



1969 Round 1 Sunday 30th March Brookvale Oval



Manly-Warringah 22

def.

Western Suburbs 11

Bob BATTY
 Danny GOUGH
 John McDONALD
 Frank STANTON
 Les HANIGAN
 Bob FULTON (c)
 Dennis WARD
 Bill BRADSTREET
 Rob CAMERON
 John MORGAN
 Mick VEIVERS
 Fred JONES
 Bill HAMILTON

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

Tony FORD
 Peter FLANDERS
 Roy FERGUSON
 Dick PICKETT
 Mick ALCHIN
 Barry GLASGOW
 Bruce BEER
 John BAKER
 Jim CODY
 John WALSH
 Steve WINTER
 Ken STONESTREET
 Noel KELLY (c)
 Rod SMITH



Tries
 Bill BRADSTREET
 Danny GOUGH
 John MORGAN
 John McDONALD

Noel KELLY (2)
 Tony FORD

Goals
 Bob BATTY (4)
 Dennis WARD (1) Field Goal

Peter FLANDERS (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: T Ford; three-quarters: P Flanders, B Glasgow, R Ferguson, M Alchin; five-eighth: T Murphy; half: B Beer; forwards: J Baker, J Cody, J Walsh, N Kelly (c), K Stonestreet, S Winter

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: B Batty; three-quarters: D Gough, J McDonald, F Stanton, L Hanigan; five-eighth: R Fulton (c); half: D Ward; forwards: W Bradstreet, R Cameron, J Morgan, M Veivers, F Jones, W Hamilton **Referee: E Cook (The Sun 28th March 1969)**

Manly yesterday started the Rugby League season well with a 22-11 win over Wests before a crowd of 11,668 at Brookvale Oval. The win was not as convincing as the scores might indicate; Manly putting on seven points in the last five minutes after Wests had drawn up to 15-11. Manly paid dearly for their last try as hooker Fred Jones had several teeth knocked out when he was flattened as he sent out the pass to start the scoring move. Ford scored the try of the match with an electrifying run from just inside Manly's half to give Wests the lead 3-2 for the only time in the match. He sliced through at great speed toward the right flank when the Manly players held off, then stepped inside Batty to go over untouched. For a period in the second half Wests were on top and appeared unlucky to be deprived of a try when a spirited finishing burst by Flanders ended in his being bundled into the corner post as he touched down. Captain-coach Kelly, who conserved his energies well during the match, scored two second half tries with powerful runs to put Wests back into the game. In scoring his second try Kelly backed up second half replacement Rod Smith, who had burst down the right flank to take his infield pass and outpace the defence. Had Flanders kicked the goal Wests would have been only two points behind, but then a snapped field goal by Ward at his third attempt clinched the match for Manly. **(Daily Telegraph 31st March 1969)**

Western Suburbs pushed Rugby League second favourite Manly-Warringah to the point of fright at Brookvale yesterday. Manly won 22-11 (four tries to three) but it was only in the dying minutes that Manly put the issue beyond doubt. ... Wests, despite the absence of outstanding five-eighth Tim Murphy through influenza and an infected ear, showed it is going to be a handful for every team. ... Manly was on the right end of two decisions which made all the difference to the result. Wests' determined young winger, Peter Flanders, had a try disallowed 15 minutes into the second half when Manly led 5-3. Wests had the pressure on Manly and a try at that stage may have made a difference. Many spectators felt that Flanders touched down legitimately before hitting the corner post. Referee Ernie Cook pointed to the spot as if going to award a try but changed it when the touch judge indicated Flanders had hit the post. Later, Manly centre John McDonald scored an important try from a centre kick by winger Danny Gough and it appeared McDonald was perilously close to off-side when he started the run. Nevertheless, Manly deserved its win. ... The game was open and at times spectacular, but far too loose to be an outstanding game of football. Fred Jones, Manly's International hooker, was on the wrong end of a stiff-arm tackle which left him with four smashed teeth and a cut inside the mouth. Manly's Mick Veivers had stitches in an ankle wound, while West second-rower John Walsh (injured leg) was replaced by young Rod Smith at half-time. ... **(Sydney Morning Herald 31st March 1969)**

Notes: Wests were very competitive in this first game of the season, especially considering the late absence of five-eighth Tim Murphy with influenza and the loss of John Walsh, replaced by Rod Smith. Freddie Jones was smashed in an apparently missed, illegal tackle, losing four teeth and being taken to hospital. Noel Kelly had a good start to the season with two bustling tries. Wests only lost this match in the later stages, being down 15-11 with only a short time left. Peter Flanders also had a crucial try disallowed.