

The



LEAGUE
UNLIMITED

FRONT ROW

ROUND 5 2020

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 3



FINA-LEE HOME?

Has Brenko Lee found his place at the Storm?

INSIDE: GUERRA TALKS KNIGHTS FORM · CROSSWORD · R4 RESULTS & REPORTS
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THERE IS NO OFF-SEASON

From the editor

Tim Costello

Is 2020 the year of the blowout? Another batch of scores with plenty of margins in Round 4 - and while there were more closer games than the week before, there are still concerns the new rules - particularly the six-again set restart - have caused potential damage to the game in the medium term. Then there's the forward pass, which had two contentious moments on the weekend, the main one costing the Sea Eagles victory against the Eels. Should we be using the Bunker for forward passes?

Speaking of debates, at the time of writing, Paul McGregor remains Dragons coach. Following their fourth loss from four games this season at the hands of the Bulldogs, the directors at the Red V gave Mary the "full support of the board". Gulp.

In this week's mag, we speak to Melbourne centre Brenko Lee as he settles in at his fourth NRL club, and Newcastle back-rower Aidan Guerra as the Knights remain undefeated after four rounds. Those features start on page 12.

A big thanks to everyone for your continued support of The Front Row as we enter our third week of producing the match program for rugby league's premier competition. Keep the feedback coming and we'll keep improving it every week!

P.S. look out for the crossword on Page 16!

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The FRONT ROW

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**LEAGUE
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Roosters run rampant against feckless Broncos

Robert Crosby



0-59



A ten-try rampage has seen the Sydney Roosters hand the Brisbane Broncos their biggest ever loss in a 59-0 result played at Suncorp Stadium.

Holding the Broncos to nil for the first time at home, the Roosters flexed their premiership muscles with Brett Morris playing an instrumental role.

Named at fullback following the withdrawal of James Tedesco (fever) prior to kick-off, the 33-year-old speedster bagged the final try of the night, had a hand in two and saved another much to the delight of coach Trent Robinson.

Wasting little time to assert their dominance, Morris set up tries for his twin brother, Josh, (4th minute) and Joey Manu (9th minute) to give the visitors a 10-0 lead in equal time.

Forcing an error with a terrific hit on Thomas Flegler, Roosters lock Victor Radley (19th minute) was rewarded for his defensive vigour with a four-pointer underneath the posts to end any hope the Broncos had of mounting a

comeback.

Making their opponents pay for errors and penalties, Angus Crichton (26th minute) and Kyle Flanagan (32nd minute) added further tries before Luke Keary extended the lead to 29-0 with a drop goal as the siren sounded to hand the Broncos their largest halftime deficit.

Coming out of the sheds intent on making a statement, Luke Keary (44th minute) finished off a terrific break from Isaac Liu to race 50 metres for his first try of the season.

Following a run of penalties centre Jesse Arthars was sent to the sin bin, allowing Lindsay Collins (59th minute) and Crichton (63rd minute) to blow the score out to 47-0.

Further tries to Daniel Tupou (70th minute) and Morris (73rd minute) rounded out proceedings as the Roosters recorded the third-largest win in their 112-year history to finish as 59-0 victors.

In the only negative for the visitors, Victor Radley left the field with an arm injury last in the match.

Next week, the Broncos will look to bounce back when they face the Sea Eagles at Central Coast Stadium on Thursday night.

The Roosters, now back in the top eight and likely to have Tedesco back in the side, take on the Bulldogs at Bankwest Stadium on Sunday afternoon.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Brett Morris

2 points - Lindsay Collins

1 points - Luke Keary

Panthers puncture Warriors' bubble

Justin Davies



26-0



Penrith continued their unbeaten start to the 2020 campaign with a comfortable 26-nil result against the New Zealand Warriors tonight at Campbelltown Stadium.

Last weekend, Penrith took their foot off the gas and cost themselves a point. Tonight, it was full steam ahead from the Mountain Men who piled in five tries to blank the New Zealand Warriors and pick up their three win of the 2020 season while the Warriors turn from hero to villain after their strong performance last weekend themselves.

It was easy for young Panthers half Matt Burton to drop his head after his field goal woes last Sunday, but the youngster was in blistering form tonight against a Warriors side in a purple patch of form. Burton scored the opening two tries of the contest and supplied a slick ball to Billy Burns in the second half for a five-star performance to stake his claim to play alongside Nathan Cleary next weekend.

The bubble wasn't burst for the Warriors, it was shattered in one half of football. The Warriors weren't able to keep their high completion rate up unlike Round 3 and they were forced into plenty of defensive work. There were signs when Roger Tuivasa-Sheck or Kodi Nikorima decided to run to find some room

but the Warriors side that decimated the Dragons and thrived on their work was absent tonight.

One big question for next weekend will be Penrith's halves. Nathan Cleary should slot back in for their game against x but after strong showings from both Burton and Jarome Luai, both try-scorers and busy in their work, makes it a tough choice for Ivan Cleary.

Penrith started last weekend off like a house on fire, this weekend was more a slow burn. It took 11 minutes for their first points through Burton before the five-eighth doubled the advantage with a fortunate bounce off an errant Blake Green kick.

His halves partner Luai got into the act before the break, kicked ahead in Rugby League Live 4 style and gathered himself to make it 16-nil headed into the break. Panthers on course to redeem themselves after letting their lead slip last weekend.

A pair of tries in the second half from Josh Mansour and Burns - the former ending a 18-game drought - blew out the margin and made it the best start for the Panthers since the late 1990s as they chase a much more successful campaign this year.

For the Warriors, once the roll started it is hard to stop. They defended gallantly in the first half but against the Panthers attack combined with a lack of possession saw them complete an inglorious turnaround from nil stars to niled. Now they trot back to Terrigal to lick their wounds and prepare for next weekend.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Matt Burton

2 points - Jarome Luai

1 points - Apisai Koroisau

Munster mashes the Bunnies as Storm bounce back

Sam Bourke



22-8



Melbourne has secured their first win at AAMI Park for 2020, after they defeated South Sydney 22-8 to maintain their perfect record over the Bunnies south of the border.

Cameron Munster was the star, with the Maroons five-eighth taking the game by the scruff on the neck on two occasions, crucially swinging momentum for the home side to lead his side to a much needed win after a disappointing loss to the Raiders last week.

While the score flattered the Storm somewhat, the Rabbitohs will rue their missed opportunities to leave Wayne Bennett's side with just one win from their opening four matches. With both sides coming into the match off respective losses in Round 3, this match ensured that both master coaches in Craig Bellamy and Wayne Bennett would have their players on high alert in order to get their season back on the straight and narrow.

Predictably it was the home side that struck first, when halfback Jahrome Hughes combined with replacement centre Brenko Lee to put Suliasi Vunivalu away down the right-hand side. The Fijian international then found a flying Ryan Papenhuyzen in support and the Storm fullback streaked away to open

the scoring for Melbourne. Cameron Smith missed the conversion, and it was 4-0 to the home side after just 8 minutes.

Souths then struck back when big money signing Latrell Mitchell showed his class, throwing a sublime cut out pass off a set play close to the line to give Alex Johnston some space to set sail for the corner to score a sensational try. Adam Reynolds converted from the sideline and the Bunnies fought back to hold a 6-4 lead.

Nearing halftime, Munster grabbed the momentum for his side when he sliced through the middle with minutes remaining in the first half. The Queensland number six then linked with halves partner Hughes who kicked for the corner for Suliasi Vunivalu. The rugby bound winger then collected a lucky bounce to score and regain the lead for his side. Following another uncharacteristic missed conversion by Smith, Melbourne led 8-6 at halftime.

The arm wrestle continued in the second stanza, and when Storm prop Christian Welch was penalised for a strip. Reynolds had no hesitation to take the two points on offer and tied up the score at 8 all.

Melbourne then regained the lead, when Souths prop Junior Tatola was penalised for tackling Papenhuyzen on suspicion close to the line and Smith regained the lead, kicking a penalty from 33 metres out to make it 10-8 with 20 minutes remaining. Munster then again showed his class, when under pressure he showed excellent composure to kick over the top of the rushing Souths defence to hit Josh Addo-Carr on the chest for a superb try. Cameron Smith converted and the Storm lead 16-8. Melbourne then iced the game late, when the familiar pairing of Munster and Smith combined to send centre Justin Olam over to secure a 22-8 win.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Cameron Munster

2 points - Dale Finucane

1 points - Jaydn Su'A

Parramatta survive as Manly denied late win on controversial forward pass ruling

Jeff Dickinson-Fox



19-16



The Eels have held on for a three point in controversial circumstances tonight, downing Manly 19-16 at Bankwest Stadium.

After trailing for most of the match, the Sea Eagles were within three points of Parramatta with 55 seconds remaining when a pass from Tom Trbojevic to Reuben Garrick allowed the winger to crash over for a try, only for the play to be brought back on a debatable forward pass call. Upon replay there was widespread criticism of the live decision, which allowed the Eels to regain possession and hold on for victory.

It was a surprise to find Manly come back to position themselves to win, after the Eels led from the 30th minute and created a 19-12 buffer on the back of a Mitchell Moses field goal in the 72nd minute.

In the 76th minute the Sea Eagles looked out of answers in attack, but a ball from Daly Cherry-Evans to Brad Parker and on to Jorge Taufua allowed the winger to somehow crash over in the corner against the momentum of three diving Parramatta defenders.

On the restart of play Tom Trbojevic tried to connect with Taufua which Blake Ferguson slapped down, but it did grant a fresh set of six for Manly which led to the controversial forward pass call.

The win for the Eels is the ninth time in the last 11 matchups with the Sea Eagles that they've come away on top. Four-straight wins to start the season keeps Parramatta first on the ladder and shows they've addressed one of their main troubles from last season, consistency and beating the NRL's top teams.

It took 30 minutes for the first try of the match as Clint Gutherson and Dylan Brown combined with passes out the back to give Maika Sivo room to move at close range, Tom Trbojevic stopped Sivo but an offload to Michael Jennings broke the defence. The final minute before half-time and the first minute after half-time were killers for Manly as they conceded a try in both periods. Dylan Brown wrapped around Sivo off the scrum break which gave the winger his second try assist of the half.

The Sea Eagles started the second half by losing the ball on the first set and they were unable to stop Kane Evans barging over the line from close range which put them down 18-2.

A Taufua try off a 43rd minute scrum and a powerful Dylan Walker close range solo try against a sliding defence in the 51st minute got Manly back within striking distance of the hosts. After Reuben Garrick went two for seven on goal conversions last week, he went two for four tonight with both misses coming from Jorge Taufua's wing.

Jorge Taufua's two tries tonight marked his fifteenth career double. Up until today's match the Eels had only conceded two tries in the first three rounds.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

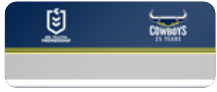
3 points - Maika Sivo

2 points - Jorge Taufua

1 points - Mitchell Moses

Temperature issues no problem for Sharks

Josh Robertson



16-26



Pre-game temperature dramas didn't hurt the Sharks as they notched their first win of the season with a 26-16 victory in a baffling game of Rugby League in Townsville.

Cronulla were left with the potential situation of not being able to field a side just 90 minutes before the game tonight, with six of their players recording a temperature higher than the 37.2-degree limit imposed under COVID-19 biosecurity rules. Thankfully, all six were later cleared and were allowed to play.

The opening twenty-one minutes went without either team troubling the scoreboard, although it wasn't through a lack of trying with Shaun Johnson missing a penalty goal attempt at the 15-minute mark when the Sharks were awarded a penalty after Josh Dugan was ruled to have been taken out in the kick-chase. Cronulla finally opened the scoring when Jesse Ramien was on the spot to get over the line, after Will Kennedy was somehow able to get an offload out the back. The conversion was successful and the Sharks lead 6-0.

The bizarre nature of the game about to unfold was starting to show itself when just four minutes later, Kyle Feldt was able to score down a very narrow short-side despite the fact there were three Cronulla defenders, but Feldt crossed untouched.

Not completing your set after points is one of the NRL's most cardinal sins - an error from Cowboys interchange player Shane Wright gave the Sharks good field position and it was Ronaldo Mulitalo who scored following a good kick from Johnson and - after the bunker cleared it - the Sharks went to a 12-6 lead.

They then had a try disallowed before half-time for an obstruction, as well as a wayward field goal.

The second-half was an all-round strange affair with the Cowboys scoring just two minutes into the second half when Justin O'Neill had more urgency to get to the ball off a kick than any of the Sharks defenders. The O'Neill try was not converted and the Cowboys trailed by just two points.

The Sharks then hit back just three minutes later when Mulitalo got his way over the line and was able to stay in the field of play to just get it down in the corner, extending the Sharks lead despite Johnson missing the conversion. Points continued to flow in quick succession with the Sharks again extending their lead out to 10 points when Jesse Ramien ran 65 metres following a Cowboys error which saw Johnson clean up the ball on his own line before putting Ramien into space.

Every story has its twists - and Kyle Feldt put another one into this game - when he was able to clean up a shocking grubber from Sione Katoa, and Feldt ran 60m untouched to score and close the gap yet again. Valentine Holmes added the conversion to bring the margin back to a converted try.

The Sharkies were able to extend their lead on the hour mark when Briton Nikora found himself in the right spot after Ronaldo got up to tap down a Johnson kick, and the Sharks second rower nabbed the four-pointer.

Another twist could've seen the Cowboys close the margin once more when the bunker was all but certain to award Esan Marsters a try before deciding to take a look at a final replay which saw Shane Wright get a touch to the ball just before Marsters caught it, so the decision was knocked back.

Neither side could test the others' try line in the final quarter of the match and the Sharks secured their 26-16 victory.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:
 3 points - Jesse Ramien
 2 points - Ronaldo Mulitalo
 1 points - Shaun Johnson

Ponga inspires Knights to upset win

Paul Jobber



18-34



NEWCASTLE fullback Kalyn Ponga returned from an 11-week COVID-19 and suspension-enforced hiatus to inspire his side to a 34-18 upset win over Canberra at Campbelltown Stadium on Sunday.

The Knights' fullback scored a try himself and had a hand in three of his team's five others as they continued their unbeaten start to the season and moved to second spot on the NRL ladder. Ponga only had to wait three minutes into his first game in 77 days to be involved in his team's first try of the game.

By all reports, the Queensland custodian has been terrorising his teammates on the training pitch since being suspended for a shoulder charge in the Knights' 42-24 win over Wests Tigers on March 22. He had to leave the field for a HIA in the 74th minute after being sandwiched in a three-man Raiders tackle.

Captain Mitchell Pearce - who successfully shrugged off a head knock during last week's 14-all draw with Penrith to take his place in the side - told Fox Sports after the game that Ponga hadn't missed a beat at training.

"Nothing really surprises me with Kalyn and it's hard to believe he's only 22 years old," he said.

Coach Adam O'Brien echoed his captain's thoughts on the livewire fullback's ability to continually improve.

"He knows a lot about footy and is good at coaching it. His leadership qualities have been outstanding; he's direct in meetings," he said in the post-match press conference.

The Knights raced out to a surprise 28-6 lead when Ponga was involved in winger Edrick Lee's second try of the afternoon before the Raiders rallied to close to within 10 points with 22 minutes remaining. But Newcastle appears to be made of sterner stuff in 2020 and they managed to drag themselves back into the contest and secure the two competition points.

"We had a disappointing period there in the second half, but we finished off well," Pearce said.

Teenage centre Bradman Best crossed for a double and admitted it was pleasing the Novocastrians backed up their stellar defensive effort from seven days ago against the Panthers.

"We were all sore during the week, but we came in on Tuesday and got it out of our heads (because) we wanted to make a statement; Canberra is a good side."

The Knights now face Melbourne at Central Coast Stadium next Saturday as they look to continue their unbeaten start to the season, and Best can't wait for the challenge.

"Melbourne will be another tough game, but we're up for the challenge," he said.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:
 3 points - Kalyn Ponga; 2 points - David Klemmer; 1 points - Herman Ese'ese

Titans secure their first win in 364 days in final-minute thriller

Adam Huxtable



28-23



No, your eyes aren't playing tricks on you. The Gold Coast Titans have managed to beat another NRL club, winning 28-23 against a Tigers side that pushed them all the way.

The Tigers raced out of the blocks in a similar way to last week against the Sharks, scoring in the 8th minute courtesy of a Harry Grant break. The young hooker was able to link up with Luke Brooks, who played the ball and Benji Marshall turned it inside for Adam Doueihi, who had an outstanding game. The writing was on the wall 5 minutes later when a left hand shift for the Titans turned ugly. Ash Taylor threw a cutout ball that landed in the bread-basket of David Nofoaluma, who streaked away to become the outright leading try-scorer in the NRL. It was looking like another heavy defeat to the hapless Titans.

The Titans were struggling to get out of their own end when Taylor showed the form that Rugby League has been missing for the last 3 or so years. The million-dollar playmaker turned momentum for the Titans with a 40/20 that took a horrible bounce but eventually went into touch about 5 metres from the tryline.

The Titans took full advantage of that play, with Kevin Proctor running a superb line at Marshall and Grant, who both produced poor goal-line tackle attempts on the big second rower. Taylor compounded the positive effects of his 40/20 by converting the kick. From that passage of play, it seemed the Gold Coast had found a new lease on life. New recruit Young Tonumaiepa produced an effort play the Titans have been sorely missing and forced Tigers captain Moses Mbye back into the in goal on play 2. From the repeat set, Taylor executed a cross-

field kick to perfection and Anthony Don did what he's done so many times before and out-leapt his opposing winger to score. Taylor attempted a field goal right on the half time hooter, however he missed to the left, sending the two sides into half time deadlocked.

It took the Tigers just 3 minutes in the second half to produce one of the team tries of the season. A bomb was left unattended and they managed to regain possession, going sideline to sideline when David Nofoaluma got a kick in field to send Joseph Leilua in for his first try as a Tiger.

10 minutes later it appeared the first half was a false dawn for the Titans when Nofoaluma leaped above Dale Copley to claim a cross field kick eerily similar to Taylor's in the first half. Benji converted, handing the Tigers a 10 point lead with 25 minutes to go. The Titans hit back quite quickly though, with Keegan Hipgrave doing it all himself, reaching out under the uprights to score his first ever try in the NRL. All of the sudden it was a four-point ball game with 20 to go.

Both sides went back and forth for just over 10 minutes, with the Titans throwing away numerous opportunities. The Tigers seemed to have repelled them when debutant Jaimin Jolliffe dropping the ball. That wasn't the case though, 3 minutes later Brian Kelly swooping on a pin-point Taylor grubber to level up. The Gold Coast half was unable to convert this time though, meaning we were all tied up again with under 10 minutes to go.

The match appeared over in the 77th minute when Marshall coolly slotted a field goal from 20 metres out, giving the Tigers a one point advantage. The Titans weren't about to give up, and they pounced on a short kickoff that only just went the required 10 metres.

The Gold Coast were in prime position to level up again on the last, however they defied all logic by running the ball. They shifted to the left and Kelly was 100/1 to beat the defence and score. So he didn't try to. Rather he went with the hail-mary grubber and the bounce of the ball went the way of the Titans for the first time in 364 days as Sami streaked through to score.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Young Tonumaiepa

2 points - Ashley Taylor

1 points - Brian Kelly

Mary quite contrary as Bulldogs leave Saints winless

Tim Costello



22-2



Canterbury-Bankstown got off the mark for 2020, a 22-2 win leaving St George Illawarra winless after four rounds following tonight's match at Bankwest Stadium.

The loss for the Dragons leaves the once-proud club alone at the foot of the NRL ladder and lowers the proverbial guillotine above the head of coach Paul McGregor as cries grow for the former Steelers and Dragons centre to be let go by the club.

For Canterbury, it was a well-earned win on the back of the return of half Kieran Foran, who missed the first three games through injury this season.

"Both teams were desperate, we were pretty happy with that performance", Foran told Fox League post-game.

"I think completion stands out - we got through our game plan and I thought it was a pretty good team effort."

Both sides started with a spring in their step, although execution was clearly lacking. St George Illawarra hit the scoreboard first with a Zac Lomax penalty goal after 6 minutes.

Sadly for Dragons fans, that was the sum total of their pointscore for the evening, with Canterbury overtaking them through an Adam Elliott try up the middle just after the 20 minute mark. Nick Meaney's conversion saw the Bulldogs lead 6-2, which pushed out to 8-2 when the winger converted a penalty goal attempt six minutes later.

The 'Dogs dominated possession through most of the first half, gaining another two points from a penalty in the 32nd minute. The 10-point lead was maintained into halftime and beyond.

Things got dark for the Saints at the 50-minute mark when the Bulldogs scored their second, Nick Meaney taking advantage of the numbers down the left and converting his own effort from the touchline.

A Dragons comeback looked possible after 69 minutes when Jordan Pereira set sail for the corner but his grounding contacted the touch-ingoal line, the Bunker denying the Dragons winger and deflating their hopes of staging a late fightback. Two minutes later Canterbury struck at the other end when a high ball came down in the arms of centre Reimis Smith and the home side's lead stretched to twenty points, where it would stay until the fulltime siren.

LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:

3 points - Will Hopoate

2 points - Dallin Watene-Zelezniak

1 points - Adam Elliott

The scoresheet

Scores, scorers, match details from Round 4

Roosters 59 (Josh Morris, Kyle Flanagan, Joseph Manu, Victor Radley, Angus Crichton (2), Luke Keary, Lindsay Collins, Daniel Tupou, Brett Morris tries; Kyle Flanagan 9/10 goals; Luke Keary 1 field goal) def **Broncos 0**

Venue: Suncorp Stadium; Date: Thursday 4 June 2020, 7:50pm AEST; Halftime: Roosters 29-0

Referee: Grant Atkins; Touch Judges: Chris Butler, Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Ben Galea

Panthers 26 (Matt Burton (2), Jarome Luai, Josh Mansour, Billy Burns tries; Stephen Crichton 3/5 goals) def **Warriors 0**

Venue: Campbelltown Stadium; Date: Friday 5 June 2020, 6:00pm AEST; Halftime: Panthers 16-0

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

Storm 22 (Ryan Papenhuyzen, Suliasi Vunivalu, Josh Addo-Carr, Justin Olam tries; Cameron Smith 3/5 goals) def **Rabbitohs 8** (Alex Johnston try; Adam Reynolds 2/2 goals)

Venue: AAMI Park; Date: Friday 5 June 2020, 7:55pm AEST; Halftime: Storm 8-6

Referee: Gerard Sutton; Touch Judges: Todd Smith, Phil Henderson; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Bryan Norrie

Eels 19 (Michael Jennings, Dylan Brown, Kane Evans tries; Mitchell Moses 3/4 goals; Mitchell Moses 1 field goal) def **Sea Eagles 16** (Jorge Taufua (2), Dylan Walker tries; Reuben Garrick 2/4 goals)

Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Saturday 6 June 2020, 5:30pm AEST; Halftime: Eels 12-2

Referee: Ben Cummins; Touch Judges: Peter Gough, Liam Kennedy; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Ben Lowe;

Sharks 26 (Jesse Ramien (2), Ronaldo Mulitalo (2), Briton Nikora tries; Shaun Johnson 3/6 goals)

def **Cowboys 16** (Kyle Feldt (2), Justin O'Neill tries; Valentine Holmes 2/3 goals)

Venue: Queensland Country Bank Stadium; Date: Saturday 6 June 2020, 7:35pm AEST; Halftime: Sharks 12-6

Referee: Chris Sutton; Touch Judges: Belinda Sharpe, Matt Noyen; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Bryan Norrie

Knights 34 (Bradman Best (2), Kalyn Ponga, Enari Tuala, Edrick Lee (2) tries; Kalyn Ponga 4/5, Tex Hoy 1/1 goals)

def **Raiders 18** (Jack Wighton, Nick Cotric, Josh Papali'i tries; Jarrod Croker 3/3 goals)

Venue: Campbelltown Stadium; Date: Sunday 7 June 2020, 4:05pm AEST; Halftime: Knights 16-6

Referee: Ashley Klein; Touch Judges: Dave Munro, Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Beau Scott

Titans 28 (Kevin Proctor, Anthony Don, Keegan Hipgrave, Brian Kelly, Phillip Sami tries; Ashley Taylor 4/5 goals)

def **Wests Tigers 23** (Adam Doueihi, David Nofoaluma (2), Joseph Leilua tries; Benji Marshall 3/4 goals, 1 field goal)

Venue: Suncorp Stadium; Date: Sunday 7 June 2020, 6:30pm AEST; Halftime: 12-all

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

Bulldogs 22 (Reimis Smith, Nick Meaney, Adam Elliott tries; Nick Meaney 5/5 goals)

def **Dragons 2** (Zac Lomax 1/1 goals)

Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Monday 8 June 2020, 4:05pm AEST; Halftime: Bulldogs 10-2

Referee: Henry Perenara; Touch Judges: Todd Smith, Gavin Badger; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Bryan Norrie

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LeagueUnlimited Player of the Year

Standings after Round 4

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

Matt Burton (Panthers), Tom Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Dylan Brown (Eels), Jason Taumalolo (Cowboys), Cameron Munster (Storm)

5 points

Mitchell Pearce (Knights), Jarrod Croker (Raiders), Mitchell Moses (Eels), Kalyn Ponga (Knights), David Klemmer (Knights), Benji Marshall (Wests Tigers)

4 points

Brett Morris (Roosters), George Williams (Raiders), Dallin Watene-Zelezniak (Bulldogs), James Tedesco (Roosters)

3 points

Luke Brooks (Wests Tigers), Blake Green (Warriors), Nathan Cleary (Panthers), Kotoni Staggs (Broncos), Luke Keary (Roosters), Isaah Yeo (Panthers), Maika Sivo (Eels), Jamayne Isaako (Broncos), Jesse Ramien (Sharks), Young Tonumaiepa (Titans), Cameron Smith (Storm), Shaun Johnson (Sharks), Will Hopoate (Bulldogs), Jake Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Viliame Kikau (Panthers), Adam Reynolds (Rabbitohs), Jack Wighton (Raiders)

2 points

Scott Drinkwater (Cowboys), Clinton Gutherson (Eels), Michael Jennings (Eels), Dale Finucane (Storm), Ronaldo Mulitalo (Sharks), Ashley Taylor (Titans), Jorge Taufua (Sea Eagles), Jarome Luai (Panthers), Bradman Best (Knights), Lindsay Collins (Roosters), Kodi Nikorima (Warriors), Daly Cherry-Evans (Sea Eagles), Stephen Crichton (Panthers), Anthony Milford (Broncos), David Nofalo (Wests Tigers), Jahrome Hughes (Storm), Emre Guler (Raiders), David Fifita (Broncos), Nick Cotric (Raiders), Michael Morgan (Cowboys), Sione Katoa (Bulldogs)

1 point

Ethan Lowe (Rabbitohs), Daniel Saifiti (Knights), Tui Kamikamica (Storm), Alex Twal (Wests Tigers), Shaun Lane (Eels), Brian Kelly (Titans), Phillip Sami (Titans), Adam Elliott (Bulldogs), Tevita Pangai Junior (Broncos), Jaydn Su'A (Rabbitohs), Herman Ese'ese (Knights), Valentine Holmes (Cowboys), Reed Mahoney (Eels), Wade Graham (Sharks), Thomas Flegler (Broncos), Daniel Tupou (Roosters), Josh Papali'i (Raiders), Tyrell Fuimaono (Dragons), Apisai Koroisau (Panthers), Coen Hess (Cowboys), Curtis Sironen (Sea Eagles), Connor Watson (Knights), Eliesa Katoa (Warriors)

NRL Match Review

Round 4 Charge Sheet

Waga Blake (Eels)

Grade 1 Careless High Tackle
19th minute, on Danny Levi (Sea Eagles)
Base penalty \$1500 fine
7 year incident free discount (50%)
Guilty / no contest = \$750 fine
Guilty - early plea = \$550 fine
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **\$550 fine**

Sam Lisone (Titans)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
15th minute, on Adam Doueihy (Wests Tigers)
Base penalty 100 points
Guilty / no contest = 100 points (1 match)
Guilty - early plea = 75 points (1 match)
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **No suspension.**
75 carryover points accrued

Ash Taylor (Titans)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
67th minute, on Luke Garner (Wests Tigers)
Base penalty 100 points
Guilty / no contest = 100 points (1 match)
Guilty - early plea = 75 points (1 match)
PLEA: Guilty - early plea
OUTCOME: **No suspension.**
75 carryover points accrued

Reimis Smith (Bulldogs)

Grade 1 Dangerous Contact (head/neck)
17th minute, on Mikaele Ravalawa (Dragons)
Base penalty 100 points
1 x non-similar prior offence last 2 years (20% loading)
30 carryover points to be added
Guilty / no contest = 150+30=180 points (1 match)
Guilty - early plea = 90+30=120 points (1 match)
PLEA: Not guilty - challenged at judiciary
OUTCOME: Guilty. **1 match suspension.**
80 carryover points accrued

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 with our live blogs on match day.

Premiership ladder

NRL 2020 Telstra Premiership after Round 4

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Pts
1.	Parramatta Eels	4	4	0	0	107	30	77	8
2.	Newcastle Knights	4	3	0	1	110	56	54	7
3.	Penrith Panthers	4	3	0	1	92	56	36	7
4.	Canberra Raiders	4	3	1	0	84	52	32	6
5.	Melbourne Storm	4	3	1	0	58	44	14	6
6.	Sydney Roosters	4	2	2	0	109	41	68	4
7.	North Queensland Cowboys	4	2	2	0	97	76	21	4
8.	Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles	4	2	2	0	61	51	10	4
9.	Wests Tigers	4	2	2	0	99	100	-1	4
10.	Brisbane Broncos	4	2	2	0	56	132	-76	4
11.	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	4	1	3	0	70	78	-8	2
12.	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	4	1	3	0	46	66	-20	2
13.	South Sydney Rabbitohs	4	1	3	0	60	90	-30	2
14.	Warriors	4	1	3	0	24	66	-42	2
15.	Gold Coast Titans	4	1	3	0	46	129	-83	2
16.	St George Illawarra Dragons	4	0	4	0	44	96	-52	0

Stats leaders

after Round 4

Top Tryscorers

1	David NOFOALUMA (Wests Tigers)	6
2	Edrick LEE (Knights)	4
	Bradman BEST (Knights)	4
	Kyle FELDT (Cowboys)	4
	Ben HAMPTON (Cowboys)	4
	Kotoni STAGGS (Broncos)	4
7	Enari TUALA (Knights)	3
	Jorge TAUFUA (Sea Eagles)	3
	Daniel TUPOU (Roosters)	3
	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	3
	Jack WIGHTON (Raiders)	3
	Dylan BROWN (Eels)	3
	Viliame KIKAU (Panthers)	3
	Tom TRBOJEVIC (Sea Eagles)	3
	Suliasi VUNIVALU (Storm)	3

Top Pointscorers

1	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)	(2t 18g) 44
2	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	(1t 19g 1fg) 43
3	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	(3t 13g) 38
4	Benji MARSHALL (Wests Tigers)	(1t 13g 1fg) 31
5	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	(1t 12g) 28
	Valentine HOLMES (Cowboys)	(1t 12g) 28
7	Jarrod CROKER (Raiders)	(12g) 24
	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	(1t 10g) 24
	David NOFOALUMA (Wests Tigers)	(6t) 24
	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	(2t 8g) 24

Top Goalkickers

1	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	19/21 (90%)
2	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)	18/22 (82%)
3	Benji MARSHALL (Wests Tigers)	13/18 (72%)
	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	13/19 (68%)
5	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	12/13 (92%)
	Valentine HOLMES (Cowboys)	12/17 (71%)
	Jarrod CROKER (Raiders)	12/14 (86%)
8	Shaun JOHNSON (Sharks)	11/16 (69%)
	Cameron SMITH (Storm)	11/14 (79%)
10	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	10/10 (100%)

Statement: COVID-19 Protocols - Bulldogs

NRL Media Release, 5 Jun 2020

The National Rugby League (NRL) acknowledges the response by the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs to the breach of COVID-19 biosecurity protocols at a training session on Thursday 4 June.

The Bulldogs club has quickly accepted responsibility for the breach and has committed to improve its processes to ensure the club complies with the protocols in the future.

Acting chief executive Andrew Abdo recognised the Club's acceptance of wrongdoing but said it was a reminder that Clubs, players and staff must ensure that the game's protocols are complied with at all times.

"Our biosecurity protocols are stricter than current government health orders to ensure the health and safety of all players and staff in our ecosystem," he said.

"The rules must be complied with at all times to protect the competition."

The Club has been issued with a breach notice in relation to its failure to comply with the COVID-19 rules. The notice proposes a suspended fine of \$25,000.

The NRL was satisfied that the breach was inadvertent, that the club immediately accepted responsibility and has committed to improve its compliance with the protocols. On account of those facts and the club's previous adherence to the protocols, the NRL will suspend the application of the fine for the balance of the 2020 season.

The Bulldogs have been advised there is no contamination risk to the playing group and are allowed to return to training.



Women's Rugby League elite competition confirmed for 2020

NRL Media Release, 9 Jun 2020

The Australian Rugby League Commission (ARLC) has approved the continuation of the women's elite competition (NRLW) for the 2020 season, commencing in September.

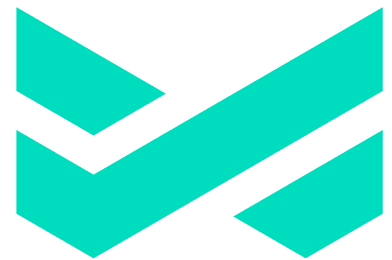
The ARLC reiterated its strong support for growing the women's game at both the grassroots and elite level. The announcement comes after the Commission had already approved a stand-alone Women's State of Origin match on Friday November 13.

ARLC Chairman Peter V'landys AM thanked the NRLW clubs and elite women for their cooperation and patience during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The women's game is a very important element of Rugby League. We are very proud of our achievements in the women's game and we should be providing it the significance it deserves.

"I want to thank the clubs for their commitment to women's sport and the players themselves for their understanding as we worked through this process. I also want to thank our broadcast partners Channel Nine and Foxtel for their ongoing commitment to the women's game."

The NRLW will remain a four team competition in 2020 with the Grand Final to be played on the same day as the NRL Grand Final on Sunday October 25.



Happy birthday!

This round's birthday boys:

Wednesday 10 June

Josh Curran (21 - Warriors)
Ryan Papnehuyzen (22 - Storm)

Thursday 11 June

Hudson Young (22 - Raiders)

Friday 12 June

Chris Lewis (28 - Storm)

Sunday 14 June

Brad Takairangi (31 - Eels)

Tuesday 16 June

Euan Aitken (25 - Dragons)
Latrell Mitchell (23 - Rabbitohs)
Matt Moylan (29 - Sharks)
Zac Saddler (21 - Sea Eagles)

Shelter at the Storm

Could this young journeyman be another Storm success story?

At just 24 and his fourth NRL club in his 53-game career, Brenko Lee admits his move to Melbourne Storm in 2020 could be the last roll of the dice to establish himself as a first grader.

Unsettled at the Titans, Lee was not re-signed under new coach Justin Holbrook and had committed to reviving his career through the Intrust Super Cup. Enter Craig Bellamy.

The veteran coach of the Storm has a well-earned reputation of turning around the fortunes of players who aren't reaching their full potential – and Brenko Lee could be yet another chapter of this epic saga.

While he admits his confidence had taken a battering in the past, Lee is ready to grab his chance with both hands under Bellamy's simple footy regime.

"I was unsettled at the Titans on and off the field," Lee said. "I had moments where I would switch on and off.

"[The Storm's pre-season] was the toughest pre-season I have ever done mentally and physically. I just knew I needed to do my best early on and, if I did, I would be rewarded. Craig gives players an opportunity to show what they can do.

"I came here thinking that this is the last roll of the dice and knowing I've just got to give it everything I had. I am so grateful to have this opportunity."



Joshua Wells
LeagueUnlimited.com
Contributor

The former Raiders, Bulldogs and Titans centre became the 200th player to pull on the famous purple in front of an empty AAMI Park against the Rabbitohs on Friday night – his opportunity.

With a point to prove, Lee ran for 96 metres and helped his team to good start with quick hands allowing Suliasi Vunivalu to scream down the sideline and put Ryan Papenhuyzen over for a try.

Named at right centre for the Storm, Lee's next assignment will be against none other than his first cousin, Newcastle Knight Edrick Lee.

"There's going to be a few sledges, but we'll probably hug and kiss at the end," he said.

"I played with him at the Raiders... and played against him when I was at the Bulldogs and he was at the Sharks. The Knights are a dangerous team at the moment and have had an awesome four rounds.

"Edrick and the other back five have done a great job coming out of their end... it'll be really challenging."

Getting his chance:
Brenko Lee at Storm
training. Photo:
Melbourne Storm





Undefeated, but not complacent:
Aidan Guerra believes the Knights
are yet to hit their best form.
Photo: Newcastle Knights

Building blocks



Paul Jobber
LeagueUnlimited.com
Contributor

Guerra says Knights are looking for their next challenge... consistency

WHILE Newcastle knocked off competition favourites Canberra last Sunday, backrower Aidan Guerra knows better than most that one good performance doesn't make a season.

The 32-year-old admitted the Knights' impressive 34-18 upset win will be all for nothing if they can't back it up against Melbourne at Central Coast Stadium on Saturday night.

Over the last five seasons in particular, consistency is a trait that has generally eluded the Knights.

The key for coach Adam O'Brien's men now is to try and ensure their performances against Penrith and Canberra become their staple.

"I think it's very early on in the competition to make that sort of a statement," Guerra said when asked if their 16-point win had made the rest of the NRL sit up and take notice.

"I do believe if nothing else, we know we can match it with sides that are touted to be up there at the end of the season.

"It's just one game and as a side we've got to continue to grow and that's the beauty of rugby league; you've got to try and improve on what happened last week."

O'Brien's tough pre-season training program appears to have reaped some minor rewards even this early in the season.

Their newfound steely resolve - particularly in defence - was often missing in 2019.

It could be argued that was because shortcuts were offered.

But no such shortcuts have been offered under the new coach.

Not even for veterans who are approaching 200 NRL games.

"We all do the same training; it doesn't matter how old you are," Guerra said.

"So I think when Adsy came in he did tell me that I'll be doing everything through the off-season and the pre-season and even the miniature preseason that we just had.

"I didn't miss too many reps so I guess I'm as fit as anyone else. I do enjoy being out there longer and being able to contribute and while that's my role I'll continue to do it."

With five-eighth Kurt Mann under an injury cloud leading into Saturday's game, don't expect Guerra to line up in the number six jersey.

"I've put my hand up for six, but Adsy laughed me out of his office," he said.

"I think Tex is ready for this level because he showed that against Penrith and if he is called upon I'm sure the effort he puts in won't let this football club down.

"But we can't call anyone in until Kurt's ruled out."

The Novocastrians will play their first "home" match since the competition restarted and Guerra conceded it had been different playing in front of no fans.

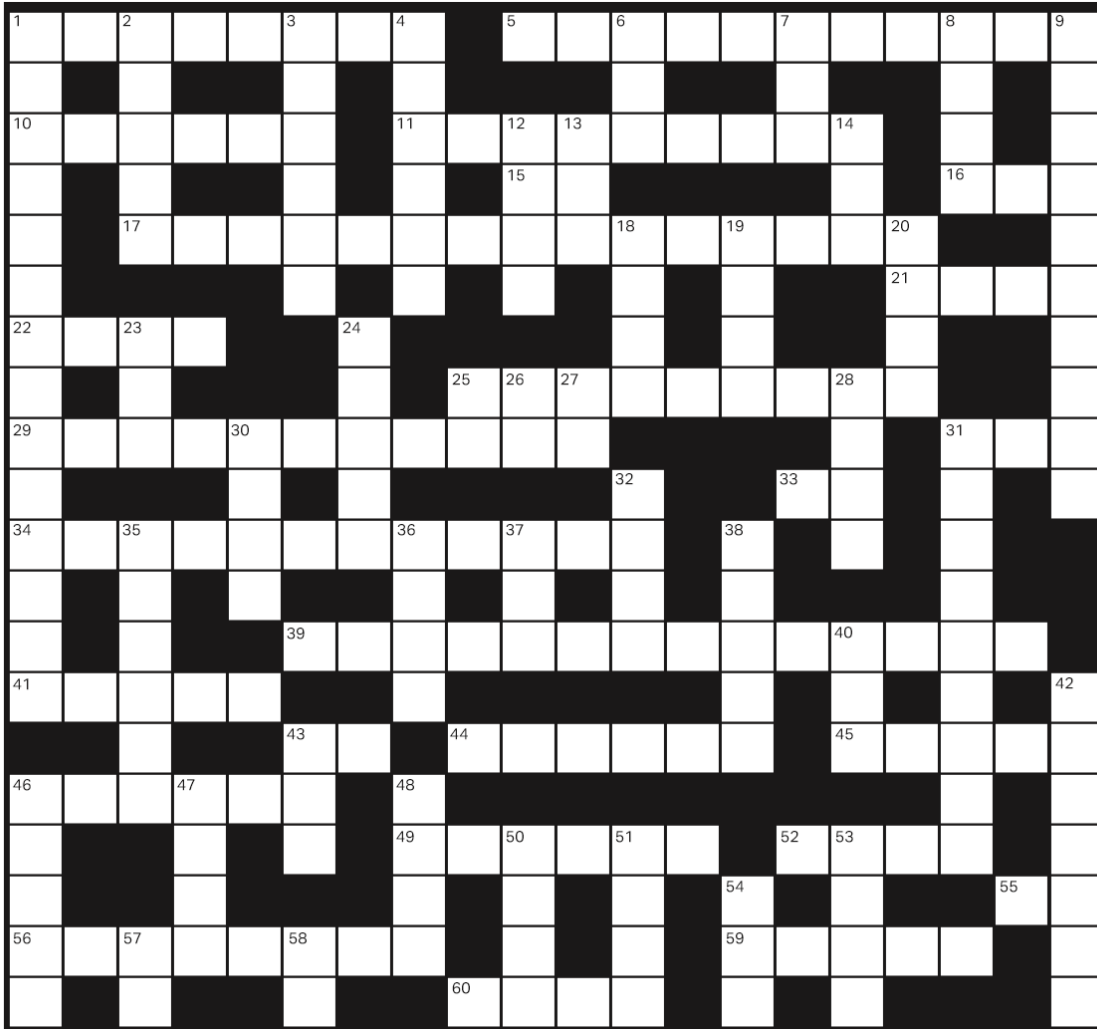
But he can't wait until the Knights faithful are allowed to again start attending games in numbers.

"Our supporters are special people and they're hungry for some football as well," he said.

"You can just feel that in the community.

"It is only corporates this week and for however long that lasts, as soon as they can open the gates the Novocastrians are going to be flooding through and we'll hopefully be doing them proud."

The LU Crossword



Across

- 1. New rule post COVID-19 (3,5)
- 5. South Sydney's spiritual home (7,4)
- 10. Wayne Bennett's prodigal son (6)
- 11. Also known as 'Baa Baa' (5,4)
- 15. Old Albanians - initials (1,1)
- 16. John Bateman left the field with this injury v Panthers (3)
- 17. A round celebrating this country's heritage & culture (10,5)
- 21. Roosters back-rower Mitchell _____ sson (4)
- 22. 'Bobcat': Andrew _____ (4)
- 25. Kiwi & Dragons hooker (5,4)
- 29. Former Knights, Tigers & Rabbitohs five-eighth from the 90's & 00's (4,7)
- 31. ___ Sa'u - abbrev (3)
- 33. RLPA boss, played for Storm, Knights & Panthers - initials (1,1)
- 34. Knights-bound Dragons back-rower (5,7)
- 39. Jillaroos captain (3,11)
- 41. Mark O'Meley's nickname (5)
- 43. Former Raiders five-eighth - initials (1,1)
- 44. Former Broncos prop (6)
- 45. Indigenous New Zealander (5)
- 46. Ruan's relation to Tariq, Korbin & Ashton (6)
- 49. Fringe Eels prop, nickname Polar (6)
- 52. The mighty blue & gold (4)
- 55. Former halfback, spends more time on the

Down

- 1. Reigning Premiers (6,8)
- 2. Provisionally suspended Sharks back (5)
- 3. Former Raiders & Panthers five-eighth, now with Warrington (6)
- 4. Former Roosters, Sharks & QLD prop, nickname Nuts (6)
- 6. Opposite of night (3)
- 7. Noel Goldthorpe was an original one (3)
- 8. Fringe Storm middle forward (4)
- 9. Former Rabbitohs, Tigers, QLD & Fijian winter, dual code international (4,6)
- 12. Kangaroos - abbrev (4)
- 13. Current PNG Kumuls & Hunters winger (3)
- 14. ___ Te'o, re-joined Broncos last week (3)
- 15. ___ Waqa, former Storm, Roosters, Raiders & Fiji winger, went to rugby union (4)
- 19. The eighth wonder, Leichhardt ___ (4)
- 20. Rabbitohs centre ___ Gagai (4)
- 23. You might need a few of these if you're a Dragons fan (3)
- 24. Jarryd Hayne played with lots of this (5)

- 25. Eels & Sea Eagles forward 80's & 90's - initials (1,1)
- 26. Salford prop, formerly Huddersfield & NZ Warriors - initials (1,1)
- 27. Legendary Eels & Dragons hooker - initials (1,1)
- 28. Former Rooster, now Eels & Fiji prop Evans (4)
- 30. Used for place kicks before tees came in (4)
- 31. Australian women's national team (9)
- 32. Touchies carry these (4)
- 35. 2016 NRL premiers (6)
- 36. Co-host of NRL360 on Fox (4)
- 37. Cauliflower ___ - props get these from packing into too many scrums (3)
- 38. Rachel _____, part of the inaugural NZ Kiwi Ferns side in 1995 (5)
- 40. ___ Thaiday, former Broncos prop (3)
- 42. NSW Origin coach (7)
- 43. They're worth four points (3)
- 46. 1999, 2012 & 2017 premiers (5)
- 47. Brett and Josh Morris are ___ (5)
- 48. Young Broncos prop

- Payne ___ (4)
- 50. Former Manly & Eels prop, represented Tonga, now plays for St Marys in RM Cup (4)
- 51. Titans club captain ___ James (4)
- 53. Storm & NZ maori winger (4)
- 54. ___ Stadium, Sydney Olympic Park (3)
- 57. Morning (1,1)
- 58. Information Technology (1,1)

**ANSWERS
IN NEXT
WEEK'S
ISSUE**

THE FRONT ROW

GAME DAY

ROUND 5 MATCH PROGRAM

TEAM LISTS · MATCH DETAILS & STATS · PREVIEWS

WEEKLY TIPS Round 5

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

Tim Costello (4)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Eels
Rabbitohs
Storm
Raiders
Roosters
Sharks

Andrew Ferguson (3)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Eels
Rabbitohs
Storm
Tigers
Roosters
Sharks

Andrew Jackson (6)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Panthers
Rabbitohs
Knights
Raiders
Roosters
Dragons

Justin Davies (4)

Sea Eagles
Warriors
Eels
Rabbitohs
Knights
Raiders
Roosters
Dragons

Adam Huxtable (4)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Eels
Rabbitohs
Knights
Raiders
Roosters
Sharks

Rick Edgerton (4)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Eels
Rabbitohs
Knights
Raiders
Roosters
Sharks

Rob Crosby (5)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Eels
Rabbitohs
Knights
Raiders
Sharks
Roosters

Steven Williams (3)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Eels
Rabbitohs
Knights
Raiders
Roosters
Dragons

Sam Bourke (4)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Eels
Rabbitohs
Storm
Raiders
Roosters
Sharks

Josh Robertson (4)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Panthers
Rabbitohs
Storm
Raiders
Roosters
Sharks

Jeff Dickinson-Fox (4)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Eels
Rabbitohs
Knights
Raiders
Roosters
Sharks

Hamish Parker (4)

Sea Eagles
Cowboys
Panthers
Rabbitohs
Storm
Raiders
Roosters
Sharks

Manly-Warringah SEA EAGLES



Brisbane BRONCOS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
4	3	-	12	Tom TRBOJEVIC	1	FULLBACK	1	Jamayne ISAAKO	4	1	8	20
4	3	-	12	Jorge TAUFUA	2	WING	2	Xavier COATES	-	-	-	-
4	2	-	8	Brad PARKER	3	CENTRE	3	Kotoni STAGGS	3	4	-	16
4	-	-	-	Moses SULI	4	CENTRE	4	Darius BOYD	4	-	-	-
4	1	8	20	Reuben GARRICK	5	WING	5	Herbie FARNWORTH	4	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Dylan WALKER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Anthony MILFORD	4	1	-	4
4	-	-	1	Daly CHERRY-EVANS (C)	7	HALFBACK	7	Brodie CROFT	4	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Addin FONUA-BLAKE	8	FRONT ROW	8	Matthew LODGE	2	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Danny LEVI	9	HOOKER	9	Cory PAIX	1	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Martin TAUPAU	10	FRONT ROW	10	Payne HAAS	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Joel THOMPSON	11	SECOND ROW	11	Corey OATES	4	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Curtis SIRONEN	12	SECOND ROW	12	Joe OFAHENGAUE	2	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Jake TRBOJEVIC	13	LOCK	13	Patrick CARRIGAN	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Lachlan CROKER	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Tesi NIU	1	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Corey WADDELL	15		15	Ben TE'O	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Sean KEPPIE	16		16	Rhys KENNEDY	3	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Taniela PASEKA	17		17	Thomas FLEGLER	4	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Morgan BOYLE	18	RESERVES	18	Jamil HOPOATE	4	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Jack GOSIEWSKI	19		19	Richard KENNAR	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tevita FUNA	20		20	Tom DEARDEN	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Brendan ELLIOT	21		21	Ethan BULLEMOR	3	-	-	-

DES HASLER

COACH

ANTHONY SEIBOLD

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

#NRLManlyBroncos

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Thursday 11 June 2020
KICKOFF	7:50pm AEST
VENUE	Central Coast Stadium Gosford, NSW
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	Ashley KLEIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Dave MUNRO Belinda SHARPE
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 46 matches



At Central Coast Stadium: 1 match, Sea Eagles 1, Broncos 0

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 9	Broncos 26-10	Suncorp
2018	Round 25	Broncos 48-16	Suncorp
2018	Round 10	Sea-Eagles 38-24	Suncorp
2017	Round 10	Broncos 24-14	Suncorp
2016	Round 10	Broncos 30-6	Suncorp
2015	Round 21	Sea-Eagles 44-14	Central Coast
2015	Round 13	Broncos 44-10	Suncorp
2014	Round 21	Sea-Eagles 16-4	Lottoland
2014	Round 12	Broncos 36-10	Suncorp
2013	Round 1	Sea-Eagles 22-14	Suncorp

BIGGEST WINS

SEA EAGLES	2015 Round 21	44-14 at Central Coast
BRONCOS	1988 Round 1	44-10 at Lang Park
	2015 Round 13	44-10 at Suncorp

CURRENT FORM

SEA EAGLES	L W W L
BRONCOS	W W L L

NEXT UP - ROUND 6

Raiders v Sea Eagles, Campbelltown	Sun 21 Jun, 4:05pm
Knights v Broncos, Central Coast	Thu 18 Jun, 7:50pm

Match Preview

with Andrew Jackson

Two sides coming off agonising but very different last-start defeats look to bounce back

A controversial decision denied the Sea Eagles a stunning last-gasp win over the Eels last week.

Compared to the Broncos, who are in the headlines for all the wrong reasons, Des Hasler's side continue to fly under the radar - just how he likes it. Sure, they are being mooted by some for a top-four finish but not getting nearly the same amount of attention as the likes of Parramatta, Canberra and Newcastle.

Hasler has instilled a hard edge in the Manly squad - the sort of resilience the Broncos are in desperate need of at the moment. The Sea Eagles currently have the fourth-best defensive record in the competition, a complete contrast to Brisbane whose record is only better than the Titans.

Manly enter Thursday's game with an unchanged line-up.

Heading into the fourth round of the competition, all the pressure was placed squarely on two men - Paul McGregor and Dean Pay.

But after a record-breaking defeat to the Roosters, another coach has suddenly been placed under the microscope. And at one of the most successful and proud clubs in the NRL, Anthony Seibold will need answers - and fast.

Brisbane's 59-0 loss last Thursday night was nothing short of diabolical. Statistics aren't always the best indicator for how a game went but the numbers didn't lie in this case and it wasn't pleasant reading for Seibold.

A 57 per cent completion rate, one line break to 11 and 869 running metres to 1745 are just a few. When put together, it left the baby Broncos with just 63 per cent of the ball. Brisbane's youthful forward pack may have been their greatest strength heading into 2020 but Thursday night showed it can also be their greatest weakness.

A lack of mental resilience cost Seibold's men dearly and it doesn't get any easier this week. It has prompted a host of changes with Corey Oates moving to the back row. Xavier Coates comes in on the wing while Kotoni Staggs returns in place of Jesse Arthurs. Matt Lodge and Joe Ofahengaue also join the starting pack while Ben Te'o makes his return to Red Hill.

Who to watch: The battle up front is one to look out for but the performances of the two number sevens will likely decide this game. On the one hand you have **Daly Cherry-Evans** - who I believe to be the most well-rounded playmaker in the game. A natural leader, he is the exact kind of calming influence Brisbane need as they scramble to rebound from last week's horror loss. **Brodie Croft**, on the other hand, is only just starting to warm into his leadership role at the Broncos. He came over as the club's solution to their halfback woes but his form has been inconsistent. To be fair, that can be said for the entire side and their pack didn't exactly lay him much of a platform last week. But he faces one of his biggest challenges in his early career on Thursday in the form of a DCE-led Sea Eagles outfit.

Favourite: The Sea Eagles are heavy favourites here.

Tip: Manly have to be very careful here or they risk falling victim to a Brisbane boilover. I wouldn't rule out the chance of that happening but at the moment the Broncos are unbackable. With Cherry-Evans steering the ship, the Sea Eagles should do this comfortably. **Sea Eagles by 16.**



P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
4	-	-	-	Roger TUIVASA-SHECK (C)	1	FULLBACK	1	Valentine HOLMES	4	1	12	28
3	-	-	-	Patrick HERBERT	2	WING	2	Kyle FELDT	4	4	2	20
1	-	-	-	Hayze PERHAM	3	CENTRE	3	Justin O'NEILL	4	2	-	8
2	-	-	-	Gerard BEALE	4	CENTRE	4	Esan MARSTERS	4	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Adam POMPEY	5	WING	5	Hamiso TABUAI-FIDOW	-	-	-	-
4	2	3	14	Kodi NIKORIMA	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Scott DRINKWATER	4	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Blake GREEN	7	HALFBACK	7	Jake CLIFFORD	2	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Jamayne TAUNOA-BROWN	8	FRONT ROW	8	Francis MOLO	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Wayde EGAN	9	HOOKER	9	Reece ROBSON	4	2	-	8
2	-	-	-	Lachlan BURR	10	FRONT ROW	10	Jordan MCLEAN (C)	4	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Eliesa KATOA	11	SECOND ROW	11	Mitchell DUNN	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Tohu HARRIS	12	SECOND ROW	12	Coen HESS	4	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Adam BLAIR	13	LOCK	13	Josh McGUIRE	3	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Karl LAWTON	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Reuben COTTER	-	-	-	-
2*	-	-	-	Poasa FAAMAUSILI	15		15	Tom GILBERT	1	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	King VUNIYAYAWA	16		16	Shane WRIGHT	2	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Jack MURCHIE	17		17	Gavin COOPER	3	1	-	4
1	-	-	-	Agnatius PAASI	18	RESERVES	18	Corey JENSEN	1	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Peta HIKU	20		19	Peter HOLA	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Isaiah PAPALI'I	21		20	Jason TAUMALOLO	3	1	-	4
2	-	1	2	Chanel HARRIS-TAVITA	22		21	Tom OPACIC	-	-	-	-

*1 match for Sydney Roosters

STEPHEN KEARNEY

COACH

PAUL GREEN

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Lachlan Burr will play his 50th career game. Roger Tuivasa-Sheck needs to score 4 points to reach 200 for his career. Adam Blair will play his 50th club game. Justin O'Neill needs to score 8 points to 300 for his career.

#NRLWarriorsCowboys

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 12 June 2020
KICKOFF	6:00pm AEST
VENUE	Central Coast Stadium Gosford, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Adam GEE
TOUCH JUDGES	Tim ALOUANI-ROBY Liam KENNEDY
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 40 matches



At Central Coast Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 6	Cowboys 17-10	Mt Smart
2018	Round 15	Warriors 23-16	1300SMILES
2018	Round 5	Warriors 22-12	Mt Smart
2017	Round 20	Cowboys 24-12	1300SMILES
2016	Round 24	Cowboys 34-6	1300SMILES
2015	Round 24	Cowboys 50-16	Mt Smart
2015	Round 7	Cowboys 28-24	1300SMILES
2014	Round 3	Warriors 20-16	1300SMILES
2013	Round 4	Warriors 20-18	Mt Smart
2012	Round 23	Cowboys 52-12	Dairy Farmers

BIGGEST WINS

WARRIORS	1996 Round 18	52-6 at Ericsson
BRONCOS	2012 Round 23	52-12 at Dairy Farmers

CURRENT FORM

WARRIORS	L L W L
COWBOYS	L W W L

NEXT UP - ROUND 6

Rabbitohs v Warriors, Bankwest	Fri 19 June, 6pm
Tigers v Cowboys, Campbelltown	Sat 20 June, 5:30pm

Match Preview

with Rick Edgerton

Warriors play host to Cowboys in Gosford as Paul Green rings the changes.

The New Zealand Warriors and North Queensland Cowboys will be looking to get back in the winner's circle on Friday night after both sides were brought back down to earth with losses against the Panthers and Sharks respectively in round 4.

After returning to action in round 3 with an impressive victory over the Dragons in which Stephen Kearney's men completed their sets at a staggering 96%, it was widely tipped the time spent with each other in camp on the Central Coast had done wonders for the Warriors team morale.

Suddenly, that form doesn't seem that great at all given the Dragons current woes and they were safely held by the Panthers last week.

In a boost for the home team, Lachlan Burr has been named to return up front where he will suit up for his 50th NRL appearance. His inclusion sees veteran Adam Blair shift to the back of the scrum and coincidentally, he will run out for his 50th game in Warriors colours.

Isaiah Papali'i has been relegated to the reserves list alongside Agnatius Paasi and Peta Hiku who will be looking to force their names onto the game day team sheet following a week out due to suspension and injury respectively.

The Cowboys followed up their comprehensive victory over the Titans in round 3 with a ten point loss at the hands of the Sharks last Saturday night. Despite missing the go-forward of Jason Taumololo, they still managed to remain competitive for the majority of the contest which makes some of Coach Green's changes a touch surprising.

The two victims of the coach's axe are Ben Hampton and 2015 premiership winning rake Jake Granville. They will be replaced by teen sensation Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow on the wing and Reece Robson who is promoted from the interchange where youngster Rieben Cotter will step in.

The other changes see Coen Hess return from an ankle injury in the back-row in place of veteran Gavin Cooper who pushes back to the bench in place of the injured John Asiata.

The name of Jason Taumololo in jersey 20 looms large and will be a massive IN if he can prove his fitness in time for kick-off on Friday night.

Who to watch: Kiwi International Tohu Harris hasn't missed a minute in his four games to date this season. That's by no means unusual for the Warriors workhorse, but it's clear the tireless backrower has gone to another level since the competition's resumption in the absence of many of his injured team mates. Normally an edge forward, Harris has spent time shifting between the middle and the edges in the past two rounds averaging 52 tackles and 221 metres.

'It's hammer time!' After lighting up the Perth nines in February with four spectacular tries including the match-winner to ice the final against the Dragons, it appeared fans would need to wait until at least July to see Cowboys development player Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow burst onto the NRL scene. Rules have since been relaxed with clubs now free to select development players and the Cowboys have wasted little time unleashing their teen freak into the action.

At the tender age of 18, the born and bred Cairns Kangaroo has been blessed with supreme athletic skills fitting the prototype for a modern day winger-Big, strong and can run like the wind with many smart pundits laying claim he will challenge for the title of fastest man in Rugby League after already clocking 10.85 seconds in 100 metres.

If you haven't heard of 'The Hammer' already, chances are you will know about him after he lights up Central Coast Stadium on Friday night.

Favourite: The Cowboys are clear favourites by the bookies to get the choccies in this one.

My tip: Tough game to pick and a lot could rest on which players find their way into the final 17 and probably more importantly, which Warriors side turns up. Wouldn't at all be surprised if the Warriors put in another strong showing on their adopted home turf but the safe money has to be on the Cowboys with the margin growing if Taumololo suits up. **Cowboys by 6.**



P	T	G	Pts					P	T	G	Pts
4	1	-	4	(C) Clinton GUTHERSON	1	FULLBACK	1	Caleb AEKINS	4	-	-
4	2	-	8	Maika SIVO	2	WING	2	Josh MANSOUR	4	1	-
4	2	-	8	Michael JENNINGS	3	CENTRE	3	Dean WHARE	4	-	-
4	1	-	4	Waqā BLAKE	4	CENTRE	4	Stephen CRICHTON	4	2	6
4	-	-	-	Blake FERGUSON	5	WING	5	Brian TO'O	4	-	-
4	3	-	12	Dylan BROWN	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Jarome LUAI	4	1	-
4	1	19+	43	Mitchell MOSES	7	HALFBACK	7	Nathan CLEARY	2	1	10
4	-	-	-	Reagan CAMPBELL-GILLARD	8	FRONT ROW	8	James TAMOU (C)	4	-	-
4	2	-	8	Reed MAHONEY	9	HOOKER	9	Apisai KOROISAU	4	1	-
4	-	-	-	Junior PAULO	10	FRONT ROW	10	James FISHER-HARRIS	4	-	-
4	1	-	4	Shaun LANE	11	SECOND ROW	11	Viliame KIKAU	4	3	-
4	-	-	-	Ryan MATTERSON	12	SECOND ROW	12	Kurt CAPEWELL	4	1	-
2	-	-	-	Nathan BROWN	13	LOCK	13	Isaah YEO	4	-	-
4	1	-	4	Marata NIUKORE	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Matt BURTON	2	2	-
1	-	-	-	Ray STONE	15		15	Zane TETEVANO	4	-	-
4	2	-	8	Kane EVANS	16		16	Moses LEOTA	4	-	-
4	1	-	4	Peni TEREPO	17		17	Liam MARTIN	2	-	-
4	-	-	-	Brad TAKAIRANGI	18	RESERVES	18	Mitch KENNY	2	-	-
1	-	-	-	Oregon KAUFUSI	19		19	Billy BURNS	3	1	-
-	-	-	-	George JENNINGS	20		20	Jack HETHERINGTON	1	-	-
-	-	-	-	Will SMITH	21		21	Dylan EDWARDS	-	-	-

BRAD ARTHUR

COACH

IVAN CLEARY

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Blake Ferguson needs to score 8 points to reach 500 for his career. Michael Jennings needs to score 1 try and 4 points to reach 150 career tries and 600 career points respectively. Maika Sivo needs to score 4 points to reach 100 for his club and career. James Tamou will play his 250th career game.

#NRL Eels Panthers

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 12 June 2020
KICKOFF	7:55pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Gerard SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Chris BUTLER Phil HENDERSON
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 98 matches



At Bankwest Stadium: 1 match, Panthers 1, Eels 0

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 11	Panthers 16-10	Bankwest
2019	Round 1	Eels 20-12	Panthers
2018	Round 5	Panthers 12-6	ANZ
2018	Round 1	Panthers 24-14	Panthers
2017	Round 8	Eels 18-12	ANZ
2016	Round 5	Panthers 20-18	Pirtek
2016	Round 19	Panthers 22-18	Pepper
2015	Round 22	Eels 10-4	TIO
2015	Round 12	Eels 26-20	Pepper Stadium
2014	Round 12	Panthers 38-12	Sportingbet

BIGGEST WINS

EELS	2002 Round 1	64-6 at Parramatta
PANTHERS	2012 Round 4	39-6 at Parramatta

CURRENT FORM

EELS	W W W W
PANTHERS	W W D W

NEXT UP - ROUND 6

Roosters v Eels, Bankwest	Sat 20 Jun, 7:35pm
Panthers v Storm, Campbelltown	Fri 19 Jun, 7:55pm

Match Preview

with Adam Huxtable

Undefeated local rivals clash in match of the round.

When these two sides met in the pre-season, they couldn't be separated over 80 minutes, scores being deadlocked at 22-all when the final siren sounded in Bega. This match in the season-proper shapes to be just as close, with Parramatta and Penrith two of just three teams who remain undefeated after Round 4.

Last week, the Eels just held on against Manly in what was their first real test of 2020, beating the Northern Beaches team 19-16 in a controversial Super Saturday thriller. Although they were able to get the win, coach Brad Arthur won't be happy that his side almost lost at the death after leading for the majority of the match. Jorge Taufua crossed for Manly in the 76th minute and Reuben Garrick was also able to cross in the final minute, however the final pass being ruled forward meant the Eels recorded their best start to a season since 1989.

The Panthers bounced back from a gruelling 90-minute draw the previous week to easily dispose of the Warriors in a 26-0 shutout last Friday at Campbelltown. Matt Burton was much improved, finishing with a try-assist and two tries of his own, and has been rewarded with keeping his spot in the 17 this week, named on the bench with Nathan Cleary back at half.

Parramatta receive a huge boost in the form of forward leader Nathan Brown returning at lock, after he missed Round 3 and 4 due to suspension. His inclusion means stand-in Marata Niukore moves back to the bench. This along with Ray Stone's inclusion in the number 15 jersey means Oregon Kaufusi and Brad Takairangi drop out of the 17.

They aren't the only team having a key player named Nathan returning however, with the rounds biggest inclusion in Cleary coming back into the side after paying the penalty for flouting social distancing protocols during the premiership break in April. Burton will shift to the number 14 jumper, pushing replacement hooker Mitch Kenny into the reserves. Liam Martin has been brought into the 17 for Billy Burns, however Ivan Cleary swapped the two an hour before kick-off last week and could do the same again.

The effect Nathan has on Penrith's attack will be accurately measured against Parramatta, who have conceded just 30 points in the opening 4 rounds. Although they scored 26 last week, it was against the lowly Warriors and 16 of them were off the back of opposition mistakes. Both these teams are clearly top eight contenders; however this match will show us if they're capable of going deep into the finals.

Who to watch: The resurgence of veteran Parramatta centre Michael Jennings has been quite something over the last couple of years. In 2018, Jennings was 30 years of age and looked like he wasn't up to NRL football either mentally or physically. Fast-forward to last week and he was one of the Eels' best, making 10 runs for 131 metres as well as a line break and 4 tackle busts. He may not be as fast as he once was, but he still has the skill - and now experience - to make an impact. The fact he's also going up against the side he made his debut with all those years ago, only adds to the drama.

For Penrith, it's hard to go past returning origin star Nathan Cleary. Throughout the opening two rounds Cleary provided the Panthers with much needed direction as well as averaging one try assist per game. His ability to sum up the situation with his kicking game will be a welcome addition as well as his field-goal prowess, something which cost the Panthers a competition point against the Knights a couple of weeks ago.

Favourite: Parramatta are clear favourites to go 5-0 in 2020.

Tip: The Eels faced their first real test of the competition so far last week and passed with flying colours. Their defence was solid for the most part and their attack is up there with the best of the competition. That said, it won't be an easy task against Penrith, who bounced back well albeit against the Warriors. The inclusion of Nathan Cleary means this match will be close, but it won't be enough for the mountain men to get the win. **Eels by 7.**



P	T	G	Pts							P	T	G	Pts
4	-	-	-	Latrell MITCHELL	1	FULLBACK	1	Phillip SAMI	4	1	-	4	
4	-	-	-	Dane GAGAI	2	WING	2	Anthony DON	3	2	-	8	
4	2	-	8	Campbell GRAHAM	3	CENTRE	3	Dale COPLEY	4	1	-	4	
2	-	-	-	James ROBERTS	4	CENTRE	4	Young TONUMAIPEA	1	-	-	-	
4	2	-	8	Alex JOHNSTON	5	WING	5	Brian KELLY	4	2	-	8	
2	1	-	4	Cody WALKER	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Ashley TAYLOR	4	-	7	14	
4	1	12	28	Adam REYNOLDS (C)	7	HALFBACK	7	Jamal FOGARTY	2	-	-	-	
4	-	-	-	Tevita TATOLA	8	FRONT ROW	8	Moeaki FOTUAIKA	3	-	-	-	
4	-	-	-	Damien COOK	9	HOOKER	9	Erin CLARK	2	-	-	-	
4	1	-	4	Thomas BURGESS	10	FRONT ROW	10	Sam LISONE	4	-	-	-	
4	-	-	-	Jaydn SU'A	11	SECOND ROW	11	Kevin PROCTOR (C)	4	1	-	4	
4	1	-	4	Ethan LOWE	12	SECOND ROW	12	Bryce CARTWRIGHT	3	-	-	-	
4	1	-	4	Cameron MURRAY	13	LOCK	13	Jai ARROW	4	-	-	-	
4	-	-	-	Liam KNIGHT	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Tanah BOYD	1	-	-	-	
-	-	-	-	Patrick MAGO	15		15	Keegan HIPGRAVE	2	1	-	4	
2	-	-	-	Tom AMONE	16		16	Jaimin JOLLIFFE	2	-	-	-	
1	-	-	-	Bayley SIRONEN	17		17	Tyrone PEACHEY	4	-	-	-	
4	-	-	-	Mark NICHOLLS	18	RESERVES	18	Jarrold WALLACE	3	-	-	-	
-	-	-	-	Bryson GOODWIN	19		19	Jai WHITBREAD	3	-	-	-	
4	-	-	-	Braidon BURNS	20		20	Beau FERMOR	-	-	-	-	
1	-	-	-	Keaon KOLOMATANGI	21		21	Tyrone ROBERTS	2	-	-	-	

Wayne BENNETT

COACH

JUSTIN HOLBROOK

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES Campbell Graham needs to score 8 points to reach 100 for his club and career. Cody Walker needs to score 8 points to reach 200 for his club and career.

#NRLSouthsTitans

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 13 June 2020
KICKOFF	3:00pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, 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	Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI Drew OULTRAM
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 17 matches



At Bankwest Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 3	Rabbitohs 28-20	ANZ Stadium
2018	Round 14	Rabbitohs 18-16	CBUS Super
2017	Round 15	Rabbitohs 36-20	ANZ Stadium
2016	Round 13	Titans 29-28	nib Stadium
2015	Round 12	Rabbitohs 22-16	CBUS Super
2014	Round 17	Titans 14-10	ANZ Stadium
2014	Round 9	Rabbitohs 40-18	CBUS Super
2013	Round 20	Rabbitohs 32-4	CBUS Super
2013	Round 14	Rabbitohs 30-24	Barlow Park
2012	Round 22	Rabbitohs 22-18	Skilled Park

BIGGEST WINS

RABBITOHS	2013 Round 20	32-4 at CBUS Super
TITANS	2009 Round 8	22-14 at CBUS Super
	2009 Round 23	22-14 at ANZ Stadium

CURRENT FORM

RABBITOHS	W L L L
TITANS	L L L W

NEXT UP - ROUND 6

Rabbitohs v Warriors, Bankwest	Fri 19 Jun, 6pm
Titans v Dragons, Suncorp	Sat 20 Jun, 3pm

Match Preview

with Josh Robertson

A Saturday afternoon conundrum hits us first up as the South Sydney Rabbitohs play host to the Gold Coast Titans at Bankwest Stadium.

The Bunnies have had a poor restart to the season with tough losses to both the Roosters and Storm, despite having been competitive for the most part in both matches. The Rabbitohs suffered a 22-8 defeat last weekend in Melbourne and although the margin looked sizeable, they were well in the contest for the first 70 minutes.

South Sydney comes into the contest sitting down in thirteenth spot, having only won one of their four matches to date, a narrow four-point victory in Round 1 against Cronulla. Whether it be through new rules or general fitness, they've struggled so far in 2020 to live up to their hype with several key stars not meeting expectations set upon them. They will be boosted by the return of Cody Walker who was forced to sit out the past two matches after being suspended by the NRL. Walker gives Souths more experience in the halves and he could be the boost that they need.

Almost 12 months on from their previous victory, the Titans were able to give their long-suffering fans a much needed boost following a late 28-23 victory over the Wests Tigers on Sunday night. Their victory last weekend was important, given that they had only scored three tries across their first three matches.

Gold Coast sits in fifteenth spot heading into this clash and will be confident that they can spring another upset against an underperforming South Sydney. New coach Justin Holbrook has not been afraid to swing the axe so far in his very short tenure at the Titans, with Maroons representative Jarrod Wallace having been dropped from last week's match, amongst other changes that saw them enter the winners circle. Holbrook has named the same 17 that took to the field in Brisbane, with Anthony Don to start after initially being named as a reserve last week and Tyrone Peachey on the bench after being dropped last weekend.

Who to watch: Damien Cook was one of the players who was expected to be the most advantaged by the quicker speed of the NRL's new rule changes. However, the impact of Cook has been negligible at best with the Bunnies hooker not yet taking full advantage. While he's been solid enough in the past two games, his running metres have not risen in line with those expectations. Cook will be looked upon for his nifty footwork out of dummy-half to help the Rabbitohs get on a roll on Saturday.

Having not played an NRL game for almost three seasons, Jamal Fogarty has come into the Titans side since the season's resumption and has looked good in the halves. Fogarty was a strong performer last weekend in the victory against the Tigers, with 251 kicking metres and a tackle break. The Titans will be needing a big performance from their halves and if Fogarty can compliment Ash Taylor then the visitors can go a long way to an upset.

Favourite: South Sydney are heavy favourites for the contest given the strength of their line-up but also thanks to their recent record.

Tip: The Rabbitohs have been less than impressive through the last few weeks but they should have enough to beat an enthusiastic Titans side. The home team will be boosted by the return of Walker and the fact that they have been competitive with the likes of the Roosters and Storm is a better level than recent opposition of the Titans. **Rabbitohs by 12.**



P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
3	3	13	38	Kalyn PONGA	1	FULLBACK	1	Ryan PAPENHUYZEN	4	1	-	4
4	4	-	16	Edrick LEE	2	WING	2	Suliasi VUNIVALU	4	3	-	12
4	3	-	12	Enari TUALA	3	CENTRE	3	Justin OLAM	4	1	-	4
2	4	-	16	Bradman BEST	4	CENTRE	4	Brenko LEE	1	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Hymel HUNT	5	WING	5	Josh ADDO-CARR	4	1	-	4
4	1	-	4	Kurt MANN	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Cameron MUNSTER	4	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Mitchell PEARCE (C)	7	HALFBACK	7	Ryley JACKS	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	David KLEMMER	8	FRONT ROW	8	Jesse BROMWICH	4	-	-	-
3*	-	-	-	Andrew McCULLOUGH	9	HOOKER	9	Cameron SMITH (C)	4	-	11	22
4	1	-	4	Daniel SAIFITI	10	FRONT ROW	10	Christian WELCH	2	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Aidan GUERRA	11	SECOND ROW	11	Felise KAUFUSI	4	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Sione MATA'UTIA	12	SECOND ROW	12	Kenneath BROMWICH	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Herman ESE'ESE	13	LOCK	13	Dale FINUCANE	4	1	-	4
2	-	2	4	Tex HOY	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Brandon SMITH	2	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Jacob SAIFITI	15		15	Tino FA'ASUAMALEAUI	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Tim GLASBY	16		16	Max KING	4	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Brodie JONES	17		17	Nelson ASOFA-SOLOMONA	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tautau MOGA	18	RESERVES	18	Tom EISENHUTH	2	1	-	4
-	-	-	-	Josh KING	19		19	Marion SEVE	3	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Phoenix CROSSLAND	20		20	Cooper JOHNS	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Lachlan FITZGIBBON	21		21	Nicho HYNES	-	-	-	-

*2 matches for Brisbane Broncos

ADAM O'BRIEN

COACH

CRAIG BELLAMY

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

RLP MILESTONES If Newcastle avoids a loss, it will be the first time they've been undefeated after 5 games since 2002.

#NRLKnightsStorm

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 13 June 2020
KICKOFF	5:30pm AEST
VENUE	Central Coast Stadium Gosford, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Ben CUMMINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Todd SMITH Gavin BADGER
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Ben GALEA

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 41 matches



At Central Coast Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 14	Storm 34-4	AAMI
2018	Round 15	Storm 28-10	McDonald Jones
2018	Round 6	Storm 40-14	AAMI
2017	Round 24	Storm 44-12	McDonald Jones
2017	Round 13	Storm 40-12	AAMI
2016	Round 19	Storm 20-16	Hunter
2016	Round 5	Storm 18-14	AAMI
2015	Round 24	Knights 20-6	AAMI
2014	Round 22	Knights 32-30	Hunter
2014	Round 3	Storm 28-20	AAMI

BIGGEST WINS

KNIGHTS	2000 Round 2	38-6 at Marathon
	2001 Round 19	48-16 at Marathon
STORM	2006 Round 7	52-6 at Olympic Park

CURRENT FORM

KNIGHTS	W W D W
STORM	W W L W

NEXT UP - ROUND 6

Knights v Broncos, Central Coast	Thu 18 Jun, 7:50pm
Panthers v Storm, Campbelltown	Fri 19 Jun, 7:55pm

Match Preview

with Jeff Dickinson-Fox

In what historically has been a one-sided matchup, the in-form Newcastle Knights have a great opportunity to take revenge on an out of sorts Melbourne Storm.

The Knights haven't beaten the Storm since 2015 and in their last five clashes Melbourne has won by an average of 27 points.

If any Newcastle team from the last five years is going to beat Melbourne, it's this 2020 side. The NRL's highest scoring club through four rounds is the Newcastle Knights (and they haven't played the Brisbane Broncos), averaging just under 28 points a game.

The new head coach to lead the side on an undefeated start to the season, Adam O'Brien, spent 11 years coaching at the Storm up to 2018 and went on to be an attack coach at the Sydney Roosters last season.

A sign of a change in behaviour from the Knights since the immediate six again penalty was introduced before round three has come from the amount of penalties they've conceded. In the first two rounds they gave 17 penalties away and in the last two rounds Newcastle's allowed just five.

Meanwhile Melbourne has been able to grind to wins even though they've been missing their usual flair, with the exception of a 22-8 loss at home to the Canberra Raiders.

Of all the team's currently in the top eight, the Storm have scored the fewest points per game at an average of just under 15 a game. Last year they averaged more than 25 points per game.

Everyone knows what Melbourne is capable of in attack. It's a matter of when they bounce back, not if. Defensively however they are still among the NRL's best, which will be thoroughly tested by Kalyn Ponga and Co.

They'll have to try and resurrect their attack without Jahrome Hughes as he's going to miss some weeks with a broken hand. Ryley Jacks takes over at halfback in his first match for Melbourne since round 25 2018.

Nelson Asofa-Solomona returns from a one-match suspension and it'll be his first game after the infamous nothing kick at a critical moment against the Raiders. Newcastle has named an unchanged team, but Kurt Mann will need to shake off an injury to play and Lachlan Fitzgibbon is a chance at pushing into the 17.

Who to watch: Bradman 'The Beast' Best has a nickname that's likely to stick to an already outstanding name. He's only played two NRL games in the last fortnight and three last year, but you're already missing out on some sensational highlights if you haven't seen him play. The 182cm and 103kg centre has four tries on the season and set up a couple against the Raiders on Sunday. Best is a serious rookie of the year candidate and if you play NRL Fantasy or Supercoach he's a must have.

After four rounds it's no secret Melbourne is yet get their attack firing consistently, if they can get that right this week it could unlock Ryan Papenhuyzen. Papenhuyzen is one of the better support players in the NRL, he never seems to get tired and if presented with a gap he can quickly shoot through to score. Will Craig Bellamy throw in some new tactics to free him up and how costly will Hughes' absence be for their playmaking with Papenhuyzen?

Favourite: The Storm have clearly been favoured to win this clash. On this occasion however the Knights being an underdog is interesting as Adam O'Brien should be just as much of a chance to beat a Craig Bellamy coached side as anyone. Melbourne beat Souths by 14 last week, but South Sydney was not as bad as the score indicated and the Storm were not at their best.

Tip: I get why the Storm are considered as favourites for Saturday's clash, but there is enough motivation, talent and coaching experience on the Knights to cause Melbourne problems. It's rare for the Storm to go four rounds without a dominant performance and those who write them off are usually quick to be made look silly. I'm not going to write Melbourne off, but I think we're set for a high-quality game and I like Newcastle to make the winning play. **Knights by 6.**



WESTS TIGERS




Canberra RAIDERS

P T G Pts

4 1 - 4

Adam DOUEIHI **1**

FULLBACK

1

Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD 4 1 - 4

2 6 - 24

David NOFOALUMA **2**

WING

2

Bailey SIMONSSON 3 1 - 4

4 1 - 4

Joseph LEILUA **3**

CENTRE

3

Jarrod CROKER (C) 4 - 12 24

2 - 2 4

Moses MBYE (C) **4**

CENTRE

4

Curtis SCOTT 4 1 - 4

- - - -

Tommy TALAU **5**

WING

5

Nick COTRIC 4 2 - 8

2 1 - 4

Josh REYNOLDS **6**

FIVE-EIGHTH

6

Jack WIGHTON 4 3 - 12

2 - - -

Luke BROOKS **7**

HALFBACK

7

George WILLIAMS 4 - - -

4 1 - 4

Josh ALOIAI **8**

FRONT ROW

8

Josh PAPALI'I 4 1 - 4

2 1 - 4

Harry GRANT **9**

HOOKER

9

Josh HODGSON 4 - - -

2 - - -

Zane MUSGROVE **10**

FRONT ROW

10

Dunamis LUI 4 - - -

4 2 - 8

Luciano LEILUA **11**

SECOND ROW

11

Joseph TAPINE 4 1 - 4

4 - - -

Chris LAWRENCE **12**

SECOND ROW

12

Elliott WHITEHEAD 4 2 - 8

4 - - -

Alex TWAL **13**

LOCK

13

Corey HORSBURGH 4 - - -

4 - - -

Thomas MIKAELE **14**

INTERCHANGE

14

Siliva HAVILI 4 - - -

- - - -

Russell PACKER **15****15**

Emre GULER 4 1 - 4

2 - - -

Michael CHEE-KAM **16****16**

Iosia SOLIOLA 4 1 - 4

2 - - -

Alex SEYFARTH **17****17**

Jordan RAPANA 2 1 - 4

4 1 13⁺ 31Benji MARSHALL **18**

RESERVES

18

Tom STARLING - - - -

4 1 - 4

Luke GARNER **19****19**

Matt FRAWLEY - - - -

4 - - -

Billy WALTERS **20****20**

Ryan SUTTON - - - -

2 1 - 4

Corey THOMPSON **21****21**

Michael OLDFIELD 3 - - -

MICHAEL MAGUIRE

COACH

RICKY STUART

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

PENALTIES

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

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

#NRLTigersRaiders

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 13 June 2020
KICKOFF	7:35pm AEST
VENUE	Campbelltown Stadium Leumeah, NSW
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 CHIDDY Beau SCOTT

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 37 matches



At Campbelltown Stadium: 10 matches, Tigers 7, Raiders 3

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 18	Raiders 20-12	GIO
2019	Round 13	Raiders 28-0	Bankwest
2018	Round 22	Tigers 22-20	GIO
2018	Round 15	Raiders 48-12	Campbelltown
2017	Round 3	Raiders 46-6	GIO
2016	Round 26	Raiders 52-10	Leichhardt
2016	Round 8	Raiders 60-6	GIO
2015	Round 22	Tigers 20-18	GIO
2015	Round 7	Raiders 30-22	Leichhardt
2014	Round 25	Raiders 27-12	GIO

BIGGEST WINS

TIGERS	2012 Round 13	40-0 at Canberra
RAIDERS	2916 Round 8	60-6 at GIO

CURRENT FORM

TIGERS	W L W L
RAIDERS	W W W L

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Tigers v Cowboys, Campbelltown	Sat 20 Jun, 5:30pm
Raiders v Sea Eagles, Campbelltown	Sun 21 Jun, 7:35pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Last start losers look to bounce back.

After being publicly condemned by their respective coaches last week, the Wests Tigers and Canberra Raiders will be determined to redeem themselves on Saturday evening at Campbelltown Stadium.

Suffering the ignominy of becoming the first team to lose to the Titans in almost a year, the Wests Tigers will be stressing the importance of playing for 80 minutes against last year's grand finalists.

Establishing several game-winning leads only to falter at the death 28-23 last Sunday, Tigers coach Michael Maguire will be hoping Campbelltown Stadium serves as a fortuitous venue against the Raiders following seven wins from ten clashes over the past two decades.

Responding to the embarrassment of last week with a host of changes, Josh Reynolds replaces Benji Marshall in one of the biggest selection bombshells of the season, while Tommy Talau, Zane Musgrove, Russell Packer and Michael Chee-Kam come into the squad.

Having been hailed as premiership favourites following a dominant display in Melbourne, the Canberra Raiders were found off the pace from the opening minute last Sunday.

Outclassed by the Knights 34-18 in their first loss since last year's grand final, Raiders coach Ricky Stuart will be banking on a dominant record against the joint venture having won eight of their past ten meetings by a combined total of 274-68.

Keeping faith with the same team humbled by Newcastle last week, Jack Wighton will need to pass concussion protocols after failing his HIA test. Should the Clive Churchill Medallist be ruled out, former Canterbury playmaker Matt Frawley looms as the likely replacement.

Who to watch: Facing off against his former teammates for the first time as a Tiger, enigmatic centre Joseph Leilua will have a point to prove on Saturday evening. Spending four-and-a-half years in the nation's capital before taking up the chance to secure a longer-term deal with the joint venture, the 28-year-old Samoan powerhouse has yet to reach the height of his powers under Michael Maguire. Claiming multiple Dally M Centre of the Year awards during his time at Canberra, look for Leilua to cause plenty of havoc under Michael Maguire as part of a destructive right edge alongside his younger brother, Luciano, and prolific try-scorer David Nofoaluma.

Starting last season as a depth forward before finishing as a member of the beaten grand final team, Raiders prop Emre Guler has been a solid performer for Ricky Stuart over the first four rounds. Almost doubling his work rate to over 100 metres per game in 2020, the 22-year-old Mascot Jets junior will be eager to continue his impressive form and push for a starting berth alongside Josh Papalii. Contracted to the club until the end of next season, look for Guler to bring plenty of aggression off the bench as the Raiders strive to bounce back from the disappointment of last week.

Favourite: Having been humbled by a much-improved Newcastle outfit last Sunday, the Raiders are expected to bounce back against their inconsistent opponents.

Tip: With both teams eager to make amends for substandard performances six days earlier, the defensive steel that saw the Raiders touted as pre-season favourites should give the visitors the edge on Saturday evening. **Raiders by 10.**



P	T	G	Pts					P	T	G	Pts	
4	-	-	-	Will HOPOATE	1	FULLBACK	1	James TEDESCO	3	1	-	4
4	1	6	16	Nick MEANEY	2	WING	2	Daniel TUPOU	4	3	-	12
4	1	-	4	Reimis SMITH	3	CENTRE	3	Josh MORRIS	4*	1	-	4
3	1	-	4	Jake AVERILLO	4	CENTRE	4	Joseph MANU	4	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Dallin WATENE-ZELEZNAK	5	WING	5	Brett MORRIS	4	1	-	4
1	-	-	-	Kieran FORAN	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Luke KEARY	4	1	-	5
4	1	-	4	Lachlan LEWIS	7	HALFBACK	7	Kyle FLANAGAN	4	2	18	44
4	-	-	-	Aiden TOLMAN	8	FRONT ROW	8	Jared WAEREA-HARGREAVES	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Jeremy MARSHALL-KING	9	HOOKER	9	Jake FRIEND	4	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Dylan NAPA	10	FRONT ROW	10	Siosua TAKUEIAHO	3	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	(C) Josh JACKSON	11	SECOND ROW	11	Boyd CORDNER (C)	2	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Raymond FAITALA-MARINER	12	SECOND ROW	12	Angus CRICHTON	2	2	-	8
4	1	-	4	Adam ELLIOTT	13	LOCK	13	Victor RADLEY	4	1	-	4
3	1	-	4	Christian CRICHTON	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Sam VERRILLS	4	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Renouf TO'OMAGA	15		15	Isaac LIU	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Dean BRITT	16		16	Nat BUTCHER	3	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Sauaso SUE	17		17	Lindsay COLLINS	4	1	-	4
-	-	-	-	Ofahiki OGDEN	19	RESERVES	18	Sitili TUPOUNIUA	3	-	-	-
2	-	3	6	Brandon WAKEHAM	20		19	Mitchell AUBUSSON	2	1	-	4
-	-	-	-	Morgan HARPER	21		20	Ryan HALL	1	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Jack COGGER	22		21	Lachlan LAM	-	-	-	-

*2 matches for Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks

DEAN PAY

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 Boyd Cordner needs to score 2 points to reach 200 for his club and career.

#NRLBulldogsRoosters

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 14 June 2020
KICKOFF	4:05pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network/9Now Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE 2GB SYD/4BC BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Grant ATKINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Peter GOUGH Kasey BADGER
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Bryan NORRIE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 175 matches



At Bankwest Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 19	Roosters 20-12	ANZ
2019	Round 14	Roosters 38-12	SCG
2018	Round 7	Roosters 6-0	ANZ
2018	Round 2	Roosters 30-12	Allianz
2017	Round 11	Roosters 24-19	ANZ
2017	Round 2	Roosters 28-24	Allianz
2016	Round 17	Bulldogs 24-20	Allianz
2016	Round 11	Bulldogs 32-20	ANZ
2015	Finals W2	Roosters 38-12	Allianz
2015	Round 21	Roosters 38-28	Allianz

BIGGEST WINS

BULLDOGS	2010 Round 3	60-14 at ANZ
RAIDERS	1935 Round 6	87-7 at SSG

CURRENT FORM

BULLDOGS	L L L W
ROOSTERS	L L W W

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Sharks v Bulldogs, Bankwest	Sun 21 Jun, 6:30pm
Roosters v Eels, Bankwest	Sat 20 Jun, 7:35pm

Match Preview

with Hamish Parker

Two teams at opposites collide

The Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs and Sydney Roosters will clash on Sunday afternoon at Bankwest Stadium and it's no secret that these teams have been very much at opposites over the past few seasons. On one hand, the Bulldogs have struggled in recent years, with their last finals appearance being in Week 1 of the 2016 series. On the other, the Roosters are the back-to-back premiers look like they could claim the illustrious "3-peat". Canterbury however, cannot be completely ruled out of this clash and have become accustomed to their underdogs tag, which has seen them spoil the party on multiple occasions over recent seasons. They are coming off of an impressive 20-point win, despite it being against dire opposition in cellar dwellers St. George Illawarra. The Roosters though are the back-to-back premiers for a reason and showed just what they can do last week with a 59-0 thumping of Brisbane. Whilst the Broncos were under-strength, the Tricolours were also without last season's Dally-M winner James Tedesco. This game could be entertaining for a number of different reasons. Could we see the 'Dogs drag their counterparts down with their grinding style and make a contest out of the game? Or will we see the premiers run away with it and put on a score?

The Bulldogs claimed their first win of the season last week against St George Illawarra, slightly easing the pressure on coach Dean Pay. In team news, Will Hopoate has been officially moved to fullback, as Dallin Watene-Zelezniak moves to the wing. Rookie Jake Averillo has been named to start in the centres, moving in from the wing. Adam Elliott and Raymond Faitala-Mariner switch positions from last weekend, with Faitala-Mariner to start in the second row, Elliott pushing into the middle at lock. Christian Crichton is the only inclusion in the 17 that beat the Dragons on the Queen's Birthday Monday, with Kerrod Holland dropping off the bench to make way.

You wouldn't think that the Roosters could get much better after a massive 59-0 victory over the Broncos last weekend, but their team sheet starts off with a massive inclusion. Star fullback Tedesco returns after overcoming a virus that saw him fail a temperature check at Sydney Airport before the Roosters' Round 4 game. That means that Brett Morris returns to the wing after an outstanding performance in place of Tedesco last round. That change sees Ryan Hall out of the 17 and pushed to the reserves. Lindsay Collins is able to retain his spot on the bench after last week's effort saw him make 272 metres, the most of any player in the game. This was outstanding given he started the game on the bench.

Both of these sides are coming off of a win last round and will be looking to continue their momentum into Round 5. Boosted by the return of Kieran Foran who will no doubt improve the side again this weekend, Canterbury got their first win of the season last week. With the Roosters' thumping of the Broncos sans-Tedesco, it will be interesting to see if they can be even better still this week. Canterbury have not managed a win over the Roosters since mid-way through the 2016 season, which saw the Roosters finish 15th that year. Recent history sets up a tough encounter for the Belmore club, but it wouldn't be wise to completely discount them based off of their well-known defensive game.

Who to watch: Will Hopoate has been officially moved to fullback for this weekend's game and will no doubt see more touches of the football after a solid performance last Monday. We all know how damaging his running game can be and it will be interesting to see if his strength from kick returns can help to spark the Bulldogs attack. Canterbury can be seen to struggle at times with their attack and Hopoate can also offer a pair of good hands to give the Roosters defence something else to think about.

After a week off, James Tedesco will be more than ready to go. His last game was against Souths in Round 3, where he caused all sorts of problems for their defence and there is little doubt that he will be equally as dangerous against the 'Dogs. His support play is second to none and if the Roosters pack can get the Bulldogs tired in the middle of the park, Tedesco could punch more than a few holes in the Canterbury defensive line.

Favourite: The Roosters are comfortable favourites to take out the win here.

Tip: Despite winning big to the tune of 59 points last weekend, there are no doubt still things to improve on for the Roosters. It may have gone unnoticed due to the large score line, but the Roosters were guilty of making three errors after points in their last game, and they can't afford to do the same against what will be a stronger Bulldogs defence. Canterbury pulled out a win last week and will gain some confidence from that win, especially considering some of the noise surrounding Pay has been at least temporarily silenced. Despite that, the premiers simply have too much quality across the park in comparison to the Bulldogs and should be too good in this one. **Roosters by 14.**



P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
4	1	-	4	Corey NORMAN	1	FULLBACK	1	Matt MOYLAN	2	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Jordan PEREIRA	2	WING	2	Sione KATO A	4	2	-	8
2	-	-	-	Euan AITKEN	3	CENTRE	3	Josh DUGAN	2	2	-	8
4	2	8	24	Zac LOMAX	4	CENTRE	4	Jesse RAMIEN	4	2	-	8
3	1	-	4	Mikaele RAVALAWA	5	WING	5	Mawene HIROTI	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Ben HUNT	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Shaun JOHNSON	4	-	11	22
1	-	-	-	Adam CLUNE	7	HALFBACK	7	Chad TOWNSEND	3	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Josh KERR	8	FRONT ROW	8	Andrew FIFITA	2	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Cameron McINNES (C)	9	HOOKER	9	Blayne BRAILEY	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Paul VAUGHAN	10	FRONT ROW	10	Aaron WOODS	4	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Tyson FRIZELL	11	SECOND ROW	11	Briton NIKORA	3	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Tyrell FUIMAONO	12	SECOND ROW	12	Wade GRAHAM (C)	4	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	James GRAHAM	13	LOCK	13	Jack WILLIAMS	4	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Trent MERRIN	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Connor TRACEY	3	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Blake LAWRIE	15		15	Braden HAMLIN-UELE	4	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Issac LUKE	16		16	Toby RUDOLF	4	-	-	-
2	2	-	8	Matthew DUFTY	17		17	Scott SORENSEN	4	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Jacob HOST	18	RESERVES	18	Siosifa TALAKAI	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Jackson FORD	19		19	Will KENNEDY	4	1	-	4
-	-	-	-	Jason SAAB	20		20	Royce HUNT	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Korbin SIMS	21		21	Jackson FERRIS	-	-	-	-

PAUL MCGREGOR

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 Tyson Frizell will play his 150th club game. James Graham will play his 50th club game. Matt Dufty needs to score 8 points to reach 100 for his club and career.

#NRLDragonsSharks

MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 14 June 2020
KICKOFF	6:30pm AEST
VENUE	Campbelltown Stadium Leumeah, NSW
WATCH	Fox League Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Henry PERENARA
TOUCH JUDGES	Dave MUNRO Jon STONE
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Ben LOWE

Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 44 matches



At Campbelltown Stadium: first meeting at this venue

LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 22	Sharks 18-12	Pointsbet
2019	Round 11	Sharks 22-9	WIN
2018	Round 6	Dragons 40-20	WIN
2018	Round 2	Dragons 20-16	SC Group
2017	Round 10	Sharks 18-14	UOW Jubilee
2017	Round 3	Dragons 16-10	SC Group
2016	Round 23	Dragons 32-18	WIN Jubilee
2016	Round 2	Sharks 30-2	SC Group
2015	Round 18	Sharks 28-8	Remondis
2015	Round 12	Dragons 42-6	WIN Jubilee

BIGGEST WINS

DRAGONS	2010 Round 8	38-0 at WIN
SHARKS	2007 Round 4	40-4 at Toyota

CURRENT FORM

DRAGONS	L L L L
SHARKS	L L L W

NEXT UP - ROUND 5

Titans v Dragons, Suncorp	Sat 20 Jun, 3pm
Sharks v Bulldogs, Bankwest	Sun 21 Jun, 6:30pm

Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

Southern Sydney rivals face off on neutral turf.

The St George Illawarra Dragons will be looking to post their first win of the season against the Cronulla Sharks on Sunday evening.

Failing to score a try for the second straight week in a dismal 22-2 loss to the Bulldogs on Queen's Birthday Monday, St George Illawarra Dragons coach Paul McGregor will be looking for a response from his players after being granted a temporary reprieve by club management.

Staring down the prospect of their worst start to a season as a joint venture, the Dragons will be hoping milestones to two of their most experienced forwards Tyson Frizell (150 games for the club) and James Graham (50 games for the club) brings about a renewed sense of confidence for the under-siege club.

Winning two of their three appearances at Campbelltown Stadium as a joint venture, coach McGregor has made minimal changes with Tyrell Fuimaono coming in for injured NSW representative Tariq Sims and Matt Dufty joining the bench as part of a backline reshuffle.

Recording their first win of the season last Saturday in Townsville, the Cronulla Sharks will be chasing three consecutive wins over their long-standing rivals for the first time in more than a decade.

Outscoring the Cowboys 26-16 in a match that threatened to be derailed due to COVID-19 protocols, Sharks coach John Morris will be looking to build on that performance with back-to-back wins at Campbelltown Stadium for only the second time in the NRL era.

Returning to the home of the Western Suburbs Magpies for the first time since their premiership-winning campaign four years ago, Chad Townsend will make a welcome return in a move that sees Matt Moylan shifted to fullback. Barnstorming prop Andrew Fifita has been named to return, while former South Sydney outside back Mawene Hiroti is in line to make his club debut on the wing.

Who to watch: Coming under scrutiny for his performances in recent weeks, Dragons veteran James Graham have his sights set on leading the Red V out of the doldrums. Averaging 36 minutes of game time in a major reduction from the form that saw him regarded among the premier front rowers in the world, the 34-year-old Englishman produced his strongest performance of the season against his former club, running for 170 metres and chiming in with 38 tackles in a willing personal display. Set to play his 50th game for the club on Sunday evening, Graham shapes as a player with the experience and attacking skills capable of breaking the Dragons' wretched run of form in 2020.

Recapturing the form that saw him light up the Shire two years ago, Jesse Ramien will be eager to make up for lost time in the black, white and blue. Unable to replicate his best football during a difficult season with Newcastle in 2019, the 23-year-old Indigenous All Stars representative showed tremendous pace to cross for a double last Saturday in Townsville, while having a hand in a further four-pointer to repay the faith shown by John Morris in bringing him back to the club. Contracted to the club until the end of 2023, look for Ramien to take a mile if given an inch on Sunday evening as he searches for his first try against the Dragons in the top grade.

Favourite: Scoring a confidence-building victory last Saturday, the Sharks are expected to build on that performance by accounting for their lowly rivals.

Tip: It is said that once a team hits rock bottom the only way is up. The Dragons haven't reached that point yet. **Sharks by 16.**

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

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

ROUND 5

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

JUNE 11-14

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

ROUND 6

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

JUNE 18-21

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

ROUND 7

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

JUNE 25-29

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

ROUND 8

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

JULY 2-5

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

ROUND 9

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

JULY 9-12

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

ROUND 10

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

JULY 16-19

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

ROUND 11

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

JULY 23-26

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

ROUND 12

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

JULY 30-AUGUST 2

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

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

ROUND 13

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

AUGUST 6-9

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

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

ROUND 14

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

AUGUST 13-16

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

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

ROUND 15

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

AUGUST 20-23

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

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

ROUND 16

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

AUGUST 27-30

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

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

ROUND 17

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

SEPTEMBER 3-6

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

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

ROUND 18

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

SEPTEMBER 10-13

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

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

ROUND 19

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

SEPTEMBER 17-20

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

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

ROUND 20

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

SEPTEMBER 24-27

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

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

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

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

OCTOBER 2-4

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

Qualifying & Elimination Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

WEEK 2

Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC

OCTOBER 9-10

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

Semi Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

WEEK 3

Day/Time TBC
 Day/Time TBC

OCTOBER 16-17

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

Preliminary Finals

Venue TBC
 Venue TBC

GRAND FINAL

Sun, Time TBC

OCTOBER 25

W PF 1 v W PF 2

Venue TBC

2020 STATE OF ORIGIN SERIES**GAME 1**

Wed

NOVEMBER 4

QLD v NSW

Venue TBC

GAME 2

Wed

NOVEMBER 11

NSW v QLD

Venue TBC

WOMEN'S

Fri

NOVEMBER 13

NSW v QLD

Venue TBC

GAME 3

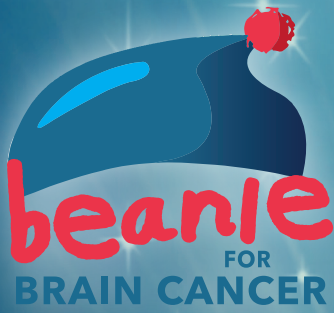
Wed

NOVEMBER 18

QLD v NSW

Venue TBC

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



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