



1939 Round 8 Saturday 17th June North Sydney Oval



Western Suburbs 8 drew with North Sydney 8



Jim SHARMAN
 Harry ALLEN
 Fred BABER
 Cal LYNCH
 Colin FEWTRELL
 Jack TISDALE
 Albert McGUINNESS (c)
 Don GULLIVER
 Ron CAMPBELL
 Jack PIPER
 Jack SCHUBACK
 Ray WALDON
 Ken LOCK

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

Jack GRUBB
 Dave McERLANE
 Fred DHU
 J SHEA
 Grantley BENNETT
 Roy THOMPSON (c)
 Pat MORGAN
 Sid HARMER
 Jackie FISHER
 Gerald SCULLY
 Jack BALMAIN
 Leo REILLY
 Harry McKINNON

Tries Fred BABER (2)

Grantley BENNETT
Dave McERLANE

Goals Albert McGUINNESS (1)

Roy THOMPSON (1)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: J Grubb; three-quarters: G Bennett, F Dhu, J Shea, D McErlane; halves: R Thompson (capt), P Morgan; forwards: S Harmer, G Scully, J Fisher, J Balmain, L Reilly, R McKinnon

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman; three-quarters: H Allen, F Baber, C Lynch, C Fewtrell; halves: J Tisdale, A McGuinness (capt); forwards: D Gulliver, R Campbell, J Piper, K Lock, R Waldon, J Schuback **Referee: P Lee (Rugby League News 24th June 1939)**

...North Sydney had Wests hemmed in on its own goal line for some time. McGuinness, securing from a scrum in his own 25, ran past half-way, but Bennett had too much pace and brought him down. However, Wests soon scored. Thompson brought down a kick in front of his own line, passed to Dhu, but the latter dropped the ball and Baber, coming through fast, kicked over the line and fell on the ball. Lynch failed. Western Suburbs 3, North Sydney nil. Dhu secured near half-way, burst through, and beating man after man, went hard for the corner. Sharman tackled him, and the pair hit the corner post, and it was ruled out of touch. ... Norths were doing all the attacking, and several times was unlucky not to score. Then Wests came with a great burst. McGuinness secured from a scrum at half-way, sent to Tisdale, who came round the blind side and showing great pace, shot into the open with only the full-back to beat, but he lacked support, and was brought down ten yards from the line. Gulliver went over a moment later, but he had put his foot into touch and there was no score. Wests continued to storm its opponents' line. McGuinness secured from a scrum, sent to Fewtrell, who made ground and then in-passed to Baber, who went over for his second try. McGuinness kicked an easy goal. Western Suburbs 8, North Sydney nil. Following on a high kick. McErlane beat Sharman to the ball and scored a good try. Morgan failed. Western Suburbs 8, North Sydney 3. Half-time scores: —Western Suburbs 8.North Sydney 3.

North Sydney kept up pressure and the reward came with a fine try by Bennett. Morgan made the opening, gave to Scully, who was held up a few yards from the line. Bennett came round fast, and Scully back passed to him. Bennett swerved past two opponents to score. Morgan failed. Western Suburbs 8, North Sydney 6. Western Suburbs was penalised near half-way and Thompson, with a good kick, levelled the scores. North Sydney 8, Western Suburbs 8. Right on the bell, North Sydney came with a determined rally. Thompson, McErlane and Dhu carried play into Western Suburbs 25, and Dhu cross-kicked, Morgan got to it, sent to Bennett, back to McErlane who was tackled inches from the line, with the bell ringing for full-time. **(The Sun 17th June 1939)**

It is pleasing to see that Jack Schuback is striking form after his enforced absence. An immensely fine defender is Jack, but it is remarkable how we are beaten for the ball Saturday after Saturday. It is to be hoped that the front row as selected for today may be able to gain possession. **(Rugby League News 17th June 1939)**

Harry Allen, promoted to the wing three-quarter position, certainly justified his elevation and looks like holding his position. He certainly took good care of Grantley Bennett, and on one occasion there was no more surprised man than Bennett when Allen took him in a flying tackle. Allen did a very nice piece of work when he came inside and took the pass from Tisdale, broke through the defence and was all set for the line when a defender just touched his toes and brought him down. Good work, Harry. **(Rugby League News June 24th 1939)**

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Notes: Ray Waldon was back with a plan to fix their hooking problems but they were still beaten for the ball. The entire pack was reshuffled and Cal Lynch also went to the centres to make way for Jack Tisdale, Reserve Grade captain, to make his First Grade debut. Harry Allen also made a promising debut. The match was played in terrible conditions, with North Sydney Oval having a great mud patch. It was easily the worst ground in Sydney. Fred Dhu proved hard to handle and Sharman handled the slippery conditions very well.