

Joe Drew

..... was selected in the Western District President's Cup team in 1920, before being graded with Wests in 1921. He was one of eighteen juniors that Wests graded that year and while most played in the Third Grade team, Joe Drew was selected to play Reserve Grade and played fourteen games with that team in his debut year.

In 1922, Joe made his First Grade debut. He played one Reserve Grade game, but became a regular member of the First Grade team, playing twelve of the sixteen competition matches. He followed up with a similar performance in 1923, missing only one First Grade game all year.

In the four seasons between 1924 and 1927, Joe Drew did not miss one First Grade competition game or City Cup match. He played most of his games in the second row, so it was a great record from a player that was always in the middle of the action. Joe was regarded as one of the strong men in the Wests pack. The Cumberland Argus on 29 May 1925 reported; "Joe Drew, of Wests was suffering from a very sore arm last Saturday, nevertheless he put up a splendid game."

1928, was Joe Drew's last season with Wests. He played nine Reserve Grade games and made no First Grade appearances. He may have lost some form and players like Frank Spillane and Jim Parsons were making claims on the second row position. But it was an odd situation for a man that had not missed a First Grade game in four seasons to find himself unable to make it back into the top grade. Chris McKivatt was the new coach in 1928, and it had been recorded that there was dissention in the ranks, so perhaps this had something to do with Joe Drew's situation.

During his time with Wests, Joe Drew played seventy nine First Grade, twenty four Reserve Grade and seven City Cup games. There was a J Drew that played with Parramatta Marist Brothers Old Boys team in 1929. While Joe Drew lived in the area, it not certain that this was Joe Drew that played with Wests. Joe was presented with an Honor Cap at Wests Annual General Meeting in 1927, for his dedicated service to the Club.

Joe Drew lived all of his life at Parramatta district and died there in March 1973.