

ROUND 10 2020

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 8



NRL Physio on the explosion in training & warm-up injuries in 2020

INSIDE: THE VIEW FROM ABROAD CROSSWORD & WORD JUMBLES ROUND 9 RESULTS & REPORTS LADDER STATS LEADERS NEWS ROUND 10 TEAMLISTS & PREVIEWS 2020 DRAW NSWRL COMPS





THE FRONT ROW FORUMS

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THERE IS NO OFF-SEASON

From the editor

Tim Costello

We truly do live in bizarre times.

As we go to publication, there are growing reports the NRL is considering packing the whole competition up and relocating to Queensland in order to ensure no disruptions. It comes after case numbers in New South Wales began to climb on the back of an outbreak at a south-west Sydney hotel.

Add to that, the NRL has now asked clubs in NSW and the ACT to return to the original COVID-19 'Project Apollo' protocols the game started with upon its return in May. It's certainly a sign of the times - could NSW be headed for lockdown again?

For now though, it looks as though Round 10 will proceed unimpeded, along with the kickoff of three major NSWRL competitions. We've got the Round 1 fixtures and a handful of teamlists for you at the back of this week's program.

Meanwhile, if you're a Bulldogs fan - it's been a rough week.

After losing arguably their best player Adam Elliott to injury
for the season last week, they turned out a disappointing
performance against the lowly Broncos, ultimately pressuring
coach Dean Pay out of the top job. Steve Georgallis takes over in
the interim but things aren't looking great for the Belmore club.
There was some good news, with Corey Harawira-Naera and
Jayden Okunbor's deregistrations overturned, and the former
could be available as soon as Round 11 for the Bulldogs.

Inside The Front Row this week - Josh Wells speaks to Brien Seeney - known to many as @NRLPhysio - about the spate of injuries in recent weeks prior to matches kicking off and at training.

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The **FRONT ROW**

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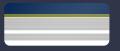
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"I'm not even supposed to be here tonight" - Ikuvalu bags five against Cowboys

Robert Crosby



16-42



A five-try haul to late call-up Matt Ikuvalu has seen the Sydney Roosters run out 42-16 victors over the North Queensland Cowboys at Queensland Country Bank Stadium.

Called into the team during the warm-up after Brett Morris sustained a groin injury, Ikavalu - a 26-year-old winger playing his 16th game in the top grade - joined exclusive company in scoring five tries for the foundation club.

After being denied the opening try to Shane Wright due to an offside call,

the Cowboys made amends when Reece Robson (22nd minute) darted out of dummy half to slam the ball down from close range.

Squandering an opportunity to go beyond a converted try when Kyle Feldt's penalty attempt hit the posts, the Roosters hit back moments later when Ikuvalu (31st minute) touched down in the corner.

Hitting the front following a strong run from Sio Siua Taukieaho, the underrated front rower linked with fellow Tongan international Sitili Tupouniua (36th minute) to give the Roosters a 12-6 lead at the change of ends.

Tearing the home side to shreds shortly after halftime, a further two tries to Ikuvalu (42nd and 44th minutes) and a brace to Luke Keary (50th and 52nd minutes) saw the score blow out to 32-6.

Scoring his fourth (60th minute) and fifth (65th minute) to cap off a remarkable night, Ikuvalu etched his name into the annals of Roosters history alongside Gordon Wright (1920), Dave Brown (1935) and Brian Allsop (1955) with five tries.

Late efforts to Coen Hess (73rd minute) and a second to Robson (77th minute) provided little consolation for the home side as the Roosters temporarily moved into third position courtesy of the 42-16 win.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Siosiua Taukeiaho 2 points - Matt Ikuvalu 1 points - James Tedesco

Titans spoil early Warriors picnic

Andrew Ferguson



16-12



A fast-starting Warriors couldn't hold on in a low-scoring clash with the Titans at Cbus Super Stadium tonight, the home side finishing 16-12 winners.

The Warriors exploded out of the blocks, scoring two tries in the opening 8 minutes of the game, racing out to a big lead early in what looked ominous for the Titans. But poor execution from both sides saw the game hanging in the balance at halftime. A second half rally by the Titans saw them secure the victory in the dying stages of the match.

In just the fourth minute of the game, the Warriors got themselves on the scoreboard when Blake Green passed right to Roger Tuivasa-Sheck off the back of the scrum, the Warriors fullback drifted right, holding the ball in front of him, put on a burst of speed to get around Beau Fermor and then sliced through the edge defence to score in the right corner. Chanel Harris-Tavita's sideline conversion was an absolute peach.

Just four minutes later, the Warriors capitalised on another Titans error, thanks to some scintillating ball movement on the left side, with the final pass from Peta Hiku, who was held in a two-man tackle, was juggled by Ken Maumalo, who gained possession and then touched down in the left corner. Harris-Tavita again hit his sideline conversion sweetly. Warriors had a 12-0 lead after 8 minutes.

The Titans got on the board ten minutes later after a bomb was dropped by David Fusitua. From the scrum the ball went to Corey Thompson, who produced a lovely draw and pass to create an overlap and Anthony Don forced his way

over in the right corner. Ashley Taylor's sideline conversion was brilliant.

Five minutes later it looked like the Titans may have scored their second try when Fermor got across the line, but he was held up in a brilliant tackle by Tuivasa-Sheck.

Wayde Egan almost scored the Warriors third just two minutes later when he darted over from dummy half on the last tackle, but he too was held up.

In the 30th minute the Warriors again tried to score from back-to-back dummy half scoots, first from Egan and then from Jazz Tevaga, however both were countered by the solid Titans goal-line defence.

In the next set, deep in their own half, the Titans threw a silly offload, which no one was expecting. Jamal Fogarty ran back to clean up the loose ball, but failed to regather as he was tackled by Jack Hetherington. Hetherington then followed through and grounded the ball, but the try was disallowed as he was ruled to obstructed Fogarty.

The second half started steadily, before the Titans crossed for a spectacular try in the 48th minute. Taylor grubbered into the Warriors in-goal when Tyrone Peachey raced through, regathered and flicked the ball backwards before going dead-in-goal and Sam Stone planted the loose ball for a try. Taylor's kick to level the scores went wide.

A sloppy 25 minutes ensued before a frantic final 5 minutes of the match. In the 75th minute Fogarty grubbered into the Warriors in-goal. Blake Green tried to bat it dead, but didn't hit it hard enough. Fermor followed through and got the ball down just in time to score a great try. Fogarty then added the extras to give the Titans a 4 point lead with 4 minutes remaining.

A frantic final minute saw the Warriors find touch from a drop out, 10m from their own line, but were unable to travel the 90 metres to score again, the Titans hanging on for a rare win over the Warriors.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Jamal Fogarty; 2 points - Moeaki Fotuaika; 1 points - Tohu Harris

Gagai hat-trick puts the Bunnies back in the eight

Sam Bourke



18-10



South Sydney has held off a fast finishing Tigers to hold onto an 18-10 victory in greasy conditions at Bankwest Stadium tonight. The win for the Rabbitohs pushes Wayne Bennett's side back into the Top 8 in a huge boost to their final's aspirations.

Souths winger Dane Gagai scored his first club hat-trick of his NRL career to seal the win in his best performance of the season for the Bunnies. Halfback Adam Reynolds was superb for the home side, leading his side around the park astutely in the wet conditions, having a hand in three of his side's tries and was clearly the standout. This was despite having a horror night with the boot, with the Rabbitohs goalkicker missing four straight conversions.

The Tigers managed to get into the game late with tries to blockbusting prop Josh Aloiai and debutant Reece Hoffman but the Tigers just couldn't convert any of their chances earlier in the match despite the rotation of Josh Reynolds, Harry Grant and Benji Marshall throughout the game.

With both sides coming into the game sitting on the edge of the Top 8 there was plenty to play for and there was drama early to set the scene. Tigers winger David Nofoaluma snatched at an intercept and toed the ball ahead. As players raced for the loose ball, Tigers half Josh Reynolds lashed at the ball with his foot and accidently collected Souths centre Campbell Graham in the head. Latrell Mitchell found offence and gave Reynolds a clip with his forearm and a scuffle ensued.

Off the back of the penalty against Reynolds, the Tigers gave away another penalty for being offside and Souths goalkicker Adam Reynolds took the two points on offer to open the scoring in the match.

The game continued to be a real arm wrestle in greasy conditions, until just before halftime, which saw the Rabbitohs halves in Reynolds and Cody Walker combine on the right to create enough space for Dane Gagai to slide over for the first try of the night. Reynolds missed the conversion from the touch line and Souths' lead extended to 6-0.

Gagai then had a double in a matter of minutes, when the Tigers raced up on Latrell Mitchell close to the line. Mitchell then shrugged off Moses Mbye and put Gagai over in the corner and the Rabbitohs led 10-0 at the break.

Dane Gagai then had his first club career hat-trick in the second half, when Reynolds counted the numbers on the blind side and put the Queensland Origin winger over for try number three for the night. Reynolds again missed the conversion and the Bunnies led 18-0 with just over 20 minutes remaining.

After being camped on the Bunnies line, the Tigers managed to get back in the match, when hooker Harry Grant produced an inside ball for a rampaging Josh Aloiai close to the line and the big front rower crashed over for his third try of the season. Mbye converted and the Tigers trailed 18-6 with less than 15 minutes remaining.

Wests backed up and scored their second try in quick succession, when Benji Marshall and Luke Brooks combined to give Moses Mbye some space on the left-hand side. Mbye then found his winger Reece Hoffman on debut who scored in the corner. Mbye failed to convert and the score was narrowed to 18-10.

South Sydney then managed to hold off a late Tigers fightback to seal a morale boosting win to give their finals aspirations a boost.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:
3 points - Adam Reynolds; 2 points - Dane Gagai; 1 points - Damien Cook

Panthers go top on Staines' day out

Justin Davies



Penrith Panthers have momentarily gone top on the NRL Premiership after a 56-24 thumping of Cronulla Sharks this afternoon at Kogarah Oval.

Last weekend was a tense, terse and emotion-filled contest, this week the Panthers went for a stroll in the park. Debutant Charlie Staines was the star with four tries alongside a double to Stephen Crichton in the thrashing which has sent the Panthers to the top of the NRL Premiership.

Getting the call-up to the 21-man squad this weekend, Staines might've hoped to just get on the field but the debutant starred in the Panthers right edge. Brent Naden opened the scoring but from there, Staines took over. The 19-year-old crossed twice in the corner where his mates were behind the fence to cheer him on in the first half then as his mates switched ends, Staines helped the Panthers cross the half-century and bag himself a four-try haul.

From the opening whistle, it was a mismatch. Panthers scored off their first chance through Naden before Liam Martin, Crichton and of course Staines all strode over as the Panthers to beat the clock as they led 26-nil after 25 minutes. Barring some ill-discipline which saw James Tamou sin-binned in the second half, Penrith did what they had to to defeat one of the lesser lights of the NRL.

The Sharks were all huff, no puff. Two late tries from Briton Nikora and Blayke Brailey gave them some false hope but they were never at the races. Errors, penalties and a sin-bin to former representative player Aaron Woods blighted a second half which saw put a house deposit on the spot behind the goal posts.

It showed that the three straight victories had masked the problems in the Shire. They are flat track bullies who put on some points late when the contest was gone through Jesse Ramien and a returning Nene Macdonald, but now having conceded 50 points, cannot figure in the Premiership calculations.

Saturday night was for the Staines though. The debutant continues to highlight a production line from the Central West which the Panthers have tapped into which has helped to create a genuine Premiership threat. Staines became the first player since Jordan Aitkens - for the Titans - in 2008 to score four on debut. Another product from the area in Billy Burns strolled across in the second half procession as the Panthers move into first.

The first half was played at a frantic pace from the Panthers. Once they got the sniff through Naden's opener, they piled on the points with four further tries to lead 26-12 at the break. There was a short see-saw action in the try-scoring before the Panthers stamped their authority with three tries in the final ten minutes.

Licking their wounds with the loss, the Sharks also had Andrew Fifita, Siosifa Talakai and Sione Katoa all leave the field before full-time adding to the injury ward which has Matt Moylan on the sideline already which leaves coach John Morris with plenty of headaches for next weekend.

$\label{lem:leagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:} \\$

3 points - Charlie Staines; 2 points - Nathan Cleary; 1 points - Stephen Crichton

Broncos end win drought with sloppy win over dismal Dogs

Andrew Ferguson



26-8



Brisbane have won their first game since March with a 26-8 drubbing of a listless Canterbury-Bankstown tonight at Suncorp Stadium.

The Broncos got off to an impressive start but only managed to pull away from the struggling Bulldogs late in the game, as both sides were guilty of bombing a multitude of opportunities.

Brisbane opened the scoring in the 7th minute after an energetic start when a late Tevita Panagai Junior offload allowed the Broncos to send the ball right onto Corey Oates who positioned his outside men nicely before going himself, steamrolling over the top of Marcelo Montoya to score a good try. Jamayne Isaako failed to convert from touch.

The Broncos looked to score in the 15th minute though Xavier Coates, however the Bunker found that he bobbled the ball forward into a Bulldogs player. From the scrum, Tolman dropped a pass which Pangai Junior grubbered ahead, followed through and grounded for a good try against the run of play. Isaako added the extras to give the Broncos a 10 point lead.

The Bulldogs though they had got on the scoreboard in the 28th minute when Reimis Smith somehow ended up with the ball after tackling Isaako. The Bunker found that he had illegally stolen the ball and the try was disallowed. From the

next set though, Thomas Flegler dropped the ball and the Bulldogs got a second chance, which they took.

Keiren Foran sent a stunning flat, short, cut-out pass to Nick Meaney, who dives over in the left corner for a good try. Meaney was unable to convert.

Play was sloppy from both sides for the remainder of the half.

Brisbane opened the scoring in the second half after just 4 minutes of play, when Anthony Milford spotted the Bulldogs wingers were up. He put in a delicate low kick early in the set and Isaako came flying through to ground the ball for a clever try. Isaako's sideline conversion curled back around and through the sticks superbly.

In the 55th minute, Reimis Smith was put on a report for a cannonball style tackle, which resulted in Alex Glenn getting a serious knee injury and had to be helped from the field. Isaako slotted the penalty goal from 37 metres out.

The Broncos crossed again in the 60th minute courtesy of a simple scrum play that created an extra man and Coates strolls in for a soft try. Isaako was unable to convert from out wide.

The Bulldogs struck back in the 69th minute with a carbon copy of the try they scored in the first half, this time with Foran's pass finding Dallin Watene-Zelezniak, who scored in the left corner. Meaney again failed to kick the difficult conversion.

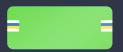
In the 76th minute Pangai Junior ran to the left sideline, taking 3 defenders with him and then getting a remarkable offload back infield, before going into touch. Isaako picked up the loose ball and casually dived across the line to score in the corner for his second try. Isaako again failed to convert from out wide. More sloppy play brought the game to a close with the Broncos winning comfortably in a largely ill-disciplined and scrappy encounter.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Tevita Pangai Junior; 2 points - Anthony Milford; 1 points - Payne Haas

Raiders left counting injury toll as Storm take scrappy victory

Josh Robertson



14-20



The Melbourne Storm have put aside an error-riddled performance to take a 20-14 victory over the Canberra Raiders at GIO Stadium.

Miserable conditions face both sides and the conditions played a major part in the opening 40 with both sides coming up with plenty of uncharacteristic errors. The first try for the Storm came off an error when Brenko Lee was in the right position to swoop on the steeden which was knocked backwards by Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad who was looking to push it dead.

The blood pressure of both Ricky Stuart and Craig Bellamy was going through the roof as their respective sides struggled to hold the ball especially Melbourne who couldn't get past tackle 3 in three consecutive sets of six. It took the Raiders until the 22nd minute to finally make the pressure pay on the Storm when Josh Papali'i was able to score after the bunker overturned a live decision of No Try from referee Grant Atkins.

A catastrophic minute ensued for the Raiders with Josh Hodgson suffering a season ending ACL injury just seconds before Bailey Simonsson was sent to the

sin bin in what has been described as a Bunker blunder, with the Raiders winger ruled to have taken out Josh Addo-Carr despite it looking like Simonsson was playing at the ball.

The Storm were then able to rub salt into the wounds when Addo-Carr was able to take advantage of the space that Simonsson would've filled to score. Cameron Smith converted from out wide to give the Melburnians a 12-6 lead. Ryan Papenhuyzen took a shot at field goal in the dying seconds to extend the lead to seven but pushed it wide.

The second half started with the Storm dominating field position but they could only manage a penalty goal in the first fifteen minutes of the half. Up the other end of the field, the Raiders thought they'd got themselves back within a try of the Storm when Elliott Whitehead crossed for what looked to be a simple try. However, suspicious of the grounding, referee Atkins sent it to the bunker who knocked it back with Whitehead coming down short of the line and subsequently losing the ball.

The Storm then were able to get over the line with some individual brilliance with Ryan Papenhuyzen swooping on a George Williams grubber kick before racing back the other way for a 70m sprint to the line.

A comeback was needed for the Green Machine and they were knocked back for a second time in the match with an obstruction ruled in the lead up to an effort from Simonsson before it was Nick Cotric who was able to get through down the left-hand side for the Raiders. In the dying seconds of the match, the Raiders gave themselves a fleeting hope of a miraculous comeback when Nicoll-Klokstad scored in with just 40 seconds remaining on the clock but it wasn't to be for the Raiders.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Cameron Smith; 2 points - Ryan Papenhuyzen; 1 points - Nelson Asofa-Solomona

Eels outlast Knights in low-scoring tussle

Tim Costello



4-10



Parramatta returned to the summit of the NRL ladder after 25 hours in second place, scraping out a 10-4 win over Newcastle at McDonald Jones Stadium today.

The entire game was very much a war of attrition, and it took a good 17 minutes before the scoreboard attendant had cause to wake up, Ryan Matterson scoring after the Eels had been awarded the first set restart of the afternoon. Hooker Reed Mahoney coasted his way across the defensive line before putting Matterson into a hole in the Knights' defence.

A missed Clint Gutherson conversion left Parramatta with a 4-0 lead which wasn't challenged til the 35th minutes when Andrew McCullough scurried across for what would be his team's only points of the afternoon. A minute earlier, Kalyn Ponga had been hammered off-the-ball in a late Waqa Blake tackle, which delivered the home team a penalty and repeat footy. That was what the Knights needed and the sides went to the break at level pegging.

Similar to the first half, neither side troubled the scoresheet for the first 15-20 minutes of the second half. With rain on the radar fast approaching, the defensive mindset amped up even more and neither side did much to look like scoring.

Come the 60th minute, Mahoney looked to have given the Eels the lead when he went over from dummy-half, but the play-the-ball infringement by David Klemmer in that play was the prior offence and created the space for Mahoney, so a penalty was awarded instead. Gutherson duly obliged and Parramatta led by two.

Four minutes later Shaun Lane snapped up a loose ball on the line and looked to have extended the blue-and-gold's advantage, but the Bunker reviewed the call and sent it back no try with Lane having made a handling error in the pick-up.

The visitors didn't need to wait long to make amends though, with a penalty 40m out for a high tackle seeing Gutherson take a quick tap, tearing apart a disorganised Knights defensive line (many of whom were complaining to referee Gerard Sutton) and finding Maika Sivo on the wing to cross and put the Eels six points clear into the final 12 minutes of the contest.

Newcastle threw plenty at the ladder leaders in the final ten minutes, and looked like they'd be levelling the scores when Tex Hoy chased through a perfect Ponga grubber, but the young back was offside at the kick and the home fans were left disappointed.

Parramatta will finish Round 9 on top of the table following the win, and will take their continued winning form into next Saturday's clash with Manly at Brookvale. Newcastle are away to the Rabbitohs at Bankwest on the same evening.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Reed Mahoney

2 points - Clinton Gutherson

1 points - Andrew McCullough

Dominant Dragons dispose of directionless Sea Eagles

Adam Huxtable



34-4



St George Illawarra have thumped Manly-Warringah 34-4 at Kogarah tonight to wrap up Round 9 of the NRL.

The Dragons appear to be getting their season back on track, with tonights comprehensive victory making them 3 from 5 since their disastrous loss to the Bulldogs on the long weekend. Manly on the other hand will be left scrambling on how to turn their performances around without Tom Trbojevic pulling the strings at the back.

The two sides begun the game looking fairly evenly matched, and they traded blows over the opening 30 minutes through forwards Joel Thompson (9th minute, Dragons) and Josh Kerr (29th minute, Dragons). Right after the Dragons got on the board it looked as if Manly would be firing back as Daly Cherry-Evans blasted upfield and looked to link up with support runners. Support was there, but it was in the form of Zac Lomax, who ran about 15 metres and promptly got it to speedster Matt Dufty who streaked away to score the Dragons second try in as many minutes.

Manly halfback Cherry-Evans had an absolute shocker with his hands, dropping 3 balls cold in the first half alone. It appeared that form had carried over, but a challenge ruled that the ball had been stripped. Manly didn't do much with their attacking opportunity and went blow for blow with the Dragons after getting caught on the last.

The turning point of the match proved to be in the 55th minute when Jorge Taufua was sent to the sin bin for a professional foul on Matt Dufty. The Saints elected to extend their lead to 8 despite being against 12 men, but the decision proved to be the right one when they crossed through Mikaele Ravalawa 6 minutes later.

Manly's performance from that point on indicated they had effectively thrown in the towel. They made error after error and were feeling the full effects of being without star forward Addin Fonua-Blake. The Dragons piled on the repeat sets, but the try came with 7 minutes to go when Zac Lomax intercepted a wayward Manly pass and sealed the match for his side and put the final nail in the coffin for the hapless Northern Beaches side.

The Dragons decided to have some fun with it from that point on and scored 2 tries in the final 4 minutes. Rookie halfback Adam Clune decided to try his luck with a stab kick and the bounce was perfect for halves partner Corey Norman who dived in under the post. In the 80th minute, a high ball was tapped back by Lomax and the Dragons did well to spread the ball to Euan Aitken, who went over virtually untouched and extended the Dragons final winning margin to 30 points.

Next week, the Red V will look to even the ledger with the struggling Bulldogs, whose only win so far in 2020 came against the Dragons. Manly on the other hand face a much tougher task against the in-form Eels. They are at home and will need to improve dramatically if they are to stand any chance of avoiding a fourth consecutive defeat.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Ben Hunt; 2 points - Mikaele Ravalawa; 1 points - Corey Norman

The scoresheet

Scores, scorers, match details from Round 9

Roosters 42 (Matt Ikuvalu (5), Sitili Tupouniua, Luke Keary (2) tries; Kyle Flanagan 5/8 goals)
def Cowboys 16 (Reece Robson (2), Coen Hess tries; Kyle Feldt 2/4 goals)
Venue: Queensland Country Bank Stadium; Date: Thursday 9 July 2020, 7:50pm AEST; Halftime: Roosterd 12-6
Referee: Adam Gee; Touch Judges: Belinda Sharpe, Matt Noyen; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Ben Galea

Titans 16 (Anthony Don, Sam Stone, Beau Fermor tries; Ashley Taylor 1/2, Jamal Fogarty 1/1 goals) def **Warriors 12** (Roger Tuivasa-Sheck, Ken Maumalo tries; Chanel Harris-Tavita 2/2 goals) Venue: Cbus Super Stadium; Date: Friday 10 July 2020, 6:00pm AEST; Halftime: Warriors 12-6; Crowd: 5,206 Referee: Chris Butler; Touch Judges: Kasey Badger, Henry Perenara; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Ben Lowe

Rabbitohs 18 (Dane Gagai (3), James Roberts tries; Adam Reynolds 1/5 goals) def Wests Tigers 10 (Josh Aloiai, Reece Hoffman tries; Moses Mbye 1/2 goals)
Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Friday 10 July 2020, 7:55pm AEST; Halftime: Rabbitohs 10-0; Crowd: 4,864
Referee: Ben Cummins; Touch Judges: Tim Alouani-Roby, Jon Stone; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Bryan Norrie

Panthers 56 (Brent Naden, Liam Martin, Stephen Crichton (2), Charlie Staines (4), Dylan Edwards, Billy Burns tries; Nathan Cleary 7/9, Stephen Crichton 1/2 goals) def Sharks 24 (Briton Nikora, Blayke Brailey, Jesse Ramien, Nene Macdonald tries; Shaun Johnson 4/4 goals) Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Saturday 11 July 2020, 3:00pm AEST; Halftime: Panthers 26-12; Crowd: 3,277 Referee: Ashley Klein; Touch Judges: Todd Smith, Gavin Badger; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Bryan Norrie

Broncos 26 (Corey Oates, Jamayne Isaako (2), Tevita Pangai Junior, Xavier Coates tries; Jamayne Isaako 3/6 goals) def Bulldogs 8 (Nick Meaney, Dallin Watene-Zelezniak tries; Nick Meaney 0/2 goals)

Venue: Suncorp Stadium; Date: Saturday 11 July 2020, 5:30pm AEST; Halftime: Broncos 10-4

Referee: Chris Sutton; Touch Judges: Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski, Drew Oultram; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Beau Scott

Storm 20 (Brenko Lee, Josh Addo-Carr, Ryan Papenhuyzen tries; Cameron Smith 4/4 goals) def Raiders 14 (Josh Papali'i, Nick Cotric, Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad tries; Jarrod Croker 1/3 goals) Venue: GIO Stadium Canberra; Date: Saturday 11 July 2020, 7:35pm AEST; Halftime: Storm 12-6 Referee: Grant Atkins; Touch Judges: Dave Munro, Peter Gough; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Ben Galea

Eels 10 (Ryan Matterson, Maika Sivo tries; Clint Gutherson 1/3 goals)

def Knights 4 (Andrew McCullough try; Kalyn Ponga 0/1 goals)

Venue: McDonald Jones Stadium; Date: Sunday 12 July 2020, 4:05pm AEST; Halftime: 4-all; Crowd: 6,980

Referee: Gerard Sutton; Touch Judges: Phil Henderson, Tim Alouani-Roby; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Ben Galea

def Sea Eagles 4 (Joel Thompson try; Reuben Garrick 0/1 goals)

Dragons 34 (Josh Kerr, Zac Lomax, Matthew Dufty, Mikaele Ravalawa, Corey Norman, Euan Aitken tries; Zac Lomax 5/7 goals)

Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Sunday 12 July 2020, 6:30pm AEST; Halftime: Dragons 10-4; Crowd: 1,571 Referee: Matt Cecchin; Touch Judges: Belinda Sharpe, Liam Kennedy; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Bryan Norrie



LeagueUnlimited Player of the Year

Standings after Round 9

At the conclusion of each match our reporters choose their best three players from the match. On this page, we'll publish the full standings throughout the season.

14 points - Cameron Smith (Storm)

11 points - Tom Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Adam Reynolds (Rabbitohs), Nathan Cleary (Panthers), Brett Morris (Roosters)

10 points - Shaun Johnson (Sharks), Cameron Munster (Storm)

9 points - Mitchell Pearce (Knights), Jack Wighton (Raiders)

8 points - Jason Taumalolo (Cowboys), Blake Green (Warriors), James Tedesco (Roosters)

7 points - Clinton Gutherson (Eels), Matthew Dufty (Dragons), Stephen Crichton (Panthers)

6 points - Latrell Mitchell (Rabbitohs), Matt Burton (Panthers), Luke Keary (Roosters), Dylan Brown (Eels)

5 points - Kodi Nikorima (Warriors), Mitchell Moses (Eels), Harry Grant (Storm), Jarrod Croker (Raiders), Sione Katoa (Bulldogs), Maika Sivo (Eels), Kalyn Ponga (Knights), Daniel Saifiti (Knights), Ashley Taylor (Titans), David Klemmer (Knights), Isaah Yeo (Panthers), Luke Brooks (Wests Tigers), Will Hopoate (Bulldogs), Jahrome Hughes (Storm), Benji Marshall (Wests Tigers)

4 points - Reed Mahoney (Eels), Kurt Mann (Knights), Jarome Luai (Panthers), Shaun Lane (Eels), Curtis Sironen (Sea Eagles), Anthony Milford (Broncos), Dallin Watene-Zelezniak (Bulldogs), George Williams (Raiders), David Nofoaluma (Wests Tigers), Daly Cherry-Evans (Sea Eagles), Tevita Pangai Junior (Broncos)

3 points - Jake Clifford (Cowboys), Jared Waerea-Hargreaves (Roosters), Viliame Kikau (Panthers), Ryan Papenhuyzen (Storm), Cody Walker (Rabbitohs), Blayke Brailey (Sharks), Jamayne Isaako (Broncos), Addin Fonua-Blake (Sea Eagles), Waqa Blake (Eels), Corey Norman (Dragons), Young Tonumaipea (Titans), Josh Morris (Sharks), Joseph Leilua (Wests Tigers), Jesse Ramien (Sharks), Jake Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Siosiua Taukeiaho (Roosters), Scott Drinkwater (Cowboys), Jamal Fogarty (Titans), Kotoni Staggs (Broncos), Charlie Staines (Panthers), Damien Cook (Rabbitohs), Ben Hunt (Dragons), Josh Papali'i (Raiders)

2 points - Mikaele Ravalawa (Dragons), Zac Lomax (Dragons), Adam Doueihi (Wests Tigers), Cameron McInnes (Dragons), Emre Guler (Raiders), Dane Gagai (Rabbitohs), Moeaki Fotuaika (Titans), Tohu Harris (Warriors), Reagan Campbell-Gillard (Eels), Corey Thompson (Wests Tigers), Wayde Egan (Warriors), James Fisher-Harris (Panthers), Matt Ikuvalu (Roosters), Braden Hamlin-Uele (Sharks), Nathan Brown (Eels), Michael Jennings (Eels), Nick Cotric (Raiders), Dale Finucane (Storm), Michael Morgan (Cowboys), Ronaldo Mulitalo (Sharks), Jorge Taufua (Sea Eagles), David Fifita (Broncos), Lindsay Collins (Roosters), Cameron Murray (Rabbitohs), Payne Haas (Broncos), Bradman Best (Knights)

1 point - Coen Hess (Cowboys), Wade Graham (Sharks), Thomas Flegler (Broncos), Andrew McCullough (Broncos), Connor Watson (Knights), Daniel Tupou (Roosters), Nelson Asofa-Solomona (Storm), Valentine Holmes (Cowboys), Tyrell Fuimaono (Dragons), Junior Paulo (Eels), Eliesa Katoa (Warriors), Jaydn Su'A (Rabbitohs), Adam Elliott (Bulldogs), Brian Kelly (Titans), Phillip Sami (Titans), Peta Hiku (Warriors), Josh Reynolds (Wests Tigers), Tui Kamikamica (Storm), Kyle Flanagan (Roosters), Herman Ese'ese (Knights), Elliott Whitehead (Raiders), Apisai Koroisau (Panthers), Sam Lisone (Titans), Tom Opacic (Cowboys), Chad Townsend (Sharks), Ethan Lowe (Rabbitohs), Alex Twal (Wests Tigers)

NRL Match Review

Round 9 Charge Sheet

Peta Hiku (Warriors) - Grade 1 Tripping 70th min, on B Cartwright (Titans) Base penalty \$750 fine Guilty / no contest = \$750 fine Guilty - early plea = \$550 fine PLEA: Guilty - early plea OUTCOME: \$550 fine.

Josh Reynolds (Wests Tigers) - Grade 2 Dangerous Contact (head/neck) 6th minute, on C Graham (Rabbitohs) Base penalty 300 points Guilty / no contest = 300 points (3 matches)

Guilty - early plea = 225 points (2 matches)

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: Suspended 2 matches. 25 carryover points accrued.

Latrell Mitchell (Rabbitohs) - Grade 2 Striking

6th minute, on J Reynolds (Wests Tigers)

Base penalty 300 points

Guilty / no contest = 300 points (3 matches)

Guilty - early plea = 225 points (2 matches)

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: Suspended 2 matches. 25 carryover points accrued.

Mark Nicholls (Rabbitohs) - Grade 2 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)

59th minute, on J Aloiai (Wests Tigers)

Base penalty 300 points

Guilty / no contest = 300 points (3 matches)

Guilty - early plea = 225 points (2 matches)

PLEA: Guilty - contesting grading.

OUTCOME: Successful. Downgraded to Grade 1.

Free to play. 50 carryover points accrued.

Latrell Mitchell (Rabbitohs) - Grade 1 Careless High Tackle

62nd minute, on L Garner (Wests Tigers)

Base penalty \$750 fine

Guilty / no contest = \$750 fine

Guilty - early plea = \$550 fine

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: \$550 fine.

Reimis Smith (Bulldogs) - Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (other)

54th minute, on A Glenn (Broncos)

Base penalty 100 points

2 x non-similar prior offences last 2 years (40% loading)

35 carryover points to add

Guilty / no contest = 140+35=175 points (1 match)

Guilty - early plea = 105+35=140 points (1 match)

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: **Suspended 1 match**. 40 carryover points accrued.

Royce Hunt (Sharks) - Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)

44th minute, on S Leniu (Panthers)

Base penalty 100 points

Guilty / no contest = 100 points (1 match)

Guilty - early plea = 75 points (0 matches)

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: Free to play. 75 carryover points accrued

Jordan Pereira (Dragons) - Grade 1 Shoulder Charge

45th minute, on Reuben Garrick

Base penalty 200 points

1 x non-similar prior offences last 2 years (20% loading)

25 carryover points to add

Guilty / no contest = 240+25=265 points (2 matches)

Guilty - early plea = 180+25=205 points (2 matches)

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: Suspended 2 matches. 5 carryover points accrued.

Premiership ladder NRL 2020 Telstra Premiership after Round 9

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Parramatta Eels	9	8	1	0	210	96	114	16
2	Penrith Panthers	9	7	1	1	218	134	84	15
3	Melbourne Storm	9	7	2	0	195	122	73	14
4	Sydney Roosters	9	6	3	0	268	112	156	12
5	Newcastle Knights	9	5	3	1	187	142	45	11
6	South Sydney Rabbitohs	9	5	4	0	188	154	34	10
7	Canberra Raiders	9	5	4	0	164	133	31	10
8	Wests Tigers	9	4	5	0	197	177	20	8
9	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	9	4	5	0	210	214	-4	8
10	Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles	9	4	5	0	133	147	-14	8
11	St George Illawarra Dragons	9	3	6	0	140	172	-32	6
12	North Queensland Cowboys	9	3	6	0	195	253	-58	6
13	Warriors	9	3	6	0	117	214	-97	6
14	Brisbane Broncos	9	3	6	0	134	243	-109	6
15	Gold Coast Titans	9	3	6	0	122	245	-123	6
16	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	9	1	8	0	94	214	-120	2

Stats leaders

after Round 9

Top Tr	ryscorers		Top Goalkickers						
1	Kyle FELDT (Cowboys)	9	1	Kyle FLANAGAN (Ro	osters)	43/54 (80%)			
	Maika SIVO (Eels)	9	2	Cameron SMITH (Sto	rm)	35/40 (88%)			
3	David NOFOALUMA (Wests Tigers)	8	3	Adam REYNOLDS (Ra	abbitohs)	32/38 (84%)			
	Sione KATOA (Sharks)	8	4	Shaun JOHNSON (Sh	narks)	31/41 (76%)			
	Stephen CRICHTON (Panthers)	8	5	Nathan CLEARY (Par	thers)	27/33 (82%)			
6	Suliasi VUNIVALU (Storm)	7	6	Zac LOMAX (Dragons	s)	26/32 (81%)			
	Brett MORRIS (Roosters)	7	7	Kalyn PONGA (Knigh	ts)	25/35 (71%)			
	Alex JOHNSTON (Rabbitohs)	7	8	Jarrod CROKER (Raid	ders)	24/29 (83%)			
9	Zac LOMAX (Dragons), Matt DUFTY (Dragons)	ons),	9	Mitchell MOSES (Eel	s)	23/27 (85%)			
	Anthony DON (Titans), Mikaele RAVALAWA ((Dragons)	10	Reuben GARRICK (Se	ea Eagles)	20/32 (63%)			
	Dane GAGAI (Rabbitohs)	6							
Top Po	ointscorers		T	G	FG	Pts			
1	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)		4	43	-	102			
2	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)		6	26	-	76			
3	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)		2	32	-	72			
4	Cameron SMITH (Storm)		-	35	-	70			
5	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)		2	27	2	64			
	Kyle FELDT (Cowboys)		9	14	-	64			
7	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)		3	25	-	62			
	Shaun JOHNSON (Sharks)		-	31	-	62			
9	Jarrod CROKER (Raiders)		1	24	-	52			
10	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)		1	23	1	51			

Last week's crossword answers

NRL statement on Corey Harawira-Naera and Jayden Okunbor

NRL Media Release, 13 July 2020

The NRL Appeals Committee today issued its decision in respect of appeals brought by Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs players Jayden Okunbor and Corey Harawira-Naera.

Mr Okunbor and Mr Harawira-Naera's registrations as NRL Players were cancelled on 1 April following a finding of serious breaches of the league's Code of Conduct in the lead-up to a trial match in Port Macquarie in February 2020.

Whilst confirming the seriousness of the breaches, the Appeals Committee varied the NRL's determination to cancel each player's registration and imposed alternate sanctions, being:

Mr Okunbor to be suspended for 14 Matches, pay a fine of \$22,500 and undergo such course of counselling or community service as the NRL CEO may direct;

Mr Harawira-Naera to be suspended for 10 Matches and to pay a fine of \$15,000.

"The NRL took the action which it considered necessary given the serious breaches of the Code of Conduct - breaches the Appeals Committee also found to be serious," said NRL Acting CEO Andrew Abdo.

"The independent appeals committee has taken a different view on what penalty the players should face and although we are disappointed, we respect the outcome."

FROM THE BULLDOGS

Bulldogs statement regarding Corey Harawira-Naera and Jayden Okunbor

Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Media Release, 13 July 2020

The Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs have this afternoon been advised by the NRL of the appeal process result for Corey Harawira-Naera and Jayden Okunbor.

We are now working with the NRL to determine how this process will be implemented and will await further advice from the NRL on the next stage.

We will release a further update when we have more information.

Happy birthday!

This round's birthday boys & girls:

Thursday 16 July

Ken Maumalo (Warriors) - 26

Friday 17 July

Morgan Boyle (Sea Eagles) - 24 Darius Boyd (Broncos) - 33 Tom Eisenhuth (Storm) - 28 Amber Kani (Warriors NRLW) - 29

Saturday 18 July Gerard Beale (Warriors) - 30 **Sunday 19 July**

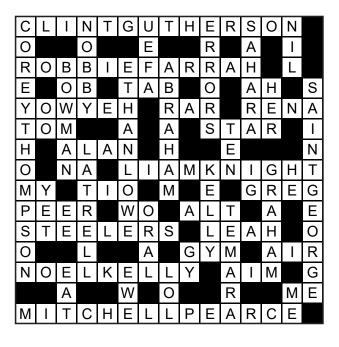
Christian Welch (Storm) - 26

Monday 20 July

Ryan James (Titans) - 29
Daine Laurie (Panthers) - 21
Moses Leota (Panthers) - 25
Kiana Takairangi (Roosters NRLW) - 28

Tuesday 21 July

Daniel Vasquez (Sharks) - 23





My thoughts on the NRL from 15,558km away

The National Rugby League, what a game!

hy I've never invested my time into it in the past, I couldn't tell you, but one of the things I'm thankful for, coming out of corona, is that it has opened my eyes to this hard-hitting, action-packed game.

First things first, I wasn't myself once the sporting world shut down. Things were bleak and the only news on Twitter and YouTube was sporting leagues being canceled every other day.

I absolutely love my job in sport, so you can't just take that away from someone and expect them to be all good.

I have had little experience with rugby league live, only being able to catch the Toronto Wolfpack's final two matches gaining promotion into Super League this past year. That was an absolute wild time, experiencing how passionate the fans are about a foreign game with the local team. It was quite a spectacle to witness.

I was PUMPED for the first Super League game held in Toronto this 2020 season, which unfortunately doesn't look promising to happen even in the Super League restart.

I don't remember the exact day I read that one of the first sporting leagues was opening back up in Australia, but I got so hype seeing a concrete plan in place to resume live sport. I marked the 28th of May on my calendar and started prepping for the NRL's season restart.



The preparation included watching all the highlights of the first two rounds of the season on YouTube, listening to any NRL shows and podcasts from the season to date, and reading up on team storylines as they were happening.

I spent days upon days learning about the league and teams.

Parramatta was my top choice off the bat. I loved their team and style of play. They just clicked with me.

The entire team, through the sweet social content they put out, seemed like a fun bunch to be around, but also serious enough to get the job done.

Players like Fergo and Sivo really captured my attention with how strong they played. Mitch Moses and Gutho seemed like they were one step ahead of the opposition at all times. And the absolute power that RCG crashes into the line is unreal to watch.

After watching the Eels' last six matches, all the players have been firing on all cylinders and I'm starting to learn more and more each game.

In general, my experience with learning about rugby league has been absolutely fantastic. The fans are a passionate group and I have talked to so many people through Twitter who exhibit this passion everyday, it makes it fun.

I really appreciate everybody accepting a Canadian kid, who knew nothing about the game last year, into their rugby league bubble and helping me learn and love this game.

So thank you, it's been nice having my world back with live sport again.

Training and warm up injuries continue to rise

Brien Seeney - known to those on Twitter as @NRLPhysio - talks to Joshua Wells about the spate of injuries in the NRL in recent weeks

Joshua Wells Contributor



number of NRL clubs have been left in a tailspin just before kick with a number of players pulling out of games late due to injuries happening off the field or even in the warm up over the past couple of weeks, and NRL Physio Brien Seeney believes the shutdown is playing its part.

The acclaimed Brisbane-based physio said during the lockdown clubs did their best to keep players fit, but not everyone was going to be able to perform to the highest standards at home on their own.

"While it might not sound like a huge deal for guys to get onto the field and play, but we have to remember they play the sport at the highest level in a high contact sport – which also has one of the highest injury rates," he said.

"Clubs would have put into place programs that players had to follow, but compliance is probably an issue there. Some will be better than others at completing their programs. They weren't at the club every day, talking to medical staff and the best of the best that work in this field.

"They were at home for eight to 10 weeks and then they've come back to restricted staff. Then

they have four weeks to get ready."

The 'mini-preseason' saw players return to the field and begin preparing for NRL quality football.

Since the return of the Greatest Game of All, Seeney said there has been an increase in preventable injuries like calf strains and a number of these injuries are happening at training.

"We've had a massive number of training injuries and that's a result, more than likely, training load," he said.

"Overall, the actual in-game injuries during the games hasn't increased all that much – it is bang on actually. But, yeah, overall the number of injured players is up."

"We've also had these changes to the rules, and we aren't sure what that is doing to the injury increases.

"Moving forward, as time goes on, it will continue to pose an issue for clubs, but this should settle."



What ever happened to LARS?

A few years ago players suffering ACL ruptures were touting the latest, greatest medical trend to get back onto the park – the LARS surgery.

The Ligament Augmentation and Reconstruction System uses a synthetic rope-like structure to replace the damaged ACL.

Instead of the traditional nine months on the sidelines, players were returning within two months. It looked like a good option for players who had suffered arguably the most feared injury of all.

NRL Physio Brien Seeney said while it looked great at the time, the re-rupture rates spiked, and the surgery was thrown to the heap pile.

"With injuries and surgeries, recommendations are based on evidence, current studies and how long-term research. You might remember LARS and players were coming back in two to three months – it was fantastic," he said.

"The problem with that is that when something is new and looks fantastic – you don't have the evidence.

"As more data was being collected, we found that the rerupture or failure rates was becoming significant. We saw this happen to about 40 per cent of cases – while the usual surgery is about five per cent.

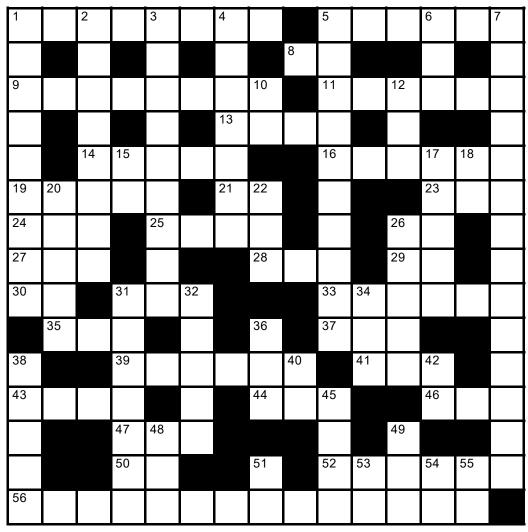
"When you re-rupture, you put everything else under pressure. You could see it in a player who is retiring at the end of the year."

While the LARS didn't work, a new trend in sports medicine is not repairing the ACL at all.

A scan of former Penrith halfback's leg revealed he had played without an ACL for 18 months on accident.

"We used to think it was nigh impossible to play on, but there's guys who have complete ruptures who are going into rehab. It does not have a 100 per cent success rate, but there are guys trialling it," Seeney said.

The LU Crossword



Across

- 1. First word of a new rule for 2020 (8)
- 5. Refereed 79 NRL games between '14 and '18 including 1 internattional game, Phil . (6)
- 8. Eels coach initials (2)
- 9. Former CEO of Titans and NRL (8)
- 11. What a player does after a few years in ESL. (6)
- 13. Fibber (4)
- 14. What they use to get the Viking claps started (plural) (5)
- 16. Former Broncos, Maroons, Indigenous All Star and Kangaroon winger from '09 to '12. (6)
- 19. Medical term for flushing out your rear end. (5)
- 21. Exabite (a billion gigabytes) abbrev (2)
- 23. What a field goal is worth. (3)
- 24. Neither (3)
- 25. Eels back rower (4)
- 26. Jacksonville University initials (2)

- 27. Nickname of former Panthers boss and current commentator. (3)
- 28. Fijian representative and played for the Cowboys and Raiders in the 90s, Nadruku (3)
- 29. United Nations initials (2)
- 30. English abbrev (2)
- 31. Christian name of Storm skipper (3)
- 33. Banyo Devils Rugby League club play out of this NSW town. (6)
- 35. State of Origin initials (3)
- 37. A type of touch football. (3)
- 39. Second word of Manly Warringah mascot. (6)
- 41. Parramatta's mascot. (3) (3)
- 43. Tony Williams nickname _ _ _ (4)
- 44. Australian Rugby League initials (3)
- 46. Former Doggies, Broncos, Sharks and near-Cowboys player who was deregistered in 2018
- first name (3)

- 47. First name of the original NRL Salary Cap Auditor (3)
- 50. George Dragons (2)
- 52. Current Souths and NSW Blues backrower (6)
- 56. Former name of Sydney Roosters (7,7)

Down

- 1. Second word of 1 accross (9)
- 2. The team from the foot of the mountains
- 3. Who the Kangaroos represent. (9)
- 4. Played as a centre for Sharks, Storm, Warriors, Dragons, Bradford Bulls and Souths, from '07 to '17, also played Origin for Maroons and the Indigenous All Stars in '11-'12 (7)
- 5. On-loan hooker for the Tigers (5,5)
- 6. Net National Income initials (3)
- 7. Current Kiwi coach (7.7)
- 10. Youth Initiative initials (2)
- 12. To pull a car, boat or caravan (3)
- 15. Olympique Marseille initials (2) 17 Current Raiders back rower. (5)
- 18 English abbrev (2)
- 20. Words that name a person, place or a thing in a sentence (5)
- 22. First name of Dragons halfback/ hooker. (3)
- 26. Another name for linesman,

touch (5)

- 31. Live together (7)
- 32. She sits on the Australian Rugby
- League Commission, ____ Davis (5)
- 34. United Arab Emirates (3)
- 36. First part of 39 across. (3)
- 38. He has refereed 68 NRL games between 2016 and 2020 (5)
- 40. Status Report initials (2)
- 42. Line Backer initials (2)
- 45. 5/8 for the Knights from '16 to '18, then off to the Roosters for '19 and now with the London
- Broncos, (4) 48. Eaten (3)
- 49. Short for Error (3)
- 51. We (2)
- 53. Utah University initials (2) (2)
- 50. 50 across (2)

Answers in next week's edition

Word Jumbles

NUBER KIWI (94-06)ALLAH YARDLING (92-98) RAGEFANMYER (86-95) CLASSY NANHEAT (98-08)

Using the clues provided, unjumble the letters below - can you unscramble the names of these Kiwis players? Each one has played at least 20 matches in the black jersey.

ENNIS LOJAGHATING (08-17) **SURENORTKENS** (75-89)CHUM HANGHAG TRENT BODD (82-90) (85-93)**DOGG SOWARTEE GRIMWAD TEETH** (07-16) (80 - 98)ELINA PIANOFILS CORKER MCJANCARD (91-99) (77-86)

THE FRONT ROW

GAME DAY

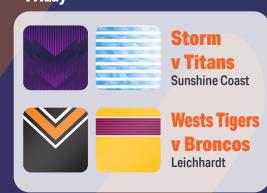
ROUND 10 MATCH PROGRAM

TEAM LISTS · MATCH DETAILS & STATS · PREVIEWS

Thursday



Friday



Saturday



Sunday



WEEKLY TIPS Round 10

Number in () brackets indicated last week's correct tips

Tim Costello (4)	Andrew Ferguson (3)	Andrew Jackson (5)	Justin Davies (7)	Adam Huxtable (6)	Rick Edgerton (5)
Roosters	Roosters	Roosters	Roosters	Roostrs	Roosters
Storm	Storm	Storm	Storm	Storm	Storm
Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers
Dragons	Dragons	Dragons	Dragons	Dragons	Dragons
Knights	Rabbitohs	Knights	Rabbitohs	Knights	Knights
Eels	Eels	Eels	Eels	Eels	Eels
Warriors	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Warriors	Sharks
Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers
Rob Crosby (3)	Steven Wiliams (7)	Sam Bourke (6)	Josh Robertson (5)	Jeff Dickinson-Fox (6)	Hamish Parker (6)

er (6) Roosters Roosters Roosters Roosters Roosters Roosters Storm Storm Storm Storm Storm Storm **Broncos Tigers Tigers Tigers Tigers Broncos Dragons Dragons Dragons Dragons Dragons Dragons** Rabbitohs **Knights Rabbitohs Knights Knights Knights** Eels Eels Eels Eels Eels Eels Warriors Warriors **Sharks Sharks Sharks Sharks Panthers Panthers Panthers Panthers Panthers Panthers**

Sydney ROOSTERS



Canberra RAIDERS

P	т	G	i I	Pts					P	т	G	Pts
7	4	-		James TEDESCO	1	FULLBACK	1	Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD	9	4	-	16
3	5	-	. :	20 Matt IKUVALU	2	WING	2	Nick COTRIC	9	5	-	20
8*	3	-		12 Josh MORRIS	3	CENTRE	3	Jarrod CROKER	9	1	24	52
9	1	-		4 Joseph MANU	4	CENTRE	4	Michael OLDFIELD	5	-	-	-
8	7	-	. :	28 Brett MORRIS	5	WING	5	Jordan RAPANA	6	1	-	4
9	4	-	.+ ^	18 Luke KEARY	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Jack WIGHTON	9	4	-	16
9	4	4:	3	102 Kyle FLANAGAN	7	HALFBACK	7	George WILLIAMS	9	1	-	4
8	1	-	. 4	4 Jared WAEREA-HARGREAVES	8	FRONT ROW	8	Josh PAPALI'I	9	3	-	12
9	1	-		4 Jake FRIEND	9	HOOKER	9	Siliva HAVILI	9	-	-	-
8	1	-	. 4	4 Siosiua TAUKEIAHO	10	FRONT ROW	10	Dunamis LUI	6	-	-	-
6	2	-	. 8	8 Boyd CORDNER	11	SECOND ROW	11	Hudson YOUNG	4	-	-	-
7	4	-	. '	16 Angus CRICHTON	12	SECOND ROW	12	Elliott WHITEHEAD	9	4	-	16
7	-	-		- Nat BUTCHER	13	LOCK	13	Joseph TAPINE	8	1	-	4
				* 2 games for Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks								
1	-	-		- Lachlan LAM	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Tom STARLING	-	-	-	-
8	1	-	. 4	4 Sitili TUPOUNIUA	15		15	Kai O'DONNELL	1	-	-	-
7	1	-	. 4	4 Mitchell AUBUSSON	16		16	Ryan SUTTON	5	-	-	-
8	1	-		4 Lindsay COLLINS	17		17	Curtis SCOTT	8	1	-	4
				* 4 games for Warriors								
6*	-	-		- Poasa FAAMAUSILI	18	RESERVES	18	Matt FRAWLEY	-	-	-	-
3	-	-		- Ryan HALL	19		19	Darby MEDLYN	-	-	-	-
7	-	-		- Isaac LIU	20		20	Sam WILLIAMS	-	-	-	-
-	-	-		- Drew HUTCHISON	21		21	Semi VALEMI	-	-	-	-
				TRENT ROBINSON		COACH		RICKY STUART				
				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	14 15 16	PENALTIES	1 2 3 4	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				

RLP MILESTONES Roosters need to score 42 points to reach 40,000 points since the first grade competition commenced in 1908.

SCRUMS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

#NRLRoostersRaiders

MATCH DETAILS

DATE Thursday 16 July 2020

KICKOFF 7:50pm AEST

VENUE Sydney Cricket Ground

Moore Park, NSW

WATCH Nine Network & 9Now

Fox League & Kayo Sports

LISTEN ABC Grandstand

Triple M SYD, BNE

NRL Nation

LIVE BLOG LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE Gerard SUTTON

TOUCH JUDGES Dave MUNRO

Todd SMITH

NRL BUNKER Jared MAXWELL

Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 63 matches

35

28

At Sydney Cricket Ground: 2 matches, Roosters 1, Raiders 1

LAST TEN CLASHES SYD 6 - 4 CAN

2019	Grand Final	Roosters 14-8	ANZ
2019	Round 21	Roosters 22-18	GIO
2019	Round 9	Roosters 30-24	Suncorp
2018	Round 23	Raiders 14-12	GIO
2017	Round 12	Raiders 24-16	GIO
2016	Round 2	Raiders 21-20	GIO
2015	Round 4	Roosters 34-6	Allianz
2014	Round 12	Roosters 26-12	Allianz
2013	Round 22	Roosters 28-22	Allianz
2013	Round 5	Raiders 24-22	GIO

BIGGEST WINS

ROOSTERS 1982 Round 13 55-15 at SSG RAIDERS 1990 Round 5 66-4 at Bruce

CURRENT FORM

ROOSTERS LLWWWWWLW 4th, 12pts RAIDERS WWWLWLLWL 7th, 10pts

NEXT UP - ROUND 11

ROOSTERS - A Warriors @ Central Coast, Sat 25 Jul 3:00pm RAIDERS - H Rabbitohs @ GIO, Sat 25 Jul 7:35pm

Match Preview

with Jason Hosken

Battered Raiders hit the road for grand final redemption

Even with a truck load of talent missing from last year's controversial decider, the fight for top four spots will be enough to stoke the fire in this one.

In a buzz for the Raiders, they'll make their first appearance on the Sydney Cricket Ground since the club's first grand final in 1987. Dean Lance was skipper that day, and with the club now decimated by injury, Ricky Stuart could do far worse than use the former square-shouldered battle axe for inspiration.

In the nine or so months since James Tedesco shattered Canberra's 2019 dream, little has separated the sides. In fourth place, Trent Robinson's Roosters sit three spots above the Raiders but it's a slender gap of just two points.

It's typical of the trend in a rapidly forming rivalry. Since 2016 the results are split three apiece, with the winner in five of those games collecting the spoils by a converted try or less.

On form at least, and with the addition of Boyd Cordner and Brett Morris following last week's demolition of North Queensland, it looks like the rudderless Raiders minus Josh Hodgson don't stand a chance.

But with the NRL's fourth best defence this season, no matter the result, more often than not the plucky men from the ACT find themselves within striking distance at the final whistle.

And so it was last week in defeat to the Melbourne Storm where rough calls, injuries and a clunky attack became an insurmountable burden.

Up front, Josh Papali'i still leads an energetic pack that won't back down.

The trick for new hooker Siliva Havili will be serving the Raiders halves early ball without overplaying his hand, because with Jordan Rapana joining fellow speedsters Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad and Nick Cotric, the Green Machine are more than capable of knocking up a winning score.

Who to watch: Following an eye-popping five try masterpiece, who wouldn't want to watch Matt Ikuvalu? Anyone good enough to oust Headingley flyer Ryan Hall obviously has an affinity for bright lights. And with the wide open spaces of the SCG and an even bigger screen to match, the stage is set.

The Raiders' forward stocks might be in freefall, but watch for Elliott Whitehead to steady the ship. Now in his fifth season in the capital, Ricky Stuart will hope the 24-Test Englishman is at his most tenacious. Much more than an irritant in defence, the rangy backrower gives Canberra its left edge punch. And with a cheeky show-and-go, his season tally of four tries and seven line breaks is sure to feature on Robinson's cheat sheet.

Favourite: Just like last year's grand final, the Roosters enter this one as the bookies' favourite.

My tip: Ricky Stuart has already said he's not interested in excuses. But facing the premiers with a short turnaround on the SCG where they're unbeaten in their last 10 will be tougher than tackling Mt Everest without a Sherpa. But it'll be closer than many think, with the difference another late touch of Roosters class. Roosters by 4.

Melbourne STORM



Gold Coast TITANS

P	T	•	G	Pts						P	Т	G	Pts
9	4		_+	17	Ryan PAPENHUYZEN	1	FULLBACK	1	Corey THOMPSON	6*	1	-	4
3	3	3	-	12	Paul MOMIROVSKI	2	WING	2	Anthony DON	8	6	-	24
9	1		-	4	Justin OLAM	3	CENTRE	3	Brian KELLY	7	2	-	8
4	2)	-	8	Brenko LEE	4	CENTRE	4	Phillip SAMI	7	3	-	12
8	4	Ļ	-	16	Josh ADDO-CARR	5	WING	5	Treymain SPRY	1	-	-	-
7	-		-	-	Cameron MUNSTER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Ashley TAYLOR	9	1	18	40
7	2)	-	8	Jahrome HUGHES	7	HALFBACK	7	Jamal FOGARTY	7	-	1	2
7	2)	-	8	Brandon SMITH	8	FRONT ROW	8	Moeaki FOTUAIKA	8	-	-	-
9	-		35	70	Cameron SMITH	9	HOOKER	9	Erin CLARK	6	-	-	-
7	-		-	-	Christian WELCH	10	FRONT ROW	10	Jaimin JOLLIFFE	7	-	-	-
8	1		-	4	Felise KAUFUSI	11	SECOND ROW	11	Beau FERMOR	2	1	-	4
9	-		-	-	Kenneath BROMWICH	12	SECOND ROW	12	Keegan HIPGRAVE	7	1	-	4
9	1		-	4	Dale FINUCANE	13	LOCK	13	Jai ARROW	9	-	-	-
1	-		-	-	Chris LEWIS	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Tanah BOYD	6	1	-	4
9	1		-	4	Tino FAASUAMALEAUI	15		15	Tyrone PEACHEY	9	-	-	-
4	-		-	-	Marion SEVE	16		16	Sam LISONE	9	1	-	4
7	-		-	-	Nelson ASOFA-SOLOMONA	17		17	Jarrod WALLACE	6	-	-	-
-	-		-	-	Albert VETE	18	RESERVES	18	Sam STONE	1	1	-	4
1	-	•	-	-	Nicho HYNES	19		20	Jai WHITBREAD	3	-	-	-
4	1		-	4	Ryley JACKS	20		21	Nathan PEATS	3	-	-	-
1	-		-	-	Darryn SCHONIG	21		22	Greg LELESIUAO	-	-	-	-
									* 2 games for Wests Tigers				
					CRAIG BELLAMY		COACH		JUSTIN HOLBROOK				
					1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	PENALTIES	1 2 3 4	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				

RLP MILESTONES Paul MOMIROVSKI (Storm) - 6 more points to reach 100 career points

SCRUMS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

#NRLStormTitans

MATCH DETAILS

DATE Friday 17 July 2020 KICKOFF 6:00pm AEST

VENUE Sunshine Coast Stadium

Kawana Waters, QLD

WATCH Fox League & Kayo Sports

LISTEN ABC Grandstand

Triple M SYD, BNE

NRL Nation

LIVE BLOG LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE Chris SUTTON TOUCH JUDGES Jon STONE

Gavin BADGER

NRL BUNKER Steve CHIDDY

Ben LOWE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 21 matches

,

6

At Sunshine Coast Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN CLASHES MEL 8 - 2 GLD

2019	Round 23	Storm 24-8	AAMI
2019	Round 18	Storm 38-18	Cbus Super
2018	Round 24	Storm 10-8	Cbus Super
2018	Round 10	Storm 28-14	Suncorp
2017	Round 10	Titans 38-36	Suncorp
2016	Round 9	Storm 38-0	Cbus Super
2016	Round 2	Storm 34-16	AAMI
2015	Round 22	Storm 36-14	AAMI
2014	Round 14	Storm 24-20	Cbus Super
2014	Round 5	Titans 28-26	AAMI

BIGGEST WINS

STORM 2007 Round 25 50-6 at Olympic Park TITANS 2008 Round 13 18-0 at Cbus Super

CURRENT FORM

STORM WWLWWLWWW 3rd, 14pts
TITANS LLLWLLWLW 15th, 6pts

NEXT UP - ROUND 11

STORM - A Broncos @ Suncorp, Fri 24 Jul 7:55pm
TITANS - H Panthers @ Cbus Super, Sun 26 Jul 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Adam Huxtable

It's the classic NRL equivalent of David Versus Goliath as the Storm take on the Titans in only the second ever top grade NRL game played at Sunshine Coast Stadium

The Storm did what they were expected to do last week and disposed of a gallant Raiders outfit plagued by injury in a match that was fairly evenly matched, with both sides ending up 3 tries apiece but conversions and penalty goals giving the Storm the edge.

Melbourne have shaken off concerns that they would struggle to adapt to the new faster game with 3 consecutive wins mostly against quality opposition. They should have no problem going on with the job this week, however Rugby League is a funny game sometimes and anything can happen.

The Titans showed some great resolve to come back from an early 12-point deficit to get their 3rd win of the season against the Warriors 16-12 in a thriller that saw Beau Fermor go over for his first NRL try to win his side the match.

It was an extremely encouraging sign for Justin Holbrook who has instilled a tough backbone in the Titans, and it showed through their ability to stay competitive even after conceding 2 tries in the opening 7 minutes in an effort that put previous Gold Coast outfits to shame. It is now up to the playing group to bring some consistency, with each 2020 win so far being followed up by a heavy defeat.

Craig Bellamy has reshuffled his backline, with Paul Momirovski and Brenko Lee swapping to the wing and centre positions respectively. They also receive a huge boost in the form of their star five-eighth Cameron Munster returning from injury. Jesse Bromwich is expected to miss 3-4 weeks with an MCL sprain, meaning Brandon Smith will replace him in the front row for the time being. Felise Kaufusi returns from a knee injury, pushing Tino Faasuamaleaui to the bench. Chris Lewis and Marion Seve come into the side replacing Darryn Schonig and Nicho Hynes respectively.

The Titans receive a huge boost this week, they're able to play specialist centres in the centre position. Brian Kelly and Phillip Sami both return from injury, allowing Beau Fermor to go back to his preferred position of second row. Sami has been named at centre, however, don't be surprised if Holbrook makes a late change and goes to the wing in a swap with Treymain Spry. Bryce Cartwright has paid the price for his wayward offload last week, dropping out of the 21 altogether, while Fermor's move to the back row means that Sam Stone drops back into the reserves.

Who to watch: It is hard to go past returning five-eighth Cameron Munster for the Storm. It is a testament to the Storm system that they can lose a player of his calibre and still beat the previous year's grand finalists in consecutive weeks, however there is no question how much he will improve Melbourne on Friday. Turning 26 this year, Munster is about to enter his prime years as a playmaker, which is a scary prospect considering he has already represented his state and country and performed well on both occasions. He will look to return with a bang this week against the Titans.

Rookie NRL halfback Jamal Fogarty had a game to remember last week, his effort to steer his side to victory was made all the more impressive by the fact his senior halves partner was off with an HIA for the last 18 minutes. Fogarty kept his side in the game, applying great pressure to the Warriors back 3 late in the match with his kicking game, before making the most of a scoring opportunity to set up the winning try with a grubber before, icing it with a conversion. He will face a much tougher challenge this week against the Melbourne Storm, however a lot of confidence will be taken from his last start.

Favourite: The Storm started the week as overwhelming favourites and have only firmed since then. It will take some kind of effort by the Titans to even go close to winning.

My tip: The Titans have been looking more and more like a first-grade football team every week and have gotten 3 wins in 9 rounds thus far as opposed to the 4 in 24 last year. Their issue has been consistency, and each victory has been followed by a defeat of 30 points. It is hard to see them bucking that trend this week against opposition of as much quality as the Storm, however I think they will show a little more fight than they have previously considering the 17 they've named. Storm by 18.

WESTS TIGERS



Brisbane BRONCOS

P	т	G	Pts						P	т	G	Pts
9	2	2	12	Adam DOUEIHI	1	FULLBACK	1	Tesi NIU	5	-	-	-
9	8	-	32	David NOFOALUMA	2	WING	2	Jamayne ISAAKO	9	3	16	44
6	-	-	-	Chris LAWRENCE	3	CENTRE	3	Herbie FARNWORTH	9	2	3	14
7	1	13	30	Moses MBYE	4	CENTRE	4	Darius BOYD	9	1	-	4
3	3	-	12	Tommy TALAU	5	WING	5	Xavier COATES	5	5	-	20
4	-	-	-	Billy WALTERS	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Anthony MILFORD	9	1	-	4
5	1	13	⁺ 31	Benji MARSHALL	7	HALFBACK	7	Brodie CROFT	9	1	-	4
9	3	-	12	Josh ALOIAI	8	FRONT ROW	8	Tevita PANGAI JUNIOR	5	2	-	8
7	2	-	8	Harry GRANT	9	HOOKER	9	Issac LUKE	7*	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Russell PACKER	10	FRONT ROW	10	Payne HAAS	9	-	-	-
8	1	-	4	Luke GARNER	11	SECOND ROW	11	Ben TE'O	5	1	-	4
9	2	-	8	Luciano LEILUA	12	SECOND ROW	12	Corey OATES	9	1	-	4
4	1	-	4	Matt EISENHUTH	13	LOCK	13	Patrick CARRIGAN	8	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Sam MCINTYRE	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Cory PAIX	4	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	Thomas MIKAELE	15		15	Thomas FLEGLER	8	-	-	-
7	2	-	8	Luke BROOKS	16		16	Jamil HOPOATE	5	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Chris MCQUEEN	17		17	Joe OFAHENGAUE	5	_	-	-
5	-	-	-	Oliver CLARK	18	RESERVES	18	Tom DEARDEN	2	-	-	-
1	1	-	4	Reece HOFFMAN	19		19	Rhys KENNEDY	6	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Shawn BLORE	20		20	Richie KENNAR	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	Michael CHEE-KAM	21		21	Tyson GAMBLE	-	-	-	-
								*3 games for St George Illawarra Dragons				
				MICHAEL MAGUIRE		COACH		ANTHONY SEIBOLD				
				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	PENALTIES	1 2 3 4	1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				
				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	SCRUMS	1 2 3 4	1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				

RLP MILESTONES This will be just the second time in the Wests Tigers' 21 seasons they've hosted Brisbane at Leichhardt Oval.

#NRLTigersBroncos

MATCH DETAILS

DATE Friday 17 July 2020
KICKOFF 7:55pm AEST
VENUE Leichhardt Oval
Lilyfield, NSW

WATCH Nine Network & 9Now

Fox League & Kayo Sports

LISTEN ABC Grandstand

Triple M BNE

2GB SYD, 4BC BNE

LIVE BLOG LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE Adam GEE

TOUCH JUDGES Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI

Tim ALOUANI-ROBY

NRL BUNKER Jared MAXWELL

Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 28 matches

6 1

21

At Leichhardt Oval: 1 match, Wests Tigers 0, Broncos 1

LAST TEN CLASHES WST 2-8 BRI

2019	Round 5	Wests Tigers 22-16	Suncorp
2018	Round 3	Broncos 9-7	Campbelltown
2017	Round 11	Broncos 36-0	Suncorp
2016	Round 12	Wests Tigers 19-18	Suncorp
2015	Round 19	Broncos 42-16	Suncorp
2014	Round 11	Broncos 16-14	Campbelltown
2013	Round 14	Broncos 32-12	Suncorp
2013	Round 7	Broncos 20-10	Campbelltown
2012	Round 6	Broncos 18-14	Allianz
2011	Round 7	Broncos 31-18	Allianz

BIGGEST WINS

WESTS TIGERS 2005 Finals W? 34-6 at Allianz BRONCOS 2000 Round 20 56-12 at ANZ (QEII)

CURRENT FORM

WESTS TIGERS WLWLLWWLL 8th, 8pts BRONCOS WWLLLLLLW 14th, 6pts

NEXT UP - ROUND 11

WESTS TIGERS - A Eels @ Bankwest, Thu 23 Jul 7:50pm BRONCOS - H Storm @ Suncorp, Fri 24 Jul 7:55pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Tigers look to roar against building Broncos

Returning to their spiritual home for the first time since the season resumption, the Wests Tigers will be hoping to overcome a poor record against the Brisbane Broncos.

Managing just six wins and a draw against their Queensland foes over the past two decades, the Wests Tigers will be eager to amend after failing to rise to the challenge during last Friday's 18-10 loss to South Sydney.

Holding a 50 per cent record at Leichardt Oval during coach Michael Maguire's tenure, the Tigers have underperformed at the venue in recent times managing seven wins from their past 15 visits.

Naming Benji Marshall and Billy Walters in the halves with Luke Brooks relegated to the bench and Josh Reynolds out suspended, Tommy Talau, Russell Packer, Sam McIntyre and Chris McQueen come into the squad.

Breaking a run of six-straight losses with a much-needed 26-8 victory over the Bulldogs last Saturday, the Brisbane Broncos will have their sights set on going back-to-back for the first time since the opening rounds.

Moving within two points of the top eight despite enduring a run of six losses prior to last Saturday, coach Anthony Seibold will be out to break a disappointing run in Sydney that has seen the Broncos lose five of their six visits by a combined score of 224-56.

Handing former Tigers forward Ben Te'o his first start since returning to the NRL in place of Alex Glenn, Queensland and Tongan representative Joe Ofahengaue comes onto the bench. Richie Kennar is in line to make his first appearance of the season with Tesi Niu, Herbie Farnworth and Xavier Coates all under injury clouds.

Friday evening will be the first time the Broncos have played at Leichardt Oval since 2003.

Who to watch: Returning to the starting side after coming off the bench last week, Benji Marshall will be raring to go at the Tigers spiritual home ground. Afforded the opportunity to start in the number seven jersey after Luke Brooks missed six tackles against South Sydney seven days earlier, the 35-year-old will have a point to prove with his defence after coming under scrutiny for his efforts without the ball earlier in the season. Producing a host of iconic moments at Leichardt Oval over the years for his beloved Tigers, look for the Kiwi legend to deliver something special on Friday night as time begins to wind down on his legendary career.

Retaining his place in the front row after a strong showing during last week's breakthrough win over Canterbury, Tongan enforcer **Tevita Pangai Jr** will be keen to make pain a constant for the inconsistent Tigers. Spending a month on the sidelines earlier this season after letting his aggression get the better of him, the 24-year-old has flown largely under the radar at Brisbane following the emergence of Payne Haas and David Fifita. Capable of being just as destructive at his best, look for Pangai Jr to leave the Tigers licking their wounds at the end of 80 minutes.

Favourite: The bookmakers have embraced the romanticism of Benji Marshall returning to Leichardt Oval by installing the Tigers as favourites.

My tip: In a match between two of the league's great underachievers, both teams will be treating Friday night as a must-win if they hope to feature beyond the regular season. **Broncos by 6**.

St George Illawarra DRAGONS



Canterbury-Bankstown BULLDOGS

P	т	G	Pts						P	Т	G	Pts
7	6	-	24	Matthew DUFTY	1	FULLBACK	1	Nick MEANEY	7	2	8	24
2	-	-	-	Jason SAAB	2	WING	2	Dallin WATENE-ZELEZNIAK	9	1	-	4
8	1	-	4	Euan AITKEN	3	CENTRE	3	Kerrod HOLLAND	5	-	-	-
9	6	26	76	Zac LOMAX	4	CENTRE	4	Marcelo MONTOYA	2	1	-	4
8	6	-	24	Mikaele RAVALAWA	5	WING	5	Christian CRICHTON	7	2	-	8
9	2	-	8	Corey NORMAN	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Kieran FORAN	6	2	-	8
6	-	-	-	Adam CLUNE	7	HALFBACK	7	Lachlan LEWIS	5	1	-	4
9	-	-	-	Blake LAWRIE	8	FRONT ROW	8	Aiden TOLMAN	7	-	-	-
9	1	-	4	Ben HUNT	9	HOOKER	9	Jeremy MARSHALL-KING	9	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	Paul VAUGHAN	10	FRONT ROW	10	Dylan NAPA	9	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	Tyson FRIZELL	11	SECOND ROW	11	Josh JACKSON	9	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Tariq SIMS	12	SECOND ROW	12	Raymond FAITALA-MARINER	9	1	-	4
7	1	-	4	Cameron MCINNES	13	LOCK	13	Luke THOMPSON	7*	3	-	12
8	-	-	-	Trent MERRIN	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Sione KATOA	1	-	-	-
9	1	-	4	Josh KERR	15		15	Sauaso SUE	7	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	Tyrell FUIMAONO	16		16	Renouf TO'OMAGA	9	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Jackson FORD	17		17	Ofahiki OGDEN	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Jacob HOST	18	RESERVES	19	Dean BRITT	8	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tristan SAILOR	19		20	Jake AVERILLO	6	1	4	12
2	-	-	-	Tim LAFAI	20		22	Chris SMITH	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Korbin SIMS	21		23	Brandon WAKEHAM	6	-	3	6
								* 6 games for St Helens (Super League)				
				PAUL MCGREGOR		COACH		STEVE GEORGALLIS				
				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	PENALTIES	1 2 3 4	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				
				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	SCRUMS	1 2 3 4	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				

RLP MILESTONES Ben HUNT (Dragons) - 5 more points for 300 career points

#NRLDragonsBulldogs

MATCH DETAILS

DATE Saturday 18 July 2020

KICKOFF 3:00pm AEST VENUE WIN Stadium

Wollongong, NSW

WATCH Fox League & Kayo Sports

LISTEN ABC Grandstand

Triple M SYD, BNE

NRL Nation

LIVE BLOG LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE Henry PERENARA

TOUCH JUDGES Kasey BADGER

Liam KENNEDY

NRL BUNKER TBC

Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 39 matches

14

25

At WIN Stadium: 6 matches, Dragons 1, Bulldogs 5

LAST TEN CLASHES SGI 3 - 7 CBY

2020	Noulla 4	Dulluogs 22-2	Dankwest
2019	Round 13	Dragons 36-12	ANZ
2019	Round 5	Dragons 40-4	Netstrata Jubilee
2018	Round 24	Bulldogs 38-0	Jubilee
2018	Round 14	Dragons 18-16	ANZ
2017	Round 26	Bulldogs 26-20	ANZ
2017	Round 14	Bulldogs 16-2	ANZ
2016	Round 21	Bulldogs 13-10	ANZ
2016	Round 14	Bulldogs 34-16	ANZ
2015	Finals W1	Bulldogs 11-10	ANZ

BIGGEST WINS

DRAGONS 2019 Round 5 40-4 at Netstrata Jubilee

BULLDOGS 2018 Round 24 38-0 at Jubilee

CURRENT FORM

DRAGONS LLLLWWLLW 11th, 6pts
BULLDOGS LLLWLLLL 16th, 2pts

NEXT UP - ROUND 11

DRAGONS - A Sharks @ Netstrata Jubilee, Sat 25 Jul 5:30pm BULLDOGS - A Knights @ McDonald Jones, Sun 26 Jul 2:00pm

Match Preview

with Hamish Parker

Pressure easing on Mary's men as Pay exits

The St. George Illawarra Dragons and Canterbury Bulldogs play in a Saturday afternoon blockbuster.. of sorts. Both sides have generally struggled thus far in 2020, with the Dragons season record sitting at 3 wins and 6 losses. The Bulldogs are dead last on the ladder and have an even poorer record with just 1 win from 9 starts this season. The Dragons though, have won 3 of their past 5 games and the only two they've lost in those were against last year's grand finalists. This sees the pressure ease on coach Paul McGregor. The Bulldogs form though has this week seen former coach Dean Pay part ways with the club, effective immediately.

The Dragons would be completely unchanged in their line up coming into this game if it weren't for a second suspension in as many games for winger Jordan Pereira. An off the ball shoulder charge will see Pereira have his second two week stint on the sideline this season. He is replaced on the wing by talented 199cm winger Jason Saab, who looks to stamp more of a claim on the number 2 jersey than he previously did.

After last week's loss to fellow strugglers Brisbane Broncos, the Bulldogs have named a number of changes for this game. Nick Meaney finally gets a crack at his preferred fullback position, which moves Dallin Watene-Zelezniak to the wing. Reimis Smith is also making way for Kerrod Holland to start at centre. Brandon Wakeham loses out to Lachlan Lewis for the number 7 jersey in this one. Jeremy Marshall-King is back at starting hooker, which pushes Sioni Katoa back to the bench.

Who to watch: Zac Lomax has been outstanding in recent weeks and is flourishing under a bit of stability as to where he is playing week-to-week. The young centre has been setting up and scoring tries and is proving to be a focal point of the Dragons' attack. Not to mention, his goal-kicking has been very good as well. Look for his footwork and ability to create to be a big part of the game as the Dragons look to pick apart the Bulldogs defence.

It will be great to see talented youngster **Nick Meaney** get a shot at his preferred position of fullback. Meaney possesses plenty of speed as well as a strong passing game and has looked dangerous when he has been able to get his hands on the ball this season. He should thrive in this role and it will be interesting to see if he can lock down that position for the rest of this season and possibly seasons to come.

Favourite: St George Illawarra are in form after a 34-4 defeat of Manly last round and are favourites to get the better of cellar dwellers Canterbury.

My tip: The Dragons haven't been terrific by any stretch despite racking up some recent wins. That being said, their improvement from their early season form is a large one. They will be looking to continue that improvement into this week as Ben Hunt and Cameron McInnes play their second full games in their new roles. Canterbury have already had a dramatic week with the departure of Dean Pay and it could potentially either inspire or deflate the team. Not to mention, Canterbury have had the better of the Dragons overall in more recent times which gives them some hope. The Dragons should be too good here though. **Dragons by 14**.





South Sydney RABBITOHS



Newcastle KNIGHTS

P T G P	ts					P	т	G	Pts
9 7 - 28	Alex JOHNSTON	1	FULLBACK	1	Kalyn PONGA	8	3	25	62
	Jaxson PAULO	2	WING	2	Enari TUALA	8	3	-	12
9 6 - 24	4 Dane GAGAI	3	CENTRE	3	Tautau MOGA	1	-	-	-
5 1 - 4	James ROBERTS	4	CENTRE	4	Bradman BEST	6	5	-	20
	Corey ALLAN	5	WING	5	Hymel HUNT	9	2	-	8
7 3 - 1:	2 Cody WALKER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Kurt MANN	9	4	-	16
9 2 32 7	2 Adam REYNOLDS	7	HALFBACK	7	Mitchell PEARCE	9	2	_+	9
9	Tevita TATOLA	8	FRONT ROW	8	David KLEMMER	9	-	-	-
9 1 - 4	Damien COOK	9	HOOKER	9	Andrew MCCULLOUGH	8*	2	-	8
9 1 - 4	Thomas BURGESS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Jacob SAIFITI	9	1	-	4
9 1 - 4	Jaydn SU'A	11	SECOND ROW	11	Lachlan FITZGIBBON	6	-	-	-
9 1 - 4	Ethan LOWE	12	SECOND ROW	12	Aidan GUERRA	9	-	-	-
9 1 - 4	Cameron MURRAY	13	LOCK	13	Herman ESE'ESE	9	-	-	-
5	^Mark NICHOLLS	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Connor WATSON	3	1	-	4
5	Hame SELE	15		15	Mitch BARNETT	2	1	-	4
9 1 - 4	Bayley SIRONEN	16		16	Pasami SAULO	2	-	-	-
4	Patrick MAGO	17		17	Sione MATA'UTIA	6	-	-	-
	Jack JOHNS	18	RESERVES	18	Tex HOY	7	1	2	8
	Kurt DILLON	19		19	Josh KING	-	-	-	-
	Steven MARSTERS	20		20	Phoenix CROSSLAND	-	-	-	-
	Cory DENNISS	21		21	Gehamat SHIBASAKI	4	1	-	4
					* 2 games for Brisbane Broncos				
	WAYNE BENNETT		COACH		ADAM O'BRIEN				
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	PENALTIES	1 2 3 4	\$ 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	6			
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	SCRUMS	1 2 3 4	1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	5			

RLP MILESTONES Dane GAGAI (Rabbitohs) - 6 more points for 100 club points; Campbell GRAHAM (Rabbitohs) - 4 more points for 100 club and career points; Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs) 13 more points for 1500 club and career points; James ROBERTS (Rabbitohs) - 2 more points for 300 career points; Kalyn PONGA (Knights) - 8 more points for 300 career points; Adam GUERRA (Knights) - 200th NRL game

#NRLSouthsKnights

MATCH DETAILS

DATE Saturday 18 July 2020

KICKOFF 5:30pm AEST
VENUE Bankwest Stadium

Parramatta, NSW

WATCH Fox League & Kayo Sports

LISTEN ABC Grandstand

2GB SYD / 4BC BNE

LIVE BLOG LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE Grant ATKINS
TOUCH JUDGES Chris BUTLER

Todd SMITH

NRL BUNKER Steve CLARK

Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 42 matches

16 26

At Bankwest Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN CLASHES SOU 9 - 1 NEW

2019	Round 13	Knights 20-12	ANZ
2018	Round 9	Rabbitohs 36-18	McDonald Jones
2017	Round 3	Rabbitohs 24-18	McDonald Jones
2016	Round 25	Rabbitohs 34-12	Hunter
2016	Round 2	Rabbitohs 48-6	ANZ
2015	Round 20	Rabbitohs 52-6	ANZ
2014	Round 21	Rabbitohs 50-10	Barlow Park
2013	Round 12	Rabbitohs 25-18	ANZ
2012	Round 26	Rabbitohs 18-6	Hunter
2012	Round 18	Rabbitohs 34-4	ANZ

BIGGEST WINS

RABBITOHS 2015 Round 20 52-6 at ANZ KNIGHTS 1999 Round 23 60-0 at Marathon

CURRENT FORM

RABBITOHS WLLLWWLWW 6th, 10pts KNIGHTS WWDWLWLW 5th, 11pts

NEXT UP - ROUND 11

RABBITOHS - A Raiders @ GIO, Sat 25 Jul 7:35pm

KNIGHTS - H Bulldogs @ McDonald Jones, Sun 26 Jul 2:00pm

Match Preview

with Jeff Dickinson-Fox

Two evenly matched New South Wales sides to fight for top eight security.

Both teams come into the halfway mark on the regular season at fifth (Newcastle Knights) and sixth (South Sydney Rabbitohs) on the ladder, looking to gain a further advantage on their promising seasons. Only one point separates Newcastle and South Sydney on the ladder and for team points scored. Since 1998 they've split their 28 matchups at 14 apiece. It's their form where differences are found.

The Rabbitohs have recovered from a 1-3 season start to win four of their last five games. In those four wins South Sydney has kept their opponent to 12 points or less.

With the defence humming, the attack has also improved. In last week's four tries to two win over the Wests Tigers, Dane Gagai scored three of them and Adam Reynolds looked more potent in attack. With Cody Walker, Damien Cook and Latrell Mitchell all key attacking players, Reynolds is often the team's fourth option by default. Reynolds reminded everyone last week he's more than capable of stepping up.

A repeat performance would do wonders for the Rabbitohs as Mitchell is suspended and Campbell Graham is out after being injured by Josh Reynolds' boot. Alex Johnston takes over the fullback duties and Gagai shifts from the wing into the centres. Wayne Bennett has selected 20-year-old winger Jaxson Paulo to make his NRL debut with Corey Allan coming in on the opposite wing.

The Knights for the most part this season have shown signs of being a top-four calibre team, as the difference between their best and worst performances has been small. In the last fortnight they've had arguably their two worst performances in attack against the Parramatta Eels and Manly Sea Eagles. Now Newcastle has dropped out of the top four for the first time this season, and with a Rabbitohs win on Saturday Newcastle will be overtaken by South Sydney on the ladder.

When sides have struggled to attack in 2020, it's been commonplace to see those teams get blown out on the scoreboard. The good news for Knights fans is the team has stayed in all their games right to the end (if you count the Cowboys game where they conceded 26 first half points as an aberration).

Newcastle has a six-day turnaround from last week's loss to address the issues in attack. An injection of returning players could bring the spark they need.

Connor Watson, Mitch Barnett and Sione Mata'utia are set to play from the bench at the expense of Tex Hoy and Brodie Jones. Jacob Saifiti moves up to start in place of his injured brother Daniel Saifiti.

Who to watch: For James Roberts it looked like he had his best game of the season against the Tigers. With two consecutive long stints at centre, the reshuffled and inexperienced Knights backline could struggle to contain the former New South Wales representative. Last week he produced one try, six tackle breaks and 135 run metres. Braidon Burns is out for the season it's all set for Roberts to be South Sydney's strike centre.

Mitchell Pearce, just voted by NRL players as the best halfback in the NRL at present, will be key to getting the Knights attack flowing. Newcastle's at their best when Pearce and Ponga are combining off the back of their damaging front rowers. Missing Daniel Saifiti will be felt and if the team is forced into less ideal opportunities to attack, it'll take the special skills of Pearce and Ponga to create points. As the captain and their most experienced player, he's got to lead the way.

Favourite: The Rabbitohs at home and with the better form have been given the slight edge.

My tip: If Newcastle can address their clunky performances in attack, it should take them over the top of the Rabbitohs. From what we've seen when both teams have been at their best this season, I think the Knights have played at a higher level. Johnston is expected to play confidently in Mitchell's place at fullback, but it's rare for a gun like Ponga to have three off games in a row. Knights by 8.

Manly-Warringah SEA EAGLES



Parramatta **EELS**

P T G Pts						P	т	G	Pts
3	Brendan ELLIOT	1	FULLBACK	1	Clinton GUTHERSON	9	2	11 ⁺	31
7 4 - 16	Jorge TAUFUA	2	WING	2	Maika SIVO	8	9	-	36
9 2 - 8	Brad PARKER	3	CENTRE	3	Michael JENNINGS	9	5	-	20
7 1 - 4	Moses SULI	4	CENTRE	4	Waqa BLAKE	9	3	-	12
9 1 20 44	Reuben GARRICK	5	WING	5	Blake FERGUSON	9	-	-	-
3 1 - 4	Cade CUST	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Dylan BROWN	9	3	-	12
9 2 -+ 9	Daly CHERRY-EVANS	7	HALFBACK	7	Jai FIELD	2	1	-	4
7	Taniela PASEKA	8	FRONT ROW	8	Reagan CAMPBELL-GILLARD	9	-	-	-
9	Danny LEVI	9	HOOKER	9	Reed MAHONEY	9	2	-	8
8	Martin TAUPAU	10	FRONT ROW	10	Junior PAULO	9	-	-	-
9 1 - 4	Joel THOMPSON	11	SECOND ROW	11	Shaun LANE	9	1	-	4
8 1 - 4	Curtis SIRONEN	12	SECOND ROW	12	Ryan MATTERSON	9	3	-	12
9	Jake TRBOJEVIC	13	LOCK	13	Nathan BROWN	5	-	-	-
9	Lachlan CROKER	14	INTERCHANGE	14	David GOWER	2	-	-	-
5	Jack GOSIEWSKI	15		15	Stefano UTOIKAMANU	1	-	-	-
9	Sean KEPPIE	16		16	Marata NIUKORE	9	1	-	4
3	Corey WADDELL	17		17	Brad TAKAIRANGI	7	-	-	-
2	Haumole OLAKAU'ATU	18	RESERVES	18	Daniel ALVARO	1	-	-	-
4 3 - 12	Tevita FUNA	19		19	George JENNINGS	-	-	-	-
	Abbas MISKI	20		20	Will SMITH	-	-	-	-
	Toafofoa SIPLEY	21		21	Andrew DAVEY	-	-	-	-
	DES HASLER		COACH		BRAD ARTHUR				
1	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	PENALTIES	1 2 3 4	1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				
1	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	SCRUMS	1 2 3 4	1 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				

RLP MILESTONES Daly CHERRY-EVANS (Sea Eagles) - 1 more point for 500 club and career points; Curtis SIRONEN (Sea Eagles) - 50th Sea Eagles match, 4 more points for 100 career points; Martin TAUPAU (Sea Eagles) - 100th Sea Eagles match; Blake FERGUSON (Eels) - 8 more points for 500 career points; Clint GUTHERSON (Eels) - 13 more points for 300 career points

#NRLManlyEels

MATCH DETAILS

DATE Saturday 18 July 2020

KICKOFF 7:35pm AEST VENUE Lottoland

Brookvale, NSW

WATCH Fox League & Kayo Sports

LISTEN ABC Grandstand

2GB SYD, 4BC BNE

LIVE BLOG LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE Ashley KLEIN

TOUCH JUDGES Peter GOUGH

Matt NOYEN

NRL BUNKER Steve CHIDDY

Beau SCOTT

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 142 matches

84

4

54

At Lottoland: 65 matches, Sea Eagles 44, Eels 20, Drawn 1

LAST TEN CLASHES MAN 2-8 PAR

2020	Round 4	Eels 19-16	Bankwest
2019	Round 25	Eels 32-16	Bankwest
2019	Round 18	Sea Eagles 36-24	Lottoland
2018	Round 7	Eels 44-10	ANZ
2018	Round 2	Sea Eagles 54-0	Lottoland
2017	Round 1	Eels 20-12	Lottoland
2016	Round 22	Eels 10-9	Pirtek
2016	Round 7	Eels 22-10	Brookvale
2015	Round 24	Eels 20-16	Brookvale
2015	Round 1	Eels 42-12	Pirtek

BIGGEST WINS

EELS 2004 Round 14 52-12 at Parramatta SEA EAGLES 2018 Round 2 54-0 at Lottoland

CURRENT FORM

SEA EAGLES LWWLWWLLL 10th, 8pts EELS WWWWWLWWW 1st, 16pts

NEXT UP - ROUND 11

SEA EAGLES - A Cowboys @ QCBS, Fri 24 Jul 6:00pm EELS - H Tigers @ Bankwest, Thu 23 Jul 7:50pm

Match Preview

with Lachy MacCorquodale

The Eels look to remain top of the ladder as they take on the out of form Sea Eagles.

Returning to Lottoland for just the second time since the resumption of the competition, the Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles will be looking for vengeance after a controversial forward pass decision prevented them from knocking off the Parramatta Eels in Round 4.

The home side have now lost three on the trot following a disappointing 30 point defeat to the struggling St. George Illawarra Dragons and now find themselves sitting outside the top eight in 10th position.

It's no coincidence that these three loses coincide with injuries to their star fullback Tom Trbojevic and starting five-eighth Dylan Walker as the Sea Eagles have since struggled to attack with any real flow and cohesion.

With both players out till at least Round 14, the Sea Eagles will need to somehow rediscover their attacking prowess if they are any chance of knocking off the competition leaders and if they fail to do so, Manly could see themselves slipping down the ladder.

An already injury ravaged side, the Sea Eagles will be without Morgan Boyle this week which will see youngster Taniela Paseka get his second start in the front row for the season with Corey Waddell joining the bench.

Meanwhile, the Parramatta Eels will aim to continue their golden season with only one loss to date, against the Sydney Roosters.

The Eels are coming off a gritty win against the Newcastle Knights as they continue to hold poll position despite being without star halfback Mitchell Moses for the previous two weeks.

They'll be without Moses again this weekend which hasn't seemed to worry his 20-year-old halves partner in Dylan Brown, who has played some of his best football over the past two weeks and is starting to develop into one of the better five-eighths currently in the NRL.

The form of fullback Clint Gutherson is also something to make note of, who is playing the best football of his career which included a stellar performance in his 100th NRL game against the North Queensland Cowboys.

The Eels have named an unchanged line up from their clash with Newcastle last week.

Who to watch: As is always the case with Manly, Daly Cherry-Evans will be one to watch as the captain of the Sea Eagles will be looking to bounce back after an uncharacteristic three errors in their loss to the Dragons last week. The star halfback has willed his side to many wins over the course of his career and if they're any chance of beating the Eels on Saturday night then he'll need to be playing his best footy. Cherry-Evans has averaged a career high in run metres this season (76 metres per game) which will play a big factor in his game this weekend as he'll be forced to take on the line due to a lack of attacking options thanks to injuries and suspensions.

Only just nine games into his career with the Parramatta Eels, Ryan Matterson has already established himself as one of the best back rowers in the competition. After a breakout season with the Tigers last year, Matterson has taken no time adjusting to his new side having scored three tries so far this season. The 80 minute back rower has averaged 136 metres and 39 tackles per game to start this season and will be a handful for Manly's defence on the weekend. If the Sea Eagles fail to control Matterson's impact on the game it could get nasty for the home side.

Favourite: The Eels are the favourites to win this clash against the injury ravaged Sea Eagles and for good reason. The competition leaders have only dropped points once this season which came against the defending premiers, the Sydney Roosters.

My tip: If both sides were at full-strength, this would be a much closer affair. But with the Sea Eagles recent form as well as missing some key players I think it'll be quite hard for them to prevent Parramatta from winning this one. The Eels are on top of the competition ladder for a reason. Eels by 14.

WARRIORS



Cronulla-Sutherland **SHARKS**

P	, .	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
8		1	-	4	Roger TUIVASA-SHECK	1	FULLBACK	1	Josh DUGAN	7	3	-	12
5		1	-	4	David FUSITU'A	2	WING	2	Sione KATOA	9	8	-	32
8		2	-	8	Patrick HERBERT	3	CENTRE	3	Bryson GOODWIN	4	3	-	12
7		3	-	12	Peta HIKU	4	CENTRE	4	Jesse RAMIEN	9	4	-	16
6		3	-	12	Ken MAUMALO	5	WING	5	Ronaldo MULITALO	4	2	-	8
8		2	9+	27	Kodi NIKORIMA	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Shaun JOHNSON	9	-	31	62
9		-	-	-	Blake GREEN	7	HALFBACK	7	Chad TOWNSEND	8	1	-	4
9		1	-	4	Jamayne TAUNOA-BROWN	8	FRONT ROW	8	Braden HAMLIN-UELE	9	2	-	8
8		1	-	4	Wayde EGAN	9	HOOKER	9	Blayke BRAILEY	9	3	-	12
9		-	-	-	Adam BLAIR	10	FRONT ROW	10	Aaron WOODS	9	-	-	-
6		2	-	8	Eliesa KATOA	11	SECOND ROW	11	Briton NIKORA	8	3	-	12
9		-	-	-	Tohu HARRIS	12	SECOND ROW	12	Wade GRAHAM	9	2	-	8
7		1	-	4	Karl LAWTON	13	LOCK	13	Toby RUDOLF	9	-	-	-
5		2	-	8	Agnatius PAASI	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Connor TRACEY	4	-	-	-
3	*	-	-	-	Jack HETHERINGTON	15		15	Scott SORENSEN	5	-	-	-
7		1	-	4	Isaiah PAPALI'I	16		16	Siosifa TALAKAI	5	-	-	-
1		-	-	-	Jazz TEVAGA	17		17	Royce HUNT	4	1	-	4
5		-	7	14	Chanel HARRIS-TAVITA	18	RESERVES	18	Jack WILLIAMS	9	-	-	-
7		-	-	-	Jack MURCHIE	20		19	Billy MAGOULAIS	-	-	-	-
4		-	-	-	Lachlan BURR	21		20	Will KENNEDY	5	1	-	4
3		1	-	4	Adam POMPEY	22		21	Nene MACDONALD	1	1	-	4
					* 1 game for Penrith Panthers								
					TODD PAYTEN		COACH		JOHN MORRIS				
					1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	PENALTIES	1 2 3 4	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				
					1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	SCRUMS		5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				

RLP MILESTONES Wade GRAHAM (Sharks) - 1 more win for 100 wins as a Shark

#NRLWarriorsSharks

MATCH DETAILS

DATE Sunday 19 July 2020

KICKOFF 2:00pm AEST

VENUE Central Coast Stadium

Gosford, NSW

WATCH Fox League & Kayo Sports

LISTEN ABC Grandstand

2GB SYD / 4BC BNE

LIVE BLOG LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE Matt CECCHIN
TOUCH JUDGES Belinda SHARPE

Belinda SHARPE Drew OULTRAM

NRL BUNKER Steve CHIDDY

Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 40 matches

17

23

At Central Coast Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN CLASHES WAR 3 - 7 CRO

Round 23	Sharks 42-16	PointsBet
Round 18	Warriors 19-18	Westpac
Round 16	Sharks 18-15	Mt Smart
Round 21	Sharks 26-12	Mt Smart
Round 16	Sharks 19-18	SC Group
Round 21	Sharks 18-14	Mt Smart
Round 9	Warriors 20-16	Remondis
Round 22	Warriors 16-12	Mt Smart
Round 5	Sharks 37-6	Remondis
Round 21	Sharks 18-14	Mt Smart
	Round 18 Round 16 Round 21 Round 16 Round 21 Round 9 Round 22 Round 5	Round 18 Warriors 19-18 Round 16 Sharks 18-15 Round 21 Sharks 26-12 Round 16 Sharks 19-18 Round 21 Sharks 18-14 Round 9 Warriors 20-16 Round 22 Warriors 16-12 Round 5 Sharks 37-6

BIGGEST WINS

WARRIORS 2001 Round 23 30-0 at Ericsson SHARKS 2012 Round 22 45-4 at Mt Smart

CURRENT FORM

WARRIORS LLWLWLLWL 13th, 6pts SHARKS LLLWLWWWL 9th, 8pts

NEXT UP - ROUND 11

WARRIORS - H Roosters @ Central Coast, Sat 25 Jul 3:00pm SHARKS - H Dragons @ Netstrata Jubilee, Sat 25 Jul 5:30pm

Match Preview

with Andrew Jackson

Sharks wary of unpredictable Warriors as they look to bounce back from horror loss

The Warriors would have been level with the Sharks on points if they had toppled the Titans last week. They gave themselves every chance to win that game and looked the more likely but were unable to capitalise on the opportunities handed to them. A 5-0 penalty count didn't help either nor did a controversial decision to disallow what would have been Jack Hetherington's first try in the NRL.

They are boosted by the return of five-eighth Kodi Nikorima and boom edge forward Eliesa Katoa this week though.

Former Warrior Shaun Johnson is getting back to his best for the Sharks, leading the competition for try-assists but Penrith proved last week that starving the Sharks of possession is the best way to minimise SJ's influence on the game.

Cronulla's three-game winning streak came to a halting screech last week with a 56-24 thrashing at the hands of Penrith. The loss saw them tumble out of the eight and took away any momentum they had been building the month prior. In all truth, Cronulla's three consecutive wins came against the undermanned Sea Eagles, Bulldogs and Titans – so nothing to write home about.

The Sharks gave themselves little chance of victory last week against Penrith, constantly turning the ball under. Their defence was also frail, conceding a whopping 10 tries in the defeat.

While the Sharks have been on fire with the ball in hand in the past three weeks, they clearly failed their litmus test defending their line against quality opposition.

The Warriors are an easier opponent but Cronulla can't underestimate Todd Payten's men, who have already caused a few boilovers this year. Cronulla will be without Andrew Fifita (hamstring).

Who to watch: The battle between the two number nines will be an interesting one. Wayde Egan has shown glimmers of his potential at the Warriors while Blayke Brailey has been quickly improving in his first full season starting in the NRL without brother Jayden. Both have strong running games but are still in the beginning stages of their career and learning when is best to back themselves.

If both teams are loose in their ruck defence look for either Egan or Brailey to dictate the momentum of the go-forward and even eye a sneaky try out of dummy-half close to the line.

Favourite: Cronulla are strong favourites despite their last-start defeat.

My tip: The Warriors are a danger side to face any week of the competition but you get the sense John Morris will have his side fired up. Sharks by 14.

Penrith PANTHERS



North Queensland COWBOYS

P		Т	G	Pts						P	т	G	Pts
4	(3	-	12	Dylan EDWARDS	1	FULLBACK	1	Hamiso TABUAI-FIDOW	4	1	-	4
8	2	2	-	8	Josh MANSOUR	2	WING	2	Kyle FELDT	9	9	14	64
7		-	-	-	Dean WHARE	3	CENTRE	3	Connelly LEMUELU	2	-	-	-
9	8	8	7	46	Stephen CRICHTON	4	CENTRE	4	Esan MARSTERS	9	1	-	4
5	4	4	-	16	Brent NADEN	5	WING	5	Justin O'NEILL	8	4	-	16
9		1	-	4	Jarome LUAI	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Mitchell DUNN	6	-	-	-
7	2	2	27†	+64	Nathan CLEARY	7	HALFBACK	7	Jake CLIFFORD	7	1	1	6
9		-	-	-	James TAMOU	8	FRONT ROW	8	Josh MCGUIRE	8	-	-	-
9		1	-	4	Apisai KOROISAU	9	HOOKER	9	Reece ROBSON	9	4	-	16
9		-	-	-	James FISHER-HARRIS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Francis MOLO	9	1	-	4
9	4	4	-	16	Viliame KIKAU	11	SECOND ROW	11	Shane WRIGHT	5	-	-	-
7	•	1	-	4	Liam MARTIN	12	SECOND ROW	12	Coen HESS	8	3	-	12
9		-	-	-	Isaah YEO	13	LOCK	13	Jason TAUMALOLO	8	1	-	4
2		-	-	-	Tyrone MAY	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Daejarn ASI	-	-	-	-
1		-	-	-	Spencer LENIU	15		15	Tom GILBERT	3	-	-	-
9		-	-	-	Moses LEOTA	16		16	Gavin COOPER	8	1	-	4
7	2	2	-	8	Billy BURNS	17		17	Ben HAMPTON	8	4	-	16
2		-	-	-	Mitch KENNY	18	RESERVES	18	Murray TAULAGI	-	-	-	-
5	2	2	-	8	Matt BURTON	19		19	Reuben COTTER	2	-	-	-
-		-	-	-	Lindsay SMITH	20		20	Jordan MCLEAN	6	-	-	-
-		-	-	-	Malakai WATENE-ZELEZNIAK	21		21	John ASIATA	4	-	-	-
					IVAN CLEARY		COACH		PAUL GREEN				
					1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	PENALTIES	1 2 3 4	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				
					1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	15 16	SCRUMS	1 2 3 4	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16				

RLP MILESTONES Dylan EDWARDS (Panthers) - 50th Panthers & NRL Match; Kyle FELDT (Cowboys) - 12 more points for 400 career points

#NRLPanthersCowboys

MATCH DETAILS

DATE Sunday 19 July 2020

KICKOFF 4:05pm AEST VENUE Panthers Stadium

Penrith, NSW

WATCH Nine Network/9Now

Fox League & Kayo Sports

LISTEN ABC Grandstand

Triple M SYD / BNE

NRL Nation

LIVE BLOG LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE Ben CUMMINS

TOUCH JUDGES Phil HENDERSON

Chris SUTTON

NRL BUNKER Steve CLARK

Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 39 matches

20

19

At Panthers Stadium: 18 matches, Panthers 9, Cowboys 9

LAST TEN CLASHES PEN 3 - 7 NOL

2019	Round 23	Cowboys 24-10	1300SMILES
2019	Roullu 23	•	
2018	Round 9	Cowboys 26-20	Carrington
2018	Round 4	Panthers 33-14	1300SMILES
2017	Round 23	Panthers 24-16	Pepper
2017	Round 16	Cowboys 14-12	1300SMILES
2016	Round 6	Cowboys 23-18	Pepper
2015	Round 5	Cowboys 30-10	Pepper
2014	Round 23	Panthers 23-22	Sportingbet
2013	Round 22	Cowboys 36-4	Centrebet
2013	Round 5	Cowboys 30-0	1300SMILES

BIGGEST WINS

PANTHERS 2004 Round 24 56-6 at Penrith COWBOYS 2013 Round 22 36-4 at Centrebet

CURRENT FORM

PANTHERS WWDWLWWW 2nd, 15pts COWBOYS LWWLLLWLL 12th, 6pts

NEXT UP - ROUND 11

PANTHERS - A Titans @ Cbus Super, Sun 26 Jul 4:05pm COWBOYS - H Sea Eagles @ QCBS, Fri 24 Jul 6:00pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Panthers return home against struggling Cowboys

The Penrith Panthers will be looking to move atop the premiership ladder when they host the struggling North Queensland Cowboys on Sunday afternoon.

Returning to Panthers Stadium for the first time since the opening round, the Penrith Panthers will be eager to continue their best start to a season since winning their maiden premiership in 1991.

Posting ten tries in a 56-24 rout of Cronulla last Saturday, coach Ivan Cleary will be stressing the importance of maintaining their defensive intensity after allowing the Sharks back into the contest shortly before halftime.

Recalling veteran centre Dean Whare in place of teenage sensation Charlie Staines (biosecurity breach), the resulting backline reshuffle sees Brent Naden revert to the wings.

Enjoying a strong return from injury with tries in each of his past three matches, fullback Dylan Edwards will celebrate a personal milestone by bringing up 50 NRL appearances for the club.

Blown off the park during the second half of last Thursday's 42-16 loss to the Roosters, the North Queensland Cowboys will be looking to maintain intensity throughout the entire 80 minutes.

Afforded a Sunday afternoon fixture for the first time in a year, coach Paul Green will be hoping his side can continue a surprisingly good record in the sun following four wins from their past six daytime matches.

Holding a 63 per cent success rate against the Panthers during Green's tenure with five wins from eight clashes, the Cowboys will be without Valentine Holmes (ankle), Scott Drinkwater (knee) and Peter Hola (wrist) with Justin O'Neill, Mitchell Dunn and debutant Daejarn Asi coming into the side.

Splitting his time in the backline, halves, hooker and off the bench since heading to North Queensland from Melbourne three years ago, utility Ben Hampton will bring up 100 appearances in the NRL on Sunday afternoon.

Who to watch: Enduring a turbulent 18 months marred by off-field controversy, Panthers utility Tyrone May has shown plenty of promise since returning to the NRL. Averaging just over a quarter of game time in two appearances this season, the 24-year-old Samoan representative produced a wonderful cut-out pass during last week's big win over the Sharks in a sign his days as an interchange player may be short lived. Set to make his first appearance at Panthers Stadium in close to two years, look for May to make his homecoming a memorable one.

With a host of established stars unavailable through injury, halfback Jake Clifford will need to step up if the Cowboys hope to pull off their first win at Penrith since 2016. Showing plenty of potential since coming into grade during the final weeks of Johnathan Thurston's career, the 22-year-old playmaker has yet to dominate the side's attack since the season resumption with four try-assists and eight forced restarts. Possessing the talent to nail a match-winning play as evidenced by his drop goal against the Roosters last season, Clifford will need to rise to the challenge if the Cowboys hope to pull off an upset.

Favourite: Coming off a half century last week, the Panthers are expected to have too many points for the battling Cowboys.

My tip: With the Penrith faithful set to be out in full force on Sunday afternoon, look for the home side to come away with a convincing win. Panthers by 20.

NORTH SYDNEY BEARS V DUBBO CYMS

NORTH SYDNEY OVAL #2 · SATURDAY 18 JULY 2020 · 2:00PM **BEARS:** 1. Josh Bermingham 2. Sione Hopoate 3. James Tuitahi 4. Dylan O'Connor 5. Corey Fenning 6. Coby Thomas 7. Tom Steadman 8. Ben Thomas 9. Brad Dietz 10. Elia Faatui 11. Edenn Rogers-Smith 12. Harrison Edwards 13. Thomas Freebairn 14. Josh Daley 15. Jacob Preston 16. Connagh Takairangi 17. Tagiolupe Tivalu 19. Brae Verheyen

CYMS: 3. Eric Fernando 6. Claude Gordon 9. Wade Kavanagh (full lineup TBC)

THIRROUL BUTCHERS v WESTS DEVILS

GIBSON PARK · SATURDAY 18 JULY 2020 · 3:10PM

BUTCHERS: 1. Leigh Higgins 3. Hayden Crossland 5. Scott Galeano 6. Daniel Payne 7. Jack Payne 8. Julian Flego 9. Ryan Fletcher 12. Jack Noble 14. Connor Muhleisen 15. Riley Lord (full lineup TBC) DEVILS: 1. Mitchell Porter 2. Mitchell Barbuto 3. Colby Pellow 4. Lachlan Hurst 5. Michael Applebee 6. Talatau Amone 7. Justin Rodrigues 8. Zachary Blay 9. Jackson Walsh 10. Dylan Lauri 11. William Temaari-namana 13. Nathan Leatigaga 15. Kyle Lodge 17. Mitchell Phillips (full lineup TBC)

WESTERN RAMS v HILLS BULLS

SPOONER OVAL, FORBES · SUNDAY 19 JULY 2020 · 1:00PM

RAMS: 1. Jesse Wighton 2. Mackenzie Atkins 3. Jackson Brien 4.

Mitch Andrews 5. Brock Naden 6. Mitch Burke 7. Harry Siejka 8.

Thomas Romer 9. Jack Beasley 10. Liam Henry 11. Ethan Mckellar
12. Bailey Hartwig 13. Jake Betts 14. Nicholas Tilburg 15. Jordan
Pope 16. Cody Godden 17. Jed Betts 18. Aaron Mawhinney 19.

Taumutu Afemui-Nohotima 20. Nathan Ward 21. Ben Lovett

BULLS: 1. Shannon Gardiner 2. Christopher McCoy 3. Shane Kiel 4.

Matthew Whyte 5. Zac Chong-Nee 6. Lazarus Brown 7. Josh Lewis
8. Tim Robinson 9. Heath L'Estrange 10. Taniela Lasalo 11. David
Baumann 12. Daniel Harrison 13. Sean Walpole 14. Joel Bradford
15. Bruce Ward (full lineup TBC)

WENTWORTHVILLE MAGPIES v MAITLAND PICKERS

RINGROSE PARK · SUNDAY 19 JULY 2020 · 3:00PM

MAGPIES: 1. Omar Slaimankhel 2. Nicholas Walker 17. Cameron Hall 5. Ethan Parry 8. Adam Spicer 10. Dayne Vette Welsh 13. Blake Cook 14. Ryan Pritchard 21. Carl Winterstein 22. Charles Shepherd 19. Josh Bermingham 18. Niko Apelu (full lineup TBC)

PICKERS: 1. Daniel Langbridge 2. Elijah Rasiga 4. Gary Anderson 9. Alex Langbridge 13. Samuel Anderson 15. Callan Burgess 16. James Taylor 21. Peter Wilson 14. Reeve Howard (full lineup TBC)

BYE: GLEBE-BURWOOD WOLVES

CRONULLA-CARINGBAH v HELENSBURGH TIGERS

CRONULLA HIGH SCHOOL · SATURDAY 18 JULY 2020 · 4:00PM **SHARKS:** 4. Dj Purcell 10. Hayden Fepuleai 14. Dane Malone 17. Jeremy Saville (full lineup TBC)

TIGERS: 4. Ashleigh Nisbet 5. William Russell 9. James Russell 10. Mitchell Baillie 13. Liam O'toole 14. Azan Turoa 20. Chris Coleman 18. Tasmin Gilmour 16. Jad Mahmoud (full lineup TBC)

WENTWORTHVILLE UNITED VEAST CAMPBELLTOWN

RINGROSE PARK · SUNDAY 19 JULY 2020 · 12:30PM

WENTY: TBC

EAGLES 2. Ben Baker 3. Samuel Kimi-Ioane 4. Theo Leato 5. Jayke Lealuga-Puhotau 6. Brett Lahey 26. Bailey Hughes 8. Aaron Teraki 9. Dean Robson 10. Thomas Morrison 11. Mason Talolua 12. Grant Lahey 20. Jarryd Eggleton 19. Felix Smith 17. Adam Soultan 18. Raka Poaru (full lineup TBC)

RYDE-EASTWOOD HAWKS v HILLS BULLS

TG MILNER FIELD · SUNDAY 19 JULY 2020 · 2:30PM **HAWKS:** 2. Joshua Rizk 5. Kirk Patton 8. Langi Suli-Ruka 12.

Tyler Seymour 13. Angus McElroy 17. Blake Layton 18. Callum Ellis 20. Suliasi Suli 24. Zac Vella (full lineup TBC)

BULLS: TBC

BELROSE EAGLES v MOOREBANK RAMS

LIONEL WATTS RESERVE · SUNDAY 19 JULY 2020 · 3:00PM **EAGLES:** 4. Beau Abrahams 5. Andrew Halstead 6. William Kelly 7. Zachary Nicholls 8. Ilija Radan 9. Judd Hanlon 12. Joshua Martin 13. Jamie Buhrer 17. Lachlan Armstrong 18. Issac Treml (full lineup TBC)

RAMS: 1. Declan Casey 2. Zachary Rumble 3. Iverson Fuatimau 4. Jake Horton 5. Mosese Vuki 6. Johnny Lee Gabrael 9. Ryan Gray 12. Elvis John Oloaga 13. Kurtis Lamaro 15. Vikilifi Hopoi 16. Jordan Mcgrath 17. Chance Te Atua (full lineup TBC)

BYE: SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

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NORTH SYDNEY BEARS V WESTS TIGERS

NORTH SYDNEY OVAL #2· SATURDAY 18 JULY 2020 · 12:00PM

BEARS: 1. Shanice Parker 2. Pier Pritchard 3. Shontelle Stowers 4. Shenai Lendill 5. Tyla Gambell 6. Kirra Dibb 7. Sabrina Green 8. Moniqca Moale 9. Nita Maynard 10. Lacey Shields 11. Losena Qiolevu 12. Josephine Maejiirs 13. Nicole Backhouse 14. Sera Kaukiono 15. Chloe Leaupepe 16. Aliti Namoce 17. Caitlin Keefe 18. Alanah Boota 20. Eunice Grimes

WESTS TIGERS: 1. Botille Vette-Welsh 3. Rachel Simpson 5. Teagan Toa 7. Emily Curtain 8. Awhina Akuhata 16. Sophie Curtain 12. Teleah Waitoa 18. Jackie-Anne Tahu 19. Stephanie Wilson 9. Tyler Pelligra 17. Taylor Osborne 21. Tia Cook 24. Christine Kani 14. Christine Kani (full lineup TBC)

CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN BULLDOGS v CENTRAL COAST ROOSTERS

TERRY LAMB COMPLEX, BELMORE · SATURDAY 18 JULY 2020 · 4:30PM

BULLDOGS: 1. Haneen Zreika 2. Leanne Toomalatai 3. Rikeya Horne 4. Mareva Swann 5. Margot Vella 6. Emily Rains 7. Quincy Dodd 8. Samantha Economos 9. Mahinaarangi Rewi 10. Stephanie Ball 11. Rarmia Karam 12. Sarah Togatuki 13. Aaliayah Fasavalu-Faamausili 14. Renee Targett 15. Grace Clarke 17. Grace Li 23. Maddison Weatherall 19. Josie Lanez

ROOSTERS 1. Isabelle Kelly 2. Yasmin Meakes 3. Jayme Fressard 4. Bobbi Law 5. Brydie Parker 6. Claire Reed 7. Melanie Howard 8. Tayla Predebon 9. Kylie Hilder 10. Caitlan Johnston 11. Jocelyn Kelleher 12. Alicia Martin 13. Hannah Southwell 14. Olivia Higgins 15. Olivia Kernick 16. Madeline Jones 17. Keilee Joseph 18. Tazmyne Luschwitz

WENTWORTHVILLE MAGPIES v CRONULLA-SUTHERLAND SHARKS

RINGROSE PARK · SUNDAY 19 JULY 2020 · 11:00AM

MAGPIES: 1. Amy Quye 2. Priscilla Younes 16. Kayla Sauvao 4. Nicole Kennedy 15. Hayley Tipene 11. Amelia Mafi 10. Rima Butler 13. Montana Fonua 20. Lekiellia Brown 18. Tara Mcgrath-west 21. Hunter Hakim (full lineup TBC)

SHARKS: 1. Tiana Penitani 2. Andie Robinson 3. Jaime Chapman 4. Kiana Takairangi 5. Lynda Howarth 6. Corban McGregor 7. Maddie Studdon 8. Georgie Brooker 9. Keeley Davis 10. Analei Netzler 11. Georgia Page 12. Talei Holmes 13. Kaarla Cowan 14. Jade Etherden 15. Brandi-lee Stainton Payne 17. Kennedy Cherrington 18. Tia Hinds 19. Zali Fay

BYE: SOUTH SYDNEY RABBITOHS

NSWRL welcomes new teams as major competitions recommence

NSWRL Media Release, 14 July 2020

The NSWRL has welcomed the addition of four new clubs to the Presidents Cup and Sydney Shield this season as the opening round draws were released today for all three senior competitions starting on Saturday 18 July, including the Harvey Norman NSW Women's Premiership.

The Presidents Cup and Sydney Shield have been reformed to nine-team competitions with Wests Illawarra and Thirroul Butchers playing in the Presidents Cup while Helensburgh Tigers and Cronulla Caringbah Sharks have joined Sydney Shield.

Both competitions will be played over nine rounds with two weeks of finals inclusive of a blockbuster Grand Final weekend on 26-27 September which will also feature the decider for the Harvey Norman NSW Women's Premiership.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to see the addition of four new clubs into two of our senior competitions for the 2020 season as it demonstrates there's a real appetite in the community to get Rugby League back up and running," NSWRL General Manager – Football, Barrie-Jon Mather said.

"We appreciate all the hard work that has been done behind the scenes, by both the NSWRL and our clubs, to get to this point after a challenging time for everyone.

"I can't wait to see the skills on show in all our competitions and the addition of regional NSW teams to the Presidents Cup will make it a truly unique spectacle. "I'm looking forward to getting to the footy this weekend and I'd like to remind everyone to observe all the social distancing guidelines so we can all enjoy the season ahead."

The opening round for the Harvey Norman NSW Women's Premiership, which remains a seven-team competition to be played over seven weeks with four weeks of finals, will feature the newly-formed Central Coast Roosters taking on Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs at Terry Lamb Reserve, Belmore on Saturday 18 July.

North Sydney Bears have the honour of kicking off the Presidents Cup when they host Dubbo CYMS at North Sydney Oval #2 on Saturday 18 July while Ryde-Eastwood Hawks will look to get their premiership defence off to a flyer when they take on Hills Bulls at TG Millner Sportsground, Marsfield on Sunday 19 July.

2020 Draw

NRL Telstra Premiership

ROUND 1	MARCH 12-15			ROUND 7	JUNE 25-29		
Thu 8:05pm	Eels v Bulldogs	Bankwest	8-2	Thu 7:50pm	Panthers v Rabbitohs	Kogarah	20-12
Fri 6:00pm	Raiders v Titans	GIO	24-6	Fri 6:00pm	Storm v Warriors	Kogarah	50-6
Fri 8:05pm	Cowboys v Broncos	Townsville	21-28	Fri 7:55pm	Roosters v Dragons	Bankwest	26-12
Sat 3:00pm	Knights v Warriors	MJS	20-0	Sat 3:00pm	Cowboys v Knights	Townsville	32-20
Sat 5:30pm	Rabbitohs v Sharks	ANZ	22-18	Sat 5:30pm	Broncos v Titans	Suncorp	12-30
Sat 7:35pm	Panthers v Roosters	Panthers	20-14	Sat 7:35pm	Eels v Raiders	Bankwest	25-24
Sun 4:05pm	Sea Eagles v Storm	Lottoland	4-18	Sun 4:05pm	Sea Eagles v Sharks	Gosford	22-40
Sun 6:15pm	Dragons v Tigers	WIN	14-24	Sun 6:30pm	Bulldogs v Tigers	Bankwest	6-34
ROUND 2	MARCH 19-22			ROUND 8	JULY 2-5		
Thu 8:05pm	Bulldogs v Cowboys	ANZ	16-24	Thu 7:50pm	Storm v Roosters	Suncorp	27-25
Fri 6:00pm	Dragons v Panthers	Kogarah	28-32	Fri 6:00pm	Raiders v Dragons	GIO	22-16
Fri 8:05pm	Broncos v Rabbitohs	Suncorp	22-18	Fri 7:55pm	Eels v Cowboys	Bankwest	42-4
Sat 3:00pm	Warriors v Raiders	Cbus Super	6-20	Sat 3:00pm	Titans v Sharks	Chus Super	10-40
Sat 5:30pm	Roosters v Sea Eagles	Leichhardt	8-9	Sat 5:30pm	Warriors v Broncos	Gosford	26-16
Sat 7:35pm	Sharks v Storm	Kogarah	10-12	Sat 7:35pm	Tigers v Panthers	Bankwest	12-19
Sun 4:05pm	Tigers v Knights	Leichhardt	24-42	Sun 4:05pm	Sea Eagles v Knights	Lottoland	12-14
Sun 6:15pm	Titans v Eels	Cbus Super	6-46	Sun 6:30pm	Bulldogs v Rabbitohs	Bankwest	10-26
•		•		oun oloopiii	Danaogo v Rabbitono	Dunkwoot	10 20
	PREMIERSHIP SUSPEND	DED		ROUND 9	JULY 9-12		
	MARCH 23 to MAY 27	•		Thu 7:50pm	Cowboys v Roosters	Townsville	16-42
	due to COVID-19 restrict	ions		Fri 6:00pm	Titans v Warriors	Chus Super	16-12
				Fri 7:55pm	Rabbitohs v Tigers	Bankwest	18-10
ROUND 3	MAY 28-31			Sat 3:00pm	Sharks v Panthers	Kogarah	24-56
Thu 7:50pm	Broncos v Eels	Suncorp	6-34	Sat 5:30pm	Broncos v Bulldogs	Suncorp	26-8
Fri 6:00pm	Cowboys v Titans	Townsville	36-6	Sat 7:35pm	Raiders v Storm	GIO	14-20
Fri 7:55pm	Roosters v Rabbitohs	Bankwest	28-12	Sun 4:05pm	Knights v Eels	MJS	4-10
Sat 3:00pm	Warriors v Dragons	Gosford	18-0	Sun 6:30pm	Dragons v Sea Eagles		34-4
Sat 5:30pm	Sharks v Tigers	Bankwest	16-28	Suli 6.Supili	Diagons v Sea Eagles	Kogarah	34-4
Sat 7:35pm	Storm v Raiders	AAMI	6-22	ROUND 10	HHV46 40		
Sun 4:05pm	Panthers v Knights	C'town	14-14		JULY 16-19 Roosters v Raiders	Cudmou Oriole	t Craund
Sun 6:30pm	Sea Eagles v Bulldogs	Gosford	32-6	Thu 7:50pm		Sydney Cricke	
oun oloopin	oca Eagles v Ballaogs	Costora	02 0	Fri 6:00pm	Storm v Titans	Sunshine Coas	
ROUND 4	JUNE 4-8	Queen's	Birthday	Fri 7:55pm	Tigers v Broncos		ardt Oval
Thu 7:50pm	Broncos v Roosters	Suncorp	0-59	Sat 3:00pm	Dragons v Bulldogs		l Stadium
Fri 6:00pm	Panthers v Warriors	C'town	26-0	Sat 5:30pm	Rabbitohs v Knights		t Stadium
Fri 7:55pm	Storm v Rabbitohs	AAMI	22-8	Sat 7:35pm	Sea Eagles v Eels Warriors v Sharks		Lottoland
Sat 5:30pm	Eels v Sea Eagles	Bankwest	19-16	Sun 2:00pm		Central Coas	
Sat 7:35pm	Cowboys v Sharks	Townsville	16-26	Sun 4:05pm	Panthers v Cowboys	Pantners	Stadium
Sun 4:05pm	Raiders v Knights	C'town	18-34	DOUND 44			
Sun 6:30pm	Titans v Tigers	Suncorp	28-23	ROUND 11	JULY 23-26	5.1	0. 1.
Mon 4:05pm	Bulldogs v Dragons	Bankwest	20-23	Thu 7:50pm	Eels v Tigers		t Stadium
WOII 4.03piii	Bulldogs v Diagolis	Dalikwest	22-2	Fri 6:00pm	Cowboys v Sea Eagles	QLD Country Bank	
ROUND 5	JUNE 11-15			Fri 7:55pm	Broncos v Storm		Stadium
Thu 7:50pm	Sea Eagles v Broncos	Gosford	20-18	Sat 3:00pm	Warriors v Roosters	Central Coas	
•	Warriors v Cowboys	Gosford	37-26	Sat 5:30pm	Sharks v Dragons	Netstrata Jubilee	
Fri 6:00pm	Eels v Panthers		16-10	Sat 7:35pm	Raiders v Rabbitohs	GIO Stadium	
Fri 7:55pm		Bankwest		Sun 2:00pm	Knights v Bulldogs	McDonald Jones	
Sat 3:00pm	Rabbitohs v Titans	Bankwest	32-12	Sun 4:05pm	Titans v Panthers	Cbus Supe	r Stadium
Sat 5:30pm	Knights v Storm	Gosford	12-26				
Sat 7:35pm	Tigers v Raiders	C'town	6-14	ROUND 12	JULY 30-AUGUST 2	Indigeno	
Sun 4:05pm	Dragons v Sharks	C'town	30-16	Thu 7:50pm	Dragons v Rabbitohs	Netstrata Jubilee	
Mon 7:00pm	Bulldogs v Roosters	Bankwest	6-42	Fri 6:00pm	Tigers v Warriors	Campbelltowr	
DOUBLE C	HIME 40 04	amina for Port	P '	Fri 7:55pm	Broncos v Sharks		Stadium
ROUND 6		eanies for Brain Cano		Sat 3:00pm	Roosters v Titans	Sydney Cricke	
Thu 7:50pm	Knights v Broncos	Gosford	27-6	Sat 5:30pm	Cowboys v Raiders	QLD Country Bank	Stadium
Fri 6:00pm	Rabbitohs v Warriors	Bankwest	40-12	Sat 7:35pm	Sea Eagles v Panthers		Lottoland
Fri 7:55pm	Panthers v Storm	C'town	21-14	Sun 2:00pm	Bulldogs v Eels	ANZ	'Stadium
Sat 3:00pm	Titans v Dragons	Suncorp	8-20	Sun 4:05pm	Storm v Knights	Sunshine Coas	t Stadium
Sat 5:30pm	Tigers v Cowboys	C'town	36-20				
Sat 7:35pm	Roosters v Eels	Bankwest	24-10		pt Grand Final & Origin broadcas	•	-
Sun 4:05pm	Raiders v Sea Eagles	C'town	6-14	Sports. Matches	at Thu 7:50pm, Fri 7:55pm and S	un 4:05pm, plus all Fin	als,
Sun 6:30pm	Sharks v Bulldogs	Bankwest	20-18	Grand Final and (Origin broadcast live on Nine Ne	twork & 9Now	

ROUND 13	AUGUST 6-9		ROUND 19	SEPTEN	/IBER 17-20	
Thu 7:50pm	Dragons v Roosters	Venue TBC	Thu 7:50pm	Rabbito	hs v Bulldogs	Venue TBC
Fri 6:00pm	Sea Eagles v Warriors	Venue TBC	Fri 6:00pm	Cowboy	s v Panthers	Venue TBC
Fri 7:55pm	Rabbitohs v Broncos	Venue TBC	Fri 7:55pm	Eels v Br	roncos	Venue TBC
Sat 3:00pm	Storm v Bulldogs	Sunshine Coast Stadium	Sat 3:00pm	Sea Eag	les v Titans	Venue TBC
Sat 5:30pm	Knights v Tigers	Venue TBC	Sat 5:30pm	Storm v	Tigers	Venue TBC
Sat 7:35pm	Panthers v Raiders	Venue TBC	Sat 7:35pm	Roosters	s v Sharks	Venue TBC
Sun 2:00pm	Titans v Cowboys	Venue TBC	Sun 2:00pm		v Warriors	Venue TBC
Sun 4:05pm	Sharks v Eels	Venue TBC	Sun 4:05pm	Knights	v Dragons	Venue TBC
ROUND 14	AUGUST 13-16		ROUND 20	CEDTER	/IBER 24-27	
Thu 7:50pm	Roosters v Storm	Venue TBC	Thu 7:50pm		v Cowboys	Venue TBC
Fri 6:00pm	Warriors v Panthers	Venue TBC	Fri 6:00pm	Titans v	•	Venue TBC
Fri 7:55pm	Eels v Dragons	Venue TBC	Fri 7:55pm		hs v Roosters	Venue TBC
Sat 3:00pm	Sharks v Titans	Venue TBC	Sat 3:00pm		s v Panthers	Venue TBC
Sat 5:30pm	Cowboys v Rabbitohs	Venue TBC	Sat 5:30pm	•	/ Raiders	Venue TBC
Sat 7:35pm	Raiders v Broncos	Venue TBC	Sat 7:35pm	Tigers v		Venue TBC
Sun 2:00pm	Knights v Sea Eagles	Venue TBC	Sun 2:00pm	•	s v Sea Eagles	Venue TBC
Sun 4:05pm	Tigers v Bulldogs	Venue TBC	Sun 4:05pm		s v Storm	Venue TBC
oun 4.00pm	rigoro v Bundogo	Vende 150	oun 4.00pm	Diagona	, v Otoriii	Venue 150
ROUND 15	AUGUST 20-23					
Thu 7:50pm	Eels v Storm	Venue TBC	2020 NRL TEI	LSTRA PE	REMIERSHIP	FINALS SERIES
Fri 6:00pm	Panthers v Sharks	Venue TBC				
Fri 7:55pm	Broncos v Dragons	Venue TBC	WEEK 1	ОСТОВ	ER 2-4	Qualifying & Elimination Finals
Sat 3:00pm	Titans v Raiders	Venue TBC	Day/Time TBC	QF1	1 v 4	Venue TBC
Sat 5:30pm	Tigers v Roosters	Venue TBC	Day/Time TBC	QF2	2 v 3	Venue TBC
Sat 7:35pm	Rabbitohs v Sea Eagles	Venue TBC	Day/Time TBC	EF 1	5 v 8	Venue TBC
Sun 2:00pm	Bulldogs v Warriors	Venue TBC	Day/Time TBC	EF 2	6 v 7	Venue TBC
Sun 4:05pm	Knights v Cowboys	Venue TBC				
			WEEK 2	ОСТОВ		Semi Finals
ROUND 16	AUGUST 27-30		Day/Time TBC	SF 1	L QF 1 v W EF 1	
Thu 7:50pm	Eels v Rabbtiohs	Venue TBC	Day/Time TBC	SF 2	L QF 2 v W EF 2	Venue TBC
Fri 6:00pm	Dragons v Titans	Venue TBC				
Fri 7:55pm	Roosters v Broncos	Venue TBC	WEEK 3		ER 16-17	Preliminary Finals
Sat 3:00pm	Warriors v Knights	Venue TBC	Day/Time TBC	PF 1	W QF 1 v W SF	
Sat 5:30pm	Sharks v Cowboys	Venue TBC	Day/Time TBC	PF 2	W QF 2 v W SF	1 Venue TBC
Sat 7:35pm	Panthers v Tigers	Venue TBC				
Sun 4:05pm	Storm v Sea Eagles	Venue TBC	GRAND FINAL	ОСТОВ		
Sun 6:30pm	Raiders v Bulldogs	Venue TBC	Sun, Time TBC	W PF 1 v	WPF2	Venue TBC
ROUND 17	SEPTEMBER 3-6	Women in League Round				
Thu 7:50pm	Broncos v Panthers	Venue TBC	2020 STATE (OF ORIGI	N SERIES	
Fri 6:00pm	Knights v Sharks	Venue TBC				
Fri 7:55pm	Rabbitohs v Storm	Venue TBC	GAME 1	NOVEM	BER 4	
Sat 3:00pm	Cowboys v Dragons	Venue TBC	Wed	QLDvN		Venue TBC
Sat 5:30pm	Sea Eagles v Tigers	Venue TBC			•	
Sat 7:35pm	Raiders v Roosters	Venue TBC	GAME 2	NOVEM	BER 11	
Sun 4:05pm	Warriors v Eels	Venue TBC	Wed	NSW v G		Venue TBC
Sun 6:30pm	Bulldogs v Titans	Venue TBC			,	10.1.2.5
			WOMEN'S	NOVEM	BER 13	
ROUND 18	SEPTEMBER 10-13		Fri	NSW v G	QLD	Venue TBC
Thu 7:50pm	Tigers v Rabbitohs	Venue TBC				
Fri 6:00pm	Bulldogs v Sea Eagles	Venue TBC	GAME 3	NOVEM	BER 18	
Fri 7:55pm	Panthers v Eels	Venue TBC	Wed	QLD v N	SW	Venue TBC
Sat 3:00pm	Dragons v Raiders	Venue TBC				
Sat 5:30pm	Titans v Broncos	Venue TBC				
Sat 7:35nm	Ponetore v Knighte	Venue TRC				

Venue TBC

Venue TBC

Venue TBC

Roosters v Knights

Storm v Cowboys

Sharks v Warriors

Sat 7:35pm

Sun 4:05pm

Sun 6:30pm





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