TOULOUSE OLYMPIQUE got their first away win of the season, at the third attempt, with a hard-fought victory in West Yorkshire.

Having suffered previously at the hands of Sheffield and Brode and Brode at the hands of Sheffield by the season of the season

Having suffered previously at the hands of Sheffield Eagles and Bradford Bulls, the French side dug deep in a game short on attacking quality but high on defensive intensity to prove that they will not be suffering fools gladly after stepping up to the second tier. The rain and mud of Halifax proved to be the unlikely backdrop to their landmark triumph as windswept fullback Tony Maurel struck a crucial penalty goal late on to

the victory,
ne visitors, who will next
lange pleasantries with
in the warmer climes at
season's Summer Bash,
look set for another
less away day when they
leeded after only seven

through the awareness of Scott Murrell and the anticipation of centre Steve Tyrer who hared through to ground.

Murrell's big hit had forced a knock-on from the visitors and the ball was consequently worked so he could dab through the defensive line for

Halifax 10
Towlouse Olympique 12

Toulouse, without leading try-scorer Kuni Minga, responded though with efforts in the left corner either side of a routine Tyrer penalty.

Firstly the Frenchmen equalised through centre Gregory White in controversial circumstances on 26 minutes, much to the annoyance of the home crowd and the delight of viewers of the club's official social media account who were watching a live stream of the

After a penalty had been awarded for an interference at the play the ball on Anthony Marion, the visitors worked the ball to the left edge and Johnathon Ford stabbed through on the last tackle for White in the corner where he was adjudged to have grounded the football, but if he did so, he appeared to have minimal control

to score – and t proved to be

his teammate to convert – what p their solitary try.

Toulouse, with

ed his first of yet decisive, a sumptuous



CLOSE, BUT NO CIGAR: Luke Amb halted by Bastien Canet near the Tou

Halifax seemed destined to take a marginal lead in to the break when they edged in

eezed in down the left is via Bastien. Ader if Ford's delayed pass advantage of a gapt had kindly opened in the Fax defensive. Maurel wasn't as

precise with the boot on this occasion though.

At the start of the second stanza, Toulouse enjoyed a period of prolonged pressure and forced numerous repeat

They even thought that they had extended their lead when a kick on the last tackle was knocked-on by the Halifax defence and Ader dabbed down, however the referee had spotted an attacker encroaching beyond the kicker.

They came up agonisingly short once again as prop Bastien Canet barrelled his way over from Stan Robin's short ball to the right of the posts yet he inexplicably

coughed up the ball when it looked easier to register.

The see-saw nature of the game continued when, with 66 minutes on the clock, Constantine Mika's high shot on Ben Johnston – as he attacked the line – was punished by the boot of Tyrer who, having scored all of his side's points, levelled the scores at 10 apiece.

That kick wasn't enough though for Fax to build on and they suffered late on when Robin wasn't allowed to get to his feet in the tackle and Maurel drove a long range penalty between the sticks for two points on the scoreboard, and in the league table.



HOLDING THE LINE: Constantine Mika looks to thwart a Halifax attack

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