

Ted Mead

..... like many other early Wests players played rugby union at Ashfield. He was first recorded playing with the Ashfield Buccaneers in 1901 at the age of nineteen. In 1907, he was playing with the Ashfield Rugby Union team that played in the Sydney Second Grade competition before he switched across to rugby league and Wests in 1908.

Ted was one of two players that played all nine First Grade games in 1908. He along with Tedda Courtney and Ray Gormley, was one of three players that played all ten First Grade games in 1909. It was a difficult season for Wests with a high turn-over in playing numbers, and it was men like Ted Mead that held the Club together. Ted had his first taste of being Wests captain, the 4th in Wests history in round seven that year.

In 1910, Ted missed the first game of the season, but played the remaining thirteen matches in First Grade. As he had done in previous seasons, Ted would play every position in the pack. By 1911 Ted's career was winding down, however he did come back for a final season in 1912, and had the honor of captaining Wests First Grade team in the last two competition games to see out his playing career.

Ted was not finished with rugby league or Wests. In 1912 he became involved with Wests General Committee and became the Club's delegate to the NSW Rugby League between 1916 and 1924. He was a Vice President of Wests in the 1920's and 1930's as well as a team Selector in 1927 and 1936.

A congenial man that always had the best interests of Wests at heart, he was awarded Life Membership of the Club along with his son, Les Mead. Ted and Les Mead are Wests Life Members No. 13 and No. 14.

Ted lived all of his life at Ashfield and died there in November 1951.