

The



LEAGUE  
UNLIMITED

# FRONT ROW

ROUND 8 2020

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 6

A photograph of a male rugby player, Joe Stimson, in a blue jersey with 'M&J CHICKENS' and 'L.U.' logos, holding a white rugby ball. He is looking off to the side with a focused expression. The background is a blurred outdoor field with a white fence.

# The long road back

From Temora to Belmore, how Joe Stimson plans to bark back

**INSIDE:** RUGBY LEAGUE 'SCORIGAMI' · CROSSWORD & WORD JUMBLES · RESULTS REPORTS · LADDER · STATS LEADERS · NEWS · R8 TEAMLISTS & PREVIEWS · 2020 DRAW



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**THERE IS NO OFF-SEASON**

# From the editor

Tim Costello

The 'new normal' is definitely here - while most teams and grounds will be welcoming back fans in greater numbers this weekend, there's trepidation about what the Victorian outbreak in COVID-19 means for the immediate future of professional sport.

For what it's worth, the Storm have made a noble, Warriors-esque sacrifice and will base themselves in Queensland for the interim, using Sunshine Coast - already a feeder club - as their training base while playing matches at Brisbane's Suncorp Stadium.

Meanwhile on the field - the pressure is really being turned up on Brisbane's Anthony Seibold and Canterbury's Dean Pay as the two proud clubs prop up the NRL ladder this week. The Broncos haven't won a match since the premiership restarted in May and Canterbury have fared little better, picking up just the one victory across those five weeks. How long the sub-par performances are tolerated by those higher up will be interesting to watch over the coming days and weeks - particularly as the two clubs meet in Round 9.

More positively for Doggies fans, this week we have an interview with Joe Stimson. Flick over to page 12 for Joshua Wells' chat with the injured Canterbury back-rower as he mounts a campaign to get back on the NRL field in 2021.

This week we also have a nice big version of 'rugby league scorigami' - the wonderful creation of Rugby League Project's Andrew Ferguson, who is absolutely invaluable to this publication. Flip forward to page 14 to check it out!

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Cover image: Joe Stimson  
*Courtesy Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs*

### MANAGERS EDITOR

Steven Williams & Coby Delaney  
Tim Costello

### CONTRIBUTORS

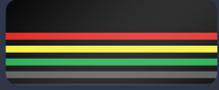
Robert Crosby	Andrew Jackson
Twizzle Brennan	Andrew Ferguson
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Sam Bourke	Jason Hosken
Hamish Parker	



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# Panthers go top with bruising result against Rabbitohs

Justin Davies



20-12



**Penrith Panthers have moved to the top of the NRL Premiership with a bruising 20-12 win against the South Sydney Rabbitohs tonight at Kogarah.**

The Panthers continue to pass each test, as the weeks go on in 2020. After they edged past the Storm, now they handled the Rabbitohs with ease, led by a powerhouse performance from their forward pack, some guile from the halves added up to their fifth win of the season.

Whilst Nathan Cleary sported a band-aid which hampered his goal-kicking, the halfback guided the Panthers around to their latest conquest. Cleary has looked a man-on-a-mission since his return from suspension, set up two tries and scored a late four-pointer himself to solidify the Panthers as a Premiership threat this season.

Much has been talked of the Panthers right-side this year with justification but tonight it was to the left, to the left as Beyonce sang for the Panthers. Replacement winger Brent Naden scored the opener and they terrorised the Rabbitohs defense all night. Naden almost had a double in the opening 20 minutes but it seems whoever comes in for the Panthers strikes gold for the Mountain Men.

There were times where the former 'chocolate soldiers' might have wilted under the pressure from Rabbitohs in the second half but the Panthers continued to show up every set in defense and combined with some stellar kicking from Cleary gave the Rabbitohs no chance tonight.

Dylan Edwards and Stephen Crichton added four-pointers either side of the break which kept the Rabbitohs at arms-length all night. Edwards has shown since his return from injury, he is the Panthers choice at fullback with his pinballed effort for a try and a safe night under the high ball.

On the Rabbitohs, they remain an enigma. When they were on against bottom feeders, the Rabbitohs piled on 72 points but failed their challenge against a contender tonight. They fumbled their way through the first half with Latrell Mitchell, a key culprit, but it was a tough night for the cardinal-and-myrtle who ended with 11-men on the field.

A superb line from Bayley Sironen brought it back to 8-6 just after the break, but the eight-point margin at full-time, flattered the Rabbitohs. A late Alex Johnston flying effort kept the streak of close margins between the sides but tonight, the gap between the contenders and the pretenders showed.

There is plenty for the Rabbitohs to work on, if they want to challenge this season. Jaydn Su'A gave them punch but there wasn't enough thrown at the Panthers defense alongside a litany of fumbling players that made it a forgettable night.

Next week the Bunnies are away to the Bulldogs, while the Panthers visit the Wests Tigers. Both matches in Round 8 are set for Bankwest Stadium.

**LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:**

3 points - Nathan Cleary

2 points - James Fisher-Harris

1 points - Stephen Crichton

# Munster down as undermanned Storm crush Warriors

Andrew Jackson



50-6



**Life without Stephen Kearney has kicked off in worst-possible fashion for the Warriors, slumping to an embarrassing 50-6 loss to the Storm on Friday.**

While Todd Payten's men put in a strong opening to the game, they were unable to capitalise on their opportunities.

When the pressure was turned on them and they were forced to defend their line, there was little resistance.

The Storm on the other hand went the entire second half without star five-eighth Cameron Munster, who is set to miss the next fortnight with a medial ligament injury.

At one point in the second forty the Storm's bench was empty.

Yet they raced away for their biggest win of the year.

It wasn't a perfect performance by any means - there were dropped balls, subsequent Craig Bellamy blow ups.

But they still emerged 44-point victors - a scary proposition for the rest of the competition after last week's 21-14 loss to Penrith had some questioning if Melbourne were still capable of going all the way.

Roger Tuivasa-Sheck, as always, led from the front for the visitors as he finished Friday's outing with 211 running metres as he constantly tried to spark his teammates in attack.

Even he was left visibly frustrated as his teammates squandered crucial opportunities against a team that you simply can't be wasteful against.

Suliasi Vunivalu nabbed a hattrick while Ryan Papenhuyzen and Paul Momirovski also bagged doubles in the victory.

Patrick Herbert went over for the sole try for the visitors.

The Storm have a massive fortnight to come with the Roosters and Raiders to come but will have to play both games without Munster.

The Warriors have fellow strugglers Brisbane next week as they look to restore pride or risk further questions being asked about the timing of Kearney's departure.

**LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:**

3 points - Jahrome Hughes

2 points - Cameron Smith

1 points - Ryan Papenhuyzen

# Roosters defy injuries to down Dragons

Robert Crosby



26-12



**A hat-trick from Brett Morris has seen the Sydney Roosters down the St George Illawarra Dragons 26-12 in a match marred by injuries.**

Losing Victor Radley and Sam Verrills in the first 20 minutes with suspected ACL tears - set to rule the pair out for the remainder of the season - the Roosters showed their premiership-winning credentials to record their fifth straight win following the season resumption.

Coming out of the sheds full of energy, Morris (4th minute) - filling in for his twin brother at left centre - crossed for the opening try of the evening.

Losing Radley in the following set, the Roosters recovered to produce one of the tries of the season through Jared Waerea-Hargreaves (18th minute), after fullback Joseph Manu fielded his own bomb before flick passing to send his prop over for a 10-0 lead.

Starting the match ahead of Jake Friend after being limited to less than 80 minutes of game time this season, hooker Sam Verrills was taken from the field with the assistance of two trainers to leave the reigning premiers to play out the remainder of the match with 15 men.

Taking advantage of their opponent's misfortune, the Dragons levelled the scores at 10-all courtesy of two brilliant passes from Matt Dufty to send Mikaele Ravalawa (23rd minute) and Zac Lomax (26th minute) over for four-pointers.

Taking the lead momentarily after halftime with a penalty goal from Lomax, the Roosters responded through Morris (51st minute) following some lovely second phase play that saw the ball move from sideline to sideline.

With both sides trading sets for much of the second half, Luke Keary produced two moments of brilliance by taking on the line from close range (65th minute) before securing the win with a well-weighted chip to send Morris (76th minute) over for his hat-trick.

Temporarily moving into second position following the win, the Roosters have the option of recalling on-loan forward Poasa Fa'amusili from the Warriors to cover for the losses of Radley and Verrills.

**LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:**

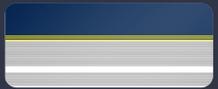
3 points - Jared Waerea-Hargreaves

2 points - Brett Morris

1 points - Matthew Dufty

# Ruthless Cowboys bounce back to dispose of Knights

Adam Huxtable



32-20



**The North Queensland Cowboys have recorded their first win against a top 8 side in 2020, doing it in style by racing out to a 26 point half time lead before eventually winning the match 32-20.**

The Knights were heavily favoured going into this one and after 2 minutes it was looking like Newcastle by how much. Rookie fullback Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow couldn't handle the first high ball that came his way, giving the men in red and blue a prime opportunity to put points on the board early and leaving their fans experiencing deja-vu from last weeks demolition at the hands of the Tigers.

The Cowboys had come to play though, and it became apparent when they repelled the Knights with ease, Gehamat Shibasaki dropping an easy pass cold. Their dominance didn't start until around the 9th minute, when Shibasaki again made a simple error and gifted the Cowboys a prime attacking opportunity. They wasted no time putting points on the board, with Justin O'Neill finishing off a perfectly executed backline shift.

From that point it appeared the Cowboys had wrestled all the momentum from the Knights. They were hitting harder and the Knights' play the balls were 10 times slower than their opposition. Kyle Feldt kicked a penalty goal to put his side up by 8 and the set from a kickoff was a clinic on how to play Rugby League. North Queensland made 70 odd metres off the kickoff and rolled the ball into touch, and when they received the ball on the last Reece Robson made a clean line break and linked up with Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow to score his maiden NRL try.

The one way traffic continued after that. Jake Clifford took the defence on close to the try-line and reaped the rewards, easily breaking through and showing

up former Cowboy Kalyn Ponga in the process. After Kyle Feldt nailed the easy conversion, the score was 20-0 in favour of the Cowboys after 25 minutes. The errors continued for Newcastle, they were completing at 65% after 37 minutes and were really struggling to keep pace with their superior opponents. Just as it appeared the Knights would survive to half time, Kyle Feldt took to the sky to pounce on a perfect cross-field kick by Jake Clifford. Feldt put on his kicking boots to nail the sideline conversion and make the half time scoreline 26-0.

If the Knights were to have any chance, they needed to score first and score quickly. That's exactly what they did, with rookie Tex Hoy scoring after Lachlan Fitzgibbon made a break upfield in a try very similar to Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow's in the first half. The resurgence was short lived though, with Jacob Saifiti knocking on off the first set after points. The Cowboys weren't about to let this one slip, and Tom Opacic produced one of the pickups of the season followed by one of the offloads of the season to put Coen Hess over untouched.

A string of 5 set restarts in 6 minutes preceded Newcastle's second try of the match. Kalyn Ponga showed his class by getting a brilliant quick cutout ball away to Hymel Hunt, who did well to only just stay in the field of play.

Where there's life, there's hope is what Newcastle fans were telling themselves 5 minutes later. They were handed a penalty late in the tackle count after Mitchell Pearce was hit late after passing, and they capitalised on their field position through Kurt Mann. Mann showed the form he has exhibited in recent weeks by taking the line on and getting through some soft Cowboys defence and planting the ball down, making the gap less than 3 converted tries with 20 minutes to go.

Time started ticking away on a Knights comeback and those errors from earlier started creeping back into their game. Esan Marsters strolled over the line but was ruled to have benefited from an obstruction play, giving the Knights a penalty and last roll of the dice. Shibasaki got his first try in the NRL after 17 games, giving his side a sliver of hope being down by 12 with 4 minutes to go.

There was a penalty try referred to the bunker with a minute to go, with the referee examining whether Ponga would've scored had it not been for the impact of Scott Drinkwater off the ball. He was ruled to not be in try scoring vicinity and that was all she wrote for the 80 minutes, the Cowboys winning 32 points to 20.

**LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:**

3 points - Jake Clifford; 2 points - Jason Taumalolo; 1 points - Tom Opacic

# Titans continue to improve as Broncos sink further

Andrew Ferguson



**A scintillating first half by the Gold Coast Titans saw them blow the Broncos off the park, setting up an impressive 30-12 win at Suncorp Stadium tonight.**

The victory saw the Titans move off the bottom of the ladder and up into 13th place, while the Broncos slumped to second last place.

The Titans opened the scoring in the 7th minute when Ash Taylor darted over from dummy half to score wide on the left side. He was unable to convert.

In the 20th minute they crossed again, when Jamal Fogarty passed to Keegan Hipgrave, who half-attempted to catch it before weirdly batting it along to Anthony Don, who collected the ball on the bounce and then dived over in the right corner for a good try. Taylor's sideline conversion was brilliant.

9 minutes later the Titans put up a bomb was dropped by Tesi Niu. The ball was picked up by Tyrone Peachey who then passed to a barnstorming Sam Lisone,

who burrowed over the line and got the ball down, just, for a try under the posts. Taylor converted from right in front.

With just 3 minutes remaining in the half, Moeaki Fotuika was sent to the sin bin, however it was the Titans who scored during his absence, when Don intercepted a pass from Niu and raced 70 metres to score right on halftime. Taylor added the extras and the Titans went into the sheds, up 22-0.

Brisbane needed to score first in the second half and they did just that in the 49th minute when some good late footwork by a barnstorming Ben Te'o saw him crash over for a strong try. Herbie Farnworth converted from right in front.

Ash Taylor kicked an easy penalty goal in the 53rd minute, but 5 minutes later the Broncos scored again, this time when Farnworth followed through a grubber and got the ball down for a four pointer. He then converted his own try to reduce the deficit to 2 converted tries.

Taylor again added another penalty goal, in the 62nd minute to take the Titans lead out to 14.

The last ten minutes saw Matt Lodge leave the field with an injury and oddly, wasn't replaced. Then with 6 minutes remaining and while the Broncos had the ball, Corey Oates was sin binned for dissent, leaving the Broncos with 11 men on the field. This allowed the Titans to bag one more try to Philip Sami in the left corner, despite the attention of two defenders. Taylor failed to convert.

**LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:**

3 points - Ashley Taylor

2 points - Corey Thompson

1 points - Sam Lisone

# Golden Gutho gets Parra back to the top

Josh Robertson



**The Parramatta Eels have needed golden point to regain the top spot on the NRL ladder following their 25-24 victory over the Canberra Raiders at Bankwest Stadium.**

The first half was something that could only be described as bizarre with something in the air that saw players fire up, the set restart bell go off on multiple occasions without referee Ashley Klein calling for one. The Eels opened the scoring after just five minutes when some ill-discipline from the Raiders put themselves under pressure and it was Ryan Matterson who scored the opening try after Mitch Moses was able to bring defenders in and give Matterson a solid run to the line to score. The bunker then knocked back two more scoring efforts from the Eels with knock on calls going against Mitch Moses and Dylan Brown respectively to keep the score at 6-0. The Raiders then hit back shortly after when Josh Papali'i got a free passage to the try line after the Parramatta defence over-compensated for the outside men.

Controversy reigned supreme on the Eels next try after a clear forward pass was missed by the officials into the lead up when Elliott Whitehead threw the ball forward to Nick Cotric who kicked back inside for Jack Wighton who gave it to Whitehead who scored for the Raiders to put them in front.

Injury concerns mounted up for both team with Corey Horsburgh injuring his foot which could've saved Canberra from a meltdown by the forward who was baiting for a fight whilst Moses left the field with a suspected torn calf muscle. A penalty goal on the stroke of half time brought the Eels back to within 4 with Gutherson taking over the kicking duties.

The second half was set up to be another strange 40 minutes and it lived up to being very strange indeed. The Raiders got to the line first but were called back for a forward pass by the officials on a pass that looked to be flat. Parramatta retook the lead soon after when Ray Stone was given a free passage to the line after just like the Eels did in the first half, the Raiders were expecting play to go wide but instead Mahoney went short and gave it to Stone for his first NRL try.

The Eels then extended their lead just after the hour mark when Shaun Lane was able to run a good line and get a great offload away to Michael Jennings to score. Gutherson's conversion pushed the Eels out to an eight-point lead. The victory looked to have been assured for the Blue and Gold when Maika Sivo was able to get on the outside of the Raiders defence to score. The missed conversion from Gutherson gave Canberra a rough outside chance of trying to get back into it.

A two-minute double for Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad did just that for the Raiders with the first coming off the boot of George Williams who chipped into open space behind the Eels line and CNK was able to score. The second of the double for CNK came straight off the kick off when the Raiders looked to switch play down the left and Elliot Whitehead found space to get through before finding CNK to score. Croker converted both to force the game to go into extra time.

Golden Point ensued and it was the Raiders who had the first chance for field goal but George Williams couldn't get a strike away and handed the ball over in good position. The Eels then themselves couldn't get a field goal away with Gutherson rushed into a bomb that almost paid off when he chased through and luck both favoured and went against Gutherson with a bounce perfect for the Eels fullback only for him to slip before being able to get to it. The second half of Golden Point saw Parramatta being the only team to get a chance and it was some scrappy play from the Eels that actually saw them get into perfect position. The Eels were desperate to get into field position to take a shot and some scrappy offloads saw a Raiders hand knock one down and a scrum put them into good position. The ensuing set was too much for the Raiders to hold out and Gutherson was able to get a clean shot about 25m out from the posts and it went through to give the Eels a 25-24 victory.

**LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:**

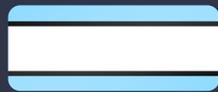
3 points - Shaun Lane; 2 points - Reagan Campbell-Gillard; 1 points - Elliott Whitehead

# Sizzling Sharks down substandard Sea Eagles

Hamish Parker



22-40



The Cronulla Sharks have beaten the Manly Sea Eagles 40-22 at Central Coast Stadium this afternoon. The Sharks showed us signs of good improvement, whereas Manly showed us how their attack may struggle without their star fullback Tom Trbojevic.

The Sea Eagles no doubt struggled in attack with the losses of Dylan Walker and Tom Trbojevic in this game. The scoreboard read 22 points next to their name, however most of their points came late with consolation tries and some individual brilliance from the likes of Addin Fonua-Blake and Curtis Sironen.

The boys from the Northern Beaches of Sydney looked like they were going to make a contest of the game early on. Despite letting the Sharks score the first try of the game, Manly answered back not too long after, making the score 6-4. Shortly after, Rueben Garrick levelled the scores at 6-6 with a penalty goal.

However, it was mostly down hill for Manly after that point, with the half time score seeing them behind 18-6. An early try going against them in the second half all but sealed the deal for the game as the Sharks leapt out to a 24-6 lead.

Manly had already conceded 40 points before they began to score some points late, scoring in both the 71st and 77th minute. It wasn't all bad for Manly as they did show their ability to score some points. Fonua-Blake and Sironen were outstanding and it will take time for them to get used to playing without 'Tommy Turbo'.

The Sharks were very good for the majority of the match, but did fade out in patches which saw them concede points. These fades were the reason for them conceding 22 points, but they will be happy with the win and especially happy with how they played in their good patches.

Shaun Johnson, the competitions leading player in try assists, played a great game, along with hooker Blayke Brailey who seems to be feeling more comfortable in his role as the season progresses. The black-white-and-blues were able to set up some good tries and defend their line when it mattered, which was very positive for them.

Both teams have things to improve on after this game, but Cronulla will be far happier with their performance. Manly will take on Newcastle back home at Lottoland next Sunday, whilst Cronulla will take on the Gold Coast Titans in Brisbane on Saturday.

**LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:**

3 points - Shaun Johnson

2 points - Blayke Brailey

1 points - Addin Fonua-Blake

# Wests Tigers notch win in 500th Premiership game

Justin Davies



6-34



In their 500th game as a club, Wests Tigers were comfortable 34-6 victors against Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs, tonight at Bankwest Stadium.

For the first time this season, Wests Tigers recorded back-to-back victories in a six-tries to one result including doubles to David Nofaluma and youngster Tommy Talau alongside four-pointers to Joseph Leilua and Adam Doueihy as they move into the top eight.

Macguire challenged his side for a full 80-minute performance after last weekend's limp second half and the Tigers delivered albeit against a turgid Bulldogs side. The work between Josh Reynolds and on-loan hooker Harry Grant was a highlight, as the Tigers piled on points.

After some brave efforts, the Bulldogs started bright as winger Reimis Smith latched onto a Kieran Foran grubber to make it 6-nil. That was the closest the Bulldogs got as the attack was anemic even when the contest was done. The arrival of English forward Luke Thompson might give them a brief bounce but there is some hard questions to be asked down Belmore way.

The Tigers showed their credentials again though, Joseph Leilua was unstoppable out wide showing his strength to make it 10-6 then the silk with the between the legs offload as his combination with prolific try-scorer David Nofaluma will create havoc to possibly rival Leipana from his days at Canberra.

Once the Tigers got a sniff of blood, they went for the kill tonight. Tommy Talau got his first four-pointer followed winger's putdown right after the break as the joint venture side were breaking the line at will. Nofaluma was handed the Tigers fifth on a platter from a Foran intercept then Adam Doueihy closed out the scoring with a strong effort as the Tigers flew past the 40-point mark.

It was a night for the youngsters, Grant again injected energy at dummy-half and gives the Tigers an extra dimension that they'll be hoping the youngster remains at the joint venture next season. Talau not a natural winger produced two good efforts for his tries and the enthusiasm is flowing through this Tigers side and if they can continue to build, it might be a repeat of 2005.

Where to next for Canterbury? The loss of Will Hopoate early wasn't ideal but it was another outing where they looked lost in attack and unable to compete against the Tigers pack which will be galling after their brave effort against the Sharks last Sunday night.

Reality is though, they sit rock bottom of the Premiership, their sole win against St George Illawarra, and more questions than answers for a proud club. Chopping and changing might provide a quick fix but there needs to be a root-and-branch review at Belmore.

**LeagueUnlimited.com Player of the Year points:**

3 points - Joseph Leilua

2 points - Harry Grant

1 points - David Nofaluma

# The scoresheet

## Scores, scorers, match details from Round 7

**Panthers 20** (Brent Naden, Nathan Cleary, Stephen Crichton, Dylan Edwards tries; Nathan Cleary 2/5 goals)

def **Rabbitohs 12** (Bayley Sironen, Alex Johnston tries; Adam Reynolds 2/2 goals)

Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Thursday 25 June 2020, 7:50pm AEST; Halftime: Panthers 8-0

Referee: Gerard Sutton; Touch Judges: Todd Smith, Chris Butler; NRL Bunker: Steve Chiddy, Ben Galea

**Storm 50** (Paul Momirovski (2), Suliasi Vunivalu (3), Ryan Papenhuyzen (2), Brandon Smith, Josh Addo-Carr tries; Cameron Smith 7/9 goals)

def **Warriors 6** (Patrick Herbert try; Chanel Harris-Tavita 1/1 goals)

Venue: Netstrata Jubilee Stadium; Date: Friday 26 June 2020, 6:00pm AEST; Halftime: Storm 22-0

Referee: Ben Cummins; Touch Judges: Chris Sutton, Drew Oultram; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Bryan Norrie

**Roosters 26** (Brett Morris (3), Jared Waerea-Hargreaves, Luke Keary tries; Kyle Flanagan 3/5 goals)

def **Dragons 12** (Mikaele Ravalawa, Zac Lomax tries; Zac Lomax 2/3 goals)

Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Friday 26 June 2020, 7:55pm AEST; Halftime: 10-all

Referee: Grant Atkins; Touch Judges: Dave Munro, Tim Alouani-Roby; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Beau Scott

**Cowboys 32** (Justin O'Neill, Kyle Feldt, Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow, Jake Clifford, Coen Hess tries; Kyle Feldt 6/6 goals)

def **Knights 20** (Tex Hoy, Hymel Hunt, Kurt Mann, Gehamat Shibasaki tries; Kalyn Ponga 2/4 goals)

Venue: Queensland Country Bank Stadium; Date: Saturday 27 June 2020, 3:00pm AEST; Halftime: Cowboys 26-0

Referee: Matt Cecchin; Touch Judges: Jon Stone, Liam Kennedy; NRL Bunker: Steve Clark, Ben Galea

**Titans 30** (Ashley Taylor, Anthony Don (2), Sam Lisone, Phillip Sami tries; Ashley Taylor 5/7 goals)

def **Broncos 12** (Ben Te'o, Herbie Farnworth tries; Herbie Farnworth 2/2 goals)

Venue: Suncorp Stadium; Date: Saturday 27 June 2020, 5:30pm AEST; Halftime: Titans 22-0; Crowd: 6,262

Referee: Peter Gough Touch Judges: Belinda Sharpe, Matt Noyen Video Referee: Steve Chiddy, Ben Lowe

**Eels 25** (Ryan Matterson, Ray Stone, Michael Jennings, Maika Sivo tries; Clinton Gutherson 3/4, Mitchell Moses 1/1 goals; Clinton

Gutherson 1 field goal) def **Raiders 24** (Josh Papali'i, Elliott Whitehead, Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad (2) tries; Jarrod Croker 4/4 goals)

Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Saturday 27 June 2020, 7:35pm AEST; Halftime: Raiders 12-8

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

**Sharks 40** (Braden Hamlin-Uele, Sione Katoa (2), Jesse Ramien, Josh Dugan, Bryson Goodwin, Blayke Brailey tries; Shaun Johnson 6/7

goals) def **Sea Eagles 22** (Jorge Taufua, Addin Fonua-Blake (2), Tevita Funa tries; Reuben Garrick 3/5 goals)

Venue: Central Coast Stadium; Date: Sunday 28 June 2020, 4:05pm AEST; Halftime: Sharks 18-6

Referee: Adam Gee; Touch Judges: Phil Henderson, Chris Sutton; NRL Bunker: Jared Maxwell, Ben Galea

**Wests Tigers 34** (Harry Grant, Tommy Talau (2), Joseph Leilua, David Nofaluma (2), Adam Doueih tries; Moses Mbye 3/7 goals)

def **Bulldogs 6** (Reimis Smith try; Jake Averillo 1/1 goals)

Venue: Bankwest Stadium; Date: Sunday 28 June 2020, 6:30pm AEST; Halftime: Wests Tigers 16-6

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

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# LeagueUnlimited Player of the Year

## Standings after Round 7

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.

**11 points** - Tom Trbojevic (Sea Eagles)

**10 points** - Brett Morris (Roosters), Cameron Munster (Storm)

**9 points** - Nathan Cleary (Panthers)

**8 points** - Cameron Smith (Storm), Jason Taumalolo (Cowboys)

**7 points** - Shaun Johnson (Sharks), Matthew Dufty (Dragons), James Tedesco (Roosters)

**6 points** - Dylan Brown (Eels), Matt Burton (Panthers), Mitchell Pearce (Knights), Jack Wighton (Raiders), Latrell Mitchell (Rabbitohs)

**5 points** - Jarrod Croker (Raiders), Harry Grant (Storm), Benji Marshall (Wests Tigers), Kodi Nikorima (Warriors), Blake Green (Warriors), Luke Brooks (Wests Tigers), Isaah Yeo (Panthers), Kalyn Ponga (Knights), Daniel Saifiti (Knights), Ashley Taylor (Titans), Will Hopoate (Bulldogs), Jahrome Hughes (Storm), Sione Katoa (Bulldogs), Mitchell Moses (Eels), David Klemmer (Knights), Adam Reynolds (Rabbitohs)

**4 points** - George Williams (Raiders), Shaun Lane (Eels), Curtis Sironen (Sea Eagles), Dallin Watene-Zelezniak (Bulldogs), Luke Keary (Roosters)

**3 points** - Young Tonumaiepa (Titans), Addin Fonua-Blake (Sea Eagles), Jesse Ramien (Sharks), Joseph Leilua (Wests Tigers), Scott Drinkwater (Cowboys), Josh Morris (Sharks), Maika Sivo (Eels), Jared Waerea-Hargreaves (Roosters), Koton Stagg (Broncos), Jake Clifford (Cowboys), Stephen Crichton (Panthers), Viliame Kikau (Panthers), Jake Trbojevic (Sea Eagles), Jamayne Isaako (Broncos), David Nofalo (Wests Tigers), Daly Cherry-Evans (Sea Eagles), Cody Walker (Rabbitohs), Waqa Blake (Eels)

**2 points** - Jorge Taufua (Sea Eagles), Corey Norman (Dragons), Dale Finucane (Storm), Reagan Campbell-Gillard (Eels), Blayke Brailey (Sharks), Emre Guler (Raiders), David Fifita (Broncos), Kurt Mann (Knights), Jarome Luai (Panthers), Ronaldo Mulitalo (Sharks), Corey Thompson (Wests Tigers), Anthony Milford (Broncos), Nick Cotric (Raiders), James Fisher-Harris (Panthers), Clinton Gutherson (Eels), Nathan Brown (Eels), Lindsay Collins (Roosters), Cameron McInnes (Dragons), Bradman Best (Knights), Adam Doueihi (Wests Tigers), Michael Morgan (Cowboys), Michael Jennings (Eels)

**1 point** - Josh Reynolds (Wests Tigers), Ryan Papenhuyzen (Storm), Sam Lisone (Titans), Elliott Whitehead (Raiders), Tom Opacic (Cowboys), Chad Townsend (Sharks), Kyle Flanagan (Roosters), Zac Lomax (Dragons), Eliesa Katoa (Warriors), Thomas Flegler (Broncos), Daniel Tupou (Roosters), Tui Kamikamica (Storm), Connor Watson (Knights), Tyrell Fuimaono (Dragons), Coen Hess (Cowboys), Phillip Sami (Titans), Tevita Pangai Junior (Broncos), Ethan Lowe (Rabbitohs), Alex Twal (Wests Tigers), Valentine Holmes (Cowboys), Reed Mahoney (Eels), Brian Kelly (Titans), Adam Elliott (Bulldogs), Payne Haas (Broncos), Peta Hiku (Warriors), Herman Ese'ese (Knights), Jaydn Su'A (Rabbitohs), Wade Graham (Sharks), Josh Papali'i (Raiders), Apisai Koroisau (Panthers), Cameron Murray (Rabbitohs)

# NRL Match Review

## Round 7 Charge Sheet

### Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (Warriors)

Grade 1 Shoulder Charge

61st min, on F Kaufusi (Storm)

Base penalty 200 points

7 year incident-free discount (25%)

Guilty / no contest = 150 points (1 match)

Guilty - early plea = 100 points (1 match)

PLEA: Not guilty. Challenging charge at judiciary

OUTCOME: **Guilty. Suspended 1 match.** 50 carryover points accrued.

### Joe Ofahengaue (Broncos)

Grade 1 Shoulder Charge

73rd min, on S Lisone (Titans)

Base penalty 200 points

2 x similar prior offence last 2 years (40% loading)

27 carryover points to add

Guilty / no contest = 280+27=307 points (3 matches)

Guilty - early plea = 210+27=237 points (2 matches)

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: **Suspended 2 matches.** 37 carryover points accrued.

### Corey Oates (Broncos)

Grade 1 Contrary Conduct

75th min, on P Gough (referee)

Base penalty \$750 fine

Guilty / no contest = \$750 fine

Guilty - early plea = \$550 fine

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: **\$550 fine.**

### Jordan Rapana (Raiders)

Grade 1 Careless High Tackle

40th min, on D Alvaro (Eels)

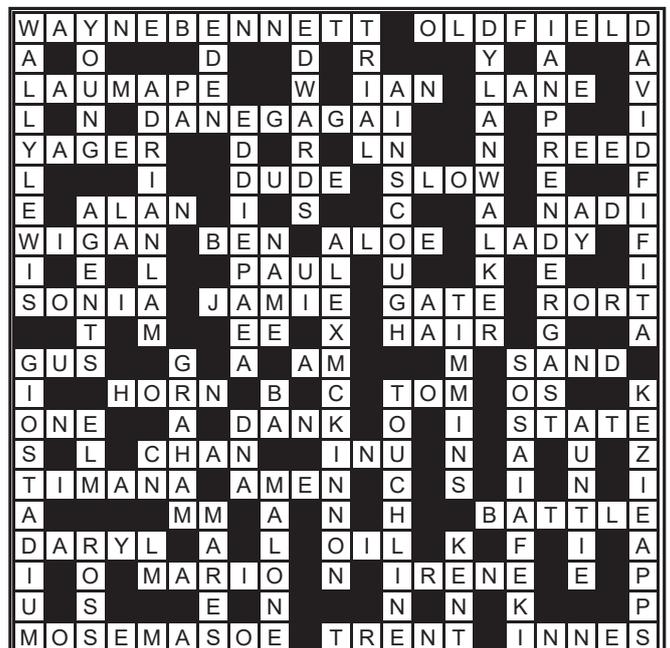
Base penalty \$750 fine

Guilty / no contest = \$750 fine

Guilty - early plea = \$550 fine

PLEA: Guilty - early plea

OUTCOME: **\$550 fine.**



Last week's crossword answers

# Premiership ladder

NRL 2020 Telstra Premiership after Round 7

Pos	Team	P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Parramatta Eels	7	6	1	0	158	88	70	12
2	Penrith Panthers	7	5	1	1	143	98	45	11
3	Sydney Roosters	7	5	2	0	201	69	132	10
4	Melbourne Storm	7	5	2	0	148	83	65	10
5	Newcastle Knights	7	4	2	1	169	120	49	9
6	Wests Tigers	7	4	3	0	175	140	35	8
7	Canberra Raiders	7	4	3	0	128	97	31	8
8	Manly-Warringah Sea Eagles	7	4	3	0	117	115	2	8
9	South Sydney Rabbitohs	7	3	4	0	144	134	10	6
10	North Queensland Cowboys	7	3	4	0	175	169	6	6
11	Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks	7	3	4	0	146	148	-2	6
12	St George Illawarra Dragons	7	2	5	0	106	146	-40	4
13	Gold Coast Titans	7	2	5	0	96	193	-97	4
14	Warriors	7	2	5	0	79	182	-103	4
15	Brisbane Broncos	7	2	5	0	92	209	-117	4
16	Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs	7	1	6	0	76	162	-86	2

## Stats leaders

after Round 7

### Top Tryscorers

1	Kyle FELDT (Cowboys)	9
2	David NOFOALUMA (Wests Tigers)	8
	Sione KATO (Sharks)	8
4	Suliasi VUNIVALU (Storm)	7
5	Brett MORRIS (Roosters)	6
	Alex JOHNSTON (Rabbitohs)	6
7	Edrick LEE (Knights)	5
	Bradman BEST (Knights)	5
	Kotoni STAGGS (Broncos)	5
	Mikaele RAVALAWA (Dragons)	5

### Top Goalkickers

1	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)	34/41 (83%)
2	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	26/28 (93%)
	Cameron SMITH (Storm)	26/31 (84%)
4	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	23/27 (86%)
5	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	22/31 (71%)
6	Shaun JOHNSON (Sharks)	21/30 (70%)
7	Jarrold CROKER (Raiders)	20/22 (91%)
8	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	19/22 (86%)
9	Reuben GARRICK (Sea Eagles)	18/29 (62%)
10	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	17/21 (81%)

### Top Pointscorers

	T	G	FG	Pts	
1	Kyle FLANAGAN (Roosters)	3	34	-	80
2	Adam REYNOLDS (Rabbitohs)	2	26	-	60
	Kyle FELDT (Cowboys)	9	6	-	60
4	Kalyn PONGA (Knights)	3	22	-	56
5	Zac LOMAX (Dragons)	4	19	-	54
6	Cameron SMITH (Storm)	-	26	-	52
7	Mitchell MOSES (Eels)	1	23	1	51
8	Nathan CLEARY (Panthers)	2	17	1	43
9	Shaun JOHNSON (Sharks)	-	21	-	42
10	Reuben GARRICK (Sea Eagles)	1	18	-	40
	Jarrold CROKER (Raiders)	-	20	-	40

FROM THE NRL

# NRL Beanie for Brain Cancer Round raises \$2.55 million

NRL Media Release, 21 Jun 2020

**In a powerful display of unity during a year filled with so much uncertainty, Australians have rallied behind the Mark Hughes Foundation to raise \$2.55 million across the 2020 Beanie for Brain Cancer Round.**

This year's campaign urged fans to buy an MHF Beanie online, at selected IGA and Lowes Australia stores, or donate with the aim of raising \$2 million. This figure was surpassed this afternoon, giving brain cancer research an enormous boost.

MHF Founder, Mark Hughes, said "During these extraordinary times we just weren't sure how our Beanie Campaign was going to unfold. We should have known better. Once again the rugby league community and beyond are right behind us."

"We are continually blown away at the support from all levels.

"I would like to acknowledge the NRL, Nine, Fox League and all the media for coming together for our cause.

"Along with the supporters, clubs, players and all coaching staff, CEO's and referee, everyone comes together to make this such a special round."

"Aside from selling our beanies, the national exposure and awareness for brain cancer and having it in the spotlight gives real genuine hope for brain cancer patients and their families.

"The beanie has become a symbol of hope for all of us out there facing this disease. On behalf of the Callander family and the MHF team, a sincere thank you for all your support.

"You are helping us change the outcome for future patients diagnosed. We are truly humbled."

All proceeds raised are directed straight to research and it's only through innovation and collaboration that better treatments will be found for brain cancer patients.

With the NRL Beanie for Brain Cancer Fellowship recently appointed at The Children's Medical Research Institute, combined with the ongoing Matt Callander Fellowship at Kolling Institute and \$2 million in innovation grants already established, MHF are excited for what the future holds.

NRL CEO, Andrew Abdo, added "This is an outstanding result for the Mark Hughes Foundation.

"What I'm most proud about this year is that no matter the obstacle; the game, its fans and our partners have banded together and delivered remarkable outcomes like this weekend. It says so much about the strength of the rugby league community.

"I want to particularly thank our players, clubs and broadcast partners for the spirit in which they have got behind the Beanie for Brain Cancer round. And our fans, many are doing it tough, but you still found it in your hearts to order a beanie. Thank you.

"It's a credit to Mark, Kirralee and all the volunteers at the Mark Hughes Foundation who do an incredible job each year making so many beanies available to the community, especially this year given the challenges everyone has faced."

## Happy birthday!

This round's birthday boys & girls:

### Thursday 2 July

Hayze Perham (Warriors) - 21

### Friday 3 July

Will Smith (Eels) - 28

Alex Twal (Wests Tigers) - 24

### Saturday 4 July

Paul Turner (Warriors) - 20

Zehara Temara (Roosters NRLW) - 23

### Sunday 5 July

Kyle Paterson (Sharks) - 21

Keeley Davis (Dragons NRLW) - 20

### Tuesday 7 July

Phoenix Crossland (Knights) - 20

Connelly Lemuelu (Cowboys) - 22

Nita Maynard (Roosters NRLW) - 28

## 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](https://www.leagueunlimited.com) and look for the Match Centre to follow along with our live blogs.

# Looking forward

## Son of a gun ready to take the next step



**Joshua Wells**

LeagueUnlimited.com  
Contributor

**J**OE Stimson arrived at Belmore full of excitement and ready to earn his spot in the famous blue-and-white. 2020 was going to be his year.

Given an opportunity to play in the season opener against the traditional rivals Parramatta Eels, the Temora Dragons junior was focused on playing good football – recapturing the same form that saw him play in the 2018 NRL Grand Final with Storm.

During his debut for his new club, Stimson said he felt a 'stinger' in his shoulder - just as COVID-19 began to pick up steam.

"It went a little bit numb. I didn't think too much more than it was a stinger. So I kept playing and was right to go again in the second match against the Cowboys," he told The Front Row.

"I just wanted to get through the second game. I tried to push through. The pain stayed and then got a bit worse.

"This was my year before It started. But then the injury happened in my first game. It was always going

to be a tough. It hit me pretty hard and I am pretty disappointed. But it is part of rugby league – you get injured."

This story is all too familiar for Stimson.

Stimson was informed he required shoulder surgery – but he would have to wait. The government introduced elective surgery bans.

"I was booked to have surgery on the Thursday after the game. Then the Coronavirus stopped all non-essential surgery on the Tuesday. So I had to wait a while," he said.

"It only put me a month behind... but it was quite weird during the lockdown. It didn't quite hit me that I would miss the whole year until we were back training.

"The injury itself is coming along really nicely. I am getting my range back quickly and hopefully I will be back to running soon. Get outside of the gym and get back out there with the boys."

While his injury will put the breaks on his NRL career for now, he has already eclipsed a goal he set for himself before coming into first grade.

"I just wanted to play more [NRL] games than Dad," he said

His father, Peter, played nine games in the front row for the South Sydney Rabbitohs in 1997. Joe has played 53 games so far.

Despite the friendly rivalry, young Stimson said his father will be one of the greatest influences on his career.

"Dad had a huge impact on my footy. He took me to training when I was younger when he was captain-coach of a few sides. Then he coached me all through the younger grades in Temora," he said.

"I loved the way he played. He used to just do all the little things right and now I pride myself on that as well."

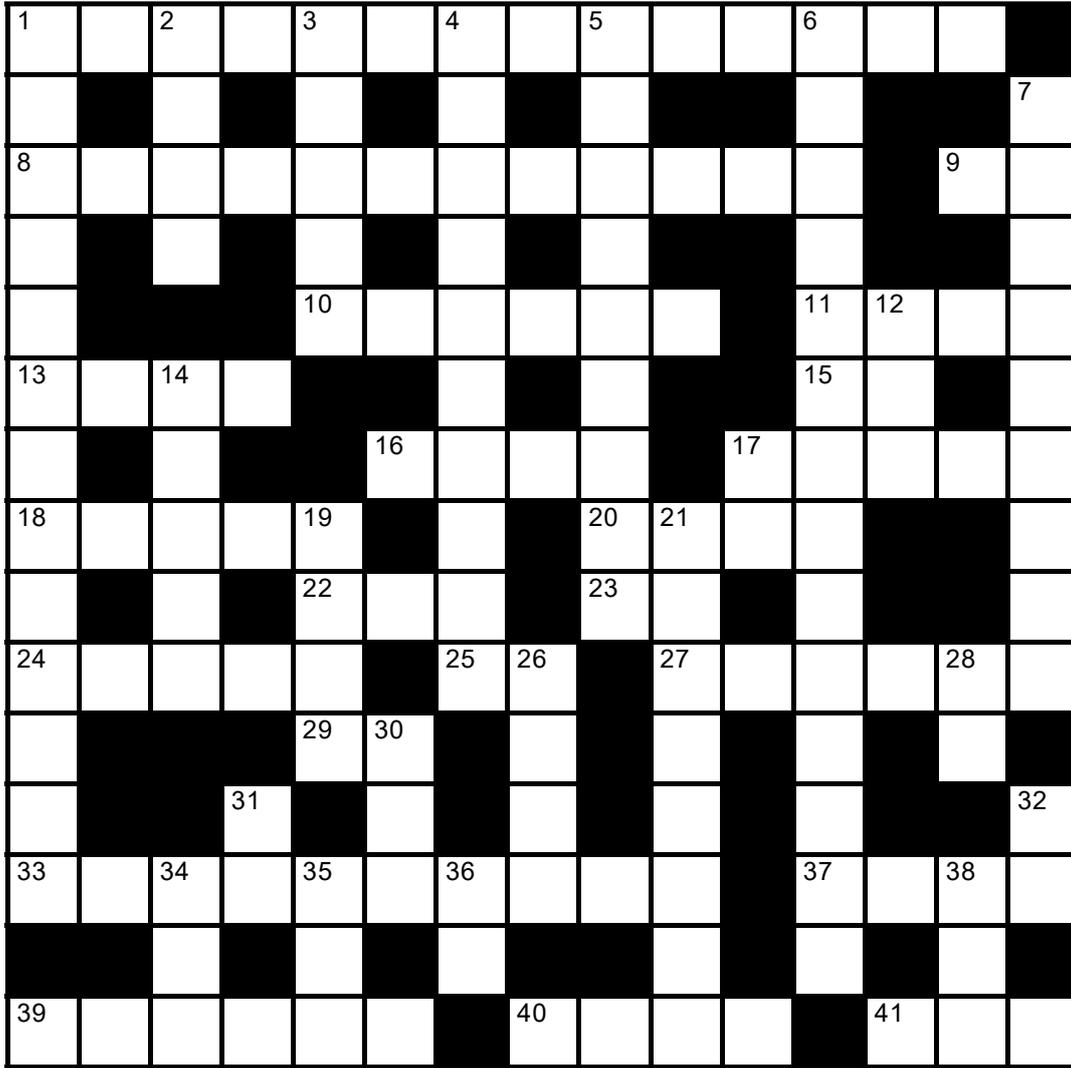
**On the road back:** Joe Stimson is champing at the bit to get back out on the field. *Photo supplied by Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs*







# The LU Crossword



- 37. Had a forehead you could land a plane on, first name (4)
- 39. Roosters NRLW captain, \_\_\_\_\_ Brown (6)
- 40. A type of kicking tee. (4)
- 41. Current Panthers back rower (3)

**Down**

- 1. Current Manly and Blues lock forward (4,9)
- 2. James Tedesco is still having nightmares about him. (4)
- 3. NRL preseason tournament. (5)
- 4. Former Broncos, Maroon and Australian halfback (4,6)
- 5. A name synonymous with the Broncos and currently has a nephew playing back rower for the Eels. (9)
- 6. Former Kiwi rep from '77 to '86, played 5/8 and centre for Balmain, Easts and Norths from '80 to '87, awesome player too. (5,9)
- 7. Former coach of the Raiders, Cowboys, Titans and the 2008 Indigenous Dream Team (4,5)
- 12. Australian Rugby League - initials (3)
- 14. First name of Bulldogs prop (5)
- 17. Abbrev for mom. (2)
- 19. Blake Ferguson broke his last season (4)
- 21. Played on the wing for the Broncos and Jillaroos in '18/'19, known as a very strong defender. (8)
- 26. Jacket (4)

**Across**

- 1. Kiwi and Tongan back rower currently playing for the Cowboys (5,10)
- 8. Current Maroons coach (5,7)
- 9. Personal Pronoun (2)
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Peanuts (6)
- 11. A close game is a \_\_\_\_\_ biter (4) (4)
- 13. First name of former Wigan and current Raiders prop. (4)
- 15. Player who played in the 1910s and 1920s who represented NSW & Australia. He has been named as one of the greatest players in the history of the Newtown - initials (1,1)

**Down**

- 16. Responsibility (4)
- 17. Cousin of Jason Croker, she is a current Broncos and Jillaroo back rower, \_\_\_\_\_ Boyle (5)
- 18. Current Kiwi utility forward for the Bulldogs (5)
- 20. Of the mouth (4)
- 22. A mined mineral (3)
- 23. Opposite to yes (2)
- 24. Former Bulldogs and Sharks hooker and current commentator. (5)
- 25. Eels prop - initials: \_\_ G (1,1)
- 27. Action that happens off the ball (6)
- 29. Elite Impact acronym (2)
- 33. Current Booncos and Maroon winger (5,5)

**Across**

- 28. Preposition (2)
- 30. Selector and Assistant Coach of the current Kiwi team. (3)
- 31. Current Panthers fullback (1,1)
- 32. Plural Personal Pronoun (2)
- 34. Another name for a zip file (3)
- 35. Played on the wing for Jamaica from '09 to '13 (3)
- 36. Alternating Current (2)
- 38. Another word for a draw (3)

*Answers in next week's edition*

# Word Jumbles

Using the clues provided, unjumble the letters below - can you figure out the names of these Clive Churchill Medal winners?

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

P U N U L A N D  
 R A V E N D R U F I D  
 B U M G R A S S E S  
 S M E L L I W A N I O  
 R E G A N L A N A L L  
 G E N I S P L E R T T E R

*LAST WEEK: Corey Parker, Brad Fittler, John Sutton, Luke Lewis, Billy Slater, Brent Kite & Anthony Watmough*

## THE FRONT ROW

# GAME DAY

## ROUND 8 MATCH PROGRAM

TEAM LISTS · MATCH DETAILS & STATS · PREVIEWS



### Storm v Roosters

Thursday  
Suncorp



### Raiders v Dragons

Friday  
GIO



### Eels v Cowboys

Friday  
Bankwest



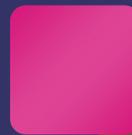
### Titans v Sharks

Saturday  
Cbus Super



### Warriors v Broncos

Saturday  
Central Coast



### Wests Tigers v Panthers

Saturday  
Bankwest



### Sea Eagles v Knights

Sunday  
Lottoland



### Bulldogs v Rabbitohs

Sunday  
Bankwest

## WEEKLY TIPS Round 8

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

### Tim Costello (4)

Storm  
Raiders  
Eels  
Sharks  
Warriors  
Panthers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

### Andrew Ferguson (6)

Roosters  
Raiders  
Cowboys  
Sharks  
Broncos  
Tigers  
Rabbitohs  
Sea Eagles

### Andrew Jackson (4)

Roosters  
Raiders  
Eels  
Titans  
Broncos  
Panthers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

### Justin Davies (3)

Roosters  
Dragons  
Eels  
Sharks  
Broncos  
Tigers  
Sea Eagles  
Rabbitohs

### Adam Huxtable (5)

Roosters  
Raiders  
Eels  
Titans  
Broncos  
Tigers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

### Rick Edgerton (5)

Roosters  
Raiders  
Eels  
Sharks  
Warriors  
Panthers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

### Rob Crosby (3)

Roosters  
Dragons  
Eels  
Sharks  
Warriors  
Panthers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

### Steven Williams (5)

Storm  
Dragons  
Eels  
Titans  
Warriors  
Tigers  
Sea Eagles  
Rabbitohs

### Sam Bourke (3)

Roosters  
Raiders  
Eels  
Sharks  
Broncos  
Panthers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

### Josh Robertson (5)

Roosters  
Raiders  
Eels  
Sharks  
Broncos  
Panthers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

### Jeff Dickinson-Fox (4)

Roosters  
Raiders  
Eels  
Sharks  
Broncos  
Panthers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

### Hamish Parker (3)

Roosters  
Raiders  
Eels  
Sharks  
Broncos  
Panthers  
Knights  
Rabbitohs

# Melbourne STORM



# Sydney ROOSTERS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
7	3	-	12	Ryan PAPENHUYZEN	<b>1</b>	FULLBACK	<b>1</b>	James TEDESCO	5	4	-	16
7	7	-	28	Suliasi VUNIVALU	<b>2</b>	WING	<b>2</b>	Daniel TUPOU	7	4	-	16
7	1	-	4	Justin OLAM	<b>3</b>	CENTRE	<b>3</b>	Josh MORRIS	6*	1	-	4
1	2	-	8	Paul MOMIROVSKI	<b>4</b>	CENTRE	<b>4</b>	Joseph MANU	7	1	-	4
6	2	-	8	Josh ADDO-CARR	<b>5</b>	WING	<b>5</b>	Brett MORRIS	7	6	-	24
2	1	-	4	Ryley JACKS	<b>6</b>	FIVE-EIGHTH	<b>6</b>	Luke KEARY	7	2	-*	9
5	-	-	-	Jahrome HUGHES	<b>7</b>	HALFBACK	<b>7</b>	Kyle FLANAGAN	7	3	34	80
7	-	-	-	Jesse BROMWICH	<b>8</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>8</b>	Jared WAEREA-HARGREAVES	7	1	-	4
7	-	26	52	Cameron SMITH	<b>9</b>	HOOKER	<b>9</b>	Jake FRIEND	7	1	-	4
5	-	-	-	Christian WELCH	<b>10</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>10</b>	Siosiaua TAUKEIAHO	6	1	-	4
7	1	-	4	Felise KAUFUSI	<b>11</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>11</b>	Boyd CORDNER	5	2	-	8
7	-	-	-	Kenneath BROMWICH	<b>12</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>12</b>	Angus CRICHTON	5	4	-	16
7	1	-	4	Dale FINUCANE	<b>13</b>	LOCK	<b>13</b>	Nat BUTCHER	5	-	-	-
* 2 games for Cronulla-Sutherland Sharks												
5	2	-	8	Brandon SMITH	<b>14</b>	INTERCHANGE	<b>14</b>	Poasa FAAMAUSILI	5*	-	-	-
7	1	-	4	Tino FAASUAMALEAUI	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>	Sitili TUPOUNIUA	6	-	-	-
5	1	-	4	Tom EISENHUTH	<b>16</b>		<b>16</b>	Mitchell AUBUSSON	5	1	-	4
5	-	-	-	Nelson ASOFA-SOLOMONA	<b>17</b>		<b>17</b>	Lindsay COLLINS	6	1	-	4
* 4 games for Warriors												
-	-	-	-	Cooper JOHNS	<b>18</b>	RESERVES	<b>18</b>	Daniel FIFITA	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Marion SEVE	<b>19</b>		<b>19</b>	Ryan HALL	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Albert VETE	<b>20</b>		<b>20</b>	Freddy LUSSICK	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Chris LEWIS	<b>21</b>		<b>21</b>	Lachlan LAM	-	-	-	-

CRAIG BELLAMY

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** Paul MOMIROVSKI (Storm) - 10 more points for 100 career points; Brandon SMITH (Storm) - 50th Storm & NRL game

# #NRLStormRoosters

## MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Thursday 2 July 2020
KICKOFF	7:50pm AEST
VENUE	Suncorp Stadium Milton, QLD
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

## MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Ashley KLEIN
TOUCH JUDGES	Dave MUNRO Phil HENDERSON
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Ben GALEA

# Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 39 matches

21

18

At Suncorp Stadium: first meeting at this venue

## LAST TEN CLASHES MEL 6 - 4 SYD

2019	Finals W3	Roosters 14-6	SCG
2019	Round 15	Storm 14-12	Adelaide
2019	Round 6	Roosters 21-20	AAMI
2018	Grand Final	Roosters 21-6	ANZ
2018	Round 16	Storm 9-8	Adelaide
2017	Round 23	Storm 16-13	AAMI
2017	Round 16	Roosters 25-24	Adelaide
2016	Round 20	Storm 26-10	AAMI
2016	Round 14	Storm 46-0	Allianz
2015	Finals W1	Storm 20-18	Allianz

## BIGGEST WINS

STORM	2016 Round 14	46-0 at Allianz
ROOSTERS	2000 Round 19	41-6 at SFS

## CURRENT FORM

STORM	W W L W W L W	4th, 10pts
ROOSTERS	L L W W W W W	3rd, 10pts

## NEXT UP - ROUND 9

STORM	Raiders @ GIO, Sat 11 Jul 7:35pm
ROOSTERS	Cowboys @ QCBS, Thu 9 Jul 7:50pm

# Match Preview

with Hamish Parker

The Melbourne Storm and Sydney Roosters take each other on in what will be a clash of two teams who have been at the top of their game in recent times.

These two sides have built a strong rivalry, particularly in more recent seasons due to games such as the 2018 Grand Final and last year's golden point victory to the Roosters.

The only change in the Melbourne side that defeated the Warriors 50-6 last week is a big one. Representative five-eighth Cameron Munster is out with an injury to his MCL and the Storm will have to deal with his omission for a number of weeks. The injury means Ryley Jacks comes back into the side to partner Jahrome Hughes in the halves.

For the Roosters, James Tedesco is back in the side after he missed last week's game due to precautionary reasons after a head knock in their game against Parramatta. Joseph Manu will move back to the centres and Brett Morris goes back out wide on the wing. This means Ryan Hall drops out of the side and Mitchell Aubusson goes back to the bench. Sam Verills is out after injuring his ACL last week and will be out for the season, as Jake Friend starts this game. The Roosters suffered a massive loss in Victor Radley for the season last week, also to an ACL injury. Nat Butcher replaces him at lock. Poasa Faamausili comes onto the bench for this game as well.

Some big losses for both teams this week make for a very interesting encounter between two premiership threats. How the Storm structure their attack without Cameron Munster will be very interesting to see. Just how the Roosters adapt to the loss of Victor Radley will also be interesting to see and it would be expected to see some experimentation done to see how the side functions best without him.

**Who to watch:** In such a big clash, look for the big players to stand up and have their say on the game. Cameron Smith will have to stand up with the loss of Cameron Munster. The Storm don't really have any established halves playing in their side this week and for the Storm to win against the Roosters, Smith will have to take control of his side.

Jared Waerea-Hargreaves enjoys taking on the big challenge in the middle of the field. With the loss of Victor Radley in last week's game, he stood up big time and made sure the Roosters won the middle. Look for him to take on Melbourne in the middle of the field to the best of his ability as he takes the challenge head on.

**Favourite:** The Roosters are favourites to win this game after coming off 5 straight wins.

**My tip:** The Storm have lost Cameron Munster and without any established NRL halves they will probably struggle in attack especially. The Roosters are without Victor Radley and the changes to their attacking ways will take some time to get used to. They would also be a little tired, showing signs of it last week. The 7-day turnaround will be their longest in the past 3 rounds and it wouldn't be surprising to see them a bit weary coming into this game. Despite this, the Roosters will have too much quality and Melbourne just simply won't have the attacking ability to trouble the Roosters defensive line too much. **Roosters by 14.**

# Canberra RAIDERS



# St George Illawarra DRAGONS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
7	3	-	12	Charnze NICOLL-KLOKSTAD	1	FULLBACK	1	Matthew DUFTY	5	3	-	12
5	1	-	4	Bailey SIMONSSON	2	WING	2	Jason SAAB	1	-	-	-
7	-	20	40	Jarrold CROKER	3	CENTRE	3	Euan AITKEN	5	-	-	-
6	-	-	-	Michael OLDFIELD	4	CENTRE	4	Zac LOMAX	7	4	19	54
7	3	-	12	Nick COTRIC	5	WING	5	Mikaele RAVALAWA	6	5	-	20
7	4	-	16	Jack WIGHTON	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Corey NORMAN	7	1	-	4
7	-	-	-	George WILLIAMS	7	HALFBACK	7	Adam CLUNE	4	-	-	-
7	2	-	8	Josh PAPALI'I	8	FRONT ROW	8	Blake LAWRIE	7	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	Josh HODGSON	9	HOOKER	9	Cameron MCINNES	5	1	-	4
7	1	-	4	Iosia SOLIOLA	10	FRONT ROW	10	Paul VAUGHAN	7	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Hudson YOUNG	11	SECOND ROW	11	Tyson FRIZELL	7	-	-	-
7	4	-	16	Elliott WHITEHEAD	12	SECOND ROW	12	Tyrell FUIMAONO	6	-	-	-
6	1	-	4	Joseph TAPINE	13	LOCK	13	Trent MERRIN	6	-	-	-
7	1	-	4	Curtis SCOTT	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Ben HUNT	7	1	-	4
7	1	-	4	Emre GULER	15		15	Josh KERR	7	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Ryan SUTTON	16		16	Korbin SIMS	2	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	Siliva HAVILI	17		17	Jackson FORD	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Tom STARLING	18	RESERVES	18	Eddie BLACKER	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	Dunamis LUI	19		19	Tristan SAILOR	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Matt FRAWLEY	20		20	Billy BRITTAIN	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Kai O'DONNELL	21		21	Tim LAFAI	2	-	-	-

RICKY STUART

COACH

PAUL MCGREGOR

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

**RLP MILESTONES** Josh PAPALI'I (Raiders) - 1 more try for 50 club & career tries (4 more points for 200 club & career points);  
Matt DUFTY (Dragons) - 4 more points for 100 club & career points; Ben HUNT (Dragons) - 5 more points for 300 career points

# #NRLRaidersDragons

## MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 3 July 2020
KICKOFF	6:00pm AEST
VENUE	GIO Stadium Canberra Bruce, ACT
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	Henry PERENARA Drew OULTRAM
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Ben LOWE

## Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

### HEAD TO HEAD: 30 matches

18

1

11

At GIO Stadium: 16 matches, Raiders 12, Dragons 4

### LAST TEN CLASHES CAN 5 - 5 SGI

2019	Round 17	Raiders 36-14	WIN
2018	Round 11	Dragons 25-18	Mudgee
2017	Round 19	Raiders 18-14	GIO
2016	Round 10	Dragons 16-12	Jubilee
2015	Round 10	Dragons 32-18	WIN
2015	Round 3	Dragons 22-20	GIO
2014	Round 23	Dragons 34-16	GIO
2013	Round 20	Raiders 22-18	WIN
2013	Round 3	Raiders 30-17	GIO
2012	Round 17	Raiders 22-18	GIO

### BIGGEST WINS

RAIDERS	2007 Round 11	30-6 at GIO
DRAGONS	1999 Round 7	44-2 at Jubilee
	2007 Round 17	58-16 at WIN

### CURRENT FORM

RAIDERS	W W L W L L	7th, 8pts
DRAGONS	L L L L W W L	12th, 4pts

### NEXT UP - ROUND 9

RAIDERS	Storm @ GIO, Sat 11 Jul 7:35pm
DRAGONS	Sea Eagles @ Jubilee, Sun 12 Jul, 6:30pm

# Match Preview

with Josh Robertson

A return to the nation's capital awaits on Friday night with the Canberra Raiders looking to avenge last week's Golden Point defeat whilst the St George Illawarra Dragons will be looking to put in another improved performance.

The Canberra Raiders pushed competition leaders Parramatta all the way to golden point after having to come from behind late in the match. The Raiders were able to lead at half-time over the Eels before the Blue and Gold took a 24-12 which required the Raiders to score twice in the last five minutes. The Raiders did just that and forced golden point at 24-24.

Concerningly for the Raiders, that was their fourth straight defeat with just the one victory since the season's resumption which came against Melbourne in the first week back. The Raiders have struggled to score points after scoring just 54 points in the past four games with most of those coming last weekend against Parramatta.

Canberra coach Ricky Stuart has been forced into two changes with Corey Horsburgh ruled out for the season with a foot injury whilst Jordan Rapana is also out. Joseph Tapine returns to replace Horsburgh, whilst Bailey Simonsen comes off the interchange bench into the starting line-up.

The St George Illawarra Dragons struggles through 2020 have been well publicised but last weekend they put in a much-improved performance up against an injury depleted Sydney Roosters side. The Dragons although beaten by 14 points were able to match the Roosters for most of the match.

The Dragons came into last weeks game off back to back victories over the Sharks and Titans with much improved performances and despite the defeat were boosted by pushing the Sydney Roosters. The confidence boosting performance will put them into good position in thinking that they could push a low on confidence Raiders side all the way on Friday night.

Paul McGregor has kept the faith with his Dragons side with no changes to the 17 that took the field last weekend at Bankwest Stadium.

**Who to watch:** George Williams – Last weeks defeat came at a heavier cost for George Williams who suffered a broken nose last in last Saturday's match against Parramatta. Williams made an impression for the Raiders against Melbourne and then has been up and down over recent weeks. The kicking game of Williams has been the most impressive facet of the Englishman's game which was shown last week by setting up the first of Charnze Nicoll-Klokstad's tries to get Canberra back in the game.

Adam Clune – The Dragons rookie has taken on the halfback role over the past 4 weeks and helped the fortunes of the Red 'V' significantly since taking the 7 jersey. The Dragons have taken two victories in the four matches with Clune as well as defeats against the Bulldogs and Roosters. Clune's kicking game has been the most impressive part for the Dragons who have struggled to have a decent kicking game.

**Favourite:** The Canberra Raiders go into the game as heavy favourites with what looks to be a stronger squad as well as a fantastic home record at GIO Stadium

**My tip:** The Raiders performances haven't inspired a lot of confidence of late but their efforts against Parramatta will help them with a confidence boost. The Dragons have been good in the past few weeks but they still lack the quality to match the top teams as shown last weekend. That's why it's hard to tip them this weekend especially with the Raiders returning to Canberra. **Raiders by 12.**

# Parramatta EELS



# North Queensland COWBOYS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
7	2	3 <sup>+</sup>	15	Clinton GUTHERSON	<b>1</b>	FULLBACK	<b>1</b>	Hamiso TABUAI-FIDOW	3	1	-	4
7	4	-	16	Maika SIVO	<b>2</b>	WING	<b>2</b>	Kyle FELDT	7	9	12	60
7	4	-	16	Michael JENNINGS	<b>3</b>	CENTRE	<b>3</b>	Tom OPACIC	1	-	-	-
7	2	-	8	Waqā BLAKE	<b>4</b>	CENTRE	<b>4</b>	Esan MARSTERS	7	1	-	4
7	-	-	-	Blake FERGUSON	<b>5</b>	WING	<b>5</b>	Justin O'NEILL	7	4	-	16
7	3	-	12	Dylan BROWN	<b>6</b>	FIVE-EIGHTH	<b>6</b>	Scott DRINKWATER	7	2	-	8
-	-	-	-	Jai FIELD	<b>7</b>	HALFBACK	<b>7</b>	Jake CLIFFORD	5	1	1	6
7	-	-	-	Reagan CAMPBELL-GILLARD	<b>8</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>8</b>	Josh MCGUIRE	6	-	-	-
7	2	-	8	Reed MAHONEY	<b>9</b>	HOOKER	<b>9</b>	Reece ROBSON	7	2	-	8
7	-	-	-	Junior PAULO	<b>10</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>10</b>	Jordan MCLEAN	6	-	-	-
7	1	-	4	Shaun LANE	<b>11</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>11</b>	Shane WRIGHT	3	-	-	-
7	2	-	8	Ryan MATTERSON	<b>12</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>12</b>	Coen HESS	6	2	-	8
7	1	-	4	Marata NIUKORE	<b>13</b>	LOCK	<b>13</b>	Jason TAUMALOLO	6	1	-	4
4	1	-	4	Ray STONE	<b>14</b>	INTERCHANGE	<b>14</b>	Ben HAMPTON	6	4	-	16
-	-	-	-	David GOWER	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>	Gavin COOPER	6	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Oregon KAUFUSI	<b>16</b>		<b>16</b>	Peter HOLA	2	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	Brad TAKAIRANGI	<b>17</b>		<b>17</b>	Francis MOLO	7	1	-	4
-	-	-	-	Stefano UTOIKAMANU	<b>18</b>	RESERVES	<b>18</b>	Reuben COTTER	1	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Daniel ALVARO	<b>19</b>		<b>19</b>	Valentine HOLMES	5	2	12	32
-	-	-	-	George JENNINGS	<b>20</b>		<b>20</b>	Corey JENSEN	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Will SMITH	<b>21</b>		<b>21</b>	Jake GRANVILLE	4	-	-	-

BRAD ARTHUR

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

# #NRL Eels Cowboys

## MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Friday 3 July 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	Ben CUMMINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI Tim ALOUANI-ROBY
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Bryan NORRIE

# Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 41 matches

20

1

20

At Bankwest Stadium: first meeting at this venue

## LAST TEN CLASHES PAR 3 - 7 NQL

2019	Round 10	Cowboys 17-10	1300SMILES
2018	Round 24	Cowboys 44-6	1300SMILES
2018	Round 14	Eels 20-14	Darwin
2017	Finals W2	Cowboys 24-16	ANZ
2017	Round 14	Cowboys 32-6	Darwin
2017	Round 9	Eels 26-6	1300SMILES
2016	Round 8	Cowboys 32-16	1300SMILES
2016	Round 2	Eels 20-16	Pirtek
2015	Round 20	Cowboys 46-4	1300SMILES
2015	Round 13	Cowboys 36-30	Pirtek

## BIGGEST WINS

EELS	2001 Round 21	62-0 at Parramatta
COWBOYS	2015 Round 20	46-4 at 1300SMILES

## CURRENT FORM

EELS	W W W W L W	1st, 12pts
COWBOYS	L W W L L L W	10th, 6pts

## NEXT UP - ROUND 9

EELS	Knights @ McDonald Jones, Sun 12 Jul 4:05pm
COWBOYS	Roosters @ QCBS, Thu 9 Jul 7:50pm

# Match Preview

with Adam Huxtable

**Back in-form Cowboys face huge Parramatta test on brand new Bankwest turf**

The Cowboys played the reverse card last week, bouncing back from being down 34-0 at half time two weeks ago to carry a 26-point lead against the Knights at the break last round, and went on with the job against the odds to score a 32-20 victory over Newcastle.

The Eels looked to have the 2 points signed, sealed and delivered, leading the Raiders by 12 points with 5 minutes to go before going to sleep and finding themselves in a golden point shootout. They showed character that has lacked in Parramatta sides of recent years to somehow come away with the win courtesy of a King Gutho field goal.

Brad Arthur had a selection headache regarding the replacement of injured halfback Mitchell Moses, who is expected to miss around 3 weeks with a calf complaint. He's gone with former Dragons utility Jai Field, a rookie who showed a lot of promise in his limited outings with the Red V. David Gower replaces Daniel Alvaro on the interchange bench in what will be his first NRL match since Round 24 last year.

The pressure on Cowboys coach Paul Green was somewhat alleviated following their victory last week and he has re-paid his players by keeping the same 17, albeit with a slight reshuffle to the backline with Tom Opacic moving to the centres and O'Neill to the wing. Valentine Holmes is also a chance to return from injury after being named in the reserves.

Both sides are coming off good attacking performances and appeared to be strolling to victory before late lapses saw their respective matches become closer than they should've. The Cowboys will be very lucky to start as well as they did last week against the Eels and can't afford to let in a similar influx of tries.

Parramatta will be confident after beating their second top 4-quality opponent in 3 weeks and supporters would've been happy with a rare golden point victory. They'll have to avoid complacency because the Cowboys have shown what they can do to opponents who don't take them seriously.

**Who to watch:** The silver lining for the Blue and Gold that's arisen from Mitchell Moses' injury is that it gives rookie half Jai Field a chance to prove himself at his new club. Field played 11 first grade games over 3 years for the Dragons but was let go over the off season and landed in Parramatta. Friday night will be his 5th time starting and will likely look to bring some attacking spark to solidify his position as first-string backup should Brown or Moses spend any more time on the sidelines.

North Queensland halfback Jake Clifford enjoyed arguably his best match in first grade last week, racking up a try assist, 7 tackle breaks and a try of his own to be rewarded with 3 Dally M points for his efforts. He had big shoes to fill last season replacing the great Johnathan Thurston and started this year outside the top 17. More performances like last week will give Paul Green a serious headache as to what to do when captain Michael Morgan recovers from injury.

**Favourite:** Unsurprisingly, the Eels are clear favourites to continue their strong form of 2020 with a win over the Cowboys on Friday night.

**My tip:** The Cowboys were overwhelmingly poor after the resumption of the NRL but showed good signs to respond with their best game of the year against quality opposition last week. Expect their strong form to continue and for this match to be close over the first 40 or 50 minutes, however Parramatta simply have too much strike and quality around the park to let this one get away from them. **Eels by 14.**

# Gold Coast TITANS



# Cronulla-Sutherland SHARKS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
4	1	-	4	Corey THOMPSON	1	FULLBACK	1	Matt MOYLAN	4	-	-	-
6	4	-	16	Anthony DON	2	WING	2	Sione KATOA	7	8	-	32
7	2	-	8	Brian KELLY	3	CENTRE	3	Josh DUGAN	5	3	-	12
7	-	-	-	Tyrone PEACHEY	4	CENTRE	4	Jesse RAMIEN	7	3	-	12
7	3	-	12	Phillip SAMI	5	WING	5	Bryson GOODWIN	2	2	-	8
7	1	16	36	Ashley TAYLOR	6	FIVE-EIGHTH	6	Shaun JOHNSON	7	-	21	42
5	-	-	-	Jamal FOGARTY	7	HALFBACK	7	Chad TOWNSEND	6	-	-	-
6	-	-	-	Moeaki FOTUAIKA	8	FRONT ROW	8	Andrew FIFITA	5	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Mitch REIN	9	HOOKER	9	Blayne BRAILEY	7	1	-	4
5	-	-	-	Jaimin JOLLIFFE	10	FRONT ROW	10	Aaron WOODS	7	-	-	-
7	1	-	4	Kevin PROCTOR	11	SECOND ROW	11	Briton NIKORA	6	1	-	4
5	1	-	4	Keegan HIPGRAVE	12	SECOND ROW	12	Wade GRAHAM	7	2	-	8
7	-	-	-	Jai ARROW	13	LOCK	13	Jack WILLIAMS	7	-	-	-
4	1	-	4	Tanah BOYD	14	INTERCHANGE	14	Toby RUDOLF	7	-	-	-
7	1	-	4	Sam LISONE	15	INTERCHANGE	15	Braden HAMLIN-UELE	7	1	-	4
5	1	-	4	Bryce CARTWRIGHT	16	INTERCHANGE	16	Siosifa TALAKAI	3	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Jarrold WALLACE	17	INTERCHANGE	17	Royce HUNT	2	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	Erin CLARK	18	RESERVES	18	Scott SORENSEN	5	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Beau FERMOR	19	RESERVES	19	Connor TRACEY	4	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Jai WHITBREAD	20	RESERVES	20	Will KENNEDY	5	1	-	4
2	-	-	-	Tyrone ROBERTS	21	RESERVES	21	Nene MACDONALD	-	-	-	-

\* 2 games for Wests Tigers

JUSTIN HOLBROOK

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 Phillip SAMI (Titans) - 50th Titans &amp; NRL game, 4 more points for 100 club &amp; career points

# #NRLTitansSharks

## MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 4 July 2020
KICKOFF	3:00pm AEST
VENUE	Cbus Super Stadium Robina, QLD
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD, BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

## MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Chris SUTTON
TOUCH JUDGES	Jon STONE Liam KENNEDY
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Ben GALEA

## Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

### HEAD TO HEAD: 20 matches

8 1 11

At Cbus Super Stadium: 7 matches, Titans 3, Sharks 3, 1 draw

### LAST TEN CLASHES

		GLD	4	-	1	-	5	CRO
2019	Round 9	Sharks	26-18	Suncorp				
2019	Round 2	Sharks	20-6	Pointsbet				
2018	Round 8	Sharks	10-9	Cbus Super				
2017	Round 19	Titans	30-10	Cbus Super				
2017	Round 8	Titans	16-12	SC Group				
2016	Round 21	18-all draw	Cbus Super					
2016	Round 6	Sharks	25-20	SC Group				
2015	Round 10	Sharks	23-22	Cbus Super				
2015	Round 4	Titans	24-22	Remondis				
2014	Round 1	Titans	18-12	Remondis				

### BIGGEST WINS

TITANS	2017 Round 19	30-10 at Cbus Super
SHARKS	2011 Round 16	36-12 at Skilled

### CURRENT FORM

TITANS	LLLWLLW	13th, 4pts
SHARKS	LLLWLWW	11th, 6pts

### NEXT UP - ROUND 9

TITANS	Warriors @ Suncorp, Fri 10 Jul 6:00pm
SHARKS	Panthers @ Jubilee, Sat 11 Jul 3:00pm

# Match Preview

with Jeff Dickinson-Fox

**After a historic win over the big brother Brisbane Broncos, the Gold Coast Titans return to their home ground for a clash with the fit and firing Cronulla Sharks.**

It was a rare 80-minute performance from the Titans to beat the Broncos in Brisbane, with the 30-12 margin going down as the biggest victory for the Gold Coast over their south-east Queensland rival.

Moeaki Fotuauka matched it with Payne Haas, Ash Taylor took the Titans to an early lead, Anthony Don scored two tries to remind everyone he's a quality winger and Jai Arrow was yet again one of their best.

We'll find out if the Titans are content with that effort or if consistently performing to that standard is what they're passionate about.

The Sharks are in some hot point-scoring form of their own after putting 40 on the Manly Sea Eagles, and this Saturday afternoon fixture promises an emphasis on expansive attacking footy.

Holding an 18-6 advantage against the depleted Sea Eagles at halftime, Cronulla mentally committed to go on with the job in the second half by taking the game out to a 34-6 advantage by the 55th minute.

Shaun Johnson and Sione Katoa are in some serious form. Johnson has shown maturity to be able to mess with a defence without the explosiveness he had with the Warriors. He leads the NRL in try assists and is running the football a lot to also be first in the NRL for line engagements. Katoa's scored five tries in his last two games.

This might finally be the week Gold Coast coach Justin Holbrook is able to play Tyrone Roberts for the first time since round two. Roberts played an 11 v 11 game against Broncos fringe players on Saturday before the main game.

It would be hard to change a winning side though, and playing as a utility might be Roberts' best role for now to regain match fitness and allow Corey Thompson to build chemistry with his new team.

In the only change to the Sharks' team list from their 40-22 win over Manly, Braden Hamlin-Uele is relegated to the bench with Andrew Fifita to start. However, in the last two weeks Cronulla coach John Morris has flipped these two an hour before kickoff. The Sharks are on track to play the same 17 for the third consecutive round.

**Who to watch:** The steady influence of Jamal Fogarty might have been the final piece to free up Ash Taylor to focus on his own attack. Against the Broncos Fogarty looked after a lot of the general play duties as a half, and once the Titans got within good attacking field position it was Taylor that took the line on and generated goal-line dropouts. While Fogarty hasn't come up with much individual brilliance, there's no doubt Holbrook would be pleased with how this inexperienced NRL halfback has helped the team.

Matt Moylan is once again starting to warm to the task of being a quality fullback for the Sharks. In the three games he's played 68 minutes or more this season (the last two from fullback), Cronulla has won all three games. He recorded two try assists last week and another solid performance against the Titans would have him primed for the round nine clash with his old team, the Penrith Panthers.

**Favourite:** The Sharks come in as the clear favourite. Despite Cronulla on the season scoring 50 more points and conceding 45 less points than the Titans, they're only separated by one win on the ladder.

**Tip:** There appears to be some fool's gold in the form of these two teams because of the opposition they've faced. While some credit goes to the Gold Coast for their lopsided win over the Broncos, there's no denying Brisbane is very beatable by any NRL team at present and a week prior the Titans lost 20-8 to the Dragons. Likewise, the Sharks beat a battered Sea Eagles side and two weeks ago they squeaked out a 20-18 win over the Canterbury Bulldogs. Cronulla having their side intact for three straight weeks could be the difference in what should be a high scoring match. **Sharks by 14.**

# WARRIORS



# Brisbane BRONCOS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts	
7	-	-	-	^Roger TUIVASA-SHECK	<b>1</b>	FULLBACK	<b>1</b>	Tesi NIU	3	-	-	-	
3	1	-	4	David FUSITU'A	<b>2</b>	WING	<b>2</b>	Jamayne ISAAKO	7	1	11	26	
5	3	-	12	Peta HIKU	<b>3</b>	CENTRE	<b>3</b>	Herbie FARNWORTH	7	1	3	10	
6	2	-	8	Patrick HERBERT	<b>4</b>	CENTRE	<b>4</b>	Darius BOYD	7	1	-	4	
4	-	-	-	Ken MAUMALO	<b>5</b>	WING	<b>5</b>	Xavier COATES	3	2	-	8	
7	2	9*	27	Kodi NIKORIMA	<b>6</b>	FIVE-EIGHTH	<b>6</b>	Anthony MILFORD	7	1	-	4	
7	-	-	-	Blake GREEN	<b>7</b>	HALFBACK	<b>7</b>	Brodie CROFT	7	1	-	4	
7	1	-	4	Jamayne TAUNOA-BROWN	<b>8</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>8</b>	Matthew LODGE	5	-	-	-	
6	-	-	-	Wayde EGAN	<b>9</b>	HOOKER	<b>9</b>	Issac LUKE	5*	-	-	-	
3	1	-	4	Agnatius PAASI	<b>10</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>10</b>	Payne HAAS	7	-	-	-	
5	-	-	-	Jack MURCHIE	<b>11</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>11</b>	Alex GLENN	3	-	-	-	
7	-	-	-	Tohu HARRIS	<b>12</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>12</b>	Tevita PANGAI JUNIOR	3	1	-	4	
7	-	-	-	Adam BLAIR	<b>13</b>	LOCK	<b>13</b>	Patrick CARRIGAN	6	-	-	-	
^ subject to judiciary hearing													
3	-	2	4	Chanel HARRIS-TAVITA	<b>14</b>	INTERCHANGE	<b>14</b>	Tom DEARDEN	1	-	-	-	
1*	-	-	-	Jack HETHERINGTON	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>	Thomas FLEGLER	6	-	-	-	
5	1	-	4	Karl LAWTON	<b>16</b>		<b>16</b>	Rhys KENNEDY	5	-	-	-	
1	-	-	-	Josh CURRAN	<b>17</b>		<b>17</b>	Ben TE'O	3	1	-	4	
5	-	-	-	King VUNIYAYAWA	<b>18</b>	RESERVES	<b>18</b>	Corey OATES	7	-	-	-	
5	-	-	-	Isaiah PAPALI'I	<b>20</b>		<b>19</b>	Cory PAIX	3	-	-	-	
3	1	-	4	Adam POMPEY	<b>21</b>		<b>20</b>	Richard KENNAR	-	-	-	-	
5	-	-	-	Gerard BEALE	<b>22</b>		<b>21</b>	Jamil HOPOATE	4	-	-	-	
* 1 game for Penrith Panthers						* 3 games for St George Illawarra Dragons							
TODD PAYTEN						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					

**RLP MILESTONES** David FUSITU'A (Warriors) - 100th Warriors & NRL game; Roger TUIVASA-SHECK (Warriors) - 4 more points for 200 career points; Jamayne ISAAKO (Broncos) - 12 more points for 400 club and career points; Corey OATES (Broncos) - 150th Broncos & NRL game

# #NRLWarriorsBroncos

## MATCH DETAILS

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

## MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Chris BUTLER
TOUCH JUDGES	Todd SMITH Gavin BADGER
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Bryan NORRIE

## Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 43 matches

18

1

24

At Central Coast Stadium: first meeting at this venue

## LAST TEN CLASHES

WAR 4 - 1 -5 BRI

2019	Round 17	18-all draw	Suncorp
2019	Round 11	Broncos 8-2	Mt Smart
2018	Round 18	Warriors 26-6	Suncorp
2018	Round 6	Broncos 27-18	Mt Smart
2017	Round 12	Warriors 28-10	Mt Smart
2016	Round 13	Warriors 36-18	Mt Smart
2016	Round 2	Broncos 25-10	Suncorp
2015	Round 4	Broncos 24-16	Mt Smart
2014	Round 19	Broncos 28-22	Suncorp
2014	Round 15	Warriors 19-10	Mt Smart

## BIGGEST WINS

WARRIORS	2013 Round 12	56-18 at Suncorp
BRONCOS	1995 Round 22	44-6 at ANZ (QEII)

## CURRENT FORM

WARRIORS	LLWLWLL	14th, 4pts
BRONCOS	WWLLLLL	15th, 4pts

## NEXT UP - ROUND 9

WARRIORS	Titans @ Suncorp, Fri 10 Jul 6:00pm
BRONCOS	Bulldogs @ Suncorp, Sat 11 Jul 5:30pm

# Match Preview

with Robert Crosby

**New Zealand host Brisbane - at Gosford - in must-win encounter.**

In a contest pitting the 14th-placed New Zealand Warriors against the 15th-placed Brisbane Broncos, both teams will be desperate to emerge from Central Coast Stadium with two points on Saturday evening.

Copping a 50-6 hiding against Melbourne last Friday, the New Zealand Warriors will be hoping to continue their surprisingly strong form in Gosford.

Holding an 80 per cent record at Central Coast Stadium, including wins in both their appearances this season against St George Illawarra and North Queensland, interim coach Todd Payten will be hoping his team can maintain a slight advantage over the Broncos following nine wins and a draw from 18 clashes during the past decade.

Set to be without Roger Tuivasa-Sheck after the New Zealand fullback was found guilty of a should charge at the judiciary, former Brisbane utility Gerard Beale is expected to come into the backline, while Jack Hetherington will make his club debut after being loaned from Penrith in place of recalled Sydney prop Poasa Fa'amusili.

After being a late scratching from the team that went down to the Storm last Friday, prolific try-scorer David Fusitua will belatedly become the 24th player to bring up 100 games for the club.

Humiliated by the Gold Coast Titans 30-12 last Saturday, the Brisbane Broncos will be hoping to record their first win since the season resumed six weeks ago.

Boasting the worst defence in the league having been outscored 42-170 during their run of losses, under pressure coach Anthony Seibold will be aiming to orchestrate the Broncos first win on the Central Coast since 2011.

Offsetting the loss of representative forward Joe Ofahengaue (suspension) with the return of young duo Thomas Flegler and Patrick Carrigan, former Dally M Rookie of the Year Jamayne Isaako has been granted a reprieve at the expense of Corey Oates - who will have to wait to play his 150th game for the club.

**Who to watch:** Bursting onto the NRL scene two years ago as a feisty second rower eager to tussle with the game's toughest players, Jack Hetherington will be raring to get back on the field for his first match since the opening round. Penning a short-term loan to join the Warriors' ranks for the next four weeks, the 2018 Penrith Rookie of the Year will provide the NRL nomads with an injection of sorely needed aggression. Managing just three games in the top grade since his rookie campaign, look for the 25-year-old forward to rip in on Saturday evening as the Warriors look to continue their unbeaten record at Gosford this season.

Retaining the number one jersey despite finishing on the bench seven days earlier, Tesi Niu will be looking to bounce back from the disappointment of last week. Coming up with a costly error in the opening minutes against the Titans, the former Australian Schoolboys representative will be eager to amend by showcasing the talents that saw him debut for Tonga just months after turning 18 last October. Likely to receive plenty of attention under the high ball on Saturday evening, Niu shapes as a player capable of helping the Broncos breakthrough for their first win since the COVID-19 lockdown.

**Favourite:** Despite staring down the prospect of six straight losses for only the fifth time in the club's history, the Broncos are expected to down the wounded Warriors.

**Tip:** Having led at halftime in both their victories this season, the experience of Blake Green and Adam Blair should get the Warriors home if they can get away to a strong start. **Warriors by 6.**

# WESTS TIGERS



# Penrith PANTHERS

P	T	G	Pts							P	T	G	Pts
7	2	-	8	Adam DOUEIHI	<b>1</b>	FULLBACK	<b>1</b>	Dylan EDWARDS		2	1	-	4
7	8	-	32	David NOFOALUMA	<b>2</b>	WING	<b>2</b>	Josh MANSOUR		6	2	-	8
7	3	-	12	Joseph LEILUA	<b>3</b>	CENTRE	<b>3</b>	Dean WHARE		7	-	-	-
5	1	12	28	Moses MBYE	<b>4</b>	CENTRE	<b>4</b>	Stephen CRICHTON		7	4	6	28
2	2	-	8	Tommy TALAU	<b>5</b>	WING	<b>5</b>	Brian TO'O		7	2	-	8
5	1	-	4	Josh REYNOLDS	<b>6</b>	FIVE-EIGHTH	<b>6</b>	Jarome LUAI		7	1	-	4
5	2	-	8	Luke BROOKS	<b>7</b>	HALFBACK	<b>7</b>	Nathan CLEARY		5	2	17+	43
7	2	-	8	Josh ALOIAI	<b>8</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>8</b>	James TAMOU		7	-	-	-
5	2	-	8	Harry GRANT	<b>9</b>	HOOKER	<b>9</b>	Apisai KOROISAU		7	1	-	4
3	-	-	-	Oliver CLARK	<b>10</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>10</b>	James FISHER-HARRIS		7	-	-	-
6	1	-	4	Luke GARNER	<b>11</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>11</b>	Viliame KIKAU		7	4	-	16
7	2	-	8	Luciano LEILUA	<b>12</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>12</b>	Liam MARTIN		5	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Matt EISENHUTH	<b>13</b>	LOCK	<b>13</b>	Isaah YEO		7	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	Elijah TAYLOR	<b>14</b>	INTERCHANGE	<b>14</b>	Matt BURTON		5	2	-	8
7	-	-	-	Thomas MIKAELE	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>	Zane TETEVANO		7	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Sam MCINTYRE	<b>16</b>		<b>16</b>	Moses LEOTA		7	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	Michael CHEE-KAM	<b>17</b>		<b>17</b>	Billy BURNS		5	1	-	4
4	1	13+	31	Benji MARSHALL	<b>18</b>	RESERVES	<b>18</b>	Mitch KENNY		2	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	Chris LAWRENCE	<b>19</b>		<b>19</b>	Brent NADEN		3	3	-	12
4	-	-	-	Billy WALTERS	<b>20</b>		<b>20</b>	Spencer LENIU		-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	Russell PACKER	<b>21</b>		<b>21</b>	Tyrone MAY		-	-	-	-

MICHAEL MAGUIRE

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** Last week, WESTS TIGERS notched a win in their 500th NRL match as a club.

# #NRLTigersPanthers

## MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Saturday 4 July 2020
KICKOFF	7:35pm AEST
VENUE	Bankwest Stadium Parramatta, NSW
WATCH	Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand 2GB SYD, 4BC BNE
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

## MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Adam GEE
TOUCH JUDGES	Phil HENDERSON Kasey BADGER
NRL BUNKER	Steve CHIDDY Beau SCOTT

## Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 34 matches

13

21

At Bankwest Stadium: first meeting at this venue

## LAST TEN CLASHES

		WST 3 - 7 PEN	
2019	Round 9	Wests Tigers 30-4	Suncorp
2019	Round 4	Panthers 9-8	Panthers
2018	Round 11	Panthers 16-2	Panthers
2017	Round 22	Panthers 28-14	Pepper
2017	Round 2	Panthers 36-2	Campbelltown
2016	Round 24	Panthers 40-10	Pepper
2016	Round 17	Wests Tigers 34-26	ANZ
2015	Round 16	Panthers 35-12	Leichhardt
2014	Round 17	Panthers 26-10	Leichhardt
2013	Round 13	Wests Tigers 20-18	Centrebet

## BIGGEST WINS

TIGERS	2012 Round 7	30-0 at Centrebet
PANTHERS	2001 Round 25	44-10 at Penrith
	2017 Round 2	36-2 at Campbelltown

## CURRENT FORM

TIGERS	W L W L L W W	6th, 8pts
PANTHERS	W W D W L W W	2nd, 11pts

## NEXT UP - ROUND 9

TIGERS	Rabbitohs @ Bankwest, Fri 10 Jul 7:55pm
PANTHERS	Sharks @ Jubilee, Sat 11 Jul 3:00pm

# Match Preview

with Jason Hosken

**Tigers tackle Panthers in the battle for Sydney's west.**

Last Sunday's win over the hapless Bulldogs saw the Tigers register back-to-back victories for the first time this season and leapfrog the more fancied Sea Eagles and Raiders into sixth place.

Since last month's costly fade out against the Titans, Michael Maguire's men have shown glimpses of perfection either side of the ball highlighted by their 13 tries in the past fortnight.

Ironically, it was the now vanquished Benji Marshall who put the Panthers to the sword when the sides last met. That was in the Magic Round last season, now young Storm recruit Harry Grant is pulling the strings, exceeding the expectations of many with last week's class effort propelling him to outright second on the Dally M leader board.

Averaging 25 points a game, attack hasn't been a problem for Wests and with Josh Reynolds buoyed by selection security, Maguire will be hoping the wily playmaker's energy inspires a repeat of last week's unity in defence.

At the selection table, there was doubt over Thomas Mikaele's recovery from a knee injury suffered against Canterbury, but he's been named in an unchanged line-up. Russell Packer joins an extended bench following a two-game suspension.

After consecutive victories Ivan Cleary will be mindful of getting too far ahead of himself, but with the Sharks and Cowboys to follow, victory over the Tigers could set the Panthers on a season defining streak where they head the competition at the season midpoint.

Despite only one loss, the Panthers are far from the finished product. If not for numerous squandered opportunities, they would have put the Rabbitohs away much earlier than they did last week. But with a mobile pack and the steadying hand of Nathan Cleary, Penrith are capable of blasting clear with flair or knuckling down in an 80-minute grind.

Penrith will be strengthened by the return of Kangaroo winger Josh Mansour from a knee injury, his selection comes at the expense of last week's try scorer Brent Naden.

The battle of the ruck in this one promises to be belter and could decide the result. In a head to head contest of the NRL's form hookers, the crafty Apisai Koroisau's astute timing against the power of Grant shouldn't be missed.

As games shift back to home venues where possible, the Tigers will seek comfort in the move from Campbelltown to Bankwest where they are unbeaten in 2020. For Penrith, they're unbeaten in three starts at Campbelltown while their only loss to date was at Bankwest - against the Eels back in round 5.

**Who to watch:** Just over a year ago David Nofualuma was battling form and confidence in the NSW Cup before rounding out the season nearing his best in the top grade. Now after seven rounds in 2020, the Samoan rep's eight tries are second from the top and his 46 tackle breaks make him the NRL's most difficult to pin down. And with an uncanny nous of finding the stripe even from defence, the Panthers will need to be on high alert all night.

On the other side of the ground, Panther Brian To'o will patrol the right touchline as he continues to defy the second season blues. Despite only crossing the line just twice in 2020, Ivan Cleary has seen enough to extend the St Marys junior's contract until the end of 2023. With a bustling 177m per game, the 102kg powerhouse has made an art form of rolling the Panthers out of trouble. Now among the top five for post contact metres, his Tigers opposite Tommy Talau can expect a torrid evening.

**Favourite:** Having only suffered one defeat this season, the high-flying Panthers deserve warm favouritism.

**Tip:** Despite finding themselves sixth on the ladder the Tigers are yet to claim a top-eight scalp, while the second placed Panthers are flying under the radar despite having knocked over the premiers and outmuscling the Storm. Michael Maguire's team changes and stern words seem to be having the desired effect, but Penrith are a legitimate top four outfit and should prove too strong. **Penrith by 14.**

# Manly-Warringah SEA EAGLES



# Newcastle KNIGHTS

P T G Pts

7 1 18 40

Reuben GARRICK **1**

FULLBACK

**1**

Kalyn PONGA

P T G Pts

6 3 22 56

5 4 - 16

Jorge TAUFUA **2**

WING

**2**

Edrick LEE

7 5 - 20

7 2 - 8

Brad PARKER **3**

CENTRE

**3**

Enari TUALA

6 3 - 12

5 1 - 4

Moses SULI **4**

CENTRE

**4**

Bradman BEST

6 2 - 8

3 3 - 12

Tevita FUNA **5**

WING

**5**

Hymel HUNT

7 2 - 8

7 - - -

Lachlan CROKER **6**

FIVE-EIGHTH

**6**

Kurt MANN

7 3 - 12

7 1 -<sup>+</sup> 5

Daly CHERRY-EVANS **7**

HALFBACK

**7**

Mitchell PEARCE

7 2 -<sup>+</sup> 9

7 2 - 8

Addin FONUA-BLAKE **8**

FRONT ROW

**8**

David KLEMMER

7 - - -

7 - - -

Danny LEVI **9**

HOOKER

**9**

Andrew MCCULLOUGH

5<sup>+</sup> - - -

6 - - -

Martin TAUPAU **10**

FRONT ROW

**10**

Daniel SAIFITI

7 2 - 8

7 - - -

Joel THOMPSON **11**

SECOND ROW

**11**

Lachlan FITZGIBBON

4 - - -

7 1 - 4

Curtis SIRONEN **12**

SECOND ROW

**12**

Sione MATA'UTIA

5 - - -

7 - - -

Jake TRBOJEVIC **13**

LOCK

**13**

Herman ESE'ESE

7 - - -

1 - - -

Cade CUST **14**

INTERCHANGE

**14**

Tex HOY

5 1 2 8

3 - - -

Jack GOSIEWSKI **15**

**15**

Jacob SAIFITI

7 1 - 4

7 - - -

Sean KEPPIE **16**

**16**

Aidan GUERRA

7 - - -

5 - - -

Taniela PASEKA **17**

**17**

Pasami SAULO

- - - -

3 - - -

Morgan BOYLE **18**

RESERVES

**18**

Tautau MOGA

- - - -

2 - - -

Brendan ELLIOT **19**

**19**

Brodie JONES

3 - - -

- - - -

Abbas MISKI **20**

**20**

Phoenix CROSSLAND

- - - -

2 - - -

Haumole OLAKAU'ATU **21**

**21**

Josh KING

- - - -

\* 1 game for Brisbane Broncos

DES HASLER

COACH

ADAM O'BRIEN

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

**RLP MILESTONES** Daly CHERRY-EVANS (Sea Eagles) - 5 more points for 500 club and career points; Curtis SIRONEN (Sea Eagles) - 4 more points for 100 club and career points; Kalyn PONGA (Knights) - 14 more points for 300 career points

# #NRLManlyKnights

## MATCH DETAILS

DATE	Sunday 5 July 2020
KICKOFF	4:05pm AEST
VENUE	Lottoland Brookvale, NSW
WATCH	Nine Network & 9Now Fox League & Kayo Sports
LISTEN	ABC Grandstand Triple M SYD 2GB SYD / 4BC BNE NRL Nation
LIVE BLOG	LeagueUnlimited.com

## MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Grant ATKINS
TOUCH JUDGES	Dave MUNRO Belinda SHARPE
NRL BUNKER	Jared MAXWELL Bryan NORRIE

## Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 52 matches

33

19

At Lottoland: 20 matches, Sea Eagles 17, Knights 3

## LAST TEN CLASHES

MAN 8 - 2 NEW

2019	Round 20	Sea Eagles 30-6	Lottoland
2019	Round 5	Sea Eagles 26-18	McDonald Jones
2018	Round 8	Knights 18-12	Lottoland
2018	Round 1	Knights 19-18	McDonald Jones
2017	Round 14	Sea Eagles 18-14	Brookvale
2016	Round 21	Sea Eagles 36-16	Brookvale
2016	Round 8	Sea Eagles 26-10	Hunter
2015	Round 9	Sea Eagles 30-10	Brookvale
2014	Round 10	Sea Eagles 15-14	Brookvale
2013	Round 2	Sea Eagles 32-0	Brookvale

## BIGGEST WINS

SEA EAGLES	2004 Round 23	48-10 at Brookvale
SHARKS	2004 Round 16	56-12 at EnergyAustralia

## CURRENT FORM

SEA EAGLES	L W W L W W L	8th, 8pts
KNIGHTS	W W D W L W L	5th, 9pts

## NEXT UP - ROUND 9

SEA EAGLES	Dragons @ Jubilee, Sun 12 Jul 6:30pm
KNIGHTS	Eels @ McDonald Jones, Sun 12 Jul 4:05pm

# Match Preview

with Andrew Jackson

Both the Sea Eagles and Knights poured doubt over their premiership credentials last week with disappointing performances against lowly opposition.

While Manly rallied to take down Canberra after losing Tom Trbojevic a fortnight ago, it was a different story last week against the Sharks.

The Sea Eagles conceded 40 points for the first time since 2018 as they slumped to a 18-point loss which has them vulnerable on the edge of the top eight.

For Des Hasler's men, they simply need to get a win on the board to restore confidence and quell concerns they are hamstrung without Trbojevic.

Much of the leadership falls onto the shoulders of halfback Daly Cherry-Evans, who is no stranger to playing through adversity throughout his own career.

This week they face a Knights side that also took a giant step backwards last week.

Adam O'Brien said he had given the team a huge wake-up call prior to the clash with the Cowboys, telling them they were not nearly as good as everyone is making them out to be.

On Saturday they proved him right.

This was the Knights of old, conceding soft tries and looking a shadow of the defensive powerhouse O'Brien had seemingly transformed them into. They are bolstered by the return of Bradman Best but he can only do so much.

**Who to watch:** Both teams will be looking for someone to stand up and take ownership after poor results and the halfbacks for each side look the most capable. Daly Cherry-Evans is arguably the most well-rounded playmaker in the game. His controlled kicking game and calming presence will be crucial in helping his teammates not become frazzled if the Knights strike early and doubts creep in.

Meanwhile, Mitchell Pearce has also been the natural leader Newcastle were crying out for as they spent years grounded to the bottom of the ladder. But he went missing when they needed him most last weekend. Kurt Mann is quickly improving and forming a strong combination with Pearce but the latter is the one this group will turn to when they need the big plays.

**Favourite:** Newcastle are slight favourites for this game.

**Tip:** It is more likely Newcastle's slip-up was a one-off. Manly's, on the other hand, threatens to derail their finals hopes if confidence continues to drop without Trbojevic. Des will have a plan up his sleeve but it doesn't help that they are playing a Knights team equally desperate to prove themselves. **Knights by 16.**

# Canterbury-Bankstown BULLDOGS



# South Sydney RABBITOHS

P	T	G	Pts						P	T	G	Pts
7	-	-	-	Dallin WATENE-ZELEZNIAK	<b>1</b>	FULLBACK	<b>1</b>	Latrell MITCHELL	7	1	-	4
5	1	7	18	Nick MEANEY	<b>2</b>	WING	<b>2</b>	Dane GAGAI	7	2	-	8
6	2	-	8	Reimis SMITH	<b>3</b>	CENTRE	<b>3</b>	Campbell GRAHAM	7	3	-	12
-	-	-	-	Marcelo MONTOYA	<b>4</b>	CENTRE	<b>4</b>	James ROBERTS	3	-	-	-
5	2	-	8	Christian CRICHTON	<b>5</b>	WING	<b>5</b>	Alex JOHNSTON	7	6	-	24
4	2	-	8	Kieran FORAN	<b>6</b>	FIVE-EIGHTH	<b>6</b>	Cody WALKER	5	2	-	8
4	-	3	6	Brandon WAKEHAM	<b>7</b>	HALFBACK	<b>7</b>	Adam REYNOLDS	7	2	26	60
5	-	-	-	Aiden TOLMAN	<b>8</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>8</b>	Tevita TATOLA	7	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	Jeremy MARSHALL-KING	<b>9</b>	HOOKER	<b>9</b>	Damien COOK	7	1	-	4
7	-	-	-	Dylan NAPA	<b>10</b>	FRONT ROW	<b>10</b>	Thomas BURGESS	7	1	-	4
7	-	-	-	Josh JACKSON	<b>11</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>11</b>	Jaydn SU'A	7	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	Raymond FAITALA-MARINER	<b>12</b>	SECOND ROW	<b>12</b>	Ethan LOWE	7	1	-	4
7	1	-	4	Adam ELLIOTT	<b>13</b>	LOCK	<b>13</b>	Cameron MURRAY	7	1	-	4
4	-	-	-	Kerrod HOLLAND	<b>14</b>	INTERCHANGE	<b>14</b>	Liam KNIGHT	7	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	Dean BRITT	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>	Bayley SIRONEN	4	1	-	4
7	1	-	4	Renouf TO'OMAGA	<b>16</b>		<b>16</b>	Patrick MAGO	2	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	Sauaso SUE	<b>17</b>		<b>17</b>	Braidon BURNS	7	2	-	8
2	-	-	-	Ofahiki OGDEN	<b>19</b>	RESERVES	<b>18</b>	Mark NICHOLLS	4	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	Jack COGGER	<b>20</b>		<b>19</b>	Patrick MAGO	2	-	-	-
6	3	-	12	Luke THOMPSON	<b>21</b>		<b>20</b>	Troy DARGAN	2	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Sione KATO A	<b>22</b>		<b>21</b>	Corey ALLAN	-	-	-	-

\* 6 games for St Helens (Super League)

DEAN PAY

COACH

WAYNE BENNETT

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

PENALTIES

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

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

SCRUMS

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

**RLP MILESTONES** Dylan NAPA (Bulldogs) - 150th NRL game; Campbell GRAHAM (Rabbitohs) - 4 more points for 100 club & career points; James ROBERTS (Rabbitohs) - 6 more points for 300 career points; Cody WALKER (Rabbitohs) - 4 more points for 200 club and career points

# #NRLBulldogsSouths

## MATCH DETAILS

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

## MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE	Peter GOUGH
TOUCH JUDGES	Matt NOYEN Ziggy PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI
NRL BUNKER	Steve CLARK Ben GALEA

## Match Stats

Courtesy of Rugby League Project

HEAD TO HEAD: 160 matches

82

4

74

At Bankwest Stadium: first meeting at this venue

## LAST TEN CLASHES

2019	Round 22	Bulldogs 14-6	ANZ
2019	Round 6	Rabbitohs 14-6	ANZ
2018	Round 18	Rabbitohs 24-6	ANZ
2018	Round 4	Rabbitohs 20-16	ANZ
2017	Round 23	Rabbitohs 28-14	ANZ
2017	Round 7	Bulldogs 24-9	ANZ
2016	Round 26	Rabbitohs 28-10	ANZ
2016	Round 4	Bulldogs 42-12	ANZ
2015	Round 24	Bulldogs 32-18	ANZ
2015	Round 5	Rabbitohs 18-17	ANZ

## BIGGEST WINS

BULLDOGS	2003 Round 21	62-12 at Aussie
RABBITOHS	1953 Round 15	51-15 at Redfern

## CURRENT FORM

BULLDOGS	LLLWLLL	16th, 2pts
RABBITOHS	WLLLWWL	9th, 6pts

## NEXT UP - ROUND 9

BULLDOGS	Broncos @ Suncorp, Sat 11 Jul 5:30pm
RABBITOHS	Tigers @ Bankwest, Fri 10 Jul 7:55pm

# Match Preview

## with Robert Crosby

### Historic rivals meet in Sunday evening showdown

Coming off poor performances respectively last week, the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs and the South Sydney Rabbitohs will be looking to change their fortunes on Sunday evening.

Showing plenty of effort - but lacking the class to convert into points - the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs will be determined to get off the bottom of the premiership ladder with a win.

Unable to keep up with the Wests Tigers during last Sunday's 34-6 defeat at Bankwest Stadium, coach Dean Pay will be hoping to avoid the club's worst start to a season in 24 years after managing a single win over the first seven rounds.

Losing experienced fullback William Hopoate for up to eight weeks with an ankle injury, the ensuing backline reshuffle sees Dallin Watene-Zelezniak revert to the number one jersey, with Nick Meaney and Christian Crichton coming onto the wings.

Representative prop Dylan Napa will make his 150th appearance in the NRL, while English forward Luke Thompson has been named on an extended bench after expediting his move from St Helens.

Producing one of their worst performances in years during last Thursday's 20-12 loss to Penrith, the South Sydney Rabbitohs will be eager to amend against the competition cellar dwellers.

Winning their past two matches at Bankwest Stadium by big margins, coach Wayne Bennett will be hoping his side can continue a strong run over the blue and whites that has yielded six wins from ten clashes in the years since the 2014 grand final.

Promoting former New South Wales representative James Roberts into the starting side in spite of an underwhelming 21-minute return last week, highly-rated centre Braidon Burns will come off the bench for the third time in his career.

**Who to watch:** Enduring a turbulent run of injuries and off-field dramas over the past five years, Kieran Foran has shown moments of class since making his way back onto the field. Suffering a serious shoulder injury while representing New Zealand during last year's Lions tour, the 29-year-old playmaker has strengthened the Bulldogs' struggling attack over the past four rounds with two tries and an assist - while serving as an experienced hand to complement Fijian youngster Brandon Wakeham. Earning rave reviews for his performance against the Rabbitohs last season, look for the veteran half to be a prominent figure in the outcome of Sunday's match.

Following in the footsteps of his older brother by transitioning from the halves into the forward pack, Bayley Sironen will be aiming to increase his game time on Sunday evening. Crossing for his first try in the top grade during last Thursday's loss to the Panthers, the 23-year-old utility has shown glimpses of promise since shifting to Redfern from the Tigers last season. Playing alongside current teammates Latrell Mitchell, Tom Amone and Hame Sele in the 2014 Australian Schoolboys team, look for Sironen to showcase his skills with the ball as the Rabbitohs aim to bounce back against their former grand final foes.

**Favourite:** Averaging 28 points in their three appearances at Bankwest Stadium post-lockdown, the Rabbitohs are expected to have too much strike power for the Bulldogs to contend with.

**Tip:** While the Bulldogs will try their hardest - as they do every week - the harsh reality confronting the proud club is they simply lack the talent to compete against the likes of Latrell Mitchell, Cody Walker and Damien Cook. **Rabbitohs by 18.**

# 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 Kogarah 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 Kogarah 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  
 Mon 7:00pm

### JUNE 11-15

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

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

### Beanies for Brain Cancer Round

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

### 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 Suncorp Stadium  
 Raiders v Dragons GIO Stadium Canberra  
 Eels v Cowboys Bankwest Stadium  
 Titans v Sharks Cbus Super Stadium  
 Warriors v Broncos Central Coast Stadium  
 Tigers v Panthers Bankwest Stadium  
 Sea Eagles v Knights Lottoland  
 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 Netstrata Jubilee Stadium  
 Broncos v Bulldogs Suncorp Stadium  
 Raiders v Storm GIO Stadium Canberra  
 Knights v Eels McDonald Jones Stadium  
 Dragons v Sea Eagles Netstrata Jubilee 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

### Indigenous Round

All matches except Grand Final & Origin broadcast live on Fox League & Kayo Sports. Matches at 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

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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

**Women in League Round****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](http://NRL.com) or [LeagueUnlimited.com](http://LeagueUnlimited.com).



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