



1917 Round 11 Saturday 7th July St Luke's Park



Western Suburbs 18

def.

North Sydney 9

Athol WHITE
 Dick VEST
 Clarrie PRENTICE
 Herb GILBERT (c)
 William MATTHEWS
 Alex McPHERSON
 George SWANSON
 Harold LEDDY
 Joe REIDY
 William JOASS
 Jack REDMOND
 Edward COURTNEY
 Frank HOLT

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

G GRAY
 C EMELHENZ
 Ted TAPLIN
 Sidney DEANE
 Cecil BLINKHORN
 Os DEANE (c)
 Ernie TATE
 J BROWN
 G SMITH
 L MORRIS
 Stan LLOYD
 Bill ARCHER
 Jack McARTHUR
 Herman PETERS
 R IDE



Tries Alex McPHERSON (2)
 Edward COURTNEY
 William MATTHEWS

Os DEANE
 C EMELHENZ
 Ernie TATE

Goals Alex McPHERSON (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back, White; three-quarters, Vest, Gilbert, Matthews, Prentice; halves, McPherson, Swanson; forwards, Leddy, Courtney, Reedy, Joass, Holt, Redmond

North Sydney: Full-back, Gray; three-quarters, Emelhenz, Blinkhorn, Taplin, S Deane; halves, Pope, O Deane; forwards, Brown, McArthur, Archer, Lloyd, Smith, Morris **Referee: Mr T Dickinson**

North Sydney were successful ten minutes from the kick-off. Smith picked up in Western Suburbs; 25 and passed out to O Deane, to S Deane, back again to O Deane, who scored. McArthur failed at goal. Western Suburbs attacked, and after a series of scrums on the North Sydney line McPherson secured from a rebound and ran in between the posts. He also kicked the goal. Gray and Blinkhorn retired hurt, and Peters and Ide filled their places. From a scrum in North Sydney's 25 the ball came to McPherson, to Prentice, to Matthews, who scored. McPherson failed at goal. Courtney added another try for Western Suburbs on half-time, McPherson converted. Half-time scores; Western Suburbs 13 points, North Sydney 3.

A short passing bout in Western Suburbs' 25 sent Tate over in the corner. McArthur failed at goal. Western Suburbs now gave a fine display of passing, in which eight players participated. McPherson scored and kicked the goal. Just on time Emelhenz scored a try, which was not converted, for North Sydney. Final scores: Western Suburbs 18 points, North Sydney 9 points. **(The Sun 7th July 1917)**

.....At their top Western Suburbs are one of the most interesting teams in the League to watch. They are not so orthodox as some of the others, and when they get a try there is generally some brilliant and unexpected element about it that commends itself to the spectator. One who figures in this sort of football is McPherson, the five-eighth.Now Western Suburbs have a full-back in A White who, if not yet at the top of his powers, has excellent qualities. He has dash and strength, fields the ball very well as a rule, though at times he makes risky efforts to get it after a lightning sprint, in preference to the surer ways of other full-backs. He is a tolerably good tackler, and will be a better one. **(Arrow 14th July 1917)**

.....McPherson, who scored for Wests, can thank a lucky rebound for his points. Matthews, a new arrival to Wests' first grade team, then put up three more points for his side. Teddie Courtney followed up the good work and added another try. In the second spell North Sydney had the better of the game, but the only scoring points came from a try by Tate and one by Emelhenz. McPherson got five more points for Wests with a good try and a goal. **(The Sydney Sportsman 11th July 1917)**

Notes: This was a welcome relief after two losses and was a solid performance. Note the write-up on Athol White and Barney McPherson. McPherson, in particular, seemed to be developing into a dashing five-eighth. D Mathews appeared again with varied spellings and first-name initials but is definitely William Denham Matthews in all Wests' photos in the archives. Joe Reidy also made his first appearance for Wests in a long career and was predictably misspelt as Reedy. Alf Bossi and Pat Carroll were originally listed but were replaced by George Swanson and William Mathews pre-game. Wests seemed to have the wood on North Sydney. They were one of the few teams they had beaten regularly.