

Woking kick off new season with comprehensive win

Woking RFC 64 - 7 Raynes Park RFC

Woking kicked off their Surrey Counties 5 season against a Raynes Park side that finished one place above them in third last season. Featuring several debutants Woking took the game to their opponents running nine tries in a comprehensive win.



Photo by Turner-Wells Photography

The impressive Keihlan Watson and winger Charlie Goddard opened their accounts for the season grabbing four and two tries respectively. Not to be out done the Woking forwards got in on the act with a try apiece for captain Jacob Woods, Spencer Hudson, as well as debutant James Turner-Wells.

Although, man of the match went to number 8 John Neil-Dickie for an all-action display.

Post match skipper Woods said, “We’ve worked hard and recruited well over the summer, especially up front. That made a difference today as Raynes Park are usually a big and physical side. Whilst it was a good performance, we were not at our best. We were missing several players, so it is reassuring to see the strength in depth we had and even more exciting to know there is improvements to come”.

Final score: Woking RFC 64 - 7 Raynes Park RFC

Woking made to work hard as they secure maximum points

Woking RFC 44 vs Egham Hollowegians RFC 36

On a perfect day for rugby Woking RFC hosted Egham Hollowegians at Byfleet Rec. The hosts were looking to build on their opening day win whilst the visitors were looking to bounce back from defeat the previous weekend.



Egham started the match and from the outset Woking found themselves on back foot as they failed to deal with the kick off, giving away easy field position. Nothing came of it in what was an evenly contested opening period.

Woking struck first when fly half Carl Jacobz crossed following some sustained Woking pressure. Within just a few minutes Egham responded with a try out wide following poor defence from Woking. Egham's response spurred Woking into action with tries from full back Adam Quinn converted by Jacobz, who followed this up with a penalty. James Turner-Wells then broke from his own half to outpace the visitor's defence and round the final defender to go in under the posts. Center Finley Rowe secured the home side a try bonus point as he crossed following some good play by the Woking back line.

Leading 27-5 and with half time approaching Woking were guilty of taking their foot off the gas and allowing their opponents back into the game as Egham got a converted try of their own.

Half time: Woking 27 - 12 Egham

Woking continued the scoring within a couple of minutes of the restart as number 8 John Dickie grabbed his first try of the season following several phases of forward. Egham hit back immediately as their back line scored from deep following some good handling.

With the game resembling a basketball match, the hosts grabbed the next try through prop Joe Griggs which Jacobz converted to make 39 - 12. Egham scored again, before James Turner-Wells grabbed his second of the afternoon following another strong run from deep in the Egham half. Yet again Egham responded with a try from deep as they struggled to deal with their opponents outside centre who took his personal tally to 4 tries.

Leading 44 – 24 with 10 minutes to go Woking were unable to see the game out and had withstand constant pressure as they were forced into changes due to injury and tired. Egham took advantage scoring 2 more tries, converting one of them to complete the scoring.

Final score: Woking RFC 44 - 36 Egham Hollowegians

Vice-Captain, Matt Ralph who led the side in the absence of skipper Jacob Woods said, 'Credit to the squad for digging in, we had to hold on at the end and credit to Egham for never giving up. We should have seen the game out better; we will learn and be stronger for this game. The fact that so many of the lads feel disappointed despite securing maximum points is testament to the standards we have set ourselves over the summer and opening couple of fixtures'

Frustrating afternoon as Woking suffer first defeat of the season

Staines RFC 31 vs Woking RFC 12

Heading into match week three of the Surrey Counties 5 season, it was second against third as Woking visited Staines in the league for the first time in over twenty years following their hosts relegation last season.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

Both sides were able to name a full squad of twenty although Woking were missing a couple of key players due to injuries picked up in their previous victory over Egham. However, led by skipper Jacob Woods they were able to field a strong line up, demonstrating the progress of the club in recent seasons.

Woking started brightly and showed good intention early on. Some minor handling errors meant Staines had their share of possession but massive hits from Captain Jacob Woods and winger Gareth Nearn kept them at bay. Against the run of play after 6 minutes, Staines made a dangerous break in midfield which took them into the Woking 22m. A few pick and drives from the base of the ruck took Staines to the line and the opening score, a touchline conversion making it 7-0.

The game continued with Woking starting to show greater intent and gaining more possession and territory. They also managed to gain several penalties through frequent Staines infringements. The boot of Mike Aitchison was used to pin Staines into the corner and the large Woking pack was used to maul from the lineout. Unfortunately, whatever questions Woking asked in attack, Staines answered with their defence. They also continued to look dangerous with breaks from deep with their backline, only fine cover defence preventing a further score. Woking's pressure continued, however disaster struck when Staines won a turnover in their 22 and took advantage of a blindside overlap. Their full back managed to weave through the back 3 and dot down under the posts, an easy conversion taking to 14 – 0 with 4 minutes to half time. Woking could have halved the deficit almost immediately but could not take advantage of a three on two opportunity deep in the Staines half.

Half time: Staines 14 - 0 Woking

The second half started in the worst possible fashion for Woking with Staines piling on early pressure. Following a scrum, the Staines centre broke through the backline and support was there to finish the move and score, another conversion took the score to 21-0. Despite this, Woking heads never dropped and put the hosts under sustained pressure, winning multiple penalties.

Woking's efforts were finally rewarded after Spencer Hudson was brought down short from a tap penalty. Quickly recycled ball resulted in scrum half Matt Ralph feeding Mike Aitchison and in turn passing to winger Gareth Nearn who dotted down in the corner making it 21-5. Woking instantly won the ball back from the kick off with player coach Mark Rose smashing into the opposition forward who required several minutes of treatment. From the scrum, number 8 John Dickie made a break but was brought back due to a Staines infringement. Woking elected to kick to touch which was a fatal mistake with the Staines fullback collecting and going on a mazy run before going clear to score again under the posts, another easy conversion took the score to 28-5.

Woking tried to mix things up with several substitutions, the fresh legs bringing new impetus to the side. Woking continued to win multiple penalties and eventually the referee lost patience and showed a yellow card to a Staines player. It was a Staines penalty that resulted in the next points with a shot at goal being taken from between the 22 and 10m taking the score to 31-5. Woking continued to work downfield and win penalty after penalty. The new strategy of scrum half Matt Ralph taking a tap ate up territory with Keiran Williamson being stopped short and John Dickie picking from the base of a ruck to crash over. Woking continued to attack and earn multiple penalties, the referee again showing a yellow to a Staines player. However, the remaining minutes played out as a stalemate before the referee called time on the afternoon's proceedings.

Full time: Staines 31 - 12 Woking

Captain Jacob Woods commented: "We knew we had to be on it today. It was a hard-fought battle between two evenly matched sides, but individual errors cost us and some individual brilliance on their side prevailed. I feel the result does not reflect the game, but we will bounce back at training ready for our trip to Wandsworthians on Saturday."

Woking bounce back with hard fought away win

Wandsworthians RFC 26 vs Woking RFC 31

Woking recorded their first away win of the season at Wandsworthians to stay in touch at the top of Surrey Counties Five. Looking to bounce back from the previous weekends defeat Woking were once again able to name another full squad despite a growing injury list, especially in the front row.



Photo taken by Joe Griggs

Cheered on by a sizeable and vocal crowd Wandsworthians took the game to Woking from the start as their much larger pack dominated the early exchanges. Woking were struggling to get to grips with the game and the much narrower pitch of their hosts.

Having weathered the early pressure Woking did grow into the game and started to put some phases of play together. Eventually Woking's patience paid off as John Dickie crossed from close range. The returning Carl Jacobz converted to make it 7 - 0.

Almost immediately Woking were penalised from the kick off enabling Wandsworthians to kick deep. From the lineout a catch and drive Woking were unable to halt the Wandsworthians pack who crossed to reduce the deficit.

Undeterred Woking played their best rugby of the match with forwards and back combining well resulting in them scoring an easy penalty and converted try, all from fly half Carl Jacobz in the final 10 minutes of the half

Half time: Wandsworthians 5 - 17 Woking

Having worked hard to build a lead Woking continued from where they left off in the first half when flanker Kieran Williamson went over from close range following several minutes of sustained pressure. The extras were added from the boot of Jacobz.

Yet again the hosts refused to give in and responded with a converted try of their own. With the game in the balance Wandsworthians continued to apply pressure and make ground with their forwards as momentum shifted in their favour. Then against the run of play the Woking pack turned the ball over quickly in their own half which saw scrum half Lewis Dudley feed Jacobz who broke the defensive line to go deep into Wandsworthian 22m before drawing the last defender to put full back Keihlan Watson in under the post with a deft pass.

Leading by 19 points with 10 minutes remaining Woking were guilty of not closing the game out. Through a combination of a determined opponent, some positional changes and questionable refereeing Woking found themselves trapped in their own 22m unable to get out. As Wandsworthians hammered away at the line they scored their third try of the match. With the extras added the home side sensed their opportunity to achieve an unlikely comeback.

As the game entered the final few minutes Wandsworthians controversially had a try ruled out, however they did get another converted try when Woking were penalised harshly for winning the ball back. Wandsworthians kicked to the corner and from the lineout Woking were once again unable to prevent them scoring.

Full time: Wandsworthians RFC 26 - 31 Woking

After the match head coach Mark Rose said: "I was really pleased with the way the team put into practice what we have been working on in training. The structured nature of our play and patience shown was really encouraging. We should have managed the game much better and seen it out, our decision making at crucial times needs to be better. Now the focus is on the next game as we take on an unbeaten Guildfordians who top the table".

Woking down league leaders in last gasp thriller

Woking RFC 31 vs Guildfordians 29

Woking RFC inflicted the first defeat on Surrey Counties Five league leaders Guildfordians RFC at Byfleet Rec. On a sunny autumnal afternoon, the hosts were able to name a full squad of 20 and close to their first choice starting lineup.



Photo taken by Joe Griggs

With a steely determination Woking kicked off and took the game to Guildfordians who failed to deal with the kick and were penalised. Carl Jacobz stepped up and continued his fine form with the boot to make it 3-0.

Guildfordians responded immediately. Several minutes of sustained pressure resulted in the league leaders going over from close range for a converted try. With both sides fully committed the opening 10 minutes continued at pace. Good combination play and patience from Woking saw them recycle the ball through several phases resulting in them getting close to their opponetns line which allowed winger Charlie Goddard to cross the whitewash. Jacobz missed from out wide but Woking were 8 – 7 up.

Shortly after Jacobz missed the opportunity to extend his sides lead with a long-range penalty that struck the upright. As the half continued both sides had periods of dominance but without making it count. Then with five minutes remaining of the half Woking were guilty of over playing in the wrong area of the pitch as scrum half Lewis

Dudley had his pass intercepted allowing the Guildfordians player to canter in for a converted try under the posts.

Yet again Woking responded well and managed to go deep into the visitors 22m. With Guildfordians defending frantically they gave away a penalty. From the resulting set piece more patience and good forward play allowed Kieran Williamson to score under the posts. Jacobz converted and Woking led 17-14 at the break.

Half-time: Woking 17 - 14 Guildfordians

Following the restart Guildfordians showed why they were top of the league as they put the home side under sustained pressure. With Woking struggling to get out of their 22m fly half Matt Ralph looked to break the shackles with a long pass to his back line. Once again, the Guildfordian defence were wise to it and scored from a second intercepted try. Five minutes later the league leaders scored out wide for an unconverted try to make it 26 – 17.

With Woking chasing the game going into the last quarter of the match things went bad to worse as they lost the influential Jacobz to a serious looking ankle injury. Woking were hanging in the match but struggling to break down a determined opponent through a combination of errors and indiscipline that alleviated the pressure at crucial times. Guildfordians were awarded a penalty which was converted to stretch their lead to 12 points (29 – 17) with ten minutes remaining.

With many on the sideline fearing the game was lost at this point it was not the case on the pitch. Determined and patient play yet again enabled Woking to gain good field position and with skipper Jacob Woods leading from the front the home side were able to break the defensive line. More quick recycling of the ball resulted in flanker Josh Claydon scoring. Stand in kicker Adam Quinn stepped up and landed the tricky conversion to make it a five-point game much to the delight of the large home crowd.

Confidence was now high, and Woking continued to throw everything at Guildfordians, but it appeared time would be against them. Then with just three minutes remaining fly half Matt Ralph atoned for his earlier error by putting a perfectly paced chip behind the defence. With the ball bouncing onto the try line Woking full back Keihlan Watson made up 10m to go past the two defenders and collect cleanly to score in the corner to tie the game at 29-29.

As Byfleet Rec fell silent, Quinn showed nerves of steel to convert from the touchline and give Woking the lead. There was still just enough time for Guildfordians to reply. Thankfully, the Woking defence held out and was disciplined enough to not concede a penalty in range of the posts and forced the visitors into an error that resulted in the referee calling time on a pulsating encounter.

The result leaves Woking in 3rd place behind Guildfordians and Staines RFC at the top who remain undefeated.

Full time: Woking 31 - 29 Guildfordians

After the match captain Jacob Woods said: "I am lost for words to be honest, we just kept going. Everyone played their part from starting XV to those that came on. To be 12 points down to the undefeated league leaders with ten minutes to go and win it just shows the character and determination of the group and what we have been building at the club."

Sensational first half performance secures Woking away win

Merton RFC 17 vs Woking RFC 55

Following a rest week, it was back to action in Surrey Counties 5 as Woking travelled up the A3 to Merton. Despite several injuries and absences, Woking named a full 20-man squad and were ready to build on the form shown in earlier games that saw them topple the league leaders in their previous fixture.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

From the start, Woking did not take their foot off the pedal with powerful runs from the forwards, from the returning James Turner-Wells and John Dickie gave which gave the new half back combination of Rhys Parker and Michael Aitchison plenty of time and space to orchestrate proceedings. With 18 minutes gone, Woking had raced into a 31-0 lead with tries coming from Captain on the day Keiran Williamson, Tom Capstick, Josh Claydon & Adam Quinn scoring a brace.

At their rate of scoring, it looked like Woking could rack up triple figures with the message going round was to not get complacent. However, a combination of trying to keep the ball alive in greasy conditions and a series of injuries saw prop Joe Griggs, hooker Mark Rose, centre Andy Walsh, and the influential Josh Claydon, the latter with a nasty broken thumb all depart in the space of 10 minutes. With their momentum taken

away Woking had allowed Merton to come back into the game. However, Woking with the slope in their favour did manage to extend their lead as John Dickie and James Turner-Wells touched down.

Half time: Merton 0 – 45 Woking

Despite the emphasis on sticking to the gameplan Woking were unable to continue their scintillating first half form. Through a combination of playing uphill and changes due to the injuries sustained in the opening half Woking never regained their dominance.

Instead, it was Merton who gained the upper hand in terms of possession and territory as the visitor's defence worked hard to keep out a reinvigorated Merton side. Occasionally, thanks to individual brilliance Woking were able to add to their lead with a further 2 tries from Quinn who took his personal tally to 4 tries.

As Woking tired and reduced to 14 men because of a yellow card Merton were rewarded for their perseverance with 3 late tries.

Full Time: Merton 17 - 55 Woking

Captain for the day Keiran Williamson commented after the game “A bit of a mixed day. I was delighted on how we started and the ruthless brand of rugby we played. However, the injuries to key personnel and forgetting our game plan was a bit of a disappointment. Full credit to Merton for their efforts in the second half but we need to get back to training on Wednesday and focus for a tough home match against Feltham RFC.”

Woking move into top two after away win at Mitcham

Mitcham & Carshalton RFC 5 vs Woking RFC 14

Woking continued their fine form with a hard-fought victory over Mitcham and Carshalton who came into the match on the back of consecutive wins. Woking themselves were looking to keep pace with league leaders Staines and Guildfordians who were handed walkover victories.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

Woking kicked off into a strong wind and successfully caught the ball from the kick. Forwards and backs combined to put together a total of 13 phases of play that resulted in number 8 John Neil Dickie crossing under the posts without a Mitcham and Carshalton player touching the ball. Adam Quinn converted.

With the wind behind them the home side pinned Woking deep in their own half for the rest of the half enjoying the lion's share of possession. Woking held firm with committed and disciplined defence. With the half ending Woking battled their way up to the Mitcham 22m line. Another strong run by Neil-Dickie and quick recycling by the Woking

pack enabled fly half Matt Ralph to feed the returning Finley Rowe at centre to score. Adam Quinn converted a tricky kick in difficult conditions to make it 14-0.

Half-time: Mitcham & Carshalton 0 - 14 Woking

Despite the conditions in their favour Woking were unable to add to their lead. As the weather conditions worsened both sides were struggling to take control of the game. This led to both sides cancelling each other out until the final few minutes. With Mitcham chucking everything they had at Woking their pressure finally told as the visitors were penalised for a series of high tackles which saw Neil-Dickie sent to the sin bin. In the final minute Mitcham did breach the Woking defence from close range.

Full-time: Mitcham & Carshalton 5 - 14 Woking

After the match, Woking skipper Jacob Woods said, 'We knew it would be tough today and the weather conditions made it even harder. I am delighted with the squad effort given the ridiculous number of injuries we have. To go through November unbeaten and up to 2nd in the table is down to the commitment and determination of everyone involved on and off the pitch.'

Woking start new year with win

Woking RFC 43 vs Wandsworthians RFC 0

Woking kicked off 2025 in comprehensive style as they ran in 7 tries against a committed and determined Wandsworthians side. Having had no competitive league fixture since the end of November Woking were able to welcome back the influential duo of Keihlan Watson and Josh Claydon from long term injuries.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

From the outset Woking took the game to the visitors with the forwards dominant in the set piece and loose. This early dominance paid off with number eight John Neil-Dickie charging over and centre Fin Rowe taking advantage of some lacklustre defending to easily score the first and second tries of the afternoon. Adam Quinn converted both to make it 14 – 0 after just 10 minutes.

Woking's momentum was then halted as they lost scrum half Lewis Dudley to a serious looking facial injury. The experienced, Mike Aitchison replaced him in the half backs with Matt Ralph moving to scrum half. The break seemed to benefit Wandsworthians who worked their way deep into Woking territory but were unable to convert their pressure into points. More good team play created the opportunity for Aitchison to get the Woking backline moving and show off their handling skills which ended with the returning Kiehlán Watson scoring in the corner. Five minutes from the end of the first

half centre Charlie Goddard got in on the act as the Wandsworthians defence failed to stop him from 22m out.

Half time – Woking 26 - 0 Wandsworthians

In earlier league fixtures Woking have been guilty of taking their foot off the pedal and allowing opponents back into games having built a lead. However, on this occasion that was not to be despite some spirited play from Wandsworthians.

Having weathered the early part of the half Woking scored again. Sustained pressure and patient play in the Wandsworthians 22m resulted in hooker Mark Rose having a free run in from 10m under the posts.

With both sides making changes and losing players to injury the game drifted with neither side finding any momentum. However, Watson changed all that with 15 minutes left as he returned a poor clearance kick, taking on a disorganised defence to beat several defenders and cross for his second of the game.

In the final stages of the match Watson went close to getting his hat trick and prop Peter Turner-Wells had a try disallowed controversially. That did not stop Woking from adding to their score as Goddard picked up from the base of ruck to power over from a short distance to grab his second score.

Full-time: Woking 43 - 0 Wandsworthians

Speaking after the game skipper Jacob Woods said, "It was great to get another win. The performance was far from perfect but that is understandable after such a long break. We now have a big game this weekend with league leaders Staines RFC heading to the Rec."

Woking go down to league leaders in top of the table clash

Woking RFC 17 – Staines RFC 35

Woking hosted undefeated league leaders Staines RFC at Byfleet Rec on a perfect day for rugby. Looking to avenge their defeat from earlier in the season and to go level on points at the top of Surrey Counties Five. Despite some late changes to the squad Woking were able to name a full 20-man squad.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

From the kick off Staines dominated the opening exchanges all over the pitch barely allowing Woking the opportunity to have the ball and get themselves into the game. With the hosts looking a pale shadow of themselves and lacking intensity in defence the league leaders took full advantage scoring 4 unanswered tries. Only one of which was converted to give Staines a 22-0 lead.

Thankfully, rather than be overwhelmed and to their credit Woking battled back. Some crunching tackles from winger Charlie Goddard and returning centre Carl Jacobz. Now

enjoying their best period of the game Woking pressure told as winger Charlie Goddard powered over out wide.

With the half ending, player coach and man of the match, Mark Rose crossed under the posts for his second try in consecutive games. Jacobz converted to reduce the arrears further. Staines, having had their early momentum disrupted, worked their way back up field and were awarded a penalty which was converted to temper the growing belief amongst the home support that a comeback was on.

Half time: Woking 12 - 25 Staines

Once again Staines started the half strongly but, on this occasion, Woking stood firm despite the visitors shading it territorially. As the half went on Woking were given an opportunity to get back in the game when the Staines winger received a yellow card for a high tackle.

With a numerical disadvantage the Staines forwards took control. A Staines line out 5m from the Woking try line saw them catch and drive over for their fifth try of the match. The conversion was made from out wide. Not long later Woking were penalised in front of the posts allowing Staines to extend their lead to 35-12.

Woking continued to keep their opponents honest without really having the same impact as they had in the first half. However, their persistence did pay off as Mike Aitchison score a late consolation try in the final moments.

Full time: Woking 17 - 35 Staines

Post match, coach Mark Rose said, 'There are several lessons we can take from the match. Congratulations to Staines they were the better team and deserved the victory. We now need to focus on our next match away to Guildfordians who are in third place and just behind us in the table.'

Woking bounce back with away win

Guildfordians RFC 12 vs Woking RFC 36

Woking RFC returned to winning ways with a hard-fought victory away to Guildfordians at Stoke Park. On a sloping pitch and with difficult conditions underfoot Woking looked to make use of having the slope in their favour in the first half. However, it was Guildfordians who took the game to the visitors and applied steady early pressure.



Photo by Duncan Fay (Articzoo)

With Woking struggling to clear their lines and conceding far too many penalties, Guildfordians pressure finally told as they crossed for the first converted try of the match. Going behind seemed to finally spark Woking into life. From the restart Woking were able to regain possession and recycle the ball through several phases of play. Strong running from the Woking forwards eventually saw second row James Turner-Wells power over. Adam Quinn converted to level things up.

Confidence was now flowing through the side and with Woking on the front foot and winning quick ball. From this platform Mike Aitchison was able to release the back line to devastating effect. First Keihlan Watson crossed and not long after Carl Jacobz dived over. Quinn converted both to make it 21 – 7. Then just before the break Watson crossed again to make it 26 – 7 at half time.

Half-time: Guildfordians RFC 7 - 26 Woking RFC

Playing uphill in the second half Woking soon found themselves back on their try line as Guildfordians looked for an early score and get back into the match. Woking held firm

and worked their way up the pitch and into the hosts 22m. More good play between forward and backs created the opportunity for winger Charlie Goddard to score and increase Woking's lead.

To their credit and using their knowledge of the home pitch, Guildfordians came back strongly forcing Woking onto the back foot. Yet again through a combination of determined defence, questionable decisions by the referee and opponent errors Woking were able to soak up pressure and stop numerous Guildfordians attacks. Eventually, though their persistence paid off as they breached the Woking defence to score their second try and reduce the arrears to 31-12.

As the end of the match approached the Woking forwards finished strongly resulting in a sixth and final try for John Neil-Dickie who powered over in typical style from close range.

The win now leaves Woking clear in second place in Counties Surrey 5 with the very real prospect of securing promotion behind league leaders Staines RFC.

Full-time: Guildfordians RFC 12 - 36 Woking RFC

After the match, Captain Jacob Woods said, 'We knew today would be tough and we certainly didn't help ourselves with such a slow start. However, the lads put in a shift in difficult conditions, and we showed our quality in attack, especially in the first half. What was really pleasing was they dug in and got the job done in the second half whilst under a lot of pressure.'

Indiscipline costs Woking in fiery encounter

Woking RFC 24 vs Feltham RFC 29

Woking missed the opportunity to consolidate second spot in Surrey Counties 5 and with it take a big step towards securing promotion as they went down to Feltham RFC at Byfleet Rec. With nearest challengers Guildfordians going down to league leaders Staines a bonus point win would have stretched the gap between second and third to 11 points with just 3 games remaining.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

The home side started sluggishly with Feltham dominating the opening quarter but were kept at bay by good Woking defence. Eventually the pressure told with Feltham working the ball out wide to score in the corner to make it 5-0.

Conceding the try seemed to spark Woking into life and they worked their way deep into their opponent's half. After a period of sustained pressure skipper Jacob Woods powered over to level up the scores before Adam Quinn kicked the extras to put the hosts in front.

Having taken the lead, the hosts were enjoying themselves. Shortly after the restart Adam Quinn added a penalty and then the Woking forwards and backs combined well to recycle the ball through several phases which resulted in Quinn darting over for a converted try.

Feltham responded well and with the half ending they scored a converted try to keep them in touch at the break.

Half time: Woking 17 - 12 Feltham

With the game in the balance both sides were looking to gain the upper hand and as the physicality from both sides increased. A defensive error allowed Feltham to level the scores and take the lead before they were reduced to 14 men for a yellow card for a dangerous tackle.

With frustration building Woking were unable to take advantage of the extra man and were themselves reduced to 13 men in the space of a minute as props Joe Griggs and Alisdair Hamilton Wilkes were shown yellow cards for off the ball incidents.

As the 13 men of Woking battled to hold on Feltham did what their hosts were unable to do and take advantage of the numerical advantage to make it 17 – 26 with 20 minutes remaining.

Fired up and with the team back to full strength Woking were determined to turn the game around. Good pressure resulted in a third try by Charlie Goddard. With the conversion missed Woking then needlessly gave away a penalty in front of their posts which was converted to make it 29 – 22 to Feltham.

Woking responded with a penalty of their own, kicked by Quinn, to reduce the arrears to just 4 points. With time running out and desperate for the try that would secure the win Woking piled the pressure on. However, the Feltham defence held out and managed to turn the ball over 10m from their line to bring the game to an end.

Full-time: Woking 25 - 29 Feltham

Woking on brink of promotion following comprehensive win

Woking RFC 69 vs Mitcham & Carshalton RFC 5

Woking responded to the previous weekends defeat to Feltham as they comprehensively beat Mitcham and Carshalton RFC at Byfleet Rec. The victory now means they need just one win from their final two league games to secure promotion to Surrey Counties 4 behind league champions Staines RFC.



On a perfect spring afternoon Woking attacked from the off and tries from Keihalan Watson (4), skipper Jacob Woods (2), Josh Claydon (2) and man of the match Ross Henson (2) kept the scoreboard ticking over at regular intervals. Fly half Adam Quin kicked 8 out of 9 conversions and a penalty to complete the rout.

Following his sides victory Jacob Woods said, 'I asked the boys to put last week behind them and put in a performance for 80 minutes. Too often this season we have played well only to drop our level and let opponents back into matches. We didn't do that

against Mitcham, we put into practice what we wanted to correct from the last match and dominated throughout.'

With Woking's fixture being the only league match to go ahead in Surrey Counties 5 last weekend, as all other matches were conceded by clubs unable to field a team, the club will be hoping that they can confirm promotion on the pitch at home to Croydon on Saturday 22nd March.

Last gasp try denies Woking Vets

Guildford RFC Vets 19 vs Woking RFC Vets 17

Woking RFC vets conceded a try in the final play of the match in a very entertaining and competitive fixture at Guildford rugby club.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

Woking kicked off and enthusiastically took the game to their hosts forcing them deep into their own territory.

The early exchanges set the tone for the match with both sides extremely physical in the tackle and at the breakdown. Back rower Steve Rhodes and, second row Dan Hills set the benchmark with some crunching hits that repelled the attempts of the Guildford ball carriers to make ground. Woking's early pressure told when Woking charged down a Guildford clearance kick for Paul Rose to touch down.

As the drizzle came down the Woking pack were enjoying success in the scrums and line outs without being able to convert it into points. As the half ended the Woking pack were held up following a catch and drive from a line out close to the Guildford line meaning they went in 5-0 up.

Guildford started the second half strongly having been taken aback by the quality and consistency of the Woking play in the first half. With both sides making rolling

substitutes the game ebbed and flowed with both sides having periods of pressure relieved by indiscipline or errors as the ageing bodies tired.

A series of penalties allowed Woking to get deep into Guildford territory and following several phases of play prop Jol Nash powered over. Mike Aitchison added the extras from in front of the posts.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

Having extended their lead, the Woking defence was finally breached as Guildford scored a converted try of their own to make it 12-7 when the influential Hills was sent to the sin bin. Despite their numerical advantage Guildford could not add to their score.

Back to their full complement Woking were able to work a catch and drive from a line out to the Guildford goal line. Despite committed defence from Guildford Woking were able to recycle the ball before it was popped to forward Dan Christmas to finish off.

Yet again Guildford came back and refused to accept that the game was a lost. With just 4 minutes remaining and after Woking had conceded territory and possession through a series of penalties, they worked an opportunity to score out wide. The conversion was missed meaning Woking still led 19-12.

With enough time remaining for the restart Woking kicked off knowing that the next time the ball went dead the game would be over. However, there was one final twist as a tired and slightly misplaced restart gave Guildford just enough time to gather the ball cleanly and work it wide. With the Woking defence scrambling to get across the park the hosts

backline had too much pace for the cover to sprint the length of the pitch to score under the posts. With scores tied 17-17 Guildford converted the easy kick to snatch victory.

After the match Mike Aitchison said, 'For our first ever official vets fixture I couldn't be prouder of the guys. Most of the squad probably have not played for at least 6 or 7 years so it was great to see so many old faces, many of whom have still got it. Guildford have an established side so if you had told me before the match that the difference would be 2 points I would have been pleased. However, to lose it in the manner we did is a touch disappointing, but credit to Guildford for not giving up'.

Woking end campaign with away win

Raynes Park RFC 26 vs Woking RFC 38

Woking concluded their 2024/25 Surrey Counties Five with a bonus point away win against Raynes Park. In bright sunshine and swirling winds Woking kicked off and struggled to build any momentum against a large and physical Raynes Park pack. Playing his final game as skipper, Jacob Woods led from the front with some crunching hits along with Kieran Williamson and Carl Jacobz.



Photo taken by Justin Cliffe

Eventually Woking did work their way up the pitch and put a few phases together that enabled winger Ross Henson to score in the corner. Full back Adam Quinn converted.

Raynes Park indiscipline then cost them when they were reduced to 14 men for a deliberate trip on Woods when he burst clean through and looked certain to score. Having broken the deadlock Woking found some of the form that had seen them secure promotion scoring 3 more tries in a 15-minute burst.

First, the Woking backs worked the ball wide in their own half to set winger Keihlan Watson free to score from distance. Quinn added the extras. Centre Charlie Goddard then powered through and scrum half Chris Wallis bagged Woking a bonus point with a try of his own.

Leading 26 - 0 Woking allowed the hosts back into the game when they were reduced to 14 men scoring two quick converted tries to go in 26 -14 down at the break.

Half-time: Raynes Park 14 - 26 Woking

Buoyed by their end to the first half Raynes Park came out and dominated the early exchanges and reduced the gap with a third unanswered converted try to make it 26 - 21. Woking dug in and weathered the pressure as Raynes Park looked to take the lead.

Once again it was the brilliance of the Woking back line as quick hands got Watson away yet again from deep to draw the last defender and feed Jacobz for an easy try under the posts to give the visitors some breathing space.

Raynes Park came back yet again when Woking were reduced to 14 a second time when Woods saw yellow for a series of infringements at the breakdown. However, as Woking ran down the clock in their opponents 22m they were able to work an opportunity for replacement winger Matt Neathy to score out wide and bag his first try for the club.

Full-time: Raynes Park 26 - 38 Woking

Post match skipper Jacob Woods said, 'It's always tough against Raynes Park. We didn't start well and struggled. However, we stuck at it and played well in patches. It was great to give a lot of the squad some game time and the changes probably didn't help our continuity. It's great to finish off with promotion. It's a credit to everyone at the club and they should be proud of what we have achieved. This has been 4 years of hard work so we will enjoy the celebrations tonight!'