



1920 Round 10 Saturday 24th July Sydney Cricket Ground



South Sydney 14

def.

Western Suburbs 7

Howard HALLETT
Gordon VAUGHAN
Clarrie HORDER
William GILLESPIE
Reg FUSEDALE
E SWINNERTON
Alfred BLAIR
Ted McGRATH
Arthur OXFORD (c)
Vic LAWRENCE
John KERWICK
Jack LAWRENCE
Reuben BAKER

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

Lyall WALL
Dick VEST
Viv FARNSWORTH
Herb GILBERT (c)
Athol WHITE
Alex McPHERSON
George McGOWAN
Jack REDMOND
Harold LEDDY
William JOASS
Edward COURTNEY
Harry TANCRED
Clarrie TYE



Tries Clarrie HORDER
Vic LAWRENCE

Harry TANCRED

Goals Arthur OXFORD (4)

Lyall WALL (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: L wall, full-back; R Vest, V Farnsworth, H Gilbert, A White, three-quarters; A McPherson, five-eighth; G McGowan, half; C F Tye, J Redmond, W J Joass, E Courtney, H E Tancred, H J Leddy, forwards

South Sydney: H Hallett, full-back; V Lawrence, W Gillett, C Horder, R Fusedale, G Vaughan, three-quarters; A Blair, five-eighth; E Swinnerton, half; J Baker, A Oxford, E McGrath, J Lawrence, J Kerwick, forwards **W Neill, referee**

The winners thoroughly deserved their victory, being the sounder combination throughout. Their backs passed cleaner, and displayed more resourcefulness. The Black backs, although playing well individually, and tackling grandly, failed badly in concerted movements. It was a thrilling match, replete with brilliant movements. Until Souths rapidly piled on seven points towards the finish, the result was in doubt. Souths started a rush early. Gillespie punted over the line, and was then illegally upset, for which the defenders were penalised. Oxford kicked the goal. S.S. 2 to nil. Souths played with an extra back, and, to counteract the movement, Wests took Leddy out of the forwards and played him as wing three-quarter. The Blacks, by strong forward rushes, assumed the aggressive, and Souths were lucky in securing a force. ... The Red and Green were playing lively football. A concerted movement by Souths resulted in a cross-kick, and the ball going over the line. Lawrence dashed ahead and scored. Oxford converted. S.S. 7 to nil. The Blacks were now securing from the scrummages, but either indifferent passing or the centres unsuccessfully trying to break through pulled them up. The Suburbanites made strenuous efforts to penetrate the defence, and at length were rewarded with a penalty, which Wall kicked. S.S. 7 to 2. Half-time.

After the spell the visitors attacked strongly, but Hallett eased the situation with a well-placed kick, which found the line. The Blacks brought play to Souths' corner, where, from the scrum, McGowan passed to Tancred, who, despite two defenders hanging on to him, easily forced his way over. S.S. 7 to 5. Entertaining play followed, with each side attacking alternately. Eventually, Wall had a drop at goal, and the ball went beyond the arena. The Blacks were persistent in their attacks, but bad passing prevented them from scoring. The defenders were penalised, and from the touch-line Wall kicked a good penalty – 7 all. A minute later Oxford kicked a penalty goal. S.S. 9 to 7. Souths attacked from the kick-out. Horder, securing, ran ahead with a clear field, and scored in a handy position. Oxford converted. S.S. 14 to 7. **(The Sunday Times 25th July 1920)**

South Sydney again relied on their five pack and five three-quarters. After the game started Western Suburbs adopted the same tactics and brought Leddy from the forwards to the position of wing three-quarter. This was Wests' undoing. With a full pack they won most of the scrums and invariably charged at South Sydney's line, keeping them defending hard. It was until Wests drew level that the winners showed their true form....**(The Sun 25th July 1920)**

Notes: Wests' form continued to be down on their best but the team was being mucked around by the instability of selections. Vest, Farnsworth and Gilbert were all back from injuries and representative duties but there was widespread criticism about the Wests' decision to move Redmond from the pack to counter Souths' five-five tactic. Wests had done this in previous seasons and it always seemed to weaken their ability to win the ball from the scrum. The idea of dropping Courtney seemed to have been shelved. Athol White again came off the reserve bench to be a starter, this time replacing Wally Collins.