Greg Rose

..... was first recorded playing with the Granville Diggers junior rugby league club in 1963. The "Diggers" had the honour of playing a preliminary match prior to the Parramatta v St George Ampol Cup semi-final in September 1963.



Preliminary Match to the Parramatta v St George Ampol Cup Semi Final 1 September 1963

He played with Granville Diggers from 1963 until 1969 and from here he was selected to play with Wests S G Ball team in 1966 and Wests Jersey Flegg team in 1968.



Wests S G Ball Cup Team 4 June 1966



Wests Jersey Flegg Team 18 May 1968



Western Suburbs S G Ball Cup Team 1966 Back: W Beaver (Manager), J O'Donnell, P Carmody, P Young, K Webster, P Mahony, J Flello, T Johnson, H Jones (Selector) Middle: D Clare (Selector), J McGuire, T Scarr, N Sinclair, S Savvos, M Togolini, C Williams, P Panagiris (Secretary) Front: G Clare (VC), J Stewart, H Burns (Pres), R Smith (C), B Jones (Coach), Greg Rose, D Smith, In Front: W Clare (Ball Boy) – Insert: J Begnell Absent: A McFarlane (Ass Sec), F Wailes (Trainer), C McNeilly (Trainer)

Greg was graded with Wests in 1970 and played his first game in Third Grade against Parramatta at Lidcombe Oval. Wests defeated Parramatta 15-3 and Greg contributed to the scoreline with a try.



Greg Rose's debut with Wests 30 March 1970

During the 1970 season, Greg's form was recognised and he was selected to play seven Reserve Grade games. At the end of the 1970 season, Greg was awarded the Fred Wailes Memorial Trophy as the most outstanding Wests junior graded with the district club in his initial year.

Winners of the Fred Wailes Memorial Trophy



Player	Year	1 st Grade	2 nd Grade	3rd Grade	U/23's	AMCO Cup	Total
Greg Rose	1970	1	21	37	0	0	59
Terry Rose	1971	4	58	34	27	0	123
Trevor Reardon	1972	13	54	8	32	1	108
Pat Hundy	1973	40	43	0	23	2	108
Nathan Cole	n Cole 1974 0		21	0	60	0	81

Greg spent the 1971 season in Third Grade however, in 1972 he was a regular in the Reserve Grade team. He also made his First Grade debut that season when he was called off the bench in a round twelve match against Balmain.

Wests had started the season competitively and by round twelve were 5th on the competition table with the prospect of making the semi-finals. However the match against Balmain typified the remainder of the season where the team struggled with injuries and eventually faded from contention.

In the Balmain game, John Heyward left the field after 25 minutes with concussion and was replaced by Greg Rose. Rose then suffered a shoulder injury in the second half and was replaced by Russell Mullins.

WESTERN SUBURBS	1972 Round 1	June Lidcombe Oval	WESTERN SUBURBS			
	Balmain 27	def.	Western Suburbs 18			
	Michael ROSS Paul CROSS Geoff STARLING Terry RYAN Glen CAPELIN Tim MURPHY Jeff SHIELD Bob BOLIN Joe WALSH Greg FRYER Barry McTAGGART Dick JEFFERY	Fullback Wing Centre Centre Wing Five-eighth Half Lock Second Row Second Row Front Row Hooker	Tony FORD Don ROGERS Olaf PRATTL Wayne MERRY Allan ASHMORE John HEYWARD Tom RAUDONIKIS (c) John BAKER John ELFORD Barry BRYANT John O'BRYAN			
	Garry LEO (c)	Front Row Replacement Replacement Replacement	Ken STONESTREET John WALKER Russell MULLINS Stephen SATTERLY Greg ROSE			

Greg Rose's First Grade Debut – Round Twelve, 4 June 1972

It was Greg Rose's last season with Wests. During his three seasons with the Club, Greg played one First Grade, twenty one Reserve Grade and thirty seven Third Grade games.

Surname	Forename	Year	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Tries	Goals	Field	Total
			Grade	Grade	Grade			Goals	
Rose	Greg	1970		7					
Rose	Greg	1970			13	3			9
Rose	Greg	1971			16	1			3
Rose	Greg	1972	1						
Rose	Greg	1972		14					
Rose	Greg	1972			8	1			3
Total			1	21	37	5			15



In the 1970's the rewards for playing First Grade rugby league were not great unless the player was one of the few at the elite level. Most players held down a full time job and could not live on the proceeds from the game. However playing outside of Sydney could be rewarding and it was after a discussion between Greg and Coach, Don Parish that Greg signed with West Wollongong in the Illawarra competition for the 1973 season.

The Illawarra rugby league competition was quite strong and was very much a source of talented players that would be recruited by Sydney clubs. Greg's team mates at West Wollongong in 1973 included John Dorahy, Royce Ayliffe and David Waite, all of whom went on to play for Australia. Greg moved on to the Port Kembla Club in 1974.

In 1975, after the Sydney Second Division competition was reorganised the Wentworthville Club left to play in the Illawarra Rugby League competition, believing they could find greater competition on the South Coast. Greg Rose joined the Wentworthville Club in 1975 and remained with the Club for the three seasons that they were in the Illawarra.

Greg spent five seasons in the Illawarra competition. It was a significant commitment that he made when he was based with the Wollongong teams as he had to drive to Wollongong twice a week for training and then return to play on the weekend.

In 1978, Greg signed with the Campbelltown Warriors and played in the Group Six competition. He had two successful seasons with the Campbelltown team which won the premiership in 1979.

However during his time at Campbelltown, Greg broke his jaw on two occasions. Greg and his wife have conveyed an interesting story about the second of these incidents.

It seems that Greg went face first into an opposing players knee. As he pulled himself off the ground he thought that he had a tooth knocked out. The game was halted and players and spectators did an "emu bob" to find Greg's missing tooth.

On closer examination it was evident that all of Greg's teeth were intact. The gap that appeared in his mouth was due to his jaw parting where it had broken dead centre on the chin.

Greg retired from playing rugby league at the end of the 1979 season. He did not take an active role in rugby league after he hung up his boots but remains an avid rugby league supporter to this day. He settled in the central west NSW town of Bathurst, is a member of the Pratten Park Magpies and enjoys catching up with former team mates at reunions.



Greg Rose with Ball with Wayne Merry (No.17) coming to assist. Source: Greg Rose