

1914 Round 11 Saturday 1st August North Sydney Oval

North Sydney 13

Ted TAPLIN John SCULLY Os DEANE George WHEATLEY Thomas BERECRY Charles SHERRETT Selby McFARLANE S WOODWARD W MAHER J McINTYRE George GREEN Reg GOSPER Con SULLIVAN (c) Fullback Wing Centre Centre Wing Five-eighth Half Lock Second Row Second Row Front Row Hooker Front Row Reserve

def.

Western Suburbs 3

Harry CLARK Harold SLY Cecil FOORD Henry NAYLOR Henry MCILLMURRAY Charlie COLLIER James NICHOLSON Clarrie TYE Martin ANDERSEN Westley EASTERBROOK Fred LANE William JOASS (c) Arthur GILLETT Charles ROTHWELL

Henry NAYLOR

WESTERN SUBURBS

Tries

Reg GOSPER George GREEN Con SULLIVAN

Goals W MAHER (1) Charles SHERRETT (1)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back, E Taplin; three-quarters, J Scully, O Deane, G Wheatley, T Berecry; half-backs, C Sherritt, S McFarlane; forwards, C Sullivan, R Gosper, G Green, E McIntyre, W Maher, S Woodward

Western Suburbs: Full-back, H Clarke; three-quarters, H McIllmurray, C Foord, H Naylor, H Sly; half-backs, C Collier, J Nicholson; forwards, A Gillett, F Lane, C Tye, W Joass, M Anderson, W Easterbrook Referee: Mr T Dickinson

The game opened up very quickly, and was chiefly confined to heavy ruck work at mid-field. The Northerners were more successful in the scrimmages than their opponents, but the quick breaking tactics of the Westerners counter-balanced this advantage until McFarlane got his backs moving brilliantly, but the ball went astray at the critical moment. However, a little later Sullivan scored, but C Sherritt failed to gaol. North Sydney 3 points to nil. After this Joass retired with an injured hand and was replaced by W Rothwell. The Northerners kept up the pressure and Green scored a try, after McFarlane had paved the way, by a clever short kick over Clark's head. Sherritt's kick was again unsuccessful. At half-time the Northerners led by 6 points to nil.

On changing ends North Sydney again took a firm grip of the game, but they did not play brilliantly. In fact, their handling was mediocre at times. After a long period of defensive work, the Westerners gave way, and Gosper registered North Sydney's third try. Sherritt goaled. North Sydney 11 points, Western Suburbs nil. During a period of even play Wheatley had his right shoulder jarred, and temporarily retired, and later the side suffered a further loss through the retirement of C Sherritt, who was carried off with an injured ankle. North Sydney soon afterwards increased their tally; a penalty goal by Maher. North Sydney 13 points to nil. The Westerners livened up a little bit, though they had a few good opportunities of scoring, the want of cohesion when on the move led to their undoing. Wheatley came on the field again. Towards the close the Westerners hurled themselves at the Northerners' line, and Naylor, snapping up, managed to wriggle his way over and score. Lane failed at goal. North Sydney won by 13 points to 3. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 3rd August 1914)**

"Western Suburbs were the greater offenders, and played as if they were strangers to one another, each man on his own. Courtney's guiding influence was sadly missed. Collier at five-eighth showed a want of understanding with the half, whose passes were not always accepted. Foord and fullback, Clarke, were the best backs on their side.' (The Saturday Referee and the Arrow 8th August 1914)

Notes: Charles Sherrett broke his leg and was carried off, forcing Wheatley to come back on even though he was apparently heavily concussed. Again, the loss of key players was affecting Wests, with Sly coming back from Seconds and Collier, a champion winger, playing out of position at five-eighth. With Courtney out and Ranji Joass going off injured the Wests' pack was very depleted. This gave Charles Rothwell another run in Firsts. <u>The Sportsman</u> noted that Wests would be playing their following competition game against Annandale as an exhibition match at Goulburn, taking the City League to the Country.

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