



1934 Round 2 Saturday 28th April Sports Ground



Western Suburbs 17

def.

South Sydney 13

Frank McMILLAN (c)
 Vince SHEEHAN
 Stan TANCRED
 Alan BRADY
 Alan RIDLEY
 Vic HEY
 Les MEAD
 Frank SPONBERG
 Charlie CORNWELL
 Jack McCONNELL
 Ray HANCOCK
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Bert GREEN

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

Les McDONALD
 Clinton QUINLIVAN
 Sid HARRIS
 Jack WHY
 Harry FINCH
 Percy WILLIAMS
 V MOSES
 Harry EYERS
 Frank O'CONNOR
 George TREWEEKE (c)
 Eric LEWIS
 Charlie FENNELL
 Frank CURRAN

Tries Vince SHEEHAN
 Les MEAD
 Frank SPONBERG

Frank CURRAN

Goals Les MEAD (4)

Les McDONALD (4)
Percy WILLIAMS (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: F McMillan (capt); three-quarters: A Ridley, S Tancred, A Brady, V Sheehan; halves: V Hey, L Mead; forwards: F Sponberg, C Cornwell, J McConnell, B Green, R Lindfield, R Lindfield, R Hancock

South Sydney: Full-back: L McDonald; three-quarters: H Finch, S Harris, J Why, C Quinlivan; halves: P Williams, V Moses, H Evers; forwards: G Treweeke (capt), F O'Connor, E Lewis, C Fennell, F Curran **Referee: L Deane (Rugby League News 12th May 1934)**

A crowd of 13,970 witnessed an exciting struggle. Western Suburbs deserved the success. The team was splendid in attack and defence. The combination of Hey and Mead in the first half was delightful and both were consistently good in defence. Hey was shaken as the result of a hard tackle by Why just before half-time, after he had made a dazzling run half the length of the field, and in the second half, with Evers paying a lot of attention to Hey, Mead went a good deal on his own. His frequent punts were not well judged; otherwise his form was first-class. Ridley played grandly and the new winger, Sheehan, apart from scoring his snap try, held Quinlivan safely. Brady was a dashing centre in the first half and throughout the game was a grand defender, and Tancred also tackled safely. McMillan kept a good grip on his team, and set a fine example of sound tackling. Lindfield "hooked" successfully; but the Western forwards spoilt good, hard play by giving away many penalties, mostly in scrums. Sponberg, who often dropped out among the backs to counter South Sydney's extra back formation, played a great game and McConnell was an untiring rucker. The weather was fine but dull when play began, South Sydney played first from the eastern end, having a slight advantage from the cross-breeze. After a few minutes' even play Mead opened the scoring with a fine penalty goal for Western Suburbs. Moses saved South with a strong run and good line kick, but then Western Suburbs lost a great chance. From his own 25 yards. Mead brilliantly ran the ball out; but with only one man to boot, and Ridley supporting, Tancred failed to hold a pass from Sponberg. Hey was prominent, and combined well with Mead, but Brady was a trifle late with a pass to Ridley, and Williams tackled the big west winger. A penalty followed, and Mead kicked his second goal. Western Suburbs went further ahead with a delightful try. From a scrum, Mead sent to Tancred, who dropped the ball; but Hey snapped it up and sent to Brady, who passed in to Sponberg and the last-named scored between the posts, Mead converting. West, 9 to nil. Williams made a grand effort for South Sydney, kicking through after a scrum, but Mead saved. South Sydney pressed, but Treweeke knocked-on near the line. A scrum penalty followed, and McDonald goaled for South Sydney. Near midfield, Hey took the ball from Quinlivan and sent to Mead, who ran right through for a try between the posts, which he also converted. West, 14 to 2. From further scrum penalties, McDonald twice goaled for South Sydney and at half-time Western Suburbs led by 14 points to 6.

When play was resumed South Sydney attacked, but McMillan, and then Hey, relieved. The South Sydney full-back, McDonald, then lost possession, and Sheehan, on the left wing, scored a try for Western Suburbs, Mead falling to goal. West, 17 to 6. Williams threw a loose pass and Brady was nearly in. South Sydney, aided by further scrum penalties, took the offensive again, and at last scored a try. Lewis broke through and Curran twice kicked the ball before he gathered near the line and scored. McDonald added a fine goal. Western Suburbs, 17 to 11. South Sydney's backs and forwards made strenuous efforts, O'Connor and Curran leading rushes, and the deficit was reduced when Williams goaled from an "off-side" breach. West, 17 to 13. Ridley made a strong dash, but Cornwell knocked-on near the line....Final scores: Western Suburbs 17, South Sydney 13. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 30th April 1934)**

Notes: This was an absolute cracker of a game, in doubt until the final bell. Frank Sponberg was back for Max Gray as well as Bert Green in for Alan Blake. Les Mead was an absolute standout in this game, his brilliant play being the deciding factor.