

Panmure 40 - 13 Glenrothes

Match report by John Goodall

Glenrothes took a full squad of 22 to Broughty Ferry on Saturday but came back empty handed from their game against Panmure.

Much of the damage was done in the first 20 minutes with Panmure, playing downhill into a chilly wind, running in three tries. The first came in the opening attack with the outside centre hitting the line at pace on the right and running round behind the posts. The second was down to poor tackling as a wing forward burst through the centre of the Glens defence. Then Panmure's scrum half got in on the act, darting to the line from the base of a 5m scrum untouched. This was the only try to go unconverted during the afternoon.

Glenrothes showed a glimmer of hope when the home side were penalised under pressure close to their goal line. Sandy Thomson reacted quickly, took a tap and dived over the line as the defence were trying to organise themselves. Shaun Gray converted.

This was a false dawn as Panmure racked up a fourth, bonus point try when more poor tackling enabled the centre to score his second try. Two or three Reds players had hands on their opponent but were unable to stop him.

Shaun Gray slotted a penalty before the interval to make the score 26-10 and early in the second period scored another to give the travelling support some hope. Glenrothes enjoyed a period where they looked as if they might reduce the deficit further but the home side defended stoutly, sometimes within the laws of the game and sometimes being penalised for their efforts. However as the weather deteriorated the chances of a fight back disappeared. Midway through the half, Panmure's full back joined the attack and with some clever footwork weaved his way to the line for a fifth try. The sixth and final try came straight from the restart with two passes and a sprint up the left wing resulting in a score in the corner. This took the score to 40-13 in Panmure's favour.

This was a disappointing day for Glenrothes who never really got going. There were a couple of promising breaks but support was slow to get there and Panmure quickly recovered. The forwards were competitive in scrum and lineout but their opponents were more alert in open play. The backs never really got started in attack and across the whole team the tackling left something to be desired. Ross McGhie was adjudged to be man of the match. The Glens next game is against Harris at Carleton Park on Saturday.