

The



LEAGUE UNLIMITED

FRONT ROW

ROUND 19 2020

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 17

Spinal tips

We rate the 1-6-7-9 combinations heading into the NRL Finals

More to do

Botille Vette-Welsh's star keeps on rising

Old and Newie

Daniel Saifiti on his return from injury and the importance of Old Boys Day

A portrait of Erin Molan, a blonde woman with blue eyes, wearing a white sleeveless top, smiling slightly. She is the central focus of the cover.

Familiar face

Erin Molan speaks about life and footy ahead of Women in League round

INSIDE: NRL ROUND 19 TEAMLISTS, PREVIEWS, HEAD TO HEAD STATS, LADDER, STATS LEADERS
WORD JUMBLES, NRL ROUND 18 WRAP, MATCH REVIEW, REPORTS, NSWRL FINALS TEAMLISTS, UK UPDATE

What's inside

THE FRONT ROW - ISSUE 17

From the editor	2
Daniel Saifiti; UK update	3
Feature: Erin Molan	4-5
Feature: Botille Vette-Welsh	8-9
Feature: Finals Spines	6-7
THE WRAP • Round 18	10-14
Match reports	10-12
The Scoresheet, Match Review & LU Player of the Year Standings	13
Premiership Ladder, Stats Leaders	14
GAME DAY • NRL Round 19	15-35
LU Team Tips	15
THU Rabbitohs v Bulldogs	16-17
FRI Cowboys v Panthers	18-19
Eels v Broncos	20-21
SAT Sea Eagles v Titans	22-23
Storm v Tigers	24-25
Roosters v Sharks	26-27
SUN Raiders v Warriors	28-29
Knights v Dragons	30-31
NSWRL President's Cup Finals Wk 1	32
NSWRL Sydney Shield Finals Wk 1	32
NSWRL Women's Premiership Prelim Final	32
NSWRL Results	33
Player Birthdays, Word Jumbles	33
2020 NRL Draw	34-35



PRINTED IN SYDNEY BY



From the editor

Tim Costello

Welcome to a bumper Women in League edition of The Front Row! This week we have two great stories focusing on women in different parts of the great game - broadcaster Erin Molan and player Botille Vette-Welsh. Flick through the next few pages to see more on their stories.

Our weekly finals build-up piece this week assesses the spines of each of the top eight teams (can you believe the eight is decided with two rounds to go?) and Rick Edgerton's selections are sure to generate some discussion.

With just two rounds left we're still so grateful for all the support and feedback this magazine is receiving from everyone - keep it coming and keep reading each week! Our writers and contributors do a great job every edition to bring you footy from a different perspective.

Most of all this week - enjoy Women in League round as the game pays tribute to women in all areas of the game. Whether they're on the field, on TV or radio, plying their skills in clubland, volunteering at the local junior fields, or taking their own kids to a game - women are the backbone of rugby league.

The FRONT ROW ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We'd like to thank RugbyLeagueProject.org for their support and use of various statistics throughout this publication.

Interested in advertising with The Front Row or LeagueUnlimited.com, or just want to provide feedback? Contact us by email - media@leagueunlimited.com

Magazine content originally appears on LeagueUnlimited.com © 2020.

Cover image: Erin Molan, supplied courtesy Nine PR

MANAGERS EDITOR

Steven Williams & Coby Delaney
Tim Costello

CONTRIBUTORS

Paul Jobber	Andrew Ferguson
Joshua Wells	Adam Huxtable
Rick Edgerton	Sam Bourke
Robert Crosby	Hamish Parker
Andrew Carey	Andrew Jackson
Justin Davies	Jason Hosken
Josh Robertson	Lachy MacCorquodale
	Emile El-Azar

Turning the tide

Saifiti says importance of Old Boys Day not lost on Knights playing group

KNIGHTS prop Daniel Saifiti doesn't have the best record when it comes to the club's annual Old Boys Day fixture.

The 24-year-old has only tasted success once in the four matches he's been a part of since debuting for the red and blue in 2016.

He'll get a perfect chance to extend his winning percentage to 40 per cent when the Knights host the Dragons on Sunday.

After appearing unbeatable in their final home match of the season for the best part of two decades, the Novocastrians have won just one of their past five - 38-4 over Gold Coast last year.

With the Dragons now out of finals contention, The Entrance junior is aware of the importance of the round 19 fixture.

"The Old Boys are the club that everyone takes

after and they're rich with history," Saifiti said.

"They definitely want us to do well every week, they come back when they can and obviously they can't now, but they're real supportive so it means a lot to us boys."

The man affectionately known as D-Saf made his return from a knee injury in last weekend's 42-12 hammering by the Roosters and admitted he wasn't happy with his overall performance.

"I was definitely rusty in the defensive areas and getting used to the line speed again ... I was missing the jump a fair bit," he said.

"As the game went on I started to feel more comfortable."

While the result continued the Knights' rollercoaster season, it also gave them a much-needed insight into what improvements they need to make ahead of the semi-finals.

"It showed us where the big dogs are at and where we stand in the competition," Saifiti said.

The club hasn't hosted a home finals fixture since a 25-18 victory over Manly in 2006, making their remaining two matches must-win.

"If we want to get a home semi which the club hasn't had for a while, we have to win these next two games and that's very important to us," Saifiti said.

- Paul Jobber



UK update

Super League Round 12 Results

Hull FC 26 (Jordan Lane 2, Andre Savelio, Adam Swift 2 tries; Jake Connor 3 goals) def **Wakefield 23** (Kelepi Tanginoa 2, Max Jowitt 2 tries; Ryan Hampshire 3 goals and 1 field goal) Venue: Totally Wicked Stadium; Date: Thursday 10 September 2020, 6pm BST

Warrington 12 (Matty Ashton, Anthony Gelling tries; Stefan Ratchford 2 goals) def **Castleford 10** (Derrell Olpherts, Gareth O'Brien tries; Danny Richardson 1 goal); Venue: Totally Wicked Stadium; Date: Thursday 10 September 2020, 8:15pm BST

St Helens 21 (Alex Walmsley, Jack Welsby, Regan Grace tries; Lachlan Coote 4 goals; Theo Fages 1 field goal) def **Hull KR 20** (Ethan Ryan, Shaun Kenny-Dowall, Dean Hadley tries; Will Dagger 4 goals); Venue: Totally Wicked Stadium; Date: Friday 11 September 2020, 6pm BST

Leeds 13 (Tom Briscoe, Konrad Hurrell tries; Luke Gale 2 goals and 1 field goal) def **Huddersfield 12** (Matty English try; Oliver Russell 4 goals) Venue: Totally Wicked Stadium; Date: Friday 11 September 2020, 8:15pm BST

Wigan 28 (Sam Powell, Joe Burgess 2, Bevan French, Oliver Gildart tries; Zak Hardaker 4 goals) def **Catalans 12** (Fouad Yaha, Julian Bousquet tries; James Maloney 2 goals) Venue: Stade Gilbert Brutus; Date: Saturday 12 September 2020, 5pm BST (6pm CET)

Super League Table: update

For the first time since the introduction of the Super League in 1996, the final table will be determined by Points Percentage - acknowledging the possibility that not all clubs will be able to play the same number of matches before the end of the regular season, at which point the Top Four clubs will qualify for the Play Offs. These changes will be introduced immediately - and have a striking effect on the league table.

To qualify for the Play Offs, a team must have played a minimum of 15 matches - unless they end the regular season in the Top Four on competition points anyway.

(This stipulation will be reviewed, and could be amended, by the RFL Board if four or more clubs do not complete 15 matches)

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Pts	Win %
1	St Helens	11	8	3	0	303	135	168	16	73%
2	Warrington	11	8	3	0	228	132	96	16	73%
3	Wigan	11	8	3	0	267	182	85	16	73%
4	Leeds	9	6	3	0	214	174	40	12	67%
5	Catalans	8	5	3	0	228	169	59	10	63%
6	Castleford	11	5	6	0	213	216	-3	10	45%
7	Hull FC	11	5	6	0	232	302	-70	10	45%
8	Huddersfield	10	4	6	0	162	222	-60	8	40%
9	Salford	9	2	7	0	166	253	-87	4	22%
10	Wakefield	9	2	7	0	138	252	-114	4	22%
11	Hull KR	10	2	8	0	166	280	-114	4	20%

Challenge Cup Sixth Round Result

Hull FC 29 (Carlos Tuimavave 2, Albert Kelly, Ratu Naulago tries; Jake Connor 4 and 1 field goals) def **Castleford 16** (George Griffin, Oliver Holmes, Peter Mata'utia tries; Danny Richardson 2 goals) Venue: Totally Wicked Stadium; Date: Sunday 13 September 2020, 3pm BST

Upcoming UK fixtures (all times BST)

Betfred Super League - Catch-up	Thu 17th 3pm	Wakefield v Huddersfield	John Smith's Stadium
Coral Challenge Cup - Quarter Finals	Fri 18th 6pm	Catalans v Salford	Totally Wicked Stadium
	8:15pm	Leeds v Hull KR	Totally Wicked Stadium
	Sat 19th 2:30pm	Warrington v St Helens	AJ Bell Stadium
	5pm	Hull FC v Wigan	AJ Bell Stadium
Betfred Super League - Round 13	Thu 24th 3:30pm	Hull KR v Leeds	Halliwel Jones Stadium
	6pm	Hull FC v Salford	Halliwel Jones Stadium
	8:15pm	Castleford v Huddersfield	Halliwel Jones Stadium
	Fri 25th 6pm	Warrington v Catalans	Halliwel Jones Stadium
	8:15pm	Wigan v Wakefield	Halliwel Jones Stadium

Adding to the mix

Why Nine Network broadcast star Erin Molan believes times are changing



FOR nearly a decade, Erin Molan has been presenting sport on the Nine Network.

She started with Channel Nine in 2012 and has become the face of the network's Friday Night Footy coverage.

Recently, the 37-year-old has added 'Sunday Footy Show host' to a resume that also included a co-hosting role with the NRL Footy Show on Thursday nights until it

ended at the conclusion of the 2018 season.

Most rugby league tragics now settle in with a beer or wine in hand as Molan graces our television screens at the end of the working week.

The Front Row caught up with the 37-year-old for an in-depth chat about all things inside and outside of rugby league ahead of Women in League round this weekend.

Changing times in broadcasting

After joining Channel Nine in 2012, Molan graduated to become the first female host of the network's Thursday night Footy Show program in 2014.

Being a female in a male-dominated domain was quickly accompanied by a barrage of unwarranted criticism as females had rarely been prominent in rugby league circles.

But things were changing.

Over the ensuing six years, Molan saw colleagues such as Allana Ferguson (pictured right with Molan), Danika Mason, Jelisa Apps and Ruan Sims along with Lara Pitt, Yvonne Sampson and Hannah Hollis start to make their mark.

Collectively, they are now part of the weekend furniture in households around the country.

"It's fantastic to have more and more female colleagues involved," Molan told The Front Row.

"The whole landscape has changed which is wonderful because women have always been massive fans of rugby league.

"They have always passionately debated the merits of the game, but their voice hasn't always been heard in broadcast and I think that's been the big shift over the past decade."



Love of the Raiders

Unashamedly, Molan is a Canberra Raiders tragic.

But surprisingly, it hasn't always been that way with her love of the Green Machine being traced back to the early days of her career covering sport at WIN television.

With both parents growing up in Melbourne, she said rugby league was never a topic of discussion around the dinner table.

That was until she fell into the broadcasting role.

"I started at WIN in a little community television station in Canberra where we covered local league and rugby union," she said.

"That was my first foray into it because I was introduced to the sport quite late, but then I became a very passionate Raiders supporter and it went from there."

Being a mum

Molan says two-year-old daughter Eliza always provides her with a constant reminder of just what's important.

It means she rarely has a regular 9am until 5pm day job, but she wouldn't have it any other way.

Work hours are regularly determined around when her young daughter wakes up or has a sleep.

"Sometimes I'm awake between 1am and 5am doing admin tasks or checking emails," she said.

"But I don't want to look back in five years and think that I missed the most incredible years of Eliza's life because I was too distracted with work."

The result is unusual working hours and a level of tiredness that is now accepted.

"I'm very lucky to have her; like most people's kids in the world she's the best thing I've ever done and the favourite part of my day."

Social media impacts

The Sunday Footy Show host has had her fair share of online trolls and being the victim of rumour and innuendo, but it's now like water off a duck's back.

She does, however, concede it hasn't always been like that.

"It's a pretty murky world out there and these days I'm pretty good in regards to what I read and what I look at," she said.

"I deal with it well now but I didn't always."

She accepts there will always be people who won't agree with her and there will always be online criticism.

But there is also a line that cannot be crossed.

"There are always going to be people that don't like me because that's part and parcel of what I do," she said.



"But there is a line that cannot be crossed and that's the issue I have," she said.

"I've been exposed to this social media stuff for the best part of a decade so there's not much that could effect me these days."

Women In League round

As the NRL prepares for another Women In League round this weekend, Molan wanted it to become less symbolic as the years passed.

"I hope it loses its importance as time goes on," she said.

"That means it's accepted that women love rugby league just as much as the men and women deserve to be a part of this game."

She preferred to shift the focus off females in broadcasting roles and shine the spotlight on other women instead.

The mums, the sisters, the girlfriends, the fiancées, the grandmothers, the auntsies.



"Women like myself and the other girls who host and commentate are part of that women in league concept, but a very small part," she said.

"The real grassroots contribution is the one we want to celebrate and that's the mums who drop the kids off."

"The ones who drive their kids hundreds of kilometres, those who buy footy boots, and those who support and live and breathe the game."

"They're just as important."

Women in League Round kicks off on Thursday night at ANZ Stadium before it wraps up in Newcastle on Sunday afternoon.

Images courtesy Nine Network and Instagram/Erin_Molan

Paul Jobber
Contributor



Dream to reality

Botille Vette-Welsh reflects on the rise of women's footy in recent years

GROWING up in a rural New Zealand town, Botille Vette-Welsh probably wouldn't have believed you if you told her that in 2020 she would be playing NRLW, for New South Wales in State of Origin and captaining the Wests Tigers Women's side in the NSWRL Harvey Norman Women's Premiership.

Despite a deep love for the All Blacks as a child, that is exactly where the talented full back is today. She's ready to make an impact.

Growing up in a small community, there were no rugby league opportunities for Vette-Welsh. She would ply her trade in rugby union until a move to Sydney would change her life forever.

"I wasn't keen on league for a few years. But one of my first ever experiences was when I saw Australia play New Zealand and then I saw a few people get smoked – it was then I decided to give it a go," she said.



get the experience – and the Roosters and Dragons are really behind their women's teams, so it has been awesome to be part of," she said.

"I went from never playing the sport to being in this competition with some of the best girls in the country. Being named alongside them is mind blowing. I am really grateful."

While she's excited to play NRLW again in 2020, her campaign for the Wests Tigers is something she will truly cherish. Vette-Welsh said she was honoured to be named captain of one of Australia's most iconic rugby league clubs.

"My job as captain is to inspire our girls coming through. We make sure that if we ever see someone sitting on the fence, they have the courage to jump off that fence and to give it a go. That's what I did," she said.

"It is awesome. I love the Tigers. We have a lot of fans who come along to our games and they come with the flags. We started at the bottom, but now we're growing our grassroots and that development for young girls, and even boys who can see their mums and sisters play, is vital."



"At first it was pretty strange. I was playing league and union at the same time and it was a little bit tricky. It was a slow burn, but eventually I got to understand rugby league and I love it. The physicality and all."

Rugby league, like it is to many who start playing, was a way Vette-Welsh could start making connections with people. Now it has become a way of life.

"It is crazy. I never thought I would ever be part of something like this. Being in NRLW is a massive achievement. For me to have a spot, it was amazing. Just to



Joshua Wells

Contributor



In her words: The State of Origin Experience

"I didn't watch much rugby league growing up – but I played rugby union for NSW. So to be selected was amazing. It is so cool to be part of and such a surreal feeling.

"I remember last year when we went to North Sydney Oval there were so many people watching. It was awesome. There were thousands of people lined up for the under-18s match as well.

"It is great to see people supporting us and also supporting the younger kids coming through.

"I hadn't experienced something like that before."

The Wests Tigers' season may be over, but Botille Vette-Welsh is still on a mission. *Images courtesy Wests Tigers Football Club Media*

Rating the spines

IT'S official – the top eight for season 2020 is now set in stone after the 8th placed Sharks beat the Warriors last Sunday night to move six points clear of 9th position. This week as we continue our build-up towards semi-final football, we rank each team's spine – the 1, 6, 7 & 9.

Key indicators considered included game management, big match experience and the cohesion in which they play. We also took a deep dive into some of the key numbers - based solely on games played against top 8 opposition throughout the year.

8. SHARKS

1. William Kennedy 6. Shaun Johnson 7. Chad Townsend 9. Blayne Brailey
Injuries have caused plenty of disruption for some of the Sharks key men this season, none more so than the ongoing hamstring issues of former rep player Matt Moylan. First choice halves Chad Townsend and Shaun Johnson have also battled injuries at different stages and the former is now in the midst of a three game suspension and won't be back until finals. That will mean the Sharks spine wouldn't have played together since round 11.

Despite their disruptions, the Sharks have still managed to be one of the better teams in the competition in attack and are currently ranked 5th for points scored.

Their halves pairing boast plenty of experience in finals footy. Townsend of course was a key figure wearing the number 7 in the Sharks historic premiership in 2016. The key here though is Johnson who has a number of finals appearances scattered across his career which began as a young superstar when he helped take the Warriors to an unlikely Grand Final birth in 2011. Failing to put his mark on a finals series since, he's now at a stage of his career where he will be looking to step up in these big end of season games.

Ranked last against top 8 opposition in tries and line-breaks with only one of each, the wildcard up Coach John Morris' sleeve could be Connor Tracey who has played most of the season as a bench utility but is currently filling in for Townsend wearing the six. Tracey has looked a threat running the ball in recent weeks and at the very least could be thrown into the contest a lot earlier if he goes back to his bench role for the finals.

7. EELS

1. Clint Gutherson 6. Jai Field 7. Mitchell Moses 9. Reed Mahoney
The syndesmosis injury picked up by Dylan Brown a few weeks ago was

a real hammer blow on top of the 38 point drubbing they received via the Rabbitohs in the same match. They remain hopeful of getting their attacking spark back at some stage in the finals but are in real danger of slipping out the backdoor of the competition in the meantime.

There's been plenty of criticism thrown in the direction of their attack in recent weeks and a look into their spines' stats against top 8 opposition doesn't paint a different view. The blue and golds are ranked 7th in terms of strike (tries/line-breaks) and creativity (try assists/line-break assists).

Probably the biggest concern in this area is the numbers around halfback Mitchell Moses. In 7 games against top 8 teams, the much maligned halfback hasn't crossed the stripe or broken the line once and has only one try-assist and line-break assist to his name. The good news – he's good at building pressure with his 10 forced dropouts second only to Nathan Cleary. That of course means little if the Eels can't convert that pressure into points. There's no doubting Moses has the class to open teams up when he runs the footy or plays a little off the cuff. If the Eels are any hope of proving the doubters wrong, Moses has to be the man to make things happen.

6. KNIGHTS

1. Kalyn Ponga 6. Tex Hoy 7. Mitchell Pearce 9. Kurt Mann
It's been a brutal year for injuries across the board in the NRL, but none have been hit harder in key positions than the Knights this year. Hookers Jayden Brailey and Andrew McCullough, five-eighth Blake Green and utility Connor Watson who can play anywhere in the spine all succumbed to season ending injuries, leaving the Knights stretching for depth and still a little uncertain on what their spine will look like come October's finals.

This week, Tex Hoy gets his shot at the number six jersey after Mason Lino

failed to nail down the spot over the past few weeks. Whether that is the way Coach Adam O'Brien goes for the remainder of the year remains to be seen with hooker and five-eighth option Kurt Mann out suspended this week.

Despite the disruptions, the Knights managed to rank 5th in both strike and creativity against top 8 opposition, largely on the back of star fullback Kalyn Ponga with his 5 tries, 6 line-breaks, 4 try-assists and 3 line-break assists.

Along with Ponga, Captain Mitchell Pearce has been the mainstay and despite many questioning his form this year, trails only Nathan Cleary for try assists out of all the top 8 halfbacks. The Knights are at their best with the ball when Ponga and Pearce are linking together in attack. It will be interesting to see how Hoy links in to their attack in the coming weeks, but if he can find his role quickly – the running games of he and Ponga could prove a lethal double threat.

5. RAIDERS

1. Charnze Nicholl-Klokstad 6. Jack Wighton 7. George Williams 9. Siliva Havili/Tom Starling
Most pundits were prepared to put the red pen through the Raiders title aspirations when English hooker Josh Hodgson went down with an ACL injury earlier this season. Such is the Raiders mentality – they were having none of that talk within their bubble and the replacement dummy half duo of Siliva Havili and Tom Starling have the same pundits now refusing to write them off.

The Raiders spine in many ways reflect their team's attitude as a whole – willing to scrap like dogs for a bone. That's in no way a criticism of their ability, more an added string to their bow. The halves pairing of George Williams and Jack Wighton are high class players with strong all-round games at their disposal – both are representatives of their nations.

The hooking duo are working well in

Rick Edgerton

Contributor



tandem with Havili's strength and Starling's speed combining well for Ricky Stuart's men. The whole-hearted Charnze Nicholl-Klokstad continues to throw up top end performances week in-week out and is a surprising leader amongst top 8 fullbacks for tries scored with 6 four-pointers to his name.

The green machine are also well served for big match experience after last year's finals run. English half Williams only adds to their experience in big games with 10 finals appearances for Wigan in the English Super League and 11 caps for his country.

4. RABBITOHS

1. Corey Allan 6. Cody Walker 7. Adam Reynolds 9. Damien Cook

Just when the Rabbitohs were starting to emerge as a genuine smoky for the competition, fullback Latrell Mitchell suffered a devastating injury – rupturing his hamstring and ending his season in the process. It was the cruellest of timing with Mitchell just starting to hit his straps and providing the Bunnies with the touches of class that helped ignite their attack.

Their structures have ensured they remain sharp and you can't write off their chances completely.

Corey Allan has stepped in at fullback and is a solid player capable of filling the role but they do lose that touch of class and a yard or two of pace when putting on their backline plays. It wouldn't be surprising if Wayne Bennett makes a switch leading up to the finals and puts the experienced Alex Johnston at the back where he's played plenty of footy before. The move would inject the extra speed back into their backline plays.

Ranked equal first for line-breaks against top 8 sides with 13, the Rabbitohs spine is still more than capable of challenging the top sides. The understanding and cohesion Cody Walker and Damien Cook play with is brilliant to watch and you can be sure whenever Cook jumps out of acting half, Walker won't be far from the play.

Throw in their big match experience of premiership halfback Adam Reynolds and Origin winning rake – Cook and the Bunnies are sure to be there abouts when the whips are cracking again this year.

3. ROOSTERS

1. James Tedesco 6. Luke Keary 7. Kyle Flanagan 9. Jake Friend

On paper alone, this is the best spine in the competition and there's every chance they turn out to be when all's said and done come the last Sunday in October.

Searching for a three peat, the only change to the Roosters all-conquering spine from their two premierships is young halfback Kyle Flanagan in place of Coor Cronk. The former Shark hasn't looked out of place at all and has consistently chipped in with some key plays. The only question mark is how Flanagan stands up in what will be his first finals series.

The other three members of the tri-colours spine are all high class footballers. Two of them in Keary and Tedesco - the best in the world in their respective positions, but it's what they do as a cohesive unit that often stands them out from the rest. When Friend jumps out of dummy half the others push up immediately, when Keary hits a short side play, you can be sure Tedesco will be supporting up the middle in anticipation of the ball coming back his way.

Consistently brilliant across the board, the Roosters ranked 3rd in creativity (15 try-assists) and 2nd in strike (9 tries/10 line-breaks) against top 8 sides. If all are fit and well, this spine looks set to again give the premiership a serious shake.

2. STORM

1. Ryan Papenhuyzen 6. Cam Munster 7. Jahrome Hughes 9. Cam Smith

As it stands right now, the Storm are the only team set to carry the exact same spine from last year's finals into this year. This time however, it will be with a full season playing together behind them with Coach Craig Bellamy only electing to go with Papenhuyzen at fullback and Hughes at halfback with three rounds remaining in 2019.

Building off last season, the quartet has seamlessly rolled into a cohesive unit. With Smith controlling their plays out of acting half and first receiver at times, he's effectively playing the 9 & 7 roles.

That in turn unleashes the triple threat of Papenhuyzen, Munster and Hughes – all strong ball runners who are given plenty of space and time to work with. The combination sees them ranked 1st in strike with 9 tries and 13 line-breaks and 2nd in creativity with 16 try-assists.

With all the big match experience and game management of their Captain in what could potentially be his finals swansong, it would surprise no one to see the purple army run out on Grand Final day.

1. PANTHERS

1. Dylan Edwards 6. Jarome Luai 7. Nathan Cleary 9. Api Koroisau

If you said at the start of the season the Panthers would have the number one ranked spine coming into the finals, you'd probably be laughed away.

Comfortably ranked 1st against top 8 opposition in creativity with 19 try-assists and line-break assists and every member of the spine is contributing towards them stats. You'd probably think Cleary is leading the way, but it's actually Luai with 7 of each stepping up against the top teams.

Arguably the best game manager in the comp right now is halfback Nathan Cleary who's taken his game to another level after the departure of James Maloney. Directing his troops around the park and providing the kicking game that sees his team dominate field position – one of the key components of being a strong finals footy team.

The only sticking point being asked of the quartet is how they'll stand up in the end of season games. It's not like they have no big match experience though. Cleary is an Origin winning half and Koroisau won a grand final at South Sydney filling in for Isaac Luke in 2014.

The way these four have moulded into a cohesive unit has been outstanding, but probably shouldn't be surprising given the amount of football Luai and Cleary played together coming through the Panthers juniors since the age of 14. Edwards also played plenty of footy with them coming through the academy, whilst buy of the season Koroisau spent time at the club previously and has slotted back in seamlessly.

Whether it be Koroisau with his craft and speed around the ruck, Edwards busting tackles for fun, Cleary with his cool head or Luai buzzing around providing energy and spark – these four are all playing out of their skin and in career best form. If they hold that form all the way through, they'll be every chance of lifting the trophy.

Rabbitohs hold off fast-finishing Tigers

Robert Crosby



24-26



The South Sydney Rabbitohs have ended the Wests Tigers finals hopes with a 26-24 victory at Bankwest Stadium.

Taking a giant stride towards securing a home final in the first week of the play-offs, the Rabbitohs secured the victory with a dominant opening in a match that saw the teams reduced to 12-on-11 midway through the second half.

After spending the past three weeks on the sidelines with a hamstring issue, representative speedster Dane Gagai (11th minute) exposed the inexperienced pairing of Asu Kepaoa and Tommy Talau to open the scoring for the visitors.

Setting up the win with 14 points in the space of five minutes, an Adam Reynolds penalty

goal was quickly followed by tries to Corey Allan (23rd minute) and Campbell Graham (25th minute) - both initiated from inside the Rabbitohs' half of the field.

Trailing 20-0 and with their mathematical finals hopes on the line, the Tigers rallied before the break with four-pointers to Luke Garner (32nd minute) and Talau (35th minute) to head to the sheds down by eight.

Losing Alex Twal to the sin bin shortly after the resumption for holding down following a break, a scuffle a few sets later involving Luke Brooks and Dane Gagai saw both men cool their heels for ten minutes.

Crossing for a decisive try just as both teams were back to 13-men respectively, Graham (58th minute) bagged his second of the night to put the Rabbitohs up 26-12.

Getting the Tigers back in the match with some skilful play, Benji Marshall had a hand in tries for Brooks (61st minute) and Kepaoa (65th minute) to set up a grandstand finish.

Throwing plenty at their opponents over the final ten minutes, only for poor execution to prove costly, the Tigers were left to lament another season of missed opportunities as the Rabbitohs prevailed by two.

Next week, the Tigers face the Storm at Sunshine Coast Stadium on Saturday evening, while the Rabbitohs host the Bulldogs at ANZ Stadium on Thursday night.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

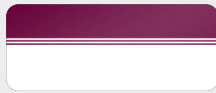
3 points - Cody Walker; 2 points - Campbell Graham; 1 points - Benji Marshall

Manly keep 'Dogs last in first ANZ win since 2013

Adam Huxtable



20-32



The Manly Sea Eagles have broken a seven-game losing streak against the lowly Bulldogs, winning 32-20 in an entertaining match full of points at ANZ Stadium.

The Bulldogs were by far the better for the opening half an hour however only had the one try to show for it, with Matt Doorey scoring for the second time in his career in the 7th minute courtesy of a brilliant run by Jake Averillo, who was looking to solidify his claim to a starting spine position. Canterbury were able to extend their lead to 10 through two penalty goals in the 11th and 28th minute respectively.

Manly finally awoke from their slumber in the 31st minute, where Cherry-Evans chinked across field to put Taniela Paseka through a gaping hole and over the line. The play was the first of three try assists for the Queensland #7.

Manly survived back-to-back-to-back set restarts for the Bulldogs in attacking territory

to advance upfield and score through Curtis Sironen after some ad-lib work from Albert Hopoate. He got an offload into DCE who grubbered through and was taken out, however it didn't matter as Sironen was chasing and squared things up for the Manly boys.

The Sea Eagles made metres with ease in the next set and sensationally lead at half time after Brad Parker was on the end of a Cade Cust pass through another defensive hole.

Manly's start to the first half was the polar opposite to their start to the first. Within five minutes they established a double figure lead when Cherry-Evans again assisted a try, with Jack Gosiewski going through the line way too easily.

The Dogs clawed one back five minutes after that, when Lachlan Lewis ran onto a pinpoint Jake Averillo kick and the margin was within a converted try again.

It was extremely short lived however. Morgan Harper haunted the club that released him earlier in the year when he beat three Bulldogs defenders and ran 40 metres on the way to a superb individual try. Any chance of a comeback was short lived however when Marty Taupau broke rule one of the front rowers club and kicked for himself. It was an average kick, but by some miracle it came off as Lachlan Lewis failed to dive on the ball and Taupau reaped the rewards.

Okunbor scored a try late, but it was mere consolation as Manly fans celebrated for the first time in seven weeks.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Daly Cherry-Evans; 2 points - Morgan Harper; 1 points - Jake Averillo

Panthers go 13 in a row after defeating the Eels

Sam Bourke



20-2



The Penrith Panthers are now within grasp of the JJ Giltinan Shield after they made it 13 wins in a row by overcoming a defiant Parramatta Eels 20-2 to win the Western Derby at Panthers Stadium tonight.

A win next week will see the Panthers secure the Minor Premiership in what has been a memorable and record-breaking season for Ivan Cleary's young side. Star halfback Nathan Cleary was again outstanding for the home side with his kicking game completely exhausting the Eels defensive line in the second half. Fullback Dylan Edwards was also superb, with the unheralded fullback running for over 300m and was a rock in the custodian role for his side.

Penrith came into the match looking to make it a consecutive baker's dozen of victories, while the Eels were looking to make it two wins from two this season, having been the last side to defeat the competition leaders back in Round 5.

The match lived up to the hype as a semi-final dress rehearsal early, with both sides not giving an inch and bringing their A-game. In fact, in the first half the Video Referee was as busy as the on-field referee turning down four tries in the first half an hour of play.

Despite the lack of field possession, Parramatta managed to get on the scoreboard first,

when Panthers backrower Viliame Kikau was penalised for a tip tackle on Eels skipper Clint Gutherson. Mitchell Moses took the safe option after the Eels to their credit, had somehow managed to absorb numerous Panthers attacking raids in their own half. Moses then made no mistake with the penalty goal and put his side 2-0 up.

The Eels were a different side from past weeks, with their scrambling defence and desperation on their own line somehow keeping out the Panthers relentless wave of attack time and time again.

However, they finally cracked with seconds remaining in the first half, when Panthers five-eighth Jarome Luai threw a superb ball over the top, which hit his winger Josh Mansour on the chest. Mansour then did amazingly well to leap over to score in the corner for the first try of the match. Nathan Cleary converted and it was 6-2 to the home side at halftime.

The arm wrestle continued after the break and it suited Panthers half Nathan Cleary who began to build pressure with his kicking game. Having been denied in the previous set, Cleary again kicked in the air for his outside men and Liam Martin leapt above the pack to score a great try. Cleary converted and the home side skipped away to a 12-2 lead with just over 20 minutes remaining.

The Eels continued to fight, however their spirit was broken when Nathan Cleary kicked a magnificent 40/20 to give his side a huge chance to ice the game. Jarome Luai then did just that minutes later, when the exciting five-eighth danced off the left foot and managed to push through some exhausted Eels defence to score and finish off the game.

The Panthers now travel to Townsville next Friday, where a win over the Cowboys will secure the Minor Premiership for the club, as they look to push towards Canterbury's record of 17 in a row from 2002. The Eels now return to Bankwest Stadium where they will face the Broncos also next Friday night.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

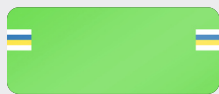
3 points - Dylan Edwards; 2 points - Nathan Cleary; 1 points - James Fisher-Harris

Raiders top four hopes alive after thrashing Dragons

Justin Davies



8-37



Canberra Raiders ran riot in the second half to down St George Illawarra Dragons 37-8 Saturday afternoon at WIN Stadium.

The Raiders flexed their Premiership muscle, piling on 23 points in a second half avalanche against a defeated Dragons line-up. Jack Wighton's double highlighted the points scoring which sees the Raiders continue their quest for a top four spot.

Once the Raiders hit that go button, the battling Dragons couldn't go with them. Jarrod Croker scored in the 44th before English firebrand John Bateman, Wighton and youngster Semi Valemi all found the stripe to send a warning shot to the top four.

A big component of the Raiders success, has been the work between their halves. Wighton

and England halfback George Williams, have conjured up a wonderful partnership on the left-hand side then thrown in Elliot Whitehead and the Dragons defense was left spinning.

Whilst he was on the losing side, today will be a day Cody Ramsay will remember for the rest of his life. The youngster was handed his debut mid-week and with his first touch opened the scoring from a Matt Dufty cut-out pass. Ramsay tip-toed down the sideline in the 37th minute to reduce the deficit to two.

Ramsay could've added his name to the history books with a first half hat-trick but his runaway effort was called back for a Zac Lomax offside. Ramsay was handed the game ball post-game and one of the few Dragons to hold their head high.

The end of 2020 can't come quick enough for the Dragons. Once the game was gone, their defense fell to bits. Raiders waltzed through with ease, added to their for-and-against and made it three losses on the spin for the joint venture.

Someone who has been unheralded for the Raiders this season, Hudson Young started on the bench but the forward had over 20 carries, racked up 200 plus metres and both a try and try-assist for John Bateman to top off his afternoon. Canberra's depth has been tested this season, with their injuries, but Young has been a consistent performer for the Green Machine.

The first half was a see-saw affair but when the Raiders got it right they found the try-line. Young crashed over some feeble middle defense then Jack Wighton backed up perfectly to give them a 14-8 half-time lead despite Ramsay's heroics.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Hudson Young; 2 points - Jack Wighton; 1 points - George Williams

Titans record back-to-back blitz over blundering Broncos

Andrew Ferguson



18-6



The Gold Coast Titans have scored 2 wins over the Broncos in 2020 - the first time they've ever achieved the feat - thanks to a strong first half and some solid defence in the second, finishing 18-6 winners at Cbus Super Stadium tonight.

Brisbane looked set to end their losing run after opening the scoring in just the sixth minute after Sean O'Sullivan's grubber ricochets off Jamal Fogarty and the trailing Darius Boyd was in the right spot to pounce on the loose ball and score near the posts. Kotoni Staggs converted from almost in front.

Five minutes later, the Titans had a glut of possession courtesy of two set restarts either side of a scrum. Mitch Rein scored a typical rake's try when he dived over from dummy half close to the Broncos line to score. Ash Taylor nailed the conversion from out on the right side.

The Titans skipped ahead in the 24th minute when a Fogarty bomb to Corey Oates, was

misjudged by the winger. The ball bounced and Sam Stone regathered and grounded it for a try out wide on the right side. Taylor's conversion attempt from near the touchline just snuck in between the sticks.

Gold Coast very nearly crossed right on the stroke of halftime, but Corey Thompson was unable to maintain possession.

They didn't have to wait too long to get on the scoreboard again though, as they scored just 3 minutes into the second half thanks to a scintillating 95 metre team try. Taylor received the ball just 5 metres from his own line, dummied and strolled through the middle of the Broncos defence, then passed inside to Jai Arrow who got the ball inside to Anthony Don. Don then sent a good ball along to Thompson, who drew the last defender and passed to Young Tonumaiepa who raced away to score. Taylor converted to give the Titans an 18-6 lead.

The rest of the match was dominated by both sides displaying some poor last tackle options, poor execution, kicks that weren't very threatening and poor ball handling.

In the 63rd minute O'Sullivan chipped shallow towards the posts and found Staggs, who leapt above everyone to take it cleanly. He fell to the ground and looked set to score, but the Titans defence stopped him just an inch short of the line.

Five minutes later, the Broncos very nearly scored again when Cory Paix dived over from dummy half and looked to score for all money, but he dropped the ball over the line in the collision.

The last five minutes was dominated by referee challenges, dropped ball and eventually, a record equalling loss for the Broncos.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Jamal Fogarty; 2 points - Ashley Taylor; 1 points - Moeaki Fotuauka

Roosters dominate undermanned Knights

Josh Robertson



42-12



The Sydney Roosters have reminded everyone of their strength as they scored a 42-12 victory over an undermanned Knights side at the SCG.

The opening forty minutes was dominated for the most part by the Roosters who ran in five tries during the opening 40 despite a five-minute lapse where Newcastle hit back with two tries.

Sydney opened the scoring in just the second minute when they took advantage of a weak Newcastle left defence as they elected to go down the short-side and got through for Josh Morris to score.

The Knights' defence would've been a concern for coach Adam O'Brien as the Roosters continued to make easy metres and the second try for the home side was almost a replica of the first try when Jake Friend went down the short side before the ball ended up with Daniel Tupou to score. The only enemy that the home side had through the opening minutes was the clock as they added a third converted try within 15 minutes.

Their third try came again through their left-hand attack as Luke Keary charged through off an inside pass from James Tedesco who had to do some work to take the poor pass that was delivered to him. The Roosters continued their battle with the clock as the Knights defence

was caught out through the middle this time when Jake Friend turned the ball back inside for Joey Manu to score.

Soon after, they lost captain Boyd Cordner after he failed a HIA test after slamming his head into the ground in trying to score a try which was knocked back by the NRL Bunker.

Newcastle's fighting spirit was on show when they added two tries in a five-minute period with Enari Tuala crossing in the corner after Edrick Lee was able to tap the ball backwards and Tuala charged for the corner. The Knights added their second try soon after when Gehamat Shibusaki was gifted a try after nobody was able to get a touch on a kick and Shibusaki pounced on the ball.

The Roosters extended their margin back out to three converted tries when the Roosters put on the magic as James Tedesco scored following some good hands before a clever kick back to the middle from Kyle Flanagan saw Teddy ground the ball.

The second half was almost a replica of the Panthers' efforts from last night, with the Roosters having chance after chance through the half only to blow the play repeatedly. The Roosters did score within two minutes as they used the quick passing game to success as Daniel Tupou crossed for his second of the night.

The Roosters continued to dominate all over the park but couldn't turn their dominance into points despite being controversially denied a try to Lindsay Collins with Nat Butcher penalised for an obstruction despite being the man who played the ball and not moving off the mark.

The reigning premiers eventually did cross very late on in the game when the 1, 6 & 9 all combined for the Roosters after Jake Friend ran from dummy half before finding Tedesco who went forward before finding Luke Keary who scored the final try.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

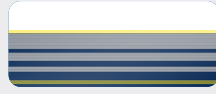
3 points - Luke Keary; 2 points - James Tedesco; 1 points - Siosiaua Taukeiaho

Storm stroll to easy win over Cowboys, but defence a big worry

Andrew Ferguson



36-20



Melbourne have kept themselves in contention for the Minor Premiership in a less than convincing effort against the Cowboys, recording a 36-20 win at Sunshine Coast Stadium this afternoon.

Melbourne created a plethora of opportunities and looked like racking up a cricket score, but they lacked the polish to capitalise on a number of opportunities, while defensively they looked very vulnerable, allowing the Cowboys to score easy tries in the second half.

Despite the Storm making inroads with nearly every run to start the game, it was the Cowboys who scored first in the fifth minute. Esan Marsters put in a little grubber on the short side and Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow outpaced the Storm defenders to regather before stretching out after being tackled, to score in the left corner. Valentine Holmes was unable to convert from touch.

Just 2 minutes later, while the Cowboys were in possession, Josh McGuire played the ball and then proceeded to be aggressively vocal towards the referee and was promptly given ten minutes in the sin bin.

In the 9th minute, Melbourne crossed for their first try thanks to a nice flat crash ball from Cameron Smith to Nelson Asofa-Solomona, who hit the line at pace. Reuben Cotter had no chance of stopping him and the big forward scored near the posts. Smith converted.

Four minutes later the Storm recycled the same play that lead to their first try, but this time Smith hit Tino Fa'asuamaleaui who crashed over in the middle. Smith easily added the extras.

The Storm looked like they were about to put on a big score after Josh Addo-Carr took a standard line-run on the right edge, bumped out of a poor tackle, then ran infield where

everyone just stood around and admired his glorious running stride as he scored under the posts far too easily. Smith converted.

Just before halftime, Melbourne crossed again after Smith dished a standard ball to the left to Munster, who saw nothing but the tryline in front of him and he wandered over to score under the posts. Smith nailed the easy conversion from right in front yet again. The Storm held a convincing 24-4 lead at the break.

Five minutes into the second half, the Storm capitalised on back-to-back set restarts when Cameron Munster received the ball back on the inside, stepped and then stunningly hurdled over John Asiata who was lying on the ground, to get across the line to score near the sticks. Smith again converted. It looked like Melbourne were about to run away with the game.

The Cowboys hit back in the 58th minute when Esan Marsters got outside his man on the left side, dummied to his winger, split the two Storm defenders, shrugged off the tackle attempt by Suliasi Vunivalu to score a good try under the posts. Holmes converted.

Just four minutes later, the Cowboys looked to score again where Holmes took on the line, drew the winger and then passed to Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow who dived for the corner, but the Bunker found that he planted the ball just on the sideline. Jahrome Hughes was then penalised for being offside during the play.

From the next set, Scott Drinkwater kicked early in the set after spotting Addo-Carr out of position. Kyle Feldt leapt, took the ball cleanly and got the ball down for a good try. Holmes failed to convert from touch.

Melbourne looked to extinguish any chances of a Cowboys fightback just four minutes later when Smith passed to the trailing runner in Jesse Bromwich, who then got a good ball to Hughes in support who hit a gap at pace and scored to the right of the posts. Smith converted yet again from almost in front.

The Cowboys refused to yield and crossed yet again just three minutes later. Holmes received the ball on the left side, dummied to his winger, stepped inside and shrugged off Munster to score. Holmes then converted his own try from out wide.

Neither side was able to add to their score in the final 10 minutes and the Storm won by 16 points, in a performance that would have coach Craig Bellamy less than impressed just weeks away from the finals.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

- 3 points - Cameron Smith
- 2 points - Cameron Munster
- 1 points - Nelson Asofa-Solomona

Sharks book finals place with late win over Warriors

Hamish Parker



22-14



The Cronulla Sharks have edged out the Warriors 22-14 in a scrappy game at Jubilee Oval which sees the confirmation of the 2020 top eight.

The Warriors were their usual brave selves and held the lead late, before a couple of tries in the dying stages gave the game to the boys in the black, white and blue.

It took twelve minutes for the first try, but the game was broken open by a Shaun Johnson kick in behind the Warriors defensive line. Sione Katoa pounced on the kick to take the Sharks to the lead. Eighteen minutes later Johnson kicked in behind again, this time finding the winger on the left side in Ronaldo Mulitalo which took the score to 10-0. A penalty goal just a couple of minutes later extended the lead to 12-0.

Just before half time, the Warriors hit back with through a Roger Tuivasa-Sheck offload, which saw Jack Murchie go in under the posts to make the score 12-6 at the break.

On the other side of half time, the Warriors were able to score first. An outstanding flick pass from centre Peta Hiku sent rookie winger Adam Pompey over for his seventh try of the season, A sideline conversion from Chanel Harris-Tevita made the scores level.

Before long, the Warriors took the lead for the first time in the game through a 42 metre penalty goal from Chanel Harris-Tevita, making the score 14 points to 12 in favour of the Warriors.

It looked like the Warriors may hold on and keep their finals hopes alive.

Fresh back on the field, Sharks lock Toby Rudolf had other ideas, busting through tackles in a herculean effort on the way to the try line. The Sharks took the lead and it was added to minutes later when winger Ronaldo Mulitalo crossed for his double in the left corner, capping off a Sharks win at 22-14.

The win for the Sharks means the top 8 is set in stone in 2020, with the only thing to be decided being the final positions.

The Warriors were brave in defeat as usual, but it just wasn't enough in the end to get them over the line.

Both teams have tough games next round, with the Sharks facing the Roosters and the Warriors facing the Raiders.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

- 3 points - Shaun Johnson; 2 points - Roger Tuivasa-Sheck; 1 points - Chanel Harris-Tavita

www.rugbyleagueproject.org

[facebook.com/rugbyleagueproject](https://www.facebook.com/rugbyleagueproject)
twitter.com/rugbyleagueproj

RUGBY LEAGUE project

Support us on Patreon

The Scoresheet

Scores, scorers, match details from Round 18

Rabbitohs 26 (Dane Gagai, Corey Allan, Campbell Graham 2 tries; Adam Reynolds 5/5 goals) def **Wests Tigers 24** (Luke Garner, Tommy Talau, Luke Brooks, Asu Kepaoa tries; Adam Doueihi 4/4 goals); Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Thursday 10 September 2020, 7:50pm AEST; Halftime: Rabbitohs 20-12; Crowd: 3801; Referee: Ben Cummins; Sideline Officials: Todd Smith & Chris Sutton; NRL Bunker: Henry Perenara & Bryan Norrie

Sea Eagles 32 (Taniela Paseka, Curtis Sironen, Brad Parker, Jack Gosiewski, Morgan Harper, Martin Taupau tries; Daly Cherry-Evans 4/6 goals) def **Bulldogs 20** (Matt Doorey, Lachlan Lewis, Jayden Okunbor tries; Nick Meaney 4/5 goals); Venue: ANZ Stadium; Date: Friday 11 September 2020, 6:00pm AEST; Halftime: Sea Eagles 16-10; Referee: Matt Noyen; Sideline Officials: Belinda Sharpe & Peter Gough; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark & Ben Lowe

Panthers 20 (Josh Mansour, Jarome Luai, Liam Martin tries; Nathan Cleary 4/4 goals) def **Eels 2** (Mitchell Moses 1/1 goal); Venue: Panthers Stadium; Date: Friday 11 September 2020, 7:55pm AEST; Halftime: Panthers 6-2; Referee: Gerard Sutton; Sideline Officials: Dave Munro & Phil Henderson; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell & Ben Galea

Raiders 37 (Hudson Young, Jarrod Croker, Jack Wighton (2), John Bateman, Semi Valemi tries; Jarrod Croker 6/7 goals; George Williams 1 field goal) def **Dragons 8** (Cody Ramsey 2 tries; Zac Lomax 0/2 goals); Venue: WIN Stadium; Date: Saturday 12 September 2020, 3:00pm AEST; Halftime: Raiders 14-8; Crowd: 2588; Referee: Adam Gee; Sideline Officials: Jon Stone & Drew Oultram; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy & Ben Galea

Titans 18 (Mitch Rein, Sam Stone, Young Tonumaiepa tries; Ashley Taylor 3/3 goals) def **Broncos 6** (Darius Boyd try; Kotoni Staggs 1/1 goals); Venue: Cbus Super Stadium; Date: Saturday 12 September 2020, 5:30pm AEST; Halftime: Titans 12-6; Crowd: 9729; Referee: Henry Perenara; Sideline Officials: Liam Kennedy & Gavin Badger; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark & Bryan Norrie

Roosters 42 (Josh Morris, Daniel Tupou (2), Luke Keary (2), Joseph Manu, James Tedesco tries; Kyle Flanagan 7/7 goals) def **Knights 12** (Enari Tuala, Gehamat Shibasaki tries; Mason Lino 2/2 goals); Venue: Sydney Cricket Ground; Date: Saturday 12 September 2020, 7:35pm AEST; Halftime: Roosters 30-12; Referee: Ashley Klein; Sideline Officials: Chris Butler & Chris Sutton; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell & Beau Scott

Storm 36 (Nelson Asofa-Solomona, Tino Fa'asuamaleau, Josh Addo-Carr, Cameron Munster (2), Jahrome Hughes tries; Cameron Smith 6/6 goals) def **Cowboys 20** (Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow, Valentine Holmes, Esan Marsters, Kyle Feldt tries; Valentine Holmes 2/4 goals); Venue: Sunshine Coast Stadium; Date: Sunday 13 September 2020, 4:05pm AEST; Halftime: Storm 24-4; Referee: Grant Atkins; Sideline Officials: Peter Gough & Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski; NRL Bunker: Ashley Klein & Henry Perenara

Sharks 22 (Sione Katoa, Ronaldo Mulitalo (2), Toby Rudolf tries; Shaun Johnson 3/5 goals) def **Warriors 14** (Jack Murchie, Adam Pompey tries; Chanel Harris-Tavita 3/3 goals); Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Sunday 13 September 2020, 6:30pm AEST; Halftime: Sharks 12-6; Referee: Matt Cecchin; Sideline Officials: Belinda Sharpe & Dave Munro; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy & Ben Galea

LeagueUnlimited Player of the Year

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.

30 points - Nathan Cleary (Panthers) **25 points** - Cameron Smith (Storm) **22 points** - Adam Reynolds (Rabbitohs), Shaun Johnson (Sharks) **20 points** - James Tedesco (Roosters), Jack Wighton (Raiders) **18 points** - Kalyn Ponga (Knights) **17 points** - Cameron Munster (Storm) **15 points** - Luke Keary (Roosters) **14 points** - Cody Walker (Rabbitohs), Benji Marshall (Wests Tigers), Brett Morris (Roosters) **13 points** - Clinton Gutherson (Eels), Jamal Fogarty (Titans) **12 points** - George Williams (Raiders), Daly Cherry-Evans (Sea Eagles) **11 points** - Jahrome Hughes (Storm), Tom Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Matthew Dufty (Dragons) **10 points** - Jarome Luai (Panthers), Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (Warriors), Jason Taumalolo (Cowboys), Kodi Nikorima (Warriors) **9 points** - Ashley Taylor (Titans), David Klemmer (Knights), Josh Papali'i (Raiders), Mitchell Pearce (Knights), Ryan Papenhuyzen (Storm) **8 points** - Dylan Brown (Eels), Mitchell Moses (Eels), Kurt Mann (Knights), Blake Green (Warriors) **7 points** - Scott Drinkwater (Cowboys), Wade Graham (Sharks), Sione Katoa (Bulldogs), Latrell Mitchell (Rabbitohs), Isaah Yeo (Panthers), Harry Grant (Storm), James Fisher-Harris (Panthers), Liam Martin (Panthers), David Nofoaluma (Wests Tigers), Stephen Crichton (Panthers), Peta Hiku (Warriors) **6 points** - Siosifa Taukeiaho (Roosters), Junior Paulo (Eels), Blayke Brailey (Sharks), Reed Mahoney (Eels), Curtis Sironen (Sea Eagles), Ben Hunt (Dragons), Eliesa Katoa (Warriors), Matt Burton (Panthers) **5 points** - Reagan Campbell-Gillard (Eels), Apisai Koroisau (Panthers), Corey Norman (Dragons), Damien Cook (Rabbitohs), Cade Cust (Sea Eagles), Maika Sivo (Eels), Will Hopoate (Bulldogs), Jarrod Croker (Raiders), Michael Morgan (Cowboys), Nathan Brown (Eels), Zac Lomax (Dragons), Luke Brooks (Wests Tigers), Dylan Edwards (Panthers), Daniel Saifiti (Knights) **4 points** - Tevita Pangai Junior (Broncos), Sitili Tupouniua (Roosters), Toby Rudolf (Sharks), Tino Fa'asuamaleau

(Storm), Justin Olam (Storm), Dallin Watene-Zelezniak (Bulldogs), Nelson Asofa-Solomona (Storm), Josh Addo-Carr (Storm), Kyle Flanagan (Roosters), Cameron Murray (Rabbitohs), Josh Morris (Sharks), Anthony Milford (Broncos), Jake Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Shaun Lane (Eels) **3 points** - Joseph Manu (Roosters), Joseph Leilua (Wests Tigers), Moeaki Fotuauka (Titans), Nick Meaney (Bulldogs), Charlie Staines (Panthers), Hudson Young (Raiders), Martin Taupau (Sea Eagles), Jared Waerea-Hargreaves (Roosters), Jake Clifford (Cowboys), Aiden Tolman (Bulldogs), Jamayne Isaako (Broncos), John Bateman (Raiders), Young Tonumaiepa (Titans), Jack Murchie (Raiders), Kevin Proctor (Titans), Bradman Best (Knights), Brian Kelly (Titans), Kotoni Staggs (Broncos), Mitchell Barnett (Knights), Alexander Brimson (Titans), Addin Fonua-Blake (Sea Eagles), Valentine Holmes (Cowboys), Viliame Kikau (Panthers), Adam Clune (Dragons), Waqa Blake (Eels), Jesse Ramien (Sharks), Will Kennedy (Sharks) **2 points** - Christian Welch (Storm), Ryan Sutton (Raiders), Tyson Frizell (Dragons), Kieran Foran (Bulldogs), Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad (Raiders), Jake Averillo (Bulldogs), Campbell Graham (Rabbitohs), Lachlan Fitzgibbon (Knights), Alex Johnston (Rabbitohs), Thomas Burgess (Rabbitohs), Morgan Harper (Bulldogs), Beau Fermor (Titans), Braydon Trindall (Sharks), Siosifa Talakai (Sharks), Cameron McInnes (Dragons), Jorge Taufua (Sea Eagles), Ronaldo Mulitalo (Sharks), Nick Cotric (Raiders), Payne Haas (Broncos), Dale Finucane (Storm), Mikaele Ravalawa (Dragons), Michael Jennings (Eels), Daniel Tupou (Roosters), Lindsay Collins (Roosters), Corey Thompson (Wests Tigers), Adam Doueihi (Wests Tigers), David Fifita (Broncos), Dane Gagai (Rabbitohs), Braden Hamlin-Uele (Sharks), Wayde Egan (Warriors), Tohu Harris (Warriors), Emre Guler (Raiders), Matt Ikuvalu (Roosters) **1 point** - Phillip Sami (Titans), Tom Starling (Raiders), Tui Kamikamica (Storm), Tevita Tatola (Rabbitohs), Chanel Harris-Tavita (Warriors), Adam Pompey (Warriors), Alex Twa (Wests Tigers), Luke Thompson (Bulldogs), Ethan Lowe (Rabbitohs), Joseph Tapine (Raiders), Patrick Carrigan (Broncos), Thomas Flegler (Broncos), Tyrell Fuimaono (Dragons), Coen Hess (Cowboys), Josh McGuire (Cowboys), Jaydn Su'A (Rabbitohs), Sam Lisone (Titans), Darius Boyd (Broncos), Tom Opacic (Cowboys), Elliott Whitehead (Raiders), Brendan Elliot (Sea Eagles), Billy Walters (Wests Tigers), Andrew McCullough (Broncos), Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow (Cowboys), Chad Townsend (Sharks), Caleb Aekins (Panthers), Taniela Paseka (Sea Eagles), Luke Garner (Wests Tigers), Connor Watson (Knights), Jordan Pereira (Dragons), Herman Ese'ese (Knights), Josh Reynolds (Wests Tigers), Liam Knight (Rabbitohs), Adam Elliott (Bulldogs), James Tamou (Panthers)

NRL Match Review Round 18 Charge Sheet

Player	Club	Charge	Minute / on who	Base Penalty	Priors (loading)	+ Carryovers	Points if Guilty	Points if Early Plea	PLEA	RESULT	Carryovers accrued
Alex TWAL	Tigers	Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)	41', Mark Nicholls	100	1 non similar (+20%)	0	120	90	Guilty - early plea	No suspension	90
Luke BROOKS	Tigers	Grade 1 Striking	50', Dane Gagai	200	None	0	200	150	Guilty - early plea	1 match	50
Dane GAGAI	Rabbitohs	Grade 1 Striking	50', Luke Brooks	200	1 non similar (+20%)	0	240	180	Guilty - early plea	1 match	80
Andrew DAVEY	Eels	Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (other)	76', Dylan Edwards	100	None	0	100	75	Guilty - early plea	No suspension	75
Rhys KENNEDY	Broncos	Grade 1 Crusher Tackle	65', Jai Arrow	200	None	0	200	150	Guilty - early plea	1 match	50
Kurt MANN	Knights	Grade 1 Crusher Tackle	23', Brett Morris	200	7yr incident free (-25% discount)	0	150	100	Guilty - early plea	1 match	0
Josh MCGUIRE	Cowboys	Grade 1 Contrary Conduct	45', Grant Atkins	100	1 similar (+50%), 2 non-similar (+40%)	45	235	187	Guilty - early plea	1 match	87
John ASIATA	Cowboys	Grade 2 Dangerous Contact (other)	29', Tino Faasuamaleau	200	None	0	200	150	Guilty - early plea	1 match	50
Jamayne TAUNOA-BROWN	Warriors	Grade 2 Dangerous Contact (other)	69', Siosifa Talakai	200	None	0	200	150	Guilty - early plea	1 match	50

Premiership ladder

NRL 2020 Telstra Premiership after Round 18

Pos	Team	Overall								Home							Away						
		P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts	PD	P	W	L	D	F	A	PD	P	W	L	D	F	A	PD
1	Panthers	18	16	1	1	463	226	33	237	10	9	-	1	239	96	143	8	7	1	-	224	130	94
2	Storm	18	15	3	-	462	224	30	238	9	8	1	-	280	119	161	9	7	2	-	182	105	77
3	Roosters	18	13	5	-	510	244	26	266	9	6	3	-	230	127	103	9	7	2	-	280	117	163
4	Eels	18	13	5	-	338	252	26	86	9	7	2	-	162	124	38	9	6	3	-	176	128	48
5	Raiders	18	12	6	-	381	275	24	106	9	5	4	-	178	148	30	9	7	2	-	203	127	76
6	Rabbitohs	18	11	7	-	445	318	22	127	8	6	2	-	230	120	110	10	5	5	-	215	198	17
7	Knights	18	10	7	1	373	320	21	53	9	6	3	-	195	98	97	9	4	4	1	178	222	-44
8	Sharks	18	10	8	-	434	408	20	26	9	5	4	-	190	196	-6	9	5	4	-	244	212	32
9	Wests Tigers	18	7	11	-	394	427	14	-33	9	3	6	-	215	213	2	9	4	5	-	179	214	-35
10	Sea Eagles	18	7	11	-	323	427	14	-104	9	3	6	-	178	216	-38	9	4	5	-	145	211	-66
11	Warriors	18	7	11	-	289	404	14	-115	9	4	5	-	173	174	-1	9	3	6	-	116	230	-114
12	Titans	18	7	11	-	268	433	14	-165	9	4	5	-	146	215	-69	9	3	6	-	122	218	-96
13	Dragons	18	6	12	-	330	388	12	-58	9	3	6	-	192	205	-13	9	3	6	-	138	183	-45
14	Cowboys	18	4	14	-	324	472	8	-148	9	3	6	-	198	213	-15	9	1	8	-	126	259	-133
15	Broncos	18	3	15	-	240	566	6	-326	9	2	7	-	136	284	-148	9	1	8	-	104	282	-178
16	Bulldogs	18	2	16	-	256	446	4	-190	9	1	8	-	124	216	-92	9	1	8	-	132	230	-98

Stats leaders

NRL 2020 Telstra Premiership after Round 18

Top Pointscorers

Rank	Player	Team	P	T	G	FG	Pts
1	Kyle FLANAGAN	Roosters	16	4	79	-	174
2	Adam REYNOLDS	Rabbitohs	18	6	71	1	167
3	Nathan CLEARY	Panthers	16	4	67	3	153
4	Zac LOMAX	Dragons	18	10	55	-	150
5	Jarrod CROKER	Raiders	18	4	60	-	136
6	Cameron SMITH	Storm	15	1	63	-	130
7	Kalyn PONGA	Knights	16	9	43	-	122
8	Shaun JOHNSON	Sharks	15	2	54	-	116
9	Kyle FELDT	Cowboys	18	15	23	-	106
10	Mitchell MOSES	Eels	15	3	42	1	97
11	Reuben GARRICK	Sea Eagles	16	3	39	-	90
12	Moses MBYE	Wests Tigers	15	4	29	-	74
13	Stephen CRICHTON	Panthers	18	14	7	-	70
	Kotoni STAGGS	Broncos	12	10	15	-	70
15	Nicholas MEANEY	Bulldogs	16	6	22	-	68
	David NOFOALUMA	Wests Tigers	18	17	-	-	68
17	Sione KATO	Sharks	17	15	-	-	60
	Ashley TAYLOR	Titans	17	1	28	-	60
19	Alex JOHNSTON	Rabbitohs	17	14	-	-	56
20	Valentine HOLMES	Cowboys	10	4	19	1	55

Top Tryscorers

Rank	Player	Team	P	T
1	David NOFOALUMA	Wests Tigers	18	17
2	Kyle FELDT	Cowboys	18	15
	Sione KATO	Sharks	17	15
4	Stephen CRICHTON	Panthers	18	14
	Alex JOHNSTON	Rabbitohs	17	14
6	Josh ADDO-CARR	Storm	17	13
	Mikaele RAVALAWA	Dragons	16	13
	Maika SIVO	Eels	18	13
9	Brett MORRIS	Roosters	14	12
10	Matthew DUFTY	Dragons	16	11
	Campbell GRAHAM	Rabbitohs	17	11

Top Goalkickers

Rank	Player	Team	P	G	Att	%
1	Kyle FLANAGAN	Roosters	16	79	96	82%
2	Adam REYNOLDS	Rabbitohs	18	71	81	88%
3	Nathan CLEARY	Panthers	16	67	81	83%
4	Cameron SMITH	Storm	15	63	75	84%
5	Jarrod CROKER	Raiders	18	60	69	87%
6	Zac LOMAX	Dragons	18	55	72	76%
7	Shaun JOHNSON	Sharks	15	54	71	76%
8	Kalyn PONGA	Knights	16	43	67	64%
9	Mitchell MOSES	Eels	15	42	51	82%
10	Reuben GARRICK	Sea Eagles	16	39	54	72%

THE FRONT ROW

GAME DAY

ROUND 19 MATCH PROGRAM

TEAM LISTS · MATCH DETAILS & STATS · PREVIEWS

Thursday



**Rabbitohs
v Bulldogs**
ANZ Stadium

Friday



**Cowboys
v Panthers**
QLD Country Bank



**Eels
v Broncos**
Bankwest

Saturday



**Sea Eagles
v Titans**
Lottoland



**Storm
v Tigers**
Sunshine Coast



**Roosters
v Sharks**
SCG

Sunday



**Raiders
v Warriors**
GIO Stadium



**Knights
v Dragons**
McDonald Jones Stadium

WEEKLY TIPS Round 19

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

Andrew Jackson (6/92)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Titans
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Knights

Josh Robertson (6/91)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Manly
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Knights

Justin Davies (6/85)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Titans
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Dragons

Hamish Parker (8/84)

Rabbitohs
Penrith
Eels
Sea Eagles
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Knights

Rob Crosby (7/81)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Titans
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Knights

Steven Williams (5/77)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Sea Eagles
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Dragons

Rick Edgerton (7/92)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Titans
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Knights

Jeff Dickinson-Fox (6/91)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Titans
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Knights

Sam Bourke (7/85)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Sea Eagles
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Knights

Tim Costello (7/82)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Sea Eagles
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Dragons

Adam Huxtable (4/79)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Sea Eagles
Storm
Roosters
Raiders
Knights

Andrew Ferguson (6/77)

Rabbitohs
Panthers
Eels
Titans
Tigers
Sharks
Raiders
Dragons

South Sydney RABBITOHS



Canterbury-Bankstown BULLDOGS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
5	2	-	8	Corey ALLAN	1	FULLBACK	1	Will HOPOATE	11	2	-	8
17	14	-	56	Alex JOHNSTON	2	WING	2	Dallin WATENE-ZELEZNIAK	16	2	-	8
17	11	-	44	Campbell GRAHAM	3	CENTRE	3	Reimis SMITH	12	3	-	12
4	1	-	4	Steven MARSTERS	4	CENTRE	4	Tim LAFAI	6	1	1	6
8	1	-	4	Jaxson PAULO	5	WING	5	Jayden OKUNBOR	1	1	-	4
16	7	-	28	Cody WALKER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Jake AVERILLO	12	3	8	28
18	6	71 ¹	167	Adam REYNOLDS	7	HALFBACK	7	Lachlan LEWIS	12	3	-	12
14	-	-	-	Liam KNIGHT	8	FRONT ROW	8	Aiden TOLMAN	16	2	-	8
18	3	-	12	Damien COOK	9	HOOKER	9	Jeremy MARSHALL-KING	18	1	-	4
18	2	-	8	Thomas BURGESS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Luke THOMPSON	8	-	-	-
17	2	-	8	Jaydn SU'A	11	SECOND ROW	11	Josh JACKSON	18	1	-	4
14	1	-	4	Bayley SIRONEN	12	SECOND ROW	12	Raymond FAITALA-MARINER	18	5	-	20
18	2	-	8	Cameron MURRAY	13	LOCK	13	Chris SMITH	1	-	-	-
14	2	-	8	Mark NICHOLLS	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Brandon WAKEHAM	8	-	3	6
1	-	-	-	Jed CARTWRIGHT	15		15	Renouf TO'OMAGA	14	1	-	4
7	-	-	-	Hame SELE	16		16	Sione KATOA	8	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	Keaon KOLOAMATANGI	17		17	Sauaso SUE	13	-	-	-
17	1	-	4	Tevita TATOLA	18	RESERVES	19	Dean BRITT	10	-	-	-
12	-	-	-	Patrick MAGO	19		20	Tuipulotu KATOA	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Troy DARGAN	20		21	Nick MEANEY	16	6	22	68
-	-	-	-	Cory DENNISS	21		23	James ROUMANOS	-	-	-	-

*includes 2 games for Dragons

Wayne BENNETT

COACH

Steve GEORGALLIS

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Cody WALKER (Rabbitohs) - 1 more try for 50 club and career tries;
Josh JACKSON (Bulldogs) - 200th Bulldogs & NRL match, needs 4 more points for 100 club and career points

#NRLSouthsBulldogs

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Thursday 17 September 2020
KICKOFF	7:50pm AEST
VENUE	ANZ Stadium, Sydney Olympic Park NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Ashley KLEIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Chris BUTLER Phil HENDERSON
NRL BUNKER	Henry PERENARA

RUGBY LEAGUE project

Match Stats

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 161 MATCHES

Rabbitohs 75 Bulldogs 82 Drawn 4

At ANZ Stadium: 30 matches, Rabbitohs 13, Bulldogs 17

LAST TEN

		RABBITOHS 6-4	
2015	R24	Bulldogs 32-18	ANZ
2016	R4	Bulldogs 42-12	ANZ
2016	R26	Rabbitohs 28-10	ANZ
2017	R7	Bulldogs 24-9	ANZ
2017	R23	Rabbitohs 28-14	ANZ
2018	R4	Rabbitohs 20-16	ANZ
2018	R18	Rabbitohs 24-6	ANZ
2019	R6	Rabbitohs 14-6	ANZ
2019	R22	Bulldogs 14-6	ANZ
2020	R8	Rabbitohs 26-10	Bankwest

BIGGEST WINS

1953	R15	Rabbitohs 51-15	Redfern
2003	R21	Bulldogs 62-12	Aussie

FORM: LAST FIVE

RABBITOHS	W W W L W	6th, 22pts
BULLDOGS	L L L L L	16th, 4pts

NEXT WEEK: Round 20

RABBITOHS	(H) v Roosters, ANZ, Fri 7:55pm
BULLDOGS	(H) v Panthers, ANZ, Sat 3:00pm

Match Preview

with Emile El-Azar

South Sydney and Canterbury-Bankstown meet on Thursday Night in front of what will be a handful of people at ANZ Stadium, relative to the crowds this fixture would usually attract. That's 2020 for you.

The Rabbitohs head into this match having won 6 out of their last 7 games, with a gallant loss to the Melbourne Storm the only hiccup. Their latest victory had them cruise to an early 20-0 lead against Wests Tigers, before a spirited comeback attempt from the desperate Tigers fell just short.

Dane Gagai will miss this week due to a 1 game suspension for striking Luke Brooks, with Jaxson Paulo coming into replace him. Hame Sele comes back into the team via the interchange bench.

The Bulldogs last won a game on the 26th of July, and will be looking to celebrate captain Josh Jackson's 200th game with their 3rd win of the season, in what will potentially be another opportunity for them to climb off the bottom of the NRL ladder.

They will be missing Matt Doorey and Ofahiki Ogden who have both been ruled out for the season, joining Kieran Foran on the sidelines. Tim Lafai comes back into the side, at the expense of one of the team's best performers in Nick Meaney who has been punished for being continually picked out of position. Dallin Watene-Zelezniak has been shifted again, this time from the centres to the wing. Luke Thompson (10) and Chris Smith (13) return to the side.

Still in the hunt for a home semi-final, coach Wayne Bennett will be out to ensure they don't take their foot off the accelerator this week.

Canterbury-Bankstown have shown signs of life, however are simply unable to hold onto a lead, nor play out 80 minutes.

The Bulldogs' attacking woes have been no secret to anyone watching the NRL this season, averaging 14.2 points per game vs the Rabbitohs' 24.7 points per game. Their defence fares no better, averaging 24.7 points against per game (yes, exactly what Souths are scoring per game!), vs the Rabbitohs' 17.6 points against per game.

Who to watch: Canterbury Bankstown's only shining light in an otherwise disappointing night last week was Jake Averillo's performance at Five-Eighth, in the absence of Kieran Foran.

Averillo has expressed his desire to incoming coach Trent Barrett to cement a spot in the halves, so he will be looking to put in another good showing, after putting on two try assists last week. He does have quite a bit of work to do on his defence, however, and against a free-scoring Rabbitohs outfit, may be caught out.

Alex Johnston re-signed with South Sydney during the week, after it seemed certain he was leaving the club. He will be looking to enjoy a field day against the brittle Canterbury defence to celebrate his new contract.

With fullbacks on the wing, centres at fullback and wingers in the centres for the Bulldogs, expect to see Johnston build on his 14 tries and 14 line breaks in 2020.

Favourite: South Sydney are expected to get the win here, it is really a matter of how big a win it will be.

My tip: Souths playing for a potential home final, Canterbury playing for pride and positions in the new Trent Barrett world order. I expect Canterbury to be in the game for the first 20-30 minutes, before the class and superior coaching from Souths takes over. **Rabbitohs by 20.**

North Queensland COWBOYS



Penrith PANTHERS

P	T	G	Pts							P	T	G	Pts
10	4	19 ¹	55	Valentine HOLMES	1	FULLBACK	1	Dylan EDWARDS		10	4	-	16
18	15	23	106	Kyle FELDT	2	WING	2	Josh MANSOUR		17	8	-	32
2	-	-	-	Murray TAULAGI	3	CENTRE	3	Brent NADEN		14	9	-	36
12	2	-	8	Esan MARSTERS	4	CENTRE	4	Stephen CRICHTON		18	14	7	70
12	4	-	16	Hamiso TABUAI-FIDOW	5	WING	5	Brian TO'O		11	4	-	16
14	2	-	8	Scott DRINKWATER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Jarome LUAI		18	6	-	24
12	2	1	10	Jake CLIFFORD	7	HALFBACK	7	Nathan CLEARY		16	4	67 ³	153
6	-	-	-	Corey JENSEN	8	FRONT ROW	8	Moses LEOTA		18	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	Reuben COTTER	9	HOOKER	9	Mitchell KENNY		4	-	-	-
13	-	-	-	Jordan McLEAN	10	FRONT ROW	10	James FISHER-HARRIS		17	-	-	-
13	1	-	4	Gavin COOPER	11	SECOND ROW	11	Viliame KIKAU		16	6	-	24
15	1	-	4	Mitchell DUNN	12	SECOND ROW	12	Liam MARTIN		16	5	-	20
18	3	-	12	Francis MOLO	13	LOCK	13	Isaah YEO		18	2	-	8
4	1	-	4	Daejarn ASI	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Tyrone MAY		11	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Emry PERE	15		15	Spencer LENIU		10	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	Tom GILBERT	16		16	Kurt CAPEWELL		4	2	-	8
-	-	-	-	Ben CONDON	17		17	Jack HETHERINGTON		7	-	-	-
14	2	-	8	Jason TAUMALOLO	18	RESERVES	18	Dean WHARE		8	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	Jake GRANVILLE	19		19	Billy BURNS		10	2	-	8
4	-	-	-	Peter HOLA	20		20	Matt BURTON		4	2	-	8
13	4	-	16	Ben HAMPTON	21		21	Charlie STAINES		2	6	-	24

* includes 6 games for Warriors

Josh HANNAY

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 Francis MOLO (Cowboys) - 50th Cowboys match

#NRLCowboysPanthers

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 18 September 2020
KICKOFF	6:00pm AEST
VENUE	Queensland Country Bank Stadium Townsville, QLD
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Matt CECCHIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Jon STONE Drew OULTRAM
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK

RUGBY LEAGUE project

Match Stats

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 40 MATCHES

Cowboys 19 Panthers 21

At QLD Country Bank Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN

		COWBOYS 6-4	
2013	R22	Cowboys 36-4	Centrebet
2014	R23	Panthers 23-22	Sportingbet
2015	R5	Cowboys 30-10	Pepper
2016	R6	Cowboys 23-18	Pepper
2017	R16	Cowboys 14-12	1300Smiles
2017	R23	Panthers 24-16	Pepper
2018	R4	Panthers 33-14	1300Smiles
2018	R9	Cowboys 26-20	Carrington
2019	R23	Cowboys 24-10	1300Smiles
2020	R10	Panthers 22-10	Panthers

BIGGEST WINS

2004	R24	Panthers 56-6	Penrith
2013	R22	Cowboys 36-4	Centrebet

FORM: LAST FIVE

COWBOYS	L L L W L	14th, 8pts
PANTHERS	W W W W W	1st, 33pts

NEXT WEEK: Round 20

COWBOYS	(A) v Broncos, Suncorp, Thu 7:50pm
PANTHERS	(A) v Bulldogs, ANZ, Sat 3:00pm

Match Preview

with Andrew Jackson

Cooper looks to spoil former side's winning run in Townsville farewell game

Their season may be over but the Cowboys aren't without reasons to lift for Friday night's game against the ladder leaders. Obviously there is the potential to be the team to snap Penrith's 13-game winning streak and build confidence heading into next year. Aside from the opposition though, it also is 321-game veteran Gavin Cooper's final game at Townsville. 245 of those appearances have come in Cowboys colours.

While Cooper's departure is representative of the larger changing of the guard at North Queensland, it also signals a greater injection of youth to come. Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow, at just 19 years old, has already established himself as one of the club's most exciting prospects.

But the absences of Josh McGuire, John Asiata and Justin O'Neill also give a host of other emerging talents the chance to impress. Murray Taulagi has just eight games to his name but gets another shot in the centres while Corey Jensen, a mainstay on the interchange in the past few years, has been handed a starting spot. Meanwhile, Ben Condon makes his debut on a bench that is brimming with inexperienced talent looking to make an impression. He joins Daejarn Asi, Emry Pere and Tom Gilbert on the pine for a combined total of 15 games in the NRL. Jason Taumalolo has been named on the bench in what shapes as a huge inclusion.

But if there is any side in the NRL that are testament to the benefits of an injection of developed talent, it is their opponents this week. 16 of Penrith's 17 players named for Friday's clash made their NRL debuts at the foot of the mountains.

The addition of experienced campaigners from other clubs has been just as helpful though. In fact, all three Panthers who have been rested this week – Apisai Koroisau, James Tamou and Zane Tetevano – are some of the rare ones who did not start their careers at Penrith. Their leadership has been critical to the competition leader's current winning streak though. Mitch Kenny, Jack Hetherington and Kurt Capewell are the replacements.

The strength of Penrith's depth is a credit to their development pathways and smart recruitment choices, so much so that rested such a talented trio does little to lessen Penrith's chances of a comfortable win this week.

Who to watch: There are few weaknesses in this Penrith line-up but if there is one thing the Cowboys can exploit it is the lack of speed on the wing. Josh Mansour and Brian To'o both have plenty of size and strength, which makes them tough to tackle and therefore ramps up their metreage. But they are not fast by any stretch, certainly not like the 'Forbes Ferrari' Charlie Staines. The Cowboys have their own speedster in Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow. With little to play for, look for Scott Drinkwater to take the chance at putting in early kicks for the pacey winger.

If Jack Hetherington's time at the Warriors is anything to go by, you can count on him providing Penrith with the exact energy boost they need right now. 13 wins in a row is mighty impressive but difficult to maintain. You need to remain focussed and an injection of fresh blood can do the trick too. Hetherington is just that – as long as he channels it in the appropriate manner. He will be desperate to prove himself having fallen down the pecking order. Look for an early statement shot in defence while his speed could also prove a handful if brought on late in the piece.

Favourite: Penrith are roaring favourites to make it 14-straight wins.

My tip: The travel factor could definitely see the Panthers make a slow start like they did against Brisbane. But the Cowboys are coming off a five-day turnaround that balanced it out. The class of the halves should get the away side home. **Panthers by 14.**

Parramatta
EELS



Brisbane
BRONCOS

P	T	G	Pts							P	T	G	Pts
18	5	12 ¹	45	Clinton GUTHERSON	1	FULLBACK	1	Darius BOYD		18	2	-	8
18	13	-	52	Maika SIVO	2	WING	2	Corey OATES		12	1	-	4
18	7	-	28	Michael JENNINGS	3	CENTRE	3	Kotoni STAGGS		12	10	15	70
18	6	-	24	Waqā BLAKE	4	CENTRE	4	Herbie FARNWORTH		17	5	3	26
17	1	-	4	Blake FERGUSON	5	WING	5	Richard KENNAR		8	3	-	12
5	2	-	8	Jai FIELD	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Tyson GAMBLE		1	-	-	-
15	3	42 ¹	97	Mitchell MOSES	7	HALFBACK	7	Tom DEARDEN		10	1	-	4
18	1	-	4	Reagan CAMPBELL-GILLARD	8	FRONT ROW	8	Joe OFAHENGAUE		13	-	-	-
17	2	-	8	Reed MAHONEY	9	HOOKER	9	Issac LUKE		13 [*]	-	-	-
18	-	-	-	Junior PAULO	10	FRONT ROW	10	Ben TE'O		14	1	-	4
15	3	-	12	Ryan MATTERSON	11	SECOND ROW	11	David FIFITA		8	3	-	12
18	2	-	8	Shaun LANE	12	SECOND ROW	12	Alex GLENN		6	-	-	-
14	-	-	-	Nathan BROWN	13	LOCK	13	Patrick CARRIGAN		17	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Will SMITH	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Cory PAIX		11	1	-	4
6	-	-	-	Andrew DAVEY	15		15	Jamil HOPOATE		10	-	-	-
12	4	-	16	Kane EVANS	16		16	Xavier COATES		10	5	-	20
11	-	-	-	Oregon KAUFUSI	17		17	Ethan BULLEMOR		7	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Haze DUNSTER	18	RESERVES	18	Kobe HETHERINGTON		-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Stefano UTOIKAMANU	19		19	Pride PETTERSON-ROBATI		-	-	-	-
7 [*]	3	-	12	George JENNINGS	20		20	Sean O'SULLIVAN		3	-	-	-
7 [*]	-	-	-	Daniel ALVARO	21		21	Jesse ARTHARS		5	1	-	4

* includes 6 games for Warriors

* includes 3 games for Dragons

Brad ARTHUR

COACH

Peter GENTLE

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 Blake FERGUSON (Eels) - 4 more points for 500 career points; Ryan MATTERSON (Eels) - 100th NRL match

#NRL Eels Broncos

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 18 September 2020
KICKOFF	7:55pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Henry PERENARA
TOUCH JUDGES	Chris SUTTON Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI
NRL BUNKER	Ashley KLEIN

RUGBY LEAGUE project

Match Stats

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 58 MATCHES

Eels 24 Broncos 33 Drawn 1

At Bankwest Stadium: 2 matches, Eels 2, Broncos 0

LAST TEN

Year	Round	Match	Opponent
2015	R8	Broncos 28-16	Suncorp
2016	R1	Broncos 17-4	Pirtek
2016	R23	Broncos 38-16	Suncorp
2017	R21	Eels 28-14	ANZ
2017	R25	Eels 52-34	Suncorp
2018	R12	Broncos 18-10	Suncorp
2019	R14	Eels 38-10	Bankwest
2019	R24	Broncos 17-16	Suncorp
2019	QF	Eels 58-0	Bankwest
2020	R3	Eels 34-6	Suncorp

5-ALL

Year	Round	Match	Opponent
1995	R13	Broncos 60-14	Parramatta
2019	QF	Eels 58-0	Bankwest

BIGGEST WINS

1995	R13	Broncos 60-14	Parramatta
2019	QF	Eels 58-0	Bankwest

FORM: LAST FIVE

EELS	L W L W L	4th, 26pts
BRONCOS	L L L L L	15th, 6pts

NEXT WEEK: Round 20

EELS	(A) v Tigers, Bankwest, Sat 7:35pm
BRONCOS	(H) v Cowboys, Suncorp, Thu 7:50pm

Match Preview

with Jason Hosken

Travelling Broncos out to spoil jittery Eels' top four dream

With the Parramatta Eels' top-four spot on shaky ground, motivation shouldn't be a problem when they host the Brisbane Broncos in what doubles as Ryan Matterson's 100th NRL appearance on Friday night.

Slipping to fourth after last week's shutout at Penrith, a win over the 15th placed Broncos followed by another over the Tigers in the final round will secure the Eels a double bite of the finals cherry for the first time since 2017.

Despite sitting at opposite ends of the ladder, both sides have been plagued by similar inconsistencies. Brisbane's battle for combinations is nothing new, while for Parramatta, a failure to unleash their most potent attacking weapons has reduced their flow of points to a trickle.

With the worst attacking record in the top-eight and tryless in two of their past three outings, the time for Brad Arthur to balance defence with attack is fast running out. And with Reed Mahoney named at No.9 as doubts surface over the return of key playmaker Dylan Brown, Eels fans will be counting on superstars Mitchell Moses and Clint Gutherson to oil the wheels behind a tireless pack.

Still in a fight to avoid the wooden spoon, last week's loss on the Gold Coast was a record 15th in a season for the once proud Broncos. Apart from Darius Boyd's early four-pointer, individual efforts were as close as Brisbane got. Heading the list was David Fifita, who coach Peter Gentle used to underline Brisbane's wretched season when he fired a reminder that the powerhouse can't win games on his own.

This week Payne Haas and Rhys Kennedy head a list of outs as Brisbane prepare to reverse the Eels' recent 5-2 dominance. Joe Ofahengaue and Ben Te'o will start up front while the struggling Sean O'Sullivan makes way for Tyson Gamble in the halves.

Who to watch: Clint Gutherson's golden touch from rounds seven to 11 is long gone. Sizzling with 10 try-assists in five weeks, anything hurled Maika Sivo's way was usually followed by a kicking tee. Now with only two try assists since late July, the skipper's dry spell has cut the Fijian's output to two tries from his last seven games. But with the confidence sapped Broncos on the horizon, look for King Gutho to find his crown.

From ferocious tackle busting power to rib stinging hits, Kotoni Staggs has it all. With 10 tries in just 12 appearances the Blues candidate is everything good in a struggling side, and the more touches he gets the better Brisbane's young halves will look.

Favourite: Brisbane is one team that would crave Parramatta's recent two from five record. Currently amid the most horrendous streak in the club's 33 seasons, last week's loss was a record ninth on the bounce, and it's not only the smart money backing a tenth.

My tip: If not for last week's gutsy goal-line defence, Penrith would have ruled a line through Parramatta's premiership credentials. Now in need of an injection of confidence as much as a win, the Eels are poised to back the hobbling Broncos into the eye of a storm. Lapped 96-10 across their only two appearances at Bankwest, another defensive disaster could see the Queenslanders stuck behind their own try-line counting down the days until Christmas. **Eels by 16.**

Manly-Warringah
SEA EAGLES



Gold Coast
TITANS

P T G Pts

10 5 - 20

Tevita FUNA **1**

FULLBACK

1

Alexander BRIMSON

P T G Pts

7 3 - 12

3 - - -

Albert HOPOATE **2**

WING

2

Anthony DON

14 10 - 40

17 3 - 12

Brad PARKER **3**

CENTRE

3

Treymain SPRY

3 - - -

2 3 - 12

Morgan HARPER **4**

CENTRE

4

Young TONUMAIPEA

8 1 - 4

1 - - -

Abbas MISKI **5**

WING

5

Corey THOMPSON

13* 4 - 16

18 1 - 4

Lachlan CROKER **6**

FIVE-EIGHTH

6

Ashley TAYLOR

17 1 28 60

18 5 8¹ 37

Daly CHERRY-EVANS **7**

HALFBACK

7

Jamal FOGARTY

16 3 8 28

15 3 - 12

Addin FONUA-BLAKE **8**

FRONT ROW

8

Jarrod WALLACE

15 1 - 4

18 2 - 8

Danny LEVI **9**

HOOKER

9

Mitch REIN

7 1 - 4

16 2 - 8

Martin TAUPAU **10**

FRONT ROW

10

Moeaki FOTUAIKA

16 - - -

12 4 - 16

Jack GOSIEWSKI **11**

SECOND ROW

11

Kevin PROCTOR

10 2 - 8

16 3 - 12

Curtis SIRONEN **12**

SECOND ROW

12

Sam STONE

7 2 - 8

18 2 - 8

Jake TRBOJEVIC **13**

LOCK

13

Tyrone PEACHEY

18 1 - 4

5 - - -

Morgan BOYLE **14**

INTERCHANGE

14

Tanah BOYD

11 1 - 4

11 - - -

Corey WADDELL **15**

15

Jai ARROW

16 - - -

17 - - -

Sean KEPPIE **16**

16

Sam LISONE

16 1 - 4

16 1 - 4

Taniela PASEKA **17**

17

Jai WHITBREAD

7 - - -

4 1 - 4

Haumole OLAKAU'ATU **18**

RESERVES

18

Darius FARMER

- - - -

16 3 39 90

Reuben GARRICK **19**

19

Brian KELLY

15 5 - 20

- - - -

Ben TRBOJEVIC **20**

20

Toby SEXTON

- - - -

6 4 - 16

Tom TRBOJEVIC **21**

21

Nathan PEATS

8 - - -

* includes 2 games for Tigers

Des HASLER

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 Mitch REIN (Titans) - 50th Titans match

#NRLManlyTitans

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 19 September 2020
KICKOFF	3:00pm AEST
VENUE	Lottoland Brookvale, NSW
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Matt NOYEN
TOUCH JUDGES	Liam KENNEDY Gavin BADGER
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL

RUGBY LEAGUE project Match Stats

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 20 MATCHES

Sea Eagles 11 Titans 9

At Lottoland: 8 matches, Sea Eagles 4, Titans 4

LAST TEN

		5-ALL	
2013	R3	Titans 16-14	Cbus Super
2013	R19	Sea Eagles 38-20	Brookvale
2014	R23	Sea Eagles 15-12	Cbus Super
2015	R18	Sea Eagles 38-6	Cbus Super
2016	R15	Titans 30-10	Cbus Super
2017	R11	Sea Eagles 30-10	Cbus Super
2018	R5	Titans 32-20	Gladstone
2018	R23	Titans 42-34	Lottoland
2019	R11	Titans 36-18	Lottoland
2019	R15	Sea Eagles 30-12	Cbus Super

BIGGEST WINS

2009	R26	Sea Eagles 38-4	Brookvale
2016	R15	Titans 30-10	Cbus Super

FORM: LAST FIVE

SEA EAGLES	L L L L W	10th, 14pts
TITANS	L L W W W	12th, 14pts

THE RUN HOME

SEA EAGLES	(A) v Warriors, Central Coast, Sun 2:00pm
TITANS	(H) v Knights, Cbus Super, Fri 6:00pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Turbo set to take flight against the Titans

The Manly Sea Eagles will be looking to post a rare win at home on Saturday afternoon when they host the ever-improving Gold Coast Titans at Lottoland.

Enduring a dismal campaign marred by injuries and a lack of resilience under adversity, the Manly Sea Eagles will be out to improve upon a horror home record that has seen the side manage a single win from six appearances on the Northern Beaches this season.

Breaking a six-match losing streak last Friday with a 32-20 win over the last-placed Bulldogs, coach Des Hasler is likely to receive a welcome boost with marquee fullback Tom Trbojevic in line to play his first match in three months, while a third Trbojevic brother, Ben, could make his debut after being named as part of the extended squad. In other selection news, Lachlan Croker replaces Cade Cust (ankle) in the number six jersey, while Morgan Boyle comes onto the bench for only his sixth appearance of the season.

The match will also serve as a farewell for injured second-rower Joel Thompson who is set to join St Helens in the English Super League next season. Playing 234 matches with Canberra, St George Illawarra and Manly over 13 seasons, the 32-year-old Ngijympaa man holds the distinction of representing the Indigenous All Stars on a record seven occasions.

Chasing four straight wins for the first time in six years, the Gold Coast Titans will have their sights set on building momentum for bigger and better things in 2021. Posting their seventh win of the season with a well-earned 18-6 victory over the Broncos last Saturday, the Titans have enjoyed success at Lottoland over the past decade with four wins from their past five visits.

Welcoming back co-captain Kevin Proctor from a four-week suspension for biting, coach Justin Holbrook has elected to use Tanah Boyd in place of Erin Clark as the side's interchange utility. Joining the Titans two years ago after previous stints with the Dragons and Panthers, experienced hooker Mitch Rein will play his 50th match for the club.

Who to watch: Limited to just 18 matches since the start of last season due to a horror run with injury, Tom Trbojevic will be out to make up for lost time on Saturday afternoon. Regarded as a player with a winning influence for Manly comparable to Andrew Johns at Newcastle and Johnathan Thurston at North Queensland, the 23-year-old has been forced to watch on in agony with the side managing just three wins in the 12 weeks he has been sidelined. Beginning the year in fine form with four tries, seven try-assists and 156 metres on average, Trbojevic will have an additional point to prove as he fights to retain his place in the NSW Origin team.

Fighting for a new contract after spending the past month on the sidelines through suspension, veteran forward Kevin Proctor will be out to prove he still has what it takes to make an impact in the NRL. Controversially sent off for biting Kiwi teammate Shaun Johnson a month ago against the Sharks, the 31-year-old second-rower has returned to form under the coaching of Justin Holbrook this season with 32 tackles and 76 metres each week. Set to attract interest from rival clubs given his experience as a premiership-winning international, the Titans can expect plenty of energy from Proctor as he looks to play his part in the side's strong finish to the year.

Favourite: Winning 14 of 18 matches with Tom Trbojevic at the back over the past two seasons, the Sea Eagles are expected to soar in the likely event the superstar fullback is back on deck.

My tip: Gaining plenty of confidence with wins in their past three matches, the 12th-placed Titans are primed to cause an upset against the 10th-placed Sea Eagles. **Titans by 7.**

Melbourne STORM



WESTS TIGERS

P	T	G	Pts							P	T	G	Pts
7	1	3	10	Nicho HYNES	1	FULLBACK	1	Adam DOUEIHI		18	5	11	42
13	9	-	36	Suliasi VUNIVALU	2	WING	2	David NOFOALUMA		18	17	-	68
10	3	-	12	Brenko LEE	3	CENTRE	3	Joseph LEILUA		13	4	-	16
17	8	-	32	Justin OLAM	4	CENTRE	4	Chris LAWRENCE		11	-	-	-
17	13	-	52	Josh ADDO-CARR	5	WING	5	Asu KEPAOA		3	1	-	4
14	4	6 ¹	29	Cameron MUNSTER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Josh REYNOLDS		9	1	-	4
15	6	-	24	Jahrome HUGHES	7	HALFBACK	7	Benji MARSHALL		14	2	14 ¹	37
15	-	-	-	Jesse BROMWICH	8	FRONT ROW	8	Josh ALOIAI		17	3	-	12
15	1	63	130	Cameron SMITH	9	HOOKER	9	Harry GRANT		13	3	-	12
15	-	-	-	Christian WELCH	10	FRONT ROW	10	Thomas MIKAELE		16	-	-	-
17	2	-	8	Felise KAUFUSI	11	SECOND ROW	11	Sam McINTYRE		11	2	-	8
17	3	-	12	Kenneath BROMWICH	12	SECOND ROW	12	Luciano LEILUA		18	6	-	24
16	4	-	16	Nelson ASOFA-SOLOMONA	13	LOCK	13	Alex TWAL		11	-	-	-
8	1	-	4	Ryley JACKS	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Zane MUSGROVE		4	1	-	4
18	6	-	24	Tino FA'ASUAMALEAUI	15		15	Matt EISENHUTH		12	1	-	4
11	1	-	4	Tom EISENHUTH	16		16	Russell PACKER		6	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Tui KAMIKAMICA	17		17	Luke GARNER		15	6	-	24
13	3	-	12	Brandon SMITH	18	RESERVES	18	Tommy TALAU		11	6	-	24
2	-	-	-	Isaac LUMELUME	19		19	Michael CHEE-KAM		8	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Max KING	20		20	Jock MADDEN		-	-	-	-
5	3	-	12	Paul MOMIROVSKI	21		21	Jacob LIDDLE		5	1	-	4

Craig BELLAMY

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 This is the Melbourne Storm's 600th NRL premiership match

#NRLStormTigers

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 19 September 2020
KICKOFF	5:30pm AEST
VENUE	Sunshine Coast Stadium Kawana Waters, QLD
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M Brisbane 2GB SYD / 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Gerard SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Todd SMITH Peter GOUGH
NRL BUNKER	Ashley KLEIN

RUGBY LEAGUE project

Match Stats

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 32 MATCHES

Storm 20 Tigers 12

At Sunshine Coast Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN

		STORM 6-4	
2013	R5	Storm 26-12	AAMI
2013	R16	Tigers 22-4	Leichhardt
2014	R21	Storm 28-6	Campbelltown
2015	R21	Tigers 34-16	Leichhardt
2016	R7	Storm 19-18	Leichhardt
2016	R16	Storm 29-20	AAMI
2017	R4	Storm 22-14	Leichhardt
2018	R2	Tigers 10-8	AAMI
2018	R5	Tigers 11-10	Mt Smart
2019	R10	Storm 24-22	AAMI

BIGGEST WINS

2001	R5	Tigers 40-10	Leichhardt
2001	R18	Storm 64-0	Docklands

FORM: LAST FIVE

STORM	W L W W W	2nd, 30pts
TIGERS	W L L W L	9th, 14pts

NEXT WEEK: Round 20

STORM	(A) v Dragons, Netstrata Jubilee, Sun 4:05pm
TIGERS	(A) v Eels, Bankwest, Sat 7:35pm

Match Preview

with Lachy MacCorquodale

The perennial ninth placed Wests Tigers travel up to the Sunshine Coast to take on premiers contenders, the Melbourne Storm

It's been more of the same for the Melbourne Storm this season who once again are poised for a top two finish, their fifth successive season of doing so.

Craig Bellamy was unimpressed with his side's performance during the last 20 minutes against the North Queensland Cowboys on Sunday, despite winning by 16 points. Melbourne ran in five tries in the opening 44 minutes as they led the Cowboys by 26 points before taking their foot off the pedal allowing the Cowboys to score three tries in the final 20 minutes.

It's been a brilliant year for the Storm thus far, having won 11 of their last 12 matches despite minor injuries along the way to key players which speaks volumes about the system that Bellamy has produced down in Melbourne. Their attack is flowing unbelievably well as Bellamy chases his third recognised premiership, with his side having failed to score under 20 points just once in their past 12 matches, when they were held scoreless by the Parramatta Eels in Round 15.

Former Tiger Ryan Papenhuyzen has not been included in the side again this week whilst Christian Welch returns at prop, shifting Nelson Asofa-Solomona to lock and Tino Fa'asuamaleaui to the bench as Darryn Schonig drops out of the side. Brandon Smith has been named in the reserves and could be a chance to play

Meanwhile, the Wests Tigers nearly overcame the finals bound South Sydney Rabbitohs with a late charge in their match last Thursday. The Tigers will be without halfback Luke Brooks who serves one week on the sideline after accepting an early guilty plea for his punch on Dane Gagai.

Michael Maguire is still waiting for his side to string together a full 80-minute performance after they suffered their sixth loss from their past eight matches. Defence has been a big issue for the Tigers for the majority of the season as their streak of conceding 20 points or more continued on Thursday to eight matches and coming up against a Storm side that has scored 20 points or more in 11 of their past 12 matches, isn't exactly music to the ears of Tigers' fans.

It's going to be an extremely tough ask for the Tigers defence this weekend as they're tasked with trying to defend the likes of Asofa-Solomona, Cameron Munster, Tino Fa'asuamaleaui and the rest. Josh Reynolds comes into the halves for the suspended Brooks. Joey Leilua replaces Tommy Talau in the centres with Sam McIntyre coming into the starting 13 at the expense of Luke Garner. Russell Packer and Zane Musgrove replace Elijah Taylor and Jacob Liddle who drop out of the side.

Who to watch: A mouth-watering clash at the hooker position will light up your television screens on Saturday with a master versus apprentice storyline as Cameron Smith takes on Storm loanees Harry Grant. First, the master, Cameron Smith has had another outstanding year for the Storm and is showing absolutely no signs that he is one of the oldest players in the competition. Smith has provided his side with 14 try assists, just one less than last season despite playing 12 less games. He is also responsible for eight goal line dropouts and 37 tackles per match as the former Australian captain shows no signs of slowing down. His work around the ruck is still superb and shows that he is still one of the best, if not the best hooker in the game.

His apprentice, Harry Grant has shown more signs than one that he was an observant understudy to Smith during his time as hooker for the Sunshine Coast Falcons. Grant has burst onto the scene this season for the Tigers with his brilliant running game and his extraordinary sleight of hand from dummy-half which can only be taught by one man. The rookie has assisted five tries this season, scoring three himself and has been the heartbeat of the Tigers attack. His work rate is no slouch either, averaging 89 run metres out of dummy-half and making 49 tackles per game. It's going to be a great individual battle to watch, but an increasingly sad one for Tigers' fans who only have two weeks left of watching this little master wear the orange, black and white.

Favourite: The Melbourne Storm are favourites for this clash having been one of the best sides in the competition this season. They have only lost to teams in the top five this season and they will be expecting to walk over the Tigers on Saturday evening. But the Tigers do have the wood over the Storm in their past three clashes. All three matches have been decided by two points or less with the Tigers walking away as victors in two of those clashes.

My tip: Melbourne should comfortably get home in this one. They come up against a defence that has leaked points this season and the Storm have scored the third most points this season. The Tigers have shown that they can score points a flurry, but their defence has continuously let them down this season. **Storm by 20.**

Sydney ROOSTERS



Cronulla-Sutherland SHARKS

P T G Pts

18 7 - 28

Joseph MANU **1**

FULLBACK

1 Will KENNEDY

P T G Pts

14 3 - 12

11 9 - 36

Daniel TUPOU **2**

WING

2 Sione KATOA

17 15 - 60

15^{*} 8 - 32

Josh MORRIS **3**

CENTRE

3 Josh DUGAN

14 4 - 16

13 3 - 12

Mitchell AUBUSSON **4**

CENTRE

4 Jesse RAMIEN

17 8 - 32

14 12 - 48

Brett MORRIS **5**

WING

5 Ronaldo MULITALO

13 9 - 36

16 8 -² 34

Luke KEARY **6**

FIVE-EIGHTH

6 Connor TRACEY

13 4 - 16

16 4 79 174

Kyle FLANAGAN **7**

HALFBACK

7 Shaun JOHNSON

15 2 54 116

14 1 - 4

Jared WAEREA-HARGREAVES **8**

FRONT ROW

8 Braden HAMLIN-UELE

18 5 - 20

17 1 - 4

Jake FRIEND **9**

HOOKER

9 Blayke BRAILEY

18 3 - 12

17 1 - 4

Lindsay COLLINS **10**

FRONT ROW

10 Aaron WOODS

18 1 - 4

10 2 - 8

Boyd CORDNER **11**

SECOND ROW

11 Briton NIKORA

13 4 - 16

16 5 - 20

Sitili TUPOUNIUA **12**

SECOND ROW

12 Siosifa TALAKAI

14 3 - 12

16 1 - 4

Isaac LIU **13**

LOCK

13 Toby RUDOLF

18 1 - 4

3 - - -

Freddy LUSSICK **14**

INTERCHANGE

14 Teig WILTON

4 - - -

11 4 - 16

Angus CRICHTON **15**

15 Jack WILLIAMS

14 2 - 8

15 1 - 4

Nat BUTCHER **16**

16 Andrew FIFITA

9 1 - 4

2 - - -

Sonny Bill WILLIAMS **17**

17 Royce HUNT

13 1 - 4

*includes 2 games for Sharks

13^{*} - - -

Poasa FAAMAUSILI **18**

RESERVES

18 Scott SORENSEN

11 - - -

4 1 - 4

Drew HUTCHISON **19**

19 Bryson GOODWIN

6 3 1 14

4 - - -

Daniel SULUKA-FIFITA **20**

20 Braydon TRINDALL

4 - 4 8

9 7 - 28

Matt IKUVALU **21**

21 Billy MAGOULIAS

2 1 - 4

*includes 4 games for Warriors

Trent ROBINSON

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 Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks need to score 2 more tries to record 4100 tries in club history

#NRLRoostersSharks

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 19 September 2020
KICKOFF	7:35pm AEST
VENUE	Sydney Cricket Ground Moore Park, NSW
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Ben CUMMINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Phil HENDERSON Belinda SHARPE
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY

RUGBY LEAGUE project

Match Stats

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 96 MATCHES

Roosters 60 Sharks 34 Drawn 2

At the SCG: 3 match, Roosters 2, Sharks 1

LAST TEN

LAST TEN		SHARKS 6-4	
2014	R17	Sharks 30-28	Allianz
2015	R5	Sharks 20-12	Allianz
2015	R13	Sharks 10-4	Remondis
2016	R19	Sharks 32-20	Allianz
2016	R25	Sharks 37-12	SC Group
2017	R17	Sharks 44-12	Central Coast
2017	R25	Roosters 16-14	SC Group
2018	R5	Roosters 28-10	SC Group
2018	QF	Roosters 21-12	Allianz
2019	R5	Roosters 30-16	Pointsbet

BIGGEST WINS

1991	R18	Sharks 48-14	Caltex
2013	R19	Roosters 40-0	Allianz

FORM: LAST FIVE

ROOSTERS	L W W W W	3rd, 26pts
SHARKS	W L W L W	8th, 20pts

NEXT WEEK: Round 20

ROOSTERS	(A) v Rabbitohs, ANZ, Fri 7:55pm
SHARKS	(H) v Raiders, Netstrata Jubilee, Sat 5:30pm

Match Preview

with Josh Robertson

A Saturday night showdown at the SCG sees two sides with finals spot secured take each other on as the Sydney Roosters play host to the Cronulla Sharks.

The Roosters sent a warning shot to the other teams in the top 8 last weekend when they put on a scrappy but impressive 42-12 victory over the Newcastle Knights. The tri-colours last weekend could've put on a bigger score if they were able to hold onto the ball and take full advantage of their opportunities.

Coming into this game, the Roosters sit in third spot with a jump into second spot looking highly unlikely sitting four points behind the Storm.

The Roosters have won 4 of their past 5 matches having only lost three matches since the resumption of the season. The return of key players as well as the inclusion of Sonny Bill Williams who had a massive impact on the game last weekend.

The Roosters have named Boyd Cordner in their side despite failing to finish last weekend's match against the Knights.

James Tedesco has been rested by coach Trent Robinson for this week's clash with Joey Manu named at fullback for the Roosters.

Jared Waerea-Hargreaves comes back into the side following suspension with Siosuia Taukeiaho also rested.

The Cronulla Sharks secured their spot in the NRL top 8 with an unimpressive 22-14 victory over the New Zealand Warriors last weekend. The Sharks lacked any sort of rhythm in their victory and it was only two tries in the final ten minutes that got them to the lead and in front.

2020 has been a tale of frustration so far for the Sharks fans who despite having locked in their finals spot.

Cronulla have struggled to find consistency this season and have always looked to be a step behind the other sides in the top 8 having not beaten a side above them this season.

Cronulla coach John Morris has kept the same 17 as last weekend that took to the field against the Warriors with key players Chad Townsend and Wade Graham still out suspended.

Who to watch: One of the more underrated performers in the Roosters side, Joseph Manu has been an outstanding performer on the wing and this weekend and comes in to the fullback role with James Tedesco being rested. The move to the fullback role will be big shoes to fill with Tedesco playing a key role in the Roosters spine combining in attack.

Sharks halfback Shaun Johnson has had to take on a key role for the Sharks in their attack and despite being one of the best halves in the competition, Johnson's has had up and down performances this season. His control of the Sharks attack will be important up against a Roosters side that can suffocate attacks to the point their attack is out of ideas.

Favourite: Unsurprisingly, the Sydney Roosters are massive favourites for this contest considering their recent form and ladder position.

My tip: The Roosters should win this game with ease, the Sharks haven't set their world on fire and their struggles to get past the Warriors show the difference in class of the teams. Even with the fact that the Roosters have lost James Tedesco, the Roosters have a better squad on paper and with the addition of SBW's ball playing which was on show last week should cause plenty of issues for the Sharks. **Roosters by 24.**



P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
17	7	-	28	Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD	1	FULLBACK	1	Roger TUIVASA-SHECK	17	5	1	22
5	2	-	8	Semi VALEMEI	2	WING	2	Adam POMPEY	11	5	1	22
18	4	60	136	Jarrold CROKER	3	CENTRE	3	Adam KEIGHRAN	1	-	-	-
15	2	-	8	Jordan RAPANA	4	CENTRE	4	Peta HIKU	16	6	-	24
18	10	-	40	Nick ČOTRIĆ	5	WING	5	Hayze PERHAM	5	1	-	4
18	10	-	40	Jack WIGHTON	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Kodi NIKORIMA	17	2	17 ¹	43
18	4	- ¹	17	George WILLIAMS	7	HALFBACK	7	Chanel HARRIS-TAVITA	11	2	20	48
18	4	-	16	Josh PAPALII	8	FRONT ROW	8	Lachlan BURR	12	-	-	-
18	-	-	-	Siliva HAVILI	9	HOOKER	9	Karl LAWTON	15	2	-	8
15	1	-	4	Dunamis LUI	10	FRONT ROW	10	Isaiah PAPALII	13	1	-	4
7	3	-	12	John BATEMAN	11	SECOND ROW	11	Jack MURCHIE	11	3	-	12
18	4	-	16	Elliott WHITEHEAD	12	SECOND ROW	12	Tohu HARRIS	18	1	-	4
17	2	-	8	Joseph TAPINE	13	LOCK	13	Jazz TEVAGA	10	1	-	4
9	3	-	12	Tom STARLING	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Wayde EGAN	17	2	-	8
14	-	-	-	Ryan SUTTON	15		15	Adam BLAIR	18	-	-	-
13	3	-	12	Hudson YOUNG	16		16	Eliesa KATOA	12	4	-	16
6	-	-	-	Corey HARAWIRA-NAERA	17		17	Tom ALE	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Sam WILLIAMS	18	RESERVES	18	Joshua CURRAN	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Matt FRAWLEY	19		20	Paul TURNER	1	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Matthew TIMOKO	20		21	Gerard BEALE	7	-	-	-
8	1	-	4	Iosia SOLIOLA	21		22	Rocco BERRY	-	-	-	-

Ricky STUART

COACH

Todd PAYTEN

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 Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD (Raiders) - 8 more points for 100 career points; Gerard BEALE (Warriors) - 8 more points for 200 career points

#NRLRaidersWarriors

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 20 September 2020
KICKOFF	2:00pm AEST
VENUE	GIO Stadium Canberra Bruce, ACT
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD / BNE 2GB SYD / 4BC BNE, NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Chris SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI Drew OULTRAM
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK

RUGBY LEAGUE project

Match Stats

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 43 MATCHES

Raiders 23 Warriors 20

At GIO Stadium: 17 matches, Raiders 12, Warriors 5

LAST TEN

		RAIDERS 6-4	
2015	R16	Warriors 30-8	Mt Smart
2016	R11	Raiders 38-12	Yarrow
2016	R20	Raiders 26-22	GIO
2017	R7	Raiders 20-8	GIO
2017	R23	Raiders 36-16	Mt Smart
2018	R3	Warriors 20-19	GIO
2018	R25	Warriors 20-16	Mt Smart
2019	R20	Raiders 46-12	Mt Smart
2019	R25	Warriors 24-20	GIO
2020	R2	Raiders 20-6	Cbus Super

BIGGEST WINS

2000	R5	Raiders 56-12	Bruce
2014	R9	Warriors 54-12	Eden

FORM: LAST FIVE

RAIDERS	W W W L W	5th, 24pts
WARRIORS	L W W L L	11th, 14pts

NEXT WEEK: Round 20

RAIDERS	(A) v Sharks, Netstrata Jubilee, Sat 5:30pm
WARRIORS	(H) v Sea Eagles, Central Coast, Sun 2:00pm

Match Preview

with Hamish Parker

Top four dream still alive in Canberra, Warriors playing for pride

Season's don't get any crazier than the 2020 NRL season. With two rounds remaining, the top 8 is confirmed, but the battle for positions is still very much alive. Canberra look to give their hopes for a top 4 finish a boost on Sunday afternoon against a New Zealand Warriors side who has been in the fight each and every week. However, their season is now confirmed to not be going past the regular season and will no doubt be looking towards a return home. They won't want to drop their bundle just yet though and will be looking to keep everyone's admiration of their sacrifice high by making for a good game against one of the competition's best teams.

Following a big 29-point win over the Dragons last weekend, coach Ricky Stuart has named only one change to the seventeen. Impressive rookie hooker Tom Starling has dropped back to the bench for Siliva Havili who will start instead.

The Warriors faced the Cronulla Sharks last weekend and lost in heartbreaking fashion, going down just minutes before fulltime and knocking them out of finals contention in the process. Interim coach Todd Payten, who is poised for a move to the North Queensland Cowboys to take up a head coaching job, has made a number of changes for the upcoming clash with the Raiders. Hayze Perham, who started at centre last week, will be moved to the wing in place of George Jennings. Adam Keighran will move into the centres. Rookie Jamayne Taunoa-Brown is out and will be replaced by Lachlan Burr. Eliesa Katoa comes onto the bench, as does Tom Ale, who cover Daniel Alvaro's loss.

Who to watch: When talking about the Raiders and who to watch, it's hard to go past star prop forward Josh Papalii, who did a tremendous job for his team last week despite only playing the first half of football due to an AC joint injury. Against a fairly inexperienced Warriors forward pack, look for Papalii to chew up the metres and get through plenty of work to inspire his side.

For the Warriors, inspirational skipper Roger Tuivasa-Sheck did all that he could for his side last week against Cronulla. Look for him to lead the side and inspire them despite them now being out of finals contention. His footwork and involvement in the Warriors attack through the middle will no doubt move the Raiders' big forwards around and could possibly shake things up a bit.

Favourite: The favourite for this game is the home side, the Canberra Raiders.

My tip: The Raiders come into this game with a little more reason for motivation with their top four hopes on the line. The Warriors now can't make the finals and going down to Canberra to play an in-form Raiders outfit will be a tough assignment to face. Expect the Warriors to put up a fight and make it as difficult as possible for their opposition as usual. The Raiders should though, be able to do enough to win. **Raiders by 14.**



Follow us

Twitter, Facebook, Instagram



@LeagueUnlimited

Newcastle KNIGHTS



St George Illawarra DRAGONS

P	T	G	Pts							P	T	G	Pts
16	9	43	122	Kalyn PONGA	1	FULLBACK	1	Matthew DUFTY		16	11	-	44
9	5	-	20	Edrick LEE	2	WING	2	Jordan PEREIRA		14	1	-	4
17	9	-	36	Enari TUALA	3	CENTRE	3	Euan AITKEN		16	4	-	16
17	6	-	24	Hymel HUNT	4	CENTRE	4	Zac LOMAX		18	10	55	150
6	4	-	16	Starford TOA	5	WING	5	Cody RAMSEY		1	2	-	8
8	1	2	8	Tex HOY	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Corey NORMAN		17	4	-	16
18	2	-1	9	Mitchell PEARCE	7	HALFBACK	7	Adam CLUNE		14	-	-	-
18	-	-	-	David KLEMMER	8	FRONT ROW	8	Kaide ELLIS		6	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Chris RANDALL	9	HOOKER	9	Ben HUNT		18	1	-	4
11	2	-	8	Daniel SAIFITI	10	FRONT ROW	10	Paul VAUGHAN		14	-	-	-
15	1	-	4	Lachlan FITZGIBBON	11	SECOND ROW	11	Tyson FRIZELL		18	1	-	4
18	1	-	4	Aidan GUERRA	12	SECOND ROW	12	Jackson FORD		10	-	-	-
10	1	-	4	Mitchell BARNETT	13	LOCK	13	Cameron McINNES		16	1	-	4
5	1	-	4	Phoenix CROSSLAND	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Tariq SIMS		7	-	-	-
18	2	-	8	Jacob SAIFITI	15		15	Josh KERR		18	2	-	8
18	1	-	4	Herman ESE'ESE	16		16	Blake LAWRIE		18	-	-	-
9	1	-	4	Sione MATA'UTIA	17		17	Max FEAGAI		-	-	-	-
7	1	-	4	Josh KING	18	RESERVES	18	Eddie BLACKER		-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	Pasami SAULO	19		19	Tyrell FUIMAONO		15	1	-	4
3	-	7	14	Mason LINO	20		20	Brayden WILIAME		4	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Tautau MOGA	21		21	Jayden SULLIVAN		-	-	-	-

Adam O'BRIEN

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 Lachlan FITZGIBBON (Knights) - 4 more points for 100 club and career points; Mason LINO (Knights) - 12 more points for 100 club points; Ben HUNT (Dragons) - 5 more points for 300 career points

#NRLKnightsDragons

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 20 September 2020
KICKOFF	4:05pm AEST
VENUE	McDonald Jones Stadium New Lambton, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD / BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Grant ATKINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Dave MUNRO Jon STONE
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY

RUGBY LEAGUE project

Match Stats

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL 39 MATCHES

Knights 12 Dragons 27

At McDonald Jones Stadium: 21 matches, Knights 4, Dragons 17

LAST TEN

LAST TEN		DRAGONS 8-2	
2015	R5	Dragons 13-0	Hunter
2015	R21	Dragons 46-24	WIN Jubilee
2016	R16	Dragons 30-18	Hunter
2016	R26	Dragons 28-26	WIN Jubilee
2017	R16	Dragons 32-28	UOW Jubilee
2017	R21	Knights 21-14	McDonald Jones
2018	R4	Dragons 30-12	WIN
2018	R25	Dragons 24-14	McDonald Jones
2019	R4	Dragons 13-12	McDonald Jones
2019	R10	Knights 45-12	Mudgee

BIGGEST WINS

2004	R4	Dragons 48-2	WIN Stadium
2006	R5	Knights 54-6	WIN Stadium

FORM: LAST FIVE

KNIGHTS	W W L W L	7th, 21pts
DRAGONS	W W L L L	13th, 12pts

NEXT WEEK: Round 20

KNIGHTS	(A) v Titans, Cbus Super, Fri 6:00pm
DRAGONS	(H) v Storm, Netstrata Jubilee, Sun 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Knights eye redemption on Old Boys Day

The Newcastle Knights will be determined to bounce back at home on Sunday afternoon when they host the St George Illawarra Dragons in the traditional Old Boys Day match.

Confirmed to play finals football for the first time in seven years, the Newcastle Knights will be fighting to keep their hopes of a home final alive.

Sitting in seventh position after being humbled 42-12 by the Roosters last Saturday, coach Adam O'Brien will be demanding a stronger defensive performance after the reigning premiers ran riot with four tries in the opening 20 minutes at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Returning to McDonald Jones Stadium for the final time during the home-and-away season, the match will commemorate Old Boys Day - a tradition dating back to the club's origins commemorating past players and officials who have worn the red and blue of Newcastle.

Set to welcome back Kalyn Ponga, Hymel Hunt and Mitchell Barnett after the trio were rested last week, rookie Tex Hoy will play his first match in the halves after being preferred ahead of Mason Lino, while Chris Randall will start in place of Kurt Mann (suspension) at hooker with Phoenix Crossland coming onto the bench in a utility capacity.

Enjoying a tremendous record in Newcastle with 17 wins from 21 visits over the past two decades, the St George Illawarra Dragons will be hoping to finish a disappointing season on a high note.

Embarrassed by the Raiders 37-8 in Wollongong last Saturday, interim coach Dean Young will be expecting improvement from his senior players after three straight losses saw the side fall out of finals contention.

Boosted by the return of representative forward Tariq Sims from a shoulder injury, newly re-signed outside back Max Feagai will make his debut off the bench in place of Billy Brittain (concussion).

Playing against the Knights in three Old Boys Day matches throughout the 2010s, the Dragons have prevailed on two occasions - most recently coming from a 10-2 halftime deficit to win 24-14 two years ago.

Who to watch: Providing a rare positive for Newcastle in an otherwise disappointing effort last Saturday, winger Edrick Lee made his presence felt after recovering from a broken arm. Showing no signs of ill-effect having spent nine weeks on the sidelines, the 28-year-old speedster caused plenty of havoc under the high ball to set up a try for Enari Tuala and narrowly missing out on one of his own. Averaging 117 metres with the ball in hand this season, expect Lee to give the joint venture plenty of grief as he looks to extend his try-scoring prowess for the Knights beyond seven tries in eight appearances at McDonald Jones Stadium.

Set to join the Knights on a three-year deal from next season, Dragons second-rower Tyson Frizell will be keen to show his future teammates what they can look forward to in 2021. Averaging 127 metres and 37 tackles each week, the powerhouse forward has featured in every match this year - playing all bar seven minutes. Adding 39 tackle breaks and 15 offloads to his name for good measure, the Dragons will be looking to Frizell to lead the way as they strive to continue a dominant record in the Hunter city.

Favourite: Winning 21 of 32 matches on Old Boys Day, the finals-bound Knights are expected to be too strong for the battling Dragons.

My tip: With a home final in the opening week of the play-offs still up for grabs, the Knights should have no excuses for coming up short in front of their club greats. **Knights by 16.**

First Semi Final

MAITLAND PICKERS (1)
v HILLS BULLS (4)

MAITLAND SPORTS GROUND · SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 3PM

PICKERS: 1. Daniel Langbridge 2. Elijah Rasiga 3. Henry Penn 4. Gary Anderson 5. James Bradley 6. Chad O'donnell 7. Brock Lamb 8. James Taylor 9. Alex Langbridge 10. Jayden Butterfield 11. Cooper Jenkins 12. Jacob McCudden 13. Callan Burgess 15. Faitotoa Faitotoa 16. Marvin Filipino 17. Gary Anderson 20. Samuel Anderson 14. Peter Wilson

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 Dockar-Clay 10. Taniela Lasalo 22. Jerry Key 12. Dean Matterson 13. Tim Robinson 21. Joel Bradford 16. David Hollis 24. Tyrone Faulkner 15. Matthew Ryan

Second Semi Final

GLEBE-BURWOOD WOLVES (2)
v NORTH SYDNEY BEARS (3)

LEICHHARDT OVAL · SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 4:00PM

WOLVES: 1. Jacob Gagai 2. Jonah Ngaronoa 3. Addison Demetriou 4. John Olive 5. Honeti Tuha 24. Lorenzo Mulitalo 7. Liam Coleman 8. Wesley Lolo 9. Jackson Garlick 10. Thomas Hazelton 11. Matt Stimson 12. Myles Taeli 13. Brock Gray 14. Trent Toelau 15. Duwayne Mariner 16. Sione Afemui 17. Kem Seru 22. Ethan Natoli 23. Patrice Siolo

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. Josh Daley 10. Elia Faatui 11. Edenn Rogers-Smith 12. Harrison Edwards 13. Thomas Freebairn 14. Josh Daley 15. Luca Moretti 16. Jacob Preston 17. Brae Verheyen

First Semi Final

RYDE-EASTWOOD HAWKS (1)
v HELENSBURGH TIGERS (4)

LEICHHARDT OVAL · SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 11:00AM

HAWKS: 1. Curtis Wilson 2. Bradley Cousins 3. Regan Hughes 4. Reggie Alofipo 5. Liam Scolari 6. Adam Rizk 7. Mitchell Gray 8. Langi Suli-Ruka 9. Blake Layton 10. Edward Carter 11. Justin Frain 12. Tyler Seymour 13. Angus McElroy 15. Callum Ellis 18. Benjamin Fisiilose 19. Angelo Panambalama 14. Bennett Wheelhouse 20. Suliasi Suli 21. Tyler Field 24. Joshua Suli-Ruka 25. Joshua Boumelhem

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

Second Semi Final

CRONULLA-CARINGBAH SHARKS (2)
v BELROSE EAGLES (3)

LEICHHARDT OVAL · SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 6:30PM

SHARKS: 1. Callum Tutauha 2. Brent Anderson 3. Nesiasi Mataitonga 4. Jacob Gagan 5. Daniel Perkins 6. Kamren Cryer 7. Bailey Hayward 8. Hayden Fepuleai 9. Michael Lichaa 10. Jyi Seymour 11. James Spencer 12. Blake Williamson 13. Ryan King 24. Joey Tramontana 15. Dj Purcell 16. Mathew Emery 17. Tokerau Raru 18. Wiremu Peters

EAGLES: 20. Jake Pickering 3. Christian Bate 4. Andrew Halstead 5. Beau Abrahams 6. Jonathon Palau 7. Zachary Nicholls 8. James Mirceski 9. Andrew Layton 10. Ilija Radan 11. Cody Abrahams 12. Joshua Martin 13. Steven Tavita 14. Ben Pickering 19. Giuseppe Plati 16. Daniel Martin 15. Josh Nichols 18. Judd Hanlon 21. Lachlan Armstrong 24. William Kelly

Preliminary Final

CRONULLA-SUTHERLAND SHARKS v NORTH SYDNEY BEARS

LEICHHARDT OVAL · SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2020 · 1:30PM

SHARKS: 1. Jaime Chapman 2. Andie Robinson 3. Jamie Anne Wright 4. Kiana Takairangi 5. Zali Fay 6. Corban McGregor 7. Maddie Studdon 8. Georgie Brooker 9. Keeley Davis 10. Analei Netzler 11. Talei Holmes 12. Kennedy Cherrington 13. Kaarla Cowan 14. Tegan Dymock 15. Georgia Page 17. Lynda Howarth 18. Lavinia Taukamo 19. Tia Hinds

BEARS: 1. Shanice Parker 2. Caitlin Keefe 3. Shontelle Stowers 4. Shenai Lendill 5. Tyla Gambell 6. Chloe Leaupepe 7. Sabrina Green 8. Josephine Maejiirs 9. Nita Maynard 10. Aliti Namoce 14. Talesha Quinn 12. Simaima Taufa 13. Nicole Backhouse 15. Mary Taupau 16. Moniqca Moale 19. Lacey Shields 17. Losena Qiolevu 18. Pier Pritchard 20. Eunice Grimes

NSWRL RESULTS

PRESIDENT'S CUP - ROUND 9

North Sydney 44 (Mike Pearsall 3, Jordon Ah-One-Remfrey 2, Kobe Rugless, Coby Thomas, Ben Thomas tries; Coby Thomas 6 goals) def **Wests Devils 0** at Macquarie University Sports Field
Thirroul 24 (Jack Payne 3, Daniel Payne, Tom Simpson tries; Luke Gallagher 2 goals) def **Wentworthville Magpies 12** (Obad Karwhin, Ethan Parry tries; Kieran Hayman 2 goals) at Ringrose Pk
Hills Bulls 44 (Maile Li 3, Shane Kiel 2, Leva Li, Shannon Gardiner, Zach Dockar-Clay tries; Josh Lewis 5, Shannon Gardiner 1 goals) def **Dubbo CYMS 4** (Billy Sing try) at Crestwood Oval
Glebe-Burwood 26 (Lorenzo Mulitalo, John Olive, Josh Natoli, Addison Demetriou tries; Addison Demetriou 5 goals) def **Maitland Pickers 24** (Henry Penn, Sam Anderson, James Bradley, Jacob McCudden tries; Brock Lamb 4 goals) at Henson Park. **BYE: Western Rams**

PRESIDENT'S CUP

Maitland Pickers
Glebe-Burwood Wolves
North Sydney Bears
Hills Bulls
 Thirroul Butchers
 Wests Devils
 Dubbo CYMS
 Wentworthville Magpies
 Western Rams

FINAL LADDER

16
15
14
12
 12
 9
 6
 4
 2

SYDNEY SHIELD - ROUND 9

Cronulla-Caringbah 48 (Tom Carr 4, Daniel Perkins 2, Hayden Fepuleai, Rea Pittman, Kamren Cryer tries; Kamren Cryer 6 goals) def **Wentworthville 8** (Will Swann, Siaosi Sisifa tries) at Ringrose Pk
University 44 (Jonah Ngaronoa 3, Nicholas Hedley, Joel Kingham, Jordan Chong Sun, Vito Tevaga, Ben Jackson tries; Ben Jackson 6 goals) def **East Campbelltown 18** (Shannon Gallant, Grant Lahey, Tevita Alifa tries; Shannon Gallant 3 goals) at Henson Park
Hills Bulls 40 (Jake Brennan, Lazarus Brown, Nicholas Holliday, Jesse Parker, David Baumann, Daylen Meredith, Kyle Cassel tries; Mitch Hyde 5 goals) def **Moorebank 0** at Crestwood Oval
Helensburgh Tigers 26 (Harrison Geraghty 2, Azan Turoa, William Russell tries; William Russell 5 goals) def **Belrose 6** (Beau Abrahams try; Will Kelly 1 goal) at Lionel Watts Reserve.
BYE: Ryde-Eastwood Hawks

SYDNEY SHIELD

Ryde-Eastwood Hawks
Cronulla-Caringbah Sharks
Belrose Eagles
Helensburgh Tigers
 Hills Bulls
 Moorebank Rams
 Sydney University
 East Campbelltown Eagles
 Wentworthville United

FINAL LADDER

16
14
13
12
 11
 9
 7
 5
 3

HARVEY NORMAN WOMEN'S PREMIERSHIP - FINALS WEEK 2

Minor Semi Final

North Sydney 16 (Tyla Gambell, Sabrina Green, Shanice Parker tries; Chloe Leaupepe 2 goals) def **Wests Tigers 4** (Botille Vette-Welsh try) at Campbelltown Stadium

Major Semi Final

Central Coast 13 (Yasmin Meakes 2, Britney Duff tries; Mel Howard 1 field goal) def **Cronulla-Sutherland 12** (Corban McGregor, Zali Fay tries; Maddie Studdon 2 goals) at Campbelltown Stadium

TEAM ELIMINATED: Wests Tigers

THIS WEEK - PRELIMINARY FINAL:

Cronulla-Sutherland v North Sydney
 Leichhardt Oval, Saturday 3pm

NEXT WEEK - GRAND FINAL:

Central Coast Roosters v Winner Prelim Final
 Bankwest Stadium, Sunday 27 September

Happy birthday!

This round's birthday boys and girls

Wednesday 16 September

Mitchell Moses (Eels) - 26 years old
 Jayden Sullivan (Dragons) - 19 years old

Thursday 17 September

Cameron King (Sharks) - 29 years old

Saturday 19 September

Blake Green (Knights) - 34 years old
 Edrick Lee (Knights) - 28 years old

Sunday 20 September

Isaiah Papali'i (Warriors) - 22 years old
 Isabelle Kelly (Roosters) - 24 years old

Monday 21 September

Anthony Don (Titans) - 33 years old
 Sandor Earl (Storm) - 31 years old

Tuesday 22 September

Kenneath Bromwich (Storm) - 29 years old
 Stephen Crichton (Panthers) - 20 years old

Word Jumbles

These players were the highest pointscorers for their countries at the 2017 Rugby League World Cup. How many of the names can you unscramble?

ROMANCE THIMS

AUSTRALIA

TODGER HIPWAD

ENGLAND

LAVINIA SUSIVULU

FIJI

BRAINED SEAT

FRANCE

MILF ANNI

IRELAND

JETT LLAMAHOONS

ITALY

MOSSMELT CHILE

LEBANON

JASON HONNSHU

NEW ZEALAND

RASHY MINTER

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

AIM FILTA

SAMOA

DIDNAY DEAL

SCOTLAND

USE AKAI ATUISHOOI

TONGA

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS: Latrell Mitchell, James Maloney, Blake Ferguson, Kezie Apps, Brandon Smith, Michael Ennis, Anthony Seibold, Ashley Taylor, Payne Haas, Michael Morgan, Semi Radradra, Dylan Walker

Missed an issue of THE FRONT ROW?

All back-issues are available FREE online at leagueunlimited.com/the-front-row

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 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 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

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

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 Raiders
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 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 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 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 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 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
SCG 18-12
Townsville 12-14
Lottoland 12-42
ANZ 16-18
S. Coast 26-16

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
Beanies 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 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 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 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 Stadium
 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

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
 Bulldogs v Titans
 Sea Eagles v Tigers
 Raiders v Roosters
 Warriors v Eels
 Cowboys v Dragons

Suncorp 12-25
 MJS 38-10
 ANZ 16-22
 ANZ 14-18
 Lottoland 32-34
 GIO 6-18
 Gosford 18-24
 QCBS 23-22

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

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 24-26
 ANZ 20-32
 Panthers 20-2
 WIN 8-37
 Cbus Super 18-6
 SCG 42-12
 S. Coast 36-20
 Kogarah 22-14

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

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

GRAND FINAL

Sun, Time TBC

OCTOBER 25

W PF 1 v W PF 2

Venue TBC

2020 STATE OF ORIGIN SERIES**GAME 1**

Wed

NOVEMBER 4

NSW v QLD

Adelaide Oval

GAME 2

Wed

NOVEMBER 11

NSW v QLD

ANZ Stadium

WOMEN'S

Fri

NOVEMBER 13

QLD v NSW

Sunshine Coast Stadium

GAME 3

Wed

NOVEMBER 18

QLD v NSW

Suncorp Stadium

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.

**NOT SURE WHO TO TIP?
 THEN CHECK OUT WHO TIPPED WHAT**



› ALL THE EXPERTS IN ONE PLACE

› SIGN UP TO OUR WEEKLY EMAIL

whotippedwhat.com



JOIN THE CONVERSATION
@LEAGUEUNLIMITED

LU.

LEAGUE UNLIMITED

**AUSTRALIA'S LEADING INDEPENDENT
RUGBY LEAGUE WEBSITE**

www.leagueunlimited.com

THERE IS NO OFF-SEASON