



1971 Round 2 Saturday 3rd April North Sydney Oval



North Sydney 21

def.

Western Suburbs 16

John BOOBY	Fullback
Phil FRANKS	Wing
Laurie MORASCHI	Centre
Rex MURPHY	Centre
George AMBRUM	Wing
Bob DOYLE	Five-eighth
Graham WILLIAMS (c)	Half
John MCDONELL	Lock
Bruce WALKER	Second Row
John PAYNE	Second Row
Jim MILLS	Front Row
Richard HARRIS	Hooker
Noel CAVANAGH	Front Row
Dave DRINKWATER	Replacement

Peter FLANDERS
Don ROGERS
Roy FERGUSON (c)
Dick TIMBS
John ELFORD
Tim MURPHY
Tom RAUDONIKIS
Rod SMITH
John BAKER
Barry BRYANT
Steve WINTER
Ken STONESTREET
Jim CODY
Tony ANTUNAC



Tries

George AMBRUM
Noel CAVANAGH
Bob DOYLE
Jim MILLS
Graham WILLIAMS

Don ROGERS (2)
Jim CODY
John BAKER

Goals

John BOOBY (3)

Peter FLANDERS (2)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: J Booby; three-quarters: P Franks, L Moraschi, R Murphy, G Ambrum; five-eighth: R Doyle; half: G Williams (c); forwards: J McDonell, B Walker, J Payne, J Mills, R Harris, N Cavanagh

Western Suburbs: Full-back: P Flanders; three-quarters: D Rogers, R Ferguson (c), R Timbs, J Elford; five-eighth: T Murphy; half: T Raudonikis; forwards: R Smith, J Baker, B Bryant, S Winter, K Stonestreet, J Cody

Referee: C Edwards (Rugby League Week 10th April 1971)

North Sydney scored the upset of the year by beating Western Suburbs 21-16 at North Sydney Oval last night. For the last 20 minutes of the second-half, Norths battled with only 12 men after winger Phil Franks had been dismissed for allegedly using a deliberate stiff-arm. Norths last week were beaten by Cronulla 42-3 while Wests thrashed Canterbury 55-12. A handy 13-8 half-time lead by Norths was reduced when Wests drew level after only eight minutes of the second session. Twenty minutes later, Norths' Captain Graham Williams made a great run off replacement Dave Drinkwater, and Booby converted the try for Norths to lead 18-13. The match was still in the balance when winger Don Rogers scored his second try but two minutes from the end Norths wrapped up the game when Bobby Doyle was across for his side's fifth touchdown. Referee Laurie Bruyeres was a late withdrawal from the game suffering fibrositis, and his place was taken by Clive Edwards.....
(Sunday Mirror 4th April 1971)

North Sydney last night beat Western Suburbs, 21-16, in their Rugby League clash at North Sydney Oval. Norths finished the game with 12 men, after winger Phil Franks was sent off mid-way through the first half, charged by referee Clive Edwards with a deliberate stiff-arm tackle. When everybody thought Norths would fold under the pressure and a man short, they "kicked on" to score a fine win. Norths were swamped 42-3 by Cronulla-Sutherland in the opening round of the premiership last weekend. On the other hand, Wests were being hailed as potential world-beaters after their amazing 55-12 victory over Canterbury-Bankstown. Norths looked like running away with the game when they led 13-3 last night and then allowed Wests to storm back to 13-all. Norths were tiring, allowing the Western Suburbs players to stand up in tackles, and generally looked like performing one of their normal second-half flops. When Franks was sent off (he had two previous cautions) 18 minutes into the second half, things did not look too good for the struggling Bears. But Norths' astute little Captain, Graham Williams, cut Wests' defence wide open with a 20-yard run to score near the posts. Norths led 18-13 but with nine minutes to go Wests' five-eighth Tim Murphy made a break down the right flank and sent the very fast Don Rogers away for a surprise try. Peter Flanders missed the conversion attempt and it was 18-16 Norths. Norths, who won most of the second-half scrums, kept the pressure on Wests and the club's new "buy", Bob Doyle, scored again to make it 21-16 only two minutes from the end. **(The Sun-Herald 4th April 1971)**

Notes: Tommy Raudonikis continued to increase his reputation with a five-star performance but it wasn't enough to stop Norths springing an upset, even though Phil Franks was sent off 20 minutes into the second half. In a very fast-paced game, Wests drew level at 13-all and looked the winners but Norths were able to hold a rampaging Wests out in a game that most commentators thought Wests should have won, especially considering the dominance of Murphy and Raudonikis.