

Notes

A NEW YEAR SHOCK

The last game of the old year, when Leigh defeated us at home, was a nasty enough pill to swallow, but to suffer our first away league defeat at the hands of lowly Feathersstone was the proverbial last straw. Such is the glorious uncertainty of football. Recriminations are futile, but it has been obvious for a few weeks on the heavy grounds that the necessary thrust in our attack was lacking. Certainly we were severely handicapped for three parts of the game owing to the injury to Whittaker. There is no reason at all, however, why we should be despondent. We hold the second highest position in the League and are the envy of many. Due to the indisposition of Bourke, Gilligan makes his first appearance with the premier team today; also A. Naughton at centre, for whom a great future is predicted. They have our best wishes for a successful entry into league football.

TODAY'S VISITORS

We extend a hearty welcome to our friends from Oldham, a strong side who emphasised their ability by defeating Halifax last Saturday at Thrum Hall. We hope the weather will be kinder than of late and that conditions will assist in the serving up of open, attractive football.

COMING ATTRACTIONS AT NAUGHTON PARK

January 25th — WIDNES v. WORKINGTON TOWN
NOTE.—Kick-off 3 p.m.

R.L. CHALLENGE CUP DRAW—

1st Round, 2 Legs

February 8th: Rochdale v. Widnes
February 15th: Widnes v. Rochdale
February 8th: Workington Town v. Widnes Dragons
February 15th: Widnes Dragons v. Workington Town
Kick-off 3-30

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NOTES—continued

In order to allow the Widnes Dragons to play their home match at Naughton Park, it is hoped that Workington Town will agree to reverse the venues. The difficulty will be the Soccer team whose ground they share alternate weeks.

OUR SUPPORTERS' CLUB

A FURTHER APPEAL — REFRESHMENTS

Will patrons please return the crockery after use to the Supporters' Club Pavilion.

THE GAME — PLAY-THE-BALL, TOUCH — PROPOSED ALTERATIONS

All will welcome any experiments to improve our game, particularly the Play-the-Ball as practised. Week after week one sees different interpretations by officials, and the clause of lifting the ball "knee high" has become farcical. The R.L. Council on Wednesday approved the playing of two trial games, one at Headingley between Leeds and Hunslet, and one at Warrington between Warrington and Wigan, when the following experiments will be tried out. No dates have as yet been fixed.

1. That when "playing the ball" the player must play it forward or sideways but not backwards, and that the player playing the ball must not play it a second time until another player has played it.
2. A "Throw In" will take the place of a scrum when the ball is kicked into touch, except in the case of a ball being kicked into touch without bouncing. Where penalty kicks land the ball into touch, there will also be a "throw-in."
3. A tackled player may pass the ball unless it has come into contact with the ground during the tackle.

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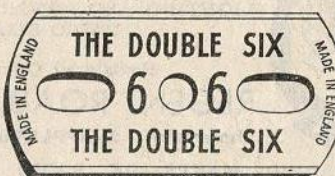
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 11th WIDNES v. OLDHAM

WIDNES

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|
| 1. GILLIGAN | | | |
| 2. ROBERTS (M.) | 3. BRADLEY | 4. NAUGHTON (A.) | 5. HARPER |
| | 6. BUTLER | 7. McCUE | |
| 8. WARBURTON | 9. JONES | 10. HIRONS | |
| 11. ROBERTS (R.) | 12. NAUGHTON (D.) | | |
| 13. HIGGINS | | | |

Referee :
P. Cowell
(Warrington)
Kick-off
2-45 p.m.



Linesmen :
C. C. Snowden
(Manchester)
T. Taylor
(Swinton)

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| 13. THOMAS | | | |
| 11. SHAW | 12. AYRES | | |
| 8. OGDEN | 9. FROST | 10. MOORE | |
| | 6. REES | 7. SMITH | |
| 5. LARGE | 4. HARRIS | 3. MAHONEY | 2. INGLESFIELD |
| 1. GRIFFITHS | | | |
| OLDHAM | | | |

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