



# 1918 Round 7 Saturday 15th June St Luke's Park



## Western Suburbs 42

def.

## Annandale 3

Athol WHITE  
 Dick VEST  
 Paddy BURNS  
 Herb GILBERT (c)  
 Wally COLLINS  
 Alex McPHERSON  
 Alf BOSSI  
 Harold LEDDY  
 Jack REDMOND  
 Clarrie PRENTICE  
 William JOASS  
 William PALMER  
 Edward COURTNEY

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

H McGUINNESS  
 J BAIN  
 G JOLLY  
 D COMERFORD  
 R GOUGH  
 Arthur BUTLER  
 Ernie USHER  
 William GEOGHEGAN (c)  
 Peter COLL  
 E BATES  
 Robert STUART  
 Bill LUCAS  
 M CUSACK

### Tries

Herb GILBERT (3)  
 Athol WHITE (2)  
 Wally COLLINS  
 Edward COURTNEY  
 William JOASS (Penalty try)

J BAIN

### Goals

Alex McPHERSON (7)  
 Athol WHITE (2)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** A White, full-back; R Vest, P Burns, H Gilbert (c) and W Collins, three-quarters; A McPherson, five-eighth; A Bossi, half-back; W Joass, W Palmer, E Courtney, J Redmond, C W Prentice and H J Leddy, forwards

**Annandale:** N McGuinness, full-back; J Bain, D Comerford, G Jolly, and R Gough, three-quarters; A Butler, five-eighth; E Usher, half-back; P Coll, W Lucas, A Bates, W Geoghegan (c), R Stuart and M Cusack, forwards **C Russell, referee**

Redmond kicked off against the sun and a strong breeze. Western Suburbs attacked, and from a free kick near half-way McPherson had an unsuccessful shot at goal. From the ruck Usher picked up and passed to Bain, who ran from the centre and scored. Gough failed at goal – Annandale 3 to nil. Bossi broke through a scrum near Annandale's line, whipped to Burns, to Gilbert, who scored near the posts. McPherson goaled - Western Suburbs 5 to 3. Ruck work followed, till Burns picked up, hustled through, and passed to Leddy, to Redmond, to Courtney, who dived over. McPherson a goal - Western Suburbs 10 to 3. Western Suburbs again attacked, but Annandale were relieved by McGuinness, whose kick went to White, who returned. The bounce beat McGuinness, and White, following on fast, secured and scored. The same player converted. Western Suburbs 15 to 3. Half-time.

Western Suburbs attacked immediately on restarting. Annandale were penalised and McPherson kicked a fine goal. A series of scrums followed, in which Western Suburbs held an advantage. Wests heeled to Bossi, who sent to McPherson, to Gilbert, who fended off several opponents and scored. McPherson goaled. Western Suburbs 22 to 3. Wests scored again shortly afterwards. Collins crossed and McPherson kicked a goal. W.S 27 to 3. Annandale now went to pieces, Wests scoring at will. Joass was awarded a penalty try, and Gilbert went over. 37 to 3. Just before time White scored again and converted leaving the scores Western Suburbs 42, Annandale 3. **(The Sunday Times 16th June 1918)**

The fruit-pickers put up a record score against the 'Dales, and are well on the way to fulfil all the good things that were expected of them early in the season. Annandale took the field minus Arthur Brown and Sunshine Eves, both on the injured list. Wests were without Rick Johnson, the brunette bloke.....White at full-back was not at his best, but somewhat made up for the performance by scoring two tries, and converting the same. .... **(The Sydney Sportsman 22nd June 1918)**

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**Notes:** Five in a row for Wests and they were becoming real premiership contenders. Gilbert, surprisingly, scored his first try of the season and added another two for measure. Note the comment on Athol White. The role of full-backs was not really to score tries unless they made a long break after fielding a kick. They were the last line of defence, forcing the ball if necessary or fielding and kicking to safety. At the half-way mark of the competition Wests had set some new landmarks; they were the best defensive team having only 8 tries scored against them in the first seven rounds, and four of those were in the first match. McPherson was also the leading goal-kicker, a great effort considering Wally Messenger was kicking for Eastern Suburbs.