



1975 Round 16 Sunday 13th July Lidcombe Oval



Eastern Suburbs 12

def.

Western Suburbs 11

Russell FAIRFAX
 Kel SHERRY
 John BRASS
 Ian SCHUBERT
 Bruce PICKETT
 John PEARD
 John MAYES
 Kevin STEVENS
 Barry REILLY
 Ron COOTE
 Arthur BEETSON (c)
 Elwyn WALTERS
 Ian MACKAY

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

John DORAHY
 Stephen KNIGHT
 John HEYWARD
 Robbie PARKER
 Russell MULLINS
 Tim MURPHY
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Chris WELLMAN
 Jim MURPHY
 Geoff FOSTER
 Pat HUNDY
 Shane DAY
 John DONNELLY
 Terry ROSE
 Mick LIUBINSKAS



Tries

Russell MULLINS

Goals

John BRASS (6)

John DORAHY (4)

Match Description

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: R Fairfax; three-quarters: K Sherry, J Brass, I Schubert, B Pickett; five-eighth: J Peard; half: J Mayes; forwards: K Stevens, B Reilly, R Coote, A Beetson, E Walters, I Mackay

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: S Knight, J Heyward, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: T Murphy; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: C Wellman, M Liubinskas, G Foster, J Donnelly, S Day, P Hundy **Referee: K Roberts (Rugby League Week 19th July 1975)**

Rugby League premiers Eastern Suburbs yesterday lengthened one of the best winning runs in the club's history – thanks to the goal-kicking skills of John Brass. Easts went try-less again, but six goals by Brass in the blustery Lidcombe winds got the Roosters home 12-11 against unlucky Western Suburbs. ...Wests slipped from fifth to seventh on the ladder after losing a match they looked certain to win early in the second half. Brass yesterday kicked Easts to victory in the midst of an avalanche of second-half penalties which incensed the Wests' camp. Referee Kevin Roberts awarded seven of the first eight penalties in the second half to Easts. Brass, kicking superbly in most difficult conditions, converted a 6-9 deficit to a 12-9 lead. A glance at statistics after the game showed just how important Brass has been to Easts in recent weeks. In their last five matches – 400 minutes of football – Easts have scored only three tries. But they have won the lot with centre Brass contributing 39 of the 49 points Easts have scored. ... Wests scored the only try of a match, punctuated by referee Robert's frequent whistle blasts. Stringy winger Russell Mullins showed great determination to score the try in the first half, taking two defenders with him. With the wind at their backs and a 7-6 lead on the board Wests looked set to win the game in the second half. But the Wests attack consisted mainly of bash and barge up the middle, and the tireless Easts' tacklers relish such a challenge... **(Daily Telegraph 14th July 1975)**

Easts' coach Jack Gibson was involved in a heated sideline clash with linesman Gordon Hedger after yesterday's Lidcombe Oval thriller against Wests. Referee Kevin Roberts failed to hear the full-time hooter and Gibson rushed to the sideline telling Hedger to alert the referee. But the game went almost a minute over full-time with Easts clinging desperately to a 12-11 lead to notch their 13th successive premiership win. Few of their wins have been harder earned than yesterday's. Behind at half-time and facing a near gale-force wind in the second half, Easts were faced with a mammoth task. But brilliantly led by Arthur Beetson, Easts grafted their way to a win, to again confirm they are the side to best in this year's premiership race. Beetson came to life when it mattered with some crashing bursts up the centre of the rucks. Not far behind the big fellow in individual performances were full-back Russell Fairfax and centre John Brass. Fairfax thrilled the crowd with some high-flying takes under supreme pressure. And Fairy never once faltered. He and Brass both missed Russell Mullins when the lanky winger scored the only try of the match, but they later more than made up for the one blemish. Brass kicked six goals from eight attempts in difficult conditions and played well throughout with copybook kicks for touch and defence. For Wests the loss was another chapter in the club's recent unlucky run. The one-point loss on top of last weekend's protest fiasco has left the talented Magpies' side in seventh position, after they looked final five certainties a fortnight ago. Both camps were critical of referee Kevin Roberts and rightly so. ... **(The Sun 14th July 1975)**

Notes: Chris Wellman and John Donnelly both had outstanding games in a very close match. Donnelly led charge after charge up the centre and Wellman was a devastating tackler, cutting off many potential try-scoring moves. The deciding factor was that Wests had the first 7 of 8 penalties in the second half awarded against them and they were unable to mount any sort of sustained attack. The match went a minute overtime, much to the chagrin of Easts' coach, Jack Gibson.