



# 1950 Round 7 Saturday 6th May Cricket Ground



## Newtown 26

George DEBNAM  
Horrie KESSEY  
Mick MULLANE  
Ray PRESTON  
John TROY  
Stan GEELAN  
Ray PRESTON  
Roy DYKES  
Bernie DREW  
Tom PITMAN  
Frank FARRELL (c)  
Len JOHNSON  
Alf GIBBS

def.

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

## Western Suburbs 18

Bill KEATO  
Jack WALL  
Jack WOODS  
Jack FITZGERALD  
Jack LACKEY  
Frank STANMORE (c)  
Keith HOLMAN  
Peter McLEAN  
Ron WATSON  
Jack WILLIAMS  
Bill HORDER  
Alan HORNERY  
Jack WALSH



### Tries

Ray PRESTON (2)  
Jack TROY (2)  
Roy DYKES  
Mick MULLANE

Jack WOODS  
Keith HOLMAN

### Goals

George DEBNAM (2)  
Keith FROOME (2)

Bill KEATO (6)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: J Wall, J Woods, J Fitzgerald, J Lackey; five-eighth: F Stanmore (capt); Half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean, R Watson, J Williams, W Horder, A Hornery, J Walsh

**Newtown:** Full-back: G Debnam; three-quarters: J Troy, M Mullane, R Preston, H Kessey; five-eighth: C Geelan; half: K Froome; forwards: R Dykes, T Pitman, B Drew, F Farrell (c), F Johnson, A Gibbs **Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 20th May 1950)**

Western Suburbs might well have beaten league leaders Newtown at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday but for Jack Walsh getting himself sent off in stupid fashion. Newtown won 26-18 and had to survive a few bad minutes in the second half when West showed up a lot of weaknesses in the Newtown set-up. Walsh was sent off by referee J. O'Brien for punching at Farrell in the open when the latter was trying to tackle him. Walsh's only comment after the game was a cryptic "No responsibility." Presumably he meant he had been provoked. Walsh went off just before half-time, at which Newtown led 5-2, and his absence put a tremendous burden on the Wests' defence in the second half. There were quite a few highlights to a game that was scrappy but lifted up by some fine movements. The highlights: \* O'Brien disallowed a try by Troy (Newtown) early in the game that looked fair to most other people on the ground, who considered the winger had grounded the ball before he knocked over the corner post. \* O'Brien gave a try to Preston, who had dived over spectacularly, but unnecessarily, and did not appear to ground the ball. \* Wests' players claimed that Wall did not knock the ball on when over the line in the second half, but that it was knocked back by a Newtown player. This happened at a critical stage of the match when Wests, in a good rally, had Newtown defence shaky \*The superb form, in both attack and defence, of Wests' half-back, Keith Holman. In the first twenty minutes of the game Newtown won seven scrums to two and was rarely out of West territory. The fact that it didn't score is a tribute to the defence. ... Newtown went to 18-9 when Mullane got a good try after a reverse pass by Froome, but Holman then got a beauty for West, following a perfectly-timed pass by Woods when tackled. Newtown then led only 18-14, and Farrell read his team the "Riot Act" behind the goal-line. .... Referee O'Brien gave a patchy display. The crowd was 26,848 ... **(The Sun 7th May 1950)**

The 'Walsh incident' had a humorous sequel. Immediately Wests returned to the dressing-room Big Jack walked across to little Frank Stanmore, who displaced him during the week as captain, shook his hand and said disconsolately: 'I'm sorry, Frankie, I let the team down. But what could a man do when he was attacked as I was?' Having spoken his little piece, Walsh hurried to Newtown's dressing-room, where he commiserated with Farrell and shook hands to show there was no ill-feeling. 'What a mug I was,' Big Jack ruminated, as he left the dressing-room. 'But what was a man to do?' he kept asking himself. Farrell, who was the object of Walsh's thumping affection on the field, said that he had tried his best to stop Walsh from 'whacking.' **(Truth 7th May 1950)**

**Notes:** In a typical rough-house match, Jack Walsh's send-off just before half-time was the determining factor in the game. Wests in reality played the second half with 11 men as Bill Keato suffered possible fractured ribs and was a 'passenger' for the rest of the match. Walsh had a running battle with "Bumper" Farrell and finally retaliated with a punch that brought the send-off. He was full of remorse but could see no other course of action! Farrell offered to give evidence at the Tribunal for Walsh! Frank Stanmore had been retained as captain and he and Holman led a second half revival which fell short, especially when a Jack Wall try was disallowed when everyone seemed to think it was a try. This was a gallant effort, which gave Wests heart for the coming matches.