

## **Match #8: 2005 Season**

**Game #8:** Marin Reds (Marin City Community Field)

**Date:** Saturday, March 19

**Result:** Berkeley 13 - Marin 31

**Try:** Marcos Dehollain

**Conversion:** Alberto Pani

**Penalty:** Alberto Pani (2 from 2)

Berkeley faced top of the table Marin today, who were unbeaten this season. Berkeley started well with some cohesive play, and again having the upper hand in the scrums, however the team were rocked back by an early penalty try ruling against. This left Berkeley playing a man down, nevertheless following some good forward pressure the backs executed a great move to put Marcos over in the corner. Alberto slotted an excellent conversion from out wide, and Berkeley had their tails up. Marin struck back with a slick backline move, then Berkeley capitalized from some extended periods on attack by converting Marin penalties into points. 14-13 at the half, and a close game. Both sides displaying some exciting backline moves, and competitive play by the forwards. The second half continued to be highly competitive, although Berkeley went off the boil a little. Another dubious sending off for a high tackle, and Berkeley were again a man short. As with the first instance, the subsequent review of the match video provided meagre justification for the harsh ruling. Marin however made the most of the imbalance in numbers to send their winger in at the corner, and scored one more during some confusion over an debated offside penalty which allowed their big #8 to tap and crash over. Berkeley regrouped to spend the last 5-10 minutes hot on attack to create a several scoring chances, but could not add to their tally. Nonetheless the team had certainly earned their beer and enjoyed a pleasant get together with their opposite numbers. Pride was again salvaged with the man-of-the-match boat race faceoff, where the pint size Berkeley scrum half took on and narrowly beat the much larger Marin #8.

### **Referee Report: Matt Eshoo**

The rain let up and the Marin City field as usual was nice and dry. Both sides played well with the exception of some rucks. Early on, Marin was awarded penalty try from a high tackle (yellow card, #12). Berkeley battled back and score a try of their own, while playing short. Marin fought back and scored another try. Berkeley added two penalty kicks and at the half it was 14-13 in favor of Marin. The contest was even and it was anyone's guess who would come out on top. Marin scored with a penalty kick and later put in a converted try. Berkeley seemed to be running out of gas as the half wore on. Marin committed several penalties but fought hard to keep Berkeley out of the try zone. Berkeley was yellow carded again for a high tackle, #10 playing wing. Marin moved the ball wide several time eventually scoring. The game ended and both sides greeted each other warmly with lots of praise for the ref from both sides. Berkeley played well and were in it for most of the game, but fell short in fire-power. Berkeley had about 15 players on spring break. The future looks bright for this first year program.

