



1971 Round 18 Sunday 25th July Lidcombe Oval



Cronulla 22

Chris WELLMAN
Ray CORCORAN
Greg PIERCE
Bob WEAR
Dave COTTER
Kevin HOGAN (c)
Fred DENNEHY
Maurie RAPER
Dave COOPER
John MAGUIRE
Alan KENNINGTON
Ron SMITH
Cliff WATSON

def.

Western Suburbs 13

Tony FORD
Don ROGERS
Tim MURPHY
Derek BROUWER
Mick ALCHIN
Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
Colin WITHERS
Rod SMITH
John BAKER
Barry BRYANT
Russell JOHNSTONE
Ken STONESTREET
Tony ANTUNAC



Tries

Bob WEAR (2)
Ray CORCORAN (2)
Fred DENNEHY
Maurie RAPER

Mick ALCHIN
John BAKER
Don ROGERS

Goals

Dave COTTER (2)

Tony FORD (2)

Match Description

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: C Wellman; three-quarters: R Corcoran, G Pierce, R Wear, D Cotter; five-eighth: K Hogan (c); half: F Dennehy; forwards: M Raper, D Cooper, J Maguire, A Kennington, R Smith, C Watson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: D Rogers, T Murphy, D Brouwer, M Alchin; five-eighth: T Raudonikis (c); half: C Withers; forwards: R Smith, J Baker, B Bryant, R Johnstone, K Stonestreet, A Antunac **Referee: J Harris (Rugby League Week 31st July 1971)**

“One of Tommy’s tricks” put Cronulla in for a try and on the way to victory over Wests at Lidcombe yesterday. The try came when Kevin Hogan flicked a pass back to half-back Fred Dennehy midway through the first half. The move was so quickly executed that Dennehy was through and over the line before a hand could be laid on him. When Dave Cotter converted the Sharks led 8-3 and were never headed from then on to win 22-13. Hogan later described the move as one Tommy Bishop had taught him and Bishop, who was there on crutches, smiled approvingly as he listened. Hogan again inspired his team and has more than justified his elevation to Bishop’s spot as Captain-coach in the Englishman’s absence. The fact that Cronulla lost the scrums 10-18 made Hogan’s performance even better. The match was another first for the Sharks. They had not previously won a premiership match at Lidcombe Oval. **(The Sun 26th July 1971)**

... Cronulla made full use of what ball they saw and twice capitalised on Wests’ mistakes. Once in each, half Derek Brouwer threw wild passes which Cronulla centre Bob Wear intercepted to score. Cronulla, running with a stiff breeze, led 11-3 at half-time. Cronulla added three more tries to land 22-5 with ten minutes remaining. **(Daily Telegraph 26th July 1971)**

... Running with a stiff breeze, Cronulla led 11-3 at half-time, with tries from centre Bob Wear, half-back Fred Dennehy and lock Maurie Raper, one of which winger Dave Cotter converted. Wests only score in this half was a try by winger Don Rogers, finishing off a smart break by five-eighth Tom Raudonikis. Despite the wind advantage in the second half, Wests never looked likely to really get into the match, as Cronulla put on three more tries to go to a 22-5 lead with only ten minutes remaining. With time running out, West put on late tries, by John Baker and Mick Alchin. Cronulla’s best players were skipper Kevin Hogan, Wear and winger Ray Corcoran, who scored two tries. All the Wests players tried hard but generally lacked purpose in their play, gaining little ground when in possession. **(Sydney Morning Herald 26th July 1971)**

.....Considering these factors, Wests opened in their usually quite aggressive fashion, and with a glut of possession throughout the first 15 minutes, looked a team with a chance. Second-row forward Barry Bryant was outstanding during this period of time with typical strong side-stepping runs through the clambering Cronulla defence. Wests were still looking the better side at this stage, and replied with a try by winger Don Rogers which was set up as a result of a perfect pass from five-eighth Tom Raudonikis..... **(Rugby League Week 31st July 1971)**

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Notes: Wests won the scrums 2-1 but squandered many scoring opportunities with poor handling. Both of Bob Wear’s tries came from intercepts from poor Brouwer passes. Wests ran with a strong wind in the second half but couldn’t capitalise on it. Barry Bryant had another outstanding game but it was still Cronulla’s first ever win at Lidcombe Oval.