



1960 Preliminary Final Saturday 27th August Cricket Ground



Eastern Suburbs 20

def.

Western Suburbs 15

John ANDREW
 Boyce BEETSON
 Doug RICKETSON
 Bill RONEY
 Bob LANDERS
 Bill McNAMARA
 Bruce RAINIER
 Dick SEE
 Bob HEFFERNAN
 Brian WRIGHT
 Jack GIBSON (c)
 Ken ASHCROFT
 Bob McDONAGH

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

Darcy RUSSELL
 John MOWBRAY
 Dick POOLE (c)
 Harry WELLS
 Peter DIMOND
 Roger BUTTENSCHAW
 Keith HOLMAN
 Bill TONKIN
 Bill CARSON
 Garry RUSSELL
 Denis MEANEY
 Bede GOFF
 Nev CHARLTON



Tries Doug RICKETSON
 Boyce BEETON
 Bob HEFFERNAN
 Bob LANDERS

Bill TONKIN
 Keith HOLMAN
 Peter DIMOND

Goals Bob LANDERS (4)

Darcy RUSSELL (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: J Mowbray, H Wells, R Poole (c), P Dimond; five-eighth: R Buttenschaw; half: K Holman; forwards: W Tonkin, W Carson, G Russell, D Meaney, B Goff, N Charlton

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: J Andrew; three-quarters: B Beeton, D Ricketson, W Roney, R Landers; five-eight: W McNamara; half: B Rainier; forwards: R See, R Heffernan, B Wright, J Gibson (c), K Ashcroft, R McDonagh **Referee: D Lawler (The Sun 27th August 1960)**

Eastern Suburbs yesterday reached the Rugby League Premiership Grand Final for the first time in 15 years. Scenes of great jubilation greeted Easts' surprise 20-15 win over Western Suburbs in the final at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Easts' supporters in the crowd of 29,393 waved flags and shouted deliriously. Wests paid Easts a fine tribute. Wests' players formed a guard of honour for Easts at the gates to the dressing room. ... Easts' captain, front-rower Jack Gibson, was the star of yesterday's match. Gibson kept spurring Easts along whenever danger threatened. He also played a splendid game of constructive football. Referee Lawler issued a mass caution to both sets of forwards before they packed for the first scrum of the match. ... Easts began enterprisingly. Centre Roney slipped through on the blind side of the ruck and put Easts in a good attacking position. The raid produced a penalty goal in the fifth minute. Referee Lawler penalised Wests for a scrum breach and Landers landed the goal from wide out on the 25-yard line. The early success stimulated Easts. Easts' inside backs moved up swiftly in defence and killed West's attack. These tactics several times forced Wests to lose territory while in possession. Wests' backs declined to kick to neutralise Easts' shallow defence. Instead, the forwards attempted to barge through. Front-rower Charlton switched play cleverly in the rucks several times, but failed to break down Easts' rugged defence. A penalty from a scrum breach on the half-way line opened the way for Wests' first raid after 18 minutes' play. Full-back Russell found touch 30 yards from Easts' line, and Wests won possession from the ensuing scrum. But Easts' rugged defence again thwarted Wests' attack. Two delightful thrusts by Wests' centre, Wells, brought plenty of trouble for Easts. These thrusts broke up East's defence for the first time in the match, and Wests soon gained results. Five-eighth Buttenschaw wriggled out of two tackles and scrambled across the line near the goal-posts. Russell converted the try, and Wests led 5-2 after 24 minutes of play. A good relieving run by centre Roney eased the pressure on Easts. Landers revived East's hopes with an easy penalty goal in the 36th minute. The goal reduced Wests' lead to 5-4. A long line kick by full-back Andrew enabled Easts to launch another raid immediately after Landers' goal. Halves Rainier and McNamara spearheaded the raid which finished with centre Roney sending Landers across the line in the corner two minutes before half-time. Landers showed great determination in reaching the corner. He failed to convert his try but he had given Easts a valuable 7-5 lead at half-time. Easts' army of supporters at the Paddington end of the ground went wild with delight. They waved red, white and blue flags and raised a noise that must have been heard a mile away. Such jubilation recalled the colourful days of East's glamour teams of the 1930's. Big front-rower Gibson broke from the half-way line down the right flank and paved the way for the try. As Gibson fell in a tackle he timed a perfect pass infield to winger Beeton, who had moved up in support. Beeton sped away to score in the corner right in front of the excited Easts' fans. ...**(Sunday Telegraph 28th August 1960)**

Notes: In a surprise result Wests were bundled out of the premiership by a determined Easts. Many of the Wests' players were feeling the effects of the arduous play-off process but they had their chances to win. In the end, the outstanding game by Jack Gibson proved the difference.