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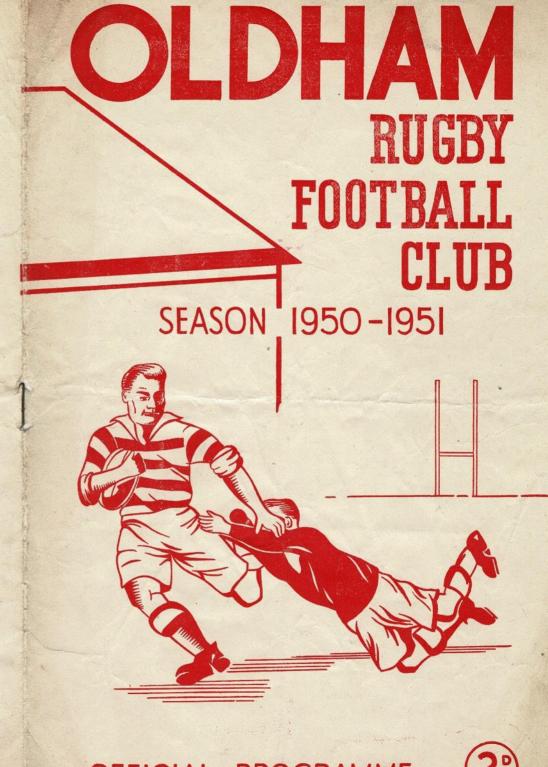
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OFFICIAL PROGRAMME



OLDHAM v. ROCHDALE HORNETS SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1950

KICK-OFF 3-0 p.m.

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS.

To-day's match against Rochdale Hornets is a curtain raiser prior to the official opening of the season 1950-51 on Saturday next. The net cash proceeds of this match are divided between the two competing clubs, and sixty per cent. of such amount must, according to Rugby League Rule be given to the local junior Rugby League organisations for the general benefit of same, the remaining forty per cent. must be given to charity, such charity be subject to the Rugby League sanction, thus, the spectator knows what happens to his admission money for to-day's match. The more "gate" money, the more delighted we shall be to pay over to the juniors of this town, which for your information is paid equally to Oldham Junior League, Oldham Intermediate League, Oldham Continuation League and the Oldham Schoolboys' League. Last year £200 0s. 0d. was distributed to the above Leagues.

Saturday next all clubs start an adventure with the hope that the prospects will be better than last season, all are full of optimism, and we at Watersheddings commence with confidence.

The close season has been one marked by the absence of any sensational transfers from club to club, or any new adherents from Rugby Union of any note. So far two new players have been added to our playing strength, both juniors, but players of distinct promise, in Alan Davies, centre three-quarter and Eric Riding, outside half, both coming from clubs in the Leigh Junior League. Both these players show outstanding ability and with a little luck we expect them to go far in the Rugby League game. The Committee know their requirements to bring the team up to the required standard and no time or money will be spared to achieve this standard. There is a scarcity of good players, and clubs are very reluctant to part with players of ability, knowing well that replacement is a difficult problem. The transfer fees placed upon average players is one of inflation, and club managements are reluctant to pay large fees for players that require developing in our game, no club can afford to make a bad bargain at these prices.

REVISED LAW OF THE GAME.

It will be necessary for spectators to be conversant with a change in the Law of the Game regarding a penalty kick. The new rule is, that a penalty kick given against an offending side shall retire ten yards from the point of the infringement, the ten yards distance being from a line drawn through the mark at right-angles to the touch line or to their goal line if the mark is less than ten yards from their goal line. Previously the offending side used to stand on the line of mark, and the player taking the kick to retire further back from the line of mark. It is now obvious that the game can be made more open, the player kicking the ball can tap the ball in his hands over the line of mark and start a passing movement with his own players lined up with opponents ten yards away, or if attacking the opponents goal line within the ten yards limit when offending players must stand on the goal line.

SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS.

We appeal to all to take an interest in our Supporters Club, which is in a stage of reorganisation by the formation of District Groups or District Committees. The membership fee is a nominal sum of 1s., it is not the value of the membership fee alone, it is your support that is required. What other clubs of standing in the Rugby League can do by way of having large membership of its Supporters Club, we at Oldham should not be lacking. Rally round and send your name and address to the Secretary of the Supporters' Club, Mr. J. RANDALL, 19, Shakespeare Road, Oldham, or hand same in at one of the canteens on the ground.

THE OPEN GAME.

The Rugby League game if played according to the rules is a game which is equal if not better than any other ball game. It is, therefore, incumbent to club directors or committees to insist upon their players to play the attractive and open game, it is what spectators require and it is what they pay for. The majority of financial troubles of Rugby League Clubs are brought to the clubs by the clubs themselves by the inferior type of football which is shown by their clubs. This coming season the standard of play must be improved, there must be a levelling up not a levelling down. An expansion of the Rugby League in the future is predicted by the applications at the end of 1950-51 season from Cardiff, Llanelly and possibly Doncaster and Carlisle. The League, if these applications are accepted, would be too large, and the possibility of a first and second division of the game might or might not improve the competition of the League, therefore it is imperative that all clubs will strive to secure a position in the top half of the league in the event of two divisions coming into operation. Irrespective of the possibility of two divisions all clubs MUST play more attractive football.



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ANTHONY, L. 9 BROOKS, E. 10 TOMLINSON, A. 11 SUGDEN, J. 12 FEARNLEY, A.

13 GOLDSWAIN, B. V.

Reserves-BATTEN, R

WIGGETT, E.

Touch Judges:

Mr. H. Shaw, Oldham (Red)
Mr. J. Heaton, Rochdale (Blue)

Reserves-McGILVRAY, J. BOOTH, D.

13 BUTLER, T.

12 GRONOW, P. 11 HIRONS, R. C.

10 ROSTRON, T. 9 MITCHELL, F. 8 STOCKLEY, ...
7 WILDE, G. 6 GENDERS, H.

5 RIGBY, W. 4 LAMB, F. 3 WILLIAMS, G. 2 NICHOLSON, W. 1 CAHILL, E.

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HALF-TIME SCORES

The Half-time Scores in the Matches given below will be shown on the Score Board immediately they are received—

A	WARRINGTON v. WIGAN	HALIFAX v. HUDDERSFIELD
B	SALFORD v. BLAINA	E

WIDNES v. LEIGH