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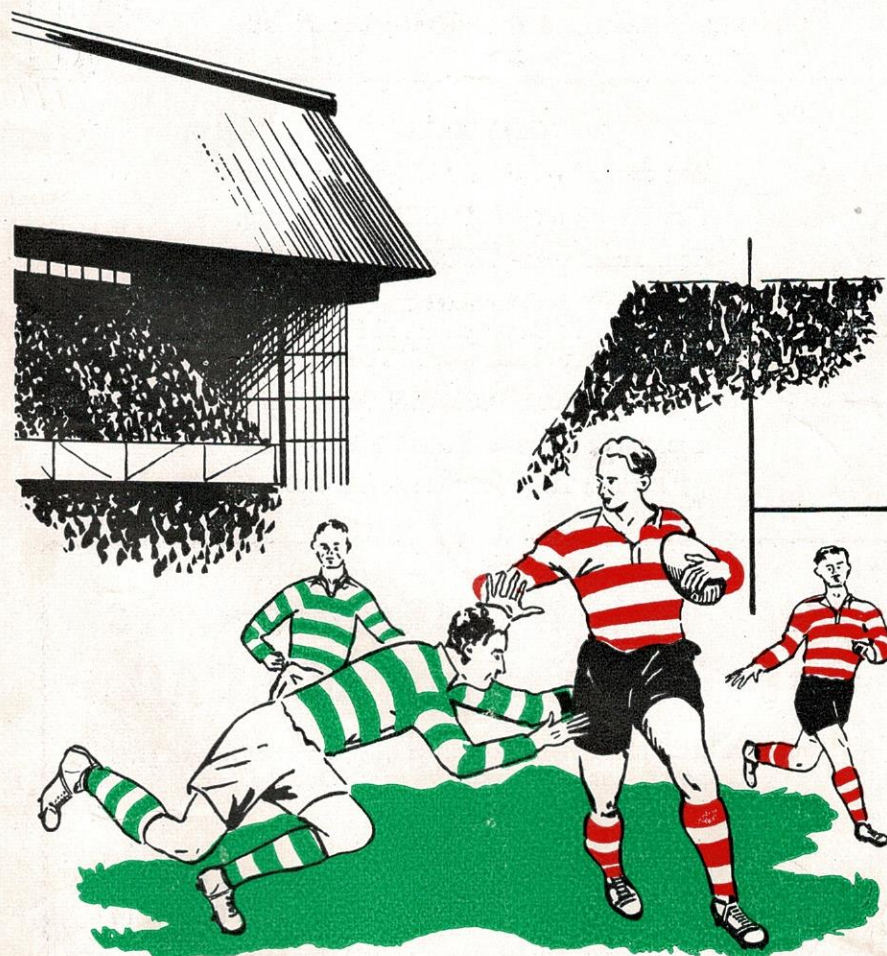
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Fixtures for the Season

1954-55	Opponents	Venue	K.O.	1954-55	Opponents	Venue	K.O.
Aug. 7—	Rochdale (Charity)	Home	3-0	Dec. 18—	Keighley	Away	
14—	Wakefield T.	Away		25—	Swinton	Home	2-30
21—	Batley	Home	3-0	27—			
25—	Salford (Wed.)	Away	7-0	Jan. 1—	Belle Vue R.	Home	2-30
28—	St. Helens	Away		8—	Leigh	Away	
Sept. 4—	Barrow	Away		15—	Warrington	Home	2-30
11—	1st Round Lancs. Cup			22—	Workington	Away	
14—	Liverpool (Tues.)	Home	7-0	29—	Rochdale Hornets	Home	3-0
18—	Batley	Away		Feb. 5—	Barrow	Home	3-0
25—	Wakefield T.	Home	3-0	12—	First Round R.L. Cup		
Oct. 2—	Blackpool	Away		19—	St. Helens	Home	3-0
9—	Workington	Home	3-0	26—			
16—	Rochdale Hornets	Away		Mar. 5—	Second Round R.L. Cup		
23—	Hull	Home	3-0	12—	Belle Vue Rangers	Away	
30—	Liverpool S.	Away		19—	Widnes	Home	3-0
Nov. 6—	Blackpool	Home	3-0	26—	Warrington	Away	
13—	Widnes	Away		Apl. 2—	Wigan	Home	3-0
20—	Whitehaven	Home	2-30	8—	Swinton (Friday)	Away	
27—	Wigan	Away		9—	Hull	Away	
Dec. 4—	Salford	Home	2-30	11—	Keighley (Mon.)	Home	3-0
11—	Whitehaven	Away		16—	Leigh	Home	3-0

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB



PROGRAMME...THREEPENCE

OLDHAM v. ROCHDALE HORNETS**WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS & VIEWS**

To-day sees the unofficial opening of Season 1954/55 in which we play our annual Charity Match against our old friends from Rochdale, and as all players should now be thoroughly match fit we may take a look at things to come. At the commencement of each season all Clubs are optimistic as to their playing ability, and are all hopeful of achieving some reward during the campaign. As the season progresses team changes are bound to take place, and it is essential that players should fit in with one another to form and play as a unit.

Last season's annual Charity Match was played at Rochdale and we were surprisingly beaten by 31 points to 19 points. Up to this match we had held the cup for several seasons, but our team gave a very disappointing display, and on the day were a well beaten side.

DISTRIBUTION TO CHARITY

The proceeds of to-day's match are divided between the two contesting Clubs, who, in turn, have to distribute a minimum of 60% to the Local Junior Rugby organisations, and the balance allocated to authorised and recognised Charities. Last season we distributed the sum of £180 to Junior Rugby locally, and donations of £5 each to eight charitable organisations. The gross "gate" receipts at Rochdale last season were £801 10s. 6d. We hope to go one better and top the £1,000 mark.

MANAGER—COACH

A new appointment has been made to our staff by way of a Manager-coach. The appointment of Mr. John Griffith Jenkins to the position is the result of the deliberations and time spent by the Committee in their efforts to secure the right man for the job. No doubt Mr. Jenkins will have "to feel his way" in his important position as manager, and we hope that success will come his way. As a player with the Warrington Club he has had good experience. Since the end of his playing career he has been trainer to the Warrington and Swinton Clubs. He is also a masseur.

LAWS OF THE GAME

There has been no alteration to the Laws of the Game. A notice has been issued by the Northern Rugby League Management Committee stating that it is the duty of Referees, Club Officials, Coaches, and Players to thoroughly acquaint themselves with the Laws of the Game. There is a wide divergence in the application of the Laws among Referees, and many players, from their actions, appear to have very little knowledge of the Laws which they are supposed to obey. The playing of the ball after a tackle appears to constitute a major problem. This Law was designed to recommence the game

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Club Doctor : Dr. JOHN OLIVER

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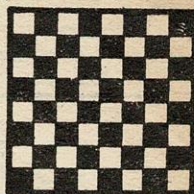
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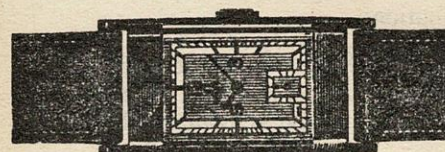
OLDHAM		ROCHDALE HORNETS	
Red and White		Red, White and Blue	
1.	GANLEY, W. B. 1111	1.	TUMBLE
2.	CRACKNELL, R.	2.	McARTHUR, W. 1111
3.	BARROW, R.	3.	HARRIS, N.
4.	DAVIES, A.	4.	SHORT, N.
5.	LOMAS, H.	5.	BRADLEY, D.
6.	DALEY, F.	6.	CHISNALL, J.
7.	STIRRUP, F.	7.	HELME, R.
8.	SMITH, T. A.	8.	LIVESEY, K.
9.	KEITH, J.	9.	ELLEAN, W.
10.	JACKSON, K. TOMLINSON	10.	DOONEY, J.
11.	WINSLADE, C.	11.	GALLAGHER, M.
12.	WATSON, J.	12.	JONES, W.
13.	GOLDSWAIN, B. V., Capt.	13.	UNSWORTH

Referee: Mr. W. STOCKLEY of Swinton

Touch Judges:
Mr. S. Collins, Oldham (Red Flag) Mr. H. Shaw, Oldham (Blue Flag)

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as quickly as possible by allowing the players full opportunity to get the ball away quickly. It was also designed, however, to give both teams an opportunity for obtaining possession, although it is realised that the advantage is usually with the side in possession even though the Laws are strictly applied. Unfortunately this advantage has been increased tenfold because more often than not a tackled player after regaining his feet does not drop the ball in front of him—invariably the ball is dropped between or behind the legs of the tackled player. Referees, in spite of repeated instructions, usually ignore this persistent and flagrant breach of the Laws. The players have been quick to realise the attitude of many Referees and take fullest advantage of it. It is not easy to understand why this offence is allowed to pass unpunished. It cannot pass unnoticed. Another major criticism of the playing of the ball, and once again instructions have been issued to cover the point, is that Referees are allowing the tackle to become a minor stoppage in play. Players are being allowed all the time in the world to play the ball. A case in point is where a player looks around to see if his own players have adopted suitable positions before he decides to get on with the game. There must be no undue delay in playing the ball, players should be penalised for NOT PLAYING IT QUICKLY. May I remind all that players must be ONE yard behind the two players taking part in the playing of the ball, if they are not outside, then they must be penalised if they take advantage by interfering with the subsequent play.

BRIEFS

Lancashire County Amateurs have waived their rights for a home match in the first round of the Lancashire Cup. This match will now be played at Watersheddings on Saturday, September 11th, 1954, kick-off 3-0 p.m.

Playing Strength. The close season has been one of the quietest one can remember for the acquisition and transfer of players by Clubs. There is no doubt that money is tight, and very tight with some Clubs. A considerable number of Clubs are now relying in the acquisition of Junior talent. As to ourselves, we have only made two signings—Peter Ingram, centre, of Lockwood and Robert Jennings, hooker, of Hebden Bridge. We have confidence in the ability of these two players to make the grade.

Blackpool. Our scheduled fixtures state that we have to play the new Blackpool Club at Blackpool on Saturday, 2nd October. We hear that a large number of parties are now being arranged to make the trip. If there is a record exodus from Oldham that day it will help the Blackpool Club financially. An added attraction is the illuminations.

Terry O'Grady. Congratulations to Terry O'Grady. An official report from Australia states that he has justified the selectors confidence, placed in him both on and off the field. Terry will be back in action at Watersheddings at the end of this month.

Travellers. Our committee-man, Mr. F. L. Ridgway, who is at present in New Zealand with the Tourists, leaves the official party along with Messrs. Waring and Trickett (Press representatives) on 17th August. Travelling by Canadian Pacific Airways, they will spend 2 days at Honolulu, 2 days at San Francisco, 2 days at Los Angeles, and then on to New York to await the arrival of the Rugby League Tourists who are all travelling back via America.

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