



## The MACKESON RUGBY LEAGUE CONTEST

*Organised by Whitbread & Co. Ltd. in  
association with The Rugby Football League*

**M** The Mackeson Rugby League Contest Trophy and a cheque for 200 guineas goes to the team with the best scoring record for the season. Cheques for 100 guineas and 50 guineas go to the runners-up.

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**AUGUST 20 to SEPTEMBER 28**  
**SEPTEMBER 30 to NOVEMBER 23**  
**NOVEMBER 25 to JANUARY 11**  
**JANUARY 13 to MARCH 7**  
**MARCH 9 to MAY 9**

1963/4

# OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

WATERSHEDDINGS - OLDHAM



### OFFICIALS

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Vice-President : S. STRETCH, Esq.

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Secretary : H. SUMMERSCALES

Pavilion Telephone No. : MAIn (Oldham) 4865

## OLDHAM v. LEIGH

SATURDAY, MARCH, 28th, 1964

at Watersheddings, Oldham

Kick-off 3 p.m.



SEASON — 1963-64

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - 4d.

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## WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

### PLAY-THE-BALL EXPERIMENT

As and from the 1st of April, all Northern League games played by second division clubs, other than those involving a club which still has an interest in the Challenge Cup competition, shall be played under a new Play-the-Ball law. The law is simply that the ball must not be played in a backward direction, i.e., behind the line drawn through the ball at right-angles to the touch line. It is specially to be emphasised to players that their side is not likely to retain possession if they are tackled. It is therefore in their own interest to release the ball at any time before the tackle becomes effective. Once the referee has shouted 'held' or the player is effectively held and can make no further progress or he is tackled and the ball grounded, then the ball must be played forward as stated above. It is an offence for a tackled player, when playing the ball, to kick the ball against his opponent in order to obtain possession on the rebound. Referees are to be reminded that a player who is brought down, but is not 'grounded' can still pass the ball. For example, a man brought down to his knees but held by an opponent, could pass the ball unless he has made it obvious that he has 'succumbed' to the tackle. Succumbing to the tackle will very likely occur once the players have realised that they are no longer guaranteed possession. To get the best out of the law, players must realize that this new play-the-ball is no longer a means of retaining possession, but will normally mean losing it. Once the players realise this there will undoubtedly be a reluctance to be tackled (the reverse of the present attitude) and it is hoped that continuity in the play will consequently be improved. A player lying on the ground must be considered to be out of play. This prevents the practice of the tackler, who may be lying on the ground with the tackled player, trying to grab the ball if the tackled player succeeds in releasing it just before the tackle is effected.

### TELEVISION

We are now getting near to the Annual Meeting of the Rugby League when a Bye-Law moved by this club and seconded by Wigan, that no live television must take place whilst Rugby League matches are in progress. They can be televised at any time after the match. Cup tie finals allowed. We are also proposing that Sunday professional football should be allowed clubs to be given the option to play.

We also support the re-introduction of the tap penalty.

Also that substitutes to be allowed, two players to be named before the match, (say one forward and one back) to be allowed up to half time. One player only for the depleted side and to only be allowed at the discretion of the referee.

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<p><b>OLDHAM</b> (Blue and White)</p> <p>1—DYSON, F. 2—SIMS, G. 3—DONOVAN, J.T. 4—SMETHURST, P. 5—SIMMS, T. 6—NESTOR, V. 7—PYCROFT, J. 8—BOTT, C. 9—McINTYRE, L. 10—WILSON, K. 11—ROBINSON, G./WHITEHEAD, S. 12—MAJOR, H. 13—PARKER, D.</p> <p>Referee : Mr. C. WHITELEY of Ossett</p>	<p>THE</p> <p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p><b>FINAL</b></p> <p>FOR ALL LOCAL SPORT</p>	<p><b>LEIGH</b> (Cherry and White)</p> <p>1—RISMAN 2—TYRER 3—LEWIS, G. 4—RHODES 5—LEADBETTER 6—SMITH 7—ENTWISTLE 8—ROBINSON 9—LEWIS, J. 10—HURT 11—WHARTON 12—MARTYN 13—MURPHY</p> <p>Touch Judges : Mr. F. Whiteley, Warrington (Yellow) Mr. J. P. Dawson, St. Helens (Crimson)</p>
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## INJURED PLAYERS

The present ruling is that a referee must continue play until the whistle would normally be blown before allowing an injured player to be attended to, unless play is near the injured player. This sometimes places the referee in a difficult position, particularly when it transpires that the player concerned is severely injured. The rule was of course introduced to prevent players from stopping play by feigning injury when not in possession.

The Council now rule that when the referee feels that a player may be genuinely injured, then he can stop play without delay and re-commence it by allowing the side which was in possession when play was stopped to play the ball at the point where the ball was when play was stopped. This action should of course not be taken where injury is obviously of a trivial nature.

## NEWS FROM THE MACKESON RUGBY LEAGUE CONTEST

### PERIOD 5 — March 9th to End of Season

Position after matches played on Saturday, March 21st, 1964

CLUB	Played	Pts. F.	Average	Pts. A.
1—St. Helens .....	2	64	32.00	15
2—Workington .....	2	52	26.00	14
3—Castleford .....	2	48	24.00	12
4—Featherstone .....	1	23	23.00	3
5—Hull K. R. ....	2	46	23.00	13
6—Wigan .....	2	46	23.00	20
7—Oldham .....	2	39	19.50	10

### MAIN CONTEST

Position after matches played on Saturday, March 21st, 1964

CLUB	Played	Pts. F.	Average	Pts. A.
1—Wigan .....	33	630	19.09	326
2—Oldham .....	31	564	18.19	214
3—Hull K. R. ....	33	541	16.39	377
4—Featherstone .....	30	477	15.90	348
5—St. Helens .....	31	483	15.58	248
6—Castleford .....	29	448	15.45	309
7—Wakefield T. ....	29	441	15.21	299

## FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

Up to and including Saturday, 21st March, 1964

Player	A	G	T	P	Player	A	G	T	P
Dyson	29	99	2	204	Rae	6		4	12
Lord	23		7	21	Donovan	8		1	3
Noon	14	6	6	30	Simms T.	25		20	60
Nestor	28		6	18	Smethurst	30		13	39
Elliott	9		5	15	Cheshire	1			
Davies	1				Wilson	24		3	9
Pycroft	31		13	39	Sims G.	18	8	10	46
Lloyd	1				Major	24			
McIntyre	30		6	18	Platt	6			
Robinson	31		5	15	Crowther	9		4	12
Bott	33		3	9	Taylor	2			
Parker	30		7	21	Whitehead	8		3	9
Patterson	3		2	6	Gaskell	1		1	3
Price	3		2	6					

## WESTERN DIVISION TABLE

Each Club to play 8 matches

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Oldham .....	6	5	0	1	102	49	10
St. Helens .....	4	4	0	0	64	30	8
Wigan .....	6	4	0	2	164	77	8
Workington .....	6	3	2	1	91	41	8
Swinton .....	4	4	0	0	69	27	8
Widnes .....	5	3	1	1	63	40	7
Warrington .....	6	3	0	3	95	72	6
Barrow .....	6	2	0	4	78	99	4
Leigh .....	7	2	0	5	59	81	4
Whitehaven .....	5	1	2	2	31	60	4
Blackpool B. ....	5	2	0	3	63	143	4
Rochdale H. ....	6	1	1	4	49	127	3
Salford .....	4	0	0	4	36	65	0
Liverpool .....	4	0	0	4	20	73	0

## FIXTURES & SCORES SEASON 1963/64

Date	Club	Grd.	Time	F. A.	Date	Club	Grd.	Time	F. A.
Aug. 17	Rochdale (Charity)	home	3.0	29-13	Dec. 7	Bramley (2)	away	2.30	0-9
24	Rochdale (2)	away	3.0	20-7	14	Bradford (2)	home	2.30	
27	Leigh (2) (Tue.)	home	7.0	6-6	21	Rochdale (R)	away	2.30	
31	Batley (2)	home	3.0	44-7	26	Leigh (2)	away	2.30	
Sept. 2	Liverpool (2)	away	6.30	20-9	28	Dewsbury (2)	home	2.30	29-0
7	Widnes (L. C.)	home	6.30	10-5	Jan. 4	Blackpool (R)	home	2.30	18-13
14	York (2)	away	3.0	7-4	11	Bradford (2)	away	2.30	
16	Blackpool (R)	away	6.0	24-10	18	Whitehaven (2)	home	2.30	
21	Whitehaven	home	6.30	35-4	25	Salford (2)	home	3.0	37-20
18	Barrow (2)	home	3.0	35-8	Feb. 1	Dewsbury (2)	away	3.0	11-4
20	Blackpool (2)	away	3.0	22-6	8	Keighley (R.L. Cup)	away	3.0	11-4
28	Leigh	away	7.0	0-10	15	Leigh (R)	away	3.0	6-2
Oct. 5	Australia	home	3.0	4-12	22	Blackpool (2)	home	3.0	18-5
12	Doncaster (2)	home	3.0	45-13	29	Featherstone (Cup)	home	3.0	9-7
19	Barrow (2)	away	3.0	21-15	Mar. 7	Batley (2)	away	3.0	9-4
26	Rochdale (R)	home	3.0	13-4	14	Hunslet (R.L. Cup)	away	3.0	7-5
Nov. 9	Doncaster (2)	away	3.0	12-6	21	Barrow (R)	home	3.0	32-5
2	York (2)	home	2.30	15-0	27	Liverpool (2)	home	3.0	
16	Whitehaven (2)	away	2.30	19-0	28	Leigh (R)	home	3.0	
23	Rochdale (2)	home	2.30	18-7	30	Salford (2)	away	3.0	
30	Barrow (R)	away	2.30	9-15	Apr. 11	Bramley (2)	home	3.0	