



# **The Rabbitoh**

**2023 NSW Cup Grand Final Edition**

**South Sydney v North Sydney**

**Western Sydney Stadium, Sun Sep 24**





## Editorial

Welcome to a special 2023 NSW Cup Grand Final edition of The Rabbitoh.

With publications going out of print during Covid it was time for another return of a publication I loved in the late 1980s "The Rabbitoh". This publication is for the fans to celebrate our 2023 appearance in the NSW Cup premierships decider.

Its been 40 long years since our Reserve Grade team made a Grand Final. 97 years since South Sydney and North Sydney played in a Reserve Grade premierships decider.

After documenting the history of South Sydney for 48 years, it is time to tell the story of our great Reserve Grade teams.

It's not only first grade who have achieved success, and many will be surprised to know we also won 20 reserve grade premierships.

Reserve Grade is full of stories of players who are on the way up, nearing the end of their career, or great clubmen stuck behind champions.

So, enjoy another Rabbitohs Grand Final as many of us who were on the hill at the SCG in 1983 will be returning to Western Sydney Stadium to witness another Rabbitoh Grand Final.

Blake Taaffe, Peter Mamouzelos and Matt French playing in the 2019 Jersey Flegg grand final.

While Buddy Gordon is still running around after 19 seasons in senior football.

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



# Second Grade

*Mark Sivis*

When league began in 1908 patrons J.J.Gilitinan promised a curtain raiser for every game. In most cases this was Second Grade.

Second Grade as it was known from 1908 to 1915 was a competition for clubs second best teams, and the competition would also field teams from stronger affiliate clubs. Sydney (all black) team was initially seen as a district club and became the first non First Grade club to play Second Grade. They weren't quite strong enough to compete with First Grade clubs, but entered teams in Second and Third Grade. Second Grade It would continue in this manner until 1916, with teams from Mosman(1910-14), Marrickville(1911-15), Waverley(1911-12), Banksia(1911) and West Sydney(1912-13).

The affiliated clubs to compete alongside of South Sydney second grade from our district were :-

- South Sydney Federal (1910-12)
- Redfern United (1911-14)
- Grosvenor (1911-15)
- Surry Hills (1912,15)
- Randwick (1914-15)
- 

In 1915 moves were a foot to consolidate second grade as the teams were grouped into divisions, Division A the first grade aligned teams and Division B the rest. By 1916 with the Great War in full swing and large numbers of players enlisting Second Grade ended and only First Grade teams could enter/ This would become known as Reserve Grade.

All teams would complete in this manner within the NSWRL until the formation of the NRL in 1998 which saw interstate teams pull out of the reserve grade competition, under the Super League War peace deal. When the competition became known as the NSWRL First Division.





# Sports Ground Cup

Mark Sivis

Just like First Grade with the City Cup, Second Grade started a seeded knockout tournament at the end of the season. Only the Top 8 district clubs could play, and you needed to have played less than 3 first grade game.

The first trophy put up was the Sports Ground Cup. The team who won it twice, would keep the trophy.

# League Cup

When the Sports Group Cup was won outright by South Sydney in 1916, it was replaced by the League Cup.

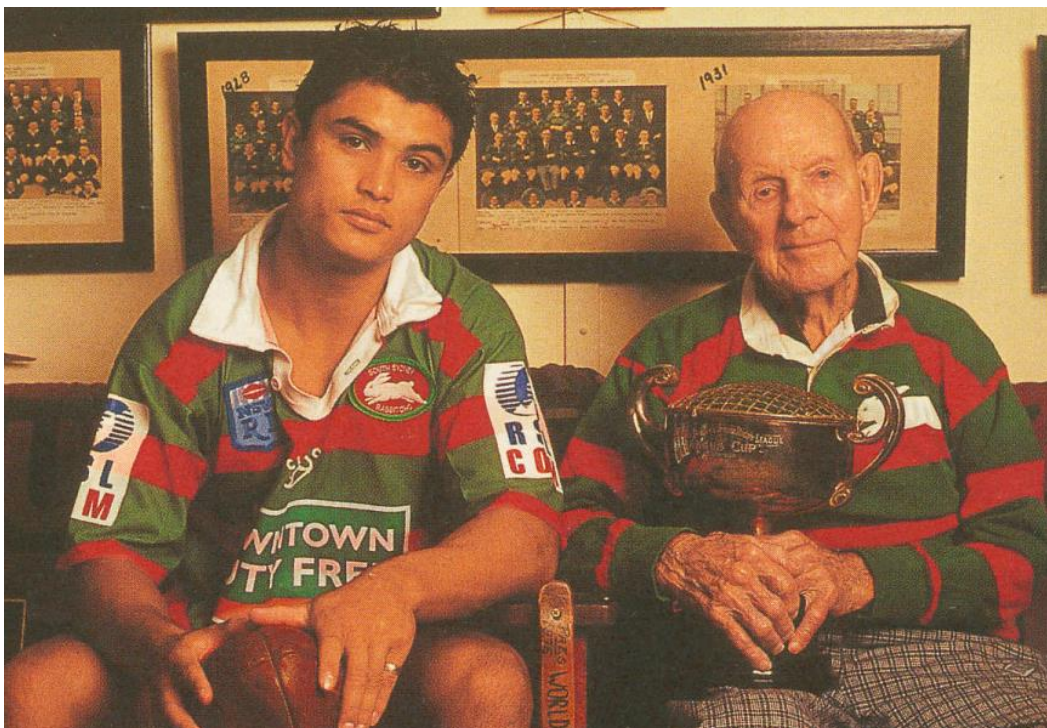
Just like before it was end of season seeded knock-out.

By the end of 1920 the City Cup / League had grown to be bigger than the premiership.



SYDNEY SPORTS GROUND CHALLENGE FOOTBALL CUP.

The format changed in 1921 with the early departure of the Kangaroos, just like in First Grade the second half of the competition reverted to be a standalone League Cup that ran for 8 rounds, before a Top 4 finals. This format would occur again in 1924. While in 1922 and 1923 the competition points of the second round would count for both bother premiership and League Cup. In the final year 1925 the League Cup reverted back to an end of season knockout format.



Albert Clift holding the League Cup as he sits beside Craig Wing in 1999.

## George Dawson

George Dawson was a name famous with the early years of Second Grade. Dawson joined South Sydney in 1909 and played First Grade in 1909 and Second Grade between 1910 to 1912. He was involved in the club as the second grade selector between 1910 to 1914 and Second Grade secretary between 1913 and 1925.

One of his greatest achievements is that between 1913 and 1925 the team finished 1,2 or 3 every year except for 1919, where flu pandemic caused havoc. After missing out on the premiership finals, that made up for it by winning the League Cup.

His record as administrator is first class winning 6 premierships and 7 League Cups.



## Percy Horne



You cannot forget the other great Reserve Grade administrator, and that was Percy Horne. Horne took over from Dawson in 1926 as secretary.

As a player Horne was a member of the famous undefeated team of 1917 that won the premiership and League Cups. While he won the League Cup again in 1918.

In 1926 after retiring, he took over as Second Grade coach. A role he held between 1926 and 1934. The team would win 6 premierships under guidance.

As a secretary he oversaw South Sydney for 50 seasons from 1926 to 1975. In his time he oversaw South Sydney win 13 reserve grade premierships. A great record for the Grand old Man of Rugby League.

“You see, it’s teamwork that counts in building a great club, on the playfield and off,” Percy Horne said. “You can’t get far if you can’t pull together. But, when you all pull together, you can go anywhere!”.



## Dutchy Anderson

Behind every great first grade team are a group of great clubmen. On such clubman in the early years was Ed "Dutchy" Anderson. Anderson was a five-eighth who played with South Sydney in the period 1913 to 1921. He captained the Reserve Grade team between 1916 and 1918, leading the 1917 undefeated team. Overall, he would win 3 reserve grade premierships 1913, 1914 and 1917.



## Bill Rowley

Another regular in reserve grade in the early years was Bill Rowley, a winger who was the 1914 reserve grade premiership captain. He would play in 1913, 1914 and 1917 premiership winning teams and winning the 1914, 1915 and 1916 League Cups.

## Jim Breen

In the 1920s there were so many great players, sometimes we forget players binding their time in reserve grade. One such player was halfback Jim Breen who played in 5 successive reserve grade grand final appearance between 1923 to 1927 and again in 1929. He won reserve grade premierships before finally getting his opportunity in first grade.



## Jim Tait

Another player who had a long career in reserve grade was Jim Tait. Tait would play with South Sydney from 1924 to 1936 and was one of the great clubmen. A five- eight or fullback he played many times behind a five-man pack. He would go on to win 4 reserve grade premierships in 1924, 1925, 1927 and 1934. In 1956 he would return to premiership success this time as a coach.

## Jack Lawrence Jnr

While Jack Lawrence is a famous name in Souths history during World War II it was his son, who won two reserve grade premierships in the centres.



## Norm Nilson

In the 50's one player won all three reserve grade premierships. That was Norm Nilson a prop. He won the 1952, 1953 and 1956 titles. Norm was fast in 1951 he won the fastest forward competition on grand final day.

## Ray Mason

Ray Mason was another one of the 1950s reserve grade stars, winning two premierships as captain in 1952 and 1956. A halfback who featured in first grade success he was able to lead the reserve grade team at the beginning and end of his career.



## Alan Heiler

The 1960s saw a new breed of players coming through but an unsung hero in reserve grade premiership success was Lana Heiler. A winger who won two premierships and starred on the day.

## George Piggins

George has a special mention in the 1960s group of reserve grade premiership winners. Stuck behind a group of international forwards, Piggins would play a large part of his career in reserve player making the grade in 1966. While in 1968 he was part of an international start studded line up.



## Mark Ross

Mark Ross was a standout in the reserve grade 1983 season. He topped the try scoring list with 15 and top the point scorers list also. He was vital in so many wins during the season.

## Arthur Hennessy

Arthur Hennessy played his part in the early success of reserve grade. Not as a player, but as a coach. He would coach South Sydney to premiership victory in 1913, 1914 and 1917. He was at the helm when we also won 6 League Cups in succession. The club honoured him by giving him the reserve grade Sports Ground Cup trophy, which we won outright.



## Dave Watson

The other coach who played a big part in our reserve grade premiership success was Dave Watson. He took over in World War II winning two titles in 1943 and 1945. Before he moved up to first grade. He returned during in 1951 for two more reserve grade premierships 1952 and 1953. He had won four premierships as a coach, after also featuring in the 1931 reserve grade premiership as a player.



# Dean Hawkins – Player of the Year

*Chris Isouard - The story of a rugby league underdog*

It was the first Sunday in the winter of 2019 and Dean Hawkins hit the Ringrose Park turf with minutes left in the first half. A fractured collarbone, ouch. Referee Kasey Badger's time off whistle signifies it's the last we'll see of the kid they call Footy Dean for the afternoon but little did we know it would be curtains for the season.

Weeks earlier Dean was touted in the media as being next in line to make his NRL debut with journalist Brent Read describing him as "an Adam Reynolds clone". A huge wrap for the Matraville Tigers junior who grew up idolising Adam Reynolds.

The career of many rugby league players can be compared to a rollercoaster, Dean is no exception. Dean has always been the underdog – he's taken the hard road more than once but his love for the Rabbitohs keeps the dream alive.

As champion footballer, Henrik Larsson once said, "You learn a lot about yourself when things aren't going well. It's always good to be the underdog".



The 2020 NSW Cup season was called off after the first game and the careers of many up and coming players was in limbo. The rollercoaster just had another unexpected dip. This setback lost many to the game – players with promise now names forgotten. Dean persisted. That one moment at Ringrose Park sent Footy Dean on a different course but like before he bounced back.

Fast forward to April 2021 and Footy Dean gets the call up to make his first grade debut. What a moment, the rollercoaster is back on track. The highs of Dean's debut came crashing down as he leapt towards a group of 30 mates at fulltime. Dean knicks himself on the fence and requires 15 stitches and sits out two weeks of footy. There's that rollercoaster again. A few weeks later the 2021 NSW Cup competition was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. Another setback for Footy Dean.

The Rabbitohs then move on club legend Adam Reynolds at season's end - possible replacements were thrown around in the media with all but a red pen put through Dean. The screams are getting louder on the rollercoaster and Dean's learning a lot about himself.

Down at Coogee, Dean's manager Tyran Smith runs his clients through their paces on the famous Coogee Stairs. One of Tyran's mottos is to "train when your opposition are resting". Among the stair runners is Dean Hawkins – his way of steadying the rollercoaster or at least trying to. While Dean is overlooked as Reynolds' replacement after suffering a hamstring injury it doesn't stop him from developing as a footballer. In 2022, he does get a cameo in first grade putting on a masterclass shutting out eventual grand finalists the Eels 26-0.

Which leads us to this year. A player of Dean's experience and calibre fighting for a contract has left many puzzled. He just picked up another NSW Cup Player of the Year Award for the entire competition. Each setback has made Dean into a stronger player and most importantly a leader – known for his kicking, organising, taking the line on and not afraid to put his body on the line. One thing not widely known is Dean basically runs the NSW Cup training sessions, those 80 plus games of NSW Cup are paying dividends.

The support for Footy Dean has grown from 30 mates at a fence to thousands of Rabbitohs members singing his praises and calling for NRL selection. If anyone deserves to win this Sunday it's the kid that plenty have written off. Dean sums up the Rabbitohs NSW Cup season – they were down and out but fought their way back.

# 1913-18 – The Great War

Mark Sivis

## Prelude

The history of South Sydney second grade dates back to the period that pre-dates district rugby union, when South Sydney won the First Junior competition (second grade equivalent) in 1898. But it would take until 1912 for South Sydney to rebuild its second grade to be a force, where they came in third in the premiership. The one important change was the appointment of a non-playing coach Arthur Hennessy. Hennessy would run the second grade teams for the next seven years, and was instrumental in turning out quality players.

## Season 1913

Our first premiership success came in 1913. The team dominated so much they won the first 10 rounds of the 11 round competition, finally putting on the record 102-2 result over Mossman. Bill Rowley and captain Wally Dymant were the dominate players that year, with the younger Roy Horder also playing his part. Ed Rigney, Bill Groves and Roy Almond got called up into the Combined second grade that year. While Dwyer, Dalton and Downey dominated the try scorers list. As the team entered the finals they got a shock when Grosvenor piped them in the last round. But in the business end of the season, they power past Redfern United 33 nil, and Glebe 8-2 for a rematch. In the Top 2 clash to decide the premiership they won 10-3 to win their first title.

1913			
Rd01	Wests	Prat	W 23-0
Rd02	Annandale	SSG	W 29-5
Rd03	Balmain	SCG	W 11-4
Rd04	Newtown	SSG	W 16-6
Rd05	Glebe	SCG	W 8-3
Rd06	Easts	SCG	W 16-0
Rd07	Norths	SSG	W 25-8
Rd08	Redfern U	SSG	W 18-0
Rd09	Sydney	SSG	W 10-0
Rd10	Mosman	Mosm	W102-2
Rd11	Grosvenor	SCG	L 11-12
Top 8	Redfern U	Ersk	W 33-0
Top 4	Glebe	Ersk	W 8-2
F	Grosvenor	RASG	W 10-3





## Season 1914

1914			
Rd01	Balmain	SCG	W 12-7
Rd02	Glebe	SCG	L 9-11
Rd03	Wests	Prat	W 11-3
Rd04	Easts	SCG	W 6-0
Rd05	Newtown	RASG	W 8-7
Rd06	Redfern	SCG	W 7-2
Rd07	Balmain	RASG	L 3-9
Rd08	Glebe	Went	W 15-9
Rd09	Wests	Prat	W 26-5
Rd10	Grosvenor	SCG2	D 5-5
Rd11	Randwick	Redf	W 33-8
Top 8	Easts	RASG	D 7-7
Top 4	Glebe	Ersk	W 11-6
PlyOf	Norths	NSO	W 29-7
PlyOf	Glebe	SCG	W 6-0
F	Easts	RASG	W 6-5

1914 was a tight contest all year our biggest rivals were Glebe, Grosvenor and Easts. Our biggest win came in the last round against Randwick when we beat them 33-8 where Dalton scored three tries. Next up was a clash with Easts where the game ended in a tight 7 all draw where Dalton and Roy Horder scored points. As we headed into the final 4 two points behind Norths and Glebe. We went into the Top 4 clash against Glebe needing a win to remain in the running. With tries to Dalton, Rowley and Thompson saw us win 11-6 and resulting in a sensational 3-way playoff for the right to play in the final. We first had to beat Norths which we did 29-7, then rematch against Glebe where we won in a tight contest 6-0. This setup a final against archrivals Easts which we won in a tight contest 6-5 to win back-to-back premierships. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> title. To top off the year the team went on to win the Sports

Ground Cup knockout by beating Easts again 16-15.



Back row: S.G.Ball(Sec), J.J.McGrath(Tres), W.Gilbert, M.Daly, G.Dawson(2G Sec), J.Glennon(3G Sec)  
 3rd row: W.Redwood,, G.Hartman, V.Hallett, A.Oxford, P.Thompson, R.Coulter, W.Groves, H.Freebairn, C.Potter, J.Kerwick  
 2nd row: J.Dalton, G.Moore, W.Hilliard, Clarrie Horder, Bill Rowley(c), L.Anderson(vc), E.Nicholls, R.Horder, J.Kearns  
 Front row: C.Bonner, S.Brogan, G.Vaughan, E.Anderson, F.Egan



### Season 1915

1915 was another good season but it came down to a last round clash against Balmain. We weren't able to stop them that day But the year was not lost as we went on to win the Sport Ground Cup beating Glebe 9-5 and getting to keep the Sports Ground Cup, with Rowley captaining us that day.



### Season 1916

1916 saw us once again win the end of season new League Cup knockout beating Wests 18-3, with a young Alf Blair scoring, while William Bruce was scoring on the wing a Dutchy Anderson was in charge.





## Undefeated - Season 1917

Was a great year for our reserve grade team as went through the season undefeated beating Balmain 14-2 in the last round to secure our 3<sup>rd</sup> premiership. Captain Dutchy Anderson lead they way with Les Arthur and a young Vic Lawrence dominating the try scorers. A young Alf Blair and Perc Horne was pushing through the grades. We would dominate Annandale and Norths during the year. But the year wasn't over as the team once again won the League Cup knockout our 4<sup>th</sup> victory in a row with



Gordon Lindsay starring with the boot, as we won the final against Glebe 18-2. 17 wins throughout the year

		1917	
Rd01	Wests	SCG	W 8-3
Rd02	Annandale	Went	W 35-0
Rd03	Easts	RASG	W 2-0
Rd04	Glebe	Went	W 15-5
Rd05	Norths	RASG	W 27-13
Rd06	Newtown	SCG	W 16-2
Rd07	Balmain	SCG	W 8-3
Rd08	Wests	StLu	W 13-8
Rd09	Annandale	Went	W 31-0
Rd10	Easts	SSG	W 11-0
Rd11	Glebe	RASG	W 11-3
Rd12	Norths	RASG	W 47-0
Rd13	Newtown	RASG	W 24-3
Rd14	Balmain	SCG	W 14-2
LC-01	Annandale	Went	W 46-0
LC-SF	Wests	RASG	W 21-0
LC-F	Glebe	RASG	W 18-2



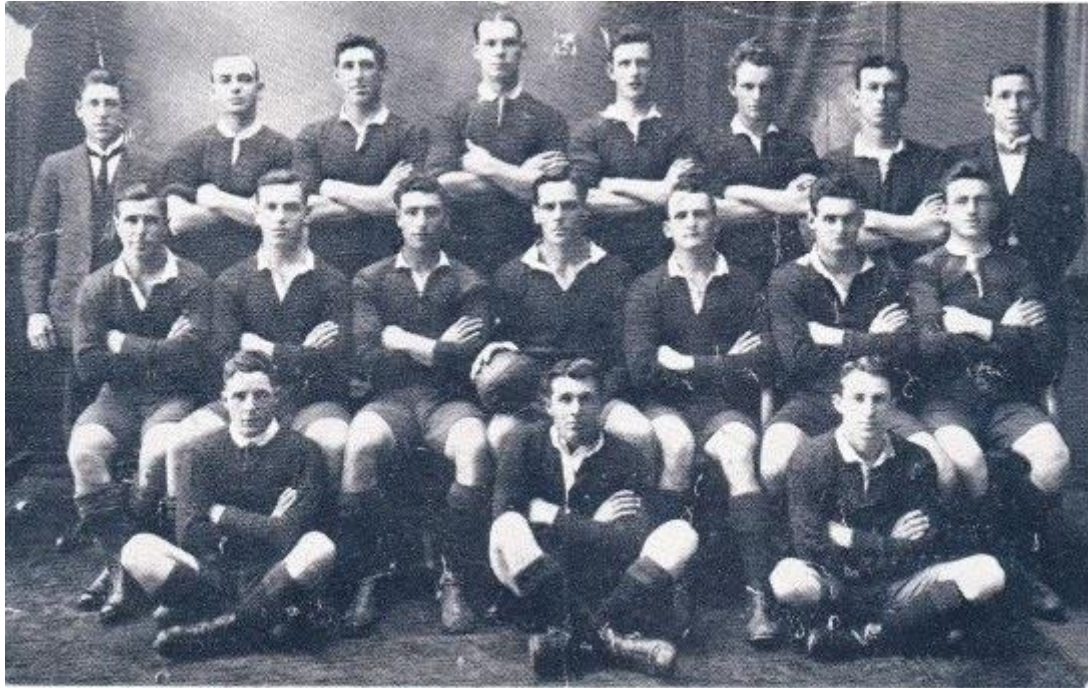
Back row: J.Wheeler(sel), G.Johnson, W.Rowley, J.Kearns, V.Lawrence, J.Nicholls(sel)  
 Middle Row: J.Rosewell(Coach), A.Cummins, G.Lucas, C.Lynch, W.Cameron(vc), G.Lindsay, P.Horne, G.Dawson(sec)  
 Front Row: D.Lindsay, T.Coyne, E.Nicholls, S.Anderson(c), H.Nelson, G.Reynolds, W.Sheehan  
 Seated: W.Sweetman, L.Arthurs

### **Season 1918**

While the focus was on the first grade team as they launched the premierships campaign, Souths continued their undefeated run until round 6 when they met Glebel won that day. We went on to end up second that year. But we made amends in the League Cup beating 16-5 before going on to beat Easts in the final 7-4. Winning our 5<sup>th</sup> straight League Cup Vic Lawrence and William Bruce were the dominate try scorers during the year.

### **Season 1919**

With the great war over and players returning from the battle front, the year was a slow one before we came home strong to win the League Cup for a sixth straight year. Beating Norths in the final 10-7.



*Back Row: S.Cohen(Trr), G.Hartman, P.Murphy, W.Moore, L.Sheely, H.Courtenay, B.Hackett, G.Dawson(Sec)  
Middle Row: C.Bonner, T.Coyne, V.Lawrence, C.Lynch(capt), P.Dalton, B.Lane, B.Sheehan  
Front Row: B.Hucker, J.King, J.Tandy*

### **Notable 1913-19 Era Achievements (93 wins from 115 – 80.9%)**

*South Sydney won 3 premierships*

*South Sydney won 6 Sport Ground/League Cups knockouts in a row*

*1916-18 25 game winning streak*

*1913 Souths biggest ever win 102-2 over Mosman*



# 97 Years since we met in a Final

Mark Emery / Mark Sivis

Looking back in history its been a long time since South Sydney and North Sydney have actually met in a premiership decider. In fact, you need to go all the way back to 1926 to see when these two teams met on the field of battle in reserve grade. In the first Top 4 finals system in 1926 South Sydney were Minor Premiers, 7 points clear of second place. North Sydney however had hung onto 4<sup>th</sup> spot by a competition point after losing their last round encounter.

During the season South Sydney and North Sydney had met twice. The first encounter in Round 3 South Sydney had a runaway win, winning 52-2 with Reg Williams scoring a hat trick of tries and 2 goals, Vic Funnell a double, Harry Finch a double, Dave Watson and Oscar Quinlivan a try each. Jack Jones booted 7 goals while Tait kicked 2 goals.

In the next match North Sydney had vastly improved, with Souths still winning on the day 10-5 with Jack Why and Tom Barry scoring and Jimmy Tait kicked 2 goals.

Souths went into the final after a good win against Wests in the semi-final, while Norths caused an upset when they down Newtown 15-11 in the other semifinal. That setup a classic encounter.

McAnulty was sent off early in the game. At one stage Norths had skipped out to a 3-10 lead. But by halftime South Sydney had regained the lead in a tight contest 11-10. In the second half South Sydney made hacks of North Sydney's second thirteen, as they went on dominate the second half to win 25-13. Interstate centre Sid Harriss played a wonderful game for the winners who registered their fourth successive premiership win.



Try Scorers that day were Les Dolan, Tom Barry, Tom Craigie, Sid Harris, Jim Breen, Jack Lodge, Jack Lawrence. While Jack Jones kicked 2 goals.

The win was made even more meritorious given that the South Sydney fullback, W. McAnulty, was sent off early in the first half. Souths therefore had to play nearly three quarters of the game with only 12 men. This must surely show the wonderful strength of the South Sydney team.

AGRICULTURAL GROUND—2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, 1926	
RESERVE GRADE—FINAL	
SOUTH SYDNEY v. NORTH SYDNEY	
<b>South Sydney</b> Colours—Red and Green.	
FULL-BACK: 18—W. McAnulty	
THREE-QUARTERS:	
10—S. Harris	J. Why—21
14—T. Barry	J. Lodge—12
HALVES:	
7—J. Jones	J. Breen—36
24—L. Dolan (Capt.)	
FORWARDS:	
35—R. Beiber	C. Fennell 27
40—T. Craigie	V. Funnell—33
39—J. Lawrence	J. Evans—30
(One to be omitted)	
RESERVES:	
31—J. Tait	W. Gollan—
[COPYRIGHT.]	
Referee—L. DEANE.	
Touch Judges—J. Farquhar and W. Fry.	
[COPYRIGHT.]	
<b>North Sydney</b> Colours—Red and Black.	
FULL-BACK: 36—C. Nash	
THREE-QUARTERS:	
49—C. Woods	C. Hill—18
33—S. Holland	R. Henry—9
26—C. Reynolds	
(One to be omitted)	
HALVES:	
34—L. Carroll	J. Barrett—50
FORWARDS:	
22—C. MacQuarrie	L. Magrath—37
31—T. Humphries	F. Maher—46
24—G. Costa	J. O'Reilly—40
RESERVES:	
15—J. Sprouster	
[COPYRIGHT.]	

# 1923-1934 – Invincibles

Mark Sivis

## Prelude

As the roaring 20s getting into full swing and Arthur Hennessy stepping aside, Secretary George Dawson worked his wonders with the next generation of players. And as in the past it was a mix of youth and experience that led the way. In 1920 Souths were runners up after Glebe were able to overcome Norths in the last match. While in 1921 we again were runners up in the shortened season. 1922 saw us once again in the winner's circle as they beat Glebe 5-0 in the League Cup final after Hennessy handed over the coach reigns to John Rosewell.

## Season 1923

1923 season got off to a flyer as we built on the 1922 success winning the first 4 games before losing to Balmain in a narrow loss 5-7. Not to undone they then went through the rest of the premiership season undefeated, beating Balmain in the return match 8-7 and then beating them again 13-6 in the premiership decider to win their 4<sup>th</sup> premiership. Bryan Moloney was the star that day scoring two tries,



1923			
Rd01	BYE		
Rd02	Glebe	SCG	W 9-7
Rd03	Easts	SSG	W 18-3
Rd04	University	SCG	W 8-2
Rd05	Newtown	SCG	W 20-2
Rd06	Balmain	SSG	L 5-7
Rd07	Wests	SSG	W 20-2
Rd08	St George	SCG	W 14-8
Rd09	Norths	SCG	W 10-7
Rd11	Glebe	SSG	W 16-4
Rd12	Easts	SSG	W 7-2
Rd13	University	SSG	W 29-5
Rd14	Newtown	SCG2	W 10-3
Rd15	Balmain	SSG	W 8-7
Rd16	Wests	SSG	W 14-2
Rd17	St George	Brch	W 14-6
Rd18	Norths	SCG	W 6-0
F	Balmain	SCG	W 13-6

with a young Fred Funnell also scoring. Cody was a dominate point scorer that year. Perc Horne and Dave Hickey captained the team with Hickey, Booth, Burke and Cody getting a reserve grade representative call up.



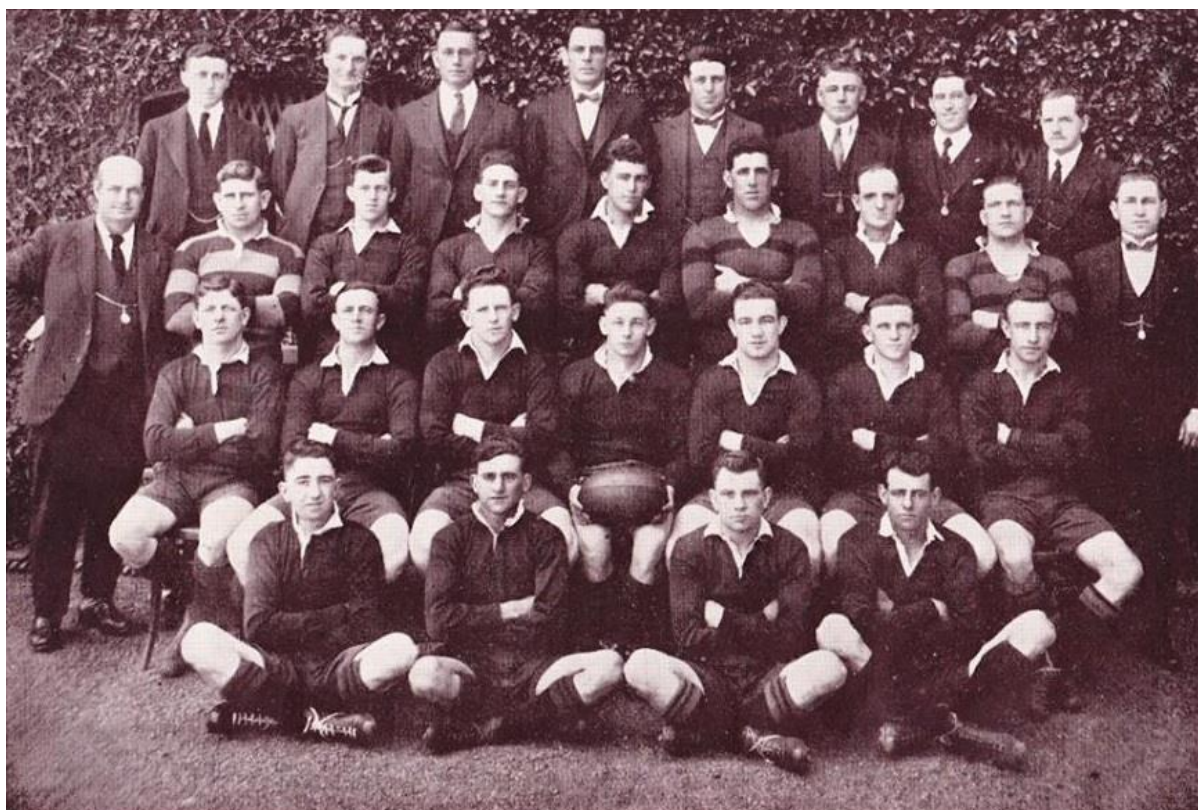
Back Row: W.Allen, E.Root, E.Addicoat, R.Burke, T.Costello, B.Moloney, R.Linklater  
 Third Row: S.Cohen(Tr), V.Funnell, H.Buckley, D.Watson, W.Cameron, F.Funnell, W.Sheehan, G.Dawson(Sec)  
 Second Row: L.Spillane, L.Dolan, R.Booth(vc), D.Hickey(c), R.Beiber, J.Breen, D.Shipway  
 Front Row: F.Brogan, J.Jones, W.Cody



## Season 1924

1924 was a shortened 9 round season. Souths went through the premiership season undefeated and secured back-to-back premierships with a 16-3 victory over St George in the last round. Our 5<sup>th</sup> premiership. Moloney once again was the dominate try scorer and a young Jim Tait top scorer. Robert Booth was the captain of the team while a young Alby Carr and Jim Breen were making the grade.

1924			
Rd01	Wests	SCG	W 13-9
Rd02	Glebe	SSG	W 12-7
Rd03	Norths	SSG	W 21-2
Rd04	BYE		
Rd05	Balmain	SCG	W 9-8
Rd06	Easts	SSG	W 16-0
Rd07	Newtown	SSG	W 21-8
Rd08	University	SCG	W 12-11
Rd09	St George	SCG	W 16-3



Back Row: V.Sheehan(VP), D.Watson(VP), B.Phelps, C.Lynch, G.Lindsay, O.McCarthy(Sel/VPs),  
W.Sweetman(trainer), A.Anderson(VP)  
Third Row: J.Rosewell(Coach), H.Andrews, W.Allen, V.Funnell, A.Carr, P.Murphy, J.Giles, G.Johnson,  
G.Dawson(RG Sec)  
Second Row: A.Thompson, D.Hickey, R.Burke(vc), R.Booth(c), R.Beiber, B.Moloney, D.Shipway  
Front Row: J.Tait, J.Jones, F.Brogan, J.Breen

## Season 1925

1925 was a special year for South Sydney and Reserve Grade played their part. When both First Grade and Reserve Grade competitions were suspended 3 rounds from the end, to start the City Cup, Souths and Balmain were equal leaders in reserve grade, both having lost two matches. So, it was decided to play a premiership decider. Jim Breen was leading the team once again and he and Jimmy Tait were leading the point scoring. Moloney was again dominating the try scoring list. Playing that day in the final were Sid Harris and Eddie Root, while we played with the 5-man pack formation with Frank Brogan, Jack Why and Les Dolan in the halves.

Charle Fennell was our hooker in a start studded line up, with Oliver Why playing during the season. Sid Harris led that day scoring two tries as Souths dominated the game to win 14-2. Winning a hatrick of premierships and our 6<sup>th</sup> premiership.

1925				
Rd01	Balmain	SCG	L	5-8
Rd02	University	SCG	W	27-0
Rd03	Easts	SCG	W	15-0
Rd04	St George	Earl	W	18-7
Rd05	Newtown	Marr	W	10-5
Rd06	Glebe	SCG	W	14-0
Rd07	BYE			
Rd08	Wests	SCG	W	23-3
Rd09	Norths	SCG	L	7-21
Rd10	University	SCG	W	30-2
Rd11	Glebe	SCG	W	11-2
Rd12	St George	SCG	W	25-6
Rd13	Easts	SCG	W	19-2
F	Balmain	SCG	W	14-2



Back Row: V.Sheehan(Selector VP), H.Hallett(Coach VP), D.Watson Snr(VP), C.Lynch(Selector VP),  
G.Dawson(RG Sec), G.Lindsay(Selector), S.J.Andeson(VP)  
Third Row: J.Cosgrove(Trainer), S.Larter, C.Fennell, E.Root, D.Watson Jnr, S.Leadbeatter, O.Why, V.Funnell,  
E.Pearce(Trainer)  
Second Row: C.Boardman, J.Why, S.Harris, F.Flowers(Patron), J.Breen(c), W.J.McKell(VP), A.Righton,  
B.Molonay, L.Heath  
Front Row: J.Day, J.Tait, F.Brogan(vc), C.Weston



## 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 League Cup. 1926 also saw the end of non-district lower grade teams. South Sydney once again dominated the year, losing only one game to University. But we got revenge in the last round 26-8 to finish 9 points clear of the other teams. In the first semi-final we dominated Wests 22-5 before we met Norths in the final. Early in the year we blew Norths off the park beating them 52-2 before having a tight win 10-5 in the rematch. For the decider we dominated the game winning 25-13 to win our 4<sup>th</sup> premiership in a row and our 7<sup>th</sup> premiership overall. Les Dolan had taken over as captain, with Jim Breen, Vic Funnell, Sid Harris, Jack Lodge, Jack Why and Reg Williams dominating the try scoring during the year.

1926			
Rd01	St George	SCG	W 20-2
Rd02	Easts	SCG	W 24-0
Rd03	Norths	SCG	W 52-2
Rd04	Glebe	SCG	W 19-0
Rd05	BYE		
Rd06	Wests	SCG	W 36-10
Rd07	Newtown	SCG	W 16-2
Rd08	Balmain	Brch	W 8-5
Rd09	University	SCG	L 14-16
Rd10	St George	Earl	W 28-8
Rd11	Easts	SCG	W 30-5
Rd12	Norths	NSO	W 10-5
Rd13	Glebe	SCG	D 5-5
Rd14	BYE		
Rd15	Wests	SCG	W 18-2
Rd16	Newtown	SCG	W 20-9
Rd17	Balmain	SCG	W 26-12
Rd18	University	SCG	W 26-8
MSF	Wests	SCG	W 22-5
F	Norths	RASG	W 25-13



Back Row: A.Anderson(VP), E.Pearce, G.Lindsay(Sel), D.Watson Snr(VP), O.McCarthy(Sel), G.Wells(VP), S.J.Anderson(Sel)

Third Row: P.Horne, J.Lodge, D.Watson(vc), T.Barry, G.Treweek, O.Quinlivan, T.Craigie, C.Fennell, C.Lynch(Sel)

Second Row: J.Why, R.Beiber, R.Williams, L.Dolan(c), V.Funnell, J.Lawrence, J.Tait

Front Row: J.Jones, J.Breen, H.Finch, S.Harris, W.McAnulty

## Season 1927

1927 got off to average start as we lost 2 games in the first 6 rounds. But the team was able to regain composure coming home strong to win the last 4 games to take out Minor Premiership after beating St George 10-6 in the last round. Tom Craige was the dominate try scorer, while Jack Jones led the point scoring. Jim Breen once again led the team. Jim Tait and Moloney were again key members of the team and Oscar Quinlivan was vital at the end of the season. It was our 5<sup>th</sup> premiership in a row and our 8<sup>th</sup> premiership overall.

		1927		
Rd01	Easts	SCG	W	27-2
Rd02	BYE			
Rd03	Glebe	Went	W	17-11
Rd04	Newtown	SCG	W	8-0
Rd05	Wests	SCG	L	5-13
Rd06	Balmain	SCG	L	0-10
Rd07	Norths	Earl	W	32-2
Rd08	University	Went	W	26-2
Rd09	St George	SCG	W	9-0
Rd10	Easts	SCG	W	29-0
Rd11	BYE			
Rd12	Glebe	SCG	W	14-7
Rd13	Newtown	SCG	W	20-8
Rd14	Wests	SCG	L	3-16
Rd15	Balmain	Brch	W	15-0
Rd16	Norths	NSO	W	27-8
Rd17	University	Earl	W	37-0
Rd18	St George	SCG	W	10-6
MSF	Balmain	RASG	W	6-5
F	St George	RASG	W	16-5



Back Row: A.Anderson(VP), S.J.Anderson(VP), G.Wells(VP), P.O'Donoghue(VP), P.Murphy(VP),  
C.Lynch(VP/Sel), H.Hallett(VP), E.Fletcher(Trainer), E.Pearce(Trainer)  
Third Row: J.P.Horne(Sec), D.Watson, W.Gollan, M.Manning, F.O'Connor, O.Quinlivan, V.Funnell, T.Craige,  
E.Fry(VP)  
Second Row: R.Kerr, E.Cummins, R.McWilliam, J.Why(vc), Jim Breen(c), J.Tait, R.Williams, B.Moloney  
Front Row: M.O'Connor, J.Jones, C.Fennell, J.Lawrence, A.Righton, H.Kadwell, H.Melville

## Season 1928

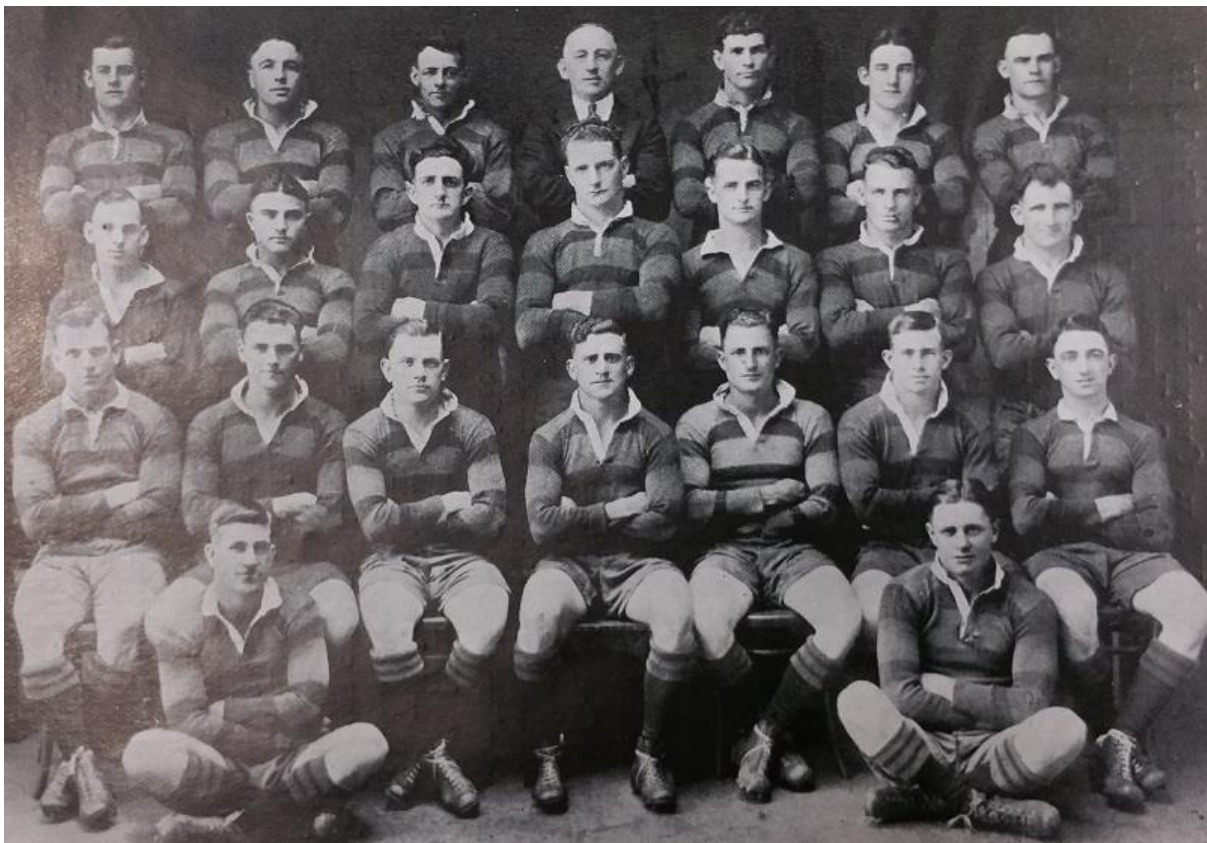
After winning five premierships in a row our time in the premiership deciders were over after being eliminated by Easts in the preliminary final, after finishing second during the regular season.



### Season 1929

But we weren't down for long. 1929 saw the re-alignment of Newtown/South Sydney residential territory, with the demise of the great Glebe club. By the end of the year 1929 saw us once again finish Minor Premiers, with a much more consistent performance throughout the year. In the finals we met Newtown first up and destroyed them 32-0 in the semi-final with second rower and captain Tom Craigie scoring a hattrick. We then met Wests in the final. We had met them twice during the year winning one and losing one. But it was a dominate performance that saw us win 26-3, taking out our 9<sup>th</sup> premiership. Mick Manning and Reg Williams dominated the scorers during the year, with Charlie Lloyd scoring two tries in the final. Jack Jones and Tom Craigie were our captains.

1929				
Rd01	Balmain	Brch	W	21-11
Rd02	Glebe	SSG	L	5-7
Rd03	BYE			
Rd04	Easts	SSG	D	8-8
Rd05	St George	SSG	W	10-5
Rd06	Wests	RASG	W	15-5
Rd07	University	Went	W	11-3
Rd08	Norths	SSG	W	17-6
Rd09	Newtown	SSG	W	7-6
Rd10	Balmain	SSG	W	8-2
Rd11	Glebe	SSG	W	4-2
Rd12	BYE			
Rd13	Easts	RASG	L	6-13
Rd14	St George	SSG	W	11-0
Rd15	Wests	SSG	L	5-8
Rd16	University	Earl	W	30-7
Rd17	Norths	SSG	W	17-3
Rd18	Newtown	SSG	W	11-7
MSF	Newtown	SSG	W	32-0
F	Wests	SSG	W	26-3



### Season 1930

The 1930 saw us play in our first Grand Final Challenge after finishing second in the regular season. But it wasn't our year as we lost to Balmain 5 nil.

## Season 1931

So when you fall off the bike you get right back on, and so did our 1931 team, who made amends for that loss to Balmain beating them in both preliminary matches in the regular season. Souths ended up as minor premiers followed closely by St George, after beating University 39-5 in the final round. It was time to meet Balmain again in a tight game we led at the break to eventually win the game 11-2. That set up a clash with St George who had beaten us once during the year. But we once again put in a dominate final performance to win 26-3 with George Algie scoring two tries in the final. That was our 10<sup>th</sup> premiership win. William Dennett led us in the final from regular captain Jim Tait, with Dave Watson playing and Jack Stewart at the back.

1931					
Rd01	Newtown	Marr	W	11-5	
Rd02	St George	SSG	W	15-10	
Rd03	Wests	SSG	L	12-13	
Rd04	Easts	SSG	W	20-12	
Rd05	Balmain	Brch	W	8-6	
Rd06	Norths	NSO	W	20-11	
Rd07	University	Marr	W	36-17	
Rd08	Newtown	Marr	W	22-2	
Rd09	St George	Earl	D	8-8	
Rd10	Wests	Prat	L	8-11	
Rd11	Easts	SSG	W	17-12	
Rd12	Balmain	Earl	W	12-0	
Rd13	Norths	NSO	W	29-7	
Rd14	University	Earl	W	39-5	
mSF	Balmain	SSG	W	11-2	
F	St George	SSG	W	24-5	



Back Row: S.Riddell, A.McPherson, G.Court, F.Chaplin, C.Eggen, D.Watson, H.Eyers  
 Third Row: J.Jones, F.Yates, C.Stansell, H.F.Johnston, R.Williams, J.Deeley, A.Righton, G.Whitmore  
 Second Row: J.R.Stewart, J.Peterson, S.Sampson, J.Tait(c), P.Horne(RG Sec), W.Dennett(vc), P.Williams,  
 W.Sing, T.McLachlan  
 Front Row: P.Brophy, A.Spillane, A.Pritchard, G.Algie



### Season 1932

1932 saw the team continue from where they left off winning their opening 4 games. As first grade was evolving so was reserve grade. Perc Horne was now coaching the team and he helped guide the team to another minor premierships. Which we needed come finals time. We played Newtown first up and lost in a tight contest 2-3. This allowed Souths to challenge in a Grand Final. It was again a tight contest, but we were the winners this time 5-2. Going back-to-back and winning our 11<sup>th</sup> premierships. Jack Jones led the team and was chaired off in the grand final. While Charlie Lloyd, William Dennett and Sid Sampson dominated our try scorers.

1932				
Rd01	Wests	SSG	W	15-8
Rd02	Newtown	Prat	W	10-2
Rd03	Balmain	Brch	W	11-4
Rd04	Norths	NSO	W	28-0
Rd05	University	Earl	W	34-4
Rd06	Easts	SSG	L	2-5
Rd07	St George	Earl	L	2-3
Rd08	Wests	SSG	W	24-7
Rd09	Newtown	SSG	W	9-4
Rd10	Balmain	SSG	W	6-0
Rd11	Norths	Earl	W	4-2
Rd12	University	Marr	W	19-4
Rd13	Easts	SSG	W	14-3
Rd14	St George	Earl	L	7-15
MSF	Newtown	SSG	L	2-3
GF	Newtown	SSG	W	5-2



### Season 1933

1933 saw South Sydney claim another minor premierships, on the back of a consistent year. But when it came to the finals we faltered first losing in the semi-final to Easts and then in Grand Final 12-15 to Balmain. Another Hatrick of premierships alluded us.

### Season 1934

1934 season saw South Sydney finish 3<sup>rd</sup> overall, but they sought revenge in the finals. First up playing minor premiers Balmain in the Semi-Final winning 10-8 with captain Jim Tait kicking the winning goal. Next up was Easts in the Preliminary Final again we won 13-10, setting up the Grand Final rematch again Balmain. In another tight game it was Frank Crowe who scored the winning try as we won 7-2. Winning our 12<sup>th</sup> premiership. Souths played in the last 4 premiership deciders winning 3. Alby Thorne and Clinton Quinlivan were our top try scorers with Jim Tait leading our points scorers. The year ended in tragedy when reserve grade second rower Charlie Lloyd did in a car accident a month after the premiership decider.

1934					
Rd01	Easts	SSG	L	0-3	
Rd02	Wests	SSG	L	12-19	
Rd03	St George	Earl	W	4-0	
Rd04	University	Leic	W	18-5	
Rd05	Norths	NSO	W	21-7	
Rd06	Newtown	Marr	W	19-2	
Rd07	Balmain	Drum	L	12-14	
Rd08	Easts	SSG	L	8-12	
Rd09	Wests	SSG	W	11-8	
Rd10	St George	Earl	L	18-8	
Rd11	University	Leic	W	26-10	
Rd12	Norths	Chat	W	10-3	
Rd13	Newtown	Marr	L	3-6	
Rd14	Balmain	Drum	D	13-13	
MSF	Balmain	SSG	W	10-8	
F	Easts	SSG	W	13-10	
GF	Balmain	SSG	W	7-2	



Back Row: P.Horne(Sec), A.O'Connor(VP/Sel), C.Lynch(Pres/Sel), D.Brown(Trainer)  
 Middle Row: S.Sampson, F.Crowe, A.A.Potter, E.Hinson, J.Anderson, E.Collins, K.Wylie  
 Front Row: E.Pratt, A.Dean, J.Coyne(vc), J.Tait, J.Caffrey, F.Young, A.Spillane  
 Seated: J.Hurst

### Notable 1923-34 Era Achievements (147 wins from 191 – 77.0%)

*South Sydney play in 11 premiership deciders in 12 years winning 9  
 1924 Undefeated*



# 1943-45 – World War II

Mark Sivis

## Prelude

During the period 1935 to 1942 South Sydney would play semi-final football regularly but rarely transferring this into a grand Final appearance. In 1937 they made the Reserve Grade City Cup final. They only missed the finals in 1940. But a new group of players were on the rise winning the 1942 and 1943 U21 Presidents Cup.

## Season 1943

1943				
Rd01	Newtown	Hens	L	11-17
Rd02	Balmain	SSG	L	6-14
Rd03	St George	SCG	L	3-6
Rd04	Norths	SSG	D	6-6
Rd05	Wests	SSG	D	7-7
Rd06	Canterbury	Belm	W	19-0
Rd07	Easts	SCG	W	18-6
Rd08	Balmain	Leic	L	0-7
Rd09	St George	SSG	W	30-23
Rd10	Norths	NSO	L	19-26
Rd11	Wests	Prat	W	22-15
Rd12	Canterbury	SSG	W	22-0
Rd13	Easts	SSG	W	21-8
Rd14	Newtown	SCG	W	28-13
MSF	Balmain	SCG	W	26-12
F	St George	SCG	W	27-8
GF	Balmain	SCG	W	15-9

In 1943 the season started poorly, with our first win occurring in Round 6. But from there they only lost two more games to finish the regular season in 3<sup>rd</sup>

place. First up was minor premier Balmain in the Semi-Final who had beaten us twice in the regular season. In the Semi-Final we caused a huge upset beating Balmain 26-12 with John Lawrence and Neville Stokes both scoring doubles. The was led by veteran George Kilham. In the Preliminary Final they faced St George and beat them 27-8 with Arthur Harris and Jack Faris scoring a double with Wally Finch have a great day with the boot. This setup the rematch with Balmain in the Grand Final. The momentum was with us as we won the game 15-9, winning our 13<sup>th</sup> premiership. Veteran Dave Watson coached the reserves.



## Season 1944

Once again the reserve grade team finished in a low Top 4. But were knocked out in the first semi-final.

## Season 1945

Wearing their Red V jersey, season 1945 got off to good start winning the first 5 games. It was another year where players who served would make rare appearances between. One of those was Cec King father of Johnny King. Bill Beddy and Alec Tracey headed the try scoring list, while a young Les Bell dominated the point scoring. We finished the season in 3<sup>rd</sup> spot and headed into a finals, where playoffs were occurring around us. In the first semi-final we knocked off minor premier Canterbury 24-10. Harris scoring a double. Canterbury had played a midweek minor premierships playoff. In the final we took on North Sydney winning 18-10, even though Keith Smith was sent off in the game. We then went up for a rematch against Canterbury in the Grand Final winning in a tight contest 11-7 on the back of the goal kicking of Les Bell. Ken Brogan led us that day under the coaching of Dave Watson. It was our 14<sup>th</sup> premierships win.

1945				
Rd01	St George	SSG	W	5-4
Rd02	Newtown	Hens	W	17-9
Rd03	Easts	SSG	W	12-10
Rd04	Canterbury	SSG	W	17-10
Rd05	Balmain	Leic	W	31-5
Rd06	Norths	NSO	D	9-9
Rd07	Wests	SSG	L	8-9
Rd08	St George	Hurs	L	3-10
Rd09	Newtown	SSG	W	23-12
Rd10	Easts	SSG	L	3-15
Rd11	Canterbury	Belm	L	8-16
Rd12	Norths	SSG	L	5-8
Rd13	Wests	Prat	W	13-7
Rd14	Balmain	SSG	W	13-5
MSF	Canterbury	SCG	W	24-10
F	Norths	SCG	W	18-10
GF	Canterbury	SCG	W	11-7



Back row: Perce Horne (Hon Sec), Dave Watson (Coach), Jim Mangan, Vince Lawrence, A.Harris, J.Lawrence Snr (Deputy Selector), S. Anderson (Selector).

Third row: Alec Tracey, Jim Borger, N. Stokes, George Haddon, Fred Lane, Tom Wood, Bill Sherwood, Ed Bray.

Second row: Ed Griffiths, Keith Smith, Ken Brogan (vc), Cyril Pyle (capt), Les Brown, Les Bell, Cec King.

Front row: K.Lampard, Jack Lawrence Jnr, W.Beddy, G.Norrish.



# 1952-56 – Dominate 50's

Mark Sivis

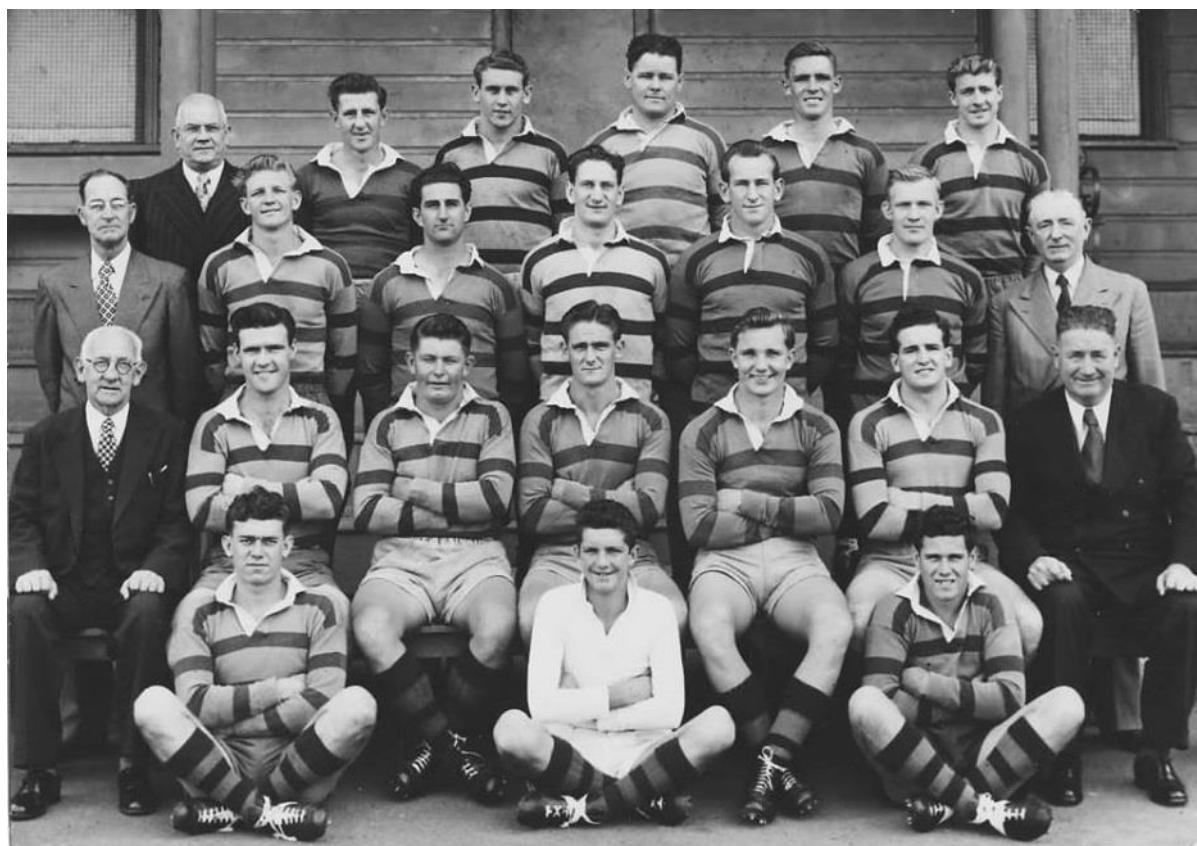
## Prelude

In the years after World War II, it was a lean time for our reserve grade team, missing the finals only playing finals football once, as the club was being rebuilt from the top down. But it was success at Presidents Cup level and then Third Grade in 1951 that paved the way for a return of the reserve grade team

## Season 1952

Once again a good start to the season was paramount to the success of the year as we won our first 5 games. A young Ray Neilson was making a name for himself while Smailles was scoring out wide. Norm Nilson was leading up front. Dave Watson had returned as coach. Souths finished the season in 3<sup>rd</sup> spot and took on minor premiers Canterbury in the first semi-final. In a tough encounter Souths won 11-5 to progress to the final. Next up was North Sydney who led at halftime 3-9 before Souths came home to win the match 10-9 when Ray Mason and Ted Brown scoring. Now for a rematch against Canterbury which dominated and won 19-0 to take out our 15<sup>th</sup> premiership.

		1952		
Rd01	Manly	SCG	W	16-15
Rd02	Wests	Redf	W	12-9
Rd03	Parramatta	Redf	W	38-0
Rd04	Balmain	Leic	W	16-5
Rd05	Norths	NSO	W	11-8
Rd06	Newtown	SSG	D	2-2
Rd07	Canterbury	Redf	L	8-15
Rd08	Easts	SSG	W	16-12
Rd09	St George	SSG	L	0-21
Rd10	Manly	SCG	W	10-7
Rd11	Wests	SCG	W	12-8
Rd12	Parramatta	Cumb	W	10-0
Rd13	Balmain	SSG	L	3-9
Rd14	Norths	Redf	L	5-25
Rd16	Canterbury	Belm	L	10-13
Rd17	Easts	Redf	W	7-2
Rd18	St George	SCG	L	4-7
Rd15	Newtown	Redf	L	10-11
MSF	Canterbury	SCG	W	11-5
F	Norths	SCG	W	10-9
GF	Canterbury	SCG	W	19-0



Back Row: F.Brogan(VP), K.Noonan, M.Spencer, N.Nilson(vc), T.Biscaya, D.Murdock  
 Third Row: C.Blinkhorn(selector), R.Browne, W.Floyd, A.Dennis, J.Richards, R.Neilson, J.Glasheen(Pres)  
 Second Row: J.P.Horne(RG Sec), E.Molan, R.Bell, F.Lawrence, P.Bailey, J.Renshaw, D.Watson(Coach)  
 Front Row: W.Harris, J.Vawdon(Ball boy), E.Brown

### Season 1953

1953 was a good year for reserve grade, with a consistent performance all year as we ended up as Minor Premiers. Les Brennan was our dominate try scorer along with Smailes and Sellgren. Don Murdoch anchor the team at fullback. Norm Nilson captained the team while Dave Watson was coach once again. In our first semi-final the team had a surprise loss to Norths 2-6. But we had the right for Grand Final challenge, and we played Manly in the Grand Final winning 17-11, with Cliff Smailes scoring a hattrick to win our 16<sup>th</sup> premiership.

1953					
Rd01	Wests	SCG	W	18-14	
Rd02	Newtown	Redf	W	12-7	
Rd03	Easts	SSG	W	12-5	
Rd04	Manly	Redf	L	6-8	
Rd05	St George	SCG	W	19-4	
Rd06	Canterbury	SCG	W	12-5	
Rd07	Norths	SSG	L	2-4	
Rd08	Parramatta	Redf	W	19-10	
Rd09	Balmain	Redf	W	19-0	
Rd10	Wests	Redf	W	10-7	
Rd11	Newtown	Ersk	W	10-7	
Rd12	Easts	Redf	W	8-4	
Rd13	Manly	Brok	L	3-10	
Rd14	St George	Koga	W	7-6	
Rd15	Canterbury	Redf	W	21-5	
Rd16	Norths	SCG	W	21-12	
Rd17	Parramatta	Cumb	W	11-7	
Rd18	Balmain	Leic	W	10-5	
MSF	Norths	SCG	L	2-6	
GF	Manly	SCG	W	17-11	



*Back Row: P.Barber, N.Spillane, J.Renshaw,, L.Brennan, C.Smailes, C.Healey  
Front Row: W.Harris, B.Murray, A.Wong, N.Nilson(c), D.Murdoch, F.Lloyd, P.Purchase*

### Season 1954

Atter a dominate year in 1953 across all grades, 1954 was again a good season in reserve grade. There were a large number of changes to the squad, with Dorney, Honeysett, Moon and Turner dominating the try scorers and Don Murdoch the top pointscorer. We finished the season as minor premiers, and won our first semi-final 8-3 over Balmain. But the week off left us rusty as we played Manly again in the Grand Final going down 4-9 in a tight contest.



## Season 1955

1955 was impacted by the call to arms in first grade as the team snuck into the finals in 4<sup>th</sup> place but lost their semi-final. Kevin Turner dominated the try scoring list that year.

## Season 1956

1956 season was a much more consistent year with the team coached by clubman Jim Tait. Neil Ryan would dominate the try scorers that year. With veteran Ray Mason back to guide the team as captain. Bruce Murray top the point scorers list while a young Fed Nelson was moving up the ranks. The team ended the season as minor Premiers but had a min-form slump as we entered the finals. After losing to St George in the last round we lost again to Manly in the semi-final. In the preliminary final rematch against St George they hng on to win 7-6 and book themselves a spot in another Grand Final. They again faced Manly and would not be denied winning 10-6 with tries to Ryan and Sladden. Reserve Grade stalwart Norm Nilson was there again as was Alan Flockton. We had just won our 17<sup>th</sup> premiership.

1956				
Rd01	Newtown	SCG	W	9-0
Rd02	Manly	Brok	L	9-15
Rd03	Easts	Redf	W	16-3
Rd04	Parramatta	Cumb	W	27-7
Rd05	Wests	Prat	W	29-9
Rd06	Canterbury	Belm	W	12-5
Rd07	Balmain	SCG	W	10-9
Rd08	Norths	Redf	L	2-8
Rd09	St George	Redf	W	6-0
Rd10	Newtown	SCG	L	12-17
Rd11	Manly	SCG	W	17-4
Rd12	Easts	SSG	L	6-9
Rd13	Parramatta	Redf	W	22-10
Rd14	Wests	Redf	W	21-3
Rd15	Canterbury	Redf	W	13-10
Rd16	Balmain	Leic	W	13-10
Rd17	Norths	NSO	W	21-9
Rd18	St George	SCG	L	6-25
MSF	Manly	SCG	L	8-15
F	St George	SCG	W	7-6
GF	Manly	SCG	W	10-6



Back Row: B.McWilliams, J.Cottee, N.Nilson, W.Sandstrom, E.Sladden, N.Ryan  
 Front Row: J.Nelan, A.Flockton, R.Moon, R.Mason(c), B.Murray, T.Stapleton, J.Hall

## Notable 1952-56 Era Achievements (71 wins from 102 – 69.6%)

South Sydney play in 4 premiership deciders in 5 years winning 3

# 1963-1968 – A New Breed

Mark Sivis

## Prelude

The early 60s were a lean period for the club as a group of legends departed. This effected not only first grade but also reserve grade as we were in and out of the finals. 1961-62 saw a resurgence on the back of Presidents Cup victories and Third Grade grand final appearances, as a new breed of juniors started making the grade.

## Season 1963

Young players by the name of Ron Coote, Mick Falla, Kevin Longbottom were making a name for themselves, while players like Greg Chistensen, Tom Craigie Jnr and Bill McCarthy were the main players during the year. The team was coached by Bernie Purcell. The team finished third at the end of the regular season. In the first semi-final they beat Parramatta 22-19 and then Canterbury 14-11 in the final. But pipped by St George 4-5 in the Grand Final.

## Season 1964

Season 1964 and the story was very similar. Wayne Stevens and John Heard led the try scoring list. At the end of the regular season, we ended up 4<sup>th</sup>. We encountered Parramatta in the semi-final 14-0 and then Balmain in the Preliminary Final 13-8. But in the Grand Final we once again lost in a close tussle 2-7 to St George. A young Gary Stevens and future referee Kevin Roberts played that day.

## Season 1965

1965 we ended up 3rd on the ladder but were bundled out in the first semi-final.

## Season 1966

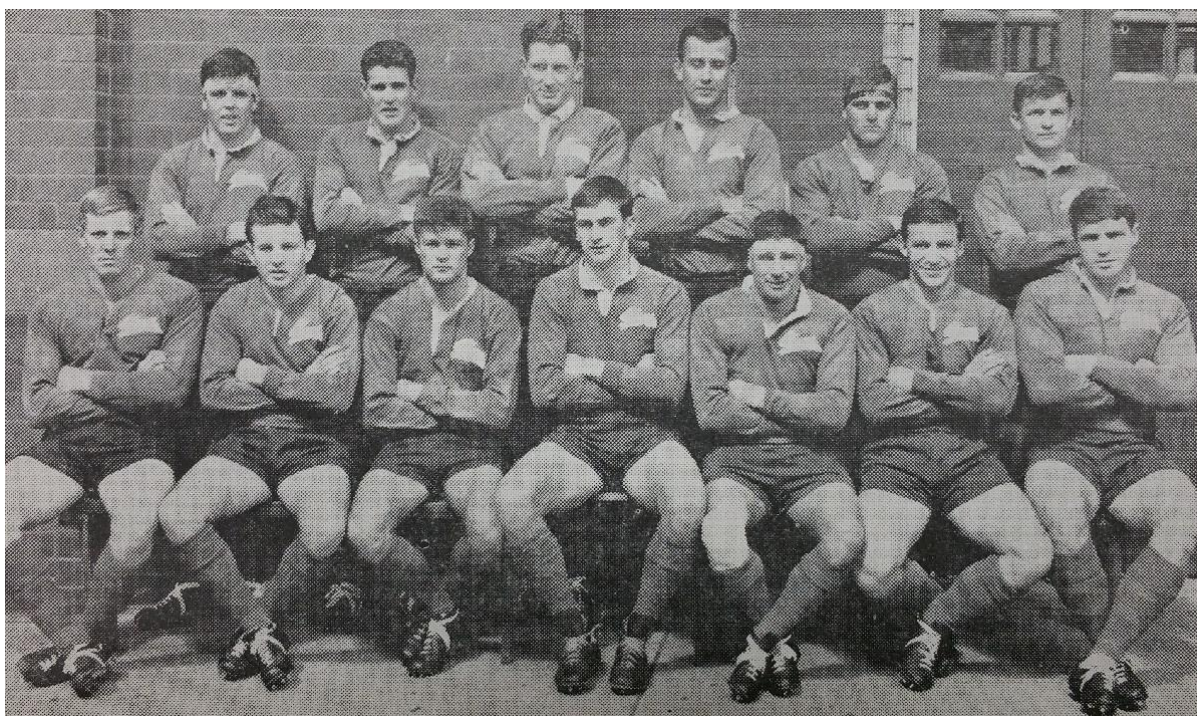
1966 season got off to great start when the team went on a run of 6 victories. We ended the regular season as

Minor Premiers. Alan Heiler and Wayne Stevens were dominating the try scorer lists, while Elwyn Walters was doing the bulk of the goal kicking. The team was led by old stalwart Colin Dunn and coached by Chicka Cowie, In the first semi-final we accounted for Balmain 15-7. A young George Piggins had pushed Walters back to second row. In the Grand Final it was Balmain again as we beat them 12-5 with Bob Grant at half. Winning our 18<sup>th</sup> premiership.

1966				
Rd01	Parramatta	Cumb	L	2-7
Rd02	Norths	NSO	W	19-5
Rd03	Wests	SCG	W	20-2
Rd04	Newtown	SCG	W	22-6
Rd05	Balmain	SCG	W	12-4
Rd06	Easts	SSG	W	19-3
Rd07	Canterbury	Belm	W	10-7
Rd08	St George	RASG	L	3-8
Rd09	Manly	Redf	W	22-3
Rd10	Parramatta	Redf	W	22-7
Rd11	Norths	SSG	W	7-5
Rd12	Wests	Prat	W	14-6
Rd13	Newtown	SSG	W	4-2
Rd14	Balmain	Leic	L	5-9
Rd15	Easts	Redf	W	9-4
Rd16	Canterbury	Redf	W	11-2
Rd17	St George	SCG	L	7-9
Rd18	Manly	Brok	W	9-6
MSF	Balmain	SCG	W	15-7
GF	Balmain	SCG	W	12-5







Back Row: G.Stevens, W.Stevens, J.Coleman, D.Lee, E.Walters, G.Piggins  
 Front Row: A.Scott, R.Grace, R.Grant, C.Dunn(c), M.Falla, A.Heiler, R.Gorman

### Season 1967

Season 1967 started slowly but then the team went on a 7-game winning streak. Then we ended the season on another 6-game winning run to finish Minor Premiers. Alan Heiler once again dominated the try scoring list and Colin Dunn the point scorers. Wayne Stevens, Bob Grant, Arthur Branighan were the main players that year. In the first semi-final we played Balmain losing 2-8. Then in preliminary final we beat Parramatta 7-4. But in the Grand Final rematch with Balmain we lost 7-11. Even the presence of Ray Branighan, Gary Stevens, Paul Sait and Bob Grant weren't enough, that day.

### Season 1968

Season 1968 started in one of the most brutal contests South Sydney First Grade versus Reserve Grade trial. The

game exploded with the trail being stopped by Ron Coote. South Sydney were fielding a reserve grade team full of internationals that year. The season started with a 8 match winning run and finished with a 10 match winning run. The regular season ended with South Sydney 7 points clear of the opposition. Russell Amatto and Greg Norgard were the top try scorers, While Kevin Longbottom nearing the end of his career was our top point scorer. We once again met Balmain in a semi-final and destroyed them that day winning 30-2, with tries all over the park. That then setup a Grand Final with Manly. The team fielded international Bob McCarthy, Ray Branighan, Ivan Jones, Gary Stevens, Paul Sait and George Piggins, coming from behind to win 17-7. Winning our 19<sup>th</sup> premiership.

1968				
Rd01	Newtown	Redf	L	10-11
Rd02	St George	SCG	W	8-2
Rd03	Balmain	SCG	W	18-6
Rd04	Wests	Lidc	W	19-4
Rd05	Cronulla	Redf	W	11-6
Rd06	Manly	SCG	W	18-6
Rd07	Penrith	Redf	W	28-5
Rd08	Canterbury	Redf	W	10-2
Rd09	Norths	NSO	W	25-8
Rd10	Parramatta	Redf	D	8-8
Rd11	Easts	SSG	L	7-12
Rd12	Newtown	Hens	L	0-15
Rd13	St George	SCG	W	19-7
Rd14	Balmain	SCG	L	2-6
Rd15	Wests	Redf	W	17-7
Rd16	Cronulla	Ende	W	19-11
Rd17	Manly	SCG	W	13-2
Rd18	Penrith	SCG	W	39-5
Rd19	Canterbury	Belm	W	14-0
Rd20	Norths	Redf	W	9-4
Rd21	Parramatta	SSG	W	7-2
Rd22	Easts	SCG	W	17-7
MSF	Balmain	SCG	W	30-2
GF	Manly	SCG	W	17-7





Back Row: K.Edwards, G.Stevens, R.McCarthy, K.Longbottom, J.Coleman, C.Armstrong, A.Scott, J.Arkininstall  
Middle Row: A.Heiler, R.Amato, G.Norgard, D.Lee(c), R.Branighan, R.Grace, P.Sait  
Front Row: G.Piggins, S.Kosta, R.Mason(ballboy), S.Day, I.Jones



**Notable 1963-68 Era Achievements (87 wins from 128 – 68.0%)**

*South Sydney play in 5 premierships deciders in 6 years winning 2*



# 1983 – Rare Success

Mark Sivis

## Prelude

The 80s had seen a resurgence on our lower grades with victory in Presidents Cup, then victory in U23's. Ron Wiley had brought his coaching staff in, and with them a bunch old heads to stiffen up the grades.

## Season 1983

In 1983 Souths returned to a Grand Final for the first time in 15 years. The season got off to steady start before the team came home strong winning the last 5 games. The team was coached by Wally Watsford and captained by Nathan Gibbs. It was mix of youth in Craig Coleman, Les Davidson, George Longbottom Ross Harrington, and some hard heads Mark Ross, and Greg Mackey dominated the try and point scorer lists. Experience came from Ken Wright, Greg Rick Bourke and John Jarvie. We finished the regular season as Minor Premiers. IN the first semi-final we got beaten 16-20 by Manly. Next up was St George who we encounter for 18-8, before a rematch with Manly in Grand Final. In a tight game we won 12-6, Ross Harrington scored a double that day. Winning our 20<sup>th</sup> premiership.

It would be our last Reserve Grade Grand Final appearance for 40 years.

1983				
Rd01	Balmain	Leic	W	14-8
Rd02	St George	Redf	W	12-6
Rd03	Newtown	Hens	W	20-10
Rd04	Canberra	Redf	L	20-26
Rd05	Parramatta	Belm	W	18-10
Rd06	Norths	Redf	D	10-10
Rd07	Penrith	Redf	W	22-14
Rd08	Wests	Lidc	W	15-13
Rd09	Cronulla	Redf	L	14-16
Rd10	Illawarra	Woll	L	8-24
Rd11	Canterbury	Redf	L	12-26
Rd12	Manly	Brok	W	18-12
Rd14	Penrith	Penr	W	22-4
Rd15	Balmain	Redf	W	13-6
Rd16	St George	Koga	W	27-12
Rd17	Newtown	Redf	W	28-6
Rd18	Canberra	Seif	D	10-10
Rd19	Parramatta	Redf	L	0-8
Rd20	Norths	NSO	W	21-0
Rd13	Easts	Redf	W	40-14
Rd21	Wests	Redf	D	20-20
Rd22	Cronulla	Ende	W	20-10
Rd23	Illawarra	Redf	W	38-16
Rd24	Canterbury	Belm	W	22-6
Rd25	Manly	Redf	W	22-16
Rd26	Easts	SSG	W	34-10
MSF	Manly	SCG	L	16-20
F	St George	SCG	W	18-8
GF	Manly	SCG	W	12-6



Back Row: R.Harrington, L.Biles, R.Bourke, C.Mason, G.Mackey  
 Middle Row: J.Jarvie, M.Ross, G.Metcalf, P.Smith, L.Davidson, K.Stewart  
 Front Row: J.Economos(Sec), C.Coleman, R.Simpkins, N.Gibbs(c), K.Wright, G.Longbottom,  
 W.Watsford(Coach)  
 Seated: B.Coupland(ballboy), P.Hillier(sandboy)

# Tallis Duncan – Family First

*Steve Mavin*

21 year old Tallis Duncan made his NRL debut for the Rabbitohs in round 13 this year. This was a reward for a young bloke who was destined to play first grade. Tallis is a talented, tough, hardworking footy player who earned his place in the top grade. He is South Sydney first grade player number #1189. Head Coach Jason Demetriou only needed to see a few NRL games from Tallis. He was then convinced that his young star needed to be included in the Rabbitohs 17 each week. JD told Bunnies TV “He’s earned the right to keep his spot...his effort areas are outstanding, and he’s got some real talent with the ball in his hands, great feet and he’s got good skill.”

In 2021 Tallis told Bunnies TV that’s he’s proud of his family and I can tell you without hesitation that they are indeed very proud of him too. Tallis signed with the Rabbitohs until 2025 and said he “couldn’t be in a better place...my whole family was really proud of me and mum was crying”. The Duncan family all played important roles in their boys success on and off the field. The first thing you notice when speaking to Tallis is that he’s humble and polite. He is well mannered and always respectful. Mum, dad and his 3 older siblings can all take some credit for the gentleman we see today.



Dad Kaine is a Navy diver who loves his footy. He called his youngest son Tallis after Gordon Tallis the rampaging Maroons Origin legend. Mum Nat would not hesitate to drive young Tallis on regular 3 hour round road trips to rep footy training. Tallis toughening up began soon after he learned to walk. Knee footy at home on the carpet with big brothers Kye, Ryan and big sis Riley left little ‘Tal’ with bloody knees and also the occasional hole in the wall. “It wasn’t just my brothers roughing me around, it was my sister too”.

In round 19, Tallis 2nd game in first grade saw him score his 1st try and it was an absolute beauty. We got to see the ‘great feet and real talent with the ball in his hands’ as Tallis burst through the Bulldogs defence late in the game. With defenders closing in, Tallis passed the ball to skilful rookie hooker Peter Mamouzelos. Pete summed up the situation beautifully. He passed the ball back to Tallis who then found himself in the clear with no one in front of him. Tallis showed everyone that he can run as he sprinted away to score a memorable try. It was a moment that Tallis, his family and Souths fans will never forget.

On Sunday 24th September at 3pm, Tallis will start at lock for the Rabbitohs when they battle the North Sydney Bears in the NSW Cup Grand Final at CommBank Stadium, Parramatta. If you live in Sydney don’t miss this historic clash. The Rabbitohs have not won a reserve grade title for 40 years.



# Ross Harrington

*John West*

One of my favourite players from the 1983 reserve grade premiership winning side is Ross Harrington. For those who may not have seen Ross play, he was a hard running winger who ripped in with every carry of the ball. This was at a time when most rugby league wingers were fast but not necessarily big and strong, Ross in some ways was ahead of his time. Looking at the side that won that grand final there were names like Craig Coleman, Mario Fenech, Les Davidson, Rick Bourke and of course Ross Harrington. Their opponents that day were Manly who also had some big names in their side including Mal Cochran, Michael Blake and Rick Chisolm. The final score of 12 - 6 was a fair result as we were minor premiers and thoroughly deserved our premiership that season. Funnily enough I have met players from both sides over the years and I was with Michael Blake and Mal Cochran in Forster at the Family of League weekend in February.

Ross went on to play some wonderful games for our club as a first-grade winger making his FG debut late in 1983 then mostly first grade from then on. Our 1984 miracle comeback win in the FG semi-final against Manly, after being down 14-0 was a game to remember, what a great result that was for the club. The reserve grade side have provided a Segway for first grade success for many years with Ross, Mario, Les and Craig all playing starring roles in our 1989 minor premiership side a few years after the 1983 reserve grade success. The current Australian team doctor (I think so anyway) is Nathan Gibbs and he was also part of the 1983 reserve grade premiership side along with Ken Stewart, Robert Simpkins and Ken Wright.

I can see some bright lights on the horizon in this seasons NSW Cup side with players like Munro, Duncan and Mamouzelos all banging on the door for their opportunity in our first-grade side. Like all other members on this site let's hope to see our NSW Cup side lifting the premiership trophy again next weekend.



## 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** - Western Sydney(Commbank) Stadium

**Date** - Sunday, September 24

**Kickoff** - 3:00pm NSW

**F1bk** 1 – Taaffe, Blake

**Wing** 2 – Carr, Tom

**Cntr** 3 – Tu’itupou Thompson, Izaac

**Cntr** 4 – Gagai, Jacob

**Wing** 5 – Munro, Tyrone

**5/8** 6 – Teaupa, Dion

**Half** 7 – Hawkins, Dean (c)

**Prop** 8 – Mitchell, Shaquai

**Hook** 9 – Mamouzelos, Peter

**Prop** 10 – Gray, Brock

**SRow** 11 – Lovett, Ben

**SRow** 12 – O’Neill, Ethan

**Lock** 13 – Duncan, Tallis

**Int** 14 – Gardiner, Shannon

**Int** 15 – French, Matt

**Int** 16 – Rahme, Jaxson

**Int** 17 – Gordon, Yileen

**Int** 18 – Skelton, Leonard

**Int** 19 – Alvarado, Tristan

**Coach** – O’Callaghan, Joe



	M	S	I	T	G/A	FG	2FG	Pts	
Alvarado, Tristan	6	-	(6)	-	-	-	-	-	
Bentley-Hape, Bayleigh	2*	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Carr, Tom	26*	25	(1)	15	4/6	-	-	68	
Cartwright, Jed	4	4	-	2	-	-	-	8	
Chan-Foon, Maila	16	10	(6)	2	-	-	-	8	
Champman, Chase	7*	3	(4)	-	-	-	-	-	
Chee Kam, Michael	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cook, Romano	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Duncan, Tallis	18	9	(9)	3	-	-	-	12	
Ferguson, Ethan	1*	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
French, Matt	9	-	(9)	3	-	-	-	12	
Gagai, Jacob	25	25	-	7	-	-	-	28	
Gardiner, Shannon	22	5	(17)	2	-	-	-	8	
Giles, Thomas	5	2	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Gordon, Yileen	23	12	(11)	-	1/1	-	-	2	
Gray, Brock	25	10	(15)	3	-	-	-	12	
Grossemy, Louis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[squad]
Hardman, D'Arcy	3	-	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Havili, Siliva	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Hawkins, Dean	21	21	-	5	58/76	-	-	126	
Hodge, Cody	3	3	-	2	-	-	-	8	
Hodge, Tyson	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Kalo Kalo, Terrell	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Karapani, Josiah	19	19	-	7	-	-	-	28	
Kennar, Richard	11	11	-	4	-	-	-	16	
Kaho, Carson	1*	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Knight, Liam	5	3	(2)	-	-	-	-	-	
Lovett, Ben	21	21	-	2	-	-	-	8	
Makelim, Zac	5*	-	(5)	2	1/1	-	-	10	
Mamouzelos, Peter	24	23	(1)	10	-	-	-	40	
Milne, Taane	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Miller, Kaylen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[squad]
Mitchell, Shaquai	8	6	(2)	2	-	-	-	8	
Moale, Davvy	3	3	-	2	-	-	-	8	
Moretti, Marco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[squad]
Munro, Tyrone	5*	5	-	6	-	-	-	24	
O'Neill, Ethan	24*	21	(3)	8	-	-	-	32	
Patterson, Hugo	5	2	(3)	-	-	-	-	-	



Rahme, Jaxson	15	10	(5)	-	-	-	-	-
Skelton, Leonard	12*	12	-	3	-	-	-	12
Spyroulias, Chaise	1	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-
Subaloo, Jarrett	1*	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suluka-Fifita, Daniel	13	12	(1)	2	-	-	-	8
Swann, William	2*	1	(1)	-	-	-	-	-
Taaffe, Blake	12	12	-	6	23/35	-	-	70
Te Hau, Leon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- [squad]
Teaupa, Dion	20*	20	-	6	3/7	-	-	30
Tu'itupou Thompson, Izaac	8	8	-	10	-	-	-	40



# Season 2023

## CyberView From The Hill

*A weekly blog of season 2023*

### Off Season

**Shaq ad Thompson rewarded** - Two standout players in 2022 have been rewarded with promotion into our Top 30. Both players have worked extremely hard to break into the NRL squad. Their transformation from 140kg has been a great off field story in 2022. But now its about getting fitness and strength needed for a long season ahead. Well done to both players as the move into the Top 30 squad, as I expect the best yet to come for both players. One player who immediately impressed in his first hit out in the U19s was flyer Tyrone Munro who was on the end of 4 tries including a great length of the field effort.

**Trial v Wests Lidcombe W 44-0**

**Big Reserve Grade Win** - While all of the focus last weekend was on the gripping contest at Redfern, our fringe Reserve Grade team had a hit out against the NSW Cup Western Suburb Magpies at Lidcombe. It was a match we dominated from start to finish as we rattled up 11 tries. While I won't read too much into trials as it looks like the opposition fringe players were clearly below par, it was never the less a good hit out for those players with some of them rewarded with selection this week.

**Rd01 Challenge v Manly Gosford L 28-30**

**Young Guns Hit out** - The year begins with a hit out lead by our fringe NRL squad. The match started well as we led 18-4 but the team faded towards the end of the first half. Fitness was a contributor as many players were playing the first big game after returning from injury. But overall will be better for the hit out and only losing after a try was scored while having on 12 men on the field

**Charity Shield v St George- Illawarra Mudgee W 28-10**

**Strong Warmup** – Team had a strong work out in the heat at Mudgee as a number of players finished their final trials in readiness for the season ahead. Carr was a standout scoring a double, with Subaloo landing 4 from 5 goals

**Round 1 v Newtown Henson Park L 6-26**

**Missing Backup Halves** - We are in a injury crisis in our backup halves at the moment. Dean Hawkins has been recovering from a hamstring injury, while pre-season sensation Dion Teaupa was injured in the final trial. Add to this our U19 five-eighth Jye Gray hurt his hamstring in the final junior trial. Then on the weekend after 25 minutes new recruit Jarrett Subloo went down also. Hopefully this won't last too long as our stocks are being stretched very thin.

**Round 2 v Penrith Penrith Park L 20-30**

**Carr double** - Standin captain Tom Carr helped get us back into game in the second half with his speed. One try off a intercept and the other from a set play. Last years NSW Cup top try scorer continues to find the line.



**Round 3**      **v Syd Roosters**      **Wentworth Park**      **L 16-38**

**Pete Double** - Pistol Pete helped set the scene for a great start to the reserve grade clash with a great support play try followed a trademark burrow over from dummy half as he raked up a double. But then to see him leave the field caused a big issue. Hope the injury is not significant.

**Round 4**      **v Blacktown**      **Stadium Aust**      **W 26-12**

**Gagai strong at the back** - Jacob Gagai continues to do well when he is playing fullback. He had a very strong running game as he ran for 290m and helped steady the ship from the back, as the team held on for their first victory of the season.

**Round 6**      **v Canterbury**      **Stadium Aust**      **L 22-26**

**Duncan super sub** - Tallis Duncan has adopted a super sub role of late in reserve grade. He has been coming off the bench and playing 60 minutes. He scored another try and had another try assist while doing a mountain of defence at lock.

**Round 7**      **v Norths**      **North Sydney Oval**      **L 10-40**

**Skelton opportunity** - A new face in the trials was Leonard Skelton, who has popped again to make his Reserve Grade debut. I will watch with interest on how he goes now he has a opportunity in the team. Overall, the team is struggling and in second last position after 7 weeks.

**Round 8**      **v Penrith**      **Stadium Australia**      **W 18-16**

**Gamble pays off** - 2 points down in the final minute of the game, Hawkins pulls off a great 40-20 kick to put Souths in an attacking position. Then a Penrith is penalised, and sin binned for holding down a player and time wasting. Souths are then given a choice take the safe option and draw the game with a penalty goal. Instead, they go for the win and they create the overlap against 12 men and score a great match winning try out wide to Cody Hodge. A trilling finish that allowed the team to pick up a vital two points.

**Round 9**      **v Canberra**      **Wagga**      **L 16-22**

**Knight returns** - Liam Knight finally made his return from his ACL injury late last season. It was a strong half game performance in reserve grade and his class was immediately evident. So this week he has been recalled to the first grade bench. Just when we need our key troops leading into State of Origin period.

**Round 10**      **v Sydney Roosters**      **North Sydney Oval**      **W 28-26**

**Taaffe Show** - Blake Taaffe had one of his best games in reserve grade on the weekend. He was instrumental on getting the team back into the game with his long range tries and goal kicking. Before he combined with Thompson and Kennar to send Mamouzelos for the match winner. He will be a vital member of the team during the upcoming Origin period.

**Round 11**      **v Wests**      **Stadium Australia**      **W 26-22**

**Thompson hatrick** - Just when the team needed him, Izzac Thompson scored a hatrick of tries as the reserve grade team stormed home to win. The last try to win the win was one of the best wingers tries seen at the stadium. Just as he was finding form, he injured his knee and went in for cleanout surgery.

**Round 12**      **v Parramatta**                      **Sydney Football Stadium**      **L 16-26**

**Duncan call-up** - Tallis Duncan was rewarded for a strong start to the season with a call up onto the bench for this weekend's match. He is a ball playing lock who has a high work rate in defence. He will be a worth fill in for Murray who is on origin duties.

**Round 13**      **v Canberra**                      **Stadium Australia**      **W 26-20**

**Hawkins finds his kicking boots** - Its been a while since Dean Hawkins was the regular kicker in a game, due to his hamstring injury, but with Taaffe stepping up into first grade he took back kicking duties, and this week hit hit form kicking 5 from 5 and notching up 300 career points in the process.

**Round 14**      **v Warriors**                      **Redfern Oval**                      **W 24-22**

**Chan-Foon unsung hero** - Maila Chan-Foon has been a late developer and showing significant improvement as he settles into the vacant reserve grade second row role. He started out as a centre, but his good defence and line speed has made him one of the most consistent players on the edge.

**Round 15**      **v St George-Illawarra**      **Kogarah Oval**                      **W 30-22**

**Munro steps up** - Put a circle around the name Tyrone Munro as a name for the future. This week he stepped up into Reserve Grade and immediately his speed was evident as he sensationally ran down the sideline and was able to setup a try at pace. It won't be long before he gets a NRL opportunity, now he is over his collarbone injury.

**Round 16**      **v Norths**                      **Coogee Oval**                      **W 24-16**

**Forwards Lead Way** - It has taken almost half the season, but on the weekend our reserve grade squad had a full complement of forwards, and it showed what a difference it makes. Norths were one of the highflyers of the competition, but our forward domination allowed the young outside backs to perform as the boys won a hard fought victory. Their 4th on the trot.

**Round 17**      **v Blacktown**                      **Laybutt Field**                      **W 30-16**

**Gagai Another strong game** - Jacob Gagai is stepping out of the shadow of his brother, with another strong performance at fullback on the weekend. He is quick and has a way of finding or creating a gap and scored another try on the weekend. He was rewarded by being called up onto the extended first grade bench.

**Round 18**      **v Warriors**                      **Mt Smart Stadium**      **L 18-21**

**Return of Matt French** - This week we see a familiar name return to Souths reserve grade. Matt is a strong tackling second rower. I look forward to seeing him add to our second rower stocks, and progress as a late bloomer. While over the ditch our reserves suffered their first loss in five weeks in torrential rain.

**Round 19**      **v Canterbury**                      **Stadium Australia**      **L 16-44**

**Makelim double** – With 11 first graders out of action our reserve grade team struggled. Zac Makelim is a name you won't hear much about, but on the weekend the Coff Harbour junior, brought down by Sam Burgess earlier in the year, answered a SOS as we were down on troops. Makelim a hooker came on and impressed in the second half darting and weaving and scoring a double to boot. Good luck in his future opportunity.



**Round 20**      **v Parramatta**                      **Western Syd Stadium**    **W 30-10**

**Cartwright huge game** - With a late call up Jed came into the reserve grade team, and turned in a outstanding performance when he moved out to right centre setting up line breaks and try assists to guide the team to a very important victory. His skills will be needed over the coming months as the team heads into the finals.

**Round 21**      **v Newcastle**                      **Redfern Oval**                      **W 34-16**

**Dean Hawkins dominates** - "Footy Dean" as he is called, has clearly shaken off a injury that has hampered him last year, and is now playing as one of the most consistant reserve grade players, as he leads the team towards the finals. He scored a try, setup two tries and setup three-line breaks. Add to this his classy kicky game and he is now goal kicking from all over the park. His organisation halfback skills are there for people to see.

**Round 22**      **v Wests**                                      **Lidcombe Oval**                      **W 36-18**

**Brock Grack improves** – As the reserve grade team secured the Kelly-Sattler Cup, a unsung reserve grade hero this year has been Brock Gray. He came back to the club and is doing a great job in his work rate at prop. His runs are having a impact and is creating a impact as he comes off the bench, with strong defence. He is a classic forward who is developing later in his career.

**Round 23**      **v Newtown**                                  **Redfern Oval**                      **W 32-16**

**Shaq rewarded** – Big Shaq Mitchell returned to the NRL this week after another good performance in the NSW cup. His power up the middle was evident, as he crashed over for a try, and how he combined with his outside men. Looking forward to him being a settling role in our team.. Reserve Grade has inched into the Top 5 after winning the last 4 matches.

**Round 24**      **v St George-Illawarra**    **Redfern Oval**                      **W 50-12**

**Thompson & Carr Show** – Reserve Grade team made a statement on the weekend as they pushed into the Top 3. Well, it took a few weeks to shake off the cobwebs from his last injury, but Izaak Thompson proved what a great finisher he is when he scored another hat trick. The way he ran over 50m to support the runner in his last try was great to see. Perfect timing for finals run. And not to be outdone Carr also scored a double.

**Round 25**      **v Newcastle**                                  **Toronto**                                  **W 26-16**

**Moale double** - Up at Toronto our reserve grade team cemented themselves a second-place finish in the finals, on the back of a dominate forward performance in the final 20 minutes. Davvy Moale was part of that scoring two powerful tries up the middle as he helped the team get back into the lead and eventually win the match.

**Finals Week 1**   **v Warriors**                                  **North Sydney Oval**                      **W 26-12**

**Mamouzelos dominates** – In a busing encountered that saw Suluka-Fifita out in the first minute, South Sydney fought back on the back of some brilliant dummy half running by Peter Mamouzelos. Pistol Pete attacked a tiring Warriors pack to win. We are just one win away from the Grand Final.

**Finals Week 2**   **v Norths**                                  **Leichhardt Oval**                      **W 30-24**

**Grand Final here we come!** – It's been 40 years but we are back in a reserve grade grand final. In a dominate first half performance led by Shaq Mitchell that saw Munro bag a double and Thompson score. Before they got a fright as the minor premiers came back before Carr clinched the result out wide.













# 20 - Rabbitoh RG Premierships

## 1913 Final, 16<sup>th</sup> Aug 1:45pm RAS Showground

HT 0-0 Referee T.McMahon

**South Sydney 10** (W.Groves, T.Dwyer tries; W.Dymant 2 goals) beat **Grosvenor 3**

LineUp (E.Rigney, J.Dalton, W.Rowley, T.Dwyer, R.Horder, E.Anderson, W.Dymant, J.Blinco, W.Groves, L.Anderson, H.Nicholls, C.Lynch, R.Almond)

Coach – A.Hennessy

## 1914 Final, 29<sup>th</sup> Aug 1:45pm Sydney Cricket Ground

HT 0-2 Referee J.Buchanan

**South Sydney 6** (G.Moore, S.Brogran tries) beat **Eastern Suburbs 5**

SSG Cup Final LineUp (Kearns, J, S.Brogran, G.Hartman, E.Nicholls, W.Rowley, H.Chisholm, W.Hilliard, E.Anderson, A.Oxford, P.Thompson, R.Coulter, C.Bonner, L.Anderson )

Coach – A.Hennessy

## 1917 No Final Required

**South Sydney** premiers **Balmain** runners up

League Cup LineUp (D.Lindsay, G.Lindsay, L.Arthur, P.Horne, J.Kearns, T.Coyne, E.Nicholls, W.Rowley, G.Reynolds, C.Lynch, W.Cameron, S.Anderson((c) )

Coach – A.Hennessy

## 1923 Final, 12<sup>th</sup> Sep 2:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground

**South Sydney 13** (B.Moloney 2, F.Funnell tries, W.Cody 2 goals) beat **Balmain 6**

Referee A.Thornton

LineUp (D.Hickey, B.Moloney, R.Booth, D.Shipway, W.Allen, Jim Breen, L.Dolan, F.Brogan, W.Cody, R.Linklater, F.Funnell, T.Costello, W.Cameron)

Coach – J.Rosewell

## 1924 No Final Required

**South Sydney** premiers **Western Suburbs** runners up

Final Round LineUp (D.Hickey, B.Moloney, R.Burke, E.Addicoat, W.Allen, J.Jones, J.Breen, J.Tait, H.Andrews, A.Thompson, J.Giles, V.Funnell, J.Evans)

Coach – J.Rosewell

## 1925 Final, 15<sup>th</sup> Aug 12:45pm Sydney Cricket Ground

**South Sydney 14** (S.Harris 2, D.Shipway, B.Moloney, tries, Breen 1 from 1, J.Tait 0 from 2 goals) beat **Balmain 2**

Referee E.Kerr

LineUp (J.Tait, B.Moloney, S.Harris, D.Shipway, J.Why, J.Breen, F.Brogan, L.Dolan, V.Funnell, E.Root, S.Leadbeater, C.Fennell, R.Beiber)

Coach – H.Hallett

**1926 Final, 18<sup>th</sup> Sep 2:00pm RAS Showground**

HT 11-10 Referee L.Deane

**South Sydney 25** (L.Dolan, T.Barry, T.Craigie, S.Harris, J.Breen, J.Lodge, J.Lawrence tries; J.Jones 2 goals) beat **North Sydney 13**

LineUp (W.McAnulty, S.Harris, J.Why, T.Barry, J.Judge, L.Dolan(c), J.Breen, J.Jones, R.Beiber, C.Fennell, T.Craigie, V.Funnell, J.Lawrence, J.Evans )

Coach – H.Hallett

**1927 Final, 17<sup>th</sup> Sep 2:00pm RAS Showground**

Referee L.Deane

**South Sydney 16** (T.Craigie, J.Lodge, J.Breen, O.Quinlivan tries; A.Quinlivan, Jones goals) beat **St George 5**

LineUp (A.Righton, R.Williams, O.Quinlivan, J.Why, J.Lodge, J.Tait, J.Jones, J.Breen(c), T.Craigie, J.Lawrence, R.Kerr, F.O'Connor, V.Funnell)

Coach – P.Horne

**1929 Final, 14<sup>th</sup> Sep 2:00pm RAS Showground**

Referee W.Fry

**South Sydney 26**(C.Lloyd 2, M.O'Connor, J.Breen, M.Manning, G.Monagle tries; Tait 2, Breen 2 goals) beat **Western Suburbs 3**

LineUp (C.Weston, B.Monagle, J.Stewart, J.Tait, M.Manning, P.Williams, J.Breen, M.O'Connor, C.Lloyd, T.Craigie(c), W.Dennett, C.Fennell, W.Gollan)

Coach – P.Horne

**1931 Final, 5<sup>th</sup> Sep 2:00pm Sydney Sports Ground**

HT 13-5 Referee W.Neill

**South Sydney 24** (G.Algie 2, F.Yates, W.Sing, S.Sampson, T.McLachlan tries; J.Stewart 2, A.Righton goals) beat **Newtown 10**

LineUp (J.Stewart, S.Sampson, W.Sing, S.Riddell, G.Algie, A.Righton, H.E.Johnson, F.Yates, F.Chaplin, G.Court, W.Dennett, T.McLachlan, D.Watson)

Coach – P.Horne

**1932 Grand Final, 24<sup>th</sup> Sep 2:00pm Sydney Sports Ground**

HT 3-2 Referee W.Fry

**South Sydney 5** (S.Sampson try; J.Jones goal) beat **Newtown 2**

LineUp (D.Cluff, S.Sampson, W.Sing, A.Pritchard, H.Merrifield, E.Pratt, J.Jones(c), S.Riddell, E.Stranger, C.Lloyd, E.Collins, T.McLachlan, W.Dennett)

Coach – P.Horne



**1934 Grand Final, 15<sup>th</sup> Sep 2:00pm Sydney Sports Ground**

HT 0-0 Referee J.Murphy

**South Sydney 7**(F.Crowe tries; J.Tait 2 goals) beat **Balmain 2**

LineUp (F.Young, G.Algie, A.Thorn, J.Lennox, S.Sampson, E.Pratt, J.Tait, J.Caffrey, C.Lloyd, J.Kollias, G.Potter, F.Crowe, E.Collins)

Coach – P.Horne

**1943 Grand Final, 28<sup>th</sup> Aug 2:00pm Sydney Cricket Ground**

Referee G.Bishop

**South Sydney 15** (W.Finch, A.Harris, N.Stokes tries; W.Finch 3 goals) beat **Balmain 9**

LineUp (W.Stokes, W.Finch, F.Baber, J.Lawrence Jnr, A.Harris, N.Stokes, C.Kennedy, L.Bell, J.Faris, G.Kilham(c), J.Whitfield, J.Melvaine, W.Mullane)

Coach – D.Watson

**1945 Grand Final, 8<sup>th</sup> Sep 2:00pm Sydney Sports Ground**

Referee Aub Oxford

**South Sydney 11** (W.Beddy try; L.Bell 4 goals) beat **Canterbury-Bankstown 7**

LineUp (L.Bell, A.Tracey, J.Lawrence Jnr, J.Mangan, A.Harris, G.Norrish, W.Beddy, K.Brogan(c), F.Lane, J.Borger, S.Bailey, K.Smith, K.Lampard)

Coach – D.Watson

**1952 Grand Final, 12<sup>th</sup> Sep 1:40pm Sydney Cricket Ground**

HT 0-0 Referee J.O'Brien

**South Sydney 19** (R.Mason E.Brown, F.Lloyd tries; E.Brown 3, F.Lawrence 2 goals) beat **Canterbury 0**

LineUp (F.Lawrence, R.Browne, W.Floyd, F.Lloyd, W.Bailey, E.Brown, R.Mason(c), J.Renshaw, A.Dennis, P.Barber, R.Bell, K.Noonan, N.Nilson)

Coach – D.Watson

**1953 Grand Final, 19<sup>th</sup> Sep 1:40pm Sydney Cricket Ground**

HT 12-0 Referee Aub.Oxford

**South Sydney 17** (C.Smailles 3 tries; W.Harris 4 goals) beat **Manly-Warringah 11**

LineUp (D.Murdoch, L.Brennan, F.Lloyd, N.Spillane, C.Smailles, W.Harris, A.Wong, J.Renshaw, C.Healey, P.Barber, N.Nilson, B.Murray, P.Purchase)

Coach – D.Watson

**1956 Grand Final, 8<sup>th</sup> Sep 1:40pm Sydney Cricket Ground**

HT 6-4 Referee C.Pearce

**South Sydney 10** (E.Sladden, N.Ryan tries; A.Flockton 2 goals) beat **Newtown 6**

LineUp (A.Flockton, N.Ryan, J.Nelan, B.McWilliam, E.Sladden, T.Stapleton, R.Mason(c), J.Cottee, R.Moon, W.Sandstrom, J.Hall, B.Murray, N.Nilson)

Coach – J.Tait

**1966 Grand Final, 17<sup>th</sup> Sep 1:30pm Sydney Cricket Ground**

HT 5-2 Referee J.Bradley

**South Sydney 12** (A.Heiler, W.Stevens tries; E.Walters 3 from 4, C.Dunn 0 from 1 goals) beat **Balmain 5**

LineUp (C.Dunn(c), A.Heiler, A.Scott, R.Grace, W.Stevens, M.Falla, R.Grant, G.Stevens, J.Coleman, E.Walters, R.Gorman, G.Piggins, D.Lee)

Coach – L.Cowie

**1968 Grand Final, 21<sup>st</sup> Sep 1:30pm Sydney Cricket Ground**

HT 4-5 Referee L.Samuelson

**South Sydney 17** (S.Kosta, R.Grace, R.McCarthy try; K.Longbottom 2, R.Branighan 2 goals) beat **Manly-Warringah 7**

LineUp (K.Longbottom, R.Amatto, R.Branighan, R.Grace, A.Heiler, G.Norgard, I.Jones, G.Stevens, P.Sait, R.McCarthy, D.Lee(c), G.Piggins, C.Armstrong Res S.Kosta)

Coach – F.Nelson

**1983 Grand Final, 25<sup>th</sup> Sep 12:50pm Sydney Cricket Ground**

Referee B.Barnes

**South Sydney 12**(R.Harrington 2, J.Jarvie tries) beat **Manly-Warringah 6**

LineUp (R.Bourke, J.Jarvie, M.Ross, K.Wright, R.Harrington, G.Longbottom, C.Coleman, G.Mackey, N.Gibbs(c), R.Simpkins, P.Smith, K.Stewart, L.Davidson)

Coach – W.Watsford





***rabbitohs.com.au***  
***Home of South Sydney DRLFC***  
***What's your membership number?***



*Steve Mavin interviews the playing squad, coaches and broadcasts some pathways games. A must for all Rabbitohs fans as they let us know of all the Rabbitohs scoops.*

*Chaps and Brownny bringing you their unique perspective on the Rabbitohs. A podcast that is a must for Rabbitoh fans.*





# SSR Almanac

*SSRAlmanac.com*

*Where the history of the  
Rabbitoh comes alive*