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Fixtures for the Season

1955-57	Opponents	Venue	K.O.	1956-57	Opponents	Venue	K.O.
Aug. 11	*Rochdale	Home	3-0	22	Warrington	Away	2-30
18	Bramley	Home	3-0	25	Swinton	Home	2-30
20	Halifax	Away	7-0	26	Blackpool	Away	2-30
25	Rochdale	Away	3-0	29	Widnes	Away	2-30
28	Leigh	Home	7-0	Jan. 5	Hunslet	Home	2-30
Sept. 1	*Wigan (Lanes C.)	Away	3-0	12	Salford	Home	2-30
8	St. Helens	Away	3-0	19	Whitehaven	Away	2-30
15	Wakefield	Home	3-0	26	Warrington	Home	3-0
22	Barrow	Home	3-0	Feb. 2	Salford	Away	3-0
29	Liverpool	Away	3-0	9	R.L. Cup		
Oct. 6	Wigan	Away	3-0	16	Widnes	Home	3-0
13	Halifax	Home	3-0	23	R.L. Cup		
20	Barrow	Away	3-0	Mar. 2	Liverpool	Home	3-0
27	Keighley	Home	3-0	9	York	Away	3-0
Nov. 3	Workington	Away	3-0	16	Whitehaven	Home	3-0
7	*Australia	Home	3-0	23	Bramley	Away	3-0
10	Workington	Home	3-0	30	Wigan	Home	3-0
17	Keighley	Away	2-30	Apr. 6	Leigh	Away	3-0
24	Blackpool	Home	2-30	13			
Dec. 1	York	Home	2-30	19	Swinton	Away	3-0
8	St. Helens	Home	2-30	20	Hunslet	Away	3-0
15	Wakefield	Away	2-30	22	Rochdale	Home	3-0

*All Pay

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No. 2—Saturday, August 18th, 1956

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. BRAMLEY

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

To-day marks the official opening of the Rugby League season 1956-57, and the 62nd year of its existence and apropos. It is 84 years since this Club was formed to play Rugby (Union in those days).

We open the season to-day against Bramley, one of the most improved teams in the Rugby League last season, and no doubt through their Manager-coach, Ted Spillane, are hoping to go much better in the tournament. The Bramley team have been one of the shock teams to us in the past—they have always given us something to remember when playing against them. Gone are the days when the result against them was a certainty, and during the last few seasons have actually achieved a victory on our ground. So to-day can be a test of things to come for the season, and we are assured of a hard game.

Our Charity match game against Rochdale Hornets at Watersheddings on Saturday last, appeared, by the score, to be a one sided affair, but this was far from the case. Our opponents had plenty of opportunities to score tries, but bad finishing nullified their efforts. Our team appeared to take quite a time to settle down, but once they got the touch of our opponents, glimpses of the open play we know they are capable of was shown. The game was played in a good spirit, and the unavoidable accidents to Sivill, hooker of Rochdale, and Rogers of our Club, happened in the ordinary run of the game and were accidental. Sivall had a dislocation of the shoulder and Rogers a torn ear, which took several stitches to place in position again. The receipts of the match amounted to £985 which is subject to ENTERTAINMENT TAX, why? We shall hear much more about this as time progresses.

SUBSTITUTES

Coming events cast their shadows, an old saying goes, and we observe that in the Warrington versus Wigan charity match at Warrington on Saturday last, a substitute was allowed in the Warrington side during the game, this being caused through injury to a Warrington player. Whether this was in agreement with all parties concerned we know not, but permission to play these charity matches are sanctioned by the Rugby League and should be played according to the book of Rules. In our charity match on Saturday last both the Hornets and ourselves were minus a player for a considerable period of the game (both taken to the Infirmary).

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

The coming season is a very important one as, apart from the Test matches with Australia, a team will have to be picked to represent Great Britain in the 1957 World Cup series that takes place in Australia during June 1957. Therefore, the ensuing season offers unique opportunities in this respect.

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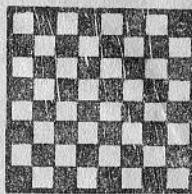
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- 3.—NESTOR, V.
- 4.—DAVIES, A.
- 5.—ETTY, J. W.
- 6.—STIRRUP, F. (Capt.)
- 7.—PITCHFORD, F.
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- 7.—LANGFIELD, J. G.
- 8.—SMITH, T. A.
- 9.—HEATH, E.
- 10.—YOUNG, G.
- 11.—HAMMILL, L.
- 12.—SYKES, A.
- 13.—BALDWIN, J. L.

Referee: Mr. R. Gelder, Wakefield

Touch Judges:

Mr. E. Bleasdale, Warrington (Red). Mr. J. Woodward, St. Helens (Blue)

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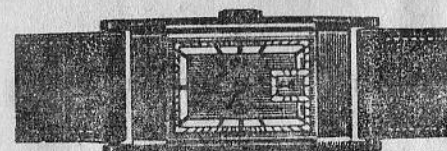
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BRIEFS

We have notified the Cup and Rules Revision Committee that we are prepared to take part in a game at Odsal Stadium on October 8th. This will be a floodlight match to try out the two methods of "play the ball"—the 'kick forward' and 'release and play with the foot'. There will be two match, each of one hours duration—30 minutes each way. These games will be financed by the League and payment will be paid to the players for their services.

Will our members, patrons, and supporters please note that the Pavilion is closed each Wednesday in accordance with the Board of Trade Catering Act.

Our team was knocked out in the Semi-final of the seven-a-side games at Wigan on Wednesday, August 8th, unluckily by our old friends, Wigan. We beat ourselves in these sevens for playing without a recognised hooker. Possession of the ball in a seven-a-side game is very essential.

Tickets for the stand, reserved and un-reserved, for our cup-tie at Wigan on Saturday, September 1st are now on sale and can be purchased from the Secretary's office in the Pavilion. Prices are 6/6 and 4/- reserved; 5/-, 4/6 and 4/- un-reserved; ringside seats 3/6.

RUGBY LEAGUE MILESTONES

- 1895—Northern Rugby Football Union formed with the following Clubs: Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, Liversidge, Manningham, Batley, Hull, Hunslet, Leeds, Brighouse, Wakefield, St. Helens, Wigan, Broughton, Leigh, Runcorn, Widnes, Oldham, Rochdale, Stockport, Tyldesley, and Warrington.
- 1897—Challenge Cup started.
- 1897—Line out dropped, punt from touch introduced.
- 1898—Unrestricted professionalism introduced, players to work three days per week.
- 1906—Thirteen instead of fifteen a side introduced.
- 1907—First New Zealand team visited Britain.
- 1908—First England versus Australia Test (Park Royal, London).
- 1910—First British team to Australia.
- 1922—Title changed to the Rugby Football League.
- 1922—Kicking goal from mark abolished.
- 1929—First Challenge Cup Final at Wembley.
- 1934—First Rugby League games in France.
- 1935—International championship between England, Wales and France was introduced.
- 1951—Workington won Championship Trophy, so ending the Lancashire and Yorkshire monopoly.
- 1952—Rugby League Challenge Cup left Lancashire and Yorkshire for the first time. Winners, Workington Town.

NEXT HOME MATCH

OLDHAM "A" v. ROCHDALE "A"

Saturday, August 25th, 1956

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

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