

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

SEASON 1958-59

REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET

FOR 12 MONTHS ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1959.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held in the

LARGE HALL, KING STREET STORES, on THURSDAY, 21st MAY, 1959.

Chair to be taken at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS :

1. Acceptance of Standing Orders as circularised.
2. Minutes of the last Annual Meeting.
3. Secretary's Report.
4. Passing of the Balance Sheet.
5. Resolution and Amendments to Rules.

RESOLUTION (Proposed by Frank Kenyon, 10, Harrow Avenue, Seconded by John Binns, 3, Tanners Fold).

At the general meeting in 1960 the whole of the nine committee men shall retire, but will be eligible for re-election, the committee shall be reduced to six in number.

The two members receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for three years.

The two receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected for two years.

The two receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected for one year.

And Rule 4 be amended as follows :—

Rule 4. Delete the whole of rule and substitute the following :

"That the officers consist of a President, Honorary Vice-President, an acting Vice-President and Treasurer."

"The President, acting Vice-President and Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the Committee."

"The Committee shall consist (in addition to the ex-officio members) of six members of the Club."

"The two members having the longest service shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election."

Rule 6. Delete the whole of rule and substitute the following :

"A record of attendances of the Committee shall be kept by the Secretary,"

"Any elected member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings, except through sickness or accident, shall forfeit his seat on the Committee, and the Committee shall at once fill the vacancy, by electing the unsuccessful candidate polling the highest number of votes at the last election of committee men. This rule shall apply in the event of the death of a committee man."

Delete Rule No. 8 and substitute the following :

"That the Secretary shall, on the requisition of 300 members of the Club, duly proceed to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club.

Such meeting to be for the alteration of Rules of the Club only."

Moved by F. Merriott, 37, Valley New Road, Royton (Membership No. 742).

Seconded by Wilfred Fernley, 105, Coppice Street, Oldham.

Amendment to Rule 15.

Proposed by Mr. Hilton Marsland, 19, Brookfield Street, Oldham.

Seconded by Mr. Frank Talboys, 6, Kingston Avenue, Oldham.

Omit all words after "made by" and substitute :

"A sub-committee comprising four members from the Committee one of whom shall act as Chairman, and the Manager-Coach."

The Rule to then read :

"The selection of teams to represent the Club in all matches shall be made by a sub-committee comprising four members from the Committee, one of whom shall act as Chairman, and the Manager-Coach."

6. Appointment of Scrutineers.
7. General Business.

NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT (One required)

***HOWARD, W.,**
11, Ashton Road East,
Failsworth.

PROPOSED BY

F. W. Ashworth,
109, Haven Lane,
Moorside, Oldham.

SECONDED BY

E. Thomas,
139, Oldham Road,
Springhead, Oldham.

ACTING VICE-PRESIDENT (One required)

***COULTHARD, J.,**
10, Baytree Avenue,
Chadderton.

PROPOSED BY

E. Watkins,
40, North Gate,
Oldham.

SECONDED BY

A. F. Campbell,
29, Heron Street,
Hollinwood.

HILTON, T.,
112, Chadderton Park Road,
Chadderton.

J. Marlor,
41, Sunfield Road,
Oldham.

J. Shorter,
19, Rope Street,
Oldham.

STRETCH, STANLEY,
110, Clarksfield Road,
Oldham.

A. E. Roylance,
68, Öwler Lane,
Chadderton.

E. L. G. Hyde,
Tame Bank,
Dobcross.

HON. TREASURER (One required)

***CORDWELL, A.,**
22, London Road,
Oldham.

F. S. Holt,
314, Abbey Hills Rd.,
Oldham.

B. Day,
Boundary Inn,
Higginshaw, Oldham.

COMMITTEE (Three required)

BRADLEY, CLIFFORD,
Glen Cairn,
Bartlett, Street, Shaw.

J. Frodson,
6, Melrose Street,
Oldham.

J. Hoyle,
12, Deepdale Avenue,
Royton.

BURKE, JOHN,
25, Webster Street,
Oldham.

John Binns,
3, Tanners Fold,
Oldham.

Cecil Ryan,
538, Ashton Road,
Oldham.

***CAMPBELL, A. F.,**
29, Heron Street,
Hollinwood.

R. L. Thomas,
16, Acre Lane,
Oldham.

J. Coulthard,
10, Baytree Avenue,
Chadderton.

CHALLINOR, J.,
17, Glodwick Road,
Oldham.

F. Ogden,
48, Mumps,
Oldham.

T. Doyle,
27, Wordsworth Road,
Oldham.

GOODWIN, HARRY,
Oldham Hotel,
Mumps, Oldham.

J. D. Harrison,
627, Huddersfield Rd.,
Oldham.

G. Gore,
26, Parkfield,
Chadderton.

HANLEY, THOMAS,
Corporation Hotel,
Manchester St., Oldham.

T. Axon,
66, Hillside Avenue,
Grotton, Oldham.

T. P. Naughton,
162, Manchester Street,
Oldham.

KERRY, R.,
127, Broadway,
Chadderton.

T. C. Healey,
484, Burnley Lane,
Chadderton.

E. Kerry,
127, Broadway,
Chadderton.

REES, T. E.,
95, Turf Pit Lane,
Moorside, Oldham.

Arthur Sumner,
24, Farm Street,
Failsworth.

Dr. S. B. Hendry,
Copster House,
Oldham.

***RIDGWAY, F. L.,**
53, Henshaw Street,
Oldham.

A. Cordwell,
22, London Road,
Oldham.

J. W. Lewthwaite,
22, Middle Gate,
Oldham.

STONE, C.,
6, Frankhill Street,
Oldham.

R. Mills,
46, Course View,
Holts, Oldham.

F. Kenyon,
10, Harrow Avenue,
Oldham.

TOLAN, THOS.,
10, Egerton Street,
Oldham.

W. Hart,
33, Siddall Street,
Oldham.

Thos. Murphy,
7, Molesworth Street,
Oldham.

***WATKINS, E.,**
40, North Gate,
Oldham.

C. F. Marshall,
158, Chamber Road,
Oldham.

E. Brooks,
114, Haven Lane,
Moorside, Oldham.

**Denotes retiring Committeemen*

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st March, 1959.

		EXPENDITURE.		INCOME.			
1958	£	s.	d.	1958	£	s.	d.
EXPENDITURE.							
To Players' Wages and Bonuses	13,999	14,605	10 8	By Ordinary Subscriptions	8,939	7,654	2 6
Ground Staff, Checkers and Police	4,239	5,246	15 3	Gate and Stand Receipts	30,454	33,738	0 7
Referees and Touch Judges	311	355	3 1	Share of Gates away	2,967	604	16 3
Hotel Bills and Refreshments	1,824	1,538	19 9				
Ground Accounts	4,957	5,899	5 6	Less Share of Gates to Visiting Clubs	42,360	41,996	19 4
Players' Outfits and Laundry	808	944	5 2				
Medical and Chemists' Accounts	342	477	0 9				
Registration Fees	4	6	15 0	Transfer Fees received	37,363	5,979	1 11
Players' Expenses	1,896	2,342	19 0	Programmes:	1,850		
Railway Fares and Conveyances	509	556	13 0	Receipts		756	9 11
Rugby League Subscriptions	10	9	19 0	Payments		561	10 0
Protection of Ground	568	60	8 3				
Printing, Posting and Advertising	876	882	4 3	Profit from Australian Tour (1958)	234		
Insurance—Players, Stands, etc.	1,077	1,432	4 8	Balance carried down	200		
Rates	757	828	0 0				
Gas, Coal, Coke and Electricity	383	589	11 1				
Telegrams, Telephone and Postages	311	314	0 6				
Bank Charges	100	103	9 9				
Deputations	392	678	16 7				
Transfer Fees	2,000	13,350	0 0				
Audit Fees and Accountancy	52	52	10 0				
Sundries	122	70	3 6				
British Playing Fields	103	123	7 10				
Medals and Photographs	26	36	18 0				
Entertainment Tax	1,246						
Balance carried down	36,932	50,505	0 7				
	2,715	50,505	0 7				
	£39,647						£50,505 0 7
INCOME.							
INCOME.							
To Balance brought down	50	492	3 3	By Balance brought down	2,715		
Donations	80	30	10 0	Rents received:			
Charges on Property let		100	0 10	Properties		68	0 8
Income Tax 1958/59		982	15 4	Oldham Stadium Limited		583	0 0
Less Reserve brought forward	993	800	0 0				651 0 8
Depreciation:							
Land, etc.	219	213	0 0	Receipts re Charity Match less Expenses		265	11 5
Stands, etc.	807	2,163	6 0	Less Grants to Junior Organisations		260	0 0
Properties	144	117	0 0	Charities		10	0 0
Medical Equipment	29	27	0 0			270	0 0
Profit for year carried down	1,085	2,520	6 0	Transferred from Reserve Account		4	8 7
				Loss for year carried down			2,674 14 9
							£3,325 15 5
	£3,407						
To Loss for Year brought down	10,473	2,674	14 9	By Profit for Year brought down	1,085		
Excess of Income over Expenditure		7,432	15 11	Donations and Special Efforts	740		
transferred to Accumulated Fund				Donations from Pools Organisation	8,377		
				Bank Interest received	104		
				Profit from Pavilion	147		
				Interest on Tax Reserve Certificates	20		
	£10,473						£10,107 10 8

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB PAVILION ACCOUNT.

	1958	£	s.	d.	1958	£	s.	d.
107 To Stock 31st March, 1958	220	224	16	3	3,597	By Bar Receipts		3,633 3 0
145 Purchases	2,618	2,573	12	10	224	Stock 31st March, 1959		199 5 4
530 Wages		558	9	8				
453 Balance carried down		475	9	7				
£3,821		£3,832	8	4	£3,821			£3,832 8 4
107 To Gas, Water and Coke		64	19	0	453	By Balance brought down		475 9 7
145 Rates, Telephone and Insurance		182	19	5				
11 Repairs		10	15	3				
11 Cleaning Materials, etc.		11	5	0				
12 Printing, Stationery, Newspapers, Postages and Sundries								
8 Bar Requisites		5	15	6				
6 Audit Fees		4	10	9				
6 Bank Charges		195	4	8				
147 Profit transferred to Income and Expenditure Account								
453		£475	9	7	£453			£475 9 7

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SECRETARY'S REPORT.

I herewith present you the Annual Report and Financial Statement of Accounts for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1959.

This shows a loss of £2,674 14s. 9d., after allowing depreciation of £2,520 6s. 0d.

The Pavilion Account shows a profit of £195 4s. 8d., which has been placed against the above loss.

We have played 19 Northern Rugby League matches at Watersheddings and 245,109 spectators have watched the games (this includes members) giving an average of 12,900 per match, against an average of 13,325 the previous season. Three Lancashire Cup ties were played at home and the total attendance being 46,157, an average of 15,386. One Rugby League Challenge Cup tie against St. Helens attracted 21,563. The play-off against Hull on Saturday, May 3rd, 1958 in the semi-final of the championship was attended by 20,457. Our "A" team have played 20 matches at home and the total attendance has been 14,697, giving an average of 735 against an average of 773 the previous season.

We have relayed our first team matches to the local hospitals, Oldham Royal Infirmary, Boundary Park and Strinesdale, and the cost of the private telephone lines to these institutions at a cost of £53 is money well spent and is much appreciated by patients and staff of the above hospitals. Thanks go to commentators who have given their service voluntarily.

Playing Record.

The playing record for season 1958-59 can be considered satisfactory taking in the difficulties that have beset the club by way of injuries, indifferent health of some players and the loss of two forwards by being transferred. In the annual charity match at Rochdale prior to the commencement of the season our display did not create the confidence that was to come along. The League programme commenced with two victories but in the third match we lost to Wakefield at Wakefield. Our Australian Tourists, Alan Davies, Frank Pitchford and Ken Jackson had not returned when this match was played. However, with the return of Davies and Pitchford, Ken Jackson was still absent, having had a cartilage operation. Our team ran into form and won the next 14 matches, including Lancashire Cup ties. We then received a very unexpected defeat at Salford, a match that we were fully expected to win. Another defeat at Wigan damped our hopes somewhat, but a further 4 wins against Workington, Widnes, Wigan and Swinton and a drawn game at Hunslet revived our spirits. Our visit to St. Helens proved our undoing and we were decisively beaten by a better team on the day. The New Year brought a succession of disappointments, five league defeats up to March 14th appeared to damp our hopes of appearing in the first four of the League Table. From the 21st March we recorded victories against Barrow, Swinton, Hull, Liverpool and Salford, and then came the unexpected defeat at Widnes, a heavy defeat in which the form of our team reached rock bottom. Hunslet, Whitehaven and Barrow then fell to our team and a slender chance of our first four League status appeared a little brighter. Our last league game against St. Helens at Oldham produced a pulsating game and a narrow victory by 15 points to 14 points placed us in the fourth position of the league and in the play-off. Our visit to St. Helens on the 2nd May and with a team not up to strength we received the largest defeat of the season by 42 points to 4 points. Our team gave an inept display and we caught St. Helens in one of their best moods and consequently we suffered.

Although a lower standard of play has been given generally by our team than in the past, displays have been good, bad and indifferent. There has not been that display of consistency, and I think that something has been accomplished in finishing in the fourth position of the league with the material at disposal. The committee realise that much remains to be done to strengthen the team especially in the forwards. Much time has been spent in their efforts to strengthen the team with players from our game but without success. A first-class standard of efficiency must be maintained if we are to take our position with the leading clubs.

Comparison of our League final position for the past ten years is as follows:—

			Position	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Against
1949/50	...	...	18	36	15	4	17	395	411
1950/51	...	...	15	36	17	2	17	403	347
1951/52	...	...	5	36	25	1	10	558	331
1952/53	...	...	9	36	22	2	12	599	280
1953/54	...	...	12	36	17	4	15	504	366
1954/55	...	...	2	36	29	2	5	632	313
1955/56	...	...	9	34	20	—	14	658	455
1956/57	...	...	1	38	33	—	5	893	365
1957/58	...	...	1	38	33	1	4	803	415
1958/59	...	...	4	38	28	1	9	791	476

Lancashire Cup.

For the third successive season we won the Lancashire Cup and this must rank as one of our best achievements of the season. Our progress to the final was as follows:

1st Round	...	...	Whitehaven (H)	...	...	Won.	49 points to 5 points.
2nd Round	...	...	Wigan (H)	...	...	Won.	19 points to 7 points.
Semi-final	...	...	Widnes (H)	...	...	Won.	9 points to 4 points.
Final	...	...	St. Helens (at Swinton)	...	...	Won.	12 points to 2 points.

The financial return from the Lancashire Cup ties were very satisfactory and the following net returns to the Club are herewith shown:

Whitehaven	...	...	£584 19s. 3d.
Wigan	...	...	£1221 6s. 7d.
Widnes	...	...	£815 14s. 6d.
St. Helens (Final)	...	...	£1753 11s. 1d.
Total	...	...	£4375 11s. 5d.

The above amounts are included in the gate receipts of the Balance Sheet.

Although we had the luck to be drawn at home up to final we had some excellent games at Watersheddings and the Widnes tie proving stiff opposition. This match was played under dismal conditions, heavy rain falling all through the match, which no doubt affected our open style of play. In the final at Swinton we met worthy opponents in St. Helens and in a stirring match we ran out winners. Our thanks to the players for the efforts they put into the County Cup Competition.

Challenge Cup.

Once again we had hopes that this would be our Wembley Year; how patient our members and supporters have been awaiting this great day. But this was not to be. In the first round we were fortunate in being drawn at home against St. Helens. What a pity we had to clash so early in the draw. But this is the luck of the draw. The match was played at Watersheddings, February 21st, and conditions were not of the best; a drizzling rain throughout the game made conditions for both teams heavy going. We had our opportunities to win the match but we finished on the losing side by the narrow margin of 7 points to 6 points. At this period of the season our team appeared to be having an indifferent spell and appeared to have lost form and confidence, and the defeat by St. Helens in the first round, was once more a big disappointment to the members in our efforts to bring the blue riband of our game to Watersheddings.

The net receipts received by the Club from this match was £1284 13s. 3d., and this amount is included in the Gate Receipts of the Balance Sheet.

Representative Honours.

Alan Davies : Lancashire v. Cumberland ; Lancashire v. Yorkshire ; Great Britain v. France (at Leeds) ; Great Britain v. France (at Grenoble).

Derek Turner : Lancashire v. Yorkshire.

Alan Kellett : Lancashire v. Yorkshire.

Charlie Winslade : France v. Wales (at Toulouse) ; France v. Great Britain (at Grenoble).

Ike Southward : Great Britain v. France (at Leeds) ; France v. Great Britain (at Grenoble).

Transfers.

R. Moat to Hull K.R. ; Jack Rogers to Hull K.R. ; Don Vines to Wakefield Trinity ; Derek Turner to Wakefield Trinity ; John Etty to Wakefield Trinity.

Signings.

Geoff. Sims (Leigh Colts) ; Derek Chatterton (Widnes) ; Brian Byrne (Leigh Colts) ; John C. Govan (Wigan Road) ; J. Hunter (Leigh R.U.) ; Brian Hatherhall (Leigh Colts) ; Len Mee (Leigh Colts) ; Brian Pendlebury (Leigh Colts) ; J. Buckley (Oldham Ex-schoolboys) ; Sean Quinlan (Blackrock R.U., Ireland) ; Peter Goddard (Greenacres) ; Geoff. Kelly (Rochdale Hornets) ; Bob Pugsley (Bridgend R.U., Wales) ; Dick Smith (Waterhead) ; Len McIntyre (Barrow) ; Ike Southward (Workington).

Releases.

F. Sims and L. Lavery were released unconditionally from their professional contracts with the club.

Appearances (Possible matches 45).

Name	No.	T.	G.	Name	No.	T.	G.
Ganley	42	1	192	Lomas	15	2	
Kellett	41	18	1	Ayres	12	3	
Keith	40	13		Kelly	11	1	
Winslade	39	6		Pugsley	10	1	
Pitchford	36	13		Southward	9	10	
Davies	36	19		Stirrup	7	2	
Cracknell	33	20		Vines	5		
Little	31	6		Quinlan	3	1	
Noon	30	13	16	Goddard	3		
McKeown	26	2		Hatherhall	2		
Etty	22	6		Edwards	2		
Jackson	22	1		Jones	2	2	
Rowbottom	22	1		Daley	3		
Turner	21	1	1	Smith	1		
Nestor	20	7		McIntyre	1		
Dufty	20	1		Lloyd	1		
Sims	16	10		Mee	1		

The total number of players taking part in the first team was 34. In all 210 goals were scored and 160 tries.

Charity Match.

The Annual Charity Match was played at Rochdale on Saturday, 9th August, 1958, and our share of the receipts was £265 11s. 5d. A sum of £6 18s. 4d. was brought forward from the previous year making a total for distribution of £272 9s. 9d. A sum of £270 was distributed to the local amateur Rugby League football organisations as follows :

Oldham Junior Rugby League	£140	Oldham Continuation R.L.	£55
Oldham School Boys	£65	St. John Ambulance Brigade	£10

The sum of £2 9s. 9d. is carried forward to next season.

Committee Meetings.

For the period under review the Committee have held 47 meetings and the attendances have been as follows :

	Pos- sible	Attend- ance	Sick	Absent		Pos- sible	Attend- ance	Sick	Absent
W. Howard	47	45		2	F. S. Holt	47	46	1	
J. Coulthard	47	47			J. W. Lewthwaite	47	46		1
A. Cordwell	47	47			F. L. Ridgway	47	46	1	
F. W. Ashworth	47	46	1		E. Thomas	47	46	1	
A. F. Campbell	47	38	9		R. L. Thomas	47	46	1	
B. Day	47	41	3	3	E. Watkins	47	47		

Mr. F. L. Ridgway has been chairman of the Rugby League for the past season and Vice-chairman of the Northern Rugby League Management Committee and has given much time to the game and has filled the office with dignity. Mr. F. W. Ashworth has been the Club's representative on the Lancashire County Rugby League and he also has filled the office with the usual dignity as our representative. Both gentlemen have given their respective reports as delegates to the office they have filled.

Membership.

The membership for the past season shows a decrease from the previous season of 482, which is to be regretted. The centre stand and side stand membership which constituted the Pavilion side of the ground was discontinued for the season and made an average price of membership for the whole standing accommodation.

A sum of £7654 2s. 6d. was received from membership fees which was a good financial start for the season. Our members must be complimented in rallying round the club in providing such a good financial send-off.

	1950/51	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58	1958/59
Life Members ...	91	90	89	87	85	84	80	78	77
Enclosure and 'E' Stand	776	761	932	911	920	1027	1032	1029	1047
Pavilion Side ...	373	357	400	425	374	487	378	476	650
Side Stand ...	526	599	750	620	593	779	721	904	314
Ground ...	168	170	250	242	80	292	308	354	305
Juvenile ...	95	74	110	129	144	250	289	396	432
Paddock ...	153	153	249	166	139	229	204	251	181
	2182	2204	2778	2580	2335	3148	3012	3488	3006

The prices of membership were as follows :

Enclosure Seats ...	£4 0 0	Paddock (Popular Side) ...	£2 2 6
"E" Stand ...	£3 10 0	Ground (behind post) ...	£1 15 0
Pavilion Side ...	£2 10 0	Juvenile ...	10 0
Side Stand (Popular Side) ...	£2 7 6		

Supporters' Club.

Thanks are due to the Supporters' Club for the service given in running the canteens on the ground. No donations in cash have been made but they have provided the recording clock of the time of the game over the Score Board. A new flag pole will be erected during the close season at the Supporters' Club expense. The canteens are ably staffed and well equipped and have provided the necessary stimulants during the season. Our thanks go to the enthusiastic band of officials, members of the Supporters' Club, and to the ladies for the service they have given.

Pools Organisation.

The Pools Organisation which is run separately from the Club has functioned with efficiency and with great success. An average of over £200 per week has been allocated to the Club by this splendid organisation. Their efforts have resulted in what we see on our ground by the fine covering of the Watersheddings Street end of the ground. Any money received from the Pools Organisation is to be spent on ground improvements and which is money wisely spent for the comfort of our members and supporters. A very special word of thanks must go to the officials who run the Pools Organisation and we trust that their efforts will go from success to success.

Nomination for Scrutineers.

The counting of the votes will be made at the Pavilion, Thursday, 28th May, 1959, and nominations for twenty scrutineers will be made at the Annual Meeting. Papers will be provided in the entrance hall of the meeting to be filled in by the proposer and seconder. No other nominations will be received.

Election of Committee.

Attention is drawn to Club Rule No. 3, reference to the marking of ballot papers.

"Each member shall have one vote for each vacancy as an official or on the Committee and any paper marked with an excess of votes shall be deemed to be spoiled and none of the votes counted thereon."

There are three vacancies for the Committee, also one vacancy for acting Vice-President, and the first three persons elected for Committee hold office for a period of three years. The elected Vice-President elected annually. Each ballot paper must not contain more than four votes. If more are recorded then the ballot paper will be declared void. Ballot papers must be returned in the enclosed envelope only, which will be received by our Accountant at 15, Queen Street, Oldham, and to be received not later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, 28th May, 1959, on which date the votes will be counted according to Rule.

Conclusion.

My thanks go to the honorary individuals who have given service to the Club : Dr. John Oliver, Medical Officer, Mr. Charles Buckley, Solicitor, Mr. H. Sanger (Sanger and Rothwell), Architects, Mr. N. McGoogan, advice on ground, Members of St. John Ambulance Brigade, and to the Executives in the business world who have given our players positions of employment a special word of thanks for their help in making possible the acquisition of new players. To the Manager and training staff which goes to make and maintain a team in the top class. There may be some I have forgotten who have given that little service that matters, but my sincere thanks go to them too.

One must look to the future with confidence well-knowing that certain parts of the team must be strengthened if we are to uphold the great traditions of the Club. Let me hope that during season 1959-60 we can see a better season than the past one which has been beset with difficulties as previously stated.