



## Amazons return victorious from Bournemouth

National Challenge SE1 League Match Report, Sunday 17 February 2013

### Oakmeadians 7 v Woodbridge Amazons 48

The Amazons backs clearly relished the wide pitch in sunny Bournemouth when, shrugging off the four hour coach trip, they started quickly moving the ball fast from the opening scrum. Emma Johnson steamed down the right, offloaded to Chloe Stoppard Baker who scored. The Amazons pack provided a good platform, Sarah Cousins especially sharp, and within minutes it was Chloe's turn to cover the distance and let Emma Johnson score. Clearly enjoying the space Woodbridge resisted some pressure from Oakmeadians who turned over a scrum but failed to get the passes together in attack. Emma Johnson was held up on the hosts line where the pressure was maintained until Lou Rickard offloaded to hooker Beth Kinlan who scored. Moments later E J Stearn ran 60m, shaking off a tackler and scored as it became clear that Oakmeadians defence was weakened by injury and was struggling with the Amazon's pace. With the next breakaway EJ Stearn was tackled well by Polly Sanger at full back but Emma Johnson scored again and it wasn't long before a scrum was turned over and Amazon Jess Fletcher slipped a tackle on the left for Emma Johnson to take a hat trick.

The second half saw a much improved Oakmeadians strategy; holding the ball in the forwards and closing down the 9-10 channel as best they could. EJ Stearn, slipped the defence on twelve minutes to score but the hosts prevented the whitewash with a converted score from Sarah Baddeley after a sustained period of pressure. EJ Stearn scored again to get her hat trick, running half the pitch to score under the posts. A confident performance from the Amazons who, with a settled front row, are regaining their form from earlier seasons.

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#### Media contacts

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