

The

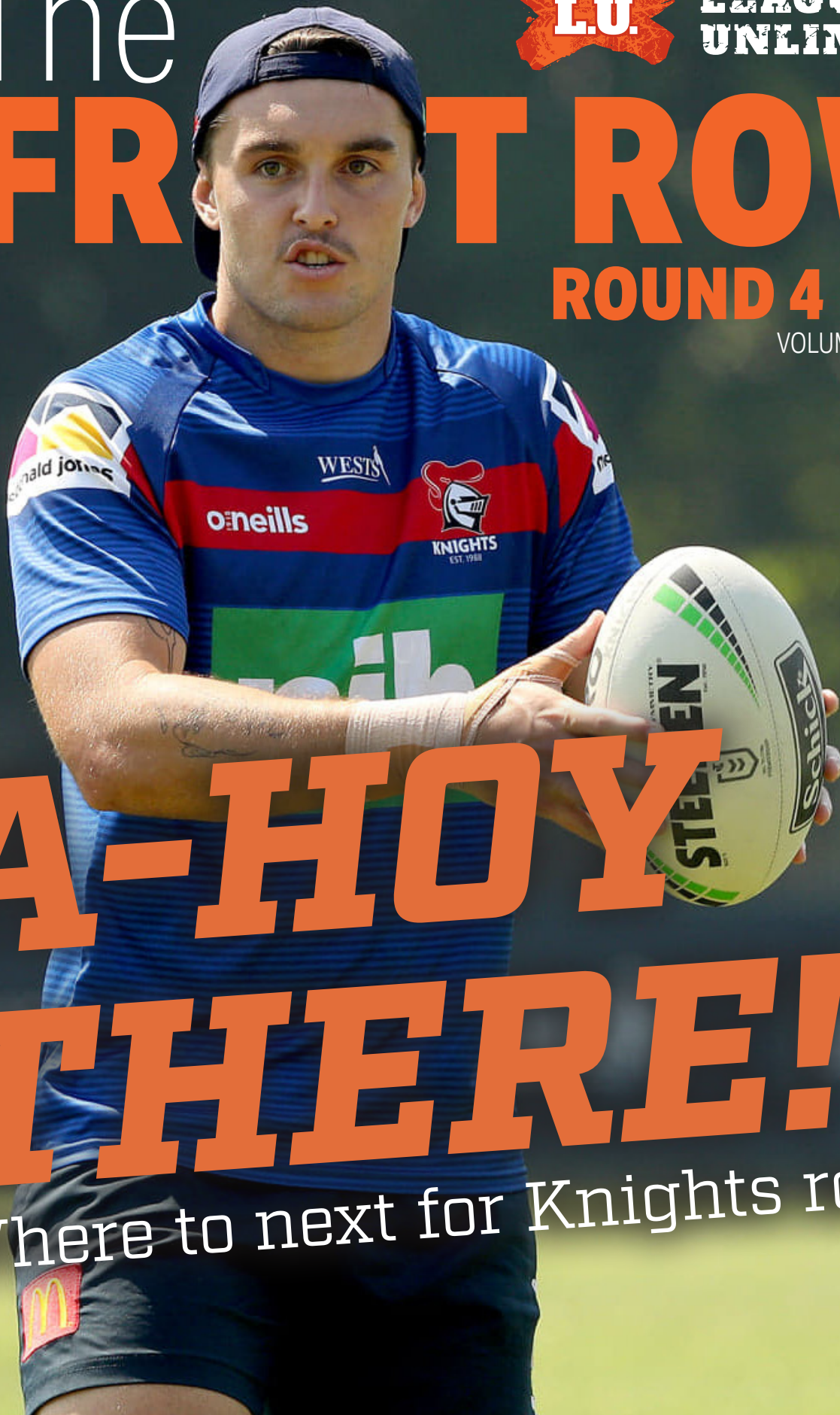


LEAGUE
UNLIMITED

FRONT ROW

ROUND 4 2020

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 2



A-HOY THERE!

Where to next for Knights rookie?

INSIDE: THE ROAD TO RESUMPTION · HOW THE NEW RULES FARED · R3 RESULTS & REPORTS · LADDER · NRL NEWS · R4 TEAMLISTS & PREVIEWS · SEASON DRAW



JOIN THE CONVERSATION
@LEAGUEUNLIMITED

LU.

**THE FRONT ROW
FORUMS**

**AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST
RUGBY LEAGUE
DISCUSSION FORUMS**

forums.leagueunlimited.com

THERE IS NO OFF-SEASON

From the editor

Tim Costello

What a weekend of footy that was! While there's plenty of debate about the impact of one referee and the advent of the six-again restart rule, there's no doubt NRL matches were played at a much faster pace than we remember. In this week's issue, Joshua Wells looks at that - check out page 16.

The long-term impacts of the COVID-19 break-enforced rule changes are yet to be seen, but all footy fans will agree it's just a joy to have the game back. Discussion continues to rage about the piped crowd noise on the broadcast of the game, not to mention the cardboard cutouts in the crowd. On the flip side - it's good we're not talking about glaring refereeing errors.

We also got to see player debuts, both in the NRL and those at new clubs. One such player was Tex Hoy - our own Paul Jobber spoke to the young Knights rookie after Sunday's draw with Penrith - check it out on page 12.

Meanwhile, state governments appear to be ramping up the lifting of restrictions, and the game's top brass remain hopeful we could see actual crowds at games in some form soon. In the meantime, we hear pubs are starting to slowly open!

As for this little publication, we've been overwhelmed with your support this past week after launching the first edition of *The Front Row*. Initiatives like this are only a success because of the wonderful contributors and great constructive feedback from the rugby league community - so keep it coming!

What's inside

THE FRONT ROW - ISSUE 2

From the editor	3
THE WRAP · Round 3	
Match reports	4-7
The scoresheet	8
LU Player of the Year standings	9
NRL Match Review & Judiciary	9
Premiership Ladder	10
Stats Leaders	10
News: TV deal, theme rounds	11
Feature: Tex Hoy	12-13
Feature: The long road back	14-15
Opinion: From the Wells	16
Player birthdays	16
GAME DAY · Round 4	17
Broncos v Roosters	18-19
Panthers v Warriors	20-21
Storm v Rabbitohs	22-23
Eels v Sea Eagles	24-25
Cowboys v Sharks	26-27
Raiders v Knights	28-29
Titans v Wests Tigers	30-31
Bulldogs v Dragons	32-33
2020 Draw	34-35

The FRONT ROW ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

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

Magazine content originally appears on

LeagueUnlimited.com © 2020

Cover image: Tex Hoy, courtesy Newcastle Knights

MANAGERS

EDITOR

CONTRIBUTORS

Steven Williams

Coby Delaney

Tim Costello

Robert Crosby

Justin Davies

Josh Robertson

Adam Huxtable

Sam Bourke

Hamish Parker

Andrew Jackson

Andrew Ferguson

Jeff Dickinson-Fox

Rick Edgerton

Paul Jobber

Joshua Wells



**LEAGUE
UNLIMITED**

Eels brush past Broncos in Rugby League's return

Justin Davies



6-34



The Parramatta Eels maintained their perfect start to the National Rugby League season with a convincing 34-6 result against Brisbane Broncos tonight at Suncorp Stadium, as the NRL rebooted following the COVID-19-enforced lockdown.

It had been 67 days since the completion of Round 2, but the football was back. The first half was a breathless display between the sides, Parramatta led 12-6 through tries to Matara Niukore, and Maika Sivo.

The Eels picked up right where they left off in their first two contests, with a vibrant display would have electrified those watching back home in Sydney's west. Brisbane contributed to their own downfall equally, with a stream of errors and lapses which had them on the back foot.

Parramatta put their foot on the throat of the home side in the second half. The blue-and-golds piled on a further four tries to Clint Gutherson, the evergreen Michael Jennings, backrower Shaun Lane and centre Waqa Blake, stamping their authority on the return of rugby league to the big stage.

Besides the points, the Eels suffocated the Broncos with possession. Much of the second half looked like the screen was tilted to the right, as the Eels piled on the pressure and tired out the Broncos through attack, showing that maybe 2020 might be the year to break the decades-long hoodoo.

For the Broncos, there were short moments of brightness. Both Darius Boyd and Anthony Milford bombed tries that would have reduced the margin, but besides that the Broncos weren't able to get out of their own way and into the Eels half in order to muster any sort of comeback.

Their sole points came from a slicing run from Brodie Croft, the former Storm half making it 6-6 midway through the first half - but the horns fell silent at the Drive-in, an event which housed a large group of the Broncos fans as they saw their side's unbeaten start come to a crushing halt.

One final note - it was just good to see Rugby League again! There were plenty of hurdles put between the league and tonight's restart, but to the ARLC's credit, they cleared all of them and despite some grumbling, the spectacle delivered and is a hopeful sign of what is to come.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Dylan Brown

2 points - Clinton Gutherson

1 points - Shaun Lane

Cowboy doubles help deliver first win at new home

Jeff Dickinson-Fox



36-6



While the North Queensland Cowboys and their supporters will have to keep waiting for the first win they can celebrate together at Queensland Country Bank Stadium, they'll all be able enjoy tonight's dominant 36-6 performance over the Gold Coast Titans.

It was the second fast-paced and free-flowing game in as many nights following the NRL's rule change around defensive ruck infringements, which played right into the hands of North Queensland's mobile forward pack and speed men.

Once Jason Taumalolo began his second-half stint in the 52nd minute, it only took a few minutes for the Cowboys to notch up their first of four second-half tries that set the home side on a 22-0 second-half shut-out of the Titans. The 55th minute try was set up by a Taumalolo line break in the middle of the park and, despite being tackled by Phillip Sami at fullback, he earned a six again penalty. A couple of tackles later bench hooker Recce Robson could not be stopped on a dart from dummy-half at close range for his first NRL try.

Robson was in again three minutes later as another dash from dummy-half, this time about seven metres out, caught the defence flat-footed and he scored close to the posts and almost untouched for a 26-6 lead.

The only points for the Titans came in the 14th minute as they shifted left on the last at close range to Brian Kelly's wing and, seemingly trapped by three Cowboys players with no momentum, Kelly put on a spin toward the sideline to beat Feldt all ends up.

It was a tough start the Titans had to try recovering from as it took 12 minutes for the visitors to complete their first set. Eight errors in the first half and poor last-tackle options from Ash Taylor and the latest Gold Coast halfback Jamal Fogarty limited their ability to build field position pressure. Fogarty had his best moment of the night in the final five minutes where it looked he had scored a Titans try, but The Bunker ruled Shannon Boyd obstructed the play.

The Titans are now the only team in NRL history to concede 24 points or more in 14 straight games and if they don't get a win by round five they will have gone a full year without an NRL win.

Scott Drinkwater continued his impressive run of play and thrived as the chief playmaker with the absence of Michael Morgan. North Queensland winger Ben Hampton is now the equal leading try scorer in the NRL with Brisbane's Kotoni Staggs, as a double tonight took his season tally of tries to four.

Two Cowboys forwards found themselves in the sin bin for professional fouls, Mitchell Dunn in the 27th minute and Coen Hess in the 77th minute. After both occasions North Queensland was able to increase their lead with 12 men. Valentine Holmes converted six of his seven kicks on the night and contributed three try assists.

Moeaki Fotuauka was the best of the Titans players as he finished with 154 run metres, 43 tackles, a linebreak, four tackle breaks and two offloads.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Jason Taumalolo

2 points - Scott Drinkwater

1 points - Valentine Holmes

Terrific Tedesco gets Roosters their first win

Sam Bourke



28-12



The Sydney Roosters have registered their first win of 2020, as they look to be the first side since Parramatta in the early eighties to complete a hat-trick of premierships. The win couldn't have been sweeter, defeating their bitter rivals South Sydney 28-12 at Bankwest Stadium.

Reigning Dally M Medallist James Tedesco was superb, running for over 200m and scoring a crucial try just after halftime to give his side the edge in another entertaining contest to compliment some of the open football we have seen so far in Round 3.

Both the Roosters and Bunnies share one of the fiercest rivalries in the game and it was a given that they met to re-open the NRL season. The headline act being Latrell Mitchell in his new controversial colours, against his old side that he has won back to back premierships with. As always - even without reading a chapter from South Sydney's owner Russell Crowe's famous 'Book of Feuds' - this clash at any time of the season means everything for both sides.

The defending premiers got off to a perfect start when in the opening minutes Souths forward Liam Knight gave away a cheap penalty, inviting the Roosters into perfect attacking territory. Luke Keary then delivered when he kicked across field to find a leaping Daniel Tupou who opened the scoring for the Roosters. Kyle Flanagan converted from out wide for an early 6-0 lead.

The Roosters then skipped ahead again, when new signing Josh Morris put his lanky winger Tupou away down the left-hand side. Tupou then found Morris back in support, who then spotted his halfback Flanagan unmarked on the inside. Morris then kicked for the rookie number 7 who collected the ball on the bounce to score under the posts for a superb try. Flanagan converted his own try to give the Tri-Colours a 12-0 lead.

South Sydney needed to get on the scoreboard, and it was their big money signing who delivered with Latrell Mitchell attracting several defenders close to the line, before hitting his edge backrower Cameron Murray with a superb short ball to allow the NSW backrower to narrow the score to 12-6 just before halftime.

After the break, the Roosters when up a notch with a one, two punch. First through fullback James Tedesco, who brushed past both Cameron Murray and Troy Dargan to find open space. He then got to the outside of Latrell Mitchell and managed to muscle his way over to score. Minutes later, the Roosters again marched upfield and Luke Keary then held up the ball close to the line and found Boyd Cordner running a tight line at speed to score and the Roosters jumped out to a commanding 22-6 lead within just seven minutes of the second half commencing.

As expected Souths dug their way back into the contest, when Cameron Murray found himself back in the middle of the field and hit giant prop Tom Burgess with a short ball close to the line. The British front rower didn't let him down, crashing over and narrowing the score 22-12 following the Adam Reynolds conversion.

While the Rabbitohs desperately tried to stay in the fight, the Roosters managed to ice the game late, when off the back of another strong run from Tedesco skipper Jake Friend picked up the ball from dummy half and kicked ahead for himself to seal at 28-12 victory for his troops.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - James Tedesco

2 points - Luke Keary

1 points - Brett Morris

Warriors almost perfect against desolate Dragons

Justin Davies



18-0



The Warriors were almost perfect in their first success of the season, defeating St George Illawarra 18-0 in a one-sided contest in Gosford.

Considering all the obstacles thrown in the way of the Warriors in the last two months, this afternoon felt like manna from heaven for them. They completed 46 of 48 sets in the contest, controlled the game and shut out the disappointing Dragons to get off the mark for the season.

In the bright sunshine of Gosford, the 'home team' got started quickly. A fumble from Dragons fullback Matt Dufty gifted rookie prop Jamayne Taunoa-Brown a simple scoop and score for first points. Another fresh face in Eliesa Katoa scored off a sublime Kodi Nikorima pass making it 12-nil at the break.

Nikorima was a surprise reinclusion after the axing of Chanel Harris-Tevita but the former Bronco provided a try-assist then sliced through the Dragons defense in the 54th minute to create the chance. The five-eighth finished off the move

to stretch the lead to 18-nil. Nikorima also kicked a penalty goal alongside two other conversions for a 10-point haul, justifying his inclusion.

Looking at the sides, the Warriors looked the team that didn't have to upheave everything to get back to football. The Dragons looked uninspired, uninterested and unable to create much attack in the contest. Both Ben Hunt and Corey Norman were unable to take control and the Dragons spent the entire contest working the ball of their line.

The rare chance that popped up for the Dragons saw Josh Kerr spill it early in the count right after the restart. Rampaging winger Mikala Ravalawa saw the line wide open but the rugby league gods had one final cackle as the winger knocked it on diving for the line.

Pressure will mount on Paul McGregor with the now 0-3 start to the shortened season which might have the joint-venture club already looking towards another lost season with their big Queens Birthday clash against traditional rivals, Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs to come next weekend.

Today was about the Warriors though. Based first in Tamworth, they moved into their Terrigal base recently and produced probably the best 80 minutes of football they've conjured up in recent seasons. Their passion showed in the swarm of support after denying Ravalawa late. This is a committed side that tackled themselves to a standstill, making their opposition look inferior.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Blake Green

2 points - Kodi Nikorima

1 points - Eliesa Katoa

Late surge sees Tigers down Sharks

Adam Huxtable



16-28



The Sharks and Wests Tigers were neck-and-neck for 60 minutes on Saturday evening before the Tigers ran away with it courtesy of some Benji magic and some terrible Sharks defence, the Tigers recording a 28-16 victory to jump into the top eight.

There was much anticipation leading into this one surrounding the performance of rookie Harry Grant and it took him less than 5 minutes to make his mark, backing up a Luke Brooks tackle break to fall over the line and become an instant favourite among Tigers fans. The Tigers then scored another try within two minutes and the Sharks were shell shocked early. They advanced the ball around 60 metres from the set after points and put up a bomb which Sharks rookie fullback Will Kennedy couldn't handle. Moses Mbye scooped up the loose ball and got it away to Robert Jennings, who strolled over the line.

The Sharks were able to force a bit of an arm wrestle following that try, keeping the Tigers at bay and getting themselves some quality field position. The Tigers got a penalty, but any pressure they were applying was immediately offset when Josh Aloiai dropped the ball in the tackle. Chad Townsend chanced his arm with a kick downfield on the 4th looking to catch Tigers fullback Adam Doueihi out of position and that's exactly what he did. Doueihi was forced over the sideline gifting the Sharks great field position and it didn't take them long to capitalise. They spread the ball left and Wade Graham summed up the situation the way only Wade Graham can. His grubber in behind the Tigers defensive line was perfect and Josh Dugan made no mistake with the putdown.

This time it was the Sharks' turn to score back to back tries. The Tigers gifted them 7 tackles as soon as they got the ball and the Sharks strolled downfield. They shifted left again and put Dugan in a lot of space 20 metres out and he showed us some of his best form, proving way too strong for the defence and scoring his second in 3 minutes. The momentum was very much with the Sharks for the next 10 or so minutes but they let the Tigers off the hook when a Shaun Johnson cutout ball that would've put Ronald Mullitalo over was ruled forward.

The Sharks looked certain to score in the 34th minute when a 50/50 play from Wade Graham payed off. He grubbered it from inside his own half and it was picked up by winger Sione Katoa, who put in a kick of his own that found Will Kennedy in field. Kennedy had options both inside and out but opted to go himself, bombing a certain try. He made up for it about a minute later though when he ran a great line that saw Tigers defender barely able to lay a hand on the Sharks custodian. That play was all she wrote for the first half in terms of scoring, sending the Sharks into the sheds with the lead despite the fast Wests Tigers start.

The teams remained neck and neck for the first 10 or so minutes of the second half and it didn't look like changing until some vintage Benji Marshall passing created something from nothing. In the 53rd minute he threw a huge cutout ball to David Nofaloama who did very well do link up with back rower Luke Garner on the inside who made no mistake with the finish, however Benji Marshall missed a relatively simple conversion that would've tied things up.

The Tigers got the chance to equalise 8 minutes later through a penalty goal and from there the Sharks effort wasn't really the same. With the game in the balance, the Tigers were able to force a repeat set when some absolutely shocking defence from Sharks' pair Townsend and Dugan allowed Nofaloama to score a try of his own. It cannot be emphasised enough how poor the defence was, there just wasn't an effort to stop him. One of - if not the - worst effort I've ever seen in my time watching Rugby League. Townsend was taken off the field a short time later.

They sealed the deal with nine to go through a Josh Aloiai barge-over try. The Tigers had all the momentum and it was well summed up by replacement hooker Billy Walters who turned it inside for the big fella to storm over for a rare four-pointer.

Cronulla had a chance to get back into it inside the final five, but they blew it. On their 3rd consecutive set on the attack Moylan threw a ball into the ankle of Josh Dugan and the Tigers dived on it. The Tigers halves took control, booting it into touch on two separate occasions. The Tigers extended their lead from 10 to 12 with 2 minutes to go and the Sharks' short kickoff didn't go 10. That was all she wrote.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

- 3 points - Luke Brooks
- 2 points - Benji Marshall
- 1 points - Wade Graham

Green Machine fires in Melbourne

Josh Robertson



6-22



The Raiders have kept their strong record at AAMI Park intact, as a starring effort from George Williams helped the Green Machine to an 22-6 defeat of the Melbourne Storm.

Canberra were quick to take advantage of the new rules and began mounting pressure early and it took just five minutes for them to get on the board when returning hero Jordan Rapana was able to cross thanks to Jack Wighton and Jarrod Croker drawing in the defence. The Raiders' captain was able to convert from out wide right of the posts.

The impact of English signings has been big on Canberra and Williams has quickly made his name, especially after tonight with some cracking plays. The Raiders added their second try when Williams was able to throw a magnificent ball that found Nick Cotric on the chest to score in the left-hand corner. Croker was able to again extend the lead with an excellent conversion from the left touchline.

If one team can never be ruled out, it's Melbourne - and they showed that they were still in the game when Cameron Smith put Dale Finucane over underneath the posts, closing the gap to six after the Melbourne captain converted.

The Canberrans were able to add a final try in the half when Williams was able to put Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad through under the posts. The converted try gave them an 18-6 lead at the break.

The second half wasn't a point-scoring fest as everyone was expecting, with both sides trying hard to come up with plays but errors were the story for that 40 minutes. Both sides repeatedly gave up 20m restarts early on in the second 40 which was a sign of things to come.

While each team were able to go close, the respective defensive lines were strong, and there was no better example than when Justin Olam was all-but-over except for some desperation defence from Joseph Tapine and his teammates to hold the PNG winger up.

The only points of the second half came in the dying seconds, when the Raiders turned it on with the class - a double kick and chase, first from Curtis Scott then from Nick Cotric was able to get Tapine a 'meat-pie', the second-rower grounding the ball and sealing the 22-6 victory.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

- 3 points - George Williams
- 2 points - Jarrod Croker
- 1 points - Josh Papali'i

Panthers and Knights can't be separated

Hamish Parker



14-14



Penrith and Newcastle have played out a full 90 minute, 14-all draw in what was no doubt a fitness test for both sides following the NRL's season restart this week - a thrilling game that had a bit of everything and showed us what we've all been missing these past two months.

Penrith jumped out of the blocks early in the game as they took full advantage of a shaken Newcastle lineup. Villiame Kikau burst over the line in the 18th minute on a Knights edge that was already missing Mitchell Pearce due to a head injury earlier in the match. Kikau and young-gun Stephen Crichton were making for a dynamic edge pair as they looked dangerous throughout the entire contest.

Shortly after the first try, the Panthers scored again in the 22nd minute through Kurt Capewell, who was able to break the line and plant the ball over for his first try in Penrith colours. It ended up an 8-point try after Edrick Lee was found to have led with his knees attempting to prevent Capewell from scoring. Crichton took full advantage, kicking both goals and blowing the scoreline out to 14-0.

The Knights were able to regather themselves in what was ultimately an incredible effort once down by 14 points. Without Pearce and Connor Watson, the latter who left the field early in the game with an ankle injury, the visitors were also briefly were without Maroons rep Tim Glasby, who was sent for an HIA, which he later passed. But it wasn't until the stroke of halftime that the Knights were able to crack the Penrith line, with a great show of strength from Jacob Saifiti being enough to get him over to plant the ball down.

For just under the first 20 minutes of the second half, the game was very back and forth. The scoreboard finally ticked over in the 58th minute when Bradman Best scored and incredibly put the Knights within four points. Less than 10 minutes later, Best slid over for his second, levelling the scores at 14-all. Debutant fullback Tex Hoy was impressive in his first outing, but was unable to convert the third try from out wide which would have put the Knights in front with just over 10 minutes remaining.

Newcastle would seemingly go into golden point extra time with the momentum on their side, but ultimately, a number of golden chances went begging for both sides. Young Panthers five-eighth Matt Burton, who had showed a calm head throughout only his second NRL performance, couldn't seem to buy a field goal. He missed to the left, right and was even denied by the post on one occasion. From the Knights, both Kurt Mann and Tex Hoy couldn't get their attempts to find the mark either. The away side had a golden chance to score a try instead of a field goal to win the game, but a wayward pass from Best couldn't find Edrick Lee and ended up over the sideline instead. Despite both sides missing chances, the extra time period was entertaining to watch nonetheless with both teams not willing to give an inch to their opponent.

In the end, a draw was probably the fairest result. Both sides came into the game with some setbacks - most notably key playmakers Nathan Cleary and Kalyn Ponga were both serving suspensions. Newcastle were to endure even further adversity with the loss of both Pearce and Watson early in the contest.

Young talent was the main thing on show in this clash and it was terrific to see. The likes of Crichton and Burton were outstanding for the Panthers, and the Novocastrians were not short on young talent themselves, with Hoy highlighting his ability in his NRL debut and Best playing well with some hard running as well as a brace of tries. In all, an outstanding game of rugby league.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Matt Burton
2 points - Bradman Best
1 points - Villiame Kikau

Tom Trbojevic belts Bulldogs

Andrew Ferguson



32-6



Tom Trbojevic single-handedly destroyed the Bulldogs in a dominant performance, where he scored two tries and set up three more as Manly strolled home with a 32-6 win.

The first half saw both teams being relatively evenly matched, however the big difference was Manly's fullback, who bagged a pair of tries and set up another in a brilliant first half performance, which gave Manly a 14-0 lead.

Manly opened the scoring in just the third minute of the game after swinging the ball left where Curtis Sironen got a good offload away to Daly Cherry-Evans, who in turn quickly sent it along to Moses Suli. Suli got outside his defender, made a break before passing back inside to Trbojevic who dived over to the right of the sticks for a good try. Reuben Garrick's conversion attempt hit the upright and was waved away. Some sloppy play and ball handling from both sides ensued before Manly scored again in the 26th minute, thanks to a brilliant play by the Trbojevic brothers.

Jake Trbojevic took the ball to the line and held up a beautiful little ball to his brother who swung around from behind Jake's left shoulder to receive the pass on his right, hit a big gap and slipped through to score a sweet second try. Garrick was again unable to convert from a more difficult position.

With 5 minutes remaining in the half, Manly crossed again when they sent

the ball left to Trbojevic, who dummied and then held up a delicate short ball for Brad Parker, who ran a strong and straight line to dive over in the corner. Garrick finally nailed the conversion from near the sideline.

Four minutes into the second half and Tom Trbojevic struck again. This time he received the ball on the left side, with the defence rushing up on him, however Tom lobbed a cut-out ball out to Jorge Taufua who stepped inside one cover defender and fell over the line in the corner for a good try. Garrick's conversion was again unsuccessful. On the hour mark, Manly scored again, this time via Curtis Sironen who stormed onto a crash ball close to the Bulldogs line and he barged over between two defenders to score on the right side. Garrick failed to convert.

From the next set, Manly crossed again after another shift to the left near halfway. Cherry-Evans got a good ball to Tom Trbojevic while standing in a tackle. Tom exploded through a gap, drew the defender and then fired a nice ball out to Parker who raced away for his second. Garrick converted.

With 10 minutes remaining, Canterbury got on the board when Lachlan Lewis ran to the line and grubbered delicately. Jake Averillo cleaned up the ball and raced away to score under the posts, Nick Meaney adding the extras to reduce the deficit to 22. In the 74th minute, after Manly earned a repeat set, Suli went close to scoring on the right side. Garrick scooped up the ball from dummy half and forced his way over the line for a good solo try. Garrick failed to convert from out wide. Danny Levi was sin binned with 14 seconds left in the match, but the Bulldogs were unable to take advantage, Manly romping home 32-6.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Tom Trbojevic
2 points - Jake Trbojevic
1 points - Curtis Sironen

The scoresheet

Scores, scorers, match details from Round 3

Eels 34 (Marata Niukore, Maika Sivo, Clinton Gutherson, Michael Jennings, Shaun Lane, Waqa Blake tries; Mitchell Moses 5/6 goals)
def **Broncos 6** (Brodie Croft try; Jamayne Isaako 1/1 goals)

Venue: Suncorp Stadium; Date: Thursday 28 May 2020, 7:50pm AEST; Halftime: Eels 12-6

Referee: Gerard Sutton; Touch Judges: Belinda Sharpe, Phil Henderson; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Beau Scott

Cowboys 36 (Ben Hampton (2), Justin O'Neill, Reece Robson (2), Kyle Feldt tries; Valentine Holmes 6/7 goals)
def **Titans 6** (Brian Kelly try; Ashley Taylor 1/1 goals)

Venue: Queensland Country Bank Stadium; Date: Friday 29 May 2020, 6:00pm AEST; Halftime: Cowboys 14-6

Referee: Henry Perenara; Touch Judges: Tim Alouani-Roby, Drew Oultram; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Ben Galea

Roosters 28 (Daniel Tupou, Kyle Flanagan, James Tedesco, Boyd Cordner, Jake Friend tries; Kyle Flanagan 4/5 goals)
def **Rabbitohs 12** (Cameron Murray, Thomas Burgess tries; Adam Reynolds 2/2 goals)

Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Friday 29 May 2020, 7:55pm AEST; Halftime: Roosters 12-6

Referee: Ashley Klein; Touch Judges: Chris Butler, Peter Gough; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Bryan Norrie

Warriors 18 (Jamayne Taunoa-Brown, Kodi Nikorima, Eliesa Katoa tries; Kodi Nikorima 3/4 goals)
def **Dragons 0**

Venue: Central Coast Stadium; Date: Saturday 30 May 2020, 3:00pm AEST; Halftime: Warriors 12-0

Referee: Chris Sutton; Touch Judges: Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski, Liam Kennedy; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Ben Galea

Wests Tigers 28 (Harry Grant, Robert Jennings, Luke Garner, David Nofaluma, Josh Aloiai tries; Benji Marshall 2/5, Moses Mbye 2/2 goals)
def **Sharks 16** (Josh Dugan (2), Will Kennedy tries; Shaun Johnson 2/3 goals)

Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Saturday 30 May 2020, 5:30pm AEST; Halftime: Sharks 16-10

Referee: Adam Gee; Touch Judges: Kasey Badger, Jon Stone; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Ben Lowe

Raiders 22 (Jordan Rapana, Nick Cotric, Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad, Joseph Tapine tries; Jarrod Croker 3/3, Josh Papali'i 0/1 goals)
def **Storm 6** (Dale Finucane try; Cameron Smith 1/1 goals)

Venue: AAMI Park; Date: Saturday 30 May 2020, 7:35pm AEST; Halftime: Raiders 18-6

Referee: Grant Atkins; Touch Judges: Todd Smith, Gavin Badger; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Bryan Norrie

Panthers 14 (Viliame Kikau, Kurt Capewell tries; Stephen Crichton 3/3 goals)
drew with **Knights 14** (Bradman Best (2), Jacob Saifiti tries; Tex Hoy 1/4, Kurt Mann 0/1 goals)

Venue: Campbelltown Stadium; Date: Sunday 31 May 2020, 4:05pm AEST; Halftime: Panthers 14-6

Referee: Ben Cummins; Touch Judges: Phil Henderson, Chris Butler; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Ben Galea

Sea Eagles 32 (Tom Trbojevic (2), Reuben Garrick, Brad Parker (2), Jorge Taufua, Curtis Sironen tries; Reuben Garrick 2/7 goals)
def **Bulldogs 6** (Jake Averillo try; Nick Meaney 1/1 goals)

Venue: Central Coast Stadium; Date: Sunday 31 May 2020, 6:30pm AEST; Halftime: Sea Eagles 14-0

Referee: Matt Cecchin; Touch Judges: Dave Munro, Matt Noyen; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Bryan Norrie

www.rugbyleagueproject.org

RUGBY LEAGUE
project

Support us on Patreon

facebook.com/rugbyleagueproject
twitter.com/rugbyleagueproj

LeagueUnlimited Player of the Year

Standings after Round 3

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.

6 points

Jason Taumalolo (Cowboys), Tom Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Dylan Brown (Eels)

5 points

Jarrold Croker (Raiders), Mitchell Pearce (Knights), Benji Marshall (Wests Tigers)

4 points

James Tedesco (Roosters), Mitchell Moses (Eels), George Williams (Raiders)

3 points

Cameron Munster (Storm), Kotoni Staggs (Broncos), Cameron Smith (Storm), Luke Brooks (Wests Tigers), Blake Green (Warriors), Matt Burton (Panthers), Isaah Yeo (Panthers), Nathan Cleary (Panthers), Jake Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Jamayne Isaako (Broncos), Viliame Kikau (Panthers), Jack Wighton (Raiders), David Klemmer (Knights), Adam Reynolds (Rabbitohs)

2 points

Nick Cotric (Raiders), Clinton Gutherson (Eels), Scott Drinkwater (Cowboys), Daly Cherry-Evans (Sea Eagles), Sione Katoa (Bulldogs), Luke Keary (Roosters), Michael Jennings (Eels), Dallin Watene-Zelezniak (Bulldogs), Emre Guler (Raiders), Kalyn Ponga (Knights), Anthony Milford (Broncos), David Nofoaluma (Wests Tigers), Jahrome Hughes (Storm), Shaun Johnson (Sharks), Michael Morgan (Cowboys), Kodi Nikorima (Warriors), Bradman Best (Knights), Stephen Crichton (Panthers), David Fifita (Broncos)

1 point

Josh Papali'i (Raiders), Valentine Holmes (Cowboys), Curtis Sironen (Sea Eagles), Eliesa Katoa (Warriors), Wade Graham (Sharks), Brett Morris (Roosters), Thomas Flegler (Broncos), Ethan Lowe (Rabbitohs), Alex Twal (Wests Tigers), Daniel Saifiti (Knights), Tevita Pangai Junior (Broncos), Phillip Sami (Titans), Coen Hess (Cowboys), Tyrell Fuimaono (Dragons), Connor Watson (Knights), Tui Kamikamica (Storm), Daniel Tupou (Roosters), Reed Mahoney (Eels), Shaun Lane (Eels)

NRL Match Review

Round 3 Charge Sheet

Kotoni Staggs (Broncos)

Grade 2 Careless High Tackle
61st minute on Dylan Brown (Eels)
Base penalty 200 points
1 x non-similar prior offence last 2 years (20% loading)
Guilty / no contest
240 points = 2 matches
Early plea 180 points = 1 match
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **Suspended 1 match.**
80 carryover points accrued

Victor Radley (Roosters)

Grade 1 Dangerous Throw
39th minute on Dane Gagai (Rabbitohs)
Base penalty 100 points
1 x non-similar prior offence last 2 years (20% loading)
15 carryover points to add
Guilty / no contest
120+15=135 points = 1 match
Early plea 90+15=105 points = 1 match
PLEA: Not guilty (judiciary hearing)
OUTCOME: Not guilty. **No suspension.**

Jared Waerea Hargreaves (Roosters)

Grade 1 Careless High Tackle
53rd minute on Alex Johnston (Rabbitohs)
Base penalty \$1500 fine
2 x non-similar prior offences last 2 years (40% loading)
Guilty / no contest \$2100 fine
Early plea \$1600 fine
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **\$1600 fine**

Corey Norman (Dragons)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
10th minute on Isaiah Papali'i (Warriors)
Base penalty 100 points
Guilty / no contest 100 points = 1 match
Early plea 75 points = no matches
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **No suspension.**
75 carryover points accrued.

Agnatius Paasi (Warriors)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (other)
42nd minute on Corey Norman (Dragons)
Base penalty 100 points
2 x similar prior offence last 2 years (100% loading)
2 x non-similar prior offence last 2 years (40% loading)
Guilty / no contest 240 points = 2 matches
Early plea 180 points = 1 match
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **Suspended 1 match.**
80 carryover points accrued.

Alex Twal (Wests Tigers)

Grade 1 Contrary Conduct
16th minute on Ronaldo Mulitalo (Sharks)
Base penalty \$1500 fine
1 x non-similar prior offence last 2 years (20% loading)
Guilty / no contest \$1800 fine
Early plea \$1350 fine
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **\$1350 fine**

Oliver Clark (Wests Tigers)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
26th minute on Jack Williams (Sharks)
Base penalty 100 points
Guilty / no contest 100 points = 1 match
Early plea 75 points = no matches
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **No suspension.**
75 carryover points accrued.

Nelson Asofa-Solomona (Storm)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
13th minute on Dunamis Lui (Raiders)
Base penalty 100 points
1 x similar prior offence last 2 yrs (50% loading)
40 carryover points
Guilty / no contest
150+40=190 points = 1 match
Early plea
112+40=152 points = 1 match
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **Suspended 1 match.**
52 carryover points accrued.

Tino Fa'asuamaleaui (Storm)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
55th minute on Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad (Raiders)
Base penalty 100 points
Guilty / no contest 100 points = 1 match
Early plea 75 points = no matches
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **No suspension.**
75 carryover points accrued.

Edrick Lee (Knights)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
23rd minute on Kurt Capewell (Panthers)
Base penalty 100 points
Guilty / no contest 100 points = 1 match
Early plea 75 points = no matches
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **No suspension.**
75 carryover points accrued.

Premiership ladder

NRL 2020 Telstra Premiership after Round 3

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Parramatta Eels	3	3	0	0	88	14	74	6
2	Canberra Raiders	3	3	0	0	66	18	48	6
3	Newcastle Knights	3	2	0	1	76	38	38	5
4	Penrith Panthers	3	2	0	1	66	56	10	5
5	North Queensland Cowboys	3	2	1	0	81	50	31	4
6	Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles	3	2	1	0	45	32	13	4
7	Wests Tigers	3	2	1	0	76	72	4	4
8	Melbourne Storm	3	2	1	0	36	36	0	4
9	Brisbane Broncos	3	2	1	0	56	73	-17	4
10	Sydney Roosters	3	1	2	0	50	41	9	2
11	Warriors	3	1	2	0	24	40	-16	2
12	South Sydney Rabbitohs	3	1	2	0	52	68	-16	2
13	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	3	0	3	0	44	62	-18	0
14	St George Illawarra Dragons	3	0	3	0	42	74	-32	0
15	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	3	0	3	0	24	64	-40	0
16	Gold Coast Titans	3	0	3	0	18	106	-88	0

Stats leaders

after Round 3

Top Tryscorers

1	Kotoni STAGGS (Broncos)	4
	David NOFOALUMA (Wests Tigers)	4
	Ben HAMPTON (Cowboys)	4
4	Viliame KIKAU (Panthers)	3
5	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
	Elliott WHITEHEAD (Raiders)	2
	Brent NADEN (Panthers)	2
	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	2
	Enari TUALA (Knights)	2
	Edrick LEE (Knights)	2
	Reece ROBSON (Cowboys) + six more	2

Top Pointscorers

1	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	36
2	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	26
3	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	24
	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	24
	Benji MARSHALL (Wests Tigers)	24
	Valentine HOLMES (Cowboys)	24
7	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	22
	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)	22
9	Jamayne ISAAKO (Broncos)	20
10	Jarrod CROKER (Raiders)	18

Top Goalkickers

1	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	16
2	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	10
	Valentine HOLMES (Cowboys)	10
	Benji MARSHALL (Wests Tigers)	10
	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	10
6	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	9
	Jarrod CROKER (Raiders)	9
	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)	9
9	Jamayne ISAAKO (Broncos)	8
	Cameron SMITH (Storm)	8
	Shaun JOHNSON (Sharks)	8

Broadcast future secured for rugby league fans

NRL Media Release, 28 May 2020

The Australian Rugby League Commission (ARLC), Foxtel and Nine Entertainment Co have agreed to a broadcast partnership to secure the long term delivery of rugby league to fans.

The deals provide certainty with both broadcasters recommitted to the current rights period until the end of 2022; with Foxtel extending its partnership for a further five years until the end of 2027.

ARLC Chairman Peter V'landys AM thanked both broadcast partners for their cooperation and collaboration and said the result is a win for fans, the game and all partners.

"I want to thank Foxtel CEO Patrick Delany and Nine CEO Hugh Marks for reaching an outcome that puts the fans and the game's future first," Mr V'landys AM said.

"I am delighted to have worked with our long-standing partners Foxtel and Nine to reshape and resume the 2020 NRL Telstra Premiership. It is significant that on one of the most important days in our game's history, we have finalised the deals to ensure its future.

"Our negotiations were tough but always in a spirit of goodwill and shared ambitions for the betterment of rugby league. We could not have reached our May 28 restart ambitions without the teamwork and collaboration of our partners."

"These deals provide certainty to ensure our 16 clubs remain strong and that we can continue to invest in grassroots rugby league across our communities."

For the resumed 2020 season:

- Foxtel will continue to show all eight games every round - including five exclusive telecasts each weekend;
- Nine will continue to televise three weekly NRL matches - Thursday and Friday nights, plus Sunday afternoon;
- Nine will provide exclusive coverage of the October 25 Grand Final;
- Nine will continue its exclusive coverage of the three State of Origin matches, to be held this year over three weeks on November 4, 11 and 18.

Foxtel Group CEO Patrick Delany said: "Foxtel is incredibly pleased to support the NRL through this difficult period and to have footy back on Foxtel this weekend, every round, every game, live and ad free during play.

"This is a great outcome for footy, for fans and for players. It's also a hugely important signal to everyone in Australia, and around the world, that we will get through these times, and we can keep players and coaching staff safe while we all enjoy the game.

"The agreement between Foxtel and the NRL extends our existing broadcast rights for a

further five years and cements our position as the Home of NRL until 2027. It provides the NRL with the certainty to continue to develop the status of the game and gives fans the go to destination for the best of NRL, all in one place.

"Being back on the field and back on air tonight doesn't happen without leadership. I want to acknowledge Peter V'landys AM and everyone at the NRL and the clubs for their passion to get the game back. It's been outstanding."

Nine's CEO Hugh Marks said: "As we approach the kick off for the resumption of NRL season 2020, I want to congratulate Peter on his leadership, and also Andrew for stepping into his role in these extremely difficult circumstances. They have both enabled us to confidently move forward and invest in the future of NRL.

"The team at Nine are in this for the long term and we all look forward to working with the NRL and all the stakeholders, as we continue to build on the success of the game for its long term future.

"Our on-air and production teams have combined to bring even more excitement to the game, further enhancing the experience for the fans at home starting tonight. Let's now all enjoy the game."

The financial details of the deal will remain commercial in confidence.

NRL confirms 2020 'Theme Rounds'

NRL Media Release, 27 May 2020

The NRL put the finishing touches on the revised NRL Telstra Premiership today, confirming the resumption of Themed Rounds for season 2020.

The NRL Themed Rounds will once again deliver memorable moments, funds and talking points which can positively impact the broader community. They showcase the very best of rugby league and why it is more than just a game.

In 2020, the NRL Themed Rounds are:

- Round 6 (18th – 21st June) – Mark Hughes Foundation Beanie for Brain Cancer Round. Beanies will be sold online from June 1 in support of the Foundation which raises funds for research, and supports brain cancer patients and their families.
- Round 12 (30th July – 2nd Aug) – Indigenous Round, to celebrate and recognise the role the Indigenous community plays in our game.
- Round 19 (17th – 20th Sept) – Harvey Norman Women in League Round. Now in its 14th year, this round acknowledges and celebrates the role women play at all levels of the game.

In addition, the traditional Anzac Day Match between the Dragons and the Roosters will now be played on Thursday August 6 (in Round 13) – the anniversary of the Battle of Lone Pine.

NRL Acting CEO Andrew Abdo said each round is unique and significant, encouraging fans to show their support during the respective rounds however they can.

"Despite the new parameters we find ourselves working in, it is vital these rounds go ahead because of what they mean to the game and the community," Mr Abdo said.

"They make an unquestionable difference to so many people's lives and provide the game with a wonderful platform to educate, unite and inspire both current and future generations about community, respect and equality."

"We're asking everyone to support these rounds, who and what they represent, in whatever way they can in 2020."

Tex me later, coach

What does Ponga's return mean for Knights' rookie?

Tex Hoy doesn't care where coach Adam O'Brien names him in future after the 20-year-old fullback had a debut to remember at Campbelltown Stadium on Sunday.

He just wants his name to feature somewhere on the team list.

Deputising for the suspended Kalyn Ponga at fullback, Hoy came up with a number of first-half trysaving tackles as the Novocastrians held on for a gripping 14-all draw with Penrith.

With Ponga expected to slot straight back into the number one jumper for this Sunday's clash with Canberra, Hoy just wants to be in the 17.

"I've played fullback the majority of my life and my next position is five-eighth," he said.

"I'm a pretty confident kid; I just want to be in that team now.

"I got the taste [on Sunday] and we obviously didn't get the win, so I want to get the win next time I play."

While Hoy admits fullback is his preferred position, he realises his future lies in the front line.

But five-eighth isn't a position that is totally foreign after he spent parts of the pre-season filling in there.

"I played fullback growing up and it's my funnest and my best position, but I've played at five-eighth a

fair bit so I know what I'm doing now," Hoy said.

"It's something I do want to explore with Kalyn here; it would be pretty cool playing that position with Kalyn, Connor, Pearcey and all that.

"It's just getting the defensive side of things up and running because at fullback you don't really do a lot of tackling."

The South Newcastle junior looked forward to the challenge of taking on rampaging backrowers - if that was what the coach needed.

"(That's) fine with me. Get me in there ... I'll do my job," he said.

"When you come in as a young five-eighth you are probably going to get spotted a fair bit so it's just about getting used to that."

But if there wasn't a vacancy for the number six jumper, Hoy would play anywhere from front row to filling in as a utility on the bench.

He's had a small taste of first grade; now he wants more.

"I'll be looking to put my hand up in all positions; I'll play anywhere."



Paul Jobber

LeagueUnlimited.com Contributor

Just happy to be playing: Newcastle rookie Tex Hoy at training. Photo: Newcastle Knights



The long road

March 12

The World Health Organisation (WHO) declares COVID-19 a global pandemic; As case numbers start to spike around Australia, the NRL is in crisis talks as the season is set to kick off that night between Parramatta and Canterbury at a sold-out Bankwest Stadium. The match proceeds.

March 13

A big day. In Europe, matches involving some Super League teams are postponed; In Australia, after much back-and-forth, the NRL decides to proceed with the full first round of fixtures with crowds; Prime Minister Scott Morrison flags limits on gatherings of over 500 people from the following Monday; Several lower grade matches are rescheduled to avoid clashing with NRL match days; Then-NRL CEO Todd Greenberg confirms that Round 2 matches will be played behind closed doors.

March 14

The New Zealand government introduces a range of restrictions which place the Warriors' immediate future in doubt.

March 15

The Warriors confirm they'll stay in Australia for at least Round 2 to ensure the competition can continue uninterrupted; Greenberg and ARLC chairman Peter V'landys front a press conference outlining their reasoning for the competition continuing despite large-scale government restrictions.

March 16

Rugby league's chief winter rival code - the AFL - announce they are reducing their season to 17 rounds in light of the pandemic. Their season is set to start the following weekend; The Roosters announce their Round 2 clash, originally scheduled for Gosford's Central Coast Stadium, will now be played at Leichhardt Oval. The Warriors clash against Canberra is also moved, to be played at Cbus Super Stadium on the Gold Coast;

March 17

The QRL places their statewide competitions, including the Intrust Super Cup, on hold til at least June 5; Canberra announce their Round 6 clash with the Knights at Wagga Wagga has been moved back to GIO Stadium; The RFL makes a call on UK-based competitions, which sees the Super League, Championship, League 1 and Challenge Cup all suspended til at least April.

March 18

NSWRL follows the QRL's lead, halting their seasons til at least the end of May across all competitions.

March 19

The NRL announces stepped-up guidelines to ensure player health and safety at matches; the first NRL match played behind closed doors sees the Cowboys down the Bulldogs at ANZ Stadium as Round 2 begins.

March 20

Asia Pacific Rugby League Confederation confirms the mid-season Oceania Cup tests involving New Zealand, Tonga, Samoa and Cook Islands have been shelved; The Warriors commit to staying in Australia 'as long as is required', although have withdrawn their reserve grade Canterbury Cup side should it resume later in the year.

March 22

The AFL calls a halt to their season after the completion of Round 1. V'landys is defiant, outlining the ARLC's intent to proceed until Government advice says otherwise.

March 23

While speculation raged for much of the day on the NRL's immediate future, that night V'landys and Greenberg fronted a press conference confirming the suspension of the 2020 Telstra Premiership. The decision allows the Warriors passage home before more stringent New Zealand travel guidelines come into play.

March 24

The NRL indicated to clubs that the premiership was unlikely to restart until June 1, and would need to be back underway before September to ensure a completed season could be achieved; The RFL extends the suspension of UK-based competition indefinitely.

March 25

Discussions flare over player payments with NRL's funds drying up in lieu of receiving broadcast revenue. The RLPA and ARLC issue a joint statement indicating discussions would continue.

March 27

May's NRL Magic Round, scheduled for Brisbane's Suncorp Stadium, is formally cancelled; The NSWRL and QRL move to cancel their statewide competitions, with the exception of the NSWRL Ron Massey Cup, Sydney Shield, and NSW Women's Premiership.

April 2

The NRL and RLPA reach a player payment agreement which would mean 5 months of player wages would be sacrificed if the competition can not restart.

April 9

Project Apollo prepares for liftoff. The ARLC announces the NRL will recommence on May 28. While light on detail, V'landys is adamant the game has stakeholder support to reach this goal.

April 14

A tumultuous Easter weekend saw plenty of back-and-forth in the media between the NRL and authorities over restrictions and the May 28 mooted date; Roosters boss Nick Politis reportedly wants the premiership table scrapped and the competition to start fresh from May 28; Tensions flare between the NRL and broadcaster Channel 9, with the network issuing a statement claiming a lack of consultation on the proposed resumption of the competition.

back

It seemed like forever - but after a COVID-19 enforced shutdown, the NRL is back on the field. Here's how it all unfolded.

April 15

Wests Tigers formally cancel their Tamworth fixture; The ARLC reportedly secures a loan from a British investment firm to stabilise its finances in the short term; V'landys moves to quell Nine's dissatisfaction with the resumption discussion, meeting with CEO Hugh Marks. Other reports suggest it would be beneficial to Nine if the NRL did not restart; Brisbane centre Darius Boyd says he'd rather not play if he had to leave his family to relocate to NSW in order to get the season restarted.

April 18

The Titans release English centre Kallum Watkins to return to his homeland; Both NSW and QLD coaches say they're prepared to make concessions on venues to ensure the 2020 State of Origin series goes ahead; The rugby league world mourns Wynnum-Manly captain Mitch Cronin after he died at home as a result of a training accident.

April 20

Following relentless pressure from media and fans, Todd Greenberg stands down as CEO of the NRL.

April 22

ARLC commissioner Wayne Pearce reiterates the intent to restart on May 28, outlining potential training return dates and confirming the ladder won't be reset; NSWRL flags its intent to restart three competitions in July; the Super League Magic Weekend is formally postponed.

April 25

Reports suggest the Origin series will be moved to post-season, likely in early November.

April 27

NSW reps Josh Addo-Carr and Latrell Mitchell are exposed having breached COVID-19 restrictions over the ANZAC Day weekend along with Newcastle rookie Tyrone Roberts-Davis. NSW Police issue Addo-Carr and Mitchell infringement notices.

April 28

The ARLC confirms the season will run for 20 rounds including the two already played, with the Grand Final to be held on October 25; Penrith's Nathan Cleary is the next player to be caught up in COVID-19 restriction breaches; the NRL issues monetary sanctions to Cleary, Addo-Carr, Mitchell and Roberts-Davis.

April 30

Further images of Cleary's actions circulate; the NRL and RLPA resume discussions on a pay deal for players given the new competition structure.

May 1

QLD premier Anastacia Palaszczuk grants government approval for the NRL's plans to restart the competition; The UK Government grants a 16 million pound cash injection to help keep the RFL in the black.

May 2

Australian Border Force grants the Warriors and exemption. They arrive in Tamworth to isolate on May 3.

May 5

Albury City Council move to prevent the Melbourne Storm from using council grounds as a training base. A local Australian Rules club offers their ground instead; The NRL and RLPA reach a player payment deal which sees players earning 80% of their 2020 salaries.

May 8

The Titans are forced to stand down Bryce Cartwright and Brian Kelly with the pair not prepared to receive a mandatory flu vaccine.

May 10

The Professional Rugby League Match Officials (PRLMO) issue a statement outlining their dissatisfaction with reports the NRL is looking to return to one referee for the remainder of the season; More players raise objections to mandatory flu vaccines; media reports indicate a broadcast deal extension for Nine and Fox Sports is imminent.

May 12

The NRL suspends Cleary and Panthers' teammate Tyrone May for COVID-19 breaches over which the former had previously lied about to the Integrity Unit. NSW Police re-open their investigation a day later and issue Cleary a penalty notice.

May 13

The ARLC confirm the move to one referee for the rest of 2020, along with a change to rules around penalties for ruck infringements, which will see referees wave a set restart instead of a traditional penalty.

May 14

The PRLMO confirm lodgment of a complaint with the Fair Work Commission as a result of the one-referee decision.

May 15

The NRL reveals the fixtures for Rounds 3 and 4, with venues to be confirmed. Media reports indicate the Origin series will be played on Wednesdays in November, starting November 4.

May 19

The ARLC confirms six venues to be used for the first phase of the restarted competition - Bankwest, Campbelltown, Gosford, Suncorp, Townsville and AAMI Park.

May 20

PRLMO & ARLC mediation fails

May 21

The full season draw is revealed with venues confirmed til at least Round 9.

May 22

The PRLMO and ARLC reach agreement which will see the one-referee model trialled for 2020.

May 28

Boot to ball! The NRL is back, with the Broncos and Eels resuming the Telstra Premiership at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane.

From the Wells

The new set restart rule - not so bad?

I know what you are thinking – ‘who is this guy and why do I care about what he thinks?’

Well, I am a nobody. But rugby league is the reason I followed a career path into journalism. And one of my biggest supporters at university was LeagueUnlimited. They let me write awful match reviews and live blog matches. Without that experience, who knows if I'd have ever become a sports editor at a regional Victorian newspaper. They looked upon my 'pro bono' sports work favourably and was a big reason I landed my first few gigs.

So, thank you, LeagueUnlimited.com. And thank you, Big League. I know we can't wait until we have you back in 2021.

Like many other rugby league fans, when the season restarted on Thursday night at an empty Suncorp Stadium with fake crowd noise and new rules, I took a deep breath, sat back and simply enjoyed the contest.

After all the speculation, all the news stories, all the mud slinging and heated online debates – in the words of the great Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson – "FINALLY, rugby league has come back".

Over the course of the weekend, like many other footy fans, I watched eagerly to see how the one referee system and the new set restart would affect the flow of the game.

I had put plenty of thought into why I would hate the new set restart rule. I thought of all the negatives possible. However, there was one outcome I did not ponder.

What if I liked the new rule?

It was during the second half of the Warriors versus Dragons match when I realised the worst – I was loving the new set restarts. The exact moment was when the Warriors' Blake Green picked up the ball, earned a set restart and little Kodi Nikorima strolled through some struggling Dragons defence to score.

Suddenly, giving away penalties on purpose to slow down the ruck seemed to have greater consequences. If you get put on the back foot, for the most part, you are going to stay there.



Joshua Wells

LeagueUnlimited.com Contributor

Teams will be rewarded for their hard work in attack. They will be encouraged to try new things, increase offloads and look for ways to expose tiring defensive lines.

And think of the Newcastle Knights for a moment.

Their courageous efforts show that even with a rule set favouring attack, defence is still going to be just as exciting.

It remains to be seen what discretion will be given for penalty goals. Will referees need to get the whistle out during tight matches in the last 10 minutes of a match? How many times have we seen the free points decide a close contest? The rule isn't going to be perfect – but for now it is a good change.

While I am still a nobody and no one really cares what I think, I put up a poll on Twitter to ask the punters – what did they think of the set restart rules following round 1.

I thought it would go the typical way – 92 per cent no.

But to my surprise, 60 per cent of the people who partook said 'yes' they liked it.

A handful said 'no' and 21 per cent of people need another week.

While the jury is still well and truly out, I look forward to seeing how this rule change plays out over the next few rounds.

Happy birthday!

This round's birthday boys:

Thursday 4 June Tom Starling (22)	Raiders
Friday 5 June Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (27)	Warriors
Saturday 6 June Jamayne Isaako (24) Ofahiki Ogden (24) Ray Stone (23)	Broncos Bulldogs Eels
Monday 8 June Jack Hetherington (24) Luciano Leilua (24)	Panthers West's Tigers
Tuesday 9 June Boyd Cordner (28) George Jennings (27) Moses Suli (22)	Roosters Eels Sea Eagles

What did you think of the new rule change?

Let us know on Twitter @LeagueUnlimited or tweet Joshua at @joshuawells93

THE FRONT ROW

GAME DAY

ROUND 4 MATCH PROGRAM

TEAM LISTS · MATCH DETAILS & STATS · PREVIEWS

WEEKLY TIPS Round 4

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

Tim Costello (3.5)

Roosters
Warriors
Storm
Eels
Cowboys
Raiders
Tigers
Bulldogs

Andrew Ferguson (5.5)

Roosters
Warriors
Storm
Eels
Cowboys
Raiders
Tigers
Dragons

Andrew Jackson (4.5)

Roosters
Panthers
Storm
Eels
Sharks
Raiders
Tigers
Bulldogs

Justin Davies (4.5)

Roosters
Warriors
Storm
Sea Eagles
Sharks
Raiders
Tigers
Dragons

Adam Huxtable (4.5)

Roosters
Warriors
Storm
Sea Eagles
Sharks
Raiders
Tigers
Bulldogs

Rick Edgerton (4.5)

Roosters
Warriors
Storm
Sea Eagles
Sharks
Raiders
Tigers
Bulldogs

Rob Crosby (3.5)

Roosters
Panthers
Storm
Eels
Cowboys
Knights
Tigers
Dragons

Steven Williams (3.5)

Broncos
Panthers
Storm
Eels
Cowboys
Raiders
Tigers
Dragons

Sam Bourke (3.5)

Roosters
Warriors
Storm
Eels
Cowboys
Raiders
Tigers
Bulldogs

Josh Robertson (6.5)

Roosters
Panthers
Rabbitohs
Eels
Cowboys
Raiders
Tigers
Bulldogs

Jeff Dickinson-Fox (4.5)

Roosters
Warriors
Storm
Eels
Sharks
Raiders
Tigers
Dragons

Hamish Parker (4.5)

Roosters
Panthers
Storm
Sea Eagles
Sharks
Raiders
Tigers
Dragons



P T G Pts								P T G Pts				
3	1	8	16	Jamayne ISAAKO	1	FULLBACK	1	James TEDESCO	3	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Corey OATES	2	WING	2	Daniel TUPOU	3	2	-	8
3	-	-	-	Jesse ARTHARS	3	CENTRE	3	Josh MORRIS	3*	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Darius BOYD	4	CENTRE	4	Joseph MANU	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Herbie FARNWORTH	5	WING	5	Brett MORRIS	3	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Anthony MILFORD	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Luke KEARY	3	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	(C) Brodie CROFT	7	HALFBACK	7	Kyle FLANAGAN	3	1	9	22
3	-	-	-	Thomas FLEGLER	8	FRONT ROW	8	Jared WAEREA-HARGREAVES	3	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Jake TURPIN	9	HOOKER	9	Jake FRIEND	3	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Payne HAAS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Lindsay COLLINS	3	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Ethan BULLEMOR	11	SECOND ROW	11	Boyd CORDNER (C)	1	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Jamil HOPOATE	12	SECOND ROW	12	Angus CRICHTON	2	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Patrick CARRIGAN	13	LOCK	13	Victor RADLEY	3	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tesi NIU	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Sam VERRILLS	3	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Joe OFAHENGAUE	15		15	Isaac LIU	3	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Rhys KENNEDY	16		16	Nat BUTCHER	2	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Matthew LODGE	17		17	Sitili TUPOUNIUA	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Cory PAIX	18	RESERVES	18	Siosuia TAKUEIAHO	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Xavier COATES	19		19	Mitchell AUBUSSON	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Thomas DEARDEN	20		20	Ryan HALL	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Pride PETTERSON-ROBATI	21		21	Lachlan LAM	-	-	-	-

*2 matches for Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks

ANTHONY SEIBOLD

COACH

TRENT ROBINSON

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Cordner (Roosters): 2 more points to reach 200 (club & career)

#NRLBroncosRoosters

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Thursday 4 June 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	Grant ATKINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Chris BUTLER Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	50 matches	Broncos 30, Roosters 20
AT SUNCORP	13 matches	Broncos 9, Roosters 4

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 10	Broncos 15-10	Suncorp
2019	Round 4	Roosters 36-4	SCG
2018	Round 24	Broncos 22-8	Allianz
2018	Round 11	Broncos 28-22	Suncorp
2017	Finals W1	Roosters 24-22	Allianz
2017	Round 13	Roosters 18-16	Allianz
2017	Round 6	Broncos 32-8	Suncorp
2016	Round 26	Broncos 24-14	Suncorp
2016	Round 21	Roosters 32-16	Allianz
2015	Finals W3	Broncos 31-12	Suncorp

BIGGEST WINS

BRONCOS:	36-2 at SFS, 1989 Round 9
ROOSTERS:	36-4 at SCG, 2019 Round 4

CURRENT FORM

BRONCOS	W W L
ROOSTERS	L L W

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Sea Eagles v Broncos, Central Coast	Thu 11 Jun, 7:50pm
Bulldogs v Roosters, Bankwest	Sun 14 Jun, 4:05pm

Match Preview

with Justin Davies

Kicking off Round 4 is a battle between two contrasts – a well drilled Roosters line-up filled with experience and talent against a raw but talented Broncos side unsure about its identity – all up it makes for mouth-watering footy.

The Roosters swept aside their traditional rival in the Rabbitohs to pick up their first points of the 2020 season – it was a ruthless performance which never gave them a sniff. The Tricolours are crowing for a three-peat and the addition of Josh Morris in the COVID-enforced break added another string to their bow.

The halves pairing of Luke Keary and Kyle Flanagan looked crisp and with the talent beside them in both the back and forward ranks makes them a tough prospect. Fullback James Tedesco served a reminder of his talents in the 16-point result and might haunt Queenslanders again.

For the home side, it is back-to-back games at a venue which is usually a fortress - but last week they wilted under the pressure from a premiership heavyweight Eels side. Now, faced with injuries and suspensions piling up might see the Broncos drop to .500 for the season.

With such a talented forward pack, Brisbane need their halves to step up to give them a chance against the defending Premiers. Brodie Croft - the new signing from Melbourne - sliced through for a solo try and ran out as captain in the second half after injury to second rower Alex Glenn, but his combination with Anthony Milford remains a mystery that needs to be solved by coach Anthony Seibold.

Who to watch: Thursday marks a big test in Brodie Croft's fledgling Broncos career, coming up against the defending premiers off a below-par performance with a young, inexperienced side. Croft took a majority of the kicking against the Eels with most being ineffective. A similar performance will gift the talented Roosters backline room to cut the Broncos to ribbons, so there is a heavy workload on the shoulders of Croft to kick off the round.

Coming off his last few seasons at the struggling Bulldogs, Josh Morris looked revitalized in the star-studded Roosters backline. The veteran once again alongside his brother will bring experience to the side and he will thrive against his Brisbane counterparts on Thursday evening... and might get his elusive premiership this season.

Favourite: The Roosters will start overwhelming favourites for this contest.

Tip: This is a simple one. Not only due to their last-start result and taking the same 17 into this contest, but due to the strike weapons across the park, this is the Roosters' game to lose. The Broncos showed in patches they can compete but just competing isn't enough against the back-to-back Premiers. **Roosters by 16.**

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.



P	T	G	Pts							P	T	G	Pts
3	-	-	-	Caleb AEKINS	1	FULLBACK	1	Roger TUIVASA-SHECK (C)	3	-	-	-	
3	-	-	-	Josh MANSOUR	2	WING	2	Patrick HERBERT	2	-	-	-	
3	-	-	-	Dean WHARE	3	CENTRE	3	Karl LAWTON	1	-	-	-	
3	2	3	14	Stephen CRICHTON	4	CENTRE	4	Gerard BEALE	1	-	-	-	
3	-	-	-	Brian TO'O	5	WING	5	Ken MAUMALO	3	-	-	-	
1	-	-	-	Matt BURTON	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Kodi NIKORIMA	3	2	3	14	
3	-	-	-	Jarome LUAI	7	HALFBACK	7	Blake GREEN	3	-	-	-	
3	-	-	-	(C) James TAMOU	8	FRONT ROW	8	Jamayne TAUNOA-BROWN	3	1	-	4	
3	1	-	4	Apisai KOROISAU	9	HOOKER	9	Wayde EGAN	3	-	-	-	
3	-	-	-	James FISHER-HARRIS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Adam BLAIR	3	-	-	-	
3	3	-	12	Viliame KIKAU	11	SECOND ROW	11	Eliesa KATOA	3	1	-	4	
3	1	-	4	Kurt CAPEWELL	12	SECOND ROW	12	Tohu HARRIS	3	-	-	-	
3	-	-	-	Isaah YEO	13	LOCK	13	Isaiah PAPALI'I	3	-	-	-	
1	-	-	-	Mitch KENNY	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Jack MURCHIE	1	-	-	-	
3	-	-	-	Zane TETEVANO	15		15	Poasa FAAMAUSILI	1*	-	-	-	
3	-	-	-	Moses LEOTA	16		16	King VUNIYAYAWA	3	-	-	-	
2	-	-	-	Liam MARTIN	17		17	Josh CURRAN	-	-	-	-	
2	2	-	8	Brent NADEN	18	RESERVES	18	Chanel HARRIS-TAVITA	2	-	1	2	
2	-	-	-	Billy BURNS	19		20	Hayze PERHAM	-	-	-	-	
1	-	-	-	Jack HETHERINGTON	20		21	Adam POMPEY	1	-	-	-	
-	-	-	-	Charlie STAINES	21		22	Leivaha PULU	-	-	-	-	

*1 match for Sydney Roosters

IVAN CLEARY

COACH

STEPHEN KEARNEY

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (Warriors): 4 more points to reach 200 (career)

#NRLPanthersWarriors

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 5 June 2020
KICKOFF	6:00pm AEST
VENUE	Campbelltown Stadium Leumeah, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Matt CECCHIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Tim ALOUANI-ROBY Drew OULTRAM
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	44 matches	Panthers 25, Warriors 18 (D1)
AT C'TOWN	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 15	Panthers 19-18	Mt Smart
2019	Round 10	Warriors 30-10	Panthers
2018	Finals W1	Panthers 27-12	ANZ
2018	Round 24	Warriors 36-16	Mt Smart
2018	Round 17	Panthers 36-4	Panthers
2017	Round 19	Panthers 34-22	Mt Smart
2017	Round 10	Panthers 36-28	Pepper
2016	Round 21	Warriors 20-16	Mt Smart
2016	Round 10	Panthers 30-18	Christchurch
2015	Round 23	Panthers 24-10	Pepper

BIGGEST WINS

PANTHERS	62-6 at Centretbet, 2013 Round 10
WARRIORS	52-8 at Ericsson, 2001 Round 9

CURRENT FORM

PANTHERS	W W D
WARRIORS	L L W

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Eels v Panthers, Bankwest	Fri 12 Jun, 7:55pm
Warriors v Cowboys, Central Coast	Fri 12 June, 6pm

Match Preview

with Adam Huxtable

Panthers aim to spoil the party for everyone's new second team.

Come Friday evening, both these sides will be watched with keen anticipation after they both featured in games that were equally as impressive - although for very different reasons.

The Panthers were set for an even match-up against the Knights, however they were dealt very favourable cards when both Mitchell Pearce and Connor Watson were ruled out of the match within just 10 minutes, leaving Kurt Mann as the only regular spine player on the paddock. Against all the odds, Newcastle were able to force a rare 90-minute draw against a Penrith side which lacked attacking flair.

The Warriors have chosen to endure the toughest season for a professional Rugby League team on record, living away from home for an indefinite period to keep the competition up and running. This action has earned them a special place in the heart of Rugby League fans, who were cheering the Kiwi boys on as they recorded an historic 18-0 shutout against St George Illawarra, breaking the record for most completed sets in the process.

For the Panthers, Stephen Crichton retains his starting spot in the centres after he was brought in as a late change for Brent Naden last week. Temporary halves Matt Burton and Jarome Luai will have their last chance to show Ivan Cleary why they should remain in the side when Origin halfback Nathan Cleary returns for the mountain men next week.

The Warriors have been forced to make more changes through injury. Peta Hiku is out with a rib injury and it is yet to be confirmed when he'll be back. In his absence, Karl Lawton will start at centre for the first time since his debut for the Titans in 2016, which was ironically against the Warriors. Two former Roosters in Poasa Faamausili and Josh Curran have been named on the bench as Agnatius Paasi drops out of the side due to a one match suspension incurred against the Dragons. Faamausili joins the club for a period of just 4 weeks before returning to the Roosters in a first-of-its-kind loan deal.

Penrith raced out to a 14-0 lead early last week however as the game went on, they looked out of ideas in attack, resorting to a basic game-plan that involved passing to Kikau, or kicking for touch and hoping for the best.

The Warriors looked a different side to the first 2 weeks of the NRL and if they can get anywhere near their 96% completion rate Stephen Kearney will be a happy man. It remains to be seen how much we can read into that performance though considering it was against the Dragons, who were apparently smashed by their own reserve grade side in the lead up. This game will reveal a lot about what we can expect from both sides in 2020.

Who to watch: New Panthers hooker Api Koroisau is firming to be the buy of the year this season, standing out for his side every week so far with his dynamic running game, last week making 93 metres from just 8 runs combined with 3 tackle breaks and a whopping 69 tackles. The effect he has on Penrith though might be most evident through his absence, with the side becoming noticeably less threatening when replacement hooker Mitch Kenny comes on. Kenny has been named on the bench again this week so it'll be interesting to see how many minutes Ivan Cleary plays his star number 9.

Warriors second rower Eliesa Katoa was a late inclusion in the starting side in Round 3, and he more than made the most of it. The 20-year-old is one of the brightest forward prospects across the ditch and he gave us a glimpse as to why last Saturday, finishing with a phenomenal 181 metres off 18 runs, 69 of those post-contact. He also bagged his first career try along with making 3 tackle breaks. Warriors fans will be hoping he can back this up with another standout performance and if he can it will go a long way to the his side matching it with the much more experienced Penrith forward pack.

Favourite: The Panthers are clear favourites to remain undefeated in 2020.

My tip: Don't be fooled by the odds - this is shaping up as a very tight contest. The Panthers were only able to score two tries against a Knights side missing three quarters of their starting spine and never really looked like scoring the winning try as the match went the maximum 90 minutes, with inexperienced halves pairing Luai and Burton struggling to ice what should have been an easy win. The Warriors hugely improved every aspect of their previous performances, with Kodi Nikorima producing arguably his best game since joining the kiwi franchise. It'll be tight, but I believe the Warriors forwards have enough grit and determination to match it with Penrith. That combined with the natural talent of fullback Roger Tuivasa-Sheck, who can sometimes be worth 8-12 points on his own, should see the Warriors sneak home. **Warriors by 6.**



P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
3	-	-	-	Ryan PAPHENHUYZEN	1	FULLBACK	1	Latrell MITCHELL	3	-	-	-
3	2	-	8	Suliasi VUNIVALU	2	WING	2	Dane GAGAI	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Justin OLAM	3	CENTRE	3	Campbell GRAHAM	3	2	-	8
3	-	-	-	Marion SEVE	4	CENTRE	4	Braidon BURNS	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Josh ADDO-CARR	5	WING	5	Alex JOHNSTON	3	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Cameron MUNSTER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Troy DARGAN	1	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Jahrome HUGHES	7	HALFBACK	7	Adam REYNOLDS (C)	3	1	10	24
3	-	-	-	Jesse BROMWICH	8	FRONT ROW	8	Tevita TATOLA	3	-	-	-
3	-	8	16	(C) Cameron SMITH	9	HOOKER	9	Damien COOK	3	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Christian WELCH	10	FRONT ROW	10	Thomas BURGESS	3	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Felise KAUFUSI	11	SECOND ROW	11	Jaydn SU'A	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Kenneath BROMWICH	12	SECOND ROW	12	Cameron MURRAY	3	1	-	4
3	1	-	4	Dale FINUCANE	13	LOCK	13	Liam KNIGHT	3	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Brandon SMITH	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Mark NICHOLLS	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Tino FA'ASUAMALEAUI	15		15	Ethan LOWE	3	1	-	4
-	-	-	-	Ryley JACKS	16		16	Bayley SIRONEN	1	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Max KING	17		17	Patrick MAGO	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Brenko LEE	18	RESERVES	18	Bryson GOODWIN	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Albert VETE	19		19	Tom AMONE	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Darryn SCHONIG	20		20	James ROBERTS	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Chris LEWIS	21		21	Keaon KOLOMATANGI	-	-	-	-

CRAIG BELLAMY

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Vunivalu (Storm): 4 more points to reach 300 (club & career); Graham (Rabbitohs): 8 more points to reach 100 (club & career); Mitchell (Rabbitohs): 100th career game

#NRLStormSouths

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 5 June 2020
KICKOFF	7:55pm AEST
VENUE	AAMI Park Melbourne, VIC
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Gerard SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Todd SMITH Phil HENDERSON
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	31 matches	Storm 26, Rabbitohs 5
AT AAMI	7 matches	Storm 8, Rabbitohs 0

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 21	Storm 26-16	Central Coast
2018	Finals W1	Storm 29-28	AAMI
2018	Round 21	Rabbitohs 30-20	ANZ
2017	Round 25	Storm 64-6	AAMI
2017	Round 11	Storm 14-6	nib
2016	Round 22	Storm 15-14	AAMI
2015	Round 10	Storm 16-12	AAMI
2014	Round 10	Storm 27-14	ANZ
2013	Finals W1	Rabbitohs 20-10	ANZ
2013	Round 22	Storm 26-8	AAMI

BIGGEST WINS

STORM	64-6 at AAMI, 2017 Round 25
RABBITOHS	41-14 at Aussie, 2003 Round 13

CURRENT FORM

STORM	W W L
RABBITOHS	W L L

NEXT UP - ROUND 4

Knights v Storm, Central Coast	Sat 13 Jun, 5:30pm
Rabbitohs v Titans, Bankwest	Sat 13 Jun, 3:00pm

Match Preview

with Rick Edgerton

Storm and Rabbitohs look for quick bounce-back as they try to adapt to the new six-again rule.

After being beaten convincingly at the hands of last season's two grand finalists, both Melbourne and South Sydney head into this encounter knowing a lot of work needs to be done in this shortened season if they are to compete for the top prize at the end of the year.

Much has been made of the six-again rule coming into play for ruck infringements in round three and which teams benefited and which teams struggled to adapt.

There's been a bit of noise coming out of Craig Bellamy's camp after their loss to the Raiders that they were in fact one of the teams who failed to adapt and they would need to alter their structured style of play.

It would be easy to assume the Rabbitohs fall into the same 'structured style' boat, but maybe a little too much has been made of which style of team suits the new rule change best?

From the outside looking in, it appeared the same fundamental values that have been the cornerstone of any team's success since rugby league was born, were at play more than ever in round three. Those who simply ran the ball and tackled the hardest came out on top and bore the fruit of the momentum boosts the new rule brings.

The Storm have lost big man Nelson Asofa-Solomona to a one game suspension and will be replaced by Queensland rep Christian Welch who made a successful return from a long injury layoff last week. Bellamy has opted for more versatility in filling Welch's spot on the bench, bringing in Ryley Jacks who will don the Storm jersey for the first time since serving a one year stint at the Titans in 2019.

Wayne Bennett has made just the one change with promising forward Patrick Mago named to make his injury return via the bench in place of Tom Amony. Watch for further changes closer to kick off with James Roberts' name lingering amongst the reserves.

Who to watch: Despite his forward pack being largely outplayed last week, Melbourne livewire Cameron Munster still managed to cause plenty of headaches for his opposition as he ran for 170 metres, busting 9 tackles along the way. Munster was one of the Storm contingent stating his team would need to play a little more eyes-up footy in the coming weeks and there's no better man in the Storm system than Munster to play that style. If the Storm can gain more momentum off the back of their forwards this week, expect 'the Munster mash' to prove lethal in this one.

One man who caught the eye for the Rabbitohs last week was Campbell Graham. More known as an up and coming winger, the 21 year old played a handful of games in the centres towards the end of last year and looked good again last Friday night when given a little more room to move. Big, strong and good on his feet, Graham has all the makings of a quality centre. There is of course the chance he's shifted back to the wing if James Roberts makes his return, but even in that instance he will be a danger man and it's worth noting he scored a hat-trick when these sides last met.

Favourite: Melbourne are heavily favoured by the bookies to bounce back on their home turf.

Tip: It's a rare occasion for Melbourne to be dominated on their home turf. Losing two on the bounce at AAMI Park seems unthinkable. Throw in the fact the Rabbitohs have never tasted victory there and the Storm appear good things in this one. Look for their wingers to feature on the scoresheet with Suliasi Vunivalu and Josh Addo-Carr each scoring 6 tries in their last 4 games against the Bunnies. **Storm by 8.**



P	T	G	Pts					P	T	G	Pts	
3	1	-	4	(C) Clinton GUTHERSON	1	FULLBACK	1	Tom TRBOJEVIC	3	3	-	12
3	2	-	8	Maika SIVO	2	WING	2	Jorge TAUFUA	3	1	-	4
3	1	-	4	Michael JENNINGS	3	CENTRE	3	Brad PARKER	3	2	-	8
3	1	-	4	Waqā BLAKE	4	CENTRE	4	Moses SULI	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Blake FERGUSON	5	WING	5	Reuben GARRICK	3	1	6	16
3	2	-	8	Dylan BROWN	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Dylan WALKER	3	-	-	-
3	1	16	36	Mitchell MOSES	7	HALFBACK	7	Daly CHERRY-EVANS (C)	3	-	- ⁺	1
3	-	-	-	Reagan CAMPBELL-GILLARD	8	FRONT ROW	8	Addin FONUA-BLAKE	3	-	-	-
3	2	-	8	Reed MAHONEY	9	HOOKER	9	Danny LEVI	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Junior PAULO	10	FRONT ROW	10	Martin TAUPAU	3	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Shaun LANE	11	SECOND ROW	11	Joel THOMPSON	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Ryan MATTERSON	12	SECOND ROW	12	Curtis SIRONEN	3	1	-	4
3	1	-	4	Marata NIUKORE	13	LOCK	13	Jake TRBOJEVIC	3	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Brad TAKAIRANGI	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Lachlan CROKER	3	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Ray STONE	15		15	Corey WADDELL	1	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Kane EVANS	16		16	Sean KEPPIE	3	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Peni TEREPO	17		17	Taniela PASEKA	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Oregon KAUFUSI	18	RESERVES	18	Morgan BOYLE	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	George JENNINGS	19		19	Jack GOSIEWSKI	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Will SMITH	20		20	Tevita FUNA	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	David GOWER	21		21	Brendan ELLIOT	-	-	-	-

BRAD ARTHUR

COACH

DES HASLER

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Ferguson (Eels): 8 more points to reach 500 (career); M Jennings (Eels): 2 more tries to reach 150 tries, 8 more points to reach 600 points (career); Sivo (Eels): 4 more points to reach 100 (club & career); Cherry-Evans (Sea Eagles): 9 more points to reach 500 (club & career); Sironen (Sea Eagles): 4 more points to reach 100 (career); Thompson (Sea Eagles): 50th club game

#NRL Eels Manly

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 6 June 2020
KICKOFF	5:30pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Ben CUMMINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Peter GOUGH Liam KENNEDY
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Ben LOWE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	141 matches	Eels 53, Sea Eagles 84 (D4)
AT BANKWEST	1 match	Eels 0, Sea Eagles 1

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 25	Eels 32-16	Bankwest
2019	Round 18	Sea Eagles 36-24	Lottoland
2018	Round 7	Eels 44-10	ANZ
2018	Round 2	Sea Eagles 54-0	Lottoland
2017	Round 1	Eels 20-12	Lottoland
2016	Round 22	Eels 10-9	Pirtek
2016	Round 7	Eels 22-10	Brookvale
2015	Round 24	Eels 20-16	Brookvale
2015	Round 1	Eels 42-12	Pirtek
2014	Round 24	Eels 22-12	Pirtek

BIGGEST WINS

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

CURRENT FORM

EELS	W W W
SEA EAGLES	L W W

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Eels v Panthers, Bankwest	Fri 12 Jun, 7:55pm
Sea Eagles v Broncos, Central Coast	Thu 11 Jun, 7:50pm

Match Preview

with Josh Robertson

Two big winners from Round 3 will come up against each other at Bankwest Stadium on Saturday night as the Parramatta Eels look to continue their unbeaten streak as they take on the Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles on Saturday night.

Parramatta were dominant against the Broncos in the season resumption match, taking advantage of the frenetic pace and the new ruck rules to dominate every facet of the game. The blue-and-gold's performance was good to the eye but the statistics showed that they benefitted from of the six again calls and had 17 more sets than their opponents.

The Eels sit on top of the NRL ladder as one of only two undefeated sides after the first three rounds. The performances of key players such as Clint Gutherson - who looked dangerous last weekend - combined with the speed and playmaking abilities of Dylan Brown and Mitch Moses, a fast-paced game looks as if it would suit the Eels perfectly. Coach Brad Arthur has been lucky enough to name the same 17 as he did last week with no injuries coming out of last weeks dominant performance.

Manly couldn't have been more impressive last weekend as they ran out 32-6 victors over a poor Bulldogs side at Gosford on Sunday night. The impressive victory could have even been bigger with Reuben Garrick only slotting 2 conversions from 7 attempts. Like the Eels, the Sea Eagles were able to benefit from the new rules more than their opposition with nearly 60% possession going their way.

Yet again, the plaudits for Manly's performance came through Tom Trbojevic who ran for well over 200m as well as scoring a double for his side. The Sea Eagles have a tougher task here this weekend to dominate like they did last weekend - but with an unchanged squad, Manly will get a confidence boost.

Who to watch: Electric five-eighth Dylan Brown will be a beneficiary of the new rule changes with the faster pace suited to the quick game of the youngster. The speed that Brown possesses will allow him to exploit a back-tracking and tiring defensive line which will help the Eels gain and add to their momentum - the example being that Brown ran for over 150m against the Broncos last weekend.

Whilst his brother stole the plaudits for the Sea Eagles last weekend, Jake Trbojevic was able to have a solid game and will always be a key part of any Manly performance. But under the new quicker game style, the test will be to find out if he can be as dangerous. The contest being played at a greater speed will put some focus on the gameplay of Trbojevic and how his performance is affected with a game that now suits smaller players.

Favourite: The undefeated Eels are better backed in this one despite Manly's solid form.

Tip: It's a hard game to pick because the Eels were superb last week and dominated the Broncos for the 80 minutes, but the concern is that they might not get as much momentum as they were able to last weekend. The new paradigm could also be something that makes picking games harder with either side just as likely to get quick momentum if a string of calls go their way. On paper, Parramatta look a classier outfit and whilst it will no doubt be a tougher contest this week, they should still have enough to beat Manly. **Eels by 8.**

North Queensland COWBOYS



Cronulla-Sutherland SHARKS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
3	1	10	24	Valentine HOLMES	1	FULLBACK	1	Will KENNEDY	3	1	-	4
3	2	2	12	Kyle FELDT	2	WING	2	Sione KATOA	3	2	-	8
3	1	-	4	Justin O'NEILL	3	CENTRE	3	Josh DUGAN	1	2	-	8
3	-	-	-	Esan MARSTERS	4	CENTRE	4	Jesse RAMIEN	3	-	-	-
3	4	-	16	Ben HAMPTON	5	WING	5	Ronaldo MULITALO	3	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Scott DRINKWATER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Matt MOYLAN	1	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Jake CLIFFORD	7	HALFBACK	7	Shaun JOHNSON	3	-	8	16
3	-	-	-	Francis MOLO	8	FRONT ROW	8	Toby RUDOLF	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Jake GRANVILLE	9	HOKKER	9	Blayke BRAILEY	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	(C) Jordan MCLEAN	10	FRONT ROW	10	Aaron WOODS	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Mitchell DUNN	11	SECOND ROW	11	Briton NIKORA	2	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Coen HESS	12	SECOND ROW	12	Wade GRAHAM (C)	3	1	-	4
2	-	-	-	Josh McGUIRE	13	LOCK	13	Jack WILLIAMS	3	-	-	-
3	2	-	8	Reece ROBSON	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Connor TRACEY	2	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	John ASIATA	15		15	Braden HAMLIN-UELE	3	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tom GILBERT	16		16	Siosifa TALAKAI	-	-	-	-
2	1	-	4	Gavin COOPER	17		17	Scott SORENSEN	3	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Corey JENSEN	18	RESERVES	18	Billy MAGOULIAS	2	1	-	4
1	-	-	-	Shane WRIGHT	19		19	Braydon TRINDALL	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tom OPACIC	20		20	Royce HUNT	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Reuben COTTER	21		21	Teig WILTON	-	-	-	-

PAUL GREEN

COACH

JOHN MORRIS

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Cronulla need 9 goals to reach 4000 goals in the clubs history dating back to 1967

#NRLCowboysSharks

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 6 June 2020
KICKOFF	7:35pm AEST
VENUE	Queensland Country Bank Stadium Townsville, QLD
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Chris SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Belinda SHARPE Matt NOYEN
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	48 matches	Cowboys 18, Sharks 30
AT QCBS	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 19	Sharks 16-14	PointsBet
2019	Round 3	Sharks 42-16	1300SMILES
2018	Round 23	Sharks 28-16	SC Group
2018	Round 1	Cowboys 20-14	1300SMILES
2017	Finals W1	Cowboys 15-14	Allianz
2017	Round 24	Sharks 26-16	1300SMILES
2017	Round 11	Sharks 18-14	SC Group
2016	Finals W3	Sharks 32-20	Allianz
2016	Round 14	Sharks 13-10	SC Group
2016	Round 1	Sharks 20-14	1300SMILES

BIGGEST WINS

COWBOYS	56-14 at Dairy Farmers, 2005 Round 13
SHARKS	42-6 at Toyota, 2000 Round 18

CURRENT FORM

COWBOYS	L W W
SHARKS	L L L

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Warriors v Cowboys, Central Coast	Fri 12 Jun, 6:00pm
Dragons v Sharks, Campbelltown	Sun 14 Jun, 6:30pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Sharks eye first win against in-form Cowboys.

Valentine Holmes will face off against his former club for the first time on Saturday evening when the North Queensland Cowboys host the Cronulla Sharks at Queensland Country Bank Stadium.

Chasing their best start to a season since 2017, the North Queensland Cowboys will come into Saturday's contest full of belief after downing the Gold Coast Titans 36-6 in an emphatic second half performance last week.

Sitting in fifth position heading into the fourth round, coach Paul Green has been dealt a major blow with behemoth Jason Taumalolo sidelined with bone bruising of the knee. As a result of the reshuffle, veteran forward Gavin Cooper will play his first game since the lockdown, while 19-year-old prop Tom Gilbert will come onto the bench for his NRL debut.

Staring down the prospect of their worst start to a season in five years, the Cronulla Sharks will be hoping a strong record over their opponents comes to the fore on Saturday evening.

Winning seven of their past nine clashes against the Cowboys dating back to 2016, coach John Morris has received mixed news on the injury front following the disappointment of last Saturday's 28-16 loss to the Tigers.

Losing premiership-winning playmaker Chad Townsend with hamstring tightness - breaking a run of 107 consecutive appearances - Matt Moylan will make his first starting appearance for the season in the halves, while former South Sydney outside back Siosifa Talakai will break a three-year first grade exile off the bench.

Who to watch: At a time when most wingers possess the physique to play in the forwards and the speed to go the length of the field in the blink of an eye, North Queensland utility Ben Hampton has made the most of his unconventional move to the wing. Coming through the grades at Melbourne as an understudy in the halves, the 28-year-old has formed a potent combination on the left edge alongside Valentine Holmes to give the Cowboys an attacking threat that has yielded four tries over the first three rounds. Chiming in with a healthy work rate in excess of 100 metres per game, look for the unassuming number five to continue his promising start to the season.

Regarded as one of the fastest players in the league upon his introduction to first grade two years ago, Tongan representative Sione Katoa will have his sights set on holding down a place in the Sharks' best 17 for the duration of the season. Spending much of 2019 with the Newtown Jets after starting the year in the NRL squad, the 22-year-old speedster has shown tremendous athleticism and involvement over the first three rounds much to the delight of coach John Morris. Capable of contorting his body in ways bygone wingers could never envision, expect Katoa to turn half a chance close to the try-line into four points on Saturday evening.

Favourite: Averaging 27 points over the first three rounds in a major improvement to their attack, the Cowboys are expected to have too much fire power for the struggling Sharks.

Tip: While the loss of Jason Taumalolo will undoubtedly take a toll on the home side, the absence of Chad Townsend should be the difference after 80 minutes. **Cowboys by 10.**



P	T	G	Pts					P	T	G	Pts	
3	1	-	4	Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD	1	FULLBACK	1	Kalyn PONGA	2	2	9	26
2	1	-	4	Bailey SIMONSSON	2	WING	2	Edrick LEE	3	2	-	8
3	0	9	18	(C) Jarrod CROKER	3	CENTRE	3	Enari TUALA	3	2	-	8
3	1	-	4	Curtis SCOTT	4	CENTRE	4	Bradman BEST	1	2	-	8
3	1	-	4	Nick COTRIC	5	WING	5	Hymel HUNT	3	-	-	-
3	2	-	8	Jack WIGHTON	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Kurt MANN	3	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	George WILLIAMS	7	HALFBACK	7	Mitchell PEARCE (C)	3	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Josh PAPALI'I	8	FRONT ROW	8	David KLEMMER	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Josh HODGSON	9	HOOKER	9	Andrew McCULLOUGH	2*	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Dunamis LUI	10	FRONT ROW	10	Daniel SAIFITI	3	1	-	4
3	1	-	4	Joseph TAPINE	11	SECOND ROW	11	Aidan GUERRA	3	-	-	-
3	2	-	8	Elliott WHITEHEAD	12	SECOND ROW	12	Sione MATA'UTIA	1	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Corey HORSBURGH	13	LOCK	13	Herman ESE'ESE	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Siliva HAVILI	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Tex HOY	1	-	1	2
3	1	-	4	Emre GULER	15		15	Jacob SAIFITI	3	1	-	4
3	1	-	4	Iosia SOLIOLA	16		16	Tim GLASBY	3	-	-	-
1	1	-	4	Jordan RAPANA	17		17	Brodie JONES	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tom STARLING	18	RESERVES	18	Gehamat SHIBASAKI	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Matt FRAWLEY	19		19	Chris RANDALL	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Kai O'DONNELL	20		20	Mason LINO	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Michael OLDFIELD	21		21	Pasami SAULO	-	-	-	-

*2 matches for Brisbane Broncos

RICKY STUART

COACH

ADAM O'BRIEN

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Havili (CAN): 50th club game; Wighton (CAN): 2 tries to reach 50 tries, 8 points to reach 200 points (club & career)

#NRLRaidersKnights

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 7 June 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	Ashley KLEIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Dave MUNRO Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Beau SCOTT

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	49 matches	Raiders 27, Knights 20 (D2)
AT C'TOWN	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 3	Raiders 17-10	GIO
2018	Round 2	Knights 30-28	GIO
2017	Round 25	Raiders 46-28	GIO
2017	Round 10	Knights 34-20	McDonald Jones
2016	Round 17	Raiders 29-25	GIO
2016	Round 3	24-all draw	Hunter
2015	Round 18	Raiders 36-22	GIO
2015	Round 13	Raiders 44-22	Hunter
2014	Round 6	Knights 26-12	GIO
2014	Round 2	Raiders 26-20	Hunter

BIGGEST WINS

RAIDERS	52-16 at Bruce, 1994 Round 18
KNIGHTS	52-6 at Marathon, 2002 Round 4

CURRENT FORM

RAIDERS	W W W
KNIGHTS	W W D

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Tigers v Raiders, Campbelltown	Sat 13 Jun, 7:35pm
Knights v Storm, Central Coast	Sat 13 Jun, 5:30pm

Match Preview

with Hamish Parker

Raiders and Knights to do battle in early season high-table clash.

Sunday afternoon sees early season success stories Canberra and Newcastle go head-to-head at Campbelltown Stadium in what shapes to be an entertaining clash. The Raiders are coming off an impressive 22-6 defeat of the Melbourne Storm, whilst the Knights are coming off of an outstanding effort last weekend. The Novocastrians were faced with injuries to key players Mitchell Pearce and Connor Watson early in the match, but still managed a 14-all draw against Penrith. This should be an entertaining game with a lot of free-flowing footy.

The Raiders look like they haven't missed a beat since their 2019 campaign which saw them progress all the way to the Grand Final. They are 3-0 to start the season and managed to comfortably take down competition heavyweights Melbourne Storm in their last game. The only change to their team is that Bailey Simonsson comes into the side to start on the wing, pushing Jordan Rapana back to the bench.

The Knights did well to manage a draw in their last game considering the injuries that they sustained early in the game and the fact that they had to come from 14 points down to level the scores. Kalyn Ponga returns to the side this week at fullback following a suspension which didn't allow him to play against the Panthers last weekend. Bradman Best maintains his spot in the centres after a superb performance last weekend which saw him score 2 tries. Mitchell Pearce has been named at halfback despite suffering a nasty head injury early in the Penrith game. Former Bronco Andrew McCullough will make his Knights debut and has been named to start at hooker for this game, with Watson not named due to the ankle injury he sustained against Penrith. Impressive rookie Tex Hoy will maintain his spot in the first-grade side this weekend via the bench, which pushes Chris Randall out of the 17.

Both of these sides are without a loss to start this season. Canberra have won all 3 of their matches, whereas Newcastle have won 2 and drawn 1. Canberra have looked in perhaps better form than what they did in 2019, with an attack equally as solid as their defence. The Knights have too been impressive under new head coach Adam O'Brien to start the season, but their middle forwards will have to match the Canberra pack and not let them gain too much ascendancy if they are to win the game. If the Knights can't take it to the Canberra pack, the game could end up getting away from them towards the end.

Who to watch: Canberra half George Williams was all over the park in the Raiders' last outing, making his presence felt in both attack and defence. Williams has been impressive in all three of his NRL outings to this point and will likely get better as the season goes on. Look for him to capitalise if the intimidating Raiders forward pack can get the better of the Knights.

Many will be looking forward to seeing Kalyn Ponga back in action after he served a suspension in the Knights' Round 3 clash against the Panthers. After over 2 months without playing any footy, Ponga will be itching to get onto the field. With the new 6 again rule, the fullback could prove to be very dangerous sniffing around the ruck with his speed and trademark footwork.

Favourite: The Raiders are favourites to take out this clash.

Tip: The Knights put on a great show of resilience and team resolve against the Panthers to pull back a draw last round. However, the Raiders have been far more convincing thus far in the competition and have identified themselves as a real contender. **Raiders by 16.**



P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
2	-	-	-	Tyrone ROBERTS	1	FULLBACK	1	Adam DOUEIHI	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Phillip SAMI	2	WING	2	David NOFOALUMA	3	4	-	16
3	1	-	4	Dale COPLEY	3	CENTRE	3	Joseph LEILUA	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Tyrone PEACHEY	4	CENTRE	4	Moses MBYE (C)	1	-	2	4
3	1	-	4	Brian KELLY	5	WING	5	Robert JENNINGS	3	1	-	4
3	-	3	6	Ashley TAYLOR	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Benji MARSHALL	3	1	10	24
1	-	-	-	Jamal FOGARTY	7	HALFBACK	7	Luke BROOKS	1	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Moeaki FOTUAIKA	8	FRONT ROW	8	Josh ALOIAI	3	1	-	4
1	-	-	-	Erin CLARK	9	HOOKER	9	Harry GRANT	1	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Sam LISONE	10	FRONT ROW	10	Thomas MIKAELE	3	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	(C) Kevin PROCTOR	11	SECOND ROW	11	Luke GARNER	3	1	-	4
1	-	-	-	Keegan HIPGRAVE	12	SECOND ROW	12	Luciano LEILUA	3	2	-	8
3	-	-	-	Jai ARROW	13	LOCK	13	Alex TWAL	3	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tanah BOYD	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Oliver CLARK	1	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Jaimin JOLLIFFE	15		15	Billy WALTERS	3	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Bryce CARTWRIGHT	16		16	Chris LAWRENCE	3	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Young TONUMAIPEA	17		17	Alex SEYFARTH	1	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Jarrod WALLACE	18	RESERVES	18	Josh REYNOLDS	2	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Jai WHITBREAD	19		19	Matt EISENHUTH	-	-	-	-
2	1	-	4	Anthony DON	20		20	Corey THOMPSON	2	1	-	4
1	-	-	-	Jonus PEARSON	21		21	Michael CHEE-KAM	2	-	-	-

JUSTIN HOLBROOK

COACH

MICHAEL MAGUIRE

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Kelly (GLD): 4 more points for 100 (career)

#NRLTitansTigers

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 7 June 2020
KICKOFF	6:30pm AEST
VENUE	Suncorp Stadium Milton, QLD
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

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

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	21 matches	Titans 9, Wests Tigers 12
AT SUNCORP	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 7	Titans 30-14	Scully
2018	Round 16	Titans 30-12	Leichhardt
2017	Round 21	Titans 26-4	Cbus Super
2017	Round 16	Titans 26-14	Campbelltown
2016	Round 23	Titans 19-18	Campbelltown
2016	Round 3	Titans 30-18	Cbus Super
2015	Round 13	Titans 27-20	Leichhardt
2015	Round 1	Titans 19-18	Cbus Super
2014	Round 8	Titans 22-6	Leichhardt
2014	Round 2	Titans 42-12	Cbus Super

BIGGEST WINS

TITANS	36-6 at Skilled, 2013 Round 21
WESTS TIGERS	42-12 at Cbus Super, 2014 Round 2

CURRENT FORM

TITANS	L L L
WESTS TIGERS	W L W

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Tigers v Raiders, Campbelltown	Sat 13 Jun, 7:35pm
Rabbitohs v Titans, Bankwest	Sat 13 Jun, 3:00pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Titans look to end twelve months of pain.

The Gold Coast Titans will be out to record their first win in a year when they take on the Wests Tigers at Suncorp Stadium.

364 days after upsetting Brisbane in a deserved 26-18 victory over the Queen's Birthday long weekend, the Gold Coast Titans will be desperate to break a run of 14 straight losses that has seen the side part ways with two coaches and concede 482 points for an average loss of 34-11.

Keeping pace in Townsville for 50 minutes before a second half collapse saw the side humbled 36-6 by the Cowboys last Friday, new coach Justin Holbrook will need to content with a poor record at Suncorp Stadium that has seen the side emerge with two premiership points just six times over 14 seasons in the NRL.

Holding a rare positive record over the Tigers with five wins from their past eight meetings dating back to 2015, the former St Helen's mentor has once again swung the selection axe with Tyrone Roberts, Tanah Boyd, Bryce Cartwright and former Melbourne utility Young Tonumaiepa all coming into squad.

Fighting back from a halftime deficit to down the Sharks 28-16 last Saturday, the Wests Tigers will be aiming to record three wins from their first four matches for just the fourth time in history.

Getting out to a 10-0 lead in even time before securing the victory with three second half tries last week, Tigers coach Michael Maguire will be hoping his side's good recent fortune at Suncorp Stadium continues following wins over Brisbane and Penrith (in Magic Round) last season.

Fielding the same squad that triumphed over Cronulla at Bankwest Stadium, former Melbourne duo Harry Grant and Billy Walters have been retained as the preferred hooker rotation with former New South Wales representative Josh Reynolds relegated to the extended bench.

Who to watch: Playing his first game in almost a year against North Queensland after recovering from a succession of concussions, second rower Keegan Hipgrave will have his sights set on making up for lost time. Gaining a reputation as a firebrand since debuting in the final round three years ago, the 23-year-old Queenslander produced a promising return last Friday with close to 100 metres and 40 tackles in only the second 80 minute performance of his career. Off-contract at the end of the season, look for Hipgrave to tear into the Tigers in an effort to shore up his NRL future.

Handed a chance to play in the number one jersey after starting his career at the joint venture in the centres, Lebanese international Adam Doueihi will be eager to showcase the skills that saw him in demand over the off-season. Opting to move on from South Sydney after the arrival of Latrell Mitchell blocked his path to playing regular first grade, the 21-year-old has been strong in the backline averaging over 100 metres and five tackle breaks per game. Earmarked as the man to take over the hallowed five-eighth role when Benji Marshall hangs up the boots, look for Doueihi to make use of his playmaking skills as the season progresses.

Favourite: Guided by evergreen playmaker Benji Marshall and a pack of unfashionable toilers, the Tigers are expected to get the better of the home side.

Tip: Having made a habit out of finishing in ninth position, the Tigers should win handsomely if they have any ambitions of playing finals football for the first time since 2011. **Wests Tigers by 18.**



P	T	G	Pts					P	T	G	Pts	
3	-	-	-	Dallin WATENE-ZELEZNIAK	1	FULLBACK	1	Corey NORMAN	3	1	-	4
3	-	1	2	Nick MEANEY	2	WING	2	Jordan PEREIRA	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Reimis SMITH	3	CENTRE	3	Brayden WILIAME	3	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Will HOPOATE	4	CENTRE	4	Zac LOMAX	3	2	7	22
3	1	-	4	Christian CRICHTON	5	WING	5	Mikaele RAVALAWA	2	1	-	4
-	-	-	-	Kieran FORAN	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Ben HUNT	3	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Lachlan LEWIS	7	HALFBACK	7	Adam CLUNE	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Aiden TOLMAN	8	FRONT ROW	8	Josh KERR	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Jeremy MARSHALL-KING	9	HOOKER	9	Cameron McINNES (C)	1	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Dylan NAPA	10	FRONT ROW	10	Paul VAUGHAN	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	(C) Josh JACKSON	11	SECOND ROW	11	Tyson FRIZELL	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Dean BRITT	12	SECOND ROW	12	Tariq SIMS	2	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Adam ELLIOTT	13	LOCK	13	James GRAHAM	3	-	-	-
2	1	-	4	Jake AVERILLO	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Trent MERRIN	2	-	-	-
3	1	-	4	Renouf TO'OMAGA	15		15	Blake LAWRIE	3	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Raymond FAITALA-MARINER	16		16	Issac LUKE	2	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Sauaso SUE	17		17	Euan AITKEN	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Ofahiki OGDEN	19	RESERVES	18	Tyrell FUIMAONO	3	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Kerrod HOLLAND	20		19	Matthew DUFTY	2	2	-	8
-	-	-	-	Sione KATO A	21		20	Jacob HOST	1	-	-	-
2	-	3	6	Brandon WAKEHAM	22		21	Jackson FORD	-	-	-	-

DEAN PAY

COACH

PAUL MCGREGOR

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Foran (CBY): 200th career game; Hunt (SGI): 50th club game; Dufty (SGI): 8 more points for 100 (club & career)

#NRLBulldogsDragons

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Monday 8 June 2020
KICKOFF	4:05pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE 2GB SYD/4BC BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Henry PERENARA
TOUCH JUDGES	Todd SMITH Gavin BADGER
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD

OVERALL	38 matches	Bulldogs 24, Dragons 14
AT BANKWEST	Inaugural match	

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 13	Dragons 36-12	ANZ
2019	Round 5	Dragons 40-4	Netstrata Jubilee
2018	Round 24	Bulldogs 38-0	Jubilee
2018	Round 14	Dragons 18-16	ANZ
2017	Round 26	Bulldogs 26-20	ANZ
2017	Round 14	Bulldogs 16-2	ANZ
2016	Round 21	Bulldogs 13-10	ANZ
2016	Round 14	Bulldogs 34-16	ANZ
2015	Finals W1	Bulldogs 11-10	ANZ
2015	Round 13	Bulldogs 29-16	ANZ

BIGGEST WINS

BULLDOGS	38-0 at Jubilee, 2018 Round 24
DRAGONS	40-4 at Netstrata Jubilee, 2019 Round 5

CURRENT FORM

BULLDOGS	L L L
DRAGONS	L L L

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Bulldogs v Roosters, Bankwest	Sun 14 Jun, 4:05pm
Dragons v Sharks, Campbelltown	Sun 14 Jun, 6:30pm

Match Preview

with Andrew Jackson

Two under-siege coaches face off with more than just two points on the line.

Oh, how the rugby league gods can be both so cruel and beautiful at the same time. For when the Bulldogs and Dragons run out on Monday afternoon, both coaches may as well be running out alongside them.

Paul McGregor and Dean Pay are both under enormous pressure and while they can make whatever calls they may please from the coach's box, their futures will be shaped by what we can see.

The 80 minutes on the field. And for both sides last week, it was 80 minutes that their fans would rather forget. It has spurred McGregor into action although Dragons fans still don't think he has got it right.

Ben Hunt has been shifted to five-eighth to try and free the much-maligned playmaker of the stresses of steering the team around. Adam Clune has finally been rewarded for strong form in the lower grades in previous seasons with a first-grade berth in the number seven jumper. Corey Norman slots in at the back with Matt Dufty left out.

As has already been pointed out, it was perplexing to say the least that McGregor would champion Zac Lomax as the side's first-choice fullback throughout the off-season only to dump him after one game. Now, Dufty has been snubbed after just two matches. How long does Norman have left? Longer than McGregor? It has been widely reported he too just has a fortnight left to save his job.

The Bulldogs may be struggling for form but they don't have to contend with the drama engulfing their opposition. Pay may be under pressure but he receives a huge boost with the return of five-eighth Kieran Foran.

Lachlan Lewis appeared on the outer when he was hooked midway through the Bulldogs' game with the Cowboys a fortnight ago but suddenly finds himself ahead of both Jack Cogger and Brandon Wakeham. Lewis has the potential with a varied passing game but his execution has really let him down. The return of Foran though should relieve pressure from the young playmaker and the entire team in fact.

Pay's men lacked their usual defensive fortitude last week but perhaps the return of Foran will give them enough confidence in their attack to know their work without the ball won't be wasted.

Who to watch: Both sides have million-dollar playmakers who for differing reasons have not lived up to their price tag. Kieran Foran has been dogged by injury but showed glimpses of his best last year for the Bulldogs, finishing the season with 13 try assists and 10 line break assists from 14 games. Look for Foran to challenge the Dragons forwards early with his strong running game while also adding much-needed composure to Canterbury's attack in the red zone.

Meanwhile, could a move to the number six jersey be what Ben Hunt needs to rediscover his best? Hunt hasn't been hampered by injuries but has publicly revealed his mental health battle. The weight of expectations that have come with his price tag at the Dragons, whether you believe it is unfair or not, have not helped. With the added pressure of directing the side around at halfback it's no wonder Hunt hasn't always delivered. But he wasn't the problem last week. Norman, who has since moved to fullback, did not support his teammate enough. Hunt was trying to spark something and kicked for 587 metres - there's no doubting his efforts. He just needed a change and now can focus more on his running game, which is his most dangerous strength.

Favourite: The Dragons are slight favourites despite the drama surrounding the club.

Tip: The Dragons have the better side on paper but it has been like that for a long time. The Bulldogs are a far more settled side, welcome back Foran and are usually more dependable in defence. They're the safer bet here. **Bulldogs by 10.**

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

ROUND 4

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

JUNE 4-8

Broncos v Roosters 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

Suncorp Stadium
Campbelltown Stadium
AAMI Park
Bankwest Stadium
QLD Country Bank Stadium
Campbelltown Stadium
Suncorp Stadium
Bankwest Stadium

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.



Buy a BEANIE



Leopard & Black Beanies \$25 available online,
in Lowes stores and selected IGA stores.
Kids Beanies \$20 available online only.



MARK HUGHES
FOUNDATION



PARTICIPATING
STORES NSW/ACT

markhughesfoundation.com.au