a high tackle resulting in a penalty try being awarded and the Wandsworthians player being shown a yellow card.

A penalty try wasn't needed a few minutes later when second row Pip Butcher tore through the opposition defence beating several tackle attempts. The ball was spun out to centre Shaun Gilbert who scored in the corner.

Visibly rattled with the intensity of Woking's play Wandsworthians were also becoming increasingly frustrated with a number of refereeing decision going against them. This resulted in another yellow

card with the visitors scrum half being sent to the bin for dissent. Woking used their numerical advantage and continued to build up the points with a brilliant solo effort from flanker Josh Claydon, and debutant winger, Mike Dower following some great hands by the Woking back line.

With the half ending Woking's numerical and points advantage was reduced. Firstly, centre Matt Armstrong was lucky not to be shown a red card for a high tackle on his opposite number, only receiving a yellow. From the resulting penalty and further infractions by the hosts which resulted in a series of tap penalties, Wandsworthians were able to get a try back. They continued to apply pressure before some welcome half time respite.

Half time: Woking 29 – 7 Wandsworthians

Turning around with a comfortable scoreline in their favor, Woking were guilty of complacency in both the loose and tight exchanges of play. Despite this they started the second half started brightly with some strong phase play from the forwards allowing Pip Butcher lurking in midfield to utilise an overlap and touch down under the posts. Rhys Parker added the extras.

This was to be the end though as Wandsworthians took the game to Woking, regularly cutting holes in the defence and scoring some fine tries. Fine defensive efforts from full back Marc McGiven and flanker Phil Price prevented further tries being conceded. Woking went back upfield and Phil Price got a try from a series of forward pressure, but Wandsworthians were to have the last word by returning to the Woking half and scoring a converted try with the final play of the match.

Reflecting on the match Chairman and Head Coach Andy Jones said after the game "We went to sleep in the second half and did our best to throw a much-needed win away. A lack of match fitness and the larger dimensions of the Chobham pitch were also a factor. The final 5 minutes were a lot more nerve shredding than they should have been. However, I think if we can play like we did in the first 30 for 80 minutes in our remaining games, we have a lot to look forward to. A big thanks to Chobham RFC for hosting us, hopefully it won't be too much longer before we can return to Byfleet Rec".

Final Score: Woking RFC 41 – 34 Wandsworthians RFC

Man of the Match: T J Yuvidu

A TOUGH AFTERNOON ENDS IN DEFEAT FOR THE HOSTS

Woking RFC 7 vs Raynes Park RFC 41

Looking to build on their previous week's victory Woking were once again hosted by neighbours Chobham RFC for what was their last home match of the regular league season.



A sign of things to come Woking were forced into a late change when hooker Scott Kendall dropped out with an injury picked up during the warm up, forcing a reshuffle that saw Matt Armstrong move from the centres to cover the front row. Woking started brightly and played some controlled rugby in the Raynes Park half.

Captain Jacob Woods who missed last week's fixture due to illness was proving a handful making several runs which punched holes in the visitor's defence, taking Woking deep into the Raynes Park 22. Under pressure it was ill-discipline which forced Raynes Park to concede an early penalty. Woking opted for the lineout and attempted a rolling maul; however, it was disrupted by Raynes Park who managed to win back possession and clear their lines.

Having weathered the early Woking pressure, Raynes Park settled into the game, getting onto the front foot, and forcing Woking back deep into their half. There was some respite for hosts as they capitalised on Raynes Park errors and in discipline to work their way back up field. However, errors and some impressive tactical kicking from the Raynes Park half backs, which included several 50-22m kicks meant any possession and territory Woking did get was quickly lost.

Despite some fine defence, the continuous Raynes Park pressure finally paid off as they scored first with a looping cross field pass to their winger who crashed over in the corner. They were to try this again a few minutes later, however winger Adam Fenton got a hand to the pass and tapped down to skipper Jacob Woods who had the pace to run the length of the pitch to score from inside his own 22m and score under the posts. Rhys Parker added the conversion to give Woking a 7-5 lead somewhat against the run of play.

For the remainder of the first half, Woking played well in spells with some strong running from all the forwards created a good platform for chances to be created. However, there were far too many individual errors, lapses in concentration and instances of indiscipline which Raynes Park took full advantage of in ruthless fashion to build a substantial lead in a short space of time.

The afternoon went from bad to worse for Woking. Firstly, a serious shoulder injury to fly half Marc McGiven forced Woking into a further reshuffle as they used their final replacement. The reshuffle meant several players throughout the team were now playing out of position. Woking managed to see out the half going into half time trailing 29-7.

The half time message from captain Woods was clear. Forget what has happened, improve concentration and discipline. Stop making it too easy for your opponents!

Again, Woking started the second half brightly and again the forwards set a solid base for several breaks to be made in midfield. Unfortunately, each time, Raynes Park managed to scramble their defence and the Woking support play wasn't able to quite keep up or convert the territory in to points. Then in the space of just a few minutes Woking were to suffer a series of injuries that forced off winger Adam Fenton, flanker Josh Claydon and prop Yuvi Jagoda. With no further substitutes available Woking did their best to continue with 12 men.

Playing against an opponent with a significant numerical advantage Woking were forced to hold onto the ball for dear life. With the odds against them, this last ditch approach appeared to be working as Raynes Park looked surprised at the waves of attacks coming at them. However, the Woking resurgence proved to be short lived and unsustainable with so many players missing. Raynes Park simply waited for Woking to turnover possession to score a 2 more tries. The last of which was from their winger who completed his hat trick as the Raynes Park forwards once again snaffled a loose ball and took advantage of their extra men with an overlap down the blind side to score in the corner.

Final Score: Woking 7 – 41 Raynes Park

Captain Jacob Woods commented "On the whole I can't fault the commitment of the boys to stick it out, especially in the 2nd half and show glimpses of the kind of rugby we can play. For the remaining games, I really want us to work on discipline and concentration as that is what put us out of this match today when the sides were even. We have 3 league games left and I am determined to get points out of these."

Man of the Match: Ross Henson

DEPLETED WOKING SUFFER MORE INJURY WOE AND DEFEAT.

Reigate RFC 33 vs Woking RFC 0

A depleted Woking XV missing as many 9 first choice players through injury made the trip over to East Surrey to take on old rivals Reigate. Despite the threadbare squad, Woking were able to name a full starting 15.



With the odds stacked against them it was clear that all were motivated for the task in hand, and this showed from the first kick with Woking being aggressive in attack and defence. Notable work coming from Captain Jacob Woods leading by example and backed up ably by fellow back rower Phil Price and Woking veterans Matt Armstrong and Rory Blundell.

Unfortunately, within the first 5 minutes Woking found themselves down to 14 men as their injury curse struck yet again when they lost in form winger Ross Henson to a dislocated shoulder following a fine try saving tackle in the corner.

The numerical disadvantage did not stop Woking who continued to repel the big Reigate pack. However, their resistance was finally broken after 25 minutes with a cleverly worked try that deceived the Woking defenders, drawing them across field to create enough space for a Reigate forward to crash over from short range.

Woking did return to a full complement of 15 players following the late arrival of Yuvi Jagoda due to work commitments but no sooner had this happened they went down to 14 players as hooker Rory Blundell was yellow carded for a late tackle.

This time Reigate managed to take advantage of their man advantage scoring two quick tries before half time as the game became more stretched and frenetic.

Half time: Reigate 19 – 0 Woking

The halftime message from Woods was for Woking to retain the ball better, build the phases up field at their own pace. Confident that there was enough within the team to give their hosts problems, which they did. Once again Woking started the half well and looked good with the ball in hand putting together some nice phase play. However, pressure from the Reigate defence as well as the damp conditions resulted in a high number of individual errors and turnovers for both sides which disrupted the flow of the game.

Mid way through the half Woking did almost get on the scoresheet after some strong phase play by their forwards in midfield created an opportunity for centre Mike Hume to break down the far touchline before being tackled a metre short of the line by the Reigate fullback. Unfortunately, with one or two Woking players picking up knocks as the game entered the final stages and unable to bring on any replacements, they manfully continued to see the game out for the team. Reigate were able to take advantage, bringing on a full complement of replacements and fresh legs which helped them to score two late tries taking the final score to 33-0.

Final Score: Reigate 33 – 0 Woking

After the game captain Jacob Woods said "I don't feel the scoreline reflects today's game. Nor can I believe the extent of our injury list this season, its never ending and at its current rate we will be lucky to get a sevens side out! However, every single player can take heart from this performance after giving 110%. We now have a week off and can hopefully get one or two back for our last couple of league games of the season. With players returning and a bit of luck, it'll be hard, but I remain confident we can win those games."

Man of the Match: Phil Price

WINNING END TO SEASON AS WOKING COMPLETE RARE LEAGUE DOUBLE.

Mitcham & Carshalton RFC 5 vs Woking RFC 40

Woking made the trip up the A3 on Saturday for their final league game of the season to face Mitcham and Carshalton RFC. Having had to concede the previous weekend fixture due to a crippling injury list that left the squad with just 9 fit and available players Woking were able to name a full side with several replacements despite a number of absences due to work, injury and it being a Six Nations weekend.



Woking welcomed back several familiar faces into the pack which included veteran front row Alisdair Hamilton-Wilkes, Martin Phillips, John Neill Dickie and Kawon Kim. All making their first appearances of the season. It meant flanker Phil Price moved to outside half with Rhys Parker continuing in his new role at scrum half.

From the start and given the sides lowly league position it was clear that both teams were up for this game and wanted to finish a tough season on a high. Prior to kick off a minute's silence was held in memory of Woking Life Vice-President Justin Key, who suddenly passed away the previous week. As a further tribute to him Woking donned the clubs original blue and gold colours for the match.

Woking kicked off and were on it from the start. They quickly recovered the ball and played in a composed, yet aggressive manner forcing Mitcham whenever they attacked to turn over ball with Jacob Woods and Hamilton-Wilkes prominent in making it happen. The hosts had little answer and

Woking took advantage, following a big tackle from Jacob Woods which caused the ball to spill to a grateful Phil Price who burst through the scattered midfield before beating the full back to score the first try of the match. Rhys Parker adding the extras.

It wasn't long before Woking added the second, with confidence flowing through the team and a powerful pack putting pressure on Mitcham at the scrum, it enabled back row Spencer Hudson to break and charge down the Mitcham clearance before collecting the ball to score.

It was at this point where things could have gone very differently for Woking and the faults that had been an issue throughout the season started to reappear as concentration and discipline levels dropped. This resulted in a number of penalties being conceded for high tackles, hampered by further backchat to the officials, meant Woking found themselves defending a lineout on their 5-metre line.

However, the visitors didn't buckle and a fine effort to sack the line out by Hamilton-Wilkes allowed Woking to turnover and counter with captain Jacob Woods breaking through the hosts defensive line. Mitcham's scrambled defence did eventually bring him down but outside half Price was in close support to collect the pass and score his second and Woking's third.

Half time: Mitcham & Carshalton 0 – 19 Woking

The message from Woods at half time was "to maintain the pressure and play sensible rugby". This is exactly what Woking did setting some good phrase play through the forwards following the restart. Mitcham with the wind behind them were also determined to reduce the arrears and get on the scoreboard and pushed Woking back into their 22.

However, more excellent defensive work by Price lead to a Woking penalty. With the referee playing advantage the ball was worked along the back line and from deep in their own half which allowed winger Andy Morrison to make his way up the pitch in to the opponents 22. With support from Kim and centre Michael Hume, Woods made the break and following some fine inter-play with winger Andy Morrison took Woking close to the try line. Supporting forwards allowed the ball to be recycled quickly and again Price was on hand to complete his hattrick with a simple try under the posts.

The Woking forwards continued to make the hard yards, and this set a great platform for centre Michael Hume to get a well-deserved try for a strong all round performance in attack and defence and Hudson bagged his second a few minutes from time, capitalising on an opponents error to canter in unopposed. A quick tap penalty close to the Woking line in the final moments did allow Mitcham to get a consolation score as Woking switched off.

Full time: Mitcham & Carshalton 5 – 40 Woking

Captain Jacob Woods commented" I'm delighted with how today has gone. At last we played for a full 80 mins and got our rewards for an all-around team effort. It's not been an easy season and there have been some hard times but we finish on a positive going into cup games and a summer break. The key for the summer will be to get injured players back to 100%, recruit hard to build up the squad and get some of our occasional members involved a more often."

Man of the Match: Phil Price