



1913 Round 14 Saturday 16th August Birchgrove Oval



Western Suburbs 8

def.

Balmain 3

Harry CLARK
 Claude McFAYDEN
 Harold SLY
 William WEIGAND
 William WARBY
 Henry McILLMURRAY
 George GAGAN
 William JOASS (c)
 Westley EASTERBROOK
 Samuel SHAW
 Albert BURDUS
 Frank LANE
 Daniel FREEMAN
 Herbert HARRINGTON

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

Anthony HARRINGTON
 P BURNS
 P SPEARS
 Jack ROBINSON
 P GEHRIG
 A WHEATLEY
 Len SAWYER
 Bill SCHULTZ
 Frank MOORE
 John WOODWARD
 William NOBLE (c)
 George CUMMINS
 Robert GRAVES

Tries Westley EASTERBROOK
 Harold SLY

P GEHRIG

Goals Daniel FREEMAN (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back, Clark; three-quarters, Sly, McFayden, Weigand, Warby; halves, McIllumurray, Harrington, forwards, Freeman, Shaw, Lane, Easterbrook, Burdus, Joass

Balmain: Full-back, Harrington; three-quarters, Spears, Robinson, Burns, Gehrig; halves, Wheatley, Sawyer; forwards, Noble, Moore, Cummins, Woodward, Graves, Schultz **Referee, Mr J McIntosh**

Western Suburbs kicked off, the attendance being 2000. From a scrum at half-way Balmain carried to Wests' line, where Gehrig completed the movement with a try, which Cummins failed to convert. Wests were driven back from an attack and Balmain were given a penalty, but Cummins failed to do any good with it. Wests' forwards worried Balmain's backs through smart following-up, but could not keep up the attack when near the line. Balmain then opened out, and carried out a series of attacks, which lacked finish. A free to Balmain, and Harrington failed, Play was conducted mostly in Western Suburbs' territory, where Clarke put in some brilliant work in defence. Joass broke away and worked into position before sending to McFayden, to Weigand, back to Joass and then to Sly, who crossed. Freeman converted with a fine kick. The score was greatly due to the headiness of Joass. Clarke was retired from the game injured, and Harrington took his place at full-back, each side now having a fullback of the same name. The game was devoid of brightness, the monotony being relieved by a number of shots at goal by Cummins and Harrington for Balmain, the wind affecting the splendid attempts. Half-time; Western Suburbs 5, Balmain 2.

Cummins sent the re-opening kick over the dead ball line and operations in Western Suburbs' territory followed. There was no improvement on the play of the first term, both teams putting in spasmodic but unsystematic attacks. McFayden put in a fine evasive run which carried him to the line, where Harrington grassed him in time. Burns and Wheatley sprinted goal-ward, the latter's pass to Gehrig being intercepted by Sly, and the game returned to neutral ground.

Warby followed a long kick, and succeeded in tackling the full-back near Balmain's line, but Wests did not benefit from the position thus created. After defending for a time Wests worked out, McIllumurray and Burdus reaching the line. From a breaking scrum Easterbrook dived over. Freeman failed to convert. With 5 points in arrears Balmain worked strenuously, and their backs executed some pretty rushes, but the defence was impregnable. The final scores were; Western Suburbs 8 points; Balmain 3 points. **(The Sun 16th August 1913)**

The fans present obtained much amusement from the appearance for Wests from 'Chummy' Harrington who played full-back, while his brother did ditto for the 'Mains. And when they lovingly fell together in a true football embrace, the air was rent with mirth. **(The Sydney Sportsman 20th August 1913)**

Notes: The Sunday Times noted that "both sides tried out a number of junior players." These included James Maxworthy, William Weigand, Harold Sly, Daniel Freeman and William Warby. Herbert Harrington had been playing Seconds and, much to the amusement of the crowd, came on to replace the injured Clark and face his brother, Anthony, at fullback for Balmain. Note the comment on "Ranji" Joass, who had been one of Wests' best forwards all season.