



1938 Round 13 Saturday 6th August Earl Park



Western Suburbs 13

def.

St George 10

Jim SHARMAN
 Les MIDSON
 Cec FIFIELD (c)
 Colin FEWTRELL
 Bill PURCELL
 Cal LYNCH
 Albert McGUINNESS
 Don MURRAY
 Stan SIMPSON
 Jack PIPER
 Jack SCHUBACK
 Ken LOCK
 Athol SMITH

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

Jack WEDGWOOD
 Hilton CURRAN
 Ron FREDERICKSON
 Cyril HOLT
 Jack LINDWALL
 Norm POPE (c)
 Alby McANDREW
 Reg HOPKINSON
 Bill SUMMERELL
 Len KELLY
 Jim SCHUBACK
 Herb GILBERT
 Tom HAYWOOD

Tries Bill PURCELL

Hilton CURRAN
Jack LINDWALL

Goals Stan SIMPSON (5)

Cyril HOLT (1)
Norm POPE (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman; three-quarters: L Midson, C Fewtrell, C Fifield, W Purcell; halves: A McGuinness, C Lynch; forwards: D Murray, J Piper, S Simpson, A Smith, K Lock, J Schuback

St George: Full-back: J Wedgwood; three-quarters: H Curran, J Lindwall, C Holt, R Frederickson; halves: A McAndrew, N Pope (capt); forwards: R Hopkinson, L Kelly, W Summerell, W Schuback, H Gilbert, T Hayward **Referee: A Davis (Rugby League News August 13th 1938)**

A try was missed by St. George when Lindwall missed taking the ball over the line. Free kicks to Wests allowed Sharman to gain ground. Purcell, in accepting a pass from Lynch from a scrum on the St. George 25, cut through to score near the posts. Simpson converted. Western Suburbs 5, St. George nil. Purcell was against conspicuous with a great dash but his in-pass to a forward was dropped. Curran snapped up the ball to score between the posts. Pope converted. Western Suburbs 5, St. George 5. A free kick to Western Suburbs under the posts was easy for Simpson. Western Suburbs 7, St. George 5. Wedgewood, with a fine line kick, took play to Western Suburbs territory for the first time in 15 minutes. A free to St. George, and Holt, from near half-way, kicked a great goal. Western Suburbs 7, St. George 7. Simpson, from wide out on the St. George 25 yard line, kicked a penalty to place Western Suburbs in front 9-7. Penalty kicks spoiled efforts of both sides to open up the play. A kicking duel between Wedgewood and Sharman finished with Sharman kicking out on the full. Half-time scores: Western Suburbs 9, St. George, 7.

From the kick-off St. George pressed, but a penalty relieved Wests. Purcell was tackled hard and from the resulting scrum St. George opened up the play for Lindwall to score wide out. Holt missed the goal. St. George 10, Western Suburbs 9. From well out Simpson kicked a penalty goal. Western Suburbs 11, St. George 10. St. George, at midfield, was given a penalty and Holt missed narrowly. His next two efforts at goal also failed. Wedgewood, when pressed, kicked the ball into the opposing forwards, and Wests took up the attack. Fifield passed to Purcell, who cut infield to be grounded only yards from the line. A free-kick to Wests from right in front was easy for Simpson. Wests 13, St. George 10. **(The Sun August 6th 1938)**

The teams occupying the lowest position in the competition table, Western Suburbs and St George, provided a drab match devoid of thrills at Earl Park. Play for the most part was confined to the forwards for both sets of backs were disappointing when in possession. St George men were the chief offenders. Their passing lacked snap and direction, and most of their movements from the scrums found them losing ground, through the inside backs standing flat-footed and the crowding of the flank men. The Western Suburbs' backs individually displayed more initiative and penetrating power. On several occasions they indulged in good sustained movements. These, however, failed to bring tries, owing to the sound tackling by their opponents. The tackling of both teams was far superior to any of their methods in attack. St George can be counted a trifle unlucky to lose, as the team scored two tries to one by Western Suburbs. In addition, in the first half Lindwall was over the line, only to lose the ball: Hopkinson selfishly hung on, with two men in support, and an open field. The outstanding feature was the dashing display given by Purcell on the wing for Western Suburbs. He made resolute dashes, brushing opponents off. Fifield was the pivot of most of the winners' attacking movements. He was adept at scenting an opening, but often lacked support. **(The Sydney Morning Herald August 8th 1938)**

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Notes: This was a close match, very unusually won by Wests on goal-kicking. Bill Purcell had his best match so far for Wests while Fifield was again the controlling factor. On this day Canterbury became minor premiers and Wests Third Grade maintained their lead in one bright spot for the season. Jack Piper also made a return to First Grade. This was Wests' fourth win in a disappointing season.