



# 1919 Round 4 Saturday 31st May RAS Showground



## Eastern Suburbs 19

def.

## Western Suburbs 10

R ADAMS  
 Wally MESSENGER  
 Leslie CUBITT  
 Ray NORMAN (c)  
 Gordon WRIGHT  
 Harry CAPLES  
 Sid KAUFMAN  
 Bob LINKLATER  
 Robert BATCHELOR  
 Jim DUFFY  
 Charlie LEES  
 Stan KING  
 Reg FARNELL

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

Athol WHITE  
 Dick VEST  
 Paddy BURNS  
 Herb GILBERT (c)  
 Wally COLLINS  
 Alex McPHERSON  
 George McGOWAN  
 Clarrie TYE  
 Bill LUCAS  
 William JOASS  
 Edward COURTNEY  
 Clarrie PRENTICE  
 Westley EASTERBROOK



**Tries** Leslie CUBITT (2)  
 Wally MESSENGER

Dick VEST  
 Clarrie PRENTICE

**Goals** Wally MESSENGER (5)

Alex McPHERSON (2)

### Match Description

**Eastern Suburbs:** full-back, Adams; three-quarters, Messenger, Norman, Cubitt, Wright; halves, Caples, Kaufman; forwards, Linklater, Batchelor, King, Duffy, Farnell, Lees

**Western Suburbs:** full-back, White; three-quarters, Collins, Burns, Gilbert, Vest; halves, McPherson, McGowan; forwards, C Tye, Joass, Prentice, Easterbrook, Courtney, Lucas **Referee, Mr T Dickenson**

There were over 3000 spectators when Lees set the ball rolling for Easts, who started with the sun in their eyes..... From a scrum Easts secured, and the ball was handled by Caples, Norman, Cubitt and Wright. The latter, after a good run, passed in to Cubitt, who scored. Messenger converted. Easts 5 to nil. Shortly afterwards Easts charged in the Wests' 25, Norman being prominent. Courtney affected a good save. .... Close work near Easts' 25 followed. .. After solid ruck work near the centre Messenger kicked well down the line to White. An exchange of kicks, and then a scrum followed. Kaufman secured and passed to Messenger, who beat the opposition with a splendid run and scored the second try for Easts. Messenger's kick, though a good one, was unsuccessful. Easts 8 to nil. .... White took a kick from Adams and after running well, passed to Prentice, to Gilbert, to McPherson, who was brought down on the line. A scrum followed, and Prentice secured and scored under the posts. McPherson converted, and made the scores – Easts 8; Western Suburbs 5. .... After the kick-out Easts carried the ball down the field. Cubitt secured and made a brilliant run, beating several opponents with a dummy pass and cut in final, scoring, amidst enthusiasm. Messenger converted with a fine kick, and the scores were – Easts 13, Western Suburbs 5. The half-time whistle then sounded.

... Close work followed, with Wests attacking hard. From the scrum McGowan passed quickly to Vest, who cut through like a flash and scored in a good position. McPherson converted and the scores were Easts 13, Western Suburbs 10. Fast, open play followed the kick-out, and the spectators were raised to high excitement. The ball was taken to Wests' 25, where Easts were awarded a free. Messenger kicked a fine goal. Easts 15, Western Suburbs 10. .... From the following scrum, Easts were awarded a penalty, and Messenger, with a fine effort, landed a goal. Easts 17, Wests 10. Almost immediately afterwards Wests were again penalised for illegal work in the scrum. The crowd wildly applauded as Messenger once more sent the ball through the posts. Easts 19, Wests 10. Wests now livened up and pushed play into Easts' 25. A good passing rush ended in Courtney being tackled by Norman. .... Easts continued to attack, but Norman unhandled and a likely chance was lost. Shortly after Messenger failed to take a pass from Cubitt and missed a certain try. Gilbert now put in a fine run, but was well tackled by Caples. Final scores: Easts 19, Wests 10. **(The Sun 31st May 1919)**

.....Wests beat Easts badly for the ball, but the breaking of the scrum by the Easts breakaways so worried McGowan and McPherson that they could do nothing with the ball. Easts' backs were also far cleverer than Wests', and Hoboe Cubitt's pace and Wally Messenger's marvellous goal kicking were features of the game. Easts' pack, although they lost the ball, full made amends in the open play. **(The Sydney Sportsman 4th June 1919)**

**Notes:** Wests seemed to have lost this match through the vigour of the Easts' forwards in breaking away from the scrum and shutting down McPherson and McGowan. Some official publications had George McGowan scoring a try but all newspaper reports had George McGowan making a break and passing to Vest who used his pace and scored. Tom McCauley and Joe Reidy were listed as reserves for this match.