



1908 Round 9 Saturday 4th July Birchgrove Oval



Cumberland 14

def.

Western Suburbs 6

Albert ABBOTT
 A HARRIS
 Albert HALLING
 Harry BLOOMFIELD (c)
 F O'GRADY
 S WALLIS
 James CRIBB
 A HAWKINS
 James SPEIRS
 Robert CASEY
 Thomas LALOR
 Verner JARVIS
 Edward BELLAMY

Fullback
Wing
Centre
Centre
Wing
Five-Eighth
Halfback
Lock
Second Row
Second Row
Front Row
Hooker
Front Row

George DUFFIN
 Raymond GORMLEY
 Frank FROST
 Claude McFAYDEN
 Percy FRANKS
 James HODGSON
 Edward ELLIS
 William ELLIOTT
 Ted MEAD
 Robert ELLIS
 Jim STACK (c)
 Granville GILBERT
 Jim ABERCROMBIE



Tries Harry BLOOMFIELD
 James CRIBB

Goals Harry BLOOMFIELD (4)

James HODGSON (2)
 Jim ABERCROMBIE (1)

Match Description

Cumberland beat Western Suburbs by 14 to 6. At Birchgrove Oval, Cumberland won an un-interesting game.

Western Suburbs.— G. Duffin, full-back; R. Gormley, E. Frost, C. McFadden, and P. Franks, three-quarters ; A. Hodgson and E. Ellis halves ; Abercrombie, S. Gilbert, E. Meade, J. Stack, R. Ellis, and W. Elliott; forwards.

Cumberland.— A. Abbott, full-back ; A. Harris, H. Bloomfield, A. Hailing and F. O'Grady, three-quarters ; J. Cribb and C. Wallis, halves ; E, Bellamy, J. Lalor, F. Jarvis, T Casey, J. Spears, and A. Hawkins, forwards. **Mr. Charlie Hutchinson, referee**

Abercrombie kicked off for Western Suburbs against a strong breeze, and they were soon attacking. Had not Gormley missed a pass from McFadden on the line, a try must have resulted. Cumberland were shortly after penalised, and Abercrombie landed a splendid goal. WS 2 to Nil. The leaders continued to press, and were showing much the better play, considering that the wind was dead against them. Bloomfield had two kicks at goal, one from a penalty for shepherding, but the ball flew wide on each occasion. Cumberland held their own for some time, and then equalised the scores by Bloomfield kicking a goal from a penalty — 2 all. The ball was kept in mid-field for some time, with WS showing the better combination, Ellis and Hodgson, behind the scrum, making great efforts to open up the game. From a high kick by Duffin, Hailing secured a mark in front of goal, and Bloomfield had little difficulty in increasing his side's score by 2. Cumberland, 4 to 2. Half-time. Western Suburbs opened the second half with the wind, and quickly had Cumberland defending, the former's forwards obtaining from the scrums, but bad passing by the halves alone prevented scoring. Then Cumberland were penalised right under the goal posts, and Hodgson made the scores equal — 4 all. Cumberland livened up, and by means of good forward play brought the ball past centre, where Cribb secured and passed to Hailing, who ran almost to the line, where, in the loose, Cribb picked up, got across, and, running around, scored between the posts., Bloomfield converted. Cumberland, 9 to 4. WS opened up the game, but their passing was greatly at fault, being erratic and altogether too slow. The good work of the forwards should have been rewarded, as from a scrum the ball was sent to Gormley on the wing, who raced over, and, in endeavouring to better the position, was tackled, with the result that Cumberland were awarded a force. WS continued to attack, and had Cumberland at their wits' end to prevent the score being increased, successive attacks by Hodgson, McFadden, and Gormley being successfully resisted. Cumberland were again penalised near goal, and Hodgson kicked a goal.- Cumberland 9, WS 6. Exciting play followed. Bloomfield, intercepting a pass at his own 25, kicked past the full-back, and, rushing on again, got to the ball and kicked hard to the line, where he fell on the ball and scored. It was the only really exciting piece of play during the match. He converted the try. Cumberland, 14 to 6..
(Sunday Times 5th July 1908)

Notes: This was the first match for Granville Gilbert. Edward Ellis and James Hodgson seemed to be finding a scrum-base combination. Wests seemed to play better in the first half, running against the wind.