



1938 Round 7 Saturday 28th May Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 10

drew with

St George 10

Jim SHARMAN
 Adrian GLEESON
 Cec FIFIELD (c)
 Colin FEWTRELL
 Les MIDSON
 Albert McGUINNESS
 Cal LYNCH
 Don MURRAY
 George LUCAS
 Don GULLIVER
 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
 Dick O'CONNOR
 Ron FREDERICKSON
 Cyril HOLT
 Jack LINDWALL
 Gordon HART
 Norm POPE (c)
 Reg HOPKINSON
 Bill SUMMERELL
 Len KELLY
 Jim SCHUBACK
 Herb GILBERT
 Tom HAYWOOD

Tries

Adrian GLEESON
 Albert McGUINNESS

Gordon HART
 Cyril HOLT

Goals

Cec FIFIELD (1)
 Cal LYNCH (1)

Cyril HOLT (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman; three-quarters: A Gleeson, C Fewtrell, C Fifield, L Midson; halves: C Lynch, A McGuinness; forwards: G Lucas, D Murray, D Gulliver, J Schuback, K Lock, A Smith

St George: Full-back: J Wedgwood; three-quarters: J Lindwall, R O'Connor, C Holt, R Frederickson; halves: N Pope, G Hart; forwards: R Hopkinson, W Summerell, L Kelly, H Schuback, H Gilbert, T Hayward **Referee P Lee (Rugby League News June 11th 1938)**

About 2500 persons saw the kick-off. Western Suburbs attacked, and only good tackling kept them out. ... Rain started after 10 minutes play. Holt, with an excellent kick, goaled. St George 2, Western Suburbs nil. Wests continued to win the scrums, but the backs were flat-footed. A free to Western Suburbs enabled Sharman to gain 30 yards. Hart, after a scrum near the Western Suburbs' line, wriggled over for a good try. Holt missed at goal. St George 5, Western Suburbs nil. A free kick to Wests under the posts was easy for Fifield. St George 5, Western Suburbs 2. Fifield fielded the ball well from a kick by Holt. Dashing through the centre, he passed to McGuinness, who scored between the posts. Fifield missed from an easy position. St George 5, Western Suburbs 5. ... Half-time scores: Western Suburbs 5, St George 5.

Rain fell after the resumption, and the game developed into a forward struggle. ...From inside the 25, Lynch kicked a penalty goal. Western Suburbs 7, St George 5. Wests continued to press and McGuinness was almost over from a scrum near the line. Holt, however, snapped up in midfield and, veering towards the wing beat the defence to score between the posts. He also converted, making the scores St George 10, Western Suburbs 7. Sharman was injured in a tackle but continued after treatment. Wests pressed and, after the backs had handled, Gleeson scored. The kick failed. Western Suburbs 10, St George 10 (**The Sun May 28th 1938**)

Also, do we regret the loss of Ronny Knight, one of our own junior products. Ron was forced through lack of employment to accept the country offer of Quirindi as playing coach, where he did particularly well and was chosen as captain of the Northern representative team against New Zealand played at Tamworth. However Ron is now permanently employed at Casino North Coast Railways (**Western Suburbs Football Club Annual Report February 15th 1939**)

Wests and St George staged a titanic tussle for the first round 'wooden spoon stakes.' After a spectacular and fiercely-waged contest, honours were easy at the final tootle — 10-all. For three parts of the game, consistent rain somewhat marred the play, nevertheless both teams made valiant attempts to throw the pigskin about willy-nilly. Skipper Fifield found the conditions to his liking, and he treated the locals to a scintillating display. He was the pivot of all Wests' attacking movements. 'Podgy' McGuinness, Cal Lynch and Gleeson were all well on their mettle. Big Alf Smith shone like a meteor in the vanguard. He was superb in the rucks, scrums and loose play. Lucas and Gulliver were the pick of the remainder. Holt was Saints' star back, infusing dash and resource into his clear-cut methods. The experienced Pope was a tower of strength, while Hart at the scrum base and Lindwall, winger, each performed with credit. Kelly was the outstanding forward, being ably supported by Hayward and Summerell. (**Truth 29th May 1938**)

Notes: Les Midson came in for Ron Knight, who unfortunately had been forced to leave chasing employment; he was taking up a position as coach of Quirindi. This was another match Wests should have won. Cecil Fifield missed two easy shots at goal and also missed the conversion of the point-equalling try. Athol Smith continued to increase in stature; he was outstanding in the loose again. The team changes had worked well in the last two matches.