



1920 Round 13 Saturday 21st August North Sydney Oval



North Sydney 25

def.

Western Suburbs 14

Ted TAPLIN
Harold HORDER (c)
Frank RULE
Herman PETERS
Cecil BLINKHORN
Roderick HODGINS
Duncan THOMPSON
Chris McGRATH
James PYE
George GREEN
Jack IVES
Ted JONES
Alf FAULL

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

Lyall WALL
Dick VEST
Herb GILBERT (c)
Gordon STETTLER
Wally COLLINS
Alex McPHERSON
George McGOWAN
Harold LEDDY
Clarrie PRENTICE
William JOASS
Edward COURTNEY (c)
Harry TANCRED
Clarrie TYE
Athol WHITE



Tries Cecil BLINKHORN (2)
Harold HORDER
Ted JONES
Herman PETERS

Harold LEDDY (3)
Clarrie TYE

Goals Duncan THOMPSON (5)

Lyall WALL (1)

Match Description

North Sydney: E Taplin, full-back; H Horder, F Rule, H Peters, C Blinkhorn, three-quarters; D Hodgins, five-eighth; D Thompson, half-back; T Jones, G Green, A Faull, J C Ives, J Pye, C McGrath, forwards

Western Suburbs: L Wall, full-back; R Vest (injured and replaced by A White), H Gilbert, C Stettler, W Collins, three-quarters; A McPherson, five-eighth; G McGowan, half-back; E Courtney, H J Leddy, H Tancred, C F Tye, C W Prentice and W Joass, forwards **Referee, T McMahon**

Play started scrappily, with Wests pressing. Gilbert and Vest ran the ball to Norths' quarter, where the latter was brought down hard near the line, and retired with his right shoulder injured. A White took his place. Norths got the ball from the scrum, but mullied it, and from the loose Leddy ran over in the corner. Wests 3-0. Thompson kicked a penalty goal, and soon after broke away well inside his own 25, passed to Green, to Hodgins, to Peters, to Blinkhorn, who in-passed, and Peters scored after a perfect rush from line to line. Thompson converted. Norths 7-3. ... Wests now took a hand, and a fault by Horder let Leddy through after good passing. Wall converted. Wests 8-7. ... Thompson, who was playing brilliantly, centred, and got the ball again, passing to Hodgins, who knocked on with things looking promising. Half-time.

After fast, brilliant play, Collins tried to speculate, and Horder picked up and scored easily. Thompson again converted. Norths 12-8. Once more, Norths' backs combined in smart rushes, and then McPherson ran from half-way to the line. His pass to Tancred was knocked on, but from the ruck Tye went over. Norths 12-11. The crowd was next thrilled by Norths. Taplin ran well, passed to Hodgins, to Peters, who kicked low along the wing, the bounce beating Wall. Ives passed to Jones for a try. Thompson a goal. Norths 17-11. McPherson brought play to Norths' line, where Pye toed through, and Peters, gaining possession, passed to Blinkhorn, who ran the length of the field and scored. Thompson converted. Norths 22-11. Wests pressed but Blinkhorn, running strongly from his own line, beat off Wall and scored. Norths 25-11. In the centre McPherson transferred to Leddy, who ran strongly and scored near the posts. Norths 25-11 (**The Sunday Times 22nd August 1920**)

...Wests kept Horder well-marked, and only once did he get away. Perhaps this attention made for a little slackness on the other wing where Blinkhorn, with speedy, strong running, did excellent service for Norths.The forwards had a very hard game and were fairly even, but here was a great deal too much off-side play and penalties were frequent. **Leddy, the tall Wests lock**, had a day out, scoring three tries, and his play was first-class; Courtney showed that he retains some of his old dash. (**The Referee 25th August 1920**)

Notes: This was a surprise loss for Wests and put them out of contention for the Premiership. Dick Vest continued a run of injuries, this time his shoulder, and he was replaced by Athol White. Norths had kept the same team for a number of games and were becoming a formidable combination and were being talked about as favourites for the City Cup. The attention to the speedster Harold Horder apparently let the other speedster, Cecil Blinkhorn, have a field day and he scored two length-of-the-field tries. Note the reference to Leddy as lock, whereas he is shown in other teams as Hooker. It highlights how the forward positions shown in programs were arbitrary. Wally Collins returned after a long absence.