

1974 Round 18 Saturday 27th July Cricket Ground

Eastern Suburbs 25 def. Western Suburbs 17

Russell FAIRFAX	Fullback	John DORAHY
Jim PORTER	Wing	Stephen SATTERLY
Harry CAMERON	Centre	Stephen KNIGHT
Mark HARRIS	Centre	Ron GITEAU
Bill MULLINS	Wing	Russell MULLINS
John PEARD	Five-eighth	Russell WORTH
John MAYES	Half	Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
Ron COOTE	Lock	Jim MYERS
Barry REILLY	Second Row	John ELFORD
Graham OLLING	Second Row	Geoff FOSTER
Arthur BEETSON (c)	Front Row	Pat HUNDY
Elwyn WALTERS	Hooker	John PURCELL
lan BAKER	Front Row	Mick LIUBINSKAS

Replacement

Tries Bill MULLINS (3) Russell MULLINS
John MAYES (2) Jim MYERS

Les HAYES

JIII WITERS

Tom RAUDONIKIS

Warren SNODGRASS

Goals John PEARD (5) John DORAHY (4)

Match Description

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: R Fairfax; three-quarters: J Porter, M Harris, H Cameron, W Mullins; five-eighth: J Peard; half: J Mayes; forwards: R Coote, B Reilly, G Olling, A Beetson (c), E Walters, I Baker

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: S Satterly, S Knight, R Giteau, R Mullins; five-eighth: R Worth; half; T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Myers, J Elford, G Foster, P Hundy, J Purcell, M Liubinskas Referee: K Page (Rugby League Week 3rd August 1974)

Easts bolted eight points clear in the race for the minor premiership when they beat a plucky Wests 25-17 at the SCG yesterday. Easts' big winger, Bill Mullins, scored three tries to join Kevin Junee at the head of the season's try-scoring list with 17 touchdowns. Easts led 25-2 after eight minutes into the second half but Wests came back with three tries, to hand in a game performance. Wests were penalised from the start when Dorahy failed to kick the ball 10 metres. Easts went straight into the attack but were repelled by strong defence. In the ninth minute Liubinskas, Hundy and Raudonikis combined to send Satterly racing for the corner. Satterly seemed certain to score but was put into touch by Ron Coote. Easts had first points on the board in the 14th minute when Raudonikis was penalised from a scrum 20m out from his own line and Peard goaled for Easts. Easts were now in front 2-0 but Dorahy levelled the scores with an angled 30m goal in the 20th minute. Four minutes later Harris made a long run down the left flank but was tackled 10m out from Wests' line. The ball then went across field to Fairfax, on to Beetson, who sent a pass inside to Bill Mullins, who stepped inside a tackle from Elford to score. Peard failed to convert and Easts led 5-2. The Roosters were now getting on top but Fairfax was penalised for not allowing Elford to play the ball. Dorahy missed an early shot. Ten minutes from half-time, Easts won a scrum 30m out from Wests' line and Mayes streaked over beside the posts for a great solo try after beating two attempted tackles by Myers. With Peard converting, Easts were in front 10-2. Easts were now right on top and Coote sent a pass inside to Mullins, who went over beside the posts untouched. Peard converted to increase Easts' lead to 15-2. Only four minutes later disaster struck Wests again when they were attacking inside Easts' quarter line. Raudonikis sent a bad pass out to his backs; it went to ground and Bill Mullins picked up the loose ball to race 80 yards to score between the posts. Once again Peard converted and the score was now 20-2. When Mullins went over for his third try, he joined Manly's Kevin Junee on 17 tries as the leading try-scorer. Peard converted to give Easts a 25-2 lead. Elford left the field in the 11th minute of the second half with an injury and was replaced by Warren Snodgrass. After eight minutes of the second half, Fairfax made a break on the blind-side. When caught near Wests' quarter line, he kicked infield. Wests fumbled the ball over their own line and Mayes fell on it for a try. (Sunday Mirror 28th July 1974)

Notes: John Brass and Kevin Stevens were out for this match for Easts after a mid-week Amco Cup match. After a very torrid forward battle, Easts ran away to a 25-2 lead before the young Wests' side came storming back. With Purcell winning the second half scrums, Hundy and Liubinskas started to control the rucks and Wests scored three good tries. This was a good performance against the competition leaders.

WESTERN SUBURBS