1959 Round 14 Sunday 21st June Brookvale Oval

Western Suburbs 19

def.

Manly-Warringah 16





Darcy RUSSELL
Peter DIMOND
Joe RYAN
Dick POOLE (c)
Bernie KELLY
Darcy HENRY
Keith HOLMAN
Kel O'SHEA
Jack BOWMAN
Bill CARSON
George DOWNIE
Bede GOFF
Nev CHARLTON

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

Ron WILLEY (c)
Ray QUINNELL
Kevin MOSMAN
Bill LLOYD
George HUGO
Alf MADDEN
Peter BURKE
Jim PEEBLES
Rex MOSSOP
Peter DIVERSI
Denis MEANEY
George LENON
Roy BULL

Tries Peter DIMOND
Dick POOLE

Darcy RUSSELL

Goals Darcy RUSSELL (5)

Alf MADDEN Kevin MOSMAN

Ron WILLEY (5)

Match Description

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: R Willey (c); three-quarters: R Quinnell, W Lloyd, K Mosman, G Hugo; five-eighth: A Madden; half; P Burke; forwards: J Peebles, P Diversi, R Mossop, D Meaney, G Lenon, R Bull

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: I Moir, H Wells, R Poole, P Dimond; five-eighth: D Henry; half: K Holman; forwards: K O'Shea, J Bowman, W Carson, G Downie, B Goff, N Charlton Referee: C Brown (as per program Rugby League News 20-21st June 1959 + possible changes Sydney Morning Herald 22nd June 1959)

..... The match, played in semi-darkness for the last 15 minutes, was one of the most bitterly contested of the season. Wests finished the game with Captain Dick Poole playing on the wing with his left eye bandaged after a player's finger had accidentally injured it in a tackle. Lock Kel O'Shea and winger Peter Dimond each played in a daze after being "flattened" in tackles in the second half. In addition, Wests were without centre Harry Wells and winger Ian Moir, who were prohibited from playing as they were selected in Australia's second Test Team on Saturday night. After O'Shea was knocked out (and there had been several mauling tackles leading up to this incident) referee Cliff Brown spoke to both sets of forwards and told them to quieten down. Wests led 12-2 midway through the first half and 12-9 at half-time. But ten minutes after the start of the second half Manly took the lead 16-12 and clung to this margin 14 minutes from the end. Then a grand Wests' rally saw their half, Keith Holman, brilliantly break through and send a high pass to Poole, who went over. Manly retained the lead 16-15 when Darcy Russell's attempt at goal hit the crossbar and bounced back. Eight minutes from the end of play, Manly was penalised about 45 yards out. Poole directed Russell to take the kick. Russell carefully placed the ball and, despite some barracking, there was never any doubt about it; and Wests took a one point lead – 17-16. A few minutes later there was another penalty and again Russell raised the flags to put the match beyond doubt. O'Shea and Dimond were still badly shaken after the match. O'Shea could remember none of the second half after going down from a tackle from Manly second-row forward Peter Diversi. "A couple of players told me that I asked them where I was working" O'Shea said. The injury to Poole disrupted Wests for a time in the first half. Poole switched O'Shea to the centre and he went to the lock position himself. Later he went to the right wing, O'Shea moved to lock, and Peter Dimond was shifted to the centre. The match developed into a gruelling forward battle with both packs giving – and taking – plenty of punishment. In this play, Wests prop Neville Charlton and the two Manly second-row forwards, Rex Mossop and Peter Diversi, were outstanding. The unluckiest player of the match was Darcy Henry, who narrowly missed three tries. (Sydney Morning Herald 22nd June 1959)

Western Suburbs yesterday defeated Manly in a mauling Rugby League match at Brookvale Oval. West won 19-16 after full-back Darcy Russell kicked two superb goals in the last four minutes. In a match generously sprinkled with thrills: *Manly recovered from a deficit of 7-12 after 20 minutes to lead 16-12 with 15 minutes of play left *With Kel O'Shea, Dick Poole and Peter Dimond crippled by injuries, Wests recovered in the final minutes for Russell to snatch the match from Manly. Manly was unlucky in the first half when simple errors gave Wests two fluke tries. Russell scored when he took a pass on the bounce. Dimond went across from an intercept when Manly was pressing strongly. The second half brought torrid exchanges which compelled referee Cliff Brown to issue a general warning to both packs. Crowd 7761. (Daily Telegraph 22nd June 1959)

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Notes: This was a very rough match and Wests finished with a number of "walking wounded". Kel O'Shea and Peter Dimond were both knocked out and played in a daze. Dick Poole was also injured and forced out to the wing. Ian Moir and Harry Wells were both out after Test selection, replaced by Bernie Kelly and Joe Ryan, making his debut. Nev Charlton almost took on the Manly pack himself, which were trying to batter Wests into submission. Darcy Henry, back after injury, had an outstanding match and was unlucky not to score three tries.