

1917 Round 14 Saturday 28th July Wentworth Park

Western Suburbs 33

def.

Glebe 16



Dick VEST Tom McCAULEY George GAGAN Pat CARROLL William MATTHEWS Herb GILBERT (c) Alf BOSSI Harold LEDDY Joe REIDY Frank HOLT Jack REDMOND **Edward COURTNEY**

Clarrie PRENTICE

Fullback T DWYER Norm PROCTOR (c) Wing Centre Charlie OGLE Centre **Eddie GALLAGHER** Jack TOOHEY Wing Denis COMBERFORD Five-eighth Half William SPLATT Lock Tom McGRATH Second Row **E SMITH** Second Row George QUIGLEY Front Row Wilbur MAY Hooker Maurice McGRANE Front Row W ROCHFORD Reserve J FLANAGAN

Tries Alf BOSSI (2) Herb GILBERT (2) **Edward COURTNEY** George GAGAN

Frank HOLT

Goals Frank HOLT (3)

Jack REDMOND (2) George GAGAN (1)

Tom McGRATH (2)

Wilbur MAY Charlie OGLE

Jack TOOHEY (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: R Vest, full-back; A Carroll, G Gagan, W D Matthews and T Bolan, three-quarters; H Gilbert, five-eighth; A Bossi, half-back; H J Leddy, J Reidy, F Holt, J Redmond, E Courtney and C W Prentice, forwards

Glebe: T Dwyer, full-back; C Ogle, Proctor, E Gallagher, and J Toohey, three-quarters; D Commerford, five-eighth; W Splatt, half-back; S Quigley, E Smith, T McGrath, W May, H McCrane and W Rochford, forwards. C Russell, referee

Glebe, owing to the wholesale disqualifications imposed on players, was compelled to place in the field a team of comparative unknowns. They started off well, McGrath and Ogle scoring quickly, but the visitors, who were benefited by the breeze, retaliated, and Holt, Gagan, Gilbert and Bossi crossed, Gagan and Holt converting a try each. May and McGrath reduced the deficit. Half-time, Western Suburbs 16 to 12. Proctor retired injured in this team, and was replaced by Flanagan.

The advantage of four points was not a great one for the home team to face, but the visitors took charge in the second half, and added 17 points (three tries and four goals). Two penalty goals by Toohey were all that Glebe scored, Western Suburbs winning by 33 to 16. (The Sunday Times 29th July 1917)

The Glebe kids, who now compose the Red side, put up a fine showing against the fruit-pickers during the first twenty minutes of the game, and two tries came quickly by Ogle and McGrath. But the weight and experience of the Maggies soon told a tale. Holt, Gagan, Gilbert, and Bossi got a try each. May and McGrath then scored for the kindergarten, and the half-time came with Wests leading by 16 to 2. The first half took all the steam out of the boys; the only points coming from Toohey, the champion Catholic schoolboy from St Benedict's. The boys from the bush added 17 more points, three tries and four goals. (The Sydney Sportsman 1st August 1917)

Notes: This was a solid win for Wests but they were playing against a Glebe Seconds team after the whole of their first Grade was suspended for a year for forfeiting against Balmain. George Gagan was originally on the Reserves list and McPherson in the team but when McPherson pulled out Herb Gilbert went to five-eighth and Gagan went to the centres. Glebe were, of course, devastated, so much so the unbeaten in two seasons Junior team played in Second Grade. Herb Gilbert's two tries brought his tally to nine for the season, a record at that point. Wests finished fourth overall for the season, easily their best result in the first ten years of the competition.