



1919 Round 1 Saturday 10th May RAS Showground



Western Suburbs 25

def.

South Sydney 9

Athol WHITE
 Dick VEST
 Paddy BURNS
 Herb GILBERT (c)
 Wally COLLINS
 Alex McPHERSON
 George McGOWAN
 Clarrie TYE
 Jack REDMOND
 Westley EASTERBROOK
 William JOASS
 Clarrie PRENTICE
 Edward COURTNEY
 Joe REIDY

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

Howard HALLETT (c)
 Harold HORDER
 Bill ROWLEY
 Clarrie HORDER
 Vince SHEEHAN
 Alfred BLAIR
 E ANDERSON
 Bill GROVES
 Jim DAVIS
 Perc HORNE
 Arthur OXFORD
 Harold HOLMES
 John KERWICK

Tries

Paddy BURNS (2)
 Wally COLLINS
 William JOASS
 George McGOWAN
 Alex McPHERSON
 Jack REDMOND

Vince SHEEHAN

Goals

Alex McPHERSON (2)

Arthur OXFORD (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back, White; three-quarters, Collins, Gilbert, Burns, Vest; halves, McGowan, McPherson; forwards, Tye, Joass, Prentice, Easterbrook, Courtney, Redmond

South Sydney: Full-back, Hallett; three-quarters, Sheehan, Rowley, C Horder, H Horder; Halves, Anderson, Blair; forwards, Groves, Horne, Oxford, Davis, Holmes, Kerwick **Referee: T McMahon**

Western Suburbs kicked off against the breeze, and were soon travelling goal-wards. In the scrums they beat the premiers, in one of which, five yards from the line, Joass broke away and grounded the ball over the line. McPherson failed at goal and Wests led 3 to nil. Five minutes from the kick-out Western Suburbs' three-quarter line got moving. Gilbert, Burns and Vest handled the ball in turn. The latter was finally tackled by C Horder 10 yards from the line. From the scrum the ball travelled across the field to Courtney, who was laid out by a tackle and left the field. Reidy took his place. After a series of frees, South Sydney reached Western Suburbs' 25, where from a penalty Oxford kicked a goal. Western Suburbs 3, South Sydney 2. ... Play was very willing, both sides taking some hard knocks. Wests still pressed, and McPherson picked up from a scramble on the line and then converted his try. Wests led by 8 to 2. From another free Oxford landed his second goal. Western Suburbs 8 to 4. Just on time Burns intercepted a South Sydney pass and toed the ball over the line. McPherson converted the try. Half-time scores: Western Suburbs 13, South Sydney 4.

In the second half, Western Suburbs continued to attack, and McGowan now showed his old club-mates how to get a side scoring. The ball came to him in Souths' 25. He passed out to White, to Gilbert, who ran straight, and put Collins in a good position to finish a fine movement with a try. McPherson failed from an easy position. Further points were registered by South Sydney, two points coming as a result of a goal. final scores: Western Suburbs 25, South Sydney 9 (**The Sun 10th May 1919**)

... Easterbrook and Tye are included in the pack. It was thought that these players, after years of more strenuous battles, would find the time too short to run themselves into the required condition, but not so.....the wee Macs have worked up a good combination, and we trust to see them at their best.....Courtney and Joass were never playing better than at present. **The latter has broken records at training grounds this year by attending each night.....(Arrow 9th May 1919)**

Notes: This was a big start for the season, smashing the last year's Premiers. The notable inclusion was the new half-back from Souths, George McGowan, He was playing opposite Wests in the important Round 12 loss in 1918 that cost Wests the premiership. Clarrie Tye also returned after two years at war as did Westley Easterbrook. Athol White continued to improve and played full-back for NSW twice during the year. Albert Johnston and William Palmer had both left to play with Newtown, although Wests were disputing Johnston's claim. The Seconds also had a big win against Souths with Alf Bossi as Captain and Hector Lee scoring a try as well. Joe Reidy was sent off after coming on as a reserve.