



# 1926 Round 1 Saturday 24th April Wentworth Park



## Western Suburbs 5

def.

## Glebe 4

Frank McMILLAN  
 Gordon STETTLER (c)  
 Cyril FLINT  
 Cecil FIFIELD  
 Jack REDMOND  
 Jerry BRIEN  
 Eric DOIG  
 Edward COURTNEY Jnr  
 Jim PARSONS  
 Edward STAPLETON  
 Cecil GILBERT  
 Bob LINDFIELD  
 Jack DREW

**Fullback**  
**Wing**  
**Centre**  
**Centre**  
**Wing**  
**Five-eighth**  
**Half**  
**Lock**  
**Second Row**  
**Second Row**  
**Front Row**  
**Hooker**  
**Front Row**

Eddie CUMMINS  
 Jack TOOHEY  
 Tom HOLDER  
 Tommy JAMES  
 Alfie THOMPSON  
 F SMITH  
 Charlie RICKETTS  
 Frank GRAY  
 Arthur GRAY (c)  
 William YOUNG  
 Jack HICKEY  
 H ANDREWS  
 Tom McGRATH



**Tries** Gordon STETTLER

**Goals** Gordon STETTLER (1)

Jack TOOHEY (2)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back, F McMillan; three-quarters, G Stettler, C Fifeild, C Flint, J Redmond; halves, J Brien, E Doig; forwards J Parsons, E Courtney, W Carpenter, J Drew, R Lindfield, C Gilbert

**Glebe:** Full-back, E Cummins; three-quarters, J Toohey, T Holder, A Thompson; halves, F Smith, C Ricketts; forwards, T McGrath, H Andrews, J Hickey, W Young, A Gray, F Gray **Referee: S Jackson**

Western Suburbs started strongly, getting the ball well from the scrums. Glebe, however, were the first to score, when J Toohey kicked a penalty goal from just outside West's 25, in front. Glebe pressed after the kick-off, but a passing movement originated by E Doig took play to Glebe's 25, when Stettler broke away, ball at toe, and, kicking over the goal line, near touch, dived on to it. He missed a difficult goal. West 3, Glebe 2. Glebe took the lead again, when awarded a free kick beside one of Wests' goal posts. Toohey kicked an easy goal. Glebe 4, West 3. ... Wests were awarded a free kick for off-side, and Stettler kicked a good goal. Wests 5, Glebe 4. Almost immediately Toohey missed at two attempts for goal from well out. The scores were unaltered at half-time.

The second half was scoreless, mainly due to the spoiling tactics of Glebe's three-quarters. Western Suburbs did all the attacking, until within about ten minutes of the final whistle, when Toohey broke away, but was pulled down near half-way. Western Suburbs were superior, for the greater part, in the scrums, but the three-quarters were always tackled with the ball. Glebe's backs – a hard working lot – lined out on the level with the scrum, and so caught their opponents before they got moving. J Brien played brilliantly at five-eighth for West, and was well supported by E Doig at half. The latter would have done better had he used the short punt more. Often when he found his three-quarters were unable to score, F McMillan displayed first-class form at full-back, his handling of the slippery ball being faultless, his kicking strong and his tackling deadly. ... Wests took J Parsons out of the forwards, as an extra centre three-quarter, but the move was not successful. **(Sunday Times 25th April 1926)**

Freddy McMillan showed promise of getting back all of his old form; and gave a well-nigh faultless display, which made the selectors pat one another on the back over the fact that they had preferred him to Daisley, a rep. of last year..... The ex-YMCA man, Flint, was in good form, and Brien, who was tried out with New South Wales last year, made some good openings. .... It was pleasing to see Parsons, who was elevated from the Reserves, do well in the forwards,, **(The Sydney Sportsman 27th April 1926)**

One well-known face with the Magpies is that of J Brien. Those who remember his display against the All Blacks last season, and again in that remarkable match when the all-conquering Bananalanders were beaten by 27 points to 16, will look for some fine displays from this player during the ensuing season. His defensive play is first-class, and there is nothing to cavil at in his attack. He tackles like a demon, and his judicious feeding of his three-quarters is done at the right time. **(Rugby League News May 1st 1926)**

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**Notes:** Wests started the season with a win and some interesting players. Jack "Pony" Redmond was a flying 19 year old out of Presidents Cup and Lidcombe B Grade, Cyril Flint was an ex-YMCA player of some pace and Jim Parsons had been rewarded for 11 games in Seconds in 1925. Frank McMillan had returned from Balmain, forcing George Daisley back into Second Grade. In Seconds, Joe Mansted was back from the bush and Cecil 'Johnno' Rhodes played a full season, while Roy Liston debuted after coming across from Balmain. McMillan was outstanding at full-back and Jerry Brien and Eric Doig continued their good form as halves from the previous season. This was a close hard-fought game which could have gone any way. It was a scoreless second half, mainly due to a slippery ball. Frank McCauley was a reserve for this match.