

1910 Round 3 Saturday 21st May St. Luke's Park Concord

Balmain 25 def. Western Suburbs 2

Frank WOOLLEY **Fullback** Bill MEDCALF **Ernest WELLING** G FITZPATRICK Wing Claude McFAYDEN Centre Centre Frank FFFNFY Wing Henry NAYLOR Lloyd EDWARDS Five-eighth Percy BOLT (c) Robert CRAIG Half William MANTLE Lock Tom DOYLE Frank WOODWARD Second Row Verner JARVIS John WOODWARD Second Row Wal BARCLAY **Ted McFADDEN** Front Row Ted MEAD Robert GRAVES (c) Hooker **Ernest PALMER** Horace BALKWELL Front Row A OWEN

John WOODWARD (2) Tries

W SMITH

Alf LATTA

A WALKER

F WARD

Lloyd EDWARDS **G FITZPATRICK** W SMITH

Goals G FITZPATRICK (5) Bill MEDCALF (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs - Full-back, Medcalf; three-quarters, Wellings, Fenney, McFayden, Naylor; half-backs, Bolt, Mantle; forwards, Doyle, Jarvis, Barclay, Owens, Palmer, Mead

Balmain - Full-back, Woolley, three-quarters, Fitzpatrick, Smith, Latta, Walker; halves, Edmonds, Craig; forwards, Baulkwell, Graves, McFadden, Woodward, F Woodward, Ward. Referee Mr H M Poulton (Evening News May 21st 1910)

Within a few minutes of Baulkwell's kick-off for Balmain, Medcalf, of Western Suburbs, kicked a penalty goal, which was the only score credited to that club for the match. Up to this, the game had been fast and fluctuating, with frequent breaching of the rules, for which free kicks were awarded, but as soon as Western Suburbs put up their score, Balmain practically took possession of the game and scored freely. At half-time the tally was Balmain 12 points, Western Suburbs 2. The former's score was made up of a penalty goal by Fitzpatrick, a goal from a mark by the same player, and two tries by Woodward, one of which was converted by Fitzpatrick.

The second half opened with a passing rush by Balmain, in which Ward, Edwards and Graves took part, the last mentioned running into touch close to the goal-line. Medcalf, however, saved, and opened the way to a charge by Western Suburbs, and play was transferred to Balmain's territory, but Woolley gathering in the loose put in an excellent run, which advanced Balmain's interests to the opposing 25, where he passed to Graves, who transferred to Smith, who registered a try, which was converted by Fitzpatrick. To this point in the second half the game consisted of interesting exchanges and from now onward, Balmain, forcing the pace and showing improved combination, scored freely. Edwards soon forced his way through the Western Suburbs forwards in midfield, and with an unimpeded course he ran right on, and scored a try, which Fitzpatrick converted. Just about here, a pretty series of passing was shown by Latta to Walker, then to J Woodward and onto Ward, while on the other hand Medcalf was cheered for brilliant tackling on two occasions. The last score for the match was obtained by J Woodward, who registered an unconverted try. The final scores were Balmain 25, Western Suburbs 2. (Sydney Morning Herald 23rd May

'What is wrong with Western Suburbs? Not a win yet and only 16 points to 79 against is an unenviable record. In their practice games they gave promise of being a very strong side, and with the country additions it was expected they would be strong enough to give the rest a good go for it." (Sportsman 25th May 1910)

Notes: This game started quite late, which seemed to be a regular occurrence. On paper, Western Suburbs had quite a good side but were not yet combining well enough to be competitive. A Owen played his second accredited game but still remains a mystery. The quality of Percy Bolt as a player is evident since he was given the responsibility of captaincy very early on in his stint at the club.

