



1939 Round 13 Saturday 5th August Pratten Park



Newtown 14

Fred SMITH
A HODGINS
F CHRISTENSEN
Tommy NEVIN
Lin McLEAN
Cliff NOBLE
Gil BOX
Allan ELLIS (c)
R WILDER
George STONESTREET
Jim HALL
J KELLY
Frank FARRELL

def.

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

Western Suburbs 13

Jim SHARMAN
Harry ALLEN
Fred BABER
Cal LYNCH
Colin FEWTRELL
Jack TISDALE
Albert McGUINNESS (c)
Ron CAMPBELL
Don GULLIVER
Stan SIMPSON
Ken LOCK
Alex PATRICK
Jack PIPER



Tries

A HODGINS
George STONESTREET

Harry ALLEN
Fred BABER
Jack PIPER

Goals

Allan ELLIS (4)

Stan SIMPSON (2)

Match Description

Newtown: Full-back: F Smith; three-quarters: A Hodgins, T Nevin, F Christensen, L McLean; halves: C Noble, H Box; forwards: G Stonestreet, A Ellis (capt), R Wilder, J Hall, J Kelly, F Farrell

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman; three-quarters: H Allen, F Baber, C Lynch, C Fewtrell; halves: J Tisdale, A McGuinness (capt); forwards: D Gulliver, R Campbell, S Simpson, K Lock, A Patrick, J Piper **Referee: T McMahon (Rugby League News 12th August 1939)**

Western Suburbs started the game from the northern end but Newtown came back solidly to the attack, and Box was unlucky not to score from a scrum on the Western Suburbs line. ... Ellis landed a nice goal, and Newtown led 2 to nil, after five minutes play. From a ruck near half-way McGuinness got the ball and sped through to draw Smith and Hodgins and then send Allen in for a try. When Simpson converted the scores were Western Suburbs 5, Newtown 2. ... Noble put Newtown on the offensive when he found the line with a long kick. But it was only a few seconds before. McGuinness, Gulliver and Baber ran the ball back down-field. After Sharman had received the ball and kicked, Campbell got it and sent on to Baber, who scored. Simpson failed to convert, and Western Suburbs now led 8 to 2. From a penalty Ellis landed a nice goal, to reduce the margin to 8-4. Just afterwards Newtown went to the lead. Christensen made a grand dash from a ruck near half-way and, tackled near the Western Suburbs line, sent Stonestreet across for a try under the posts. Ellis converted. Newtown 9, Wests 8.... As the half-time bell rang a penalty came to Newtown. From in front, but well out, Ellis failed at goal. Half-time scores: —Newtown 9. Western Suburbs 8. From a penalty Gulliver, Lynch and Baber ran the ball out to past half-way. Box, Noble, Christensen, Nevin, and Hodgins unwound a movement to get Newtown out of danger; but shortly a grand movement by Gulliver, McGuinness, Tisdale, Lynch, and Allen took Western Suburbs down to the Newtown line. From a ruck there Piper bustled his way across for a try, which Simpson converted. Western Suburbs 13, Newtown 9. ... Newtown again went to the lead when Hodgins scored a grand individual try. He snapped the ball outside the Western Suburbs 25, and sped through to ground the ball between the posts. Ellis converted, and Newtown led 14 to 13. Western Suburbs were trying desperately to score, and when Newtown were penalised right in front of goal, McGuinness failed at goal from a fairly close in position. ...Lock, from a ruck, carried the ball down past half-way with a great individual run, but shortly afterwards, as Farrell ran the ball into touch, the bell went, and Newtown had won. **(The Sun 5th August 1939)**

Despite the fact that neither team had any chance in the competition, the football provided by Newtown and Western Suburbs at Pratten Park was brimful of excitement and keenly contested throughout. What the players lacked in speed and brilliance was compensated for by the vigour they imparted into their play. Then the fluctuation of the scores stirred the spectators, and the issue was in doubt right up till the final whistle. There were few sustained concerted movements, but there were several fine individual burst by players on both sides. Newtown registered its second success of the season, and deserved the win by 14 points to 13. The outstanding player was the losers' diminutive captain and half-back, McGuinness. He was nippy and resourceful in attack and energetic and sound in defence. A highlight was a sixty yard burst in which he beat man after man, and then sent to his winger, Allen, sprinting across for the easiest of tries. Allen gave a sparkling display, while Baber and Fewtrell were good in patches. Sharman gave an inspiring exhibition at full-back. In Wests' pack, Piper, Campbell and Simpson performed well. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 7th August 1939)**

Notes: McGuinness starred in this very close match, although Harry Allen and Jim Sharman also had outstanding games. In the end, Wests should have won this close contest as McGuinness missed a goal from in front with five minutes to go..