

The



LEAGUE
UNLIMITED

FRONT ROW

ROUND 3 2020

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 1

After two long months...

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THERE IS NO OFF-SEASON

From the editor

Tim Costello

When I grew up, it was almost a religion - making the trip to the newsagent to buy the official program every Thursday (or waiting for dad to bring it home). And while the world as we know it has changed, the excitement of flipping through the weekly edition, whether it was the long-running paper copies or a more modern e-book, the thrill was always the same. And I know that's a feeling rugby league fans around Australia share.

So, it was sad day learning that the official program won't be produced again in 2020. At 'LU', we have decided to take the leap and fill that void. We hope that by offering this weekly publication 'The Front Row', rugby league fans will have a similar keepsake - even if it's just online for now.

We're starting small - just the basics - but we will look to expand future editions with feature stories; columns - and of course we welcome your feedback to ensure we're providing content that readers value.

In the meantime, we're super keen to see some footy back on the field after a long, long break. Things will look different at NRL grounds for a while as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, but there is little doubt the 400+ players across the 16 clubs still harbour the same hunger to lift the Provan-Summons Trophy in October.

Welcome back, rugby league!

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Taumalolo runs rampant over error-riddled Bulldogs

Robert Crosby



16-24



A herculean effort from Jason Taumalolo has seen the North Queensland Cowboys prevail 24-16 over the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs at ANZ Stadium.

Running for 345 metres to break the NRL record for the most metres by a forward - surpassing Steve Price's 323 metre haul for the Warriors in 2007 - Taumalolo was enormous for the visitors in a match played behind closed doors in accordance with the national COVID-19 guidelines.

Establishing a 22-6 lead at the change of ends before taking the foot of the peddle in the second half, the score line failed to illustrate the Cowboys' dominance over the Bulldogs - who committed 16 errors to finish with an unacceptable 62% completion rate.

Coming out of the blocks with a 40/20 in the opening set to Lachlan Lewis, the Bulldogs number seven was in the right spot a few moments later to put the home side up 6-0 following a lovely burst down the left edge by Nick Meaney.

Hitting back through Coen Hess (12th minute) after a well-time pass from Michael Morgan, the visitors took the lead when Scott Drinkwater (17th minute) left Joe Stimson gasping for air from a scrum.

Adding a third try through makeshift winger Ben Hampton (25th minute), the Cowboys managed to take advantage of Dallin Watene-Zelezniak being sent to the sin bin as Taumalolo (36th minute) crashed over next to the posts to complete the first half rout.

Needing to be first to score after halftime to have any chance of mounting a comeback, a terrific short pass from Adam Elliott sent interchange forward Renouf To'omaga (45th minute) over for his first try in the top grade.

Making an error from the kick-off, Bulldogs coach Dean Pay responded to his side's poor ball handling by replacing Lewis midway through the second half in favour of 19-year-old debutant Jake Averillo.

Establishing a 12-point buffer via a Valentine Holmes penalty (57th minute), Hess looked to bag his second of the night only for Averillo to force the second rower to extend the ball in an illegal double movement on the hour mark.

With the Cowboys unable to deliver a knock-out blow and the Bulldogs giving themselves no chance of mounting a comeback due to dismal ball handling, a consolation try to Christian Crichton (80th minute) on fulltime saw the score finish 24-16 in favour of the visitors.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Jason Taumalolo

2 points - Michael Morgan

1 points - Coen Hess

Panthers down Dragons to win shootout at Kogarah

Justin Davies



28-32



Penrith Panthers remain unbeaten this season, after a topsy-turvy 32-28 result against St George Illawarra Dragons tonight at Jubilee Oval.

They needed to dig deep, but Penrith Panthers go to 2-and-0 for the season, after a Stephen Crichton inspired final ten saw them get over the top of an improved St George Illawarra Dragons side that helped combine for 60 points on a bizarre evening at Kogarah.

It looked at certain points, both teams were going to run away with the contest. Panthers lead by 12, Dragons twice led by double digits but the spirit shown by the visitors to rally twice and win back-to-back contests to open the season. Penrith move momentarily to the top of the table after two strong victories.

Nathan Cleary steered the side around expertly in the opening stanza, stepping across for a try after Apisai Koroisau nudged over for the opener to make it 12-nil after 15 minutes primed to continue after their upset against the defending Premiers in the opening round.

Dragons who started on fire last weekend, got back into the contest through Matt Dufty. The recalled fullback snaffled an intercept to go the length, quickly followed by some superb combination work from Jordan Pereira and Brayden Williams, for the latter to cross. Dragons were gifted the lead after an errant Josh Mansour pass was scooped up by Tim Lafai, who sent Zac Lomax over for 16-12 at the break.

The second half was a see-saw affair which saw the lead change thrice. Panthers edged ahead again through Brent Naden before Dufty made it a double then Dragons went back-to-back from an inventive kick by Ben Hunt to find Corey Norman, putting them ahead 28-18.

Panthers refused to concede the contest though, Bill Kikau and Stephen Crichton busted both the Dragons defensive line and their spirit to retake the lead again. Cleary who tonight went to fourth on the all-time Panthers pointscorer's list, added a penalty goal to stretch the margin to four.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Nathan Cleary

2 points - Stephen Crichton

1 points - Tyrell Fuimaono

Seibold's Staggs-do hat-trick ends Wayne's Rabbitohs run

Sam Bourke



Brisbane have continued their positive start to 2020, defeating the South Sydney Rabbitohs 22-18 at an eerily empty Suncorp Stadium.

Broncos strike centre Kotoni Staggs was the hero, scoring a hat-trick in a devastating performance from a player who has recently been seen as the next big thing in the famous #3 jersey moving forward at Red Hill. He continues to throw his name forward for NSW selection as he put in an elite performance in a big game against a competition heavyweight in an eye-catching performance from the Wellington junior.

The win sees coach Anthony Seibold finally get the jump on his legendary predecessor at the club - and rival coach - in Wayne Bennett since the duo famously swapped clubs, however the win was somewhat dampened by injuries to major off-season signing Brodie Croft (shoulder), followed by what may also be a worrying rib injury to Queensland winger Corey Oates late in the contest.

It was billed as a real grudge back between the two coaches, but it was Seibold's side that got the momentum early when Croft gave his blockbusting centre Staggs some early ball off a scrum play, the latter muscling over for the first try of the night.

Despite Jamayne Isaako failing to convert Staggs' effort, he delivered minutes later when he found the explosive Anthony Milford off an inside ball. Milford then found himself in the clear, skipping forward and then backward to shrug off would-be defenders, slamming the ball down to give his side the lead after just a quarter of the game. The Broncos then extended the score to 10-0 following a cheap penalty from Souths prop Junior Tatola, which Isaako duly kicked.

Brisbane continued to dominate throughout the half before the Rabbitohs sprung to life late, with Souths winger Campbell Graham latching onto a superb pass from Cody Walker to get his side on the board, trailing 10-4 as the half neared to a close.

Souths continued to change the momentum, when former Bronco James Roberts then exploded onto a ball from a Souths scrum play to find Cody Walker who scored a crucial try just before halftime. Adam Reynolds then converted the Roberts try, followed quickly by a late penalty and the Bunnies held an unlikely 12-10 lead at the break.

Staggs then put his stamp on the match with successive tries to turn the game on its head, and give Brisbane a commanding 22-12 lead.

Souths' interchange handyman Alex Johnson then scored what proved to be a late consolation try when he collected a re-bounce from his own kick to score and give his side a late chance.

It wasn't to be - the Broncos remain undefeated after the first two rounds, giving them tremendous confidence early in 2020.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Kotoni Staggs
2 points - Anthony Milford
1 points - Thomas Flegler

Confident Raiders run roughshod over wasteful Warriors

Adam Huxtable



The Canberra Raiders have continued their strong start to 2020 with a 14-point win over the hapless Warriors at Cbus Super Stadium today.

Both sides arrived to the foreign location of the Gold Coast after travel restrictions meant the game couldn't be played in New Zealand.

The Warriors probably started the better of the two teams despite an unforced error from big man Leeson Ah Mau in the very first set of the game. They dominated both possession and field position in the first half, coming close on many occasions but lacking the final punch necessary to breach the strong Raiders defence.

The Raiders hung on and took full advantage once they got the ball in attacking territory just after the 20 minute mark. Jarrod Croker got the ball around 20 metres out and made a good run beating multiple defenders and then linking up with Elliott Whitehead via an offload to send the English second rower over for his first try of the year.

That was all she wrote scoring-wise for the first half, although the Raiders did have a chance to extend their lead shortly after Whitehead's try as Nick Cotric found himself in open space - and only had to draw the defender and pass to an open Jarrod Croker, but he failed to do so and dropped the ball while trying to play it.

The Raiders came storming out of the blocks to start the second half, scoring two tries in the opening seven minutes after the resumption. The first came off the back of a clever grubber from Josh Hodgson that was dived on in the in goal by Sia Soliola. The Warriors then had a prime opportunity to hit back, but Adam Blair made an unforced error that Canberra fullback Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad was able to clean up and get his side on the front foot. The Raiders scored 2 tackles later through Bailey Simonsson who was on the end of a Croker pass that summed up a 4-on-1 situation well.

The game became a bit of an arm wrestle after that, with the Warriors chances of winning slowly trickling away. They broke their scoring duck in the 75th minute courtesy of a penalty try, where it was ruled that Kodi Nikorima would have got to the ball first had it not been for an infringement committed by Canberra half George Williams. The last five minutes seemed to last an eternity, however the Raiders weren't done.

Curtis Scott got himself on the board as a Raider, gathering in a George Williams grubber in the 79th minute to extend the winning margin from 10 points to 14 points.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Jarrod Croker
2 points - Nick Cotric
1 points - George Williams

Sea Eagles hold on for gritty win as Roosters lose another

Andrew Ferguson



8-9



Manly have hung on to secure a gutsy one-point victory over the defending premiers, downing the Roosters 9-8 courtesy of a field goal from Daly Cherry Evans in the final four minutes.

A tight and at times scrappy first half saw both sides enter the sheds lock at 6 apiece, with both sides attack looking somewhat clunky at times.

The scoring began in just the second minute when Kyle Flanagan kicked a penalty goal for the Roosters to give them a 2-0 lead. In the 8th minute Reuben Garrick levelled the scores when he too kicked a penalty goal.

Just 5 minutes later, Manly produced the first try of the match when Daly Cherry-Evans ran to the left side and threw a sweet inside ball to Tom Trbojevic who barged over between two defenders to score a strong try. Garrick failed to convert from out wide on the left side.

On the half hour mark, the Roosters hit back when Luke Keary drifted to the left before sending a lofted cut-out pass to Daniel Tupou, who ran in for an easy try on the left side. Flanagan was unable to convert the try.

The Roosters came out firing in the second half and after just a minute, Keary and James Tedesco linked to put Angus Crichton into space, but he was brought down by Tom Trbojevic.

Five minutes later, Keary with a nice play received an inside ball and looked set to score for all money. But just as he was casually putting the ball down for the try, Tom Trbojevic knocked the ball loose.

Tom Trbojevic was at it again in the 54th minute, when he brought down a flying Brett Morris and put him into touch, just 5 metres shy of the tryline in a stunning tackle.

The 61st minute saw another great piece of footy from both sides when Tedesco cleaned up a stray pass, puts in a chip and regathered, chipped again and Garrick cleaned up, then he evaded two defenders before getting back into the field of play.

With 15 minutes remaining in the game Garrick kicked a penalty goal to give Manly a 2 point lead. Just 2 minutes later the Roosters received a penalty and Flanagan nailed a penalty goal to level the scores yet again.

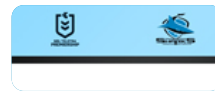
Luke Keary took a shot at a field goal at the 74th minute, but the ball struck the upright and bounced back into the field of play. But the winner came with just 4 minutes remaining, Manly half Daly Cherry-Evans struck a field goal attempt sweetly and put it between the sticks to give Manly the lead and the victory.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

- 3 points - Tom Trbojevic
- 2 points - Daly Cherry-Evans
- 1 points - Daniel Tupou

Late Storm fightback seals victory over Cronulla

Josh Robertson



10-12



Prime Minister Scott Morrison's crowd ban may have been a blessing in disguise for his fellow Sharks fans after the Sharks suffered a disappointing late 12-10 defeat to the Melbourne Storm, saving Sharks fans from an unhappy trip home.

The opening forty minutes won't go down in Rugby League history as one of the greatest halves of football, with neither side able to crack their opponents' line during the first stanza of action. The point scoring started early though, when a string of three successive penalties helped Melbourne get into penalty-goal territory, which Cameron Smith took advantage of to give the visitors a 2-0 lead.

The run of penalties swapped around, and once Cronulla was able to get one within range, they took advantage of the opportunity to level the scores off the boot of Shaun Johnson. The Sharks were able to put themselves into the lead at about the 20-minute mark when head referee Ashley Klein ruled one against the Storm for being offside on their own line, Johnson stepping up once more.

The points scoring might have been restricted to just three penalty goals for the half, but it wasn't through the lack of opportunities. Melbourne was forced to weather a Sharknado of attacking raids, but a mix of good defence and some poor attacking choices from Johnson meant that the home side went tryless in the half.

The second half started in a similar fashion to how the first half played out, with neither side being able to get on the board in the early stages despite some good efforts, until Melbourne restored parity after 48 minutes with a Smith penalty goal.

The Sharks were able to get the first try of the match when Blayke Brailey put a good little grubber kick through and big man Billy Magoulias was there to chase through and get his first NRL try. The easy conversion for Johnson meant that the Sharks were out to a 10-4 lead.

Melbourne were able to keep themselves into the game and scrapped their way back into it when Tui Kamikamica was able to power his way over the line and slam the ball down. The conversion from close range levelled the scores up and it was 'game on'.

After being almost perfect through the opening 65 minutes, the Sharks then began to implode with errors in bad positions, and discipline came back to cost them when an idiotic play to punch the ball out in a 3-on-1 tackle meant the Storm got a penalty right in front, giving them the advantage of playing the final five minutes from in front. The Storm were able to hold onto their 12-10 lead and take their second victory for the season.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

- 3 points - Cameron Munster
- 2 points - Sione Katoa
- 1 points - Tui Kamikamica

Knights run riot in high-scoring thriller against Tigers

Andrew Jackson



24-42



Defence was not the priority as the Newcastle Knights outgunned the Wests Tigers 42-24 at Leichhardt Oval on Sunday.

With the future of the NRL in doubt following the AFL's decision to suspend its competition, the two sides ran out for what could be the second-last game of the season for the time being.

The Leichhardt hill may not have been drenched in orange and black like it usually is but the home side were not without the regular cheering squad. The houses lining Chapel Street were packed, while other rusted-on Tigers fans heckled Newcastle players from the fences.

But even their taunts could not stop the Knights from charging to a second-straight win.

It was a far cry from their 20-0 shutout of the Warriors the week prior though as the Knights continually invited Wests back into the contest with soft tries.

Two of the Tigers' tries came directly off errors from Newcastle - the first an intercept which saw David Nofualuma race away. A dropped ball then later saw Wests scoop up the ball and score another. Their two other tries - to Luciano Leilua and Adam Doueihi were spectacular but again capitalised on uncommitted Newcastle defenders.

While Adam O'Brien would have been disappointed with the defensive effort, he would have been pleased with how his side stood up through the middle. The Tigers ran the most metres of the competition last week but this time around did not even reach 1,400.

Newcastle rolled upfield with ease on Sunday afternoon, with Wests missing 43 tackles. The lapses in concentration soured what was otherwise a clinical attacking performance from the Knights, who ran in eight tries.

Tigers coach Michael Maguire would have been livid, with their efforts defending kicks in particular leaving a lot to be desired.

Enari Tuala scored the opening try of the game off a Mitchell Pearce kick that was barely contested and in the end that foreshadowed what was to come.

Perhaps Wests could not get themselves pumped up for an empty Leichhardt Oval but if that is the case they have a long way to go with the season to progress that way for the time being.

The victory temporarily lifts Newcastle to top of the ladder while Wests fall out of the eight.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - David Klemmer
2 points - Mitchell Pearce
1 points - Connor Watson

Eels electric as Titans tumble before NRL shutdown

Hamish Parker



6-46



The Titans beat themselves as the Eels stormed home to smash the Gold Coast side 46-6 at Cbus Super Stadium.

In a game that shaped up to be an easy win for the Eels, it ended up being just that.

Early on, it didn't always look as though it was going to be the case and the only thing that really cost the Titans was their own inability to complete sets.

The game was tight for the vast majority of the match and it was only in the last twenty or so minutes that the game started to become out of reach for the Titans.

Gold Coast were extremely poor with their ball handling and it ultimately cost them to a large degree - completing at an incredibly low rate of just 58 percent.

The game was in the balance right up to the first Dylan Brown try with a bit over twenty minutes to go. The Titans continued to make errors and made multiple straight from scrum wins, putting pressure on themselves consistently and were doing well defensively to hold their line. With that much pressure though, they were bound to crack sooner or later and once Brown went over, the flood gates opened and the Eels ran rampant.

Parramatta too were guilty of making a fair few errors of their own in the first half and wasted a few opportunities that they had. In the second half however, they were much better with their ball handling and due to this were able to finish the game with an 85 percent completion rate.

Gold Coast kept gifting the Eels possession, as the visitors finished the match with an astonishing 23 more sets in total in comparison to the Titans. They were much more patient than what they were in the first half, as they waited until almost half way through the second half to finally make their breakthrough through that first Brown try. After that, the game was really out of the Titans' reach as the Eels went up 20-6.

From there, it was all down hill for Parramatta - who ran in another four tries in the twenty minutes after that. The Eels had a late chance to notch up 50 points after a late successful captain's challenge, but opted to take the two points instead, which ultimately had them finishing the game with a 46-6 win.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Dylan Brown
2 points - Michael Jennings
1 points - Mitchell Moses

The scoresheet

Scores, scorers, match details from Round 2

Cowboys 24 (Coen Hess, Scott Drinkwater, Ben Hampton, Jason Taumalolo tries; Valentine Holmes 4/5 goals)

def **Bulldogs 16** (Lachlan Lewis, Renouf To'omaga, Christian Crichton tries; Brandon Wakeham 2/3 goals)

Venue: ANZ Stadium; Date: Thursday 19 March 2020, 8:05pm AEST; Halftime: Cowboys 22-6

Referee: Adam Gee; Assist: Chris Butler; Touch Judges: Jeff Younis, Matt Noyen; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Beau Scott

Panthers 32 (Apisai Koroisau, Nathan Cleary, Brent Naden, Viliame Kikau, Stephen Crichton tries; Nathan Cleary 6/6 goals)

def **Dragons 28** (Matthew Dufty 2, Zac Lomax, Brayden Wiliame, Corey Norman tries; Zac Lomax 4/5 goals)

Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Friday 20 March 2020, 6:00pm AEDT; Halftime: Dragons 16-12

Referee: Matt Cecchin; Assist: Jon Stone; Touch Judges: Drew Oultram, Adam Cassidy; NRL Bunker: Ashley Klein, Bryan Norrie

Broncos 22 (Kotoni Staggs 3, Anthony Milford tries; Jamayne Isaako 3/5 goals)

def **Rabbitohs 18** (Campbell Graham, Cody Walker, Alex Johnston tries; Adam Reynolds 3/4 goals)

Venue: Suncorp Stadium; Date: Friday 20 March 2020, 8:05pm AEDT; Halftime: Rabbitohs 12-10

Referee: Grant Atkins; Assist: Peter Gough; Touch Judges: Todd Smith, Nick Beashel; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Ben Galea

Raiders 20 (Elliott Whitehead, Iosia Soliola, Bailey Simonsson, Curtis Scott tries; Jarrod Croker 2/4 goals)

def **Warriors 6** (Kodi Nikorima try; Chanel Harris-Tavita 1/1 goals)

Venue: Cbus Super Stadium; Date: Saturday 21 March 2020, 3:00pm AEDT; Halftime: Raiders 6-0

Referee: Chris Sutton; Assist: David Munro; Touch Judges: Jarrod Cole, Mark Bohan; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Ben Lowe

Sea Eagles 9 (Tom Trbojevic try; Reuben Garrick 2/3 goals; Daly Cherry Evans 1 field goal)

def **Roosters 8** (Daniel Tupou try; Kyle Flanagan 2/3 goals)

Venue: Leichhardt Oval; Date: Saturday 21 March 2020, 5:30pm AEDT; Halftime: 6-all

Referee: Ben Cummins; Assist: Belinda Sharpe; Touch Judges: Michael Wise, Liam Nicholls; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Ben Galea

Storm 12 (Tui Kamikamica try; Cameron Smith 4/4 goals)

def **Sharks 10** (Billy Magoulias try; Shaun Johnson 3/3 goals)

Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Saturday 21 March 2020, 7:40pm AEDT; Halftime: Sharks 4-2

Referee: Ashley Klein; Assist: Phil Henderson; Touch Judges: Clayton Sharpe, Tim Alouani-Roby; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Bryan Norrie

Knights 42 (Enari Tuala 2, Kalyn Ponga, Mitchell Barnett, Kurt Mann, Edrick Lee, Mitchell Pearce, Connor Watson tries; Kalyn Ponga 5/9 goals) def **Tigers 24** (David Nofoaluma, Corey Thompson, Josh Reynolds, Luciano Leilua tries; Benji Marshall 4/4 goals)

Venue: Leichhardt Oval; Date: Sunday 22 March 2020, 4:05pm AEDT; Halftime: Knights 18-12

Referee: Gerard Sutton; Assist: Gavin Badger; Touch Judges: Rickey McFarlane, Liam Kennedy; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Ben Galea

Eels 46 (Mitchell Moses, Reed Mahoney, Dylan Brown 2, Kane Evans, Maika Sivo, Peni Terepo tries; Mitchell Moses 9/9 goals)

def **Titans 6** (Dale Copley try; Ash Taylor 1/2 goals)

Venue: Cbus Super Stadium; Date: Sunday 22 March 2020, 6:15pm AEDT; Halftime: Eels 14-6

Referee: Henry Perenara; Assist: Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski; Touch Judges: Kasey Badger, Nick Morel; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Bryan Norrie

LIVE MATCH UPDATES

Every NRL game, every round.

By the fans for the fans. Whether you're out and about and need to check the scorers, or just want to follow along with the game on the screen, LeagueUnlimited.com runs a detailed live blog of every single NRL match, every weekend.

Head to leagueunlimited.com and look for the Match Centre to follow along on match day.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year

Standings after Round 2

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.

5 points

Mitchell Pearce (Knights)

4 points

Mitchell Moses (Eels)

3 points

Kotoni Staggs (Broncos), Adam Reynolds (Rabbitohs), Jarrod Croker (Raiders), Isaah Yeo (Panthers), Nathan Cleary (Panthers), Jason Taumalolo (Cowboys), Cameron Smith (Storm), Dylan Brown (Eels), Benji Marshall (Wests Tigers), Cameron Munster (Storm), Jack Wighton (Raiders), David Klemmer (Knights), Jamayne Isaako (Broncos), Tom Trbojevic (Sea Eagles)

2 points

Michael Morgan (Cowboys), Stephen Crichton (Panthers), Michael Jennings (Eels), Anthony Milford (Broncos), Nick Cotric (Raiders), Sione Katoa (Bulldogs), Daly Cherry-Evans (Sea Eagles), David Nofoaluma (Wests Tigers), Kalyn Ponga (Knights), David Fifita (Broncos), Emre Guler (Raiders), Dallin Watene-Zelezniak (Bulldogs), Viliame Kikau (Panthers), Shaun Johnson (Sharks), Jahrome Hughes (Storm)

1 point

Tevita Pangai Junior (Broncos), Tyrell Fuimaono (Dragons), Connor Watson (Knights), Alex Twal (Wests Tigers), Reed Mahoney (Eels), Phillip Sami (Titans), Tui Kamikamica (Storm), Daniel Saifiti (Knights), George Williams (Raiders), James Tedesco (Roosters), Coen Hess (Cowboys), Ethan Lowe (Rabbitohs), Thomas Flegler (Broncos), Daniel Tupou (Roosters), Jake Trbojevic (Sea Eagles)

NRL Match Review

Round 2 Charge Sheet

Sia Soliola (Raiders)

Grade 1 Careless High Tackle
39th minute on Adam Blair (Warriors)
Base penalty \$1500 fine
1 similar prior offence last 2 yrs (50% loading)
Guilty / no contest \$2250 fine
Early plea \$1700 fine
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **\$1700 fine**

Kalyn Ponga (Knights)

Grade 1 Shoulder Charge
72nd minute on Corey Thompson (Wests Tigers)
Base penalty 200 points
1 non-similar prior offence last 2 yrs (20% loading)
Guilty / no contest 240 points = 2 matches
Early plea 180 points = 1 match
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **One (1) match suspension.**
80 carryover points accrued

Luciano Leilua (Wests Tigers)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
76th minute on Kalyn Ponga (Knights)
Base penalty 100 points
No prior offences last two years
Guilty / no contest 100 points = 1 match
Early plea 75 points = no suspension
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **No suspension.**
75 carryover points accrued.

Nathan Brown (Eels)

Grade 2 Dangerous Contact (other)
15th minute on Dale Copley (Titans)
Base penalty 200 points
One non-similar prior offence (20% loading)
42 carryover points to be added
Guilty / no contest 240+42=282 points = 2 matches
Early plea 180+42=222 points = 2 matches
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **Two (2) match suspension.**
22 carryover points accrued

Moeaki Fotuaika (Titans)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
30th minute on Mitch Moses (Eels)
Base penalty 100 points
One similar prior offence (50% loading)
Guilty / no contest 150 points = 1 match
Early plea 112 points = 1 match
PLEA: **Not guilty**
OUTCOME: Not guilty at judiciary. **No suspension.**

Premiership ladder

NRL 2020 Telstra Premiership after Round 2

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Parramatta Eels	2	2	0	0	54	8	46	4
2	Newcastle Knights	2	2	0	0	62	24	38	4
3	Canberra Raiders	2	2	0	0	44	12	32	4
4	Melbourne Storm	2	2	0	0	30	14	16	4
5	Brisbane Broncos	2	2	0	0	50	39	11	4
6	Penrith Panthers	2	2	0	0	52	42	10	4
7	North Queensland Cowboys	2	1	1	0	45	44	1	2
8	South Sydney Rabbitohs	2	1	1	0	40	40	0	2
9	Wests Tigers	2	1	1	0	48	56	-8	2
10	Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles	2	1	1	0	13	26	-13	2
11	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	2	0	2	0	28	34	-6	0
12	Sydney Roosters	2	0	2	0	22	29	-7	0
13	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	2	0	2	0	18	32	-14	0
14	St George Illawarra Dragons	2	0	2	0	42	56	-14	0
15	Warriors	2	0	2	0	6	40	-34	0
16	Gold Coast Titans	2	0	2	0	12	70	-58	0

Stats leaders

after Round 2

Top Tryscorers

1	Kotoni STAGGS (Broncos)	4
2	David NOFOALUMA (Wests Tigers)	3
3	Luciano LEILUA (Wests Tigers)	2
	Sione KATO A (Sharks)	2
	Suliasi VUNIVALU (Storm)	2
	Stephen CRICHTON (Panthers)	2
	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	2
	Matt DUFTY (Dragons)	2
	Reed MAHONEY (Eels)	2
	Dylan BROWN (Eels)	2
	Campbell GRAHAM (Rabbitohs)	2
	Jack WIGHTON (Raiders)	2
	Ben HAMPTON (Cowboys)	2
	Elliott WHITEHEAD (Raiders)	2
	Brent NADEN (Panthers)	2
	Viliame KIKAU (Panthers)	2
	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	2
	Enari TUALA (Knights)	2
	Edrick LEE (Knights)	2

Top Pointscorers

1	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	26
	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	26
3	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	24
4	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	22
5	Benji MARSHALL (Wests Tigers)	20
	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	20
7	Jamayne ISAAKO (Broncos)	18
8	Kotoni STAGGS (Broncos)	16
9	Cameron SMITH (Storm)	14
10	David NOFOALUMA (Wests Tigers) + 3 more	12

Top Goalkickers

1	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	11
2	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	10
3	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	9
4	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	8
	Benji MARSHALL (Wests Tigers)	8
6	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	7
	Cameron SMITH (Storm)	7
	Jamayne ISAAKO (Broncos)	7
9	Jarrold CROKER (Raiders)	6
	Shaun JOHNSON (Sharks)	6

ARLC confirms changes for remainder of 2020 NRL season

NRL Media Release, 13 May 2020

The Australian Rugby League Commission (ARLC) has agreed the Telstra Premiership will use one on-field referee for the remainder of the season and introduce six more tackles rather than a penalty stoppage for ruck infringements. Referees will retain the right to issue a full penalty and place players in the sin bin for persistent ruck infringements and professional fouls.

The Commission tonight determined the changes would create more entertaining and free flowing rugby league.

Under the changes, the referee will be given the ability to deal with ruck infringements without interrupting the flow of the game by awarding six more tackles rather than a stoppage for a penalty.

Changes to the refereeing model will include full time referees being used as touch judges to provide more experience to sideline officiating. Currently, the touch judges are employed on a part time basis. This will ensure three experienced first grade referees will be on the field at all times.

ARLC Chairman Peter V'landys AM said the Commission's decision would address ongoing issues around wrestling and slow play the balls.

"The decision shouldn't been seen as taking one referee out it should be that we are using three full time experienced referees controlling the game which will ensure greater surveillance of the ruck and the wrestle," he said.

"This decision will significantly reduce the number of stoppages in games and showcase more open unstructured play for the benefit of fans.

"These decisions address the issue of wrestling and slowing the ruck down which has been the biggest issue in the game.

"It's clear the current system hasn't effectively addressed the issue of wrestling in the game. Reverting to one referee together with the new six again rule gives us a chance to speed up the ruck and create more free flowing rugby league."

"Giving the attacking team six more tackles for a ruck infringement will be a significant deterrent to slowing the ruck."

"No team is going to want to defend multiple sets of tackles without a stoppage in play. This is the greatest disincentive for what has become habitual ruck infringements."

The NRL is the only rugby league competition in the world that uses two referees and the game will now be internationally aligned

Mr V'landys said the Commission had also taken into account the view of fans when making the decision.

"When I became Chairman, I said I would listen to the fans. Last year we conducted a fan survey and the overwhelming majority of fans said they wanted to go back to one referee and their views should be taken on board."

The Commission has given a commitment that all 22 full time referees will be retained for the remainder of the season and there is no intent to reduce that number in 2021.

The Commission will review the one referee model at the end of the year to determine whether it remains a permanent fixture for future seasons.

PRLMO statement: one referee system on trial for 2020

PRLMO Media Release, 22 May 2020

The Australian Rugby League Commission (ARLC) and the Professional Rugby League Match Officials (PRLMO) today reached an agreement to resolve its dispute ahead of the resumption of the 2020 NRL competition on May 28.

After a meeting between Australian Rugby League Commission Chairman Peter V'landys AM and the referee's union today, it was agreed:

One referee will officiate NRL Competition Matches for the remainder of the 2020 season on a trial basis;

- A minimum of 22 full-time referee positions will be retained in 2020 and 2021;
- A review of the new system will be conducted when the season ends by a working group consisting of representatives of players, coaches, referees and NRL management;
- Its recommendations will be presented to the ARLC Commission for their good faith consideration in determining the future officiating model for the NRL Competition.

Silvio Del Vecchio, Chairman of the PRLMO said:

"We are pleased that we have a solution that gets us all to the end of this season. We always said that the game will go ahead next week, and it will, that's what we always wanted.

"It is a constructive sign that the NRL have agreed to do this on a trial basis until the end of the year. Our case in the Fair Work Commission will be resumed, if necessary, and can be revisited, following the ARLC Commission's response to the Working Group's deliberations at the end of the season."



NRL update on integrity matters

NRL Media Release, 22 May 2020

The National Rugby League (NRL) can provide the following update on integrity matters:

BREACH NOTICES

Cody Walker (South Sydney Rabbitohs)

The NRL today issued Cody Walker with a breach notice which alleges he brought the game into disrepute when he intervened in a street fight in Casino, NSW in late 2019.

The breach notice proposes a two-match suspension, to be served in Rounds 3 and 4, and a fine of \$15,000 (with payment to be suspended for 12 months).

Walker has five business days to respond to the Breach Notice but is provisionally suspended from playing during the response period.

South Sydney Rabbitohs

The NRL today issued the South Sydney Rabbitohs with a breach notice in relation to an alleged failure to promptly disclose the incident involving Walker.

All Clubs and club officials have a duty to report any incident which may lead to a breach of NRL rules, including suspected breaches, and NRL Clubs are responsible for ensuring compliance.

The NRL proposes South Sydney be fined \$20,000. The Club has five business days to respond to the Breach Notice.

DETERMINATIONS

Josh Addo-Carr (Melbourne Storm)

Following careful consideration of Addo-Carr's response, the NRL today determined it will impose the proposed sanction previously outlined in Addo-Carr's breach notice.

Addo-Carr has been fined \$50,000 (60 per cent suspended for 12 months) and suspended for one match (suspended for 12 months).

Latrell Mitchell (South Sydney Rabbitohs)

Following careful consideration of Mitchell's response, the NRL today determined it will impose the proposed sanction previously outlined in Mitchell's breach notice.

Mitchell has been fined \$50,000 (60 per cent suspended for 12 months) and suspended for one match (suspended for 12 months).

Tyrone Roberts-Davis (Newcastle Knights)

Following careful consideration of Roberts-Davis' response, the NRL today determined it will impose the proposed sanction previously outlined in Roberts-Davis' breach notice.

Roberts-Davis has been fined \$10,000 (60 per cent suspended for 12 months) and suspended for one match (suspended for 12 months).

NRL statement: Bronson Xerri

NRL Media Release, 26 May 2020

The National Rugby League (NRL) has today provisionally suspended Cronulla Sharks player Bronson Xerri under the NRL's Anti-Doping Policy.

The Provisional Suspension Notice asserts that Mr Xerri returned a positive A-sample for exogenous Testosterone, Androsterone, Etiocholanolone and 5b-androstane-3a,17b-diol which are prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the NRL's Anti-Doping Policy. He was tested by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) on 25 November 2019.

Mr Xerri is prohibited from participating in any WADA compliant sport, including rugby league, while the provisional suspension is in place.

Under the Anti-Doping Policy, Mr Xerri now has the opportunity to have his B-sample analysed.

The NRL has spoken with Mr Xerri and advised him of the support services available to him.

The NRL will not be making further comment while this process is underway.

Rugby League: That's The Way It Was

A rugby league history podcast

Produced by Tony Peterson, hosted by Rob Corra



The 1970's Ashes Tour of Australia
The Super League War
The Sydney Second Division
The History of Rugby League in France
Newtown 1984-2019
The birth of a Super Coach - Jack Gibson
Raper, a Rugby League Family
The Dogs of War - Canterbury 1984-1987

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leagueunlimited.com/radio

THE FRONT ROW

GAME DAY

ROUND 3 MATCH PROGRAM

TEAM LISTS · MATCH DETAILS & STATS · PREVIEWS

**WEEKLY
TIPS
Round 3**

Tim Costello

Broncos
Cowboys
Roosters
Dragons
Tigers
Storm
Knights
Bulldogs

Rob Crosby

Broncos
Titans
Roosters
Dragons
Tigers
Storm
Knights
Sea Eagles

Andrew Ferguson

Eels
Cowboys
Rabbitohs
Warriors
Tigers
Storm
Knights
Sea Eagles

Steven Williams

Broncos
Cowboys
Rabbitohs
Dragons
Tigers
Storm
Knights
Sea Eagles

Andrew Jackson

Broncos
Cowboys
Rabbitohs
Warriors
Tigers
Storm
Knights
Sea Eagles

Sam Bourke

Broncos
Cowboys
Roosters
Dragons
Sharks
Storm
Panthers
Sea Eagles

Justin Davies

Eels
Cowboys
Rabbitohs
Dragons
Tigers
Storm
Panthers
Sea Eagles

Josh Robertson

Eels
Cowboys
Roosters
Dragons
Tigers
Raiders
Panthers
Sea Eagles

Adam Huxtable

Broncos
Cowboys
Roosters
Warriors
Sharks
Storm
Knights
Sea Eagles

Jeff Dickinson-Fox

Broncos
Cowboys
Roosters
Dragons
Tigers
Storm
Knights
Sea Eagles

Rick Edgerton

Broncos
Cowboys
Roosters
Dragons
Tigers
Storm
Knights
Sea Eagles

BRISBANE BRONCOS



PARRAMATTA EELS

Jamayne ISAAKO	1	FULLBACK	1	Clinton GUTHERSON
Corey OATES	2	WING	2	Maika SIVO
Kotoni STAGGS	3	CENTRE	3	Michael JENNINGS
Darius BOYD	4	CENTRE	4	Waqā BLAKE
Jesse ARTHARS	5	WING	5	Blake FERGUSON
Anthony MILFORD	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Dylan BROWN
Brodie CROFT	7	HALFBACK	7	Mitchell MOSES
Thomas FLEGLER	8	FRONT ROW	8	Reagan CAMPBELL-GILLARD
Jake TURPIN	9	HOOKER	9	Reed MAHONEY
Payne HAAS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Junior PAULO
Alex GLENN	11	SECOND ROW	11	Shaun LANE
Jamil HOPOATE	12	SECOND ROW	12	Ryan MATTERSON
Patrick CARRIGAN	13	LOCK	13	Marata NIUKORE
Herbie FARNWORTH	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Brad TAKAIRANGI
Joe OFAHENGAUE	15		15	Ray STONE
Rhys KENNEDY	16		16	Kane EVANS
Ethan BULLEMOR	17		17	Peni TEREPO
Tesi NIU	18	RESERVES	18	Oregon KAUFUSI
Xavier COATES	19		19	George JENNINGS
Thomas DEARDEN	20		20	Jaeman SALMON
Matthew LODGE	21		21	David GOWER

ANTHONY SEIBOLD

COACH

BRAD ARTHUR

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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#NRLBroncosEels

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Thursday 28 May 2020
KICKOFF	7:50pm AEST
VENUE	Suncorp Stadium Milton, QLD
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE 4BC BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Gerard SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Belinda SHARPE Phil HENDERSON
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Beau SCOTT

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	58 matches	Broncos 34, Eels 23 (D1)
AT SUNCORP	20 matches	Broncos 13, Eels 7

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Finals W1	Eels 58-0	Bankwest
2019	Round 24	Broncos 17-16	Suncorp
2019	Round 14	Eels 38-10	Bankwest
2018	Round 12	Broncos 18-10	Suncorp
2017	Round 25	Eels 52-34	Suncorp
2017	Round 21	Eels 28-14	ANZ
2016	Round 23	Broncos 38-16	Suncorp
2016	Round 1	Broncos 17-4	Pirtek
2015	Round 8	Broncos 28-16	Suncorp
2014	Round 5	Eels 25-18	Suncorp

BIGGEST WINS

BRONCOS:	54-14 at Suncorp, 2005 Round 5
EELS:	58-0 at Bankwest, 2019 Finals W1

CURRENT FORM

BRONCOS	W W
EELS:	W W

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Broncos v Roosters, Suncorp	Thu 4 Jun, 7:50pm
Eels v Sea Eagles, Bankwest	Sat 6 Jun, 5:30pm

Match Preview

with Hamish Parker

A battle in Brisbane as the season kicks off... again.

On Thursday night, the wait will finally be over. The Broncos and Eels will kick off Round 3 of the 2020 NRL Telstra Premiership at Suncorp Stadium, more than 2 months since the conclusion of Round 2. Both teams will be looking to keep their perfect season record intact, and the Broncos will be out for revenge after last year's embarrassing 58-0 defeat in Week 1 of the Finals at the hands of the Eels. It all sets up for what is a mouth-watering clash to reboot the 2020 season.

Brisbane looked in stellar touch in the opening fortnight of the competition and they will be hoping they can pick up where they left off before the season hiatus. Halfback Brodie Croft's injury in their Round 2 game against South Sydney has proven to have little effect given the break - as such, he is named to start his third game in Brisbane colours. The Broncos also welcome back club captain Alex Glenn, who will start in the second row. David Fifita is a big loss for Thursday's home team, with his return up to six weeks away. Jamil Hopoate steps into the vacant starting second row position left by Fifita. Prop forward Matt Lodge has been named in the reserves in jersey number 21 - but in a boost for the Broncos, Lodge is expected to make his return from injury via the bench, with Ethan Bullemor likely to drop out of the named 17.

The Eels also started the season with a perfect record, winning a tough and gritty game against the Bulldogs before putting on a show in the last 20 minutes against the Titans to run away with the win in comfortable fashion. Hooker Reed Mahoney will be available to play, following a foot injury which occurred in their win over Gold Coast. Marata Niukore will start at lock in place of Nathan Brown.

Both teams have a perfect early season record on the line on Thursday night. The Broncos looked as though they were in terrific form to start the season and they will be looking for revenge against this Eels side. Brisbane looked as though they were in cruise control for the majority of both of their matches, however they did seem to fade out towards the back end of both - and this could be a concern if it is to happen again come Thursday night. Parramatta are known for their attacking prowess, as was shown in their thumping of the Broncos in last year's finals series, as well as their last match against the Titans, where they ran in 26 points in the last 20 minutes. If the home team are unable to play this game for the full 80 minutes, the Eels could potentially unleash as the clock ticks down late in the contest.

Who to watch: Broncos young-gun centre Kotoni Staggs was in scintillating form to begin theseason before the temporary shutdown. Staggs saw his praise from many and there were even some early talks of a NSW Origin jumper. He's one of the most talented young players in the game with a large skill set, as well as plenty of speed and strength to go along with it. The centre has also scored four tries in the opening two rounds and will be hoping to see his tryscoring form continue into Round 3.

For the Eels, Dylan Brown is an incredibly exciting young player with a huge future ahead of him in the game. His performance against the Titans in Round 2 was outstanding and he will be hoping he can back that up in Round 3 - albeit more than two months later. A dangerous ball-runner as well as a silky ball-player, Brown can be difficult to contain, especially if the Broncos start to fade out towards the back end of the game.

Favourite: The odds are dead even for this clash - nothing separates the two sides. It goes to show what an phenomenal restart match this shapes up as.

Tip: The Eels haven't been particularly convincing in the opening two rounds and maybe by no fault of their own. The opening two rounds of the draw had them up against two teams that were expected to struggle in 2020. Whilst they did manage to win both games, they were in a real contest against the Bulldogs in Round 1, and only really managed to take advantage of their mountains of possession against the Titans in the last 20 minutes of Round 2. Brisbane are frankly better quality than that and won't allow the Eels that amount of possession on their own line. They looked in control in the first two rounds and despite the loss of David Fifita, they still have a very impressive forward pack that will line up on Thursday night. **Broncos by 8.**

NORTH QUEENSLAND COWBOYS



GOLD COAST TITANS

Valentine HOLMES	1
Kyle FELDT	2
Justin O'NEILL	3
Esan MARSTERS	4
Ben HAMPTON	5
Scott DRINKWATER	6
Jake CLIFFORD	7
Josh MCGUIRE	8
Jake GRANVILLE	9
Jordan MCLEAN	10
Mitchell DUNN	11
Coen HESS	12
Jason TAUMALOLO	13
Reece ROBSON	14
John ASIATA	15
Shane WRIGHT	16
Francis MOLO	17
Corey JENSEN	18
Tom GILBERT	19
Tom OPACIC	20
Reuben COTTER	21

FULLBACK	1
WING	2
CENTRE	3
CENTRE	4
WING	5
FIVE-EIGHTH	6
HALFBACK	7
FRONT ROW	8
HOOKER	9
FRONT ROW	10
SECOND ROW	11
SECOND ROW	12
LOCK	13
INTERCHANGE	14
	15
	16
	17
RESERVES	18
	19
	20
	21

Tyrone ROBERTS
Anthony DON
Dale COPLEY
Tyrone PEACHEY
Phillip SAMI
Ashley TAYLOR
Jamal FOGARTY
Moeaki FOTUAIKA
Nathan PEATS
Sam LISONE
Kevin PROCTOR
Keegan HIPGRAVE
Jai ARROW
Erin CLARK
Jai WHITBREAD
Jarrold WALLACE
Shannon BOYD
Bryce CARTWRIGHT
Mitch REIN
Brian KELLY
Jonus PEARSON

PAUL GREEN

COACH

JUSTIN HOLBROOK

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

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

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 29 May 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	Henry PERENARA
TOUCH JUDGES	Tim ALOUANI-ROBY Drew OULTRAM
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	23 matches	Cowboys 15, Titans 8
AT QCBS	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 12	Cowboys 6-4	Cbus Super
2019	Round 8	Cowboys 28-14	1300SMILES
2018	Round 25	Cowboys 30-26	Cbus Super
2018	Round 7	Cowboys 26-14	1300SMILES
2017	Round 13	Cowboys 20-8	1300SMILES
2017	Round 4	Cowboys 32-26	Cbus Super
2016	Round 26	Cowboys 32-16	1300SMILES
2015	Round 26	Cowboys 42-12	1300SMILES
2014	Round 21	Cowboys 28-8	1300SMILES
2014	Round 4	Titans 13-12	Cbus Super

BIGGEST WINS

COWBOYS	42-12 at 1300SMILES, 2015 Round 26
TITANS	37-18 at Skilled, 2010 Round 23 31-12 at Skilled, 2013 Round 12

CURRENT FORM

COWBOYS	L W
TITANS	L L

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Cowboys v Sharks, QCB Stadium	Sat 6 Jun, 7:35pm
Titans v Tigers, Suncorp	Sun 7 Jun, 6:30pm

Match Preview

with Jeff Dickinson-Fox

Both the Cowboys and the Titans have plenty to play for as North Queensland is still searching for their first win at their new home and the Gold Coast is yet to win in 2020.

In what comes as a surprise both Gavin Cooper and Michael Morgan will not be lining up for the Cowboys, while Titans coach Justin Holbrook has rung the changes for just his third NRL game in charge of the club.

In the first week back at Cowboys training since round two Gavin Cooper strained his calf, and with limited time for him to train before round three North Queensland coach Paul Green has declared Cooper's "not worth the risk" to play this week. Morgan continues to recover from shoulder surgery. Mitchell Dunn slots into the second-row the Cowboys will look to their new captain Jordan McLean and the likes of Josh McGuire, Kyle Feldt, Valentine Holmes and Justin O'Neill to replace the experience of Cooper and Morgan.

For the Gold Coast, the Phillip Sami at fullback experiment is over with Tyrone Roberts shifted from the halves to cover the long-term absence of the injured AJ Brimson. Ash Taylor becomes the five-eighth and Holbrook has turned to 26-year-old Jamal Fogarty to fill the halfback spot. With Kallum Watkins having left the Titans to return home to UK to deal with family concerns, his centre position is filled by Dale Copley.

Kevin Proctor missed round two and is slated to make his return against the Cowboys in the second-row, along with Keegan Hipgrave who hasn't played a game in the NRL since round 13 last year due to repeated concussions.

Shannon Boyd is to get his first taste of NRL in 2020 off the bench and promising young forward Moeaki Fotuauka returns to the starting side at prop. Bryce Cartwright and Brian Kelly have been demoted to the extended bench. Utility Erin Clark becomes Titan No.153 off the bench.

This will be the first time for both teams to show how they'll adjust to the latest NRL rule change where, put briefly, a defensive ruck infringement such as holding down, hand on the ball, crowding at the play-the-ball or a leg pull will result in an immediate restart of the tackle count.

With one less referee on the field from now on and an emphasis from the NRL on faster play and fewer stoppages, just how much will these players feel encouraged to test the limits? Is Jason Taumalolo now officially unstoppable? In a year will Taumalolo rack up 450 run metres from one match and we'll consider it normal? The time for questions is just about over, finally!

North Queensland got their only win this season against the Bulldogs at ANZ Stadium, where they raced to a 22-6 half-time lead and hung on for a 24-16 result. The Titans meanwhile have stood under the posts more than any other team in 2020, as they conceded 24 points against the Raiders in round one and 46 points against the Eels in round two.

Who to watch: In what might be a silver lining for North Queensland from the forced break due to coronavirus, it's given Valentine Holmes almost an extra two months to adjust his training and body to rugby league. Back in March we saw some brief flashes of the Valentine Holmes we all saw flourish in 2018 and the Cowboys will need to see more of that high level of play to stake their claim at a return to the finals and premierships contention.

It's taken a while for Moeaki Fotuauka to get ready to unleash for the 2020 season, but the gap between round two and three should have him ready to show more of what has made his name earmarked as a player of the future. The last time he took on North Queensland he was on a mission to be the best forward on the park and the prop's 20 runs for 217 metres and 39 tackles justified his effort. Named to make his first start of 2020, now we get to find out just how much better this 20-year-old from New Zealand can be.

Favourite: Despite missing Morgan and Cooper, the Cowboys have been heavily backed to keep the Gold Coast winless after three rounds. With this their second match at the new Queensland Country Bank Stadium after a loss to the Broncos in the 2020 season opener, the club will be keen to get that first win at home on the board.

My tip: This contest could come down to whether North Queensland will produce some high-quality football given the break, a new spine combination and the absence of two key veterans. One thing the Titans have that can't be game planned for is unpredictability, as the shakeup given to the team is bound to produce a different style of play. If the Titans can stay in the contest after 60 minutes, whichever squad has stayed in the better shape since round two could go a long way to winning this match. I'll back the Cowboys, as even if they can get some flashes of brilliance from Taumalolo and Holmes it's hard to think the Titans will be able to top that in their current state. **Cowboys by 4.**

SYDNEY ROOSTERS



SOUTH SYDNEY RABBITOHS

James TEDESCO	1	FULLBACK	1	Latrell MITCHELL
Daniel TUPOU	2	WING	2	Dane GAGAI
Josh MORRIS	3	CENTRE	3	Campbell GRAHAM
Joseph MANU	4	CENTRE	4	Braidon BURNS
Brett MORRIS	5	WING	5	Alex JOHNSTON
Luke KEARY	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Troy DARGAN
Kyle FLANAGAN	7	HALFBACK	7	Adam REYNOLDS
Jared WAEREA-HARGREAVES	8	FRONT ROW	8	Tevita TATOLA
Jake FRIEND	9	HOOKER	9	Damien COOK
Isaac LIU	10	FRONT ROW	10	Thomas BURGESS
Boyd CORDNER	11	SECOND ROW	11	Jaydn SU'A
Angus CRICHTON	12	SECOND ROW	12	Cameron MURRAY
Victor RADLEY	13	LOCK	13	Liam KNIGHT
Sam VERRILLS	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Mark NICHOLLS
Sitili TUPOUNIUA	15		15	Ethan LOWE
Nat BUTCHER	16		16	Bayley SIRONEN
Lindsay COLLINS	17		17	Patrick MAGO
Siosuia TAKUEIAHO	18	RESERVES	18	Bryson GOODWIN
Ryan HALL	19		19	Tom AMONE
Lachlan LAM	20		20	James ROBERTS
Poasa FAAMAUSILI	21		21	Keon KOLOMATANGI

TRENT ROBINSON

COACH

Wayne BENNETT

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

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SCRUMS

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#NRLRoostersSouths

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 29 May 2020
KICKOFF	7:55pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League
LISTEN	Kayo Sports ABC Grandstand
LIVE BLOG	2GB SYD, 4BC BNE LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Ashley KLEIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Chris BUTLER Peter GOUGH
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	222 matches, Roosters 115, Rabbitohs 102 (5D)
AT BANKWEST	Inaugural match

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Finals W1	Roosters 30-6	SCG
2019	Round 25	Rabbitohs 16-10	ANZ
2019	Round 1	Rabbitohs 26-16	SCG
2018	Finals W3	Roosters 12-4	Allianz
2018	Round 22	Roosters 18-14	ANZ
2018	Round 6	Rabbitohs 26-14	Allianz
2017	Round 18	Roosters 14-12	Allianz
2017	Round 4	Roosters 20-6	ANZ
2016	Round 6	Roosters 17-10	ANZ
2016	Round 1	Rabbitohs 42-10	Allianz

BIGGEST WINS

ROOSTERS	62-0 at SFS, 1996 Round 6
RABBITOHS	50-0 at SSG, 1952 Round 8

CURRENT FORM

ROOSTERS	L L
RABBITOHS	W L

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Broncos v Roosters, Suncorp	Thu 4 Jun, 7:50pm
Storm v Rabbitohs, AAMI	Fri 5 Jun, 7:55pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Historic rivals clash under historic circumstances.

Having been scheduled to face off in Round 3 prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Sydney Roosters will resume their long-standing feud with the South Sydney Rabbitohs on Friday evening.

Chasing their first points of the season following narrow losses to Penrith (14-20) and Manly (8-9) back in March, the Sydney Roosters will be determined to continue a positive record over their foundation foes having won 9 of 17 clashes during Trent Robinson's tenure.

Set to make their first appearance at Bankwest Stadium after being designated the Western Sydney venue for the foreseeable future, a loss will see the reigning premiers start the season with three straight losses for only the third time in the NRL era.

Welcoming skipper Boyd Cordner back into the fold after being rested from the World Club Challenge and opening two rounds, new signing Josh Morris will make his club debut in the centres after gaining a release from the final year of his contract at Cronulla.

Returning to the field following an interrupted stand-down period marred by incidents featuring some of the club's highest profile stars, the South Sydney Rabbitohs will be out to let their actions do the talking on Friday night.

Starting 2020 with a win over Cronulla (22-18) followed by a narrow loss to Brisbane (18-22), coach Wayne Bennett will be without one of his best attacking players after Cody Walker was handed a two-match ban for failing to inform the NRL of an off-field incident last December.

As a result Troy Dargan will make his NRL debut alongside captain Adam Reynolds in the halves, while former Brisbane and North Queensland forward Patrick Mago will come onto the bench for his first appearance in red and green colours.

Debuting with the Roosters as a teenager before going on to win back-to-back premierships in 2018-19, superstar outside back Latrell Mitchell faces off against his former club for the first time in the highly anticipated clash.

Who to watch: Having spent time in the lower grades at Parramatta and Brisbane before heading to South Sydney over the off-season, 22-year-old playmaker Troy Dargan will face a tough initiation to first grade against the defending premiers. Thrown into the number six jersey in the wake of Cody Walker's two-match suspension, the former Australian Schoolboys and Cook Islands representative will be determined to make the most of his opportunity and stake a case for regular game time going forward. Contracted to the Rabbitohs until the end of next season, look for Dargan to create plenty of chances with the ball and hold his own in defence.

Nine weeks after linking with the reigning premiers from Cronulla, veteran centre Josh Morris will make his long-awaited debut for the Tricolours. Joining the Eastern Suburbs outfit as a replacement for prodigious talent Latrell Mitchell, look for Morris to bring substance over individual brilliance to a backline brimming with talent. Reuniting with his twin brother, Brett, following previous stints at St George Illawarra and Canterbury-Bankstown, the 33-year-old two-time Dally M Centre of the Year recipient will be determined to finish his career on a high by leading the Roosters to their third straight title.

Favourite: While both teams have plenty to improve upon based on their performances in the opening two rounds, the absence of Cody Walker has the Roosters favoured to come away with two premiership points.

Tip: Boosted by the return of captain Boyd Cordner and club debutant Josh Morris in the backline, the Roosters are expected to capitalise upon their depleted rivals. **Roosters by 12.**

WARRIORS



ST GEORGE ILLAWARRA DRAGONS

Roger TUIVASA-SHECK	1	FULLBACK	1	Matthew DUFTY
Patrick HERBERT	2	WING	2	Jordan PEREIRA
Peta HIKU	3	CENTRE	3	Brayden WILIAME
Gerard BEALE	4	CENTRE	4	Zac LOMAX
Ken MAUMALO	5	WING	5	Mikaele RAVALAWA
Kodi NIKORIMA	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Corey NORMAN
Blake GREEN	7	HALFBACK	7	Ben HUNT
Lachlan BURR	8	FRONT ROW	8	Korbin SIMS
Wayde EGAN	9	HOOKER	9	Cameron McINNES
Jamayne TAUNOA-BROWN	10	FRONT ROW	10	Paul VAUGHAN
Isaiah PAPALI'I	11	SECOND ROW	11	Tyson FRIZELL
Tohu HARRIS	12	SECOND ROW	12	Tariq SIMS
Adam BLAIR	13	LOCK	13	James GRAHAM
Karl LAWTON	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Josh KERR
King VUNIYAYAWA	15		15	Blake LAWRIE
Agnatius PAASI	16		16	Tyrell FUIMAONO
Eliesa KATOA	17		17	Euan AITKEN
Chanel HARRIS-TAVITA	18	RESERVES	18	Trent MERRIN
Josh CURRAN	20		19	Adam CLUNE
Adam POMPEY	21		20	Jacob HOST
Jack MURCHIE	22		21	Jackson FORD

STEPHEN KEARNEY

COACH

PAUL McGREGOR

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

PENALTIES

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SCRUMS

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#NRLWarriorsDragons

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 30 May 2020
KICKOFF	3:00pm AEST
VENUE	Central Coast Stadium Gosford, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Chris SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI Liam KENNEDY
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	29 matches	Dragons 21, Warriors 8
AT GOSFORD	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 9	Warriors 26-18	Suncorp
2018	Round 21	Warriors 18-12	WIN
2018	Round 7	Warriors 20-12	Mt Smart
2017	Round 11	Dragons 30-14	FMG Waikato
2017	Round 4	Dragons 26-12	UOW Jubilee
2016	Round 9	Warriors 26-10	Mt Smart
2015	Round 22	Dragons 36-0	Westpac
2014	Round 7	Dragons 20-10	WIN Jubilee
2014	Round 2	Dragons 31-12	Eden Park
2013	Round 26	Dragons 19-10	WIN

BIGGEST WINS

WARRIORS	34-6 at Ericsson, 2008 Round 24 44-16 at Mt Smart, 2007 Round 18
DRAGONS	54-0 at WIN, 2000 Round 14

CURRENT FORM

WARRIORS	L L
DRAGONS	L L

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Panthers v Warriors, Campbelltown	Fri 5 Jun, 6pm
Bulldogs v Dragons, Bankwest	Mon 8 Jun, 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Early season battlers eye first points.

Enduring one of the toughest seasons of any club in rugby league history, the New Zealand Warriors will be looking for much-needed respite when they host the St George Illawarra Dragons on Saturday afternoon.

Forced to relocate to Australia due to the global impacts of COVID-19, the New Zealand Warriors have so far struggled on the field in 2020 going down to Newcastle (0-20) and Canberra (6-20) in their opening two matches prior to the season being suspended.

Suffering a devastating injury toll with a number of specialist forwards unavailable for selection, coach Stephen Kearney has responded to the hand he has been dealt by naming Gerard Beale, Karl Lawton and Agnatus Paasi for their first appearances of the season, while elevating New Zealand international Kodi Nikorima into the halves at the expense of Chanel Harris-Tavita.

Granted conditional approval by the NRL to sign a rival middle forward to a short-term loan due to their injury toll and relocation to Australia, the Warriors have yet to finalise a deal despite being linked with Tigers duo Matt Eisenhuth and Russell Packer.

Doing enough to win both their opening matches only to finish on the wrong side of the scoreboard against Wests Tigers (14-24) and Penrith (28-32), the St George Illawarra Dragons will be looking for consistency over the course of 80 minutes to get their first win.

Returning to the Central Coast for the first time in two decades, coach Paul McGregor will be hoping his side's historical dominance over the Warriors comes to the fore on Saturday, after winning 21 of 29 previous clashes.

Welcoming captain Cameron McInnes, Tariq Sims, Korbin Sims, Mikaele Ravalawa and Euan Aitken back into the line-up, speedster Matt Dufty has retained his place at fullback following a dynamic display against the Panthers prior to season being suspended.

Joining the joint venture over the off-season with more than 500 combined first class games in experience, Trent Merrin and Issac Luke have been left out side in favour of young guns Josh Kerr and Tyrell Fuimaono.

Who to watch: Tasked with leading the Warriors during the most turbulent period in the club's history, fullback Roger Tuivasa-Sheck will be determined to make his actions count on the field. Regarded as one of the finest number ones in the world as evidenced by his Dally M Player of the Year recognition two years ago, the 26-year-old shapes as the club's primary attacking threat through his dazzling footwork and involvement across the park. Averaging over 180 metres per game in his first two appearances this season, expect Tuivasa-Sheck to turn a half chance into a full-fledged opportunity if given an inch on Saturday afternoon.

Handed a lifeline by the joint venture after falling out of favour at Penrith, Tyrell Fuimaono will be aiming to establish himself as a regular first grader in 2020. Producing the finest performance of his young career prior to the season being suspended, the 24-year-old versatile forward will be eager to build upon that showing and give the Dragons a game-breaking spark off the bench. Earmarked as player with plenty to offer during his junior days, look for Fuimaono to make an impact on Saturday afternoon with the ball in hand.

Favourite: Boosted by the return of captain McInnes and the Sims brothers, the Dragons are expected to prove too strong for the wounded Warriors.

Tip: Showing plenty of attacking potential in their first two performances back in March, the Dragons should scorch their vagrant opponents in a high-scoring affair. **Dragons by 14.**

CRONULLA-SUTHERLAND SHARKS



WESTS TIGERS

Will KENNEDY	1	FULLBACK	1	Adam DOUEIHI
Sione KATOA	2	WING	2	David NOFOALUMA
Josh DUGAN	3	CENTRE	3	Joseph LEILUA
Jesse RAMIEN	4	CENTRE	4	Moses MBYE
Ronaldo MULITALO	5	WING	5	Robert JENNINGS
Shaun JOHNSON	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Benji MARSHALL
Chad TOWNSEND	7	HALFBACK	7	Luke BROOKS
Andrew FIFITA	8	FRONT ROW	8	Josh ALOIAI
Blayke BRAILEY	9	HOOKER	9	Harry GRANT
Aaron WOODS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Thomas MIKAELE
Briton NIKORA	11	SECOND ROW	11	Luke GARNER
Wade GRAHAM	12	SECOND ROW	12	Luciano LEILUA
Jack WILLIAMS	13	LOCK	13	Alex TWAL
Connor TRACEY	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Oliver CLARK
Braden HAMLIN-UELE	15		15	Billy WALTERS
Toby RUDOLF	16		16	Chris LAWRENCE
Scott SORENSEN	17		17	Alex SEYFARTH
Billy MAGOULIAS	18	RESERVES	18	Josh REYNOLDS
Matt MOYLAN	19		19	Matt EISENHUTH
Royce HUNT	20		20	Zane MUSGROVE
Siosifa TALAKAI	21		21	Michael CHEE-KAM

JOHN MORRIS

COACH

MICHAEL MAGUIRE

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PENALTIES

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SCRUMS

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#NRLSharksTigers

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 30 May 2020
KICKOFF	5:30pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Adam GEE
TOUCH JUDGES	Kasey BADGER Jon STONE
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Ben LOWE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	31 matches	Tigers 17, Sharks 13 (D1)
AT BANKWEST	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 25	Sharks 25-8	Leichhardt
2018	Round 14	Sharks 24-16	PointsBet
2017	Round 15	Sharks 24-22	SC Group
2017	Round 9	Sharks 22-16	Leichhardt
2016	Round 5	Sharks 34-26	Campbelltown
2015	Round 24	Sharks 40-18	Remondis
2014	Round 26	Tigers 26-10	Leichhardt
2014	Round 10	Tigers 22-20	Remondis
2013	Round 17	Sharks 36-22	Remondis
2013	Round 9	Sharks 30-6	Allianz

BIGGEST WINS

SHARKS	32-6 at Leichhardt, 2008 Round 25
TIGERS	56-10 at Toyota, 2009 Round 23

CURRENT FORM

SHARKS	L L
TIGERS	W L

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Cowboys v Sharks, QCB Stadium	Sat 6 Jun, 7:35pm
Titans v Tigers, Suncorp	Sun 7 Jun, 6:30pm

Match Preview

with Adam Huxtable

Tigers "Grant"-ed new lease on life as Sharks lose star centre at the 11th hour

The Sharks and Wests Tigers will take the field at Bankwest Stadium on Saturday both looking very different to when they last took the field over two months ago before the season went on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the Tigers changes may be larger in number than their opponents, they are also for much more orthodox reasons. Off-season recruit Adam Doueihi gets first taste of his preferred position of fullback, with usual guaranteed starter Corey Thompson being sensationally dropped altogether from the Tigers side named on Tuesday. Captain Moses Mbye returns in the centres after missing the first two rounds through injury, while Harry Grant will get his first start at hooker in first grade after completing a swap deal with new Storm centre Paul Momirovski just before the hiatus. Thomas Mikaele moves to the starting side, pushing Alex Twal to lock and Elijah Taylor out of the side. Billy Walters moves back to the bench to accommodate Grant, while Josh Reynolds, Zane Musgrove and Michael Chee-Kam have been named in the reserves - Oliver Clark, Chris Lawrence and debutant Alex Seyfarth instead coming into the side on the bench.

Sharks fans will be hoping for the game on Saturday to come quickly, to take their minds off the extraordinary news that centre Bronson Xerri is likely to serve a four-year ban from professional sport due to a drug test in November last year returning positive for banned substances. The news means that the four centres the Sharks had in their roster at the start of the year have now become two, after Josh Morris linked up with brother Brett at the Roosters. Team-wise, it means that Will Kennedy will keep his spot at fullback, while Josh Dugan moves to the centres and Sione Katoa will start on the wing. Briton Nikora, who enjoyed a breakout season in 2019, returns from injury to partner captain Wade Graham in the second row, pushing Scott Sorensen back to the bench and Newtown title hero Billy Magoulias out of the 17.

This shapes as one of the more intriguing matches of the round with extreme question marks hanging over both the Sharks and Tigers after both coming off losses in Round 2. The Tigers didn't have trouble finding the line in their opening fixtures however it was their defence that was the worrying sign, conceding 42 points against the Knights. They come up against a Sharks side which is arguably stronger on paper than the 17 that pushed competition heavyweights Melbourne all the way before succumbing to a late Cameron Smith penalty goal in March. The Tigers appear to be extremely outmatched in experience up front, with their forward pack boasting just 224 top grade combined matches compared to the Sharks 706. Wade Graham alone has played more NRL games than the entire Tigers starting forwards put together. The Tigers do however have one of the most experienced halves on their side in Benji Marshall, who was the best on field in Round 1 before dropping off somewhat in Round 2. You would think how well he combines with returning halfback Luke Brooks will be a big factor in whether the Tigers can get the 2 points or not.

Who to watch: I've already written that young hooker Harry Grant would be one for the punters to look out for this year, except that was a round one match between the Storm and Manly and he ended up being cut from the final Melbourne 17 prior to kick-off. There are long odds of that happening again come Saturday, with the youngster named to start in the Tigers' number 9 jumper. We already got a taste of him in action in some pre-season trial matches and it's fair to say he more than lived up to the hype. It's now up to him to replicate that form on the big stage, and it won't be just Tigers fans who'll be keenly watching every move of a man dubbed the long-term replacement to Cameron Smith at both the Storm and Maroons.

For the Sharks, Shaun Johnson will be looking to find the form we all know he is capable of after a mixed start to his new life in the shire in 2019. At his best he can single-handedly terrorise opposition defences with his scintillating footwork and running game, but at his worst he is guilty of drifting in and out of games and not taking enough control. That responsibility should mainly be on halves partner Chad Townsend, so for Shaun's sake hopefully he can be at his exciting best on Saturday.

Favourite: The Sharks come into this game as slight favourites to pick up their first win of the season with the bookies.

Tip: This is up there with the hardest games of the round to pick, thanks largely to the unknown of how much impact Harry Grant will have on the Tigers' already strong attack. If he has a blinder, I wouldn't be shocked to see the Tigers get up, however Cronulla have too much experience all over the park - particularly in the forwards - for me to tip against them. **Sharks by 10.**

MELBOURNE STORM



CANBERRA RAIDERS

Ryan PAPHUYZEN	1	FULLBACK	1	Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD
Suliasi VUNIVALU	2	WING	2	Bailey SIMONSSON
Marion SEVE	3	CENTRE	3	Jarrold CROKER
Justin OLAM	4	CENTRE	4	Curtis SCOTT
Josh ADDO-CARR	5	WING	5	Nick COTRIC
Cameron MUNSTER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Jack WIGHTON
Jahrome HUGHES	7	HALFBACK	7	George WILLIAMS
Jesse BROMWICH	8	FRONT ROW	8	Josh PAPALI'I
Cameron SMITH	9	HOOKER	9	Josh HODGSON
Nelson ASOFA-SOLOMONA	10	FRONT ROW	10	Dunamis LUI
Felise KAUFUSI	11	SECOND ROW	11	Joseph TAPINE
Kenneath BROMWICH	12	SECOND ROW	12	Elliott WHITEHEAD
Dale FINUCANE	13	LOCK	13	Corey HORSBURGH
Brandon SMITH	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Siliva HAVILI
Tino FA'ASUAMALEAUI	15		15	Emre GULER
Christian WELCH	16		16	Iosia SOLIOLA
Max KING	17		17	Michael OLDFIELD
Tom EISENHUTH	18	RESERVES	18	Jordan RAPANA
Brenko LEE	19		19	Matt FRAWLEY
Ryley JACKS	20		20	Kai O'DONNELL
Darryn SCHONIG	21		21	Tom STARLING

CRAIG BELLAMY

COACH

RICKY STUART

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PENALTIES

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SCRUMS

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#NRLStormRaiders

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 30 May 2020
KICKOFF	7:35pm AEST
VENUE	AAMI Park Melbourne, VIC
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Grant ATKINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Todd SMITH Gavin BADGER
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	46 matches	Storm 31, Raiders 13
AT AAMI	10 matches	Storm 5, Raiders 5

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Finals W1	Raiders 12-10	AAMI
2019	Round 22	Raiders 22-18	AAMI
2019	Round 2	Storm 22-10	GIO
2018	Round 20	Storm 44-10	AAMI
2017	Round 26	Storm 32-6	AAMI
2017	Round 20	Storm 20-14	GIO
2016	Finals W3	Storm 14-12	AAMI
2016	Round 23	Raiders 22-8	GIO
2015	Round 6	Storm 14-10	GIO
2014	Round 19	Storm 28-14	AAMI

BIGGEST WINS

STORM	68-4 at Canberra, 2013 Round 21
RAIDERS	40-12 at AAMI, 2012 Round 18

CURRENT FORM

STORM	W W
RAIDERS	W W

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Storm v Rabbitohs, AAMI Park	Fri 5 Jun, 7:55pm
Raiders v Knights, Campbeltown	Sun 7 Jun, 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Josh Robertson

The NRL's return hits Melbourne on Saturday night as the Melbourne Storm play host to the Canberra Raiders in what is set to be a tough clash as the season resumes for two of last season's top four at AAMI Park.

Melbourne have started the season with two wins in the opening two rounds - first over Manly where they impressed late at Brookvale, then went back-to-back with a scratchy win over Cronulla at Kogarah prior to the season suspension. The form of the opening two rounds is important to build on for the Storm who always start a season well and it could be expected that they would do that with this season restart.

The resumption of the season is set to be a test for the Storm who had their attempts to recommence their 'pre-season' hampered, having to spend a controversial period in Albury after COVID-19 restrictions meant that they couldn't start training in Victoria - and then were not welcomed in Albury with a local council motion banning them from the use of public grounds. Now comfortably back at home after a lifting of Victorian restrictions, the Storm will also need to deal with the changing rules that look like they could have a big effect on the grinding game that the Melbournians like to play.

The Raiders have also started the season with an unbeaten opening fortnight, with wins against the Titans at home in Canberra and the Warriors away on the Gold Coast. The upcoming clash against Melbourne will be their toughest match to date and will be a big test to restart the season. Last year's runners up will be looking to build on the form from those first two matches.

The season suspension has been mixed for Canberra, with several players coming into the anti-vaccination debate that hit the league, as well as the recent off-field contract drama featuring John Bateman. Onfield though, these matters shouldn't pose too much trouble. While he's not named in the 17 this week, the Raiders have been boosted by the return of Jordan Rapana who is back from a very brief stint in Japanese Rugby.

The Raiders have actually taken victory in both the last two clashes between the sides, with the latter of those two victories being in Week 1 of the 2019 NRL Finals Series, delivering the Raiders a home preliminary final.

Who to watch: Storm captain Cameron Smith will be the player to watch given his role as the second referee... (we kid). The Storm captain's work from dummy half will be important given the expected increase in pace of the game, and it will be interesting to see how the veteran provides quicker service out of dummy half. At 36, Smith isn't the sprightliest of dummy halves the League has, but his service is still one of the best in the game and will be a big benefit to Melbourne.

Englishman Josh Hodgson has been a revelation in the 9 jersey for the Raiders since moving to Australia. Hodgson has an uncanny knack of being able to find the weak spots out of dummy half for Canberra, and with the extra importance of the rake in the new "faster" game, his running from the play-the-ball and service to his big men is going to be ultra-important. The other factor that Hodgson is lethal at is the sneaky 1-on-1 steals which players are going to have to keep an extra eye on this season.

Favourite: Melbourne have been installed as the heavy favourites to win the game given their dominance at AAMI Park.

Tip: The Storm's strong record at AAMI Park notwithstanding, the Raiders have won their past two matches over the Storm with both having been in Melbourne. The Raiders look to me as if they will be able to exploit the faster game better than the Storm. The game will be tight, it will no doubt be fiery but the Raiders should take it narrowly. **Raiders by 4.**

PENRITH PANTHERS



NEWCASTLE KNIGHTS

Caleb AEKINS	1
Josh MANSOUR	2
Dean WHARE	3
Brent NADEN	4
Brian TO'O	5
Matt BURTON	6
Jarome LUAI	7
James TAMOU	8
Apisai KOROISAU	9
James FISHER-HARRIS	10
Viliame KIKAU	11
Kurt CAPEWELL	12
Isaah YEO	13
Stephen CRICHTON	14
Zane TETEVANO	15
Moses LEOTA	16
Liam MARTIN	17
Mitch KENNY	18
Billy BURNS	19
Kaide ELLIS	20
Charlie STAINES	21

FULLBACK	1
WING	2
CENTRE	3
CENTRE	4
WING	5
FIVE-EIGHTH	6
HALFBACK	7
FRONT ROW	8
HOOKER	9
FRONT ROW	10
SECOND ROW	11
SECOND ROW	12
LOCK	13
INTERCHANGE	14
	15
	16
	17
RESERVES	18
	19
	20
	21

Tex HOY
Edrick LEE
Enari TUALA
Gehamat SHIBASAKI
Hymel HUNT
Kurt MANN
Mitchell PEARCE
David KLEMMER
Connor WATSON
Daniel SAIFITI
Lachlan FITZGIBBON
Sione MATA'UTIA
Herman ESE'ESE
Chris RANDALL
Jacob SAIFITI
Tim GLASBY
Aidan GUERRA
Bradman BEST
Brodie JONES
Mason LINO
Pasami SAULO

IVAN CLEARY

COACH

ADAM O'BRIEN

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PENALTIES
SCRUMS

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#NRLPanthersKnights

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 31 May 2020
KICKOFF	4:05pm AEST
VENUE	Campbelltown Stadium Leumeah, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Ben CUMMINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Phil HENDERSON Chris BUTLER
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	49 matches	Knights 24, Panthers 22 (D3)
AT C'TOWN	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 25	Panthers 54-10	Panthers
2019	Round 2	Panthers 16-14	McDonald Jones
2018	Round 23	Knights 20-12	Panthers
2018	Round 10	Panthers 29-18	McDonald Jones
2017	Round 11	Panthers 30-20	McDonald Jones
2017	Round 4	Panthers 40-0	Pepper
2016	Round 23	Panthers 42-6	Hunter
2015	Round 26	Panthers 30-12	Pepper
2015	Round 4	Knights 26-14	Hunter
2014	Round 9	Panthers 32-10	Hunter

BIGGEST WINS

PANTHERS	54-10 at Panthers, 2019 Round 25
KNIGHTS	60-18 at Marathon, 2001 Round 26

CURRENT FORM

PANTHERS	W W
KNIGHTS	W W

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Panthers v Warriors, Campbelltown	Fri 5 Jun, 6pm
Raiders v Knights, Campbelltown	Sun 7 Jun, 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Andrew Jackson

Two undefeated surprise packets look to build off a perfect start.

Revenge is on the cards this week as the Knights look to avenge an embarrassing 54-10 last-start loss to the Panthers. Nathan Cleary was the star on that afternoon, scoring a club-record 34 points including four tries and nine goals. He won't be here this time around though as Dubbo junior Matt Burton takes the reigns.

Burton has just the one NRL game to his belt and while it wasn't the same record-breaking performance of Cleary's, in many ways it was just as impressive. The Sharks are a tough and gritty side renowned for bullying the opposition into defeat and a young kid on debut is the perfect target. But the 20-year old was unphased, beautifully executing his role by chiming in when he needed to and even setting up the opening try of the night with a well-timed grubber kick for Brent Naden.

This time around it is a different task ahead for Burton. Cleary won't be there and instead he will need to take charge along five-eighth Jarome Luai. Luai is still feeling his way into first grade too but the signs were positive in the opening two rounds as he upped his involvement, offering a second option to make Penrith's attack less predictable.

The Panthers had it easy against Newcastle in that final round clash last year but this Knights side this year looks a much more resilient outfit under the tutelage of Adam O'Brien. First up it was a 20-0 shutout of the Warriors and then a 42-24 thumping of the Tigers.

Albeit against bottom eight sides, the defensive effort against the men across the ditch would have been particularly pleasing given Newcastle's struggles on their own line in recent years. It all comes down to attitude – O'Brien said so himself in the pre-season.

"Sides like Melbourne and the Roosters don't just turn up and defend like that because they've got good players, they defend like that because it becomes ingrained in their walls," he told AAP.

"It's a culture thing. It's resilience. You work hard, you play tough and you don't give in."

Newcastle will also be without one of their star players for Sunday's game with fullback Kalyn Ponga sidelined for a week due to suspension. Young gun Tex Hoy is rewarded with his NRL debut in the number one jersey and seeing that he is currently living with Ponga, he has probably been using the shutdown to learn the ropes from the regular custodian.

Who to watch: Both teams have advantages in key positions – Penrith in the number nine jersey and Newcastle at halfback. Whoever best exploits it will likely go on to win this game. Apisai Koroisau has made an immediate impact since returning to the foot of the mountains. His speed and deceptive slight of hand out of dummy-half has opened up Penrith's attack to make it less structured. Instead, Koroisau plays what is in front of him and it has relieved pressure off Cleary to be the sole contributor. This week he may also have to draw upon his kicking game to ease Burton into the game more.

Meanwhile, the Knights have a clear advantage in the halfback position with Cleary out. While Luai and Burton have just 20 games of NRL experience, Mitchell Pearce has 278. His leadership has helped to steer Newcastle in the right direction but now he needs to help them build off a perfect 2-0 start as they look to make up for a disappointing end to 2019.

Favourite: Penrith are slight favourites to take the victory.

Tip: Will the loss of Cleary or Ponga have the bigger impact? Both teams have fresh-faced rookies filling in but you get the feeling Pearce's experience in the halves will prove the difference. **Knights by 12.**

MANLY-WARRINGAH SEA EAGLES



CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN BULLDOGS

Tom TRBOJEVIC	1
Jorge TAUFUA	2
Brad PARKER	3
Moses SULI	4
Reuben GARRICK	5
Dylan WALKER	6
Daly CHERRY-EVANS	7
Addin FONUA-BLAKE	8
Danny LEVI	9
Martin TAUPAU	10
Joel THOMPSON	11
Curtis SIRONEN	12
Jake TRBOJEVIC	13
Lachlan CROKER	14
Corey WADDELL	15
Sean KEPPIE	16
Taniela PASEKA	17
Morgan BOYLE	18
Jack GOSIEWSKI	19
Tevita FUNA	20
Brendan ELLIOT	21

FULLBACK	1
WING	2
CENTRE	3
CENTRE	4
WING	5
FIVE-EIGHTH	6
HALFBACK	7
FRONT ROW	8
HOOKER	9
FRONT ROW	10
SECOND ROW	11
SECOND ROW	12
LOCK	13
INTERCHANGE	14
	15
	16
	17
RESERVES	19
	20
	21
	22

Dallin WATENE-ZELEZNIAK
Nick MEANEY
Reimis SMITH
Will HOPOATE
Christian CRICHTON
Lachlan LEWIS
Jack COGGER
Sauaso SUE
Jeremy MARSHALL-KING
Dylan NAPA
Josh JACKSON
Dean BRITT
Adam ELLIOTT
Jake AVERILLO
Renouf TO'OMAGA
Raymond FAITALA-MARINER
Ofahiki OGDEN
Kerrod HOLLAND
Aiden TOLMAN
Sione KATO A
Brandon WAKEHAM

DES HASLER

COACH

DEAN PAY

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

PENALTIES
SCRUMS

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

#NRLManlyBulldogs

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 31 May 2020
KICKOFF	6:30pm AEST
VENUE	Central Coast Stadium Gosford, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Matt CECCHIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Dave MUNRO Matt NOYEN
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	129 matches	Sea Eagles 66, Bulldogs 58 (D5)
AT GOSFORD	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 8	Sea Eagles 18-10	Lottoland
2018	Round 22	Sea Eagles 18-6	Lottoland
2017	Round 24	Bulldogs 30-16	ANZ
2017	Round 4	Sea Eagles 36-0	Lottoland
2016	Round 23	Bulldogs 20-16	ANZ
2016	Round 1	Bulldogs 28-6	Brookvale
2015	Round 7	Bulldogs 28-16	ANZ
2015	Round 3	Bulldogs 16-12	Brookvale
2014	Finals W2	Bulldogs 18-17	Allianz
2014	Round 17	Bulldogs 23-16	ANZ

BIGGEST WINS

SEA EAGLES	45-7 at Brookvale, 1954 Round 14
BULLDOGS	56-24 at Brookvale, 2003 Round 23

CURRENT FORM

SEA EAGLES	L W
BULLDOGS	L L

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Eels v Sea Eagles, Bankwest	Sat 6 Jun, 5:30pm
Bulldogs v Dragons, Bankwest	Mon 8 Jun, 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Rick Edgerton

Sea Eagles and Bulldogs set for battle in closing game of season relaunch.

When these old foes run out onto Central Coast Stadium on Sunday evening, it will bring to a close arguably the most anticipated round in rugby league's rich 112 year history.

It's been little more than two months since the game was brought to a shuddering halt after two rounds of footy and these two sides will no doubt be champing at the bit after watching the 14 other sides get back onto the pitch before them.

The Sea Eagles have enjoyed an uninterrupted isolation period with little change to the playing group that opened the season with bench forwards Corey Waddell and Taniela Paseka the only new faces in the squad.

Des Hasler's men looked very solid when the season began despite being handed the toughest opening couple of rounds in the competition. Going down in a hard fought contest against the Storm in their season opener, they then managed an upset victory over the Roosters in round two. They will be looking to hit the ground running off that solid platform.

At the other end of the spectrum, the Bulldogs have had their challenges. Back-row recruit Joe Stimson suffered a serious shoulder injury in Round 2 with the club sending him for season-ending surgery during the break, and centre Marcelo Montoya who was originally expected to return picked up a hamstring injury and will miss a further 8-12 weeks.

On top of that duo, Corey Harawira-Naera and Jayden Okunbor had their NRL contracts officially terminated during the break. Neither played the opening rounds, but their losses further stretch the clubs depth. Harawira-Naera in particular looks a big loss, being one of the few genuine attacking threats at Dean Pay's disposal.

Pay has obviously had a rethink over the last two months as he looks to guide his troops to their first win of the season, making a shock call in dropping veteran prop Aidan Tolman from the 17. Sauaso Sue takes his place up front.

Jack Cogger has found his way into the number seven jersey at the expense of rookie Brandon Wakeham. He partners Lachlan Lewis in the halves who is expected to make way once Kieran Foran returns from injury.

Who to watch: Every man on the Bulldogs right edge will have the corner of their eye permanently glued to Sea Eagles hitman Jorge Taufua. Spending years having a front-row seat of Steve Matai's exploits, Taufua has made the art of rattling rib cages his own in recent times and will no doubt be looking for a Bulldog or two to add to his list come Sunday night.

One of the men on the Bulldogs right and probably the one most in Taufua's firing line will be former team mate Will Hopoate who will lace his boots for NRL game 150 against his former club. One of the Bulldogs' most consistent performers in recent times, 'Hoppa' is great on his feet and has very good footballing instincts, which makes this battle out wide a very intriguing subplot in this game.

Favourite: Manly are red hot favourites to get the job done in this one.

Tip: Canterbury showed a tonne of grit and determination as they turned a corner with some impressive performances at the back end of last year and displayed that same style in a low scoring loss to the Eels to open their season. Expect them to put up another gallant fight, but ultimately the class of Cherry-Evans and the Trbojevic brothers should see the Northern beaches boys home. **Sea Eagles by 12.**

2020 Draw

NRL Telstra Premiership

ROUND 1

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

MARCH 12-15

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

ROUND 2

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

MARCH 19-22

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

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

ROUND 3

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

MAY 28-31

Broncos v Eels Suncorp Stadium
Cowboys v Titans QLD Country Bank Stadium
Roosters v Rabbitohs Bankwest Stadium
Warriors v Dragons Central Coast Stadium
Sharks v Tigers Bankwest Stadium
Storm v Raiders AAMI Park
Panthers v Knights Campbelltown Stadium
Sea Eagles v Bulldogs Central Coast Stadium

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 Suncorp Stadium
Panthers v Warriors Campbelltown Stadium
Storm v Rabbitohs AAMI Park
Eels v Sea Eagles Bankwest Stadium
Cowboys v Sharks QLD Country Bank Stadium
Raiders v Knights Campbelltown Stadium
Titans v Tigers Suncorp Stadium
Bulldogs v Dragons Bankwest Stadium

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

ROUND 5

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

JUNE 11-14

Sea Eagles v Broncos Central Coast Stadium
Warriors v Cowboys Central Coast Stadium
Eels v Panthers Bankwest Stadium
Rabbitohs v Titans Bankwest Stadium
Knights v Storm Central Coast Stadium
Tigers v Raiders Campbelltown Stadium
Bulldogs v Roosters Bankwest Stadium
Dragons v Sharks Campbelltown Stadium

ROUND 6

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

JUNE 18-21

Knights v Broncos Central Coast Stadium
Rabbitohs v Warriors Bankwest Stadium
Panthers v Storm Campbelltown Stadium
Titans v Dragons Suncorp Stadium
Tigers v Cowboys Campbelltown Stadium
Roosters v Eels Bankwest Stadium
Raiders v Sea Eagles Campbelltown Stadium
Sharks v Bulldogs Bankwest Stadium

ROUND 7

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

JUNE 25-29

Panthers v Rabbitohs Campbelltown Stadium
Storm v Warriors AAMI Park
Roosters v Dragons Bankwest Stadium
Cowboys v Knights QLD Country Bank Stadium
Broncos v Titans Suncorp Stadium
Eels v Raiders Bankwest Stadium
Sea Eagles v Sharks Central Coast Stadium
Bulldogs v Tigers Bankwest Stadium

ROUND 8

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

JULY 2-5

Storm v Roosters AAMI Park
Raiders v Dragons Campbelltown Stadium
Eels v Cowboys Bankwest Stadium
Titans v Sharks Suncorp Stadium
Warriors v Broncos Central Coast Stadium
Tigers v Panthers Campbelltown Stadium
Sea Eagles v Knights Central Coast Stadium
Bulldogs v Rabbitohs Bankwest Stadium

ROUND 9

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

JULY 9-12

Cowboys v Roosters QLD Country Bank Stadium
Titans v Warriors Suncorp Stadium
Rabbitohs v Tigers Bankwest Stadium
Sharks v Panthers Bankwest Stadium
Broncos v Bulldogs Suncorp Stadium
Raiders v Storm Campbelltown Stadium
Knights v Eels Central Coast Stadium
Dragons v Sea Eagles Campbelltown Stadium

ROUND 10

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

JULY 16-19

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

ROUND 11

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

JULY 23-26

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

ROUND 12

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

JULY 30-AUGUST 2

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

All matches except GF & Origin broadcast live on Fox League & Kayo Sports
Matches Thu 7:50pm, Fri 7:55pm and Sun 4:05pm, plus all Finals, Grand Final
and Origin broadcast live on Nine Network & 9Now

ROUND 13

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

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

ROUND 14

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

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

ROUND 15

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

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

ROUND 16

Thu 7:50pm
 Fri 6:00pm
 Fri 7:55pm
 Sat 3pm
 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

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

ROUND 17

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

SEPTEMBER 3-6

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

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

ROUND 18

Thu 7:50pm
 Fri 6:00pm
 Fri 7:55pm
 Sat 3pm
 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

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

ROUND 19

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

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

ROUND 20

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

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

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

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

OCTOBER 2-4

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

Qualifying & Elimination Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

WEEK 2

Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC

OCTOBER 9-10

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

Semi Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

WEEK 3

Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC

OCTOBER 16-17

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

Preliminary Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

GRAND FINAL

Sun, Time TBC

OCTOBER 25

W PF 1 v W PF 2

Venue TBC

2020 STATE OF ORIGIN SERIES**GAME 1**

Wed

NOVEMBER 4

QLD v NSW

Venue TBC

GAME 2

Wed

NOVEMBER 11

NSW v QLD

Venue TBC

WOMEN'S

Fri

NOVEMBER 13

NSW v QLD

Venue TBC

GAME 3

Wed

NOVEMBER 18

QLD v NSW

Venue TBC

The NRL draw is subject to change. Latest updates to the draw can be found at NRL.com or LeagueUnlimited.com.



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