



FALKNER HOUSE

Y5 and Y6 Rugby vs St Philips Friday 28th February

A Team

Some of the best sports lessons are learned through defeat, and for the Falkner House A Team today was that day! There was a false sense of a winning expectation from our boys, as history against St Philips had been favorable to us. However, from the first whistle it was very evident this was going to be a hard day at the office.

Rugby is very much about being proactive at key moments, and at no time did St Philips allow Falkner House the chance to gain any ascendancy. In the contact phase Falkner House complicated the game affecting any support play. This allowed St Philips to counter ruck on defense and clean out on attack with ease.

In the tackle situations our boys were hesitant to press on their opposition, losing the pre-tackle phase and allowing St Philips to dominate this area also. This meant that when tackling; or in the continuity phase, St Philips would always have players in support to control the game. While Falkner House repeatedly found their support players beyond the game line; effectively off side, and unable to offer any support or counter the ruck. Worst still lacking in numbers when on defense.

No matter how hard Falkner House tried doubt had set in, and they were now focusing on aspects of how St Philips were playing and not their own game plan. By the end of the game Falkner House were no longer playing like a team, and rather than simplifying their decisions they over complicated them, and repeatedly ran themselves into areas of isolation, playing into St Philips game plan.

Hopefully a lesson has been learned, and a lot of this fixture can be highlighted in our next training session.

B Team

Falkner House B Team were excited for the game vs St Philips. However, the game turned out to be a very tough afternoon for them.

The game started evenly with both teams trying to score the first try. Halfway through the first half, it was St Philips who scored the first try, from then on, St Philips were in the ascendancy and put a lot of pressure on the boys. They scored 3 more tries before halftime.

The second half started as the first half with St Philips pressuring the boys and trying to extend their lead. The boys didn't give up, they kept going until the end, stopping them with the 6 tags on a couple of occasions and getting very close to scoring at least one try but St Philips were very organised and strong defensively to stop FHB from scoring.

Overall, a very difficult game against a very strong and well organised St Philips team. The boys were good defensively in moments but St Philips were the better team.