



1938 Round 5 Saturday 14th May North Sydney Oval



North Sydney 25

def.

Western Suburbs 6

Fred BULGER
Grantley BENNETT
Fred DHU
Jack COLE
C COMBER
Sid MORRIS
Rex HARRISON (c)
J KIRBY
Bruce McPHAIL
Dick ALLERTON
Bill BREWER
Eric NEVILLE
Harry McKINNON

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

Jim SHARMAN
Adrian GLEESON
Cec FIFIELD (c)
Colin FEWTRELL
Ernest MARTIN
Albert McGUINESS
Cal LYNCH
Don MURRAY
Jack SCHUBACK
Edward MEWTON
Jack RUBINSON
Ray WALDON
Athol SMITH



Tries

Fred DHU (2)
Grantley BENNETT
C COMBER
Rex HARRISON

Goals

Rex HARRISON (5)

Jim SHARMAN (2) Field Goals
Albert McGUINESS (1)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: F Bulger; three-quarters: G Bennett, F Dhu, J Cole, C Comber; halves: S Morris, R Harrison; forwards: R McPhail, J Kirby, R Allerton, R McKinnon, E Neville, W Brewer

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman (capt); three-quarters: A Gleeson, C Fewtrell, C Fifield, E Martin; halves: C Lynch, A McGuiness; forwards: D Murray, J Schuback, E Mewton, J Rubinson, R Waldon, A Smith **Referee: L Baggott (Rugby League News May 28th 1938)**

Well, Wests are decidedly the 'wooden-spooners.' Norths beat them 25 to 6 yesterday at North Sydney Oval. The 'Magpies' caused some excitement in achieving the honour and for wielding weighty wallops — two of their forwards received marching orders. The game had not been unduly fiery amongst the forwards, but in the second half, with Norths well ahead, Wests' pack endeavoured to infuse some devil into their play, with the result that Mewton was cautioned. Soon after he and Kirby, of Norths, were found at grips, and referee Baggott sent them both on their way. That roused the ire of the local fans, but pandemonium broke out a little later when a Western forward was seen to beautifully left hook a rival of Norths. He couldn't help being seen, as he had to run about five yards to land the punch. The Westerner tackled the Northerner quite legitimately, but something happened which could not be seen and which the Westerner resented. The unseen something, according to him, was a sly punch by the Northerner, and a split tongue was produced as evidence. Police stationed themselves handy to prevent any attempt at physical violence as the Westerner made his way to the dressing-room. As far as the football was concerned Wests were woeful, with Fewtrell and Lynch showing out best in the backs, while Smith was on his own in the forwards. Norths played well together, with Dhu perhaps showing out a bit ahead of the others. **(Truth May 15th 1938)**

Fred Baber also is well again and has been chosen for the Reserve Grade team on Saturday. Fred has been sadly missed, as he had just struck form when this accident happened..... "Mousey" Mead during his visit to the City during Country Week, paid a visit to his old club-mates at Pratten Park, and received quite a warm reception. Milk and honey certainly agree with him. **(Rugby League News June 10th 1938)**

The crowd was roused to a hostile pitch at North Sydney. Police had to guard the exit to the dressing-room after players had been sent off. The crowd surged around the dressing-room, and an ugly situation seemed likely to develop, until the police dispersed them. Referee Baggott, who was officiating at his initial first grade match of the season, received an unusual amount of trouble at North Sydney Oval, where the local team easily defeated Western Suburbs. Four players were sent off; others might easily have been dealt with likewise. During the latter half, when the local team was well ahead, and Wests could not stem the persistent onslaughts, tenacious tackling, both high and low, with many jolts, became a feature of the game. Two unpleasant incidents roused the crowd. Mewton (WS) and J Kirby (NS) were sent off by the referee, and then J Cole (NS) and R Waldon (WS) were also ordered to leave. Cole was prostrate on the ground, and when Waldon was led off by a club official, the police guarded the exit gate. The crowd surged to the dressing-room and seemed likely to create an ugly scene. The police, however, dispersed them. When Cole, Norths centre three-quarter was escorted off by an ambulance official later, there was loud cheering, mixed with hooting. **(The Sydney Morning Herald May 16th 1938)**

Notes: This was a vicious game which degenerated in the second half. Ray Waldon apparently retaliated to a sly punch by Jack Cole that split his tongue with a left hook that left Cole unconscious. Ray Waldon had to be protected by police in a series of ugly incidents. At the time, Wests were well beaten, down five tries to nil. The only bright spot was that McGuiness and Lynch seemed to be forming a good combination. Jim Sharman also continued his field goal spree. He had the unusual record of kicking a field goal on every one of the League grounds.