



1938 Round 14 Saturday 13th August Sports Ground



Eastern Suburbs 19

def.

Western Suburbs 15

Jim NORTON
Stan CALLAGHAN
Rod O'LOAN
Dick DUNN
Percy DERMOND
Laurie PICKUP
Fred ROBINSON
Andy NORVAL
Joe PEARCE
Henry PIERCE
Frank BELL
Noel HOLLINGDALE
Ray STEHR (c)

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

Jim SHARMAN (c)
Fred BABER
Bill KEATO
Colin FEWTRELL
Bill PURCELL
Cal LYNCH
Albert MCGUINNESS
Don MURRAY
Stan SIMPSON
Jack PIPER
Jack SCHUBACK
Ken LOCK
Athol SMITH



Tries

Percy DERMOND (2)
Henry PIERCE (2)
Andy NORVAL

Fred BABER
Bill KEATO
Stan SIMPSON

Goals

Jim NORTON (1)
Fred ROBINSON (1)

Stan SIMPSON (3)

Match Description

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: J Norton; three-quarters: P Dermond, S Callaghan, R O'Loan, R Dunn; halves: L Pickup, F Robinson; forwards: A Norval, H Pierce, S Pearce, F Bell, N Hollingdale, R Stehr (capt)

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman; three-quarters: F Baber, C Fewtrell, W Keato, W Purcell; halves: A McGuinness, C Lynch; forwards: D Murray, S Simpson, J Piper, J Schuback, K Lock, A Smith **Referee: G Bishop (Rugby League News August 20th 1938)**

Eastern Suburbs, with a well-merited victory against Western Suburbs, gained its position in the semi-finals. The game, which produced superb football, was in doubt right up to the end. The winners, though sorely pressed and close to defeat, deserved their success. They were handicapped for the greater portion of the game through the loss of a player. Western Suburbs lacked finish. Repeatedly their backs hung on, over-ran their supports or crowded their flanks with the defence pierced, and the goal-line wide open. Eastern Suburbs was able to capitalise almost every opportunity. Its team-work, understanding, and positional play were far superior. For a period late in the second half, when Western Suburbs was storming its line, the defence of Eastern Suburbs' backs broke down temporarily. The five forwards proved equal to the task, turning defence into attack. It was from one of these movements on their line that Norval scored a clever try to put the issue beyond doubt. ... For Western Suburbs Purcell was the outstanding performer. Baber and McGuinness were the pick of the remaining backs. Of the hard-worked forwards, Lock, Smith and Piper were the most prominent. **(The Sydney Morning Herald August 15th 1938)**

Eastern Suburbs made a bird of their posy in the semi-final, with a well-earned victory 19-15 over W Suburbs yesterday at the Sports Ground. The Fuitpickers, in their final flutter of the season, gave the Tricolors a heck of a shock. In a game brimful of thrills Easts would have been unlucky to lose for they played a man short for three parts of the tussle. **(Truth August 14th 1938)**

Easts won a place in the final four in the Rugby League competition on Saturday by defeating Wests 19-15 at the Sports Ground. For most of the game Easts were without Dunn, who received a cut over an eye, necessitating two stitches. Although they were not prospective semi-finalists, Wests displayed plenty of enthusiasm and made Easts fight every inch of the way. They penetrated often, but lack of finish lost them tries. Simpson went through to the fullback early in the game, and ignored two supports. Another try was lost again, after a fine run; Smith was in the act of reaching the ball over the goal line when Pickup took it out of his hands. Fewtrell also spoilt an opportunity in the second half when he tossed the ball in the air with supports alongside. Purcell and Baber played well on the wings for Wests. Both are forceful runners, and were always dangerous. **(The Daily Telegraph August 15th 1938)**

The ever-green Dick Fifield is in high glee this week coaching the "Weenies" and how he has them working! What a wonderful spirit of comradeship "Dickie" shows and conclusively proves what a good clubman he is. **(Rugby League News September 3rd 1938)**

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Notes: Easts made the semi-finals, knocking out Newtown's chances, on the strength of this win. It was a very close, exciting game, with many cautions being handed out and Wests blowing many chances to score; Smith and Simpson both bungling tries. Easts had a man, Dunn, off for three-quarters of the game so it was a good performance by them. Bill Keato went into the centres and made a good impression although he was taken off goal-kicking duties when he missed one from in front. Fifield was out guiding the Third Grade. They went on to win the semi-final against Canterbury 12-0, and the Final against Easts 10-4, for an impressive Premiership.