



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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The 5 periods are:

AUGUST 22 to SEPTEMBER 26

SEPTEMBER 28 to NOVEMBER 21

NOVEMBER 23 to JANUARY 9

JANUARY 11 to MARCH 6

MARCH 8 to MAY 8

1964/5

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

WATERSHEDDINGS - OLDHAM

OFFICIALS

President : H. GOODWIN, Esq.

Vice-President : S. STRETCH, Esq.

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Committee :

Messrs. C. Bradley, J. Burke, A. F. Campbell, J. Errock, W. Howard, H. Jones, T. E. Rees, R. L. Thomas, E. Watkins.

Club Doctors : Dr. A. CAMPBELL and Dr. A. R. NETTLETON

Secretary : H. SUMMERSCALES

Pavilion Telephone No. : MAIn (Oldham) 4.65



Standing, left to right : McIntyre, Parker, Mumberson, Bott, Wilson, Major. Sitting, left to right : Price, Nestor, Sims, Dyson, McCormack, Donovan. Kneeling : Pycroft

SEASON — 1964/65

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Saturday, 27th March—

OLDHAM v. HUDDERSFIELD

—Kick-off 5-45 p.m.

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

We are always creating surprises and sensations at Watersheddings and on Saturday last a big surprise was created by our team in losing at Keighley, a visit which we fully expected would give us two valuable points after having defeated them at Watersheddings on February 13th, and reflecting on their display that day. Ground conditions at Keighley could not have been worse, a match having been played on it in the morning, but then again, they were the same for both sides. In the first half we played facing the elements, snow falling all the match. We soon had a lead of ten points and were now fully confident of victory. Keighley scored five points just on the interval, and we can place this to bad tackling of the left winger who slipped three tackles before passing inside to the ultimate try that had to come. The second half, playing with the elements behind us, we must admit that we had the worst of the engagements and our players never appeared to function as a team and what we saw in the first half never came along and we had to retire beaten visitors by 12 points to 10 points. This was a game that should never have been lost and what came over our team in the second half requires some explaining. We have now lost three matches in succession and we think this setback is temporary, otherwise we can say goodbye to the top 16 clubs play-off.

OUR VISITORS

Today we entertain attractive visitors from Huddersfield and we give them a welcome to Watersheddings. Huddersfield have played 26 matches, won 12 and lost 14, scoring 280 points against 310. Like ourselves they have been hit by injuries and recently have been minus both half backs, in Blackett and Gascoign, but they have capable replacements. However we hope to have a game worth talking about, played according to the Rules. Then, I think everyone will be satisfied.

NEW PLAYER — WELCOME

May we welcome to Watersheddings our new full back, recently signed from Wigan. John Winton, a native of Rhodesia, he was brought to this country by Wigan, along with winger Trevor Lake. We wish John a successful career with us. He will be going home to Rhodesia at the close of the season along with his wife, and they will be expecting a happy event whilst out there. John and his wife will be back in plenty of time for the opening of the season. Our new addition is in partnership with Trevor Lake in the garage business, and he lives at Culceth, near Warrington

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- 4—McCORMACK
- 5—COLLINS
- 6—McLEOD
- 7—PYCROFT
- 8—MUMBERSON
- 9—McINTYRE
- 10—BOTT
- 11—IRVING
- 12—WHITEHEAD
- 13—PARKER (Capt.)

Substitutes :-

- 14—SIMS
- 15—FORSYTH

Referee :

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- 2—WAQUABACA
- 3—TOMLINSON
- 4—HAGAN
- 5—SENIOR
- 6—CALVERT
- 7—FEATHER
- 8—HEPPLESTON
- 9—CLOSE
- 10—KILROY
- 11—VALENTINE
- 12—VAN BELLEN, V.
- 13—TAYLOR

Substitutes :-

- 14—HEYWOOD
- 15—DOBSON

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OUR GAME

The findings, observations and recommendations of the special sub-committee appointed by the Council to investigate declining attendances at Rugby League matches is now in the hands of the senior Clubs. Whilst one must congratulate this sub-committee on the time and work they must have spent on the subject

Their observations and recommendations cover a large section of our game ; Play-the-Ball, Tap Penalty, Competitive Interest, Television, Referees Foul Play, Singing-on Fees, Benefits, Payment to Players, Number of Players on the Professional Register, Admission Charges, Spectator Comfort, and Amateur Football.

A suggested alternative scheme for Northern League Clubs is also down for decision which also covers a wide area. Whilst one must admire any change that must be for the good of the game, no report is mentioned of the forgotten men, those players who are just starting their professional careers, i.e. 'A' team football. We consider that more attention should be paid to 'A' team football, which is the feeding line for first team football, the very life blood of our game. The whole make up of second team football is a huge mistake. Yorkshire 'A' team football travels on its way alone and is controlled by the Yorkshire Senior Competition Committee and comprises of sixteen clubs. The Committee is controlled by a Chairman and four Committeemen, plus a Hon. Secretary, which happens to be Mr. Bill Fallowfield (and rightly so). The Lancashire Rugby League Combination is the controlling body for Lancashire 'A' team football and the Committee is comprised of four Committeemen and the Secretary is Mr. Frank Devonald who is also the Lancashire County Secretary. The Lancashire section is comprised of fourteen clubs. We are still of the opinion, and have been for a number of years, that 'A' team football should be controlled by the Rugby League and that all matters relating to 'A' team football should come from the Offices of the League. At present each section appoints its own referees, a system that cannot work satisfactorily. We consider that better referees would be appointed if the whole fabric of 'A' team football came under one control. There would be better fixtures, and fixtures that would keep 'A' teams fully employed throughout the season (the last time Oldham 'A' played was February 22nd and there is no prospect of a match until April 10th). It is time there was some plain and straight talking about 'A' team football, let us have a full fixture list, never mind the loss incurred in running 'A' teams, they are like the poor, they will always be with us.

The observations made in the report about Amateur football we must commend, it is far too lengthy to give a detailed report, but we shall support Schoolboy and Junior football to the hilt.

Saturday Next at Watersheddings—

OLDHAM v. BLACKPOOL

—Kick-off 6-15 p.m.

APPEARANCES AND SCORERS (All Matches)

Up to and including Saturday last

Player	A	G	T	P	Player	A	G	T	P
Dyson	23	80	5	175	Smethurst	20		3	9
Sims	29	16	7	53	Gaskell	7		1	3
McCormack	23		2	6	Collins	13½		2	6
Nestor	20		4	12	Howarth	4			
Patterson	4		3	9	Crowther	2			
Donovan	23		10	30	Hill	4½			
Pycroft	21		5	15	Whitehead	10		1	3
Mumberson	17½		2	6	Tomlinson	½	1		2
McIntyre	23½		5	15	Broomhead	2			
Wilson	20½				Taylor	6		1	3
Simms	½		1	3	Elliott	9		2	6
Wilkinson	1				McLeod	12½		8	24
Major	13		1	3	Delooze	1½			
Parker	22		4	12	Kenny	1			
Bott	27		2	6	Irving	5		1	3
Price	12		9	27	Warburton	2			
Robinson	5		1	3	Morgan	1			
					Winton	1	2		4

Appearances ½ indicates where a player has only played half the game
The Substitute Rule operating

NEWS FROM THE MACKESON RUGBY LEAGUE CONTEST

MAIN CONTEST — Position after matches played on March 20th

CLUB	Played	Pts. F.	Average	Pts. A.
1—St. Helens	31	610	19.68	218
2—Halifax	32	575	17.97	334
3—Wigan	32	560	17.50	220
4—Hull K. R.	30	489	16.30	338
5—Leeds	35	550	15.71	358
6—Castleford	31	482	15.55	274
7—Oldham	29	389	13.41	312

FIXTURES & RESULTS FOR 1964/65 SEASON

Date	Club		Grd. Time	F. A.	Date	Club		Grd. Time	F. A.
Aug. 15	Rochdale (Charity)	away	3.0	39-7	19	Liverpool	.....away	2.30	
22	Dewsbury	.....away	3.0	17-4	26	St. Helens	.....home	2.30	
25	Widnes (Tues.)	.....home	7.0	23-2	Jan. 2	Hunslet	.....home	2.30	36-7
29	Swinton	.....home	3.0	13-2	9	Barrow	.....away	2.30	5-8
Sept. 4	Whitehaven (Cup)	.....away	6.30	31-10	16	Rochdale H.	.....away	2.30	
12	Liverpool	.....home	3.0	42-5	23	Salford	.....home	3.0	
14	Blackpool	.....away	6.0	13-2	30	Warrington	.....away	3.0	5-19
19	Widnes	.....away	3.0	21-2	Feb. 6	Hunslet	.....away	3.0	4-17
26	Whitehaven	.....home	3.0	4-21	13	Keighley	.....home	3.0	26-6
Oct. 3	Leigh	.....away	3.0	20-10	20	Wigan	.....away	3.0	12-20
10	Rochdale H.	.....home	3.0	14-5	27	(2nd Rnd. R.L. Cup)			
17	Workington	.....away	3.0	5-21	Mar. 6	Leigh	.....home	3.0	0-25
24	Warrington	.....home	3.0	6-15	13	St. Helens	.....home	3.0	9-15
31	St. Helens	.....away	3.0	6-22	20	Keighley	.....away	3.0	10-12
Nov. 7	Barrow	.....home	3.0	21-4	27	Huddersfield	.....home	3.0	
14	Huddersfield	.....away	2.30	12-10	Apr. 3	(Semi-Final R.L. Cup)			
21	Wigan	.....home	2.30	9-18	10	(Semi-Final R.L. Cup)			
28	Salford	.....away	2.30	9-5	16	Swinton (G.F.)	.....away	3.0	
Dec. 5	Hunslet	.....away	2.30	7-4	17	Whitehaven	.....away	3.0	
12	Blackpool	.....home	2.30		19	Dewsbury (E.M.)	.....home	3.0	