Robert Howell

.... was one of seven brothers, some of whom played with the Enfield Federals Rugby League Club. Older brother Val Howell was recorded as a trainer for the Federals in its first year in the Western Suburbs junior rugby league competition. Val Howell was wounded at Gallipoli and was eventually killed on the Western Front in the First World War. Another brother, George Howell also served in the First World War and won a Victoria Cross for his bravery in the field.

Perhaps the most talented rugby league player was brother, Frank Howell, who played in the first combined Western Suburbs junior representative team in 1910 and was selected in a junior NSW team to play Queensland in the same year. Frank Howell played with Wests Reserve Grade team in 1912 and 1913. He was selected in a combined Sydney Reserve Grade team to play in Bathurst in 1913 and was then listed in the 1914 pre-season Wests First Grade squad but never made it into the First Grade premiership team.

Robert played four Reserve Grade games in 1920. He played again in 1921, making his First Grade debut in round three of the competition, and followed up with two more First Grade games. Wests were experimenting with their halves combinations early in 1921, and eventually settled on Eric Doig to fill this position. There is no record of Robert Howell playing Grade rugby league after 1921.

Robert Howell lived all of his life at Enfield, NSW. He died at the nearby Western Suburbs Hospital in January 1945.