



The Rabbitoh

2021 Grand Final Edition

South Sydney v Penrith

Lang Park Stadium, Sun Oct 3



Editorial

Welcome to a special 2021 Grand Final edition of The Rabbitoh.

With publications going out of print during Covid it was time for a return of a publication I loved in the late 1980s "The Rabbitoh". This publication is for the fans to celebrate our 2021 appearance in a premiership decider.

I am Mark Sivis many won't know me.

In 1982 I had the honour of helping, doing some match day statistics for my beloved Rabbitohs, after sharing computer generated statistics, while at uni.

Since then I was told I built the first Rabbitohs website, co-authored the IRLWWW and today I record the 114 year history of the South Sydney District Rugby League Football Club.

I have followed this historic season with great interest and would like to share some of the insight and history of our great club as we look into the past, compare try scoring legends.

So, enjoy the day as many of us are in lockdown rather than at the ground like in 2014, and for our fans in Queensland enjoy the historic moment.

Many thanks to my guest contributors who have added their insight.



We Don't Make Grand Finals to Lose



For a long time, I've have held a fairly simple belief **Souths don't make Grand Finals to lose them.** It's something I've used to console myself after our Preliminary Final defeats in 2012, 2013, 2018, 2019 and 2020. The footy gods decided it wasn't our time, so no need to play in the decider. Although 2013 was the absolute pits. I still haven't watched a replay or any highlights from that game and I doubt I ever will.

Anyway, this theory I have hasn't been based on anything concrete, just an instinct. So I decided to see if history backed me up. Simple right? Nope. Grand Finals only become compulsory in 1954. So prior to that it wasn't clear if the final game of the season was deemed a Grand Final or not. Here's what it looks like.

South Sydney: Grand Final Appearances by Year

Won - 1931, 1932, 1951, 1954, 1955, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1971, 2014

Lost - 1949, 1952, 1965, 1969

Of the 2,205 premiership matches Souths have played since 1908 to this point, how many have been Grand Finals? The answer is only 14. Sunday will be number 15. Here's the stats.

South Sydney: Grand Final Stats

Played	Won	Lost	Points For	Avg	Points Against	Avg	Diff.	Winning %
14	10	4	236	16.8	170	12.1	+66	71.42%

Average Winning Margin:	9.4
Biggest Winning Margin:	28 points vs Manly in 1951
Average Losing Margin:	7.5
Biggest Losing Margin:	10 points vs Western Suburbs in 1952

Okay well maybe my theory isn't perfect, but it holds true 71% of the time! We've clearly won more than we've lost and the last three we've played in. The record is good. My confidence for Sunday evening remains unwavering.

Souths to win.

Wade Singleton

The sign of a champion

Chris Isouard

As a teenager, Cameron Murray would regularly read a poem written on his bedroom mirror.

Before you think it's a number from Poe, Frost, Plath or Shakespeare. This is Botany, a rugby league mad suburb in the heart of Rabbitohs Territory. The poem is from the book, *The Man in the Mirror* by Wayne Bennett. The poem teaches you that no matter what you do in life, you can't rely on pats on the back or people telling you how good you are. You need to stay true to yourself and never take shortcuts.

I've seen players better than Cam at the junior level but they took shortcuts and lived off their reputation. Rugby league is a marathon, not a sprint and the mirror never lies.

There's no bigger critic to Cam's game than himself. It's that determination which drives him to be a better version every day.

It's 2015 and I'm out at St Marys on a cold and damp Saturday morning. The occasion? work. Don't feel too sorry for me, I'm on the staff for the Rabbitohs' S.G. Ball Cup team and we've got a Prelim to win. St Marys isn't the prettiest of grounds but we haven't had the prettiest of seasons, finishing seventh.

Anyway, I'm up in the comforts of a glass box as the boys run out to play the Sea Eagles and I hear "mind if I join?". The voice sounded familiar, it's Freddy Fittler. During the first half Freddy asks me, "Where's this Keaon kid from? Please tell me he's not a Kiwi!". I laugh and told him not to worry, he's a Mascot boy. Freddy was scouting kids to play for NSW u18s.

As the game went on, Freddy goes "Chris, see your 13? That's the sign of a champion, you know he's stuffed but his body language won't show it... keep watching, you'll see". The kid in jersey 13 is Cameron Murray. It's 10-all and we're into golden point. Freddy is full of energy, I'm about to have a heart attack.

Manly have the ball on halfway but their dummy half drops it cold. Before Freddy could finish saying "OH NO!", you see a flash of green scoop the ball up and charge through the shocked Manly defence. A sea of maroon start chasing you know who, Cameron Murray. One-by-one they drop-off but Cam is still going, he could have run to Windsor and they still wouldn't have caught him.

As the celebrations die down, Freddy's parting words were "I told you to keep an eye on that 13".



In that moment, a fatigued Cam could have just stood there and waited for the scrum. There was still eight minutes left in golden point. If Cam did that, he wouldn't have been true to himself.

This Sunday is grand final day. To those that are true to themselves, it's no ordinary game. Take the game lightly and regret it for an eternity.

There'll be 34 players out there. Each one of them has an opportunity to etch their name into history. When it comes to winning the moment, none will be more prepared than Cameron Murray.

1908-10,14,18 – The Beginning

Mark Sivis

Prelude

South Sydney's first premiership has its origins in the old Rugby Union days. In 1873 "district" rather than "borough" teams had been first proposed in cricket based upon electoral boundaries. It took another 27 years before the MRU would agree to base a team in the electorates of South Sydney and Redfern. So, in 1900 South Sydney stepped up into first grade and adopted the famous cardinal and myrtle colours with the 4-inch 2-inch design. Soon after the legend of the "Rabbitoh" was born in a heated clash with Sydney University. By 1905 South Sydney had become a such a strong force they took out the MRU first grade premiership, with famous names Arthur Hennessy and Billy Cann. Then the Union / League split gained momentum with South Sydney originally proposed to play one of 3 games against the New Zealand All Blacks before everyone settled on an NSW team captained by Hennessy. These events culminated in the meeting at the Redfern Town Hall on Jan 17 1908 to form the South Sydney DRLFC.

Season 1908

1908 got off to a low-key start. A secret internal trial was played at St Joseph Banks Oval at Botany, the first game of Rugby League played in Australia. Before the following weeks saw us play Easts when the famous time-keeper bell of 2014 was rung. The first season saw Souths only lose one game by a point. Then with 2 rounds to go the Kangaroos departed with 6 players Arthur Hennessy, Tommy Anderson, Arthur Butler, Billy Cann, Jim Davis and Johnny Rosewell all selected. Ed Fry took over the reigns as captain-coach to guide the team through the finals. With another win Souths finished the season as Minor Premiers equal leaders with Easts. It was a time when competition points in the finals mattered, so a Top 8 round was then played with a tough win over Newcastle 8-3, followed by strong semi win over Glebe 16-3 before taking out the 1st premiership against Easts 14-12.



Season 1909

1909 saw a young Howard Hallett step up into the team with the Kangaroos still away for the first two rounds. The season saw Souths win their first 9 game and again only lose one game throughout the season ending up 2 points clear Minor Premiers. Tommy Anderson was a standout scoring 12 tries, with Arthur Conlin taking over the captaincy, Webby Neill out the back and tough forwards Max Coxon, Dick Green and Harry Butler. The only loss came when Souths travelled to Newcastle. They made amends by winning the return semi-final 20-0. Then with the Wallabies v Kangaroos series in progress the Final was delayed over a month before the famous no show by Balmain occurred. Souths kicked off scored and won their 2nd premiership.

Season 1910

1910 season kicked off with the MRU banning all professional sportspeople, not just rugby league players. This triggered a mass exodus as many



players also sculled, ran or swam professionally. Wallaby recruits Alby and Peter Burge, Arthur McCabe came across as did William Spence and sculler Harry Pearce. A young Steve Darmody stepped up into first grade, Hennessy returned after a residential dispute with NSWRL and Jack Leveson was in the halves. The season was now extended to a full 2 rounds. The first match of the season was at Birchgrove Oval in a final rematch, Souths put Balmain in their place winning 13-5. and Souths came home strongly recording their record win 67-0 over Wests followed by a 53-4 victory over Norths, ending the season in 2nd place. South Sydney were chasing a 3rd title and the ability to keep the RAS Challenge Shield outright when they met Newtown in the Final, and all looked secured leading 4-2 when in the final moments of the game Newtown claimed a “mark” and kicked a goal to draw the game, claiming the premiership on countback.



Season 1914

After a few lean years South Sydney were back. 1914 saw the team gel with young sensation Harold Horder scoring 19 tries, and a young Hack Thompson, Brown and Hallett out the back and veterans Billy Cann, Jim David, Arthur and Harry Butler, Arthur McCabe ably assisted by William Spence, Ray Norman, Eddie Hilliard and Owen McCarthy. Hallett claimed the famous “silver belt” as player of the season. As the Great War broke out in Europe, the team finished as Minor Premiers winning 11 games to win their 3rd premiership without the need for a final's series.

Season 1918

1918 was a standout standalone year. A young Alf Blair had made the grade joining the Horder brothers Harold and Clarrie, Harold Horder would have a standout year scoring 21 tries and a young Arthur Oxford stepped into goalkicking duties. Claude O'Donnell returned from the war. A club attendance record of 27,000 was set with 3 rounds to go when Souths played Wests in what was a playoff for the title. Souths won that day winning 11-3 and would go on to win their final two games of the season. They won the final 8 games straight as they ended as Minor Premiers two points clear of Wests claiming their 4th premiership. But the team wasn't done with yet as they went off to Queensland beating Brisbane leaders Merthyr 28-10 and drawing against the Queensland state team.



Notable 1908-10 Era Achievements (32 wins from 37 – 86.5%)

South Sydney play in 3 premiership deciders in 3 years winning 2
1908-09 16 game winning streak
1910 Souths biggest ever win 67-0 over Wests
1910 Souths score 154 points in 3 games
1914 George Reynolds is South Sydney's first indigenous player
1914 Harold Horder scores 20 tries in the season
1914 Harold Horder becomes South Sydney's greatest ever try and point scorer
1914 Howard Hallett wins the Silver Belt as player of the season
27,000 biggest regular season crowd at SCG

1923-1932 – Pride of the League

Mark Sivis / Mark Emery

Prelude

The Great War was over, and the Spanish Flue pandemic had passed. But with so many players enlisting it took some time for game to recover, when the 1920s got into full swing South Sydney were there again. The City Cup had gained significant importance in the Rugby League calendar as a post season seeded knockout. In 1921 was run as the second half of the season proper with South Sydney winning the City Cup once again.

Season 1923

1923 season saw Souths build on that success. A new group of players had now emerged. Oscar Quinlivan had come down from Taree, while local juniors Tom Barry, Jack and Vic Lawrence, Alf O'Connor, Dave Watson, Eddie Root and Benny Wearing joined Alf Blair and Howard Hallett. The team finished equal first but went down to Easts in mid-week premiership decider, as the City Cup started the on the weekend.

Season 1924

1924 was a shortened 8 round season. Once again where we finished equal first. Harold Horder and Cec Blinkhorn had come back to South Sydney, while Albert Why(Carr) stepped up into first grade. We again went to a mid-week premiership decider in the first ever radio broadcast cast game, going down in the decider to Balmain this time. The City Cup once again dominated the year as South Sydney came through into the final against University which we won 23 to 2 in a dominate display.

Season 1925

Howard Hallett after recently retiring stepping into a non-player coaching role, one of the first to do so. We had made the final in the last two years, but this year was SPECIAL. We went through the whole season and won every match. Then the season was stopped as we were 10 points clear of competition. Only time it has been done. South Sydney had won 12 games in a row. Harry Cavanough and Ernie Lapham had joined the team and Arch Thompson had emerged at hooker, while Pat Murphy and Alf O'Connor and Eddie Root dominated up front. We then went onto win the City Cup against Glebe 15-8. As a good measure we won all three grades. In third grade the district was so strong we had to beat Mascot and Redfern United to take out the title.



Season 1926

We were so dominate that they changed the finals format and to include semis, and a minor premier grand final challenge with no City Cup. 1926 also saw the end of non-district lower grade teams. Made no difference as we were so strong all the year and had zero chance of not winning the premiership. The season

saw the arrival of Harry Finch and Sid Harris and the emergence of George Treweek. Albert Carr was still leading us around the paddock. We only lost two games all year. The Round 16 match was deemed

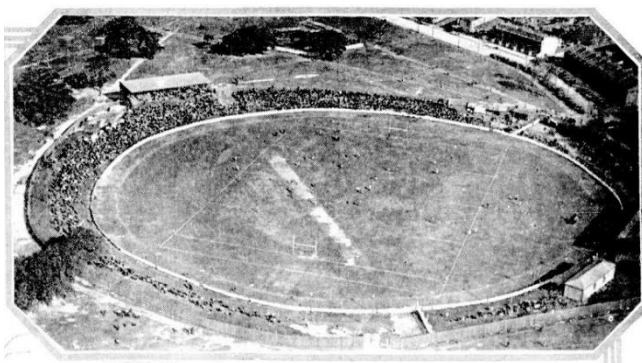
the greatest upset of all time. Souths were 18-0 up against Newtown, and Newtown with a player down, and they got up and beat us. We finished the season 9 points clear of the opposition. Funnily enough it was the one and only year that University challenged us, we went on to win 11-5 in the decider. Our 6th premiership.

Season 1927

Charlie Lynch replaced Hallett in the coaching role. Again, a year of dominance. Saints sent out a challenge but even they could not beat us. In fact, we played them with 11 men in the mud and still won. Some huge crowds were coming to watch us. The semis were almost boring as we were just too good. A young Mick O'Connor had stepped into the halves with Frank O'Connor pushing his way into the team. South Sydney won 19 games losing only one game all year, then beating St George in the final 20-11. Winning 3 titles in a row and claiming the Truth and Sportsman Gold Cup. Our Reserve Grade team won its 5th straight premiership.

Season 1928

Something had to be done about this South Sydney. So, there was a change in the residency boundaries where South Sydney lost territory to Newtown and with it players like Percy Horne and Eddie Root, while Alf Blair moved to Queensland. But in came Paddy Maher, Jim Tait while Jim Breen led the side for the year. Kadwell was fullback with Wearing and Finch on the wings. Vic Lawrence and Oscar Quinlivan were our centres. Up front Watson, Root led the way.



Again, something had to be done to stop us so they played the semi, against Saints at Saints HOME GROUND Earl Park, winning 13-5 in extra time. It made for a tight game but after being equal at full time we went on to win anyway. Slaughtered Easts in the final 26-6 with lower graders Reg Williams, Alf Binder and Alan Righton with Souths playing a 5-man pack with 3 centres that day. Taking out our 4th title in a row and our 8th premiership.

Season 1929

1929 Souths were far too good AGAIN. There was a chance we might drop out though. The Kangaroo tour had 5 players Finch, Kadwell, Maher, Root and Treweek departed with 6 regular season games to go. Souths had to 5 replace tourists. Surely now they will drop down. Hah. No chance. In stepped Albert Spillane, Harry Evers, Jack Jones, Jack Why and Frank O'Connor. We once again took the Minor Premiership. First up was Wests in the semi-final which we thumped 22-10. Poor Newtown had the dubious honour of playing us in the final. The refs even ignored some forward passes to let Newtown score something.



Winning 5 years in a row was a record everybody said would never

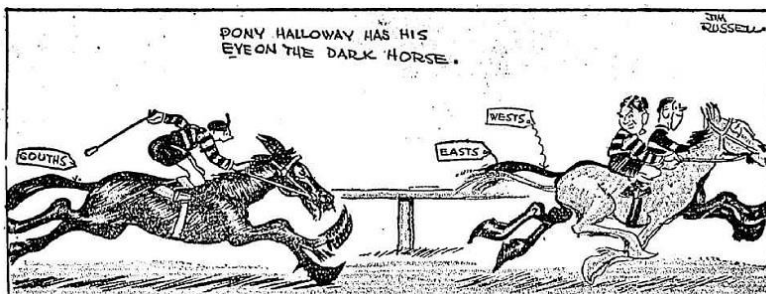
be broken, and the team was crowned the Pride of the League and taking out our 9th premiership. After the season we went to New Zealand and beat Auckland premiers Marist 21-5.

Season 1930

Well it had to come to an end sometime. The season was humming along nicely-Souths not dominating but well in the mix. Came to Wests in the second round after beating Easts and in first place. Suddenly it all fell to pieces. We just could not win anything in the last 3 rounds and went out in the first semi. Wests finally broke through for a premiership when we got knocked out.

Season 1931

1931 season started with a number of new faces Frank Curran, Jack Morrison and Percy Williams as a number of players moved on. The BIG team Eastern Suburbs. Dominating all season - a team of champions. Wests not too far behind and bringing up the rear Saints and Souths. The top champions did



cast a glance at the Souths - 'watch out they are dangerous' but hey no real worries. South Sydney finished the season in second place. Semis... Souths got rid of Saints 16-5 and surprise surprise Wests beat Easts. That meant Easts had to play in a GF. Souths overcame Wests 17-3 and then it was on. The 1931 GF has the reputation for those who know their history of the best GF of all time. Two champion clubs neck to neck. Last minute to go. Harry Evers broke through and scored, with conversion 12-7. What a game. Souths 10th premiership. With their 3rd title since 1927 Souths also secured their second Truth and Sportsman Gold Cup. Souths were then challenged by country champions Group 9 but were too good winning the NSW State Championship 31-5.

Season 1932



1932 saw new face Eric Lewis join the team, while Sid Harris had returned. While Jack Peterson and Jim Deeley joined and Jack Morrison led the team early in the before George Treweek took over. Two champion clubs Wests and Souths were neck to neck all season with everybody just making up the numbers. Wests won first Souths

second. Souths did end up Minor premiers. They needed it. Wests and Souths won their semis. Wests played Souths in the final. They belted them ...mercilessly, Souths losing the final 8-23. But you needed two shots from the shotgun to kill this rabbit. Souths and Wests then played what is the second-best GF of all time. It was 12 all and with one minute to go Wearing kicked a goal. After the bell Souths got another try to make the score look like it was easier than it was. 19-12. Souths 11th premiership. Souths then won again next week in the State Championship 19-16 over Group 9. That was it for 18 years.

Notable 1923-32 Era Achievements (116 wins from 156 – 74.4%)

South Sydney play in 9 premiership deciders in 10 years winning 7

Reserve Grade Premiers 8 times in 10 years

1925 Undefeated

1925 3 grade titles

1925-26 15 game winning streak

1927 Wearing scores 20 tries in the season

1929 Wearing overtakes Horder and becomes South Sydney greatest ever try and point scorer

1929 36,818 biggest crowd

1925 Souths Third Grade score a 110-2 victory over University

1931 Benny Wearing scores 100 points in a season

1949-1955 – Post War

Mark Sivils

Prelude

After several very lean years during the second world war, the arrival of Jack Rayner at the end of 1946 at the advice of Eric Lewis while on the war front was a catalyst for success for years to come. It wasn't long before Clive Churchill and Johnny Graves came down from Newcastle and Chika Cowie came down from Queensland.

Season 1949

Continuing with the build up post war, Souths brought over Des Bryan from Balmain and Bernie Purcell returned from Wests. Forward Denis Donoghue and Norm Nilson joined Cowie, Rayner and Aitken in the pack. While Len Allmond was proving a strike player out wide. Souths stormed out of the blocks in 1949 going undefeated for the first 8 games before playing in front of record South Sydney crowd to play St George. Johnny Graves scored 5 tries in our demolition of Easts scoring 27 points that day. A steady second half of the season saw Souths clinch its 10th Minor Premiership. But it wasn't enough losing to St George in both the semi-final and the Grand Final.

Season 1950

Souths continue their buildup with Milton Atkinson a centre join while Smailes, Woolfe and Bill Stewart came down from the country. Local juniors Hammerton, Harwick and McCreadie were pushing their way into the starting team. The season got off to a steady start, with the brilliance of Churchill providing Johnny Graves many try scoring opportunities. But it was the steady goalkicking of Bernie Purcell that was proving to be a bonus. He became only the second ever player to score 100 points in a season, before fracturing his collar bone. The 1950 Grand Final was moved to the SSG as the SCG was being prepared for Cricket. The period was full of scrums and the Grand Final was no different with 37 scrums packed and 34 penalties issued. Souths hung on in a tough game to win its first title in 18 years and Souths 12th premiership.



Season 1951

1951 saw Souths consolidate on the playing squad they had as the team was unchanged for much of the season. The season started very strongly going through undefeated for the first 12 games. They year finished with a thumping win over Parramatta 50-10 taking out the Minor Premiership. But complacency resulted in a shock loss in the semi-final to St George. Souths gambled with a rookie Harry Wells to replace injured Smailes and a rookie Ray Mason in at halfback. Souths hit back against a young Manly team with a thumping Grand Final win 42-14 once again at the SSG where Johnny Graves scored a record 4 grand final tries. Souths had gone back to back again, taking out their 13th premiership.

Season 1952

Souths brought back half Ken Brogan from Cooma and brought in two country backs Frank Thelfro and Ian Moir. Wells had returned to Wollongong. Moir and Graves battled for the left-wing role early on. Mid-season in July Churchill and Harwick left on the Kangaroo tour of England. This left a big gap in the squad but the players seemed to up for it early when Souths beat Riverina 61-5, Cooma 95-16 when Graves scored 6 tries and returned to thump Easts 50 nil., Don Murdoch and Malcolm Spencer had stepped in to fill the void, while Orrock, Hammerton and Donoghue led from the front. During the year Souths played Western Australia and Victoria. Souths finished the year in 3rd position. They went on to beat Wests in the semi-final and then Norths in the final before coming up against Minor Premiers Wests in a controversial Grand Final. The scrum count was 34-19 and we lost the penalties 4-15 with Orrock sent from the field. At the end of the game The Referee's Association requested a review of the film of the game, with referee Bishop officiating his last game.



Season 1953

Again, Souths looked to the country for new star players with Johnny Dougherty and Martin Gallagher joining, while local Jim Richards had stepped up into first grade. While Johnny Graves had departed. 1953 saw Souths start the season with 3 losses, when Churchill missed his first ever game with injury with several other players also out injured. Midyear Souths were finishing games with 11 men. Souths were only 2 points off last as we passed the halfway mark of the season. Mid-season Souths played touch football games against the touring US team as they tried to teach

with the yanks how to play the game of rugby league. A SOS was sent to Ernie Hammerton who returned from Boorowra and slowly Souths climbed back into contention. When Churchill returned in Round 15 South Sydney went on to crush Canterbury 51-15 scoring 13 tries. While women spectators attacked referees with umbrellas, Souths had snuck past everyone to finish the season s Minor Premiers. In a tough semi-final Souths pipped Norths 5-4, before dominating St George in the Final 31-12 winning their 14th premiership.

Season 1954

With the departure of Thelfro and Johnny Graves choosing to play in the bush, gave a chance to a young local junior, Les Brennan, to form one of the most lethal wing combinations with Ian Moir ever to play. They scored 50 tries between them that year. With Brennan setting a record of 29 tries for the season. After a year in Cootamundra Bernie Purcell also returned. The year got off to a good start going undefeated for 5 rounds. A young Bob Honeysett also made his debut mid-season, while Murdoch continued to deputise for Churchill during the representative games. Souths finished the season in second place. In the semi-final Souths dominated minor premier Newtown to win 24-14. Les Brennan rushed back from his honeymoon to play the Grand Final. Souths went on to win the game 23-15 after Rabbits had been let lose on the field. It was Souths 15th premiership.

Season 1955

Two players joined the squad. Dale Puren who had come across from Wests. He was extremely quick running 3rd to Moir and Irvine, in match race. And Col Donohue who came to Souths via Corrimal to play halfback. The loss of Woolfe and Smailes and then Brennan early in year had Souths struggling. By Round 10 were running second last 2 points off the bottom of the ladder. Then started a remarkable season comeback going undefeated for the rest of the season. The comeback began while Churchill was on rep duties. With Harwick at 5/8 and Donohoe at half and Moir and Puren on the wings and pack of Richards, Hammerton, Donoghue, Purcell, Rayner and Cowie. Churchills return saw Souths thump Parramatta. Then in the Manly game 2 weeks out from the finals, Souths had finally just pushed their way into the final 4 when Churchill broke his wrist. He left the field in the first half but later returned to the field with his arm wrapped in cardboard and kicked the winning goal late in the match from the sideline. Another win over St George in the last round saw Souths clinch 4th place. Souths then inched past Manly in a close semi and then again past St George in the final. Then into the Grand Final against Newtown where Moir once again scored as did Donohue before it was Purcell who had the task of kicking the winning goal to win 12-11. A remarkable 12 straight wins



Notable 1949-55 Era Achievements (103 wins from 142 – 72.5%)

South Sydney play in 7 premiership deciders in 7 years winning 5

1954 500 season points

1951 18 wins throughout the season

1951,53,54 Graves, Moir and Brennan score 20 plus tries in the season

1950-52,54-55 Graves and Purcell score more than 100 points in the season

Clive Churchill and Jack Rayner dominate player awards

50,009 biggest regular season crowd at SCG

56,532 attend 1949 Grand Final

1967-1971 – 4 Tackle Football

Mark Sivis

Prelude

The 4 tackle football era of 1967-71, had a steady build up with South Sydney slowly rebuilding by gaining key imports like John Sattler in 1963 and commonwealth sprint champion Michael Cleary. But it was the emergence of a group of young players from a 1960-65 winning President Cup teams that laid the foundation, with a young Ron Coote and Bob McCarthy emerging as stars of the future.

1965 saw Souths return to famous red and green hoops and it was a year young forward John O'Neill joined and a young goalkicker Eric Simms forced his way into the first grade at the back end of the season. Goalkicking had proved to be an issue since the retirement of Bernie Purcell back in 1959 and a vital part of the game. South Sydney had caught the public imagination after a young Souths team had beaten 9-time premiers twice in season only to fall short in the Grand Final in front of that record crowd at the SCG.

Season 1967

After just missing the finals in 1966, rugby league across the world changed the game to be a 4-tackle contest rather than unlimited tackles. This had a significant impact on how the game would be played. Several South Sydney players had a rugby background Lisle, Cleary, Honan and Dallas O'Neill and this proved valuable. Hot-head John Sattler was given the captaincy as former champion Clive Churchill took over reigns as coach. Almost immediately the importance of a good goalkicker and fieldgoal kicker was evident, as we got off to 3 good wins off the boot of Simms, who had started year off in halves. The early departure of Fred Anderson gave a young George Piggins a chance. With Longbottom out the back, Cleary out



wide, Jones and Lisle in halves and Coote up the middle, saw Souths play an expansive game with long range kicking vital. As you would get the ball back when it went dead, long range goal kicks and fieldgoals were the order of the day. Souths had bettered minor premiers St George all year beating them 2 times. But regular send offs for fighting forced Churchills hand. Walters had now come into team and Ivan Jones returned to the halves. Souths finished the season in second place. They then knocked off St George who later bowed out in the finals, for the first ever appearance against Canterbury in the grand final, in the first ever live broadcast decider on TV. It was a tight contest with a great intercept try giving Souths the lead into the break. But in the end, it was a vital goal by Simms 4 minutes from full time that gave Souths a win 12-10 and their 17th premiership.

Season 1968

Season 1968 started poorly as the team struggled to live up to the premier's tag and by the mid mark of the year had



dropped out of the Top 4. The mid-season arrival of Dennis Pittard from his transfer dispute with Wests, and the promotion of Bobby Grant turned our fortunes around. John O'Neill, Walters, Morgan up front and Sattler and Coote in the back, led the way in the revival. Simms had also become a regular in the fieldgoal department kicking 3 a game 8 times through the year and 29 in total for the season. McCarthy struggled with injury for much of the year, with Moses moving into pack and Lisle into the centres. The famous "pointing the rabbit" incident occurred versus

Canterbury causing the player to miss a goal, as Souths continued to surge home. Arthur Branighan was a regular in the centres and a young utility Paul Sait was making his mark. Souths stormed home with 9 wins to claim the Minor Premiership. Before things came astray in the semi-final when they lost to Manly, before bouncing back to beat St George. In what was seen as the best example of 4 tackle football Souths and Manly played out the Grand Final, with Cleary using his speed to score a try off a Manly dropped ball with the Simms once again kicking the team to victory with 5 goals as we took out our 18th premiership. So strong was the squad that 6 past or future test players played in the Reserve Grade Grand Final that year. The team then went on tour beat both Auckland premiers before going up to Queensland to demolish Brisbane premiers Brothers in the Australian Championship.

Season 1969

1969 has gone down as one of the greatest seasons in the club's long history, winning the Pre-Season Cup, all 3 junior grades and the Third Grade premiership. Fullback Eric Simms became the greatest point scorer. But the pain of the Grand Final loss lives long in everyone's memories as the tactic of stopping the play stifled Souths free flowing style of football and if you add Bobby Grant's hand injury proved too much.

Season 1970

A few key rule changes occurred in 1970. One being the 2-replacement rule at any time in the game and knock-on not being counted as tackle 1. The season started well with McCarthy and Stevens forcing their way into the back row, Sait in the centres and Ray Branighan initially at fullback before settling on the wing with Simms at the back. For second half of the season Souths only lost one game storming to another Minor Premiership. Souths however refrained from using the fieldgoal as winning tactic until later in season. Souths came up against Manly 3 times, first in the last round, then again in the semi-final before again meeting in the Grand Final. The 1970 Grand Final was a brutal affair with Manly player breaking John Sattler's jaw in the first half, before brilliant tries by Bobby Grant and Ray Branighan wrapped up the game with Simms kicking 4 fieldgoals. Thus winning Souths 19th premiership.

Season 1971

Had the biggest change to the rules with reduction of the fieldgoal to only 1 point. A few players had moved on with Keith Edwards coming into the backline. The season started strongly on the back of 6 wins. Bob Honan, Simms, Edwards, Ray Branighan, Sait and new buy Phil Smith dominated the backline. But late in the season Walters was injured giving George Piggins his chance and was wasn't going to miss out this time as he help end a 3 match losing streak and help Souths to 5 wins to finish the season. Souths once again faced Manly beating in the semi-final before meeting St George in the Grand Final. And in one of the bizarre moments of the year, Simms scored a fieldgoal before halftime, his only fieldgoal for the year for Souths to lead 1 nil. Souths then put on 3 tries with McCarthy scoring a sensational try to win 16-10. Our 20th premiership.



Notable 1967-71 Era Achievements (93 wins from 121 – 76.9%)

South Sydney play in 6 premiership deciders in 7 years winning 4

1969-71 scored over 500 season points

1969-71 19 wins throughout the season

1965,69 best defensive seasons since 1952

1967-70 Eric Simms 200 plus points for season

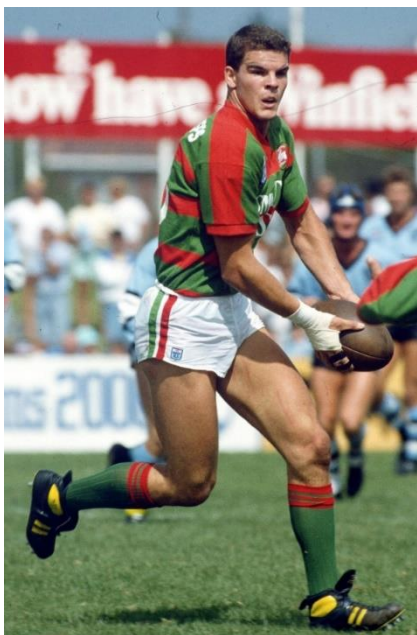
1969 Eric Simms breaks Bernie Purcell point scoring record

2011,14-15 Nathan Merritt, Alex Johnston 20 plus tries in a season

Ron Coote, Denis Pittard, Eric Simms, Bobby Grant dominate player awards

53,146 biggest regular season crowd at SCG

78,058 attend 1965 Grand Final



1984-1989 – The 80s

Mark Sivis / Steve Mavin

Prelude

The 80s era revival can be traced back to arrival of Jack Gibson and the improvements he brought across the club with its initial changes towards professionalism. The pre-season cup title in 1978 was followed by South Sydney's return to finals football in 1980, followed by a midweek cup title in 1981 and then a team that led the competition in 1982. 1984 season saw the team build on lower grade success in 1981's title and the 1983 reserve grade title with players like Craig Coleman and Mario Fenech breaking through into the top grade and guiding our team through a midweek playoff against Canberra and a semi final win over Manly-Warringah at the SCG, our first finals win since 1971.

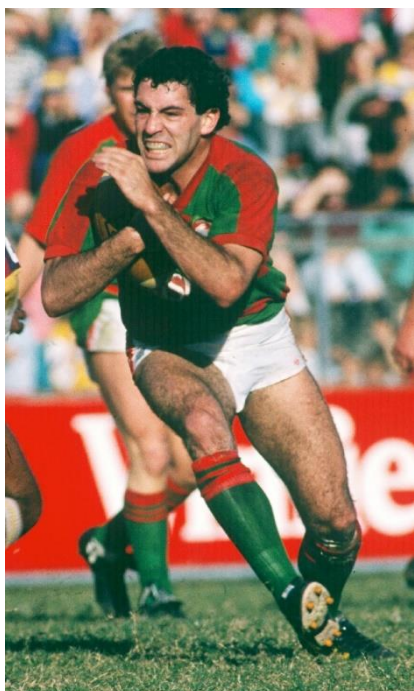
Season 1986

1986 saw a team finally cement themselves as a team that could challenge once again for the title. Youngsters like Les Davidson, Ian Roberts, and Michael Andrews and Brett Ross with some experience players like David Boyle, Coleman and Fenech. Add to them the strategic acquisitions of Phil Gould Moon brothers, Wayne Chisholm gave Souths a newfound steal to give the completion a shake. The team had a strong season with a brutal match against eventual premiers against Parramatta where Souths hung onto a draw with 10 men at one stage. But leading the comp as we headed into the last round we were beaten and then go out in straight sets in the finals.



Season 1989

The 1989 season was the closest the Rabbitohs have been to a Grand Final since 1971. We won every away game & finished Minor Premiers. Phil Blake formed a great combination in the halves with Craig Coleman. While Steve Mavin and Graham



Lyons were one of the best centre combinations in the league. A young Jimmy Sedaris push Mario Fenech into prop. Souths won 18 games that year with 1 draw & only 5 losses. Unfortunately for us 2 of those 5 losses were in games that would have seen us qualify for the grand final. Our first defeat was at the hands of the Balmain Tigers in the Major Semi, a team that we had beaten in a round 10 clash at Leichhardt Oval. The 2nd crushing blow that ended our season was going down to the Raiders in the Prelim. That loss hurt even more when you consider we had beaten Canberra both times we had met them in the regular season. We had a great year but it wasn't meant to be.

Notable 1986-89 Era Achievements (59 wins from 96 – 61.5%)

1989 first Minor Premiership win since 1970

1989 first South Sydney team to win every away game since home-away started

1989 team won 12 straight games

Craig Coleman became the most capped Rabbitoh across all grades

2012 to 2015 – The Modern Era

Mark Sivils

Prelude

The modern era commenced once the dust settled from the landmark events of privatisation. With stability in the front office, saw vital players come to South Sydney to complement a return to strength of our grass roots.

2007 had seen us return to the semi-finals after a long 18-year absence. But as the decade began it was a team that balanced some older statesmen with a new group of emerging youth that was laying the foundation.

2010 saw a team bring in key imports in Roy Asotasi, Sam Burgess and Issac Luke together with local products Nathan Merritt, John Sutton and Jason Clark. This era began as a young NYC team headed into its second finals series with fresh faces led by a young Adam Reynolds win the minor premiership and head into our first Grand Final in any senior grade since 1989.

Over the next two seasons saw these young players develop, however Adam Reynolds suffered a knee injury in the 2011 Return to Redfern game keeping him out of the 2011 season. With incumbent half Chris Sandow moving on, meant the Rabbitohs were going to need to rely on our unproven half Adam Reynolds in 2012. Then on Xmas eve 2011 the most notable signing of this era occurred when Greg Inglis back flipped on joining the Broncos and signed with the Rabbitoh's, uttering his famous quote, "planes don't fly in the rain".

Season 2012



So, we entered 2012 with an unproven young half, an unproven NRL coach in Michael Maguire, a new young forward in Dave Taylor and a player looking for an opportunity in Andrew Everingham. To support these players, we also had included some experience in Michael Crocker and Matt King. 2012 got off to a bumpy start. Then with the move of Inglis to fullback our season transformed. GI the greatest ever centre was fast becoming one of the best fullbacks in the game. A six-game winning streak followed on the back of a great combination of Issac Luke, Dave Taylor and Sam Burgess in forwards. The season has the famous "You can take me now, I have seen it all game" against the Roosters when the Rabbitohs were 8 points down with 2 minutes on the clock before in the last play of the game

saw McQueen and Taylor combined brilliantly off a kick-off to send Merritt, Luke and eventually Reynolds over for a match winning try. The season ended with South Sydney in 3rd winning their first finals game since 1987 before bowing out to Canterbury when Reynolds pulled a hamstring during the preliminary final.

Season 2013

2013 was one of South Sydney's best seasons on record. We kicked off the season with 5 wins including another dominate effort over Penrith early before demolishing the West-Tigers midseason. 2013 saw the emergence of the Burgess brothers as a force culminating in the famous Burgess set of 6 against the Wests-Tigers when all 4 brothers were on the field, the first time 4 brothers had been on field since 1911. There were other notable wins during the year, including beating Manly in Gosford and Sydney Roosters in Round 1. Crowds had also come back in force in 2013 with the first 51,686 crowd s recorded in the annual Good Friday clash and 59,708 for the Minor Premiership playoff in the last round. South Sydney ended the season in equal first and beat Melbourne in Week 1 of the finals but couldn't get past Manly in the preliminary final to eventually bow out again one week short of the Grand Final.

Season 2014

2014 began as rebuilding year on the back of the departure of Roy Asotasi, Nathan Peats Dylan Farrell, Matt King and Michael Crocker. A journey man Lote Tuquri, Joe Picker and Joe Reddy arriving with the emergence of Luke Keary, Kyle Turner and Kirisome Auva'a. The season started well with a dominate win over the premiers Sydney Roosters, but them came a 3 match losing streak. Through out the year we win a few lose one. This included the try of the year on ANZAC Day by Greg Inglis when he beat 6 defenders to run 80 meters to score. Then we starting to turn things around mid-



year, winning 4 in a row, and then after origin period we put the foot down winning 5 on the trot including the demolition of Newcastle and Brisbane but it was the dominate win over Manly game 4 weeks out from the finals that set the tone. This late surge was on the back a young Luke Keary returning from his 9s injury adding a new dimension to the team. By the end of the season we had pushed our way into 3rd. A crushing win over Manly in Week 1 saw us take on reigning premiers in the preliminary final where a stirring effort at ANZ Stadium saw South Sydney qualify for its first Grand Final in 43 years. Out came the 1908 bell as a record 83,833 fans crammed into the ANZ Stadium. The loss of Issac Luke before the Grand Final and then the facial injury to Sam Burgess early in the game had Rabbitoh fans on edge, before a damaging run by George Burgess changed the game when Souths stormed home in the last 20 minutes to win our 21st premiership. We then went back to the Town Hall for the first time since 2000 to receive the "keys to the city".

Season 2015

Season 2015 got off to a flyer. Issac Luke and Adam Reynolds saw us add the Auckland 9s trophy to the cabinet, we also had retained the annual Charity Shield, before we headed over to England for the World Club Challenge scoring a record 39 to nil win over St Helens The season the got off to a flyer winning the first 3 games meaning we had gone undefeated for 15 games. But the loss of Sam Burgess and Ben Te'o and the drain on all proved too much in the end as the era came to an end when we bowed out of the finals in Week 1.



Notable 2012-2014 Era Achievements (54 wins from 80 – 67.5%)

2012-14 scored over 600 season points

2012-14 scored over 100 tries in each season

2013-14 best defensive season since 1989

2012-14 Adam Reynolds 200 plus points for season

2014 Nathan Merritt breaks Benny Wearing try scoring record

2011, 14-15 Nathan Merritt, Alex Johnston 20 plus tries in a season

John Sutton becomes the most capped Rabbitoh

Sam Burgess 2014 Clive Churchill Medal

59,708 biggest regular season crowd at ANZ Stadium

83,833 attend 2014 Grand Final

Players Song

*And now that we're all round the bar
and the captain's declared it a quorum
we're drinking our way through the night
and we're having the time of our lives
throw the empties away, start again - start again
for the boys of South Sydney are together
and we'll drink till dawn breaks again
and may the sessions of South Sydney last forever.*

*Oh! we never stagger, never fall
We sober up on pure alcohol
Our royal sons go marching up for more*

*We'll guzzle, guzzle, guzzle and we'll tip it down our muzzle
And we'll sing out the order loud and clear: More beer!
And we'll drink all night until we're very tight
At the shades of wherever we are*

*Six hefty forwards and seven greasy backs
And plenty rabbit barrackers to keep the bludgers back
When the skin and hair is flying and the slaughter has begun
Three cheers for the good, old Rabbitohs
For the victory we have won*

Up the Rabbitohs!

Players remind us that the song has been around a long time. It would be sung on the team bus, at the old end of season South Sydney annual balls. Not just after the game. Today the song is sung loud and fast. But that wasn't always the case.

Talking to former players, you quickly find out that it pre-dates the modern era. The tune and original words even pre-date World War II. It was adapted by Bill Hinson in 1931 (brother of 1930's player Eddie Hinson) after hearing the song sung.

The melody was a popular melody in British pubs at the turn of 18th-century. It was based upon a tune from Anacreontic Society, a 18th-century club of amateur musicians in London. That society was dedicated to ancient Greek poet Anacreon, who was renowned for his drinking songs. The melody became famous when the tune was also picked up as the "The Star-Spangled Banner".

Grand Final Team - Rabbitohs

Venue - Lang Park(Suncorp) Stadium

Date - Sunday, October 3rd

Kickoff - 6:30pm QLD / 7:30pm NSW

Referee - G.Sutton

Fbck 1 - Taaffe, Blake

Wing 2 - Johnston, Alex

Cntr 3 - Gagai, Dane

Cntr 4 - Graham, Campbell

Wing 5 - Paulo, Jaxson

5/8 6 - Walker, Cody

Half 7 - Reynolds, Adam (c)

Prop 8 - Nicholls, Mark

Hook 9 - Cook, Damien

Prop 10 - Tatola, Tevita

SRow 11 - Koloamatangi, Keaon

SRow 12 - Su'A, Jaydn

Lock 13 - Murray, Cameron

Int 14 - Marshall, Benji

Int 15 - Host, Jacob

Int 16 - Burgess, Thomas

Int 17 - Arrow, Jai

Int 18 - Milne, Taane

Int 19 - Mago, Patrick

Int 20 - Burns, Braidon

Int 21 - Cartwright, Jed

Coach - Bennett, Wayne



	M	S	I	T	G/A	FG	2FG	Pts
Arrow, Jai	22*	10	(12)	2	-	-	-	8
Burgess, Tom	25	17	(8)	4	-	-	-	16
Burns, Braidon	8	6	(2)	2	-	-	-	8
Cartwright, Jed	4	1	(3)	-	-	-	-	-
Cook, Damien	23	23	-	2	-	-	-	8
Gagai, Dane	22	22	-	10	-	-	-	40
Graham, Campbell	20	20	-	9	-	-	-	36
Hawkins, Dean	3*	1	(2)	-	-	-	-	-
Host, Jacob	20*	5	(15)	1	-	-	-	4
Ilias, Lachlan	1*	1	-	1	-	-	-	4
Johnston, Alex	21	21	-	29	-	-	-	116
Koloamatangi, Keaon	22	21	(1)	3	-	-	-	12
Knight, Liam	11	2	(9)	-	-	-	-	-
Mago, Patrick	11	-	(11)	-	-	-	-	-
Mamouzelos, Peter	3*	2	(1)	-	-	-	-	-
Mansour, Josh	11*	11	-	10	-	-	-	40
Marshall, Benji	21*	7	(14)	3	-	-	-	12
Milne, Taane	12*	12	-	8	-	-	-	32
Marsters, Steven	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mitchell, Latrell	17	17	-	13	7/11	1	-	67
Moale, Davvy	2*	-	(2)	-	-	-	-	-
Moga, Tautau	1*	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-
Murray, Cameron	19	19	-	5	-	-	-	20
Nicholls, Mark	26	15	(11)	3	-	-	-	12
Paulo, Jaxson	11	11	-	9	-	-	-	36
Reynolds, Adam	24	24	-	5	116/146	-	2	256
Sele, Hame	7	3	(4)	1	-	-	-	4
Su'A, Jaydn	22	19	(3)	5	-	-	-	20
Taaffe, Blake	7*	5	(2)	1	6/12	-	-	16
Tatola, Junior	20	18	(2)	-	-	-	-	-
Walker, Cody	24	24	-	15	-	-	-	60

Head to Head

#421 - Les Brennan (1954) 29 Tries

Les was a rookie right winger with blistering speed who formed a great combination with left winger Ian Moir in his 1954 rookie season. He played Presidents Cup in 1950 and was graded in 1951. He moved through the grades over the next few seasons scoring 31 lower grades. The departure of Johnny Graves and Fred Thelfro gave Les a chance to debut which he grabbed, at 23 years of age. He wore the #11 jersey proudly throughout the year.



Round 1	v St George, SSG	Wing	- 1 try
Round 2	v Manly-Warringah, SCG	Wing	- 3 tries
Round 3	v Newtown, SCG	Wing	- 1 try
Round 4	v Western Suburbs, SCG	Wing	- 3 tries
Round 5	v Balmain, Redfern Oval		- late withdrawal
Round 6	v Eastern Suburbs, SSG	Wing	- 1 try
Round 7	v Parramatta, Cumberland Oval	Wing	- no tries
Tour1	v Newcastle, SCG		- did not play
Tour2	v Central Newcastle, Newcastle	Bench	- 1 try *
Round 8	v Canterbury, Redfern Oval	Wing	- 3 tries
Tour3	v Toowoomba, Toowoomba	Wing	- 4 tries *
Round 9	v North Sydney, Redfern Oval	Wing	- 1 try
Round 10	v St George, SCG	Wing	- 1 try
Round 11	v Manly-Warringah, Brookvale Oval	Wing	- 4 tries
Round 12	v Newtown, SSG	Wing	- no tries
Round 13	v Western Suburbs, Pratten Park	Wing	- 1 try
Tour4	v Toowoomba, Redfern Oval	Wing	- no tries
Round 14	v Balmain, Leichhardt Oval	Wing	- 2 tries
Round 15	v Eastern Suburbs, Redfern Oval	Wing	- 1 try
Round 16	v Parramatta, Redfern Oval	Wing	- no tries
Round 17	v Canterbury, Belmore Oval	Wing	- 4 tries
Round 18	v North Sydney, SCG	Wing	- 2 tries
Semi-Final	v Newtown, SCG	Wing	- 1 try
Grand Final	v Newtown, SCG	Wing	- no tries

Head to Head

#1105 – Alex Johnston (2021) 29 Tries

Alex is young left winger who burst onto the scene at 19 years of age. He played in the 2014 Grand Final in his rookie year and went on to represent the Kangaroos and later the Kumuls. 2020 saw him return to left wing after some time at fullback. Seeing him win the NRL top try scorer for 2 seasons in 2020 and 2021. In 2021 he was on the end of one the most lethal combinations of the Rabbitohs left side.



Round 1	v Melbourne, AAMI Stadium	Wing	- 2 tries
Round 2	v Manly, Brookvale Oval	Wing	- 1 try
Round 3	v Syd Roosters, Stadium Aust	Wing	- no tries
Round 4	v Canterbury, Stadium Aust	Wing	- 1 try
Round 5	v Brisbane, Stadium Aust	Wing	- 1 try
Round 6	v Wests-Tigers, Stadium Aust	Wing	- no tries
Round 7	v Gold Coast, Robina Stadium	Wing	- 1 try
Round 8	v Canberra, Bruce Stadium	Wing	- 2 tries
Round 9	v Melbourne, Stadium Aust	Wing	- no tries
Round 10	v Cronulla, Lang Pk Stadium	Wing	- 1 try
Round 11	v Penrith, Dubbo	Wing	- no tries
Round 12	v Parramatta, Stadium Aust	Wing	- 3 tries
Round 14	v Newcastle, Stadium Aust	Wing	- 3 tries
Round 15	v Brisbane, Lang Pk Stadium	Wing	- 2 tries
Round 16	v Wests-Tigers, Leichhardt Oval	Wing	- 2 tries
Round 17	v Nth Queensland, Newcastle ISC	Wing	- 3 tries
Round 18	v Canterbury, Robina Stadium	Wing	- 2 tries
Round 19 – 22			- injured did not play
Round 23	v Penrith, Lang Pk Stadium	Wing	- no tries
Round 24	v Syd Roosters, Lang Pk Stadium	Wing	- 3 tries
Round 25			- did not play
Finals Week 1	v Penrith, Nth Qld Stadium	Wing	- no tries
Finals Week 3	v Manly, Lang Pk Stadium	Wing	- 2 tries

Past Results

Rabbitohs v Panthers



1967 - 2021

Played 88 - Won 47 Draw 1 Lost 40
 Biggest Win 59-5 1980 Rd07
 Biggest Loss 12-56 2021 Rd11
 Crowd Record 30,116 2020 MPF
 24,468 1968 Rd18 (Non Finals)

Last 10 Years

2012 Rd03 Penr W 40-24 13,876 G.Badger/G.Sutton
 2012 Rd17 StAu W 38-12 13,096 G.Sutton/S.Lyons
 2013 Rd03 Penr W 44-32 12,940 A.Klein/P.Haines
 2014 Rd06 Penr W 18-2 11,674 A.Klien/A.Gee
 2015 Rd17 Penr L 6-20 14,068 J.Maxwell/G.Morris
 2015 Rd21 StAu W 20-16 13,391 J.Maxwell/M.Cecchin
 2016 Rd16 Penr L 26-28 14,080 G.Badger/C.Sutton
 2017 Rd06 Penr W 21-20 15,535 B.Cummins/D.Munro
 2017 Rd17 StAu W 42-14 14,103 M.Cecchin/J.Stone
 2018 Rd02 Penr L 14-18 15,995 H.Perenera/D.Munro
 2019 Rd07 Penr W 22-18 14,391 A.Klein/Z.Przeklasa-Adamski
 2019 Rd14 StAu L 18-19 11,023 A.Gee/J.Stone
 2020 Rd07 Koga L 12-20 150 G.Sutton
 2020 MPF StAu L 16-20 30,116 G.Sutton
 2021 Rd11 Dubb L 12-56 10,824 G.Atkins
 2021 Rd23 lngS L 12-25 8,848 G.Atkins
 2021 MPSF NQSt W 16-10 18,244 G.Sutton

By Venue

Grd	P	W	D	L	F	(T-G-FG)	A Biggest Win	Crowd Record
Penr	43	21	1	21	783	(138-136-10)	878 1967 Rd09 39-0	2018 Rd02 15,995
Redf	20	14	-	6	371	(69- 75- 6)	238 1980 Rd07 59-5	1968 Rd07 14,374
SCG	1	1	-	-	19	(3- 2- 3)	14 1968 Rd18 19-14	1968 Rd18 24,468
SSG	1	1	-	-	18	(2- 4- 2)	17 1969 Rd07 18-17	1969 Rd07 11,178
SFS	8	2	-	6	132	(23- 20- 0)	190 2004 Rd18 30-6	1989 Rd14 18,597
Darw	1	-	-	1	20	(3- 4- 0)	24 never	1992 Rd15 8,900
Gosf	1	-	-	1	12	(2- 2- 0)	28 never	2002 Rd24 10,573
StAu	9	7	-	2	258	(43- 43- 0)	145 2017 Rd17 42-14	2020 MF 30,116
Koga	1	-	-	1	12	(2- 2- 0)	20 never	2020 Rd07 150
Dubb	1	-	-	1	12	(2- 2- 0)	56 never	2021 Rd11 10,824
LngS	1	-	-	1	12	(2- 2- 0)	25 never	2021 Rd23 8,848
NQSt	1	1	-	-	16	(2- 4- 0)	10 2021 MPSF 16-10	2021 MPSF 18,244

Rabbitohs Top Scorers v Panthers

	T	G	FG	Pts
Simms, Eric	7	61	11	164
Reynolds, Adam	1	42	1	99
Merritt, Nathan	11	7	-	58
Fahey, Terry	10	6	-	42
Baker, Neil	-	15	4	34
Johnston, Alex	8	-	-	32
Luke, Issac	3	9	-	30
Walker, Cody	5	5	-	30
Sutton, John	7	-	-	28
Ferguson, Eric	-	13	-	26
Sadow, Chris	1	11	-	26
Williams, Joe	1	10	-	24
Craigie, Owen	3	5	1	23
Walsh, Steve	1	10	-	23
Trindall, Darrell	2	7	-	22
Melrose, Tony	1	8	2	21
Branighan, Ray	-	10	-	20
Gagai, Dane	4	2	-	20
Saab, Charlie	2	6	-	20
Purcell, Greg	1	8	-	19
Cleary, Mike	6	-	-	18
Niszczo, Ziggy	5	-	-	17
Burgess, Sam	4	-	-	16
Taylor, Dave	4	-	-	16
Knight, Gary	5	-	-	15
McCarthy, Bob	5	-	-	15
Pittard, Denis	5	-	-	15
Coote, Ron	4	-	-	12
Everingham, Andrew	3	-	-	12
Honan, Bob	4	-	-	12
Inglis, Greg	3	-	-	12
Kosta, Steve	4	-	-	12
McMillan, Bob	4	-	-	12
Mooney, Tom	4	-	-	12
Ross, Mark	1	4	-	12
Talanoa, Fetuli	3	-	-	12
Turner, Kyle	3	-	-	12
Wall, Brian	-	6	-	12
Wesser, Rhys	3	-	-	12



Season 2021

CyberView From The Hill

A weekly blog of season 2021

Off Season

Steady Build Up - It's been a Covid off season. From looking like things were going to ease to a new sudden national lockdown across Xmas and January. South Sydney training got underway in a manner that was closer to an offseason from 40 years ago. Training at suburban areas, running the sandhills and a trial arranged against a country Group. We have seen movement of players once again with Corey Allan and Sironen departing. While the effect of ending the junior season early and not having lower grades has resulted in adjustments to the age groups of 3rd grade and the junior grades. All I can say it was just good to get out of the lockdown mode and head out to a game of football on the weekend. As another year of uncertainty begins South Sydney are looking good with key people like Mitchell returning from injury. Bring on 2021.

Trial **v Group 20** **Griffith** **W 58-0**

Strong Bush Hit out - Our fringe first graders went down to Griffith and came back with a complete dominate display. It all looks good for the year ahead as the players get back on their feet after a year in the wilderness with no lower grades. Several combinations were trialled, now to see how they perform against stronger opposition. This weekend sees a full-strength team head out to Mudgee for our annual Charity Shield hit out.

Charity Shield v St George- Illawarra Mudgee **W 48-16**

Mudgee Slaughter - After a long 4 hour drive we ended up at the nice little town of Mudgee. There were Rabbitoh banners up and down the main street and lots of fans in the pubs. While there needs to be some improvement in the entry protocols to the ground we found our seat on the hill to enjoy our first big game of the season. And boy the boys did not disappoint. It became almost a point a minute as the team Slaughtered the Dragons with six first half tries. Souths mean business in 2021 and are geared up for a big season. Now a week off before we head down to Melbourne.

Round 1 **v Melbourne** **AAMI Stadium** **L 18-26**

2021 Starts with a Thud - It only took 20 min for all of the pre-season hype to come crashing down in a thud. We were dominated early as our forwards struggled to handle the onslaught. But after that we settled in and got back into the game winning the remaining 50 minutes of the game. We will need to play a full 80-minute game against the better teams and maintain ball control its only Round 1 and a long way to go.

Round 2 **v Manly-Warringah** **Brookvale Oval** **W 26-12**

Tough Win in the Wet - It was a weekend where it just rained and rained and rained, with Sydney's west and the rivers of the NSW coast going underwater. Lower grade games were cancelled across Sydney. Such was the day at Brookvale, which was already with a reduced capacity due to the northern end being under construction. It was a game played at times in heavy rain, that evened out the teams and resulted in a tough hit. Some nice plays setup a try with a 40-20 by Reynolds setting up another try. But with Reynolds going off it took the team a little while to resettle before locking away the win with a few late tries. Souths now run into a red-hot Roosters outfit on the lookout for revenge from out 60-8 victory in the last round.

Round 3 **v Syd Roosters** **Stadium Aust** **W 26-16**

Battle of the Books - The match was billed as the battle of the books. The Easts cheque book versus the Russell's book of feuds. Souths came out full of confidence and hit the Roosters in a strong 60-minute performance to lead 24 nil. Souths dominated the match with power up the middle and skill out wide. Before some sloppy play let the Roosters get some late points. All in all, it was also great to be back at the game after such a long break. Now for our annual Good Friday clash with the new look Bulldogs.

Round 4 **v Canterbury** **Stadium Aust** **W 38-0**

Dogs Shutout - Good Friday games are always tough games, and this year was no exception. The Dogs forwards took it to our pack with a tough close first half. With the Dogs shutting down our left side attack, it opened up space up the middle. Damien Cook took full advantage making two breaks that led to tries. In the end it ended up being a record winning margin over the hapless Dogs as we did not allow a point to be scored which was the most pleasing aspect of the game. We have now moved into the Top 4.

Round 5 **v Brisbane** **Stadium Aust** **W 35-6**

Steady Demolition - Another good win on the Thursday night. Benji slotted in seamlessly into five-eighth. The middle part of the first half of the back of a few errors kept the Broncos in the game early, but then Souths went about doing a steady demolition of the Broncos for the rest of the game. It was one of their best controlled performances of the year, as we dominated the game. We have now moved into 3rd. With 11 more wins to make the semis.

Round 6 **v Wests-Tigers** **Stadium Aust** **W 18-14**

It's the Benny Hill Golden Point Show - What a crazy game. Never before has a game been decided by such bizarre circumstances in golden point. The value of South Sydney's greatest all-grade point scorer was on show once again, when our captain got us into a position to win the game with a great 2pt field goal with minutes on the clock. But it's what happened after 80 minutes that will live long in people's memories. The run to score the match winning try, followed by celebration by Souths players, only to see the Brooks and the referee run 100m and score at the other end, that left everyone totally confused and Tigers players celebrating. It then went to video referee where the Souths try was correctly awarded and the referee then runs 100m back downfield and awards the game to South Sydney. The whole event was classic Benny Hill. The lesson for the boys is to play the referee whistle. We have now moved into 2nd. With 10 more wins to make the semis. The loss of Mitchell and Mansour for 4 weeks will test our depth.

Round 7 **v Gold Coast** **Robina Stadium** **W 40-30**

Strong Second Half Comeback - It was a classic game of two halves. In the first half Souths struggled to contain the Gold Coast forwards in the last 10 minutes of the half as the score blew out and we went in 14 points down. But then we came out and played one of our best halves of football to get back into the game and then take control. We starved the opposition of the ball, which took their forwards out of the game and set the platform for some spectacular tries. We slipped back to 3rd on differential. With 9 more wins to make the semis. Now for a cold trip to Canberra who are out of form.

Round 8 **v Canberra** **Bruce Stadium** **W 34-20**

Injury Crisis - It was almost the same equation this week as we played a game of two halves against Canberra. Controlling the second half to storm home over the top of the Raiders. But that is not the main story from the game when it was revealed that we lost Reynolds(hand), Murray(ankle), Graham(arm) and Paulo(shoulder) to injury. This really hurts as the team is about play 3 premierships heavy weights over the next 4 weeks. It is good we have points in the bank at this stage of the season.

We need 8 more wins to make the semis. in what has become a 5-team race for the Top 4. Now for a match against our bogey team Melbourne who are near full strength.

Round 9 **v Melbourne** **Stadium Aust** **L 0-50**

Season Crash - Seven game winning streak ends in a shatter. Our forwards were once again dominated by the bigger Melbourne pack. On top of this was also the sudden loss of 4 players in the backline from last week. 2 Players who were brought in, Burns had just returned with half a lower grade game after a year on the sideline, While Cartwright was rushed in after not playing a game all season. Our reserve grade right side defence was exposed when we became the first team since 1950 to let someone score 6 tries in one game. We still need 8 more wins to make the semis. It's now off to Brisbane for the Magic Round with the NRL Top 30 squad in the bubble.

Round 10 **v Cronulla** **Lang Pk Stadium** **W 32-22**

Souths Bounce Back - Souths bounced back in a big way for the first 30 minutes racing out to a 20 nil lead. But momentum swung on the back of the head bin crack down this weekend when Su'A went off. Souths then as they have been doing for a number of weeks, started dropping the ball and allowed the opposition back into the game. Before refocusing and wrapping up the game in the final 10 minutes. We still need 7 more wins to make the semi's. Now off to Dubbo for a preliminary final rematch against the unbeaten competition leaders.

Round 11 **v Penrith** **Dubbo** **W 12-56**

Defensive Issues Exposed - The preliminary final re-match turned into the biggest loss ever against Penrith. Souths forwards were once again dominated against the other stand out top team of the competition. with players returning into position with Mitchell's return to fullback, our combinations in attack and defence were very rusty. We are still 4th and need 7 more wins to make the semi's. Now for the next Top 4 club Parramatta to redeem ourselves.

Round 12 **v Parramatta** **Stadium Aust** **W 38-20**

Souths Bounce Back - The return of Murray helped set Souths back on the right track. Souths left side edge was dominate once again. It was the third game in a row that Souths scored 38 points against Parramatta, where the forwards helped set the platform before the backs took control. We are equal 3rd and need 6 more wins to make the semis. Now for a rest during Origin I and match against the dropping Newcastle team with Origin stars backing up.

Round 14 **v Newcastle** **Stadium Aust** **W 24-10**

Strong Defence - After a tight first half, Souths put in a controlled defensive effort in the second half to keep the opposition scoreless. It was the first time all year we put in such a effort, and is very important change in focus as we head into the second half of the season. We sit equal 3rd and need 5 more wins to make the semis. Now off to play last placed Brisbane.

Round 15 **v Brisbane** **Lang Pk Stadium** **W 46-0**

Biggest Ever Win over the Broncos - It was dominant display by Souths on the weekend, as our backline ran rampant. After dominating on left edge, we decided to focus on our right edge attack. Which resulted in 3 strong tries. The win was our biggest ever win against the Broncos. What was most impressive was how we kept them scoreless. We have done this now for three halves on the trot as we rebuild our defensive patterns. We sit equal 3rd and need 4 more wins to make the semi's. Now for the Benny Hill rematch against the Tigers.

Round 16 **v Wests-Tigers** **Leichhardt Oval** **W 38-22**

Tale of two halves - It was game of two halves. In the first half Souths dominated the game, putting on 5 answered tries and bombing two others. This was our 4th half that we have kept teams scoreless. The team then went into 3rd gear for the second half, and the momentum turned. The good defence of the previous weeks was suddenly undone as we let in easy points but were never threatened. We have now moved to outright 3rd and need 3 more wins to make the semis. It is now a 5-day turnaround without Origin stars as we play the Cowboys behind closed doors again.

Round 17 v Nth Queensland Newcastle ISC W 46-18

Young Players Step Up - It was a 5 day turn around with a sudden change of venue. We also had 5 players out on representative duties. As a result, several players were asked to step up and fill in. After a nervous start which saw the Cowboys race out to a 10-point lead, the young brigade led by our experienced halves took control of the game and recorded a record win over the Cowboys. Season 2021 continues to be one of our best on record. In 2013 our best to date scored an average of 24.3 points per game. In 2021 we are currently averaging 29.4 per game. We still hold outright 3rd and need 2 more wins to make the semis. It is now off to NRL Island on the Gold Coast to play the Bulldogs.

Round 18 v Canterbury Robina Stadium W 32-24

Ugly Win After Origin - It was an ugly win on the back of our team going into lockdown on the Gold Coast. We had 3 players backing up from the midweek Origin camp. The game started with Souths on first scoring twice and missing 3 try scoring opportunities. But they a run of dropped ball and concussions to Graham, Knight and Host disrupted our rhythm and allowed the opposition to get back into game and gain confidence. We regained our composure soon after half time, but we were in a tough contest for the remaining 40 minutes, with our fringe players getting a good workout. We still hold outright 3rd and need 1 more win to make the semis. It is now off to the Sunshine Coast to play the Warriors who have a tough forward pack.

Round 19 v Warriors Sunshine Coast W 60-22

Rabbitohs Run Riot and secure Final's spot - What a game of football. Souths ran riot against a Warriors team suffering from homesickness. It was a strong effort where our forwards laid the platform a powerful effort across the park and looked unstoppable. It was a great 11 try effort as our right side found its mojo. We have cemented out final spot and are outright 3rd and well on track to secure our Top 4 spot. Now for a regional game in Rockhampton.

Round 20 v St George-Illawarra Lang Pk Stadium W 50-14

Rabbitohs most points since 1910 - It was a crazy lead up to this game as SE Queensland went into a snap lockdown. Souths were stranded in Rockhampton tarmac ready for a game without any opposition. The extra 6 hours of travel the day before the game and an extra 2-hour bus trip on the following day for the game tested the team and the team. So, it was not a surprise that we were sluggish for part of the game. But a credit to the team that they were able to regroup and then go on to thump the merged entity in our biggest win for 100 years against either the Dragons or the Steelers. The 5 tries in the final 15 minutes meant that Souths had scored 110 points in two games. The most by a South Sydney team since 1910. We are still outright 3rd with a chance to cement our Top 4 position this weekend as we head into tough month of football.

Round 21 v Parramatta Robina Stadium W 40-12

Top 3 Secured - Well we finally broke 38 points against Parramatta after it looked like it may end on 38 again for the fourth game in a row against the Eels. It was a semi-final style game with a arm wrestle in the forwards before we broke through out wide. 3 tries soon after the break sealed the game, before a touch of Benji magic wrapped up the game. After the results of the weekend, we wrapped up 3rd position. With everyone still in lockdown, Gold Coast get the home ground advantage this weekend as they battle to make the Top 8.

Round 22 v Gold Coast Robina Stadium W 36-6

Greatest Rabbitoh Point scorers - It was a game for the record books. The 2021 squad have become the greatest ever Rabbitohs point scorers for a season, as they passed the 2014 season total. Then they set an all-time NRL record by scoring 30 points in the last 8 matches. And to top it off we have now secured 10 wins in a row our longest winning streak since 1989. 18 wins thus far has also equalled the most wins in a regular season by any Rabbitohs team. It was another strong forward performance, but our Achilles heel is our right edge defence. Now for a 2 versus 3 semi-final warm up game against Penrith which will decide second place on the ladder, and our first chance to redeem ourselves against the Top 2.

Round 23 v Penrith Lang Pk Stadium L 12-25

10 winning streak ends - After 10 weeks our winning ways came to an end on back of some bizarre refereeing. It was the first time in maybe 10 years we saw the "downtown" penalty awarded, just at a critical moment that gave the Panthers the lead. And the only one awarded when on the weekend there were many other occasions when it could have been awarded. While we got the early lead and stayed in the game for 60 minutes our forwards were slowly worn down, and this remains the difference between us and the Top 2 teams. But it was a good tough match and reminded us that we still need to improve, with discipline and mental toughness areas to improve on. 3rd is now where we will land, and now for the 113 year local rivalry with the Roosters on foreign soil.

Round 24 v Syd Roosters Lang Pk Stadium W 54-12

54 point Brutal Clash - It was brutal it was spiteful and had everything you come to expect in the latest chapter of the "Battle of the Books". It was a game of semi-final intensity with a tough battle early, before we pulled away midway through the first half. But with Reynolds leaving the field, extending his knee, after the Lang Park Stadium surface gave way, the team lost its way for a period. But when Adam returned the team settled and ran away with the game in the last 20 minutes, scoring 30 unanswered points. 3rd is now set in stone, so this weekend Souths will give 8 players a rest while remaining squad members who are in camp on the Gold Coast get a run, in readiness for the finals.

Round 25 v St George-Illawarra Sunshine Coast W 20-16

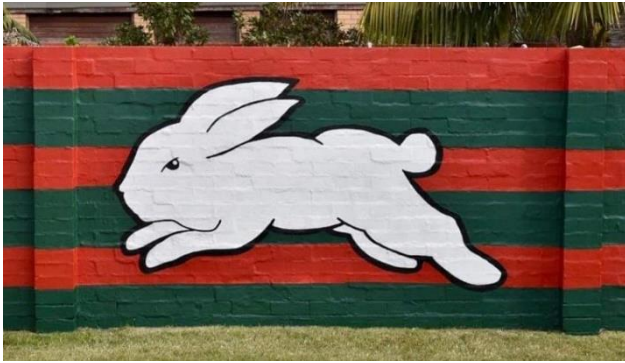
Baby Bunnies make it 20 - With 3rd place locked in South Sydney took the opportunity to give the rest of the squad who are based in Queensland a run. With 8 new faces and 2 debutants the team has become known as the Baby Bunnies. The young squad showed they will be ready for the rigors of the NRL with a strong performance as they moved out to a 20-nil lead. This could have been even higher on the back of 3 no tries and 3 missed goals. But as expected from so many players who had not played all year, fitness was an issue at back end of the game as the opposition quickly got a few tries to bridge the gap. It was a good hit for these fringe players in readiness for the finals. The win over the Dragons was South Sydney's 20th for the season setting a new 113-year record. Final's time has finally arrived. Feels like we have been waiting for this game since June. A win throws open the final series, a loss puts us on showdown with the minor premiers.

Finals Week 1 v Penrith Nth Qld Stadium W 16-10

Rabbitohs Turns Finals Upside Down - Rabbitohs players and fans had been waiting for this match since Round 10, with tactics starting over three weeks ago in the Round 21 clash. The 3 tough games before the finals were a perfect preparation as a lead into the finals. It was a tough defensive effort by the team, where the team show character to not let the usual error or controversial penalty stop their momentum. It was a credit to their defence in how they kept the opposition scoreless in the second half with some great defence from out right side. Firstly, led by Graham and then in end Paulo and Taaffe shutting down a late desperate play. The win our 21st for the season has now propelled us into the Preliminary Final, and more importantly put the Top 2 teams on the opposite side of the draw. We now get a week off and a berth in the grand final is ours for the taking.

Grand Final here we come! - South Sydney put on a dominate effort in their 4th Preliminary Final in a row to finally break through and gain a birth in the Grand Final. Des Hasler tried another big game delaying tactic when his bus was running late causing kick-off delay. Something not seen since the 2014 decider. But nothing will stop this team, who raced to a 4 try lead at half-time on the back of strong go forward and some great backline plays. The team will need to improve for their return to the Grand Final against a Penrith team that has taken a bruising path to the Grand Final after playing two very tough games. Now for the big dance, the time is now!





21 - Rabbitoh Premierships

1908 Final, 29th Aug 3:15pm RAS Showground

Crowd 3,500 Referee C.Hutchinson

South Sydney 14(H.Butler, A.Conlin, T.Golden, L.Senior tries; A.Conlin 1 from 3 , R.Green 0 from 2 goals) beat **Eastern Suburbs 12**
HT 8-7

LineUp (W.Neill, F.Storie, F.Jarman, E.Fry(c), L.Senior, A.Conlin, J.Leveson, H.Butler, J.Cochrane, A.McCallum, R.Green, M.Coxon, T.Golden)
Coach – E.Fry

1909 Final, 18th Sep 2:00pm RAS Showground

Crowd 4,000 Referee W.Finergan

South Sydney beat **Balmain** (Forfeit)

LineUp (H.Hallett, T.Anderson, A.Colin(c), J.Davis, F.Storie, A.Butler, W.Fry, P.Carroll, W.Cann, M.Coxon, C.Conlin, H.Butler, R.Green; Res T.Golden)
Coach – A.Conlin

1914 No Final Required

South Sydney premiers **Newtown** runners up

Final Round LineUp (W.Dymant, H.Horder, J.Davis, A.McCabe, O.Brown, Ray.Norman, A.Butler(c), W.Spence, H.Nicholls,E.Hilliard, R.Almond, H.Butler, O.McCarthy)
Coach – A.Butler

1918 No Final Required

South Sydney premiers **Western Suburbs** runners up

Final Round LineUp (H.Hallett(c), H.Horder, W.Rowley, C.Horder, V.Sheehan, A.Blair, G.McGowan, G.Moore, C.O'Donnell, W.Groves, A.Oxford, H.Holmes, J.Kerwick)
Coach – H.Hallett

1925 No Final Required

South Sydney premiers **Western Suburbs** runners up

Final Round LineUp (A.Righton, B.Wearing, T.Barry, O.Quinlivan, J.Lodge, A.Blair(c), A.Johnston, E.Lapham, A.Why(Carr), A.O'Connor, P.Murphy, A.Thompson, H.Cavanough; Res D.Hickey)
Coach – H.Hallett

1926 Final, 18th Sep 3:15pm RAS Showground

Crowd 20,000 Referee W.Neill

South Sydney 11(F.Brogan, H.Finch, D.Watson tries; A.Blair goal) beat **Sydney University 5**
HT 11-0

LineUp (A.Righton, H.Finch, A.Why(Carr), V.Lawrence, R.Williams, A.Blair(c), F.Brogan, D.Watson, A.O'Connor, E.Root, G.Treweek, A.Thompson, H.Cavanough)
Coach – H.Hallett

1927 Final, 17th Sep 3:15pm RAS Showground

Crowd 12,124 Referee W.Neill

South Sydney 20(A.Why(Carr), H.Finch, E.Root, B.Wearing tries; A.Blair 2, H.Kadwell 2 goals) beat **St George 11**

HT 13-6

LineUp (H.Kadwell, V.Lawrence, S.Harris, H.Finch, B.Wearing, A.Blair(c), M.O'Connor, A.Why(Carr), H.Cavanough, G.Treweek, E.Root, C.Fennell, D.Watson)

Coach – C.Lynch

1928 Final, 14th Sep 3:15pm RAS Showground

Crowd 24,966 Referee L.Deane

South Sydney 26(A.Why(Carr), H.Finch, E.Root, B.Wearing tries; A.Blair 2, H.Kadwell 2 goals) beat **Eastern Suburbs 5**

HT 13-0

LineUp (A.Righton, B.Wearing, J.Why, O.Quinlivan, H.Fincy, R.Williams, Jim.Breen, H.Kadwell, G.Treweek, E.Root, H.Cavanough, A.Binder, D.Watson)

Coach – C.Lynch

1929 Final, 14th Sep 3:15pm Sydney Sports Ground

Crowd 16,860 Referee L.Deane

South Sydney 30(A.Blair 3, R.Williams 3, A.O'Connor, F.O'Connor tries; A.Blair 2, R.Williams goals) beat **Newtown 10**

HT 19-2

LineUp (A.Spillane, B.Wearing, O.Quinlivan, H.Eyers, R.Williams, A.Blair, J.Jones, J.Why, F.O'Connor, A.O'Connor, C.Eggen, A.Binder, D.Watson)

Coach – C.Lynch

1931 Grand Final, 12th Sep 3:15pm Sydney Sports Ground

Crowd 27,104 Referee L.Deane

South Sydney 12(B.Wearing, H.Eyers tries; B.Wearing, P.Williams goals; A.Spillane fieldgoal) beat **Eastern Suburbs 7**

HT 0-4

LineUp (A.Spillane, B.Wearing, P.Maher(c), J.Morrison, J.Why, H.Eyers, P.Williams, J.Deeley, G.Treweek, F.O'Connor, F.Curran, E.Root, C.Eggen)

Coach – C.Lynch

1932 Grand Final, 24th Sep 3:15pm Sydney Sports Ground

Crowd 16,925 Referee L.Deane

South Sydney 19(A.Black, E.Lewis, J.Why tries; B.Wearing 4, P.Williams goals) beat **Western Suburbs 12**

HT 9-2

LineUp (A.Spillane, B.Wearing, P.Maher, A.Black, J.Why, J.Deeley, P.Williams, E.Lewis, G.Treweek, F.O'Connor, F.Curran, J.Peterson, E.Root)

Coach – C.Lynch

1950 Final, 16th Sep 3:00pm Sydney Sports Ground

Crowd 32,373 Referee T.McMahon

South Sydney 21(J.Graves 2, C.Smailles tries; B.Purcell 5, J.Graves goals) beat **Western Suburbs 15**

HT 15-11 Scrums 17-20 Penalties 12-22

LineUp (C.Churchill, J.Graves, K.Woolfe, M.Atkinson, C.Smailles, G.Harwick, B.Stewart, L.Cowie, B.Purcell, J.Rayner(c), K.Macreadie, E.Hammerton, D.Donoghue)

Coach – J.Rayner

1951 Grand Final, 23rd Sep 3:00pm Sydney Sports Ground

Crowd 32,373 Referee J.O'Brien

South Sydney 42(J.Graves 4, L.Cowie, R.Mason, J.Rayner, C.Churchill tries

B.Purcell 7, D.Donoghue, E.Hammerton goals) beat **Manly-Warringah 14**

HT 15-4 Scrums 14-10

LineUp (C.Churchill, J.Graves, K.Woolfe, M.Atkinson, H.Wells, N.Spillane, R.Mason, L.Cowie, B.Purcell, J.Rayner(c), B.Orrock, E.Hammerton, D.Donoghue)

Coach – J.Rayner

1953 Final, 12th Sep 3:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground

Crowd 32,373 Referee D.Lawler

South Sydney 31(I.Moir 3, F.Threlfo, J.Dougherty, K.Woolfe, E.Hammerton tries

J.Dougherty 4, C.Churchill goals) beat **St George 12**

HT 15-0 Scrums 27-10 Penalties 13-15

LineUp (C.Churchill, I.Moir, M.Gallagher, K.Woolfe, F.Threlfo, J.Dougherty, R.Mason, L.Cowie, R.Moon, J.Rayner(c), J.Richards, E.Hammerton, D.Donoghue)

Coach – J.Rayner

1954 Grand Final, 18th Sep 3:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground

Crowd 45,759 Referee J.O'Brien

South Sydney 23(L.Cowie 2, I.Moir, G.Hawick, J.Dougherty tries; B.Purcell 4 goals) beat **Newtown 15**

HT 15-0 Scrums 21-14 Penalties 6-11

LineUp (C.Churchill, I.Moir, M.Gallagher, G.Harwick, L.Brennan, J.Dougherty, R.Mason, L.Cowie, B.Purcell, J.Rayner(c), J.Richards, E.Hammerton, D.Donoghue)

Coach – J.Rayner

1955 Grand Final, 17th Sep 3:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground

Crowd 42,666 Referee C.Pearce

South Sydney 12(I.Moir, C.Donohoe tries; B.Purcell 3 goals) beat **Newtown 11**

HT 4-8 Scrums 30-12 Penalties 13-18

LineUp (D.Murdoch, I.Moir, M.Gallagher, M.Spencer, D.Puren, J.Dougherty, C.Donohue, L.Cowie, B.Purcell, J.Rayner(c), N.Nilson, E.Hammerton, D.Donoghue)

Coach – J.Rayner

1967 Grand Final, 16th Sep 3:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground

Crowd 56,373 Referee C.Pearce

South Sydney 12(R.McCarthy, J.O'Neill tries; E.Simms 3 from 5, K.Longbottom 0 from 4 goals) beat **Canterbury-Bankstown 10**
HT 10-8 Scrums 8-14 Penalties 7-7

LineUp (K.Longbottom, M.Cleary, R.Moses, E.Simms, B.James, J.Lisle, I.Jones, R.Coote, A.Scott, R.McCarthy, J.O'Neill, E.Walters, J.Sattler(c); Res – G.Norgard)
Coach – C.Churchill

1968 Grand Final, 21st Sep 3:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground

Crowd 54,255 Referee C.Pearce

South Sydney 13(M.Cleary try; E.Simms 5 from 7 goals) beat **Manly-Warringah 9**
HT 11-2 Scrums 10-15 Penalties 12-13

LineUp (E.Simms, B.James, R.Honan, A.Branighan, M.Cleary, D.Pittard, R.Grant, R.Coote, J.Sattler(c), R.Moses, J.O'Neill, E.Walters, J.Morgan)
Coach – C.Churchill

1970 Grand Final, 19th Sep 3:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground

Crowd 53,241 Referee D.Lancashire

South Sydney 23(R.Grant 2, R.Branighan tries; E.Simms 3 from 5 goals; E.Simms 4 fieldgoals) beat **Manly-Warringah 12**
HT 12-6 Scrums 17-13 Penalties 5-14

LineUp (E.Simms, M.Cleary, P.Sait, A.Branighan, R.Branighan, D.Pittard, R.Grant, R.Coote, R.McCarthy, J.Sattler(c), E.Walters, J.O'Neill; Res – R.Honan)
Coach – C.Churchill

1971 Grand Final, 18th Sep 3:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground

Crowd 62,838 Referee K.Holman

South Sydney 16(R.Branighan, R.Coote, R.McCarthy tries; E.Simms 3 from 4 goals; E.Simms fieldgoal) beat **St George 10**
HT 1-0 Scrums 14-12 Penalties 8-11

LineUp (E.Simms, K.Edwards, P.Sait, R.Honan, R.Branighan, D.Pittard, R.Grant, R.Coote, G.Stevens, R.McCarthy, J.Sattler(c), G.Piggins, J.O'Neill)
Coach – C.Churchill

2014 Grand Final, 5th Oct 7:35pm Stadium Australia

Crowd 83,833 Referee S.Hayne/G.Sutton

South Sydney 30(A.Johnston, G.Burgess, Auva'a, Reynolds, Inglis tries Reynolds 5 from 7, S.Burgess 0 from 1 goals) beat **Canterbury 6**
HT 6-0 Scrums 5-3 Penalties 5-6

LineUp (G.Inglis, A.Johnston, K.Auva'a, D.Walker, L.Tuqiri, L.Keary, A.Reynolds, G.Burgess, A.Koroisau, D.Tyrrell, B.Te'o, J.Sutton (c), S.Burgess Int J.Clark, K.Turner, C.McQueen, T.Burgess)
Coach – M.Maguire

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