

The



**LEAGUE
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FRONT ROW

ROUND 17 2020

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 15

Key men

A look at who could be the MVPs in the NRL finals

Bounce back

Back rower Mitch Barnett on where the Knights can improve

A large black silhouette of a muscular man's back and shoulders is centered on the page. A large white question mark is superimposed on the man's back. The background behind the silhouette is a gradient of green and blue, with a diagonal red and white stripe running from the top right towards the center.

?

Re-match

But is this Sonny's final fling?

INSIDE: NRL ROUND 17 TEAMLISTS, PREVIEWS, HEAD TO HEAD STATS, LADDER, STATS LEADERS CROSSWORD, WORD JUMBLES, NRL ROUND 16 WRAP, MATCH REVIEW, REPORTS, NSWRL TEAMLISTS



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From the editor

Tim Costello

In terms of outcomes - this is shaping as a key weekend of results as to the make-up of the NRL top eight. Friday night's clashes - Knights v Sharks, and Souths v Storm - will go a long way to deciding how the bottom half of the eight finish - but if we're fair dinkum, Saturday night's Grand Final re-match is where all eyes are trained.

After sixteen rounds, the teams that met in last year's decider are level on 22 competition points and locked in a fierce battle for fourth place and that all-important double chance. A win is vital for both sides with just four rounds remaining.

For the Roosters - it's also welcome back to Sonny Bill Williams. Over the page you can read Steve Mascord's story on SBW's future following his mid-season departure from Toronto Wolfpack.

Further in, Rick Edgerton looks at who your club's MVP might be this finals series, while Paul Jobber chats to Newcastle forward Mitch Barnett after Saturday's disappointing loss to the Warriors.

We hope you enjoy this historic edition of The Front Row!

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Sonny's last stand?

In the nation's capital, the Raiders and Roosters go head-to-head this week in the second Grand Final re-match, but all eyes are on one man. The real question remains - will SBW play on in 2021?

As you are reading this, it's possible a group of men in England and France are deciding whether Sonny Bill Williams' glittering career ends when Sydney Roosters' 2020 season does.

Just a few hours before this historic first Australian print edition of The Front Row went to the presses in Sydney - with a cover celebrating the return of Williams to the NRL just in time for Saturday's grand final rematch against Canberra - we tracked down beleaguered Toronto Wolfpack chief executive Bob Hunter.

Hunter had just been involved in a phone hook-up with RFL and Super League officials that will determine whether his club lives or dies - and by extension whether the 35-year-old dual code superstar has another year in him.

"It was a very preliminary introductory call to the potential new owner, a get-to-know-them meeting," Hunter explained.

Over the coming days, the British boards will discuss whether to readmit the team that has been mired the last two months in controversy after pulling out of the restarted season and failing to pay players and staff.

"Look, we let Sonny down - there's no doubt whatsoever," the veteran Canadian sports administrator says.

"He's a very special athlete and if he wanted to play there was no way we were going to stop him playing. We're excited for him. I think the club's excited for him.

"If we're able to convince him to come back - he's still under contract next year - we think it's better that he plays than doesn't play.

"If we get our house in order, if we get approved to play in Super League, if we get some of the terms and conditions that we need to survive long-term, we'd be excited to have Sonny back."

Steve Mascord

Contributor



Making the situation more intriguing, and perhaps complicating it, is the fact Williams was given a share in the Wolfpack club when he signed a two-year deal valued in some reports at \$10 million.

"There are a large number of shareholders, Sonny being one of them," Hunter explained.

"We've got to get that all figured out as a condition of sale. Do the existing shareholders continue to own a small piece of the team?"

"David Argyle owns around 55, 60 percent of the team. When he walks away the new owner is basically buying that for for a dollar. I don't know what the new owner intends to do with the existing shareholders."

Hunter admitted that when the consortium behind the New York RFL bid wanted to take over the Wolfpack, one of the hurdles was that "a couple of the shareholders raised their concerns that should

the transaction take place, they expected to retain a future piece of the club or they wanted to be compensated or basically bought out".

But Williams was not one of the shareholders to express that concern, Hunter said.

So, is it true that the great SBW will either don a Wolfpack jersey next year or hang up those boots?

"I don't think coach Brian McDermott has spoken to Sonny about those specifics," Hunter says. "I mean, we've heard that rumour but we've not had those discussions with either Sonny or his agent."

With social distancing and all that in place, it's hard to measure the "box office" value of anyone. But when the 11 Super League owners discuss whether to forgive the Wolfpack, there'll be one individual they'll find hard to ignore.

Premiership MVPs

With just four rounds of regular season matches remaining in 2020, the whips are well and truly cracking in the race for premiership glory. The top 8 looks just about locked in after the Dragons, Tigers and Sea Eagles lost in round 16 to all but kiss their season's goodbye. That leaves the Warriors as the only team with a realistic chance of forcing their way in.

Over the coming weeks we'll take a look at some players in different categories who'll be key to their club's premiership chances. This week – Most Valuable Players. Who is the one man that can't be missing if their team is a shot at lifting the trophy?

WARRIORS – Roger Tuivasa-Sheck

It's quite the remarkable feat that the Warriors still find themselves alive in this premiership race after all they've endured this year and the man leading them out each week has been instrumental to the scenario they find themselves in. The gun fullback has again shown the professionalism that has been a staple of his career. Leads the league for run metres with an average 222 per game, ensuring his team always gets a great start to their sets of six. Scored a double against the Knights last week with the wizardry of his feet beating defenders at will. With his team now clicking along as a cohesive unit, RTS could be set to unleash his attacking skills even more in the coming weeks.

SHARKS – Wade Graham

Taking over the captaincy at Cronulla this year after the retirement of Paul Gallen, the New South Wales and Australian forward has been a key figure in the Sharks push towards another finals campaign. His toughness and attacking prowess put him firmly in the conversation as one of the most complete players in the game today. Already with a premiership and a world cup to his name, Graham added an Origin series win to his resume last year. His big match experience will be key to the Sharks chances of playing spoiler to some of the more fancied sides in the finals, assuming they cement their spot first.

KNIGHTS – Kurt Mann

After spending the majority of his career as a Mr fix-it at the Storm and Dragons, Mann arrived at Newcastle last season looking to nail down a starting position and was reportedly set to transform into a fulltime number nine. That of course didn't eventuate and he was again shifted around a number of positions. Under the tutelage of new Coach Adam O'Brien, Mann was given first crack at filling the six jersey this year and was making a real fist of it until injury struck hooking options Andrew McCullough and Connor Watson. Playing the past month at rake, Mann has managed to hold his form whilst racking up some big tackle counts in the middle of the park. Small in stature but big in heart, Mann has been a constant threat running the football with his footwork and deceptive strength on show and will be key to Newcastle cementing their first finals birth in seven years.

RABBITOHS – Damien Cook

After the six again rule was brought into play, most judges had the Australian rake touted as the man set to benefit most with his blistering running game appearing suited to the enhanced speed of play. Whilst that hasn't eventuated to the point many expected, Cook has still been consistently good all year playing every minute of every match, averaging 47 tackles and 90 metres per game. An understated part of the Rabbitohs blistering form over the past fortnight has been Cook's service out of dummy half. No one is firing crisper passes off the deck, ensuring his attackers are getting quality ball out in front and the time required to unleash their slick backline plays. With South Sydney's pack only now overcoming the loss of Sam Burgess and generating more quick play the balls, expect Cook's running game to come to the fore at the business end of the year.

RAIDERS – Josh Papalii

Big Papa – What a player. It's rare to see a front-rower's name amongst a list of MVP's but such is the ilk of the most loved man in the nation's

Rick Edgerton

Contributor



capital. An absolute rock through the middle again for the Raiders this year averaging 159 metres and 33 tackles per game, but it's his rare ability to come up with a big play in a key moment that makes him the game's number one prop. Three of his four tries this year have come against top four opposition and who can forget the barnstorming effort he produced to drag his team over the line in a prelim final against the Rabbitohs last year? His inspirational run-down and ankle tap of Jamal Fogarty a fortnight ago will go down as one of the highlights of the season and the very reason the Raiders remain a strong chance of charging towards the big dance again this year.

ROOSTERS – Luke Keary

It feels almost criminal to leave arguably the best player in the world – James Tedesco out of this list, but that's how important Keary is to the tri-colours push to be the first team to claim a three-peat since Parramatta in the early 1980's. Assuming the role of chief-playmaker after the retirement of Cooper Cronk, the diminutive half has again been exceptional this year with 13 try-assists in his 14 games played to go with 6 tries of his own. Even when the Roosters had Cronk at their disposal you could mount an argument Keary was their most valuable. The three time premiership winner and 2018 Clive Churchill medal winner was simply brilliant controlling the team alongside an injured Cronk in the 2018 decider and engineered the play that proved the difference in last year's victory over the Raiders.

EELS – Clint Gutherson

The Parramatta skipper and custodian has been an inspiration for the blue and golds march towards a top four birth this year and looks key to unlocking their 37 year premiership drought. Running for an average 203 metres per game, 'King Gutho' also leads the league for kick return metres, a clear indication of his supreme positional play at the back. The ultimate team man that gives the Eels an energy lift when they're down and has also been their go-to man with the ball in attacking situations. With 12 try-assists for the season, Gutherson has set up more four pointers than the rest of the Eels spine combined.

STORM – Cameron Smith

No prizes for guessing this one. With a record 424 first-grade games, 56 Tests and 42 Origins under his belt, Smith's name will of course go down in Rugby League folklore and there's not much you can say about the future immortal that hasn't been spoken about ad nauseam before. His complete skill-set aside, Smith's greatest attribute has been the ability to control and play the game at his own pace. Can you imagine closing your eyes for 80 minutes and watching a game of footy through his eyes? One of the most common superlatives when talking about legends of the past has been their vision and ability to see a play unfold two or three plays in advance. Truth be told, Smith probably sees them unfold two or three sets of six in advance...

PANTHERS – Nathan Cleary

With James Maloney leaving the foot of the mountains at the end of last year, there was plenty of interest around how Cleary would step up and own Penrith's football team. Whilst the general consensus was it would be good for the Origin winning halfback's career, not many would have predicted how quickly he'd put his stamp on the Panthers club and drive them straight to the pointy end of the ladder. With the complete skillset of any champion halfback at his disposal, it's scary to think that at just 22 years of age he's only going to get better. Leading the league in both kick metres and forced drop-outs, his general kicking game is arguably the best in the competition. His control and composure for a young man has always been first rate but his attack with the ball in hand has really caught the eye this year. Not afraid to run the ball himself but when he doesn't he's generally sucking in defenders before passing to his outside men in space. Cleary and his Panthers look primed to give this premiership a serious shake once finals role around.

FEATURE · MITCH BARNETT

Bouncing back

**Paul
Jobber**
Contributor



Barnett says Knights are ready to fire after a week of soul-searching

SOMETIMES when you look too far ahead, you run into the car in front.

Just ask Newcastle coach Adam O'Brien and backrower Mitch Barnett who saw first-hand the 'car crash' that was Newcastle's insipid 36-6 defeat to the Warriors last week in Tamworth.

Fortunately, the Knights are in a position to walk away from the wreckage with the finals still a month away.

They harboured ambitions of a top four finish when they headed to Australia's Country Music Capital, but that now appears unlikely.

Another performance like that in the next month could prove disastrous.

Before they could turn their attention to Friday's pivotal round 17 encounter with the Sharks at McDonald Jones Stadium, the Knights had to strap themselves in for the video review on Monday.

Barnett admitted it wasn't pretty viewing, but was perhaps the "kick up the bum" the team needed.

"We'll leave what was actually said in the team room because it just wasn't a good enough performance," he said on Tuesday.

"It was a good learning session; (there was) a lot of information there and it was all around mindset and it's very disappointing, but we've got to move on now.

"That's behind us and we need to put in a good performance this weekend."

Saturday's hiccup was the third of its kind for the Novocastrians this season after disappointing losses to lowly Canterbury and North Queensland.

Some would argue it was the reality check they deserved and perhaps they shouldn't have been within striking distance of the top four in the first place.

While it would now require a minor miracle to run down both the Roosters and Raiders in the closing four rounds, Barnett said the focus was on trying to finish as high on the ladder as possible.

In doing so they would avoid an elimination final against either of last year's grand finalists.

"You want to be in the four or as close to the four as you can so we really want to step it up now," Barnett said.

"We've got a good opportunity to not only get a good result but finish the season on a high heading into semis, but we don't want to look that far ahead at the moment.

"We just need to put a better performance in than we did at the weekend and we'll go from there."

O'Brien said after the match last Saturday he was looking for the reason why his side has the ability to turn up and not be ready to go mentally.

Now the whips are cracking, they have four weeks to get it right.

"If we want to get something out of the season, we have to make it happen, not expect it to happen," he said.

If they look too far ahead, they'll run into the car in front. Next time, it might be deadly.

Photos: Knights media



CLUB NEWS

Club statement: Tevita Pangai Junior

Brisbane Broncos media release, 31 August 2020

The Board of the Brisbane Broncos met today to finalise the Club's actions in relation to Tevita Pangai Junior, following a Show Cause Hearing conducted last Friday.

At the hearing, the player offered both genuine remorse and an apology to everyone connected to the Club. It was also acknowledged that the recent course of behaviour he displayed leading to this breach was not indicative of his past behaviour, and the Board took that into consideration.

As a result, the Board has made a decision to terminate Mr Pangai Junior's employment immediately but any implementation of that decision has been suspended for a period of 12 months subject to Mr Pangai Junior complying with his employment agreement and complying with the following terms:

He be stood down immediately without pay for the remainder of the 2020 season and as a consequence will be removed from the Project Apollo "bubble";

He immediately begin a mentoring program with a club-approved mentor for a period of 12 months, with the mentor reporting back to the Board on a monthly basis;

He work in a job organised by that mentor for the remainder of the 2020 season;

He ceases to participate in social media, as well as ceasing to engage with media unless authorised by the Club;

He returns to full duties for the 2021 pre-season in mid-November this year in good physical condition.

If Mr Pangai Junior breaches any part of his employment agreement or these terms during the 12-month period during which the termination is suspended, then the Club can immediately implement its decision to terminate his employment.

If at the end of that 12 month period Mr Pangai Junior has complied with all the above requirements then the Board will rescind its decision to terminate his employment.

Super League weekend results

Scores, scorers, match details from Round 10 of the Betfred Super League

Wigan 30 (Joe Bullock, Liam Farrell, Ben Flower, Joe Burgess, Sam Powell tries; Zak Hardaker 5 goals) def **Castleford 22** (Michael Shenton, Derrell Olpherts, Nathan Massey, Gareth O'Brien tries; Danny Richardson 3 goals) Venue: Halliwell Jones Stadium; Date: Saturday 29 August 2020, 4:15pm BST

Leeds 50 (Ash Handley 3, Richie Myler 3, Mikolaj Oledzki, Robert Lui, Luke Gale tries; Rhyse Martin 7 goals) def **Salford 12** (Niall Ewalds 2 tries; Tui Lolohea 2 goals); Venue: Halliwell Jones Stadium; Date: Saturday 29 August 2020, 6:30pm BST

St Helens 32 (Jack Welsby x2, Aaron Smith, Kevin Naiqama, Alex Walmsley tries; Lachlan Coote 6 goals) def **Hull KR 18** (Matt Parcell, Ethan Ryan, Adam Quinlan tries; Jamie Ellis 3 goals); Venue: Halliwell Jones Stadium; Date: Sunday 30 August 2020, 1pm BST

Hull FC 31 (Mahe Fonua, Jack Brown, Josh Griffin, Marc Sneyd, Albert Kelly tries; Josh Griffin 3, Marc Sneyd 2 goals; Jamie Shaul 1 field goal) def **Huddersfield 12** (Jordan Turner, Ashton Golding tries; Oliver Russell 2 goals); Venue: Halliwell Jones Stadium; Date: Sunday 30 August 2020, 4:15pm BST

Warrington 36 (Blake Austin 3, Ben Currie, Josh Charnley, Toby King tries; Stefan Ratchford 6 goals) def **Wakefield 0**; Venue: Halliwell Jones Stadium; Date: Sunday 30 August 2020, 6:30pm BST

Happy birthday!

This round's birthday boys

Saturday 5 September

Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow (Cowboys) - 19

Sunday 6 September

Erin Clark (Titans) - 23

Jai Field (Dragons) - 23

Luke Garner (Tigers) - 25

Young Tonumaipea (Titans) - 28

Wednesday 2 September

Jirah Momoisea (Knights) - 22

Thursday 3 September

Jacob Host (Dragons) - 24

Francis Molo (Cowboys) - 26

Friday 4 September

Jazz Tevaga (Warriors) - 25

Elliott Whitehead (Raiders) - 31

Monday 7 September

Herman Ese'ese (Knights) - 26

Dale Finucane (Storm) - 29

Tom Opacic (Cowboys) - 26

Tuesday 8 September

Spencer Leniu (Panthers) - 20

Emry Pere (Cowboys) - 22

Word Jumbles

Each of these players have scored 20+ tries in an NRL season. How many of the names can you unscramble?

DUSTI FUIDAV	WARRIORS	2018
NAKED WALLY-HUNSON	ROOSTERS	2010
CLONE BITS	DRAGONS	2005
QUIT TOILER	BRONCOS	2001
MOJO SHIRRS	BULLDOGS	2009
WILMA DIVILDAS	SEA EAGLES	2013
JOHN MEANGOAL	RAIDERS	2003
HANGAY HASLER	COWBOYS	2012
MANK GITT	STORM	2007
BART MOOSERS	PANTHERS	2004
LEMONSLIT HEAVEN	SHARKS	2018
ELEMENT CHAIRTUB	BEARS	1998

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS: Addin Fonua-Blake, Kevin Proctor, Curtis Scott, David Shillington, Kade Snowden, Anthony Minichiello, Travis Burns, Matt Prior, Glenn Stewart, Adam Blair, Paul Aiton, Petero Cironiceva

K	A	S	E	Y	B	A	D	G	E	R		I	L	L	A	W	A	R	R	A
A	I		A		L	A		E	O	N		O	A		E		U			
D	O	D	D	S		L	B	R		F		Q	B	A	L	D	R	I	C	
E		E	A	S	T	E	R	N	S		S	U	B	U	R	B	S		E	K
S	E	L	L		A	N	A	E	S	T	H	E	T	I	C		P	A	U	L
N	I	E		C		D	R		E	S		E	C	H	I	D	N	A		
O	W	N		A	K	C			S	I	T	E	D		O		N			
W	R	E	S	T	L	E						X		A	R	N	O	L	D	
D	Y				E	M						H	E	D	G	E	R	O	W	
E		O	E	M		E						A	C	A	D	E	M	I	A	
N	E	W	T	O	W	N						U	P	P	E	R		N	R	
	A	L	C	O	T	T						S	T		T		R			
A	D	S		N								T	H	I	R	T	Y		I	
L		P	E	R	E	N	A	R	A		L	E	N	N	O	N		F	O	
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A	D	A	M		E		B	A	K	E	R		P		R		K			
N		D	E	U	C	E		C		R	L		M	O	R	T	A	L	A	
D	O	I	N		C	O	O	K		S		C	O	L		S	H	A	R	
E		U	T		A		N	E		O		O	L		O	W	N	U	P	
R	A	M	S		K	A	R	I	N	A	B	R	O	W	N		D	M	S	

Last week's answers

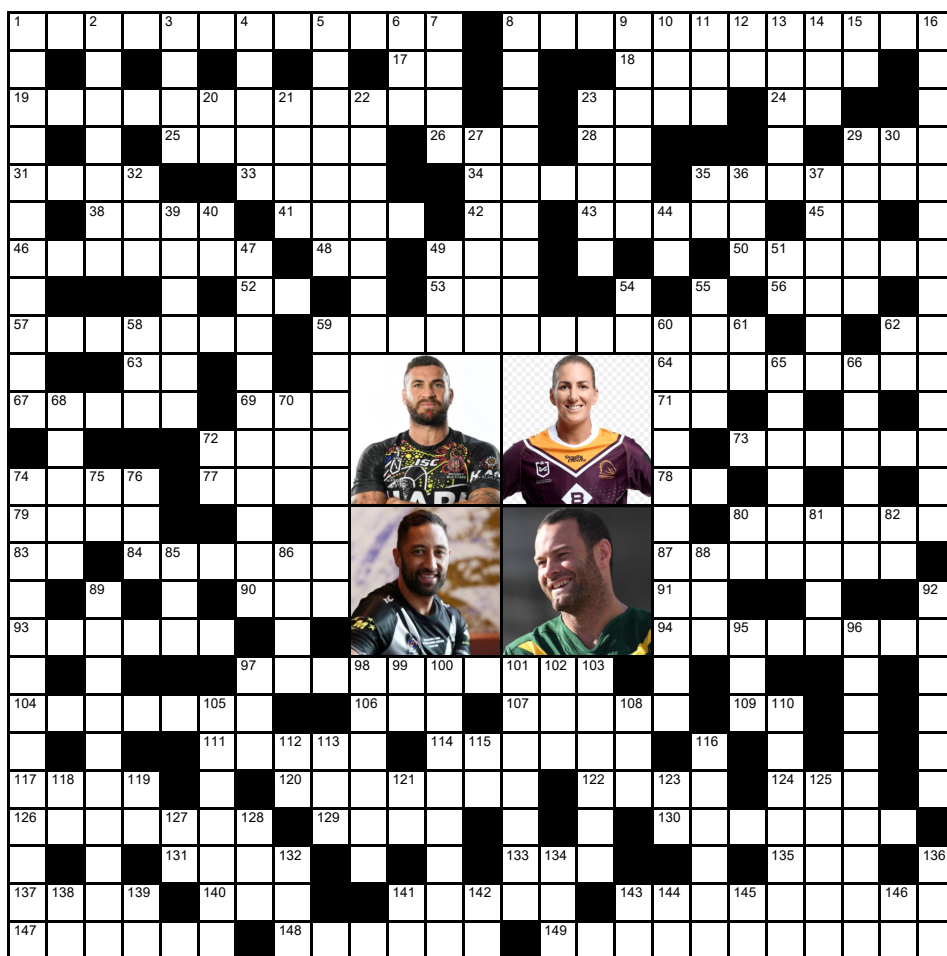
Mega Crossword

Across

- 1 Indigenous All Stars skipper - pictured. (4,8)
- 8 Prior to 1997 this was the name of the Samoan National team. (7,5)
- 17 Acoustic Emission (inits) (2)
- 18 Leading international sporting games featuring summer and winter sports competitions in which thousands of athletes from around the world participate. (7)
- 19 Former Eels Fijian flyer now making squillions in British Rugby Union (4,8)
- 23 Broncos hooker (4)
- 24 Order of Merit (inits) (2)
- 25 The woolly covering of a sheep or goat (6)
- 26 Rhodent (3)
- 28 Upper Case (inits) (2)
- 29 Short for substitute (3)
- 31 How the ball moves from one player to another. (4)
- 33 North Eastern Health Foundation (inits) (4)
- 34 Stretch out an arm in a specified direction in order to touch or grasp something (5)
- 35 Storm 5/8 (7)
- 38 Ashton and Tariq's older sister. (4)
- 41 Opposite to shallow. (4)
- 42 Trojan Horse (inits) (2)
- 43 Former NSW Minister for Sport, current member for Penrith. (5)
- 45 Inits of Doggies player affectionately known as Bobcat. (2)
- 46 First name of Titans outside back Sami (7)
- 48 Yemen Navy (inits) (2)
- 49 Most commonly used word in the English language. (3)
- 50 Kevin Proctor got suspended for doing this. (6)
- 52 Her Majesty (inits) (2)
- 53 European University Association (inits) (3)
- 56 Mug (3)
- 57 Long time Kiwi representative half from '03 to '17 spent most of his career playing ESL with London Broncos and Wigan, returned to play for the Warriors from '13 to '16 (7)
- 59 From Coonabarabran NSW, he has two brothers, both of which are involved in the NRL referees department. He has refereed 12 Test matches between '14 and '18. (6,6)
- 62 This constant multiplied by the radius of a circle equals the circumference of the circle. (2)
- 63 Either (2)
- 64 Sydney Roosters coach (8)
- 67 Terry Campese represented this country in International Rugby League. (5)
- 69 Geological Society of Australia (inits) (3)
- 71 Nickname of Andrew Ettingshausen. (2)
- 72 Of the mouth. (4)
- 73 NRL prop and journey man from the 90s who played for the Eels, Manly, Wests Tigers, Roosters and then Castleford in ESL in '04. Steven _____. (6)
- 74 Broncos centre and sometimes 5/8 (4)
- 77 Players often go into one of these for pre-season training. (4)
- 78 Christian name of Indigenous All Star from Townsville who played his career for the Cowboys, mainly as a winger. (2)
- 79 Storm winger. (4)
- 80 Relationship of Jack to Andrew Johns (6)
- 83 National League (inits) (2)
- 84 The boys from the Gold Coast (6)
- 87 Nationality of the Burgess brothers. (7)
- 90 First name of the son of the late Sharks legend and CEO Steve Rogers - also a dual international and played for the Sharks & Titans. (3)
- 91 Range Rover (inits) (2)
- 93 First name of Warrior's back rower. (6)
- 94 The boys from Redfern (singular) (8)
- 97 There are 4 of these posts on the field (6,4)
- 104 Country represented by Joseph Paulo (Sharks) and Matt Petersen aka Sideshow Bob (Eels) (7)
- 106 Lowest number on a deck of cards. (3)
- 107 Played Centre and wing in the '00s. He played at representative level for Scotland at the '08 RLWC, and at club level for Wests Tigers (reserve grade), as a fullback, wing or centre. Gavin _____. (5)
- 109 Nota Bene (inits) (2)
- 111 Broncos winger experimenting in the back

Down

- row. (5)
- 114 Another term for long shot. (6)
- 117 The act or movement of putting one leg in front of the other in walking or running. (4)
- 120 The RL team from Perth formerly known as the _____
- Reds (7)
- 122 Played 1 season in '15 for the Titans at centre and wing. (4)
- 124 Always Be Happy (inits) (3)
- 126 Veteran Jillaroo and Broncos middle forward and Qld rep who's father also played for Qld. (7)
- 129 Stare or gaze (4)
- 130 Roosters prop from '09 to '13 when he moved to Broncos where in '15 he was issued with an infraction notice for testing positive for a banned substance. (7)
- 131 12 months (4)
- 133 Value of a field goal. (3)
- 135 Data Access Only (inits) (3)
- 137 Doing something or taking place after the expected, proper, or usual time (4)
- 140 Reply Yes or No (inits) (3)
- 141 Rabbitohs half back (5)
- 143 Web made by an arachnid (6,3)
- 147 Recently retired Aussie cricket coach. (6)
- 148 Not quite; very nearly. (6)
- 149 Kangaroos captain - pictured bottom right (4,7)
- 1 Kiwi representative and current Raider and Qld SOO prop. (4,7)
- 2 Former Bulldogs sharp shooter and proud Muslim. (7)
- 3 The surface on which rugby league is played (4)
- 4 Kiwi born back rower and middle currently with the Doggies. (5)
- 5 Currently plays for the Titans. Previously played as a centre, second-row, lock, five-eighth, hooker and fullback for the Sharks and Panthers. He played for the Indigenous All Stars, City Origin, PM's XIII and NSW. (7)
- 6 Paddle (3)
- 7 At or to a short distance away; nearby. (4)
- 8 English backrower currently playing for Raiders (9)
- 9 A nickname we apply to the touch judge. (6) 10 Another name for a moose (3)
- 11 A grain used to make bread, and whisky. (3)
- 12 Network Module (inits) (2)
- 13 You dont want to win a wooden one of these. (5)
- 14 To point, or direct at a target. (3)
- 15 Master Card (Inits) (2)
- 16 Jillaroo captain - pictured top right (3,11)
- 20 American League (inits) (2)
- 21 First name of Eels hooker. (4)
- 22 Opposite of attack. (7)
- 23 First name of former Knights and Storm player who's career was cut short by botched surgery. _____ Miller. (5)
- 27 Eels coach (6)



- 29 To remove ball possession from an opponent player. (5)
- 30 Unión Europea (inits) (2)
- 32 State University Libraries (inits) (3)
- 35 Myself (2)
- 36 A type of data cable connection/termination to a port. (3)
- 37 The planet with the rings around it. (6)
- 39 Home of the Thunder RLFC in Group 9 (6)
- 40 Rotary International (inits) (2)
- 44 Inits of the greatest game of all. (2)
- 47 Played as a centre, winger and fullback for the Raiders, Roosters and the Titans in the NRL from '02 to '12 (4,6)
- 49 Similar to Coffee (3)
- 51 Integrated Circuit (inits) (2)
- 54 Inits of Manly's injured fullback. (2)
- 55 What a player wears on his foot. (4)
- 58 Laugh out Loud (3)
- 59 There are two sets of these posts on the field (4,4)
- 60 Kangaroo utility forward from Illawarra who played for Dragons, Leeds, Panthers - now back at the Dragons (5,6)
- 61 National Bank (inits) (2)
- 62 Inits of player and former administrator who played for the Dragons and Raiders in the 90s, he was a politician and former Eels boss. (2)
- 65 First name of dual international who was recently hooked by Rugby Australia due to his social media comments. (6)
- 66 Another name for the Rabbitohs. (6)
- 68 A pre-season game. (5)
- 70 First name of Kiwi prop _____ Kasiano (3)
- 72 Orange County (inits) (2)
- 74 Kiwis captain - pictured bottom left (5,8)
- 75 Resource Record (inits) (2)
- 76 Digital Linear Tape (inits) (3)
- 80 Natural Gas (inits) (2)
- 81 First name of lock for Bears and Wenty from '16 to now in NSW Cup _____ Rogers. (4)
- 82 Used to represent a sound made in speech, especially one used to express inquiry, surprise, or to elicit agreement. (2)
- 85 Irish Republican Army (3)
- 86 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (4)
- 88 National Rifle Assoc (inits) (3)
- 89 The distance between successive crests of a wave, especially points in a sound wave or electromagnetic wave. (10)
- 92 The boys from Cronulla (6)
- 95 First name of former Broncos and current Dragons half and utility. (3)
- 96 Try equivalent in the NFL (5,4)
- 97 Clean Air Act (inits) (3)
- 98 Australian sports agent and boxing promoter who currently represents Sonny Bill Williams and Quade Cooper (6)
- 99 European Community (inits) (2)
- 100 The players that warm the bench (8)
- 101 Former Kangaroo outside back from the 70's and 80's most famously known for the side line conversion that got the Blues home in the '85 SOO Series in heavy rain. (7)
- 102 Inits of recently retired record breaking NSW off spinner. (3)
- 103 Melbourne Storm's losing score in the 2016 grand final. (6)
- 105 Make (someone) anxious or worried (7)
- 108 Opposite to Nay, when voting (3)
- 110 Jillaroo lock forward playing for the Dragons in the NRLW (7)
- 112 Transfer Window (inits) (2)
- 113 Nickname for a Parramatta RL player. (3)
- 115 Abbreviation for mister (2)
- 116 A term used to describe players of Irish decent (6)
- 118 Inits of one of the Rabbitohs' props. (2)
- 119 Politically Correct (2)
- 121 Inits of Storm back rower (2)
- 123 Vampire Knight (inits) (2)
- 125 Facial hair (5)
- 127 Optimum Yield (inits) (2)
- 128 Non-standard spelling of OK, representing a pronunciation (3)
- 132 Research Natural Area (inits) (3)
- 134 New York Baseball (inits) (3)
- 136 Australian Board of Radiology (inits) (3) 138 American Express (inits) (2)
- 139 Electronic Mail (inits) (2)
- 141 Knock Out (2)
- 142 Expressing location or arrival in a particular place or position (2)
- 143 Sonic Youth (inits) (2)
- 144 Prop who played in the '80s and '90s. NSW & Kangaroos rep forward who played for Easts, Canterbury, Parramatta & Penrith - inits (2)
- 145 Achieve or complete (2)
- 146 Electrical Engineer (inits) (2)

Answers next week

Rabbitohs hand Eels record Bankwest loss

Adam Huxtable



0-38



A hamstring injury that could sideline Latrell Mitchell for up to six weeks took some of the gloss of another supreme South Sydney display, a 38-0 win over the Eels.

Mitchell's injury was the talking point to come out of a night in which South Sydney stamped their credentials - and cast huge doubt on those of their opponents.

Mitchell copped some friendly fire with teammate Jaxson Paulo landing on him in a tackle and forcing his left leg back, straining the hamstring. Adding insult to injury, Mitchell's involvement didn't make a difference, with the play eventually being called back due to obstruction. Early reports indicate a grade three strain, one that could keep him out until the finals.

Rabbitohs halves Adam Reynolds and Cody Walker continually exploited a woeful Eels edge defence on either side, sending their outside back over for 4 of the 7 tries scored.

What was perhaps most concerning for the Eels, and has been for a number of weeks, was

their inability to score points. Halfback Mitchell Moses was mostly unseen and the Eels never really looked like cracking the South Sydney defence.

Dylan Brown copped an ankle injury and looked to be in some trouble, but he strapped it up and was able to continue playing.

A forced pass from Mitch Moses was dropped by Ryan Matterson to give Souths their first chance and a brilliant Mitchell catch-and-pass sent Corey Allan over untouched in the sixth minute.

Moses again forced an offload which was dropped by Nathan Brown, and the warning signs were in when Souths grasped their next chance with two hands and Jaxson Paulo went over courtesy of a brilliant Marsters flick pass.

Cody Walker burst onto a perfect Reynolds short ball to streak 30 to score in the 30th minute and Souths went the length off the next set as Walker ran over the top of Waqa Blake and into space to start a movement eventually finished by a Reynolds grubber for Jaydn Su'A to score the Rabbitohs 2nd try in 3 minutes.

Mitchell copped a horror bounce from a bomb late in the half that he had to retrieve from near his own dead ball line and produced one of the best kick returns of the season. The Eels were lucky to hold on to only be down by 22 at half time.

Any hope of an Eels comeback was done when Dylan Brown was denied due to obstruction in the 50th minute. Souths went on to expose the Eels edge defence 3 more times, with Campbell Graham scoring two and Adam Reynolds chiming in with a 4-pointer of his own.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:
3 points - Adam Reynolds; 2 points - Cody Walker; 1 points - Latrell Mitchell

Titans' late show dents Dragons finals hopes

Tim Costello



10-14



A quick double-shot of tries from the Gold Coast Titans has put St George Illawarra's finals chances to the sword, with the visitors claiming a 14-10 victory at Kogarah tonight.

While 24 points were scored on the night, only two of them came in the first 45 minutes of the contest - a Zac Lomax penalty goal putting the Dragons ahead 2-0 in the first half, a lead they maintained into the break and beyond.

The first tryscorer ended up being Jacob Host, who ran onto a Ben Hunt crash ball after 48 minutes. A relatively easy conversion for Zac Lomax saw the home side spring out to an 8-0 lead, having dominated possession since the resumption of play after halftime.

But as soon as they looked good, things fell apart. Their right edge defence was exposed with Phillip Sami taking advantage on the Titans' first set after the Host try and the Gold Coast winger ensured the visitors were on the board, although Ash Taylor's failed sideline

conversion meant the margin remained 4.

Both sides locked horns again for another twenty minutes after the Sami try, with the Saints fighting to hold their lead. They eventually extended that lead with a penalty goal eight minutes from fulltime - but that decision would come back to haunt them.

After Lomax's two-pointer handed the hosts a six-point buffer, the Titans hit the go-button and first managed a try through Tyrone Peachey after a clever grubber hit the post, fooling the Red V back-men. Peachey grounded the unattended ball and Jamal Fogarty's conversion evened the ledger.

Fogarty would then go on to play the hero a minute later, after a centre-field bust saw the late bloomer claim what would be the match winning try.

He missed the conversion on his own kick and the Saints ultimately had to resort to a short kickoff with 90 seconds left, but couldn't penetrate the Titans' line on their only remaining set.

The Dragons narrow finals chances now rely on winning most - if not all - of their remaining four matches. That project starts next Sunday evening in Townsville when they face the lowly Cowboys.

The Titans' season is officially over despite the win, but they do have two favourable contests ahead. They face last-placed Canterbury next Saturday afternoon in Sydney before hosting Brisbane a week later.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:
3 points - Jamal Fogarty; 2 points - Alexander Brimson; 1 points - Tyson Frizell

Warriors wallop weak Knights

Justin Davies



36-6



New Zealand Warriors kept their slim finals hopes alive with a dominant 36-6 result against a lifeless Newcastle Knights side today in Tamworth.

The game was billed as a thank you for Tamworth and they were treated to an exhibition of rugby league.

The Warriors ran in six tries, with five of those coming in a rampaging second half as the wandering Warriors continue to buck expectations this season.

This week, Roger Tuivasa-Sheck opened up about his struggles in missing his family but the superstar fullback led from the front this afternoon for the Warriors. He ran for 266 metres, scored a double and delivered a Man of the Match performance bringing the Warriors within

two points of the top eight.

Tuivasa-Sheck led a right-side attack which was on fire all afternoon. Peta Hiku showed off all the skills with two flick passes, the second of which was a pearler for winger Adam Pompey who showed off his finisher skills in the corner.

Today's result also adds another notch to the belt of interim coach Todd Payten.

He has built this Warriors side through completions, possession and passion and the side has looked refreshed under the former Tigers leadership.

George Jennings and Jazz Tevaga added tries late in the piece to stretch the score to 36-6.

The Warriors once they sensed blood, never let up against a Knights side that were off since the opening whistle.

There will be some soul-searching for the Knights coming up. They remain safe in seventh position for now, but last week's performance combined with today's no-show must worry coach Adam O'Brien with their final month of football to shore up their finals chances.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:
3 points - Roger Tuivasa-Sheck
2 points - Peta Hiku
1 points - Adam Pompey

Terrific Tedesco torments Broncos

Sam Bourke



The Sydney Roosters have completely destroyed Brisbane for the second time in 2020, putting on an absolute clinic to run out 58-12 winners at the SCG tonight.

Fullback James Tedesco was sensational for the home side, scoring one try and a whopping five try assists to totally outclass the hapless Broncos. He wasn't alone with young backrower Sitili Tupouniua also shining under the lights of the SCG, with two tries and a performance that is likely to have NSW backrower Angus Crichton and incoming superstar recruit Sonny Bill Williams likely starting from the bench when they are available for selection next weekend. The Broncos meanwhile failed to respond to the mid-week sacking of coach Anthony Seibold and despite some individual brilliance from David Fifita and Kotoni Staggs to get on the scoreboard, Brisbane still continue to fall towards rock bottom.

The Roosters opened the scoring with their first opportunity when Tedesco ducked out of dummy half close to the line and hit Sitili Tupouniua with a short ball, which saw the young backrower crash over to score the first try. Kyle Flanagan converted and it was 6-0.

Brisbane's ill-discipline reared its ugly head early, with several unforced errors, which was further compounded when Broncos prop Joe Ofahengaue was penalised in possession for unnecessarily dropping his knee into hooker Jake Friend's head while he was prone on the ground. He went on report and gave the Roosters valuable field position. Things began to get embarrassing for the visitors when Isaac Liu simply strolled through the defensive line off a regulation hit up to score under the posts. Flanagan converted for 12-0.

The reigning premiers then went up a gear, when Tupouniua then produced a superb offload to put Kyle Flanagan away, the Roosters halfback then found an ominous Tedesco in support, who streaked away to score a trademark try. Once again the Roosters continued to charge through the Broncos defence like a knife through hot butter, and once in position it allowed Flanagan to take the ball to the line and he found that man Tupouniua who charged over for his second try of the night.

The Broncos needed something heading into the break and it came through their superstar centre Staggs, who scooped up a loose Roosters pass from Boyd Corder and the NSW hopeful then raced away to score under the posts. His conversion narrowed the Roosters dominance on the scoreboard to 24-6 at halftime.

The Roosters picked up where they left off in the second stanza, when Drew Hutchison and Corder combined down the left-hand side to put Josh Morris over in the corner to score. Flanagan missed his first conversion of the night and it was 28-6. Josh then turned provider, when he muscled through some feeble Broncos edge defence and found Tedesco who then provided his winger Daniel Tupou with a simple one on one draw and pass to score an easy try. Flanagan again converted and it was 34-6.

Needing some individual brilliance to give themselves a faint hope, Brisbane found some through Titans' bound backrower Fifita, who inside his own attacking zone, skipped across the posts and then powered away from two would be defenders to score a strong try. Staggs converted to narrow the score to 34-12. Just as the lead was narrowed, it was extended yet again minutes later, when Nat Butcher latched onto a loose pass, which caught the Broncos defence napping and the backrower raced away to score under the posts to extend the Roosters lead to 40-12 with less than 20 minutes remaining.

The Roosters continued to dominate, with tries coming through Josh Morris and another to Tupou in quick succession and the Roosters hit 50 late in the match. When you think of NRL tries, Brett Morris certainly has scored more than most, and he left it late to get in on the act, scoring off a terrific over the head pass from Tedesco to end the 58-12 rout.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - James Tedesco; 2 points - Sitili Tupouniua; 1 points - Josh Morris

Panthers pound Tigers for eleventh straight win

Justin Davies



The Penrith Panthers move a step closer to the Minor Premiership following a 30-6 result against Wests Tigers tonight at Penrith Stadium.

Penrith kept their march towards a third Minor Premiership, survived a first half salvo from the energetic Tigers to lead 14-6 at the break. The Panthers ran in three tries in the second half to notch up their eleventh straight win in 2020.

Despite missing both Villiame Kikau and Apisai Koroisau, the Panthers side didn't miss a beat tonight. Jarome Luai directed the side well, scored the Panthers first four-pointer and produced a Man of the Match performance.

Wests Tigers were on the verge headed into the game, knew another loss would extinguish their finals hope. Veteran half Benji Marshall kicked for try-scoring machine David

Nofoaluma, scoring his 13th of the season, and shocked the leaders for a 6-nil lead.

The first half was a fiery affair. Both sides tried to engage with each other to find the edge but when the game got back to football, the Panthers were slick in their attack and showed the Tigers why the joint venture will spend another year in the wilderness.

Once Liam Martin charged over from a Nathan Cleary short ball followed by a penalty goal from Cleary to make it 14-6 at the break, the leaders were never headed. Brian To'o in his return from injury crossed in the 45th minute to stretch the lead to 12.

Panthers kept the Tigers at arms length, the visitors lost the energy from the first half then lost the game as they lacked any direction or thrust in attack. Penrith weren't at their magical best but Stephen Crichton was awarded a penalty try then a late Josh Mansour four-pointer was enough for a 30-6 win.

The Tigers miss the finals again, and might not even get to finish in their traditional ninth spot. Michael Maguire must be pulling out the remnants of his hair about how he can turn this side around and make them a contender again.

For the Panthers, the gravy train rolls on. They start the final month of regular season football taking on the lowly Brisbane Broncos followed by another western derby with Parramatta then finish with the Cowboys and Bulldogs.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Jarome Luai; 2 points - Liam Martin; 1 points - Dylan Edwards

Baby Sharks do a job on dismal Cowboys

Andrew Ferguson



Cronulla fielded one of their most inexperienced spines ever, yet still managed to run rings around the Cowboys, who were clumsy and non-threatening for the majority of the game. The Sharks finished 28-12 winners at Kogarah.

The Sharks came into the game with Will Kennedy (13 games), Braydon Trindall (2 games), Connor Tracey (12 games) and Blayke Brailey (30 games) in their spine and from the outset were playing faster and more expansive footy.

It was though the Cowboys who scored first, in just the sixth minute, when Scott Drinkwater sent a nice ball over the top of Ronaldo Mulitalo, who rushed up and in. Kyle Feldt took the pass and strolled over the line for a soft try. Valentine Holmes nailed the sideline conversion. The Sharks then had two tries disallowed by the bunker, in the 9th minute and then the 11th. They wouldn't be denied in the 12th minute though when Trindall dished a short ball to Briton Nikora, who ran a straight line and busted through the Cowboys defence to score to the right of the posts. Trindall converted from almost in front. Just after that try was scored, Michael Morgan limped off the field with a calf injury which looks set to rule him out for the rest of the year.

Ten minutes later, Cronulla crossed for their second try in glorious fashion. Some quick passing on the right side gets the ball to Kennedy, who then threw a hard, highish ball out to Sione Katoa, who took it one-handed and then dived with all the grace of Rudolf Nureyev in his prime, to score in the corner. Trindall was unable to convert from the sideline.

The Sharks next set after the restart ended with Brailey kicking a 40/20. They then forced a drop out from the ensuing set. Late in the next set, Braden Hamlin-Uele received a short ball from Aaron Woods and the big unit plowed through the defence to score a good try near the posts. Trindall's conversion attempt hit the post and went through for another 2 points. The Sharks had all of the field position for the rest of half but couldn't add to their score. At halftime, they lead 16-6.

Cronulla continued where they left off when the second half resume, crossing for a try just two minutes after the restart. Brailey exploded out of dummy half, linked with Trindall who got a nice offload along to Niukore, who then drew the fullback before passing to Siosifa Talakai and the big man channelled his inner Josh Addo-Carr to race away and score. Trindall's conversion was good. Four minutes later the Sharks were denied a try by the bunker for a third time, when it was found that Josh Dugan had failed to get behind the kicker.

The Sharks put the game to bed in the 69th, after Kennedy made a breakthrough the middle and then passed to Tracey, who looked to be tackled well shy of the line, but momentum saw him get close to the line before he then managed to get the ball, just, on the line for a try! Trindall added the extras from almost in front. The Cowboys got a consolation try in the final 90 seconds of the game via a standard scrum play. Holmes received the ball, drifted right towards the sideline, drew the Sharks winger in and then sent a good ball to Feldt, who scored comfortably in the corner. Holmes converted, but it was way too little, way too late.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Will Kennedy; 2 points - Braydon Trindall; 1 points - Toby Rudolf

THE WRAP · ROUND 16

Olam shines as Manly rue poor execution

Robert Crosby



30-6



A hat-trick from Justin Olam has seen the Melbourne Storm end the Manly Sea Eagles' season with a clinical 30-6 win at Sunshine Coast Stadium.

Scoring six tries to one to move into outright second on the premiership ladder, the Storm led from start to finish as the Sea Eagles were left to lament a string of missed opportunities.

Avoiding an early scare after Reuben Garrick failed to ground a terrific cross-field kick from Jake Trbojevic, the Storm were rewarded for a wealth of possession with Olam (11th minute) exposing debutant Albert Hopoate down the left edge.

Hitting back moments later through Addin Fonua-Blake (15th minute), a beautiful pass from fellow bookend Martin Taupau allowed the Manly big man to touch down for his third try of the season.

Returning after a month on the sidelines with an injured AC joint, Cameron Smith showed tremendous vision to kick from inside his own half to set up a try for Josh Addo-Carr (22nd minute).

Taking advantage of a successful captain's challenge call close to the Sea Eagles' try-line, a barge-over effort from Nelson Asofa-Solomona (25th minute) allowed the Storm to take a 14-6 lead to the change of ends.

With Manly squandering a chance to post points after a mix up involving Cade Cust and Trbojevic, a brilliant left side raid featuring Ryan Papenhuyzen and Addo-Carr enabled Olam (48th minute) to touch down for his second.

Trailing 18-6 heading into the final quarter, Brad Parker summed up the afternoon for the visitors after failing to ground the ball over the try-line.

Securing the result with a thrilling passage of play finished off by Olam (65th minute), a dashing run on fulltime from Addo-Carr (80th minute) saw the Storm run out 30-6 winners.

In the only negatives for the victors, returning outside back Marion Seve suffered a suspected ACL tear in the first half, while Nelson Asofa-Solomona sat out the second half with a calf injury.

Next week, the Storm face the Rabbitohs at ANZ Stadium on Friday night, while the Sea Eagle return to Lottoland to host the Tigers on Saturday evening.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Justin Olam; 2 points - Ryan Papenhuyzen; 1 points - Cameron Smith

Raiders come from behind to score emphatic victory

Josh Robertson



34-20



The Canberra Raiders have had to fight their way from beyond a converted try behind to take a 34-20 victory over the Canterbury Bulldogs.

In what was a game of two very different halves, it was the Bulldogs who left many stunned when they were able to open the scoring through Dallin Watene-Zelezniak when the Raiders defence tried to jam in the Bulldogs attack unsuccessfully.

The Raiders who were denied the first potential points of the game, then were able to hit back twice in quick succession. The first effort for the Raiders came through Joseph Tapine was able to get through some fragile defence around the middle of the Bulldogs which saw him step off his left and dive over. The Bulldogs fans were no doubt going to be worried the floodgates had opened when Will Hopoate made a mess of a George Williams bomb which saw Williams collect the ball before he found Tom Starling who scored under the sticks.

An eleven-minute burst from the Bulldogs put themselves back into the game when Raymond Faitala-Mariner got Canterbury back to within two points when he got the green lights of the bunker after forcing his way through the line. The Bulldogs got their way over

again just two minutes before half-time when Josh Jackson was able to be in the right spot when he was able to take a Kerrod Holland tap back and the captain got his way over the line.

The Bulldogs left everyone speechless for their final try of the half when Kieran Foran kick ended up back with the Bulldogs before Lachlan Lewis found DWZ who in turn found Kerrod Holland who put in a second and then third kick and got his way to the ball and ground it. The subsequent conversion from Nick Meaney gave the Bulldogs a 20-12 half-time lead.

The hopes of a better start to the second half for the Raiders after their poor finish to the first half were quickly diminished when Raiders hooker Tom Starling was sent to the sin bin by referee Chris Butler after the Raiders conceded three set restarts in quick succession as well as a penalty which saw Starling binned.

The sin bin period ended up being a positive one for the Raiders who managed to erase their eight-point deficit and end the 10-minute period in the lead. Jack Wighton was the man to thank for both the Raiders tries during this period with Wighton running at the line and going through to score.

Any hopes of another comeback from the Bulldogs were evaporated when Hudson Young got his way over the line thanks to some soft hands from Josh Papali'i and the Raiders extended their lead.

The Raiders dashed any hopes of a late comeback for the Bulldogs inside the final 10 minutes when the Bulldogs defensive efforts took their toll when Tom Starling went over straight from dummy half to score. Jarrod Croker's conversion pushed the Raiders out to the 14-point margin.

Next weekend, the Canberra Raiders will have a big task up against the Sydney Roosters on Saturday night whilst the Bulldogs take on the Titans on Saturday afternoon.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Jack Wighton; 2 points - Josh Papali'i; 1 points - Joseph Tapine

The scoresheet

Scores, scorers, match details from Round 16

Rabbitohs 38 (Corey Allan, Adam Reynolds, Jaxson Paulo, Cody Walker, Jaydn Su'A, Campbell Graham (2) tries; Adam Reynolds 5/7 goals) def **Eels 0**; Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Thursday 27 August 2020, 7:50pm AEST; Halftime: Rabbitohs 22-0; Crowd: 7012; Referee: Gerard Sutton; Touch Judges: Dave Munro, Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Bryan Norrie

Titans 14 (Phillip Sami, Tyrone Peachey, Jamal Fogarty tries; Jamal Fogarty 1/2, Ashley Taylor 0/1 goals) def **Dragons 10** (Jacob Host try; Zac Lomax 3/3 goals); Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Friday 28 August 2020, 6:00pm AEST; Halftime: Dragons 2-0; Crowd: 2097; Referee: Henry Perenara; Touch Judges: Jon Stone, Liam Kennedy; NRL Bunker: Ashley Klein, Beau Scott

Roosters 58 (Sitali Tupouniua (2), Isaac Liu, James Tedesco, Josh Morris (2), Daniel Tupou (2), Nat Butcher, Brett Morris tries; Kyle Flanagan 9/10 goals) def **Broncos 12** (Kotoni Staggs, David Fifita tries; Kotoni Staggs 2/2 goals); Venue: Sydney Cricket Ground; Date: Friday 28 August 2020, 7:55pm AEST; Halftime: Roosters 24-6; Crowd: 3841; Referee: Adam Gee; Touch Judges: Peter Gough, Belinda Sharpe; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Ben Galea

Warriors 36 (Adam Pompey (2), Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (2), George Jennings, Jazz Tevaga tries; Chanel Harris-Tavita 6/7 goals) def **Knights 6** (Gehamat Shibusaki try; Kalyn Ponga

1/1 goal); Venue: Scully Park, Tamworth; Date: Saturday 29 August 2020, 3:00pm AEST; Halftime: Warriors 8-6; Referee: Matt Cecchin; Touch Judges: Todd Smith, Gavin Badger; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Ben Lowe

Sharks 28 (Briton Nikora, Sione Katoa, Braden Hamlin-Uele, Siosifa Talakai, Connor Tracey tries; Braydon Trindall 4/5 goals) def **Cowboys 12** (Kyle Feldt 2 tries; Valentine Holmes 2/2 goals); Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Saturday 29 August 2020, 5:30pm AEST; Halftime: Sharks 16-6; Referee: Chris Sutton; Touch Judges: Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski, Drew Oultram; NRL Bunker: Henry Perenara, Bryan Norrie

Panthers 30 (Jarome Luai, Liam Martin, Brian To'o, Stephen Crichton, Josh Mansour tries; Nathan Cleary 5/6 goals) def **Tigers 6** (David Nofoaluma try; Moses Mbye 1/1 goals); Venue: Panthers Stadium; Date: Saturday 29 August 2020, 7:35pm AEST; Halftime: Panthers 14-6; Referee: Ben Cummins; Touch Judges: Dave Munro, Matt Noyen; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Ben Galea

Storm 30 (Justin Olam (3), Josh Addo-Carr (2), Nelson Asofa-Solomona tries; Cameron Smith 3/6 goals) def **Sea Eagles 6** (Addin Fonua-Blake try; Reuben Garrick 1/1 goals); Venue: Sunshine Coast Stadium; Date: Sunday 30 August 2020, 4:05pm AEST; Halftime: Storm 14-6; Referee: Grant Atkins; Touch Judges: Phil Henderson, Peter Gough; NRL Bunker: Ashley Klein, Henry Perenara

Raiders 34 (Joseph Tapine, Tom Starling (2), Jack Wighton (2), Hudson Young tries; Jarrod Croker 5/6 goals) def **Bulldogs 20** (Dallin Watene-Zelezniak, Raymond Faitala-Mariner, Josh Jackson, Kerrod Holland tries; Nick Meaney 2/4 goals); Venue: GIO Stadium Canberra; Date: Sunday 30 August 2020, 7:35pm AEST; Halftime: Bulldogs 20-12; Referee: Chris Butler; Touch Judges: Jon Stone, Liam Kennedy; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Bryan Norrie

NRL Match Review

Round 16 Charge Sheet

Reagan CAMPBELL-GILLARD (Eels) Grade 1 Dangerous Throw
17th minute on Campbell Graham
Base penalty 100pts
Guilty / no contest = 100pts (1 match) **OR** Guilty - early plea = 75pts (0 matches)
PLEA: Guilty - early plea. **No suspension.** 75 carryover points accrued.

Jacob HOST (Dragons) Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (other)
34th minute on Tyrone Peachey
Base penalty 100pts
Guilty / no contest = 100pts (1 match) **OR** Guilty - early plea = 75pts (0 matches)
PLEA: Guilty - early plea. **No suspension.** 75 carryover points accrued.

Sam LISONE (Titans) Grade 1 Dangerous Contract (head/neck)
35th minute on Billy Brittain
Base penalty 100pts
1 x similar prior offence last 2 years (50% loading)
30 carryover points accrued
Guilty / no contest = 150+30=180pts (1 match) **OR** Guilty - early plea = 112+30=142pts (1 match)
PLEA: Not guilty. **Charge dismissed at judiciary.**

Joe OFAHENGAUE (Broncos) Grade 1 Dangerous Contract (head/neck)
14th minute on Jake Friend
Base penalty 100pts
3 x non-similar prior offence last 2 years (60% loading)

7 carryover points accrued
Guilty / no contest = 160+7=167pts (1 match) **OR** Guilty - early plea = 120+7=127pts (1 match)
PLEA: Guilty - early plea. **Suspended 1 match.** 27 carryover points accrued.

Pasami Saulo (Knights) Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (other)
67' on George Jennings
Base penalty 100pts
1 x similar prior offence last 2 years (50% loading)
20 carryover points to be added
Guilty / no contest = 150+20=170pts (1 match) **OR** Guilty - early plea = 112+20=132pts (1 match)
PLEA: Guilty - early plea. **Suspended 1 match.** 32 carryover points accrued.

Coen Hess (Cowboys) Grade 1 Crusher Tackle
55' on Sione Katoa
Base penalty 200pts
Guilty / no contest = 200pts (2 matches) **OR** Guilty - early plea = 150pts (1 match)
PLEA: Guilty - early plea. **Suspended 1 match.** 50 carryover points accrued.

Matt Eisenhuth (Tigers) Grade 1 Dangerous Contract (other)
23' on Moses Leota
Base penalty 100pts
7 yr incident free discount (25%)
Guilty / no contest = 75pts (0 matches) **OR** Guilty - early plea = 50pts (0 matches)
PLEA: Guilty - early plea. **No suspension.** 50 carryover points accrued.

Taniela Paseka (Sea Eagles) Grade 1 Tripping
38' on Nicho Hynes
Base penalty \$750 fine
Guilty / no contest = \$750 fine **OR** Guilty - early plea = \$550 fine
PLEA: Guilty - early plea. **\$550 fine.**

LeagueUnlimited Player of the Year

Standings after Round 16

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.

25 points - Nathan Cleary (Panthers)
22 points - Adam Reynolds (Rabbitohs)
20 points - Cameron Smith (Storm)
19 points - Shaun Johnson (Sharks)
18 points - Jack Wighton (Raiders)
15 points - Kalyn Ponga (Knights), James Tedesco (Roosters), Cameron Munster (Storm)
14 points - Brett Morris (Roosters)
13 points - Benji Marshall (Wests Tigers)
12 points - Clinton Gutherson (Eels), Luke Keary (Roosters)
11 points - Tom Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Matthew Duffy (Dragons), George Williams (Raiders), Jahrome Hughes (Storm)
10 points - Jarome Luai (Panthers), Kodi Nikorima (Warriors), Jason Taumalolo (Cowboys), Cody Walker (Rabbitohs)
9 points - Mitchell Pearce (Knights), David Klemmer (Knights), Josh Papali'i (Raiders)
8 points - Dylan Brown (Eels), Mitchell Moses (Eels), Blake Green (Warriors)
7 points - Jamal Fogarty (Titans), Latrell Mitchell (Rabbitohs), Harry Grant (Storm), Daly Cherry-Evans (Sea Eagles), Wade Graham (Sharks), Isiah Yeo (Panthers), Ashley Taylor (Titans), Stephen Crichton (Panthers), Kurt Mann (Knights), Peta Hiku (Warriors), Sione Katoa (Bulldogs), Liam Martin (Panthers)
6 points - Reed Mahoney (Eels), Eliesa Katoa (Warriors), Curtis Sironen (Sea Eagles), Blayke Brailey (Sharks), Ryan Papenhuyzen (Storm), Ben Hunt (Dragons), Matt Burton (Panthers)
5 points - Maika Sivo (Eels), Will Hopoate (Bulldogs), Apisai Koroisau (Panthers), Luke Brooks (Wests Tigers), Nathan Brown (Eels), Corey Norman (Dragons), Reagan

Campbell-Gillard (Eels), Cade Cust (Sea Eagles), Michael Morgan (Cowboys), Damien Cook (Rabbitohs), Siosua Taukeiaho (Roosters), Daniel Saifiti (Knights), Jarrod Croker (Raiders), Zac Lomax (Dragons), Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (Warriors)
4 points - Tino Fa'asuamaleaui (Storm), Cameron Murray (Rabbitohs), Sitili Tupouniua (Roosters), Dallin Watene-Zelezniak (Bulldogs), Junior Paulo (Eels), James Fisher-Harris (Panthers), Josh Addo-Carr (Storm), Jake Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Josh Morris (Sharks), Toby Rudolf (Sharks), David Nofaluma (Wests Tigers), Tevita Pangai Junior (Broncos), Justin Olam (Storm), Scott Drinkwater (Cowboys), Anthony Milford (Broncos), Shaun Lane (Eels)
3 points - Jamayne Isaako (Broncos), Aiden Tolman (Bulldogs), Adam Clune (Dragons), Viliame Kikau (Panthers), Jake Clifford (Cowboys), Mitchell Barnett (Knights), Joseph Leilua (Wests Tigers), Jared Waerea-Hargreaves (Roosters), Kevin Proctor (Titans), Kotoni Staggs (Broncos), Nick Meaney (Bulldogs), Charlie Staines (Panthers), Joseph Manu (Roosters), Addin Fonua-Blake (Sea Eagles), Will Kennedy (Sharks), Young Tonumaiepa (Titans), Brian Kelly (Titans), Jesse Ramien (Sharks), John Bateman (Raiders), Bradman Best (Knights), Nelson Asofa-Solomona (Storm), Alexander Brimson (Titans), Waqa Blake (Eels), Jack Murchie (Raiders)
2 points - Braydon Trindall (Sharks), Dane Gagai (Rabbitohs), Christian Welch (Storm), Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad (Raiders), Thomas Burgess (Rabbitohs), Moeaki Fotu'auka (Titans), Alex Johnston (Rabbitohs), Siosifa Talakai (Sharks), Martin Taupau (Sea Eagles), Ryan Sutton (Raiders), Tyson Frizell (Dragons), Kieran Foran (Bulldogs), Mikaele Ravalawa (Dragons), Kyle Flanagan (Roosters), Jorge Taufua (Sea Eagles), Ronaldo Mulitalo (Sharks), Payne Haas (Broncos), Adam Doue'ihii (Wests Tigers), Dale Finucane (Storm), Matt Ikuvalu (Roosters), Nick Cotric (Raiders), Michael Jennings (Eels), David Fifita (Broncos), Emre Guler (Raiders), Cameron McInnes (Dragons), Lindsay Collins (Roosters), Tohu Harris (Warriors), Wayde Egan (Warriors), Corey Thompson (Wests Tigers), Braden Hamlin-Uele (Sharks)
1 point - James Tamou (Panthers), Patrick Carrigan (Broncos), Tom Starling (Raiders), Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow (Cowboys), Luke Garner (Wests Tigers), Jordan Pereira (Dragons), Daniel Tupou (Roosters), Taniela Paseka (Sea Eagles), Thomas Flegler (Broncos), Tevita Tatola (Rabbitohs), Alex Twal (Wests Tigers), Dylan Edwards (Panthers), Joseph Tapine (Raiders), Coen Hess (Cowboys), Adam Pompey (Warriors), Ethan Lowe (Rabbitohs), Tyrrell Fuimaono (Dragons), Tui Kamikamica (Storm), Connor Watson (Knights), Sam Lisone (Titans), Josh Reynolds (Wests Tigers), Jaydn Su'a (Rabbitohs), Darius Boyd (Broncos), Billy Walters (Wests Tigers), Adam Elliott (Bulldogs), Herman Ese'eese (Knights), Caleb Aekins (Panthers), Elliott Whitehead (Raiders), Valentine Holmes (Cowboys), Chad Townsend (Sharks), Brendan Elliot (Sea Eagles), Andrew McCullough (Broncos), Phillip Sami (Titans), Jake Averillo (Bulldogs), Liam Knight (Rabbitohs), Tom Opacic (Cowboys)

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RUGBY LEAGUE project

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Premiership ladder

NRL 2020 Telstra Premiership after Round 16

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Penrith Panthers	16	14	1	1	418	212	206	29
2	Melbourne Storm	16	13	3	0	404	188	216	26
3	Parramatta Eels	16	12	4	0	312	214	98	24
4	Sydney Roosters	16	11	5	0	450	226	224	22
5	Canberra Raiders	16	11	5	0	338	249	89	22
6	South Sydney Rabbitohs	16	10	6	0	403	272	131	20
7	Newcastle Knights	16	9	6	1	323	268	55	19
8	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	16	9	7	0	402	356	46	18
9	Warriors	16	7	9	0	257	358	-101	14
10	St George Illawarra Dragons	16	6	10	0	300	328	-28	12
11	Wests Tigers	16	6	10	0	336	369	-33	12
12	Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles	16	6	10	0	259	373	-114	12
13	Gold Coast Titans	16	5	11	0	232	413	-181	10
14	North Queensland Cowboys	16	3	13	0	281	414	-133	6
15	Brisbane Broncos	16	3	13	0	222	523	-301	6
16	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	16	2	14	0	222	396	-174	4

Stats leaders

after Round 16

Top Tryscorers

1	Alex JOHNSTON (Rabbitohs)	14
	Sione KATOJA (Sharks)	14
	Stephen CRICHTON (Panthers)	14
	David NOFOALUMA (Wests Tigers)	14
5	Kyle FELDT (Cowboys)	13
6	Josh ADDO-CARR (Storm)	12
	Maika SIVO (Eels)	12
	Mikaele RAVALAWA (Dragons)	12
	Brett MORRIS (Roosters)	12
10	Matthew DUFTY (Dragons)	11

Top Goalkickers

1	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)	69 / 85	81%
2	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	62 / 72	86%
3	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	59 / 72	82%
4	Cameron SMITH (Storm)	54 / 65	83%
5	Jarrold CROKER (Raiders)	53 / 61	87%
6	Shaun JOHNSON (Sharks)	51 / 66	77%
7	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	50 / 64	78%
8	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	43 / 65	66%
9	Reuben GARRICK (Sea Eagles)	39 / 54	72%
10	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	37 / 45	82%

Top Pointscorers

	T	G	FG	Pts	
1	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)	4	69	-	154
2	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	6	62	1	149
3	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	10	50	-	140
4	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	4	59	2	136
5	Jarrold CROKER (Raiders)	3	53	-	118
6	Cameron SMITH (Storm)	1	54	-	112
7	Shaun JOHNSON (Sharks)	2	51	-	110
	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	6	43	-	110
9	Kyle FELDT (Cowboys)	13	23	-	98
10	Reuben GARRICK (Sea Eagles)	3	39	-	90

THE FRONT ROW

GAME DAY

ROUND 17 MATCH PROGRAM

TEAM LISTS · MATCH DETAILS & STATS · PREVIEWS

Thursday



**Broncos
v Panthers**
Suncorp Stadium

Friday



**Knights
v Sharks**
McDonald Jones



**Rabbitohs
v Storm**
ANZ Stadium

Saturday



**Bulldogs
v Titans**
ANZ Stadium



**Sea Eagles
v Wests Tigers**
Lottoland



**Raiders
v Roosters**
GIO Stadium

Sunday



**Warriors
v Eels**
Central Coast Stadium



**Cowboys
v Dragons**
QLD Country Bank Stadium

WEEKLY TIPS Round 17

Bracketed figures (X/Y): X is correct tips for last round; Y is total correct since Round 3

Rick Edgerton (6/81)

Panthers
Knights
Rabbitohs
Titans
Sea Eagles
Roosters
Warriors
Dragons

Andrew Jackson (7/79)

Panthers
Knights
Storm
Titans
Sea Eagles
Roosters
Eels
Cowboys

Justin Davies (5/75)

Panthers
Sharks
Storm
Bulldogs
Tigers
Raiders
Eels
Dragons

Tim Costello (5/72)

Panthers
Sharks
Storm
Bulldogs
Tigers
Raiders
Warriors
Dragons

Adam Huxtable (6/68)

Panthers
Knights
Storm
Titans
Sea Eagles
Roosters
Eels
Cowboys

Andrew Ferguson (5/67)

Panthers
Sharks
Storm
Bulldogs
Tigers
Roosters
Warriors
Dragons

Josh Robertson (7/80)

Panthers
Sharks
Rabbitohs
Titans
Tigers
Roosters
Warriors
Cowboys

Jeff Dickinson-Fox (5/78)

Panthers
Knights
Storm
Titans
Tigers
Roosters
Eels
Dragons

Sam Bourke (5/74)

Panthers
Knights
Storm
Bulldogs
Sea Eagles
Raiders
Eels
Dragons

Hamish Parker (6/71)

Panthers
Sharks
Storm
Titans
Sea Eagles
Roosters
Eels
Dragons

Rob Crosby (6/67)

Panthers
Knights
Storm
Titans
Tigers
Roosters
Eels
Dragons

Steven Williams (4/67)

Panthers
Knights
Rabbitohs
Titans
Tigers
Roosters
Warriors
Dragons

Brisbane BRONCOS



Penrith PANTHERS

P	T	G	Pts					P	T	G	Pts	
16	1	-	4	Darius BOYD	1	FULLBACK	1	Dylan EDWARDS	8	4	-	16
10	1	-	4	Corey OATES	2	WING	2	Josh MANSOUR	15	6	-	24
10	9	12	60	Kotoni STAGGS	3	CENTRE	3	Brent NADEN	12	9	-	36
15	5	3	26	Herbie FARNWORTH	4	CENTRE	4	Stephen CRICHTON	16	14	7	70
6	3	-	12	Richie KENNAR	5	WING	5	Brian TO'O	9	3	-	12
1	-	-	-	Sean O'SULLIVAN	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Jarome LUAI	16	4	-	16
8	1	-	4	Tom DEARDEN	7	HALFBACK	7	Nathan CLEARY	14	4	54 ²	126
14	-	-	-	Payne HAAS	8	FRONT ROW	8	James TAMOU	16	-	-	-
11*	-	-	-	Issac LUKE	9	HOOKER	9	Mitch KENNY	4	-	-	-
11	1	-	4	Rhys KENNEDY	10	FRONT ROW	10	Moses LEOTA	16	-	-	-
6	3	-	12	David FIFITA	11	SECOND ROW	11	Viliame KIKAU	14	6	-	24
12	1	-	4	Ben TE'O	12	SECOND ROW	12	Liam MARTIN	14	4	-	16
15	-	-	-	Patrick CARRIGAN	13	LOCK	13	James FISHER-HARRIS	16	-	-	-
9	1	-	4	Cory PAIX	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Tyrone MAY	9	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Jordan RIKI	15		15	Spencer LENIU	8	-	-	-
6	-	-	-	Ethan BULLEMOR	16		16	Kurt CAPEWELL	3	1	-	4
9	-	-	-	Jamil HOPOATE	17		17	Zane TETEVANO	13	-	-	-
5	1	-	4	Jesse ARTHARS	18	RESERVES	18	Apisai KOROISAU	14	3	-	12
-	-	-	-	Pride PETTERSON-ROBATI	19		19	Billy BURNS	10	2	-	8
1	-	-	-	Tyson GAMBLE	20		20	Matt BURTON	4	2	-	8
14	1	-	4	Brodie CROFT	21		21	Pat HOLLIS	-	-	-	-

* 3 games for Dragons

PETER GENTLE

COACH

IVAN CLEARY

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 Nathan Cleary needs to score 13 points to become just the 75th player in first grade history to reach 750 career points

#NRLBroncosPanthers

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Thursday 3 September 2020
KICKOFF	7:50pm AEST
VENUE	Suncorp Stadium, Milton, QLD
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE 4BC BNE, NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Matt CECCHIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Chris BUTLER Belinda SHARPE
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 54 MATCHES

Broncos 34 Panthers 19 Drawn 1

At Suncorp Stadium: 20 matches, Broncos 14, Panthers 6

LAST TEN

Year	Round	Match	Score
2012	R26	Broncos 19-12	Suncorp
2013	R24	Panthers 28-12	Centrebet
2014	R18	Panthers 35-34	Sportingbet
2015	R9	Broncos 8-5	Suncorp
2016	R3	Panthers 23-22	Pepper
2016	R20	Panthers 31-12	Suncorp
2017	R9	Broncos 32-18	Suncorp
2017	SF	Broncos 13-6	Suncorp
2018	R19	Broncos 50-18	Suncorp
2019	R22	Broncos 24-12	Suncorp

BRONCOS 6-4

BIGGEST WINS

1997	R16	Broncos 54-12	ANZ (QEII)
2000	R22	Broncos 48-6	ANZ (QEII)
2004	R26	Panthers 46-20	Penrith

FORM: LAST FIVE

BRONCOS	L L L L L	15th, 6pts
PANTHERS	W W W W W	1st, 29pts

THE RUN HOME

BRONCOS

R18	A	v Titans, Cbus Super	Sat 5:30pm
R19	A	v Eels, Bankwest	Fri 7:55pm
R20	H	v Cowboys, Suncorp	Thu 7:50pm

PANTHERS

R18	H	v Eels, Panthers	Fri 7:55pm
R19	A	v Cowboys, QLD C.Bank	Fri 6:00pm
R20	A	v Bulldogs, ANZ	Sat 3:00pm

Match Preview

with Andrew Jackson

Another complete mismatch looms as ladder leaders take on Broncos

Can you answer me one question? How is this Broncos team still not anchored to the bottom of the ladder? Obviously it comes down to the fact that the Bulldogs aren't going that great either. But with a -301 points differential it is clear that Peter Gentle's side is the worst one out in the competition and are still a strong chance of taking out the honours of the wooden spoon. The fact is that the Roosters were nowhere near their best in the opening stages of the first half but Brisbane failed to land a punch and ended up being smacked 58-12. There is no reprieve either with the high-flying Panthers this week. Their last meeting with Penrith ended with a 24-12 win and it was Payne Haas who turned matchwinner in that game. Haas returns this week from suspension in a much-needed boost to any chance they have of a stunning upset.

Complacency is the only real issue for the Panthers this week but there's been little signs of it in an 11-game winning streak. Penrith faced some adversity last Saturday when they fell to an early 6-0 deficit against the Tigers. The ambush was on but they weathered the storm and cruised to what was in the end a comfortable 30-6 win. This is a game the Panthers simply can't lose given the fact that the Broncos have been the laughing stock of the competition since it resumed. There's little chance they do though with Kurt Capewell and Viliame Kikau returning while Apisai Koroisau is also eyeing a comeback. Isiah Yeo is sidelined after a head knock against Wests.

Who to watch: Any chance Brisbane have is dependant upon Payne Haas. Sure, he'll need help from his teammates but against the competition's form forward pack, the Panthers need to be intimidated. Haas did just that the last time these sides met while his speed also caught the Penrith defence off guard when he raced away for an incredible solo try. If Haas can make a statement early it could be just what Brisbane need to rattle the Panthers.

This match-up is set up perfectly for Panthers five-eighth Jarome Luai. The Samoan international has taken significant strides in his individual game with his short kicking game in particular proving invaluable in building pressure. But Luai also has a lethal running game as evident in his try last week against Wests. Against a Brisbane team that has struggled in defence he could seriously run riot linking with Viliame Kikau, Stephen Crichton and Josh Mansour.

Favourite: Penrith are the shortest favourites they have been in recent memory.

My tip: The Panthers haven't had to travel any significant distance in a while so they could start slow but should ease their way to victory regardless. **Panthers by 22.**



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P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
15	6	43	110	Kalyn PONGA	1	FULLBACK	1	Will KENNEDY	12	3	-	12
4	2	-	8	Starford TO'A	2	WING	2	Sione KATOA	16	14	-	56
15	8	-	32	Enari TUALA	3	CENTRE	3	Josh DUGAN	12	4	-	16
8	3	-	12	Gehamat SHIBASAKI	4	CENTRE	4	Jesse RAMIEN	15	8	-	32
16	6	-	24	Hymel HUNT	5	WING	5	Ronaldo MULITALO	11	6	-	24
1	-	-	-	Mason LINO	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Braydon TRINDALL	3	-	4	8
16	2	-	9	Mitchell PEARCE	7	HALFBACK	7	Chad TOWNSEND	10	1	-	4
16	-	-	-	David KLEMMER	8	FRONT ROW	8	Braden HAMLIN-UELE	16	5	-	20
16	6	-	24	Kurt MANN	9	HOOKER	9	Blayke BRAILEY	16	3	-	12
16	2	-	8	Jacob SAIFITI	10	FRONT ROW	10	Aaron WOODS	16	1	-	4
13	-	-	-	Lachlan FITZGIBBON	11	SECOND ROW	11	Briton NIKORA	11	4	-	16
16	1	-	4	Aidan GUERRA	12	SECOND ROW	12	Wade GRAHAM	16	3	-	12
9	1	-	4	Mitchell BARNETT	13	LOCK	13	Toby RUDOLF	16	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Phoenix CROSSLAND	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Connor TRACEY	11	3	-	12
16	1	-	4	Herman ESE'ESE	15		15	Scott SORENSEN	10	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	Josh KING	16		16	Siosifa TALAKAI	12	3	-	12
5	-	-	-	Brodie JONES	17		17	Royce HUNT	11	1	-	4
7	1	2	8	Tex HOY	18	RESERVES	18	Jack WILLIAMS	13	2	-	8
-	-	-	-	Jirah MOMOISEA	19		19	Bryson GOODWIN	5	3	-	12
4	-	-	-	Tautau MOGA	20		20	Teig WILTON	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Chris RANDALL	21		21	Andrew FIFITA	8	1	-	4

ADAM O'BRIEN

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

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

RLP MILESTONES Josh DUGAN (Sharks) - 50th Sharks game

#NRLKnightsSharks

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 4 September 2020
KICKOFF	6:00pm AEST
VENUE	Netstrata Jubilee Stadium Carlton, NSW
WATCH	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 Matt NOYEN
NRL BUNKER	Henry PERENARA Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 53 MATCHES

Knights 28 Sharks 24 Drawn 1

At McDonald Jones: 25 matches, Knights 15, Sharks 9, Drawn 1

LAST TEN

Year	Round	Knights	Sharks	Opponent
2014	R18	Knights 31-18	Remondis	
2015	R6	Sharks 22-6	Remondis	
2015	R15	Sharks 30-28	Hunter	
2016	R10	Sharks 62-0	Hunter	
2016	R20	Sharks 36-4	SC Group	
2017	R5	Sharks 19-18	SC Group	
2017	R26	Sharks 26-18	McDonald Jones	
2018	R12	Sharks 48-10	McDonald Jones	
2018	R24	Sharks 38-12	SC Group	
2019	R1	Knights 14-8	McDonald Jones	

SHARKS 8-2

BIGGEST WINS

2002	R6	Knights 5-28	EnergyAustralia
2016	R10	Sharks 6-20	Hunter

FORM: LAST FIVE

KNIGHTS	L W W W L	7th, 19pts
SHARKS	W L W L W	8th, 18pts

THE RUN HOME

KNIGHTS

R18	A	v Roosters, SCG	Sat 7:35pm
R19	H	v Dragons, McDonald Jones	Sun 4:05pm
R20	A	v Titans, Cbus Super	Fri 6:00pm

SHARKS

R18	H	v Warriors, Netstrata Jub.	Sun 6:30pm
R19	A	v Roosters, SCG	Sat 7:35pm
R20	H	v Raiders, Netstrata Jub.	Sat 5:30pm

Match Preview

with Jason Hosken

Knights host Sharks with the winner all but guaranteed a finals ticket.

Not since 2013 has the onset of spring brought so much joy to Novocastrians. Usually playing for pride by now, the Newcastle Knights are just one win shy of securing a finals berth for the first time since the Wayne Bennett era.

Despite a horror 30-point hiding to the resurgent Warriors, the Knights sit in seventh place one point clear of the Sharks, but more importantly five ahead of the ninth placed New Zealanders.

Coming off a hat-trick of wins over lowly ranked opponents, the Warriors result is a timely wake up call for Newcastle who after this week tackle the Roosters, before the Dragons and Titans complete a tricky close out.

Surprisingly Adam O'Brien has retained last week's starting lineup with bench players Brodie Jones and Phoenix Crossland replacing Chris Randall and the suspended Pasami Saulo.

But with so much at stake O'Brien has plenty on his plate. Having gifted the Warriors 64 percent possession in Tamworth, lethargy isn't the only concern Newcastle need to address if they are to improve it's four from six record at home this year.

Untroubled in last week's 28-12 victory over the Cowboys, a back-to-back win for the first time since July will all but guarantee Cronulla a playoff ticket for the sixth consecutive season.

Last week's win came minus a host of big names but under the guidance of young halves Braydon Trindall and Connor Tracey the Sharks didn't miss a beat. This week Tracey drops back to the bench with Chad Townsend named to return. Doubts over Andrew Fifita's fitness continue and the premiership winner's name rounds off an extended bench.

Cronulla has an eight from nine stranglehold over the Knights dating back to 2015. And another victory in what doubles as Josh Dugan's 50th match in Sharks colours would alleviate the pressure in the closing rounds with the Warriors, Roosters and Raiders to follow.

Who to watch: Now three years into the Mitchell Pearce journey, Newcastle are sweating on the 31-year-old's nous to break the finals curse. Heading a team desperate for its second wind, the time for the Origin winner to shine has arrived. And without a line break since June and only one try assist in the past six weeks, fans in the Hunter are desperate to see a form reversal.

Rarely does a week go by without an airborne Sione Katoa treating a corner post with contempt before landing a miraculous try. Now with 14 following last week's trademark at Kogarah, the Sharks' right wingman sits atop the NRL try-scoring list and is definitely one to watch.

Favourite: The last time these two sides met was in the opening round of 2019. Newcastle won that day, but on last week's form the Sharks are narrow favourites.

My tip: Over the past fortnight the points have dried up for Newcastle and the demoralising loss to the Warriors threatens their escape from the finals wilderness. Meanwhile at Cronulla, regardless of who John Morris selects in the halves the points continue to flow. And even though they are yet to claim a top eight scalp, there's compelling evidence to suggest Newcastle will become their first. **Sharks by 14.**

South Sydney RABBITOHS



Melbourne STORM

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
15	14	-	56	Alex JOHNSTON	1	FULLBACK	1	Ryan PAPHUYZEN	15	6	4 ⁺	33
3	1	-	4	Corey ALLAN	2	WING	2	Isaac LUMELUME	1	-	-	-
15	8	-	32	Campbell GRAHAM	3	CENTRE	3	Brenko LEE	8	3	-	12
14	9	-	36	Dane GAGAI	4	CENTRE	4	Justin OLAM	15	7	-	28
7	1	-	4	Jaxson PAULO	5	WING	5	Josh ADDO-CARR	15	12	-	48
14	6	-	24	Cody WALKER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Cameron MUNSTER	12	1	6 ¹	17
16	6	62 ⁺	149	Adam REYNOLDS	7	HALFBACK	7	Jahrome HUGHES	13	5	-	20
16	1	-	4	Tevita TATOLA	8	FRONT ROW	8	Jesse BROMWICH	13	-	-	-
16	3	-	12	Damien COOK	9	HOOKER	9	Cameron SMITH	13	1	54	112
16	2	-	8	Thomas BURGESS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Christian WELCH	14	-	-	-
15	2	-	8	Jaydn SU'A	11	SECOND ROW	11	Felise KAUFUSI	15	2	-	8
12	1	-	4	Bayley SIRONEN	12	SECOND ROW	12	Chris LEWIS	3	-	-	-
16	2	-	8	Cameron MURRAY	13	LOCK	13	Tino FAASUAMALEAUI	16	4	-	16
12	2	-	8	Mark NICHOLLS	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Nicho HYNES	6	1	3	10
12	-	-	-	Liam KNIGHT	15		15	Ryley JACKS	7	1	-	4
10	-	-	-	Patrick MAGO	16		16	Albert VETE	5	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	Keaon KOLOMATANGI	17		17	Darryn SCHONIG	3	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Jed CARTWRIGHT	18	RESERVES	18	Sandor EARL	1	-	-	-
1	1	-	4	Steven MARSTERS	19		19	Max KING	4	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Troy DARGAN	20		20	Aaron PENE	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Ky RODWELL	21		21	Kenny BROMWICH	15	3	-	12

WAYNE BENNETT

COACH

CRAIG BELLAMY

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 Josh ADDO-CARR (Storm) - 100th NRL game; Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs) - 200th NRL and Rabbitohs game

#NRLSouthsStorm

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 4 September 2020
KICKOFF	7:55pm AEST
VENUE	ANZ Stadium
	Sydney Olympic Park, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now
	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand
	2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Ashley KLEIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Todd SMITH
	Peter GOUGH
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL
	Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 32 MATCHES

Rabbitohs 5 Storm 27

At ANZ Stadium: 6 match, Rabbitohs 2, Storm 4

LAST TEN

			STORM 8-2
2013	QF	Rabbitohs 20-10	ANZ
2014	R10	Storm 27-14	ANZ
2015	R10	Storm 16-12	AAMI
2016	R22	Storm 15-14	AAMI
2017	R11	Storm 14-6	nib (Perth)
2017	R25	Storm 64-6	AAMI
2018	R21	Rabbitohs 30-20	ANZ
2018	QF	Storm 29-28	AAMI
2019	R21	Storm 26-16	Central Coast
2020	R4	Storm 22-8	AAMI

BIGGEST WINS

2003	R13	Rabbitohs 41-14	Aussie
2017	R25	Storm 64-6	AAMI

FORM: LAST FIVE

RABBITOHS	W W W W W	6th, 20pts
STORM	W W W L W	2nd, 26pts

THE RUN HOME

RABBITOHS

R18	A	v Tigers, Bankwest	Thu 7:50pm
R19	H	v Bulldogs, ANZ	Thu 7:50pm
R20	H	v Roosters, ANZ	Fri 7:55pm

STORM

R18	H	v Cowboys, Sunshine Coast	Sun 4:05pm
R19	H	v Tigers, Sunshine Coast	Sat 5:30pm
R20	A	v Dragons, Venue TBC	Sun 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Rabbitohs eye victory in Reynolds milestone

The South Sydney Rabbitohs will face their toughest test of the season when they take on the Melbourne Storm at ANZ Stadium. Coming into form with five straight wins heading towards the finals, the Rabbitohs will be out to announce their premierships credentials by claiming a second major scalp in as many weeks.

Silencing critics doubting their ability to compete against top eight teams with a 38-0 shutout against the Eels last Thursday, Rabbitohs coach Wayne Bennett will be hoping his side can overcome a dismal record against the Storm following just five wins from 32 meetings over the past two decades. Sitting six points clear of ninth position to all but guarantee a place in the finals for the third consecutive year, a win could see the Rabbitohs finish the round as high as fifth.

Naming Alex Johnston in place of Latrell Mitchell at fullback, experienced speedster Dane Gagai will also make his return from a hamstring injury following a fortnight on the sidelines. In a momentous occasion for the club, captain Adam Reynolds will become only the sixth player in 111 seasons to achieve 200 first grade games for South Sydney.

Heading into the final month of the regular season as an outside chance of claiming the minor premiership, the Melbourne Storm will be determined to put an end to the Rabbitohs' resurgence. Accounting for the Sea Eagles 30-6 last Sunday, coach Craig Bellamy will be readying his team for a fierce encounter against the league's biggest improvers. Returning to ANZ Stadium for the first time since the 2018 Grand Final, the Storm will field fewer than half the players that went down to the Roosters two years ago.

Recalling Brenko Lee to the backline in place of Marion Seve, rookie forward Chris Lewis will come into the starting side with Nelson Asofa-Solomona sidelined, while Kenny Bromwich could be a late inclusion after being named on the extended bench. Scoring 12 tries in 15 matches this season, prolific try-scorer Josh Addo-Carr will line up for his 100th game.

Who to watch: Destined to play for South Sydney having learned his trade in-and-around the streets of Redfern, Rabbitohs captain Adam Reynolds will join esteemed company on Friday night by becoming only the sixth man to play 200 first grade games for the club. Standing alongside red and green greats John Sutton, Nathan Merritt, Bob McCarthy, Craig Coleman and Eric Simms, the 30-year-old halfback has been a pillar of consistency since debuting in first grade eight years ago, earning representative honours and guiding the club to a premiership in 2014. Scoring 63 points in his past four matches to move to second on the NRL's point-scorers tally, Reynolds will be focussed on getting the job done as the side pushes for an unexpected top four finish.

Regarded as one of the game's finest finishers with 75 tries over the past five seasons, Storm flyer Josh Addo-Carr will be looking to celebrate a milestone of his own against the Rabbitohs. Set to bring up 100 appearances in the NRL after debuting with the Tigers in 2016, the 25-year-old speedster has developed into a superstar under the coaching of Craig Bellamy to go from a fringe first grader to a premiership-winning international. Set to return to Sydney next season to be closer to his family, the man affectionately dubbed 'The Foxx' will be looking to continue his try-scoring prowess against the Rabbitohs having scored seven tries in seven previous meetings.

Favourite: While the Rabbitohs did prevail when the two teams last faced off at ANZ Stadium, the Storm are expected to prove too strong at the end of 80 minutes.

My tip: With both teams missing a number of established stars due to injury, the big game experience of the Storm should be the difference in a close contest. **Storm by 7.**

Canterbury-Bankstown
BULLDOGS



Gold Coast
TITANS

P T G Pts

9 2 - 8

Will HOPOATE 1

FULLBACK

1

AJ BRIMSON

P T G Pts

4 3 - 12

14 5 17 54

Nick MEANEY 2

WING

2

Corey THOMPSON

11* 9 - 36

8 3 - 12

Marcelo MONTOYA 3

CENTRE

3

Brian KELLY

14 5 - 20

9 2 4 16

Kerrod HOLLAND 4

CENTRE

4

Young TONUMAIPEA

6 - - -

14 2 - 8

Dallin WATENE-ZELEZNAK 5

WING

5

Phillip SAMI

14 7 - 28

13 3 - 12

Kieran FORAN 6

FIVE-EIGHTH

6

Ashley TAYLOR

15 1 24 52

10 1 - 4

Lachlan LEWIS 7

HALFBACK

7

Jamal FOGARTY

14 2 8 24

10 - - -

Ofahiki OGDEN 8

FRONT ROW

8

Jarrold WALLACE

13 1 - 4

16 1 - 4

Jeremy MARSHALL-KING 9

HOOKER

9

Mitch REIN

5 - - -

15 - - -

Dylan NAPA 10

FRONT ROW

10

Jaimin JOLLIFFE

14 - - -

16 1 - 4

Josh JACKSON 11

SECOND ROW

11

Sam STONE

5 1 - 4

16 5 - 20

Raymond FAITALA-MARINER 12

SECOND ROW

12

Beau FERMOR

6 1 - 4

14 2 - 8

Aiden TOLMAN 13

LOCK

13

Tyrone PEACHEY

16 1 - 4

10 3 8 28

Jake AVERILLO 14

INTERCHANGE

14

Erin CLARK

8 - - -

12 1 - 4

Renouf TO'OMAGA 15

15

Moeaki FOTUAIKA

14 - - -

7 - - -

Luke THOMPSON 16

16

Keegan HIPGRAVE

13 3 - 12

3 1 - 4

Matt DOOREY 17

17

Sam LISONE

14 1 - 4

12 - - -

Sauaso SUE 19

RESERVES

18

Tanah BOYD

11 1 - 4

4 - - -

Jack COGGER 20

19

Jai ARROW

14 - - -

11 3 - 12

Reimis SMITH 21

20

Anthony DON

12 9 - 36

6* 1 1 6

Tim LAFAI 22

21

Jai WHITBREAD

6 - - -

* 2 games for St George Illawarra Dragons

* 2 games for Wests Tigers

STEVE GEORGALLIS

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

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 Kieran FORAN (Bulldogs) - 7 more points for 200 career points; Josh JACKSON (Bulldogs) - 4 more points for 100 club & career points; Ashley TAYLOR (Titans) - 5 more points for 300 club and career points

#NRLBulldogsTitans

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 5 September 2020
KICKOFF	3:00pm AEST
VENUE	ANZ Stadium Sydney Olympic Park, NSW
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	Liam KENNEDY Drew OULTRAM
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Beau SCOTT

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 17 MATCHES

Bulldogs 9 Titans 8

At ANZ Stadium: 3 match, Bulldogs 2, Titans 1

LAST TEN

2012	R5	Bulldogs 30-20	Skilled
2012	R10	Titans 25-14	Suncorp
2013	R22	Titans 26-16	ANZ
2014	R26	Titans 19-18	Cbus Super
2015	R14	Titans 28-14	Cbus Super
2015	R23	Bulldogs 36-14	Central Coast
2016	R8	Bulldogs 21-20	ANZ
2017	R25	Bulldogs 26-14	Cbus Super
2018	R15	Titans 32-10	Belmore
2019	R10	Bulldogs 22-16	Cbus Super

5-ALL

BIGGEST WINS

2007	R19	Bulldogs 36-12	Carrara
2018	R15	Titans 32-10	Belmore

FORM: LAST FIVE

BULLDOGS	L L L L L	16th, 4pts
TITANS	L W L L W	13th, 10pts

THE RUN HOME

BULLDOGS

R18	H	v Sea Eagles, ANZ	Fri 6:00pm
R19	A	v Rabbitohs, ANZ	Thu 7:50pm
R20	H	v Panthers, ANZ	Sat 3:00pm

TITANS

R18	H	v Broncos, Cbus Super	Sat 5:30pm
R19	A	v Sea Eagles, Lottoland	Sat 3:00pm
R20	H	v Knights, Cbus Super	Fri 6:00pm

Match Preview

with Adam Huxtable

Bulldogs look to release the anchor to the bottom of the ladder against much improved Titans

If we're being fair-dinkum, neither of these two sides were expected to pose much of a premiership threat in 2020, and in that respect, they haven't wavered from the status quo. To then say that this season has been a complete write off for both of them would simply be a falsity.

While the Bulldogs may have looked to build off a strong finish to 2019 and perhaps even push for an unlikely finals berth this year, it just hasn't gone to plan for the Canterbury boys. Having only won the two games so far, against fellow strugglers the Dragons and Broncos, many of the men in blue and white are probably counting down the days until mad Monday. Last Sunday evening was an accurate summation of their season. They lead the Raiders 20-12 at the break before capitulating and eventually going down by 14. It was an all too familiar scene for Bulldogs fans, having surrendered a lead in similar fashion the week before. The effort is there, just never for the full 80 minutes required to win games in the NRL.

It's been the opposite for the Titans, who with 5 wins so far this year have already surpassed the total for what was a disastrous 2019 campaign. It may have taken a couple of months, but rookie NRL coach Justin Holbrook is finally getting his fingerprints over the team's performances and is showing some of what made him a premiership winning coach in the Super League. The new attitude of the Titans was there for all to see last Friday. Despite only having 45% of possession against a Dragons side completing at 91%, the Gold Coast were able to fight back from 10-4 down to steal it in the final 10 minutes courtesy of two quick tries to Tyrone Peachey and Jamal Fogarty. Fans will be hoping for a similar effort on Saturday as the Titans look to win back to back games for the first time since Rounds 5 and 6 of 2019.

In team news, Jake Averillo and Luke Thompson are back for the Bulldogs after being rested in Round 16. They make their respective returns via the interchange and force Sione Katoa and Dean Britt out of the 21-man squad altogether. The only change for the Titans is prop forward Moeaki Fotuauika returning from a weeklong suspension via the interchange, with Holbrook opting to start Tyrone Peachey at lock for the second week in a row. This change sees Jai Whitbread pushed back to the reserves.

Who to watch: In what's been a dismal season for the Bulldogs, it has been great to see Kieran Foran not only stringing a few games together but playing a good standard of footy in the process. It is perhaps bitter-sweet for Bulldogs fans given he hasn't been offered a contract for next year, but until then you can be sure that Foran will run out and do whatever the team needs him to do, be it make a tackle on a forward double his size or put in a pinpoint kick for one of his outside backs to score. He will be critical in trying to steer the Dogs home on Saturday

From one half to another, Jamal Fogarty has been a revelation for the Titans. After getting a taste of NRL in 2017, from then on Fogarty found a home in the Queensland cup, even winning the competitions player of the year in 2019. His strong form in reserve grade earned him a chance in the NRL with the Titans and he has grabbed it with both hands, even being named captain in the absence of Kevin Proctor and Jai Arrow. At 26, Fogarty has found NRL later than most, but has proved integral to the Titans this year and moving forward.

Favourite: What started out as an even match with the punters has now seen some slight favouritism towards the Gold Coast Titans to make it two in a row.

My tip: This could well be the closest game of the round. The Bulldogs have shown that they have the effort to score points and defend mistakes but have ran into some problems trying to do so over 80 minutes. While the Titans are at least a year away from being a quality outfit capable of playing finals, they have shown more than the Dogs this year and I'll be tipping as such. **Titans by 8.**

Manly-Warringah SEA EAGLES



WESTS TIGERS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
8	4	-	16	Tevita FUNA	1	FULLBACK	1	Moses MBYE	14	3	29	70
13	6	-	24	Jorge TAUFUA	2	WING	2	David NOFOALUMA	16	14	-	56
15	2	-	8	Brad PARKER	3	CENTRE	3	Joseph LEILUA	12	4	-	16
1	-	-	-	Albert HOPOATE	4	CENTRE	4	Adam DOUEIHI	16	3	2	16
-	-	-	-	Abbas MISKI	5	WING	5	Asu KEPAOA	1	-	-	-
9	3	-	12	Cade CUST	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Luke BROOKS	14	2	- ⁺	9
16	5	- ¹	21	Daly CHERRY-EVANS	7	HALFBACK	7	Benji MARSHALL	12	3	14 ⁺	37
13	3	-	12	Addin FONUA-BLAKE	8	FRONT ROW	8	Josh ALOIAI	16	3	-	12
16	2	-	8	Danny LEVI	9	HOOKER	9	Harry GRANT	11	-	-	12
14	1	-	4	Martin TAUPAU	10	FRONT ROW	10	Thomas MIKAELE	14	5	-	-
10	2	-	8	Jack GOSIEWSKI	11	SECOND ROW	11	Luke GARNER	13	6	-	20
14	2	-	8	Curtis SIRONEN	12	SECOND ROW	12	Luciano LEILUA	16	-	-	24
16	1	-	4	Jake TRBOJEVIC	13	LOCK	13	Alex TWAL	9	-	-	-
16	1	-	4	Lachlan CROKER	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Matt EISENHUTH	10	1	-	4
9	-	-	-	Corey WADDELL	15		15	Elijah TAYLOR	8	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	Sean KEPPIE	16		16	Jacob LIDDLE	3	1	-	4
14	-	-	-	Taniela PASEKA	17		17	Sam McINTYRE	9	2	-	8
-	-	-	-	Josh SCHUSTER	18	RESERVES	18	Chris LAWRENCE	10	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Morgan HARPER	19		19	Tommy TALAU	10	5	-	20
5	-	-	-	Morgan BOYLE	20		20	Josh REYNOLDS	9	1	-	4
4	1	-	4	Haumole OLAKAU'ATU	21		21	Russell PACKER	6	-	-	-

DES HASLER

COACH

MICHAEL MAGUIRE

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 Danny LEVI (Sea Eagles) - 100th NRL game

#NRLManlyTigers

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 5 September 2020
KICKOFF	5:30pm AEST
VENUE	Lottoland Brookvale, NSW
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD / 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Henry PERENARA
TOUCH JUDGES	Jon STONE Gavin BADGER
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 29 MATCHES

Sea Eagles 16 Tigers 13

At Lottoland: 11 matches, Sea Eagles 9, Tigers 2

LAST TEN

		TIGERS 6-4	
2014	R5	Tigers 34-18	Leichhardt
2014	R18	Sea Eagles 40-8	Brookvale
2015	R15	Sea Eagles 30-20	Brookvale
2016	R2	Tigers 36-22	Leichhardt
2017	R19	Sea Eagles 28-16	Lottoland
2017	R23	Tigers 30-26	Leichhardt
2018	R6	Tigers 38-12	Lottoland
2018	R24	Tigers 22-20	Campbelltown
2019	R1	Tigers 20-6	Leichhardt
2019	R22	Sea Eagles 32-12	Lottoland

BIGGEST WINS

2003	R4	Tigers 38-12	Brookvale
2018	R6	Tigers 38-12	Lottoland
2008	R24	Sea Eagles 48-16	ANZ
2014	R18	Sea Eagles 40-8	Brookvale

FORM: LAST FIVE

SEA EAGLES	LLLLL	12th, 12pts
TIGERS	LLWLL	11th, 12pts

THE RUN HOME

SEA EAGLES

R18	A	v Bulldogs, ANZ	Fri 6:00pm
R19	H	v Titans, Lottoland	Sat 3:00pm
R20	A	v Warriors, Central Coast	Sun 2:00pm

TIGERS

R18	H	v Rabbitohs, Bankwest	Thu 7:50pm
R19	A	v Storm, Sunshine Coast	Sat 5:30pm
R20	H	v Eels, Venue TBC	Sat 7:35pm

Match Preview

with Lachy MacCorquodale

The battle for ninth place continues with the Manly Warringah Sea Eagles hosting the Wests Tigers at Brookvale Oval.

Both the Tigers and the Sea Eagles enter this weekend with six wins and 10 losses with a win this Saturday afternoon putting the winner in good stead as the race for ninth place heats up.

The perennial ninth placed Tigers, announced earlier in the week that 253-gamer, Benji Marshall will not return to the club for the 2021 season. This announcement comes at a good time for the club, with Marshall's performance being hot and cold much like the form of the club this season. The Tigers are also headed in a younger direction as coach Michael Maguire makes his stamp on the playing roster. The Tigers will want to send out Marshall with some good form to end the season, however, five losses and a single win from their past sixth matches have taken the Tigers from seventh place to 11th place. Marshall and the Tigers suffered a 24-point loss to the league leaders on the weekend, giving former coach Ivan Cleary the bragging rights over Michael Maguire and the Tigers. Maguire had some positives to draw on his sides first half performance against the Panthers, taking the game to the current leaders but in typical Tiger fashion, failed to put together a full 80-minute performance.

Despite hinting at some big changes during his post-match press conference, Maguire has kept his halves combination of Marshall and Luke Brooks intact, whilst swapping Adam Doueihi into the centres with Moses Mbye moving to fullback. Asu Kepaoa will come in for his second game replacing Tommy Talau on the wing and Josh Aloiai will return after the birth of his child, pushing Matt Eisenhuth to the bench with Shawn Blore dropping out of the side.

The Manly Warringah Sea Eagles have followed suit with their form when compared to their opponents for the weekend. The Sea Eagles have won only one of their past six matches, which includes a current five game losing streak. Manly have struggled with injuries this season but, like the Tigers, it's been their defence over the past month and a half that has let them down. The Sea Eagles have conceded on average 36 points per game over their past five fixtures and have failed to restrict a team to less than 26 points. Despite these defensive concerns, it might not play as big of an effect as it has over the past few weeks as their opponents this weekend are not the prime example of a good NRL defence, conceding an average of 38 points over the past six weeks including conceding 28 points in their sole win in that period. Skipper Daly Cherry-Evans and coach Des Hasler will be aiming to record the club's first win since round 11 this season by exploiting the defence of the Tigers, in particular, the defence of his opposition halves, Marshall and Brooks.

If Manly can achieve this, it'll give them a great chance of ending their losing streak. Although this won't be made easy with Joel Thompson and Reuben Garrick being omitted from the side with injury, being replaced by Jack Gosiewski and Abbas Miski respectively. Corey Waddell will be joining the bench with Gosiewski's shift to the back row.

Who to watch: Manly captain, Daly Cherry-Evans is the man to watch for the Sea Eagles this weekend, who'll be determined to end the clubs' losing streak. Cherry-Evans will need to provide a great performance if he's to get his injury-ravaged side back in winning form. The Queensland halfback has laid on 11 try assists in 16 appearances this season, including a eight forced drop outs. Cherry-Evans has also averaged a career-high 451 kick metres per game which can only indicate this his side have been on the back foot more than any season in which he has played in the northern beaches. Isolating his opposition halves with his big backrowers will be a key part of his game plan for the upcoming weekend.

In his last season for the Tigers, Benji Marshall has been the Tiger that has provided the most spark in attack this season. The 35-year-old has been credited with 12 try assists from as many matches this season, an assist to games ratio which has been his best since he assisted a mammoth 35 tries in the 2012 season. However, for Marshall, his biggest inconsistencies have come in his defensive play. The Tiger legend has a tackle efficiency percentage of 79% which ranks towards the lower end when compared to his counterpart halves in the competition. Marshall also ranks 6th for the most try causes this season, with 10 try causes credited to his name this season, essentially meaning that Marshall will be responsible for conceding a try a game, whilst also providing a try a game. The defence of Marshall could be a massive part in how this game plays out on Saturday afternoon.

Favourite: It's fairly even between the two sides, but Manly have been favoured for the match this weekend. Experience could play a factor in this with players such as Cherry-Evans and Jake Trbojevic leading Manly into battle, compared to the youthful side that the Wests Tigers will field.

My tip: Both sides are seriously out of form, making it a hard one to tip. The Sea Eagles forward pack have a great opportunity to dominate a younger inexperienced pack although the x-factor of Tigers' hooker Harry Grant could turn the tide. Manly are desperate for a win and I expect them to just edge out the Tigers in a tight one. **Sea Eagles by 6.**

Canberra RAIDERS



Sydney ROOSTERS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
15	7	-	28	Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD	1	FULLBACK	1	James TEDESCO	14	5	-	20
13	2	-	8	Jordan RAPANA	2	WING	2	Daniel TUPOU	9	6	-	24
16	3	53	118	Jarrold CROKER	3	CENTRE	3	Josh MORRIS	13*	7	-	28
13	2	-	8	Curtis SCOTT	4	CENTRE	4	Joseph MANU	16	6	-	24
16	10	-	40	Nick COTRIC	5	WING	5	Brett MORRIS	12	12	-	48
16	8	-	32	Jack WIGHTON	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Luke KEARY	14	6	- ²	26
16	4	-	16	George WILLIAMS	7	HALFBACK	7	Kyle FLANAGAN	14	4	69	154
16	4	-	16	Josh PAPALI'I	8	FRONT ROW	8	Jared WAAREA-HARGREAVES	13	1	-	4
16	-	-	-	Siliva HAVILI	9	HOOKER	9	Jake FRIEND	16	1	-	4
12	-	-	-	Ryan SUTTON	10	FRONT ROW	10	Siosia TAUKEIAHO	15	1	3	10
5	1	-	4	John BATEMAN	11	SECOND ROW	11	Boyd CORDNER	8	2	-	8
16	4	-	16	Elliott WHITEHEAD	12	SECOND ROW	12	Sitili TUPOUNIUA	15	5	-	20
15	2	-	8	Joseph TAPINE	13	LOCK	13	Isaac LIU	14	1	-	4
* 2 games for Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks												
7	3	-	12	Tom STARLING	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Freddy LUSSICK	2	-	-	-
13	1	-	4	Dunamis LUI	15		15	Lindsay COLLINS	15	1	-	4
11	2	-	8	Hudson YOUNG	16		16	Nat BUTCHER	13	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Corey HARAWIRA-NAERA	17		17	Sonny Bill WILLIAMS	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Sam WILLIAMS	18	RESERVES	18	Angus CRICHTON	8	4	-	16
1	-	-	-	Matthew TIMOKO	19		19	Mitch AUBUSSON	12	3	-	12
3	-	-	-	Kai O'DONNELL	20		20	Poasa FAAMAUSILI	13*	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Semi VALEMEI	21		21	Drew HUTCHISON	4	1	-	4

* 4 games for Warriors

RICKY STUART

COACH

TRENT ROBINSON

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 John BATEMAN (Raiders) - 4 more points for 200 career points (NRL + SL); Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD (Raiders) - 8 more points for 100 career points; Josh MORRIS (Roosters) - 300th NRL game; Sonny Bill WILLIAMS (Roosters) - first NRL game since 2014

#NRLRaidersRoosters

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 5 September 2020
KICKOFF	7:35pm AEST
VENUE	GIO Stadium Canberra Bruce, ACT
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Gerard SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Dave MUNRO Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI
NRL BUNKER	Ashley KLEIN Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 64 MATCHES

Raiders 29 Roosters 35

At GIO Stadium: 21 matches, Raiders 14, Roosters 7

LAST TEN

2013	R22	Roosters 28-22	Allianz
2014	R12	Roosters 26-12	Allianz
2015	R4	Roosters 34-6	Allianz
2016	R2	Raiders 21-20	GIO
2017	R12	Raiders 24-16	GIO
2018	R23	Raiders 14-12	GIO
2019	R9	Roosters 30-24	Suncorp
2019	R21	Roosters 22-18	GIO
2019	GF	Roosters 14-8	ANZ
2020	R10	Raiders 24-20	SCG

ROOSTERS 6-4

BIGGEST WINS

1982	R13	Roosters 55-15	SSG
1990	R5	Raiders 66-4	Bruce

FORM: LAST FIVE

RAIDERS	W L W W W	5th, 22pts
ROOSTERS	W W L W W	4th, 22pts

THE RUN HOME

RAIDERS

R18	A	v Dragons, WIN	Sat 3:00pm
R19	H	v Warriors, GIO	Sun 2:00pm
R20	A	v Sharks, Netstrata Jubilee	Sat 5:30pm

ROOSTERS

R18	H	v Knights, SCG	Sat 7:35pm
R19	H	v Sharks, SCG	Sat 7:35pm
R20	A	v Rabbitohs, ANZ	Fri 7:55pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Grand Final rivals meet in a showdown for fourth

In one of the most anticipated clashes of 2020, the Canberra Raiders and the Sydney Roosters will face off in a match set to have a major bearing on the makeup of the finals.

Coming into the contest with six wins from their past seven matches, the Canberra Raiders will have their sights set on overtaking the reigning premiers into the top four.

Upsetting the Roosters seven weeks ago at the Sydney Cricket Ground, coach Ricky Stuart has recalled Corey Harawira-Naera in place of Matt Timoko in the only change from the team that rallied to down the Bulldogs 34-20 last Sunday. Tied with the Roosters on 22 premiership points - but trailing on for-and-against differential by 135 points - a loss could see the side finish the round as low as sixth should results go against them.

Welcoming back a host of experienced players from injury, the Sydney Roosters will be hoping to overcome a poor historical record in the nation's capital.

Winning just three of their past 12 visits to GIO Stadium, coach Trent Robinson will be stressing the importance of maintaining a strong middle-third defensive line after being exposed when the two teams faced off back in July.

Coming into the match after annihilating the Broncos 58-12 last Friday, the side will welcome back Luke Keary and Sonny Bill Williams - for his first appearance in the NRL since 2014 - while Mitchell Aubusson and Angus Crichton could be late inclusions after being named as part of the 21-man squad. While the return of SBW is set to garner plenty of interest for the reigning premiers, the match will also see veteran centre Josh Morris become the 41st player to reach 300 first grade appearances.

Who to watch: Returning to the Raiders' line-up after contractually sitting out last week's win over the Bulldogs, Corey Harawira-Naera will be out to make an impact against the reigning premiers. Improving with each performance since joining the club last month, the 25-year-old New Zealand international has provided strong service, predominantly off the bench, with 90 metres and 12 tackles in 31 minutes of game time on average. Set to push for a starting berth in the run towards the finals, look for Harawira-Naera to cause the Roosters plenty of headaches as the Raiders fight to secure a coveted top four finish.

After months of speculation over his ability to compete six years on from his last appearance for the Tricolours, global superstar Sonny Bill Williams will make his unexpected comeback to the NRL on Saturday evening. Returning from the 15-man code with the Toronto Wolfpack earlier this year, the unforeseen events of COVID-19 have led the 35-year-old dual international back to Australia to provide the Roosters with an injection of class in their pursuit of a third consecutive title. Unlikely to have the same on-field impact that saw him turn the tide of the 2013 decider, Williams' true value is likely to be revealed in the confidence he instils in his teammates.

Favourite: Despite both teams winning four clashes apiece over the past five years, the Roosters will come into the contest as favourites.

My tip: Having been humbled by the Raiders earlier this season, the reigning premiers will be primed to return the favour on Saturday evening. **Roosters by 10.**



P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
15	5	1	22	Roger TUIVASA-SHECK	1	FULLBACK	1	Clinton GUTHERSON	16	5	12 ⁺	45
9	4	1	18	Adam POMPEY	2	WING	2	Maika SIVO	16	12	-	48
3	-	-	-	Hayze PERHAM	3	CENTRE	3	Michael JENNINGS	16	7	-	28
14	6	-	24	Peta HIKU	4	CENTRE	4	Waqqa BLAKE	16	5	-	20
6	-	-	-	Gerard BEALE	5	WING	5	Blake FERGUSON	15	-	-	-
15	2	17 ⁺	43	Kodi NIKORIMA	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Dylan BROWN	16	4	-	16
9	-	14	28	Chanel HARRIS-TAVITA	7	HALFBACK	7	Mitchell MOSES	13	3	37 ⁺	87
16	1	-	4	Jamayne TAUNOA-BROWN	8	FRONT ROW	8	Reagan CAMPBELL-GILLARD	16	1	-	4
13	3	-	12	Karl LAWTON	9	HOOKER	9	Reed MAHONEY	16	2	-	8
10	-	-	-	Lachlan BURR	10	FRONT ROW	10	Junior PAULO	16	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	Jack MURCHIE	11	SECOND ROW	11	Shaun LANE	16	2	-	8
16	1	-	4	Tohu HARRIS	12	SECOND ROW	12	Ryan MATTERSON	13	3	-	12
8	1	-	4	Jazz TEVAGA	13	LOCK	13	Nathan BROWN	12	-	-	-
15	2	-	8	Wayde EGAN	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Ray STONE	9	1	-	4
16	-	-	-	Adam BLAIR	15		15	Marata NIUKORE	15	1	-	4
1	-	-	-	Josh CURRAN	16		16	Kane EVANS	10	4	-	16
11	1	-	4	Isaiah PAPALI'I	17		17	Oregon KAUFUSI	9	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Paul TURNER	18	RESERVES	18	Haze DUNSTER	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tom ALE	20		19	Andrew DAVEY	5	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Adam KEIGHRAN	21		20	Brad TAKAIRANGI	8	-	-	-
							21	Stefano UTOIKAMANU	3	-	-	-

Unable to name 21 players

TODD PAYTEN

COACH

BRAD ARTHUR

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 This is Parramatta's first match at Central Coast Stadium since the venue opened in February 2000. They are the last current NRL club to play at the venue.

#NRLWarriorsEels

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 6 September 2020
KICKOFF	4:05pm AEST
VENUE	Central Coast Stadium Gosford, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD / BNE 2GB SYD / 4BC BNE, NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Grant ATKINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Chris BUTLER Phil HENDERSON
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Beau SCOTT

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 40 MATCHES

Warriors 18 Eels 22

At Central Coast Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN

2013	R1	Eels 40-10	Pirtek
2014	R1	Eels 36-16	Pirtek
2014	R18	Warriors 48-0	Mt Smart
2015	R3	Warriors 29-16	Mt Smart
2015	R10	Warriors 17-13	Pirtek
2016	R26	Eels 40-18	Mt Smart
2017	R6	Warriors 22-10	Mt Smart
2017	R13	Eels 32-24	ANZ
2018	R11	Warriors 24-14	ANZ
2019	R19	Eels 24-22	Bankwest

5-ALL

BIGGEST WINS

2001	QF	Eels 56-12	Parramatta
2014	R18	Warriors 48-0	Mt Smart

FORM: LAST FIVE

WARRIORS	W W L W W	9th, 14pts
EELS	W W L W L	3rd, 24pts

THE RUN HOME

WARRIORS

R18	A	v Sharks, Netstrata Jubilee	Sun 6:30pm
R19	A	v Raiders, GIO	Sun 2:00pm
R20	H	v Sea Eagles, Central Coast	Sun 2:00pm

EELS

R18	A	v Panthers, Panthers	Fri 7:55pm
R19	H	v Broncos, Bankwest	Fri 7:55pm
R20	A	v Tigers, Venue TBC	Sat 7:35pm

Match Preview

with Rick Edgerton

Warriors on cusp of Cinderella run, Eels in danger of slipping out of top 4

The New Zealand Warriors will be looking to keep their chances of a fairy tale run towards the finals alive this Sunday when they head back to the Central Coast to host the Parramatta Eels.

Capping an impressive six week block of football with a 30 point thumping of the Knights last week, the Warriors made it four wins from their past five games on the back of an 89% completion rate and are showing no signs of giving up this challenging season before putting in an almighty fight. They will have to overcome more disruption if they are to cause another boilover with loan players George Jennings and Daniel Alvaro not allowed to suit up against their regular club, as per the loan agreement between the two parties. On top of that, boom rookie Eliesa Katoa picked up an injury to his hand last week and will miss the next week or two.

Jack Murchie replaces Katoa in the second-row, Gerard Beale comes on to the wing for Jennings, whilst Isaiah Papali'i and Josh Curran are the new faces on the bench.

After leading the competition in the early rounds and being entrenched in the top four all year, the Eels looked destined to get two bites of the cherry come finals time but after dropping two of their last three are suddenly in real danger of slipping into the bottom half of the eight. Sitting two points clear of both the 4th placed Roosters and 5th placed Raiders, this weekend presents a golden opportunity to again create a four point gap between themselves and 5th with last year's grand finalists squaring off on Saturday night. If their recent patchy form wasn't concerning enough for Coach Brad Arthur, the blue and golds will also have to make do without the services of one of their attacking sparks with Dylan Brown out for at least the remainder of the regular season after picking up a syndesmosis injury in last week's loss, with Jai Field to take his place at five-eight.

Resisting the urge to make changes after their 38 point drubbing at the hands of Souths last week, the only other change sees Marata Niukore return from suspension via the bench with Andrew Davey making way.

Who to watch: After shifting to the right hand side of the field a month ago, centre Peta Hiku has looked in great touch for the Warriors. During that four week stretch the 11 test veteran is averaging 122 running metres, whilst notching 5 line-break assists and 4 try assists, two of which came last week as he schooled his opposite man with some neat footwork and flick passes to send his winger over for a double. His recent run of form sets up an intriguing contest out wide with opposing centre Michael Jennings.

Only managing to crack the top grade for 11 games in 3 years at the Dragons, Jai Field made the switch to Parramatta in the off season in search of greater opportunities. The first of those came when he deputised for an injured Mitchell Moses earlier this season. Only small in stature, Field's footwork and strength provided the Eels with plenty of spark as he notched 16 tackle busts across three games. With regular pivot Dylan Brown floored with an ankle injury, the door has opened up for Field to nail down the number six jersey for the remainder of the year. His recall doubles as a pretty handy birthday present with the young half turning 23 on game day.

Favourite: Despite the recent form lines, the 3rd placed Eels remain strong favourites over the 9th placed Warriors.

My tip: Feel the first 20 minutes will prove key to not only the Eels chances on Sunday, but their premiership credentials this year. At their best, the Eels pack play fast and aggressive through the middle third and after their worst showing of the season last week should be fired up for a fast start. Still, this Warriors team has shown they won't lie down for anyone this season and if they can hold their ground early, their recent good form will hold them in good stead. Seeing no reason why they can't cause the upset and keep their season alive. **Warriors by 4.**

North Queensland COWBOYS



St George Illawarra DRAGONS

P	T	G	Pts							P	T	G	Pts
8	2	14	36	Valentine HOLMES	1	FULLBACK	1	Matthew DUFTY	14	11	-	44	
16	13	23	98	Kyle FELDT	2	WING	2	Jordan PEREIRA	12	1	-	4	
14	5	-	20	Justin O'NEILL	3	CENTRE	3	Euan AITKEN	12	3	-	12	
10	1	-	4	Esan MARSTERS	4	CENTRE	4	Zac LOMAX	16	10	50	140	
10	3	-	12	Hamiso TABUAI-FIDOW	5	WING	5	Mikaele RAVALAWA	15	12	-	48	
12	2	-	8	Scott DRINKWATER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Corey NORMAN	16	4	-	16	
10	1	1	6	Jake CLIFFORD	7	HALFBACK	7	Adam CLUNE	12	-	-	-	
16	2	-	8	Francis MOLO	8	FRONT ROW	8	Blake LAWRIE	16	-	-	-	
6	-	-	-	Reuben COTTER	9	HOOKER	9	Ben HUNT	16	1	-	4	
11	-	-	-	Jordan MCLEAN	10	FRONT ROW	10	Josh KERR	16	1	-	4	
11	1	-	4	Gavin COOPER	11	SECOND ROW	11	Tyson FRIZELL	16	1	-	4	
13	1	-	4	Mitchell DUNN	12	SECOND ROW	12	Jacob HOST	8	1	-	4	
14	-	-	-	Josh McGUIRE	13	LOCK	13	Cameron MCINNES	14	1	-	4	
3	1	-	4	Daejarn ASI	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Billy BRITTAIN	3	-	-	-	
8	-	-	-	John ASIATA	15		15	Jackson FORD	8	-	-	-	
8	-	-	-	Tom GILBERT	16		16	Tyrell FUIMAONO	13	1	-	4	
4	-	-	-	Corey JENSEN	17		17	Kaide ELLIS	4	-	-	-	
8	-	-	-	Shane WRIGHT	18	RESERVES	18	Eddie BLACKER	-	-	-	-	
8	-	-	-	Jake GRANVILLE	19		19	Tristan SAILOR	2	-	-	-	
4	-	-	-	Peter HOLA	20		20	Jayden SULLIVAN	-	-	-	-	
13	4	-	16	Ben HAMPTON	21		21	Max FEAGAI	-	-	-	-	

JOSH HANNAY

COACH

DEAN YOUNG

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 Jacob HOST (Dragons) - 50th NRL & Dragons game; Ben HUNT (Dragons) - 250th NRL game

#NRLCowboysDragons

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 6 September 2020
KICKOFF	6:30pm AEST
VENUE	Queensland Country Bank Stadium Townsville, QLD
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD / BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Adam GEE
TOUCH JUDGES	Todd SMITH Drew OULTRAM
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 32 MATCHES

Cowboys 16 Dragons 16

At QLD Country Bank Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN

2012	R24	Cowboys 32-22	WIN
2013	R14	Cowboys 22-16	WIN
2014	R17	Dragons 27-24	WIN Jubilee
2015	R17	Cowboys 18-12	WIN
2016	R5	Cowboys 36-0	1300Smiles
2016	R12	Dragons 14-10	WIN
2017	R7	Dragons 28-22	WIN
2018	R19	Dragons 24-10	1300Smiles
2019	R1	Cowboys 24-12	1300Smiles
2019	R15	Dragons 22-14	WIN

5-ALL

BIGGEST WINS

2000	R13	Cowboys 50-4	1300Smiles
2001	R7	Dragons 48-12	WIN

FORM: LAST FIVE

COWBOYS	L L L L L	14th, 6pts
DRAGONS	L L W W L	10th, 12pts

THE RUN HOME

COWBOYS

R18	A	v Storm, Sunshine Coast	Sun 4:05pm
R19	H	v Panthers, QLD C. Bank	Fri 6:00pm
R20	A	v Broncos, Suncorp	Thu 7:50pm

DRAGONS

R18	H	v Raiders, WIN	Sat 3:00pm
R19	A	v Knights, McDonald Jones	Sun 4:05pm
R20	H	v Storm, Venue TBC	Sun 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Josh Robertson

Sunday night football heads to Townsville as the North Queensland Cowboys look to break a 9-match losing streak up against the St George Illawarra Dragons.

The Cowboys haven't tasted victory since their Round 7 upset victory over the Newcastle Knights and will be looking to give interim coach Josh Hannay a first NRL victory. Last weekend, the Cowboys fell to a 28-12 defeat against the Cronulla Sharks. Despite scoring first against Cronulla, the Cowboys were outplayed by their opponents which has been the story of their season as they have struggled to match their opposition throughout the season. The Cowboys will be looking to replicate their performance when they were last at home in Townsville when they only feel to defeat against the Rabbitohs in the dying minutes.

Cowboys coach Josh Hannay has rung the changes for his side this weekend with a number of injuries and tactical changes forcing his hands. Michael Morgan and Coen Hess have been ruled out through injury and suspension respectively with Jake Clifford called into the halves to replace Morgan whilst Hess has been replaced by Gavin Cooper in the Cowboys starting line-up. Valentine Holmes has moved into the fullback role with Scott Drinkwater moving to the five-eighth role.

The St George Illawarra Dragons remote chances of making the NRL finals were diminished last weekend when they suffered a 14-10 defeat to the Gold Coast Titans. The disappointing defeat for the Dragons was more painful given that the Titans took victory thanks to two Titans try in the final five minutes. Throughout the season, the Dragons have mixed their form which has been shown by the fact that the Red 'V' were able to take victory over Parramatta but struggle to beat Brisbane and then fall to a defeat by the Gold Coast Titans. The Dragons despite their poor form haven't been blown off the park in any match so their best performance could be a big danger for the Cowboys.

In contrast to their opposition, the St George Illawarra Dragons have only made the one chance with Tyrell Fuimaono returning to the bench from suspension in the place of veteran Trent Merrin.

Who to watch: Returning from his NFL pipe dream, Valentine Holmes has struggled to find his place back in the NRL with injuries and poor form hampering his 2020 season. Holmes returns to the fullback role after filling in on the wing last weekend. The Cowboys will hopefully be boosted by Holmes return to the number 1 jersey but there will be expectations put upon him.

Dragons fullback Matt Dufty has arguably been their best player in 2020 as well as their most improved player. Dufty has become the most dangerous play maker for the Red 'V' this season chalking up 9 try assists which is the most for any Dragons player albeit 20th best in the competition. Most of the Dragons attacking play has to go through Dufty and it is his efforts on Sunday night that will be most important factor is if the Dragons take victory

Favourite: The Dragons have been installed as comfortable favourites given the poor run that the Cowboys have been on this season.

My tip: Although the Cowboys have lost nine straight leading into this weekend, their last performance at QCB Stadium was impressive against the Rabbitohs and if they can bring that level of effort then they should be able to get past the Dragons. **Cowboys by 4.**

MAITLAND PICKERS v NORTH SYDNEY BEARS

MAITLAND #1 SPORTS GROUND · SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 1PM

PICKERS: 1. Daniel Langbridge 2. Elijah Rasiga 3. Matthew Soper-Lawler 4. Gary Anderson 5. James Bradley 6. Chad O'donnell 7. Brock Lamb 8. James Taylor 9. Alex Langbridge 10. Jayden Butterfield 11. Jacob McCudden 12. Henry Penn 13. Callan Burgess 14. William Nieuwenhuise 15. Faitotoa Faitotoa 16. Marvin Filipo 17. Cooper Jenkins

BEARS: 1. Josh Bergamin 2. Sione Hopoate 3. James Tuitahi 4. Jordan Ah-One-Remfrey 5. Michael Pearsall 6. Coby Thomas 7. Tobias Westcott 8. Ben Thomas 9. Brad Dietz 10. Elia Faatui 11. Edenn Rogers-Smith 12. Harrison Edwards 13. Thomas Freebairn 14. Josh Daley 15. Luca Moretti 16. Connagh Takairangi 17. Jacob Preston

WESTS DEVILS v HILLS BULLS

SID PARRISH PARK · SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 3:10PM

DEVILS: 1. Mitchell Porter 2. Michael Applebee 3. Cleveland McGhie 4. Colby Pellow 5. Lachlan Hurst 6. Kurt Aldridge 7. Justin Rodrigues 8. Matthew Delbanco 9. Blake Barbuto 10. Zachary Blay 11. Kyle Lodge 12. Joseph Dickson 13. Jalal Bazzaz 14. Jackson Walsh 16. Mitchell Barbuto 17. Ben Arandt 18. Levi Pascoe 19. Daniel Zohar

BULLS: 1. Anthony Layoun 2. Maile Li 3. Shane Kiel 4. Leva Li 5. Zac Chong-Nee 6. Shannon Gardiner 7. Josh Lewis 8. Paea Pua 9. Zach Dockett-Clay 10. Tim Robinson 11. Lazarus Brown 12. Dean Matterson 13. Jerry Key 21. Joel Bradford 15. David Hollis 16. Tyrone Faulkner 17. Matthew Ryan

DUBBO CYMS v THIRROUL BUTCHERS

APEX OVAL · SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 12:00PM

CYMS: 1. Tony Pellow 2. Jeremy Thurston 3. Jyie Chapman 4. Joshua Toole 5. Mose Esera 6. Alex Bonham 7. Bayden Searle 8. Jarryn Powyer 9. Isaac Thompson 10. Wade Kavanagh 11. Jayson Bukuya 12. Billy Sing 13. Ben Marlin 14. Cameron Dennis 15. Jack Quinn 16. John Ciaparra 17. Tom Stimpson

BUTCHERS: 1. Leigh Higgins 2. Dane Francis 3. Hayden Crossland 4. Cooper Bowen 5. Scott Galeano 6. Daniel Payne 7. Jack Payne 8. Riley Lord 9. Ryan Fletcher 10. Tim Grant 11. Luke Gallagher 12. Harry Leddy 13. Jackson Shereb 14. Connor Muhleisen 15. Julian Flego 16. Tom Simpson 17. Riley Graham 18. Ammon Munro 19. Nelson Sharp

GLEBE-BURWOOD WOLVES v WESTERN RAMS

HENSON PARK · SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 2PM

WOLVES: 1. Jacob Gagai 2. Lorenzo Mulitalo 3. John Olive 4. Honeti Tuha 5. Jonah Ngaronoa 6. Sitiveni Moceidreke 7. Liam Coleman 8. Wesley Lolo 9. Trent Toelau 10. Thomas Hazelton 11. Myles Taueli 12. Kem Seru 13. Brock Gray 15. Duwayne Mariner 22. Ethan Natoli 23. Patrice Siolo 24. Matt Stimson

RAMS: 1. Mitch Andrews 2. Keelan Bresac 3. Jackson Brien 4. Brock Naden 5. Jesse Wighton 6. William Heta 7. Harry Siejka 8. Bradley Fearnley 9. Brendan Hands 11. Bailey Hartwig 12. Alex Ronayne 13. Jake Betts 14. Jack Beasley 15. Cody Godden 16. Jed Betts 17. Liam Henry 18. Nicholas Tilburg

BYE: WENTWORTHVILLE MAGPIES

HELENSBURGH TIGERS v HILLS BULLS

REX JACKSON OVAL · SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 3:10PM

TIGERS: 1. Zeik Foster 2. Azan Turoa 3. Charly Runciman 4. Jordan Tongahai 5. William Russell 6. Max Batty 7. Harrison Geraghty 8. Lachlan Peachey 9. Mitch Mcrae 10. Pierce Thompson 11. Vincent Stowers 12. Ashleigh Nisbet 13. Kurt Atkinson 14. James Russell 15. Liam O'toole 16. Tasmin Gilmour 17. Adam Mortlock 18. Mitchell Baillie 19. Joshua Briggs 20. Chris Coleman

BULLS: 1. Jesse Parker 2. Brock Pelligra 3. Jake Brennan 4. Kyle Cassel 5. Daylen Meredith 6. Nicholas Holliday 7. Adam Fearnley 23. Bruce Ward 9. Mitch Hyde 18. Rhys Scigliatano 11. Sean Walpole 12. David Baumann 13. Vea Tapaatoutai 14. Cameron Akauola 8. Mick Hawkings 16. Lennox Whittaker 20. Isaac Gorman

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY v RYDE-EASTWOOD HAWKS

HENSON PARK · SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 11:30AM

UNIVERSITY: 1. Kieran Wyld 2. Joel Kingham 3. Alvin Maungatti 4. Vito Tevaga 5. Nicholas Hedley 6. Jordan Chongsun 7. Josh Natoli 8. Khalil Rahme 9. Jack Boyling 10. Zane Elsley 11. Mason McCarthy 13. Daniel Arahu 14. Ryan Dodson 15. Augustine Stowers 16. Stefano Totidis 17. Laurence Zarounas

HAWKS: 16. Angelo Panambalama 2. Joshua Rizk 3. Regan Hughes 4. Reggie Alofipo 5. Liam Scolari 6. Adam Rizk 7. Curtis Wilson 8. Langi Suli-Ruka 9. Blake Layton 10. Edward Carter 11. Justin Frain 12. Tyler Seymour 13. Angus McElroy 14. Mitchell Gray 15. Callum Ellis 20. Benjamin Fisiilose 23. Zac Vella 18. Joshua Suli-Ruka 22. Joshua Boumelhem 26. Suliasi Suli

EAST CAMPBELLTOWN EAGLES v BELROSE EAGLES

WAMINDA OVAL · SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 2:30PM

ECE: 20. Ben Pickering 15. Jonathon Palau 3. Daniel Martin 4. Andrew Halstead 5. Christian Bate 6. William Kelly 7. Zachary Nicholls 8. Steven Tavita 9. Judd Hanlon 10. Ilija Radan 12. Joshua Martin 13. Jamie Buhner 14. Ben Pickering 17. Andrew Layton 19. Giuseppe Plati

BELROSE: 20. Ben Pickering 15. Jonathon Palau 3. Daniel Martin 4. Andrew Halstead 5. Christian Bate 6. William Kelly 7. Zachary Nicholls 8. Steven Tavita 9. Judd Hanlon 10. Ilija Radan 12. Joshua Martin 13. Jamie Buhner 14. Ben Pickering 17. Andrew Layton 19. Giuseppe Plati

MOOREBANK RAMS v CRONULLA-CARINGBAH SHARKS

HAMMONDVILLE OVAL · SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 3PM

RAMS: 21. Declan Casey 2. Mosese Vuki 3. Zachary Rumble 4. Jazzaiah Schaafhausen 5. Laitia Moceidreke 6. Christian Urso 7. Joel Saldaneri 17. Mosese Pope 9. Ryan Gray 8. Elvis John Oloaga 11. Chance Te Atua 12. Justin Filo 13. Jake Horton 14. Jordan Mcgrath 15. Joshua Kalati 10. Jason Tuulau 19. Kurtis Morrin

SHARKS: 1. Callum Tutauha 2. Lachlan Hughes 3. Brent Anderson 4. Jacob Gagan 5. Daniel Perkins 6. Nesiasi Mataitonga 7. Bailey Hayward 8. Tokerau Raru 9. Michael Lichaa 10. Hayden Fepuleai 11. Luis Strickland 12. Mason Pure 13. Ryan King 14. Joey Tramontana 15. Wiremu Peters 16. Mathew Emery 17. Jyi Seymour 18. Rea Pittman

BYE: WENTWORTHVILLE UNITED

1st Elimination Final

NORTH SYDNEY BEARS (3) v SOUTH SYDNEY RABBITOHS (6)

CAMPBELLTOWN STADIUM · SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 11AM

BEARS: 1. Shanice Parker 2. Caitlin Keefe 3. Shontelle Stowers 4. Shenai Lendill 5. Tyla Gambell 6. Kirra Dibb 7. Chloe Leaupepe 8. Josephine Maejiirs 9. Nita Maynard 10. Aliti Namece 14. Talesha Quinn 12. Simaima Taufa 13. Nicole Backhouse 16. Mary Taipau 17. Losena Qiolevu 18. Moniqca Moale 19. Lacey Shields 22. Pier Pritchard

RABBITOHS: 1. Tahlia Hunter 2. Taleena Simon 3. Emma Dennison 4. Monique Donovan 5. Regan Hart 6. Sarah Field 7. Arabella Mckenzie 8. Kyla Gordon 9. Janaya Bent 10. Christine Pauli 11. Shaylee Bent 12. Ellie Johnston 13. Talia Lealaialoto 14. Grace Uluiburotu 15. Nellie Bell 16. Crystal Overton 17. Nikki Baird 18. Billie Wood 19. Nikita Wilson

2nd Elimination Final

WESTS TIGERS (4) v CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN BULLDOGS (5)

CAMPBELLTOWN STADIUM · SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 3PM

TIGERS: 1. Botille Vette-Welsh 2. Ana Fekeila 3. Patricia Raikadroka 4. Emily Curtain 5. Christine Kani 6. Raecene McGregor 7. Naomi Kara 8. Filomina Hanisi 9. Sophie Curtain 10. Kina Hanisi 11. Christian Pio 12. Taylor Osborne 13. Tasia Seumanufagai 14. Tyler Pelligra 15. Awhina Akuhata 16. Janelle Williams 17. Stephanie Wilson 18. Teagan Toa Toa

BULLDOGS: 1. Haneen Zreika 2. Abbi Church 3. Josephine Bee 4. Rikeya Horne 5. Margot Vella 6. Mahinaarangi Rewi 7. Quincy Dodd 8. Stephanie Ball 9. Renee Targett 10. Maddison Weatherall 11. Grace Clarke 12. Sarah Togatuki 13. Samantha Economos 14. Grace Li 15. Jamilee Bright 16. Rarmia Karam 17. Mareva Swann 23. Temukisa Ioane

NSWRL RESULTS

PRESIDENT'S CUP - ROUND 7

Dubbo CYMS 30 (Jyie Chapman 2, Jack Kavanagh, Jayson Bukuya, Tony Pellow, Moses Esera tries; Bayden Searle 3 goals) def **Wentworthville 10** (Adam Spicer, Sam Carusi tries; Kieran Hayman 1 goal) at Apex Oval

Glebe-Burwood 36 (Lorenzo Mulitalo 2, Patrice Siolo, Jonah Ngaronoa, Sitiveni Moceidreke, Matt Stimson, Thomas Hazelton tries; Sitiveni Moceidreke 4 goals) def **Thirroul 18** (Cooper Bowen, Jack Payne, Harry Leddy tries; Dane Francis 3 goals) at Gibson Park

Maitland 48 (James Bradley 5, Matt Soper-Lawler, Cooper Jenkins, Chad O'Donnell, 1 TBC tries; Brock Lamb 2, Chad O'Donnell 4 goals) def **Wests Devils 0** at Maitland Sports Ground

North Sydney 42 (Coby Thomas 2, James Tuitahi 2, Sione Hopoate 2, Mike Pearsall, Tobias Westcott, Connagh Takairangi tries; Coby Thomas 3 goals) def **Western Rams 26** (Jesse Wighton 2, Mitch Andrews, Jackson Brien, Bailey Hartwig tries; Bailey Hartwig 1 goal) at Carrington Park Bathurst

BYE: Hills Bulls

LADDER: Pickers 14, Bears 12, Wolves 11, Devils 9, Bulls 8, Butchers 8, CYMS 6, Magpies 2, Rams 0

SYDNEY SHIELD - ROUND 7

Cronulla-Caringbah 26 (Hayden Fepuleai, Joey Tramontana, Bailey Hayward, Callum Tutauha tries; Kamren Cryer 5 goals) def **University 20** (Tristan Alvarado, Jack Boyling, 1 TBC tries; Daniel Arahu 3, Khalil Rahme 1 goals) at Cronulla High School

East Campbelltown 36 (Tevita Alifa, Kobe Chamberlain, Alapati Potifara, Johnny Da Silva, Mavoni Tuifua tries; Shannon Gallant 6 goals) def **Helensburgh 34** (William Russell 3, Jordan Tongahai 2, Mitchell McCrae tries; William Russell 5 goals) at Waminda Oval

Ryde-Eastwood 50 (Reggie Alofipo 3, Justin Frain 2, Adam Rizk, Curtis Wilson 2, Josh Rizk, Angelo Panambalana tries; Angelo Panambalana 5 goals) def **Belrose 6** (Max Lehmann try; Will Kelly 1 goal) at TG Milner Field

Moorebank 50 (Declan Casey 4, Ryan Gray, Jazziah Schaafhausen, Laitia Moceidreke, Kurtis Morrin, Mosese Vuki tries; Declan Casey 5, Joel Saldaneri 1, Jake Horton 1 goals) def **Wenty Utd 4** (Obad Karwhin try) at Hammondville Oval

BYE: Hills Bulls

LADDER: Hawks 12, Belrose 11, Sharks 10, Rams 9, Bulls 9, Tigers 8, ECE 5, University 5, Wenty 1

HARVEY NORMAN WOMEN'S PREMIERSHIP - ROUND 7

Cronulla 14 (Kennedy Cherrington, Talei Holmes, Jamie-Anne Wright tries; Maddie Studdon 1 goal) def **Canterbury 8** (Maddison Weatherall, Mareva Swann tries) at Hammondville Oval

Central Coast 16 (Jayme Fressard 2, Tayla Predebon tries; Mel Howard 2 goals) def **North Sydney 6** (Shanice Parker try; Kirra Dibb 1 goal) at Morry Breen Oval

South Sydney 12 (Janaya Bent, Arabella McKenzie tries; Arabella McKenzie 2 goals) def **Wests Tigers 4** (Christine Kani try) at TG Milner Field

BYE: Wentworthville Magpies

FINAL LADDER (Top 6 Finals)

Central Coast Roosters	13
Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	12
North Sydney Bears	7
Wests Tigers	7
Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	7
South Sydney Rabbitohs	7
Wentworthville Magpies	3

LIVE NRL MATCH UPDATES Every NRL game. Every round. Whether you're out and about and need to check the scorers, or just want to follow along with the game on the screen, LeagueUnlimited.com runs a detailed live blog of every single NRL match, every weekend. Head to leagueunlimited.com and look for the Match Centre to follow along with our live blogs.

2020 Draw

NRL Telstra Premiership

ROUND 1

Thu 8:05pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 8:05pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Sun 6:15pm

MARCH 12-15

Eels v Bulldogs
Raiders v Titans
Cowboys v Broncos
Knights v Warriors
Rabbitohs v Sharks
Panthers v Roosters
Sea Eagles v Storm
Dragons v Tigers
Bankwest 8-2
GIO 24-6
Townsville 21-28
MJS 20-0
ANZ 22-18
Panthers 20-14
Lottoland 4-18
WIN 14-24

ROUND 2

Thu 8:05pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 8:05pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Sun 6:15pm

MARCH 19-22

Bulldogs v Cowboys
Dragons v Panthers
Broncos v Rabbitohs
Warriors v Raiders
Roosters v Sea Eagles
Sharks v Storm
Tigers v Knights
Titans v Eels
ANZ 16-24
Kogarah 28-32
Suncorp 22-18
Cbus Super 6-20
Leichhardt 8-9
Kogarah 10-12
Leichhardt 24-42
Cbus Super 6-46

PREMIERSHIP SUSPENDED MARCH 23 to MAY 27 due to COVID-19 restrictions

ROUND 3

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Sun 6:30pm

MAY 28-31

Broncos v Eels
Cowboys v Titans
Roosters v Rabbitohs
Warriors v Dragons
Sharks v Tigers
Storm v Raiders
Panthers v Knights
Sea Eagles v Bulldogs
Suncorp 6-34
Townsville 36-6
Bankwest 28-12
Gosford 18-0
Bankwest 16-28
AAMI 6-22
C'town 14-14
Gosford 32-6

ROUND 4

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Sun 6:30pm
Mon 4:05pm

JUNE 4-8

Broncos v Roosters
Panthers v Warriors
Storm v Rabbitohs
Eels v Sea Eagles
Cowboys v Sharks
Raiders v Knights
Titans v Tigers
Bulldogs v Dragons
Queen's Birthday
Suncorp 0-59
C'town 26-0
AAMI 22-8
Bankwest 19-16
Townsville 16-26
C'town 18-34
Suncorp 28-23
Bankwest 22-2

ROUND 5

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Mon 7:00pm

JUNE 11-15

Sea Eagles v Broncos
Warriors v Cowboys
Eels v Panthers
Rabbitohs v Titans
Knights v Storm
Tigers v Raiders
Dragons v Sharks
Bulldogs v Roosters
Gosford 20-18
Gosford 37-26
Bankwest 16-10
Bankwest 32-12
Gosford 12-26
C'town 6-14
C'town 30-16
Bankwest 6-42

ROUND 6

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Sun 6:30pm

JUNE 18-21

Knights v Broncos
Rabbitohs v Warriors
Panthers v Storm
Titans v Dragons
Tigers v Cowboys
Roosters v Eels
Raiders v Sea Eagles
Sharks v Bulldogs
Beansies for Brain Cancer Round
Gosford 27-6
Bankwest 40-12
C'town 21-14
Suncorp 8-20
C'town 36-20
Bankwest 24-10
C'town 6-14
Bankwest 20-18

ROUND 7

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Sun 6:30pm

JUNE 25-29

Panthers v Rabbitohs
Storm v Warriors
Roosters v Dragons
Cowboys v Knights
Broncos v Titans
Eels v Raiders
Sea Eagles v Sharks
Bulldogs v Tigers
Kogarah 20-12
Kogarah 50-6
Bankwest 26-12
Townsville 32-20
Suncorp 12-30
Bankwest 25-24
Gosford 22-40
Bankwest 6-34

ROUND 8

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Sun 6:30pm

JULY 2-5

Storm v Roosters
Raiders v Dragons
Eels v Cowboys
Titans v Sharks
Warriors v Broncos
Tigers v Panthers
Sea Eagles v Knights
Bulldogs v Rabbitohs
Suncorp 27-25
GIO 22-16
Bankwest 42-4
Cbus Super 10-40
Gosford 26-16
Bankwest 12-19
Lottoland 12-14
Bankwest 10-26

ROUND 9

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 4:05pm
Sun 6:30pm

JULY 9-12

Cowboys v Roosters
Titans v Warriors
Rabbitohs v Tigers
Sharks v Panthers
Broncos v Bulldogs
Raiders v Storm
Knights v Eels
Dragons v Sea Eagles
Townsville 16-42
Cbus Super 16-12
Bankwest 18-10
Kogarah 24-56
Suncorp 26-8
GIO 14-20
MJS 4-10
Kogarah 34-4

ROUND 10

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 2:00pm
Sun 4:05pm

JULY 16-19

Roosters v Raiders
Storm v Titans
Tigers v Broncos
Dragons v Bulldogs
Rabbitohs v Knights
Sea Eagles v Eels
Warriors v Sharks
Panthers v Cowboys
SCG 20-24
S. Coast 42-6
Leichhardt 48-0
WIN 28-22
Bankwest 18-20
Lottoland 22-18
Gosford 10-46
Panthers 22-10

ROUND 11

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 2:00pm
Sun 4:05pm

JULY 23-26

Eels v Tigers
Cowboys v Sea Eagles
Broncos v Storm
Warriors v Roosters
Sharks v Dragons
Raiders v Rabbitohs
Knights v Bulldogs
Titans v Panthers
Bankwest 26-16
QCBS 12-24
Suncorp 8-46
Gosford 10-18
Kogarah 28-24
GIO 18-12
MJS 12-18
Cbus Super 14-22

ROUND 12

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 2:00pm
Sun 4:05pm

JULY 30-AUGUST 2

Dragons v Rabbitohs
Tigers v Warriors
Broncos v Sharks
Roosters v Titans
Cowboys v Raiders
Sea Eagles v Panthers
Bulldogs v Eels
Storm v Knights
Indigenous Round
Kogarah 24-32
SCG 20-26
Suncorp 26-36
Roosters v Titans
Townsville 12-14
Lottoland 12-42
ANZ 16-18
S. Coast 26-16

ROUND 13

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 2:00pm
Sun 4:05pm

AUGUST 6-9

Dragons v Roosters
Sea Eagles v Warriors
Rabbitohs v Broncos
Storm v Bulldogs
Knights v Tigers
Panthers v Raiders
Titans v Cowboys
Sharks v Eels
WIN 16-24
Lottoland 22-26
ANZ 28-10
S. Coast 41-10
MJS 44-4
Panthers 28-12
Cbus Super 30-10
Kogarah 12-14

ROUND 14

Thu 7:50pm
Fri 6:00pm
Fri 7:55pm
Sat 3:00pm
Sat 5:30pm
Sat 7:35pm
Sun 2:00pm
Sun 4:05pm

AUGUST 13-16

Roosters v Storm
Warriors v Panthers
Eels v Dragons
Sharks v Titans
Cowboys v Rabbitohs
Raiders v Broncos
Knights v Sea Eagles
Tigers v Bulldogs
SCG 6-24
Gosford 12-18
Bankwest 12-14
Kogarah 30-18
Townsville 30-31
GIO 36-8
MJS 26-24
Bankwest 29-28

ROUND 15

Thu 7:50pm
 Fri 6:00pm
 Fri 7:55pm
 Sat 3:00pm
 Sat 5:30pm
 Sat 7:35pm
 Sun 2:00pm
 Sun 4:05pm

AUGUST 20-23

Eels v Storm
 Panthers v Sharks
 Broncos v Dragons
 Titans v Raiders
 Tigers v Roosters
 Rabbitohs v Sea Eagles
 Bulldogs v Warriors
 Knights v Cowboys

Bankwest 14-0
 Panthers 38-12
 Suncorp 24-26
 Cbus Super 16-36
 Leichhardt 16-38
 ANZ 56-16
 ANZ 14-20
 MJS 12-0

ROUND 20

Thu 7:50pm
 Fri 6:00pm
 Fri 7:55pm
 Sat 3:00pm
 Sat 5:30pm
 Sat 7:35pm
 Sun 2:00pm
 Sun 4:05pm

SEPTEMBER 24-27

Broncos v Cowboys
 Titans v Knights
 Rabbitohs v Roosters
 Bulldogs v Panthers
 Sharks v Raiders
 Tigers v Eels
 Warriors v Sea Eagles
 Dragons v Storm

Suncorp Stadium
 Cbus Super Stadium
 ANZ Stadium
 ANZ Stadium
 Netstrata Jubilee Stadium
 Bankwest or Campbelltown*
 Central Coast Stadium*
 Netstrata Jubilee Stadium*

ROUND 16

Thu 7:50pm
 Fri 6:00pm
 Fri 7:55pm
 Sat 3:00pm
 Sat 5:30pm
 Sat 7:35pm
 Sun 4:05pm
 Sun 6:30pm

AUGUST 27-30

Eels v Rabbitohs
 Dragons v Titans
 Roosters v Broncos
 Warriors v Knights
 Sharks v Cowboys
 Panthers v Tigers
 Storm v Sea Eagles
 Raiders v Bulldogs

Bankwest 0-38
 Kogarah 10-14
 SCG 58-12
 Tamworth 36-6
 Kogarah 28-12
 Panthers 30-6
 S. Coast 30-6
 GIO 34-20

2020 NRL TELSTRA PREMIERSHIP FINALS SERIES**WEEK 1**

Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC

OCTOBER 2-4

QF 1 1 v 4
 QF 2 2 v 3
 EF 1 5 v 8
 EF 2 6 v 7

Qualifying & Elimination Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

WEEK 2

Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC

OCTOBER 9-10

SF 1 L QF 1 v W EF 1
 SF 2 L QF 2 v W EF 2

Semi Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

WEEK 3

Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC

OCTOBER 16-17

PF 1 W QF 1 v W SF 2
 PF 2 W QF 2 v W SF 1

Preliminary Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

GRAND FINAL

Sun, Time TBC

OCTOBER 25

W PF 1 v W PF 2

Venue TBC

ROUND 17

Thu 7:50pm
 Fri 6:00pm
 Fri 7:55pm
 Sat 3:00pm
 Sat 5:30pm
 Sat 7:35pm
 Sun 4:05pm
 Sun 6:30pm

SEPTEMBER 3-6

Broncos v Panthers
 Knights v Sharks
 Rabbitohs v Storm
 Cowboys v Dragons
 Sea Eagles v Tigers
 Raiders v Roosters
 Warriors v Eels
 Bulldogs v Titans

Suncorp Stadium
 McDonald Jones Stadium
 ANZ Stadium
 QLD Country Bank Stadium
 Lottoland
 GIO Stadium Canberra
 Central Coast Stadium
 ANZ Stadium

ROUND 18

Thu 7:50pm
 Fri 6:00pm
 Fri 7:55pm
 Sat 3:00pm
 Sat 5:30pm
 Sat 7:35pm
 Sun 4:05pm
 Sun 6:30pm

SEPTEMBER 10-13

Tigers v Rabbitohs
 Bulldogs v Sea Eagles
 Panthers v Eels
 Dragons v Raiders
 Titans v Broncos
 Roosters v Knights
 Storm v Cowboys
 Sharks v Warriors

Bankwest Stadium
 ANZ Stadium
 Panthers Stadium
 WIN Stadium
 Cbus Super Stadium
 Sydney Cricket Ground
 Sunshine Coast Stadium
 Netstrata Jubilee Stadium

ROUND 19

Thu 7:50pm
 Fri 6:00pm
 Fri 7:55pm
 Sat 3:00pm
 Sat 5:30pm
 Sat 7:35pm
 Sun 2:00pm
 Sun 4:05pm

SEPTEMBER 17-20

Rabbitohs v Bulldogs
 Cowboys v Panthers
 Eels v Broncos
 Sea Eagles v Titans
 Storm v Tigers
 Roosters v Sharks
 Raiders v Warriors
 Knights v Dragons

Women in League Round
 ANZ Stadium
 QLD Country Bank Stadium
 Bankwest Stadium
 Lottoland
 Sunshine Coast Stadium
 Sydney Cricket Ground
 GIO Stadium Canberra
 McDonald Jones Stadium

2020 STATE OF ORIGIN SERIES**GAME 1**

Wed

NOVEMBER 4

QLD v NSW

Venue TBC

GAME 2

Wed

NOVEMBER 11

NSW v QLD

Venue TBC

WOMEN'S

Fri

NOVEMBER 13

NSW v QLD

Venue TBC

GAME 3

Wed

NOVEMBER 18

QLD v NSW

Venue TBC

All matches except Grand Final & Origin broadcast live on Fox League & Kayo Sports. Thu 7:50pm, Fri 7:55pm and Sun 4:05pm matches, all Finals, Grand Final and Origin are broadcast live on the Nine Network. NRL draw is subject to change - visit LeagueUnlimited.com for updated fixtures.

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