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Rugby League

OFFICIAL
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OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

OLDHAM v. HULL

SATURDAY, MARCH 29th, 1947.

KICK-OFF 3-30 P.M.

CLUB CHAT

On Saturday last, we had a home win and a good clean game against Salford under conditions that were not suitable for the handling game and the players of both sides are to be congratulated upon their efforts to open out the game.

One of our old players, yet young in years, W. S. Mitchell, played his third game of Rugby League in four years, after his service with H.M. Forces, and without individualizing on our players, we cannot help but record the pleasure of his return to our team, and hope that in future games we may see those flashes of brilliance that we know he is capable of.

Our visitors, to-day, Hull, have always given us a splendid game whenever they have visited Watersheddings, and no doubt their players of to-day will live up to that tradition, and that at the end of the game we can look back upon it with general satisfaction.

No doubt our members will be surprised to hear that two of our recognised first team players have been placed on the open-to-transfer list.

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George Gummer was placed on the transfer list at his own request. Living in Chester and working in Wrexham has made training a big difficulty for him, hence the Committee agreeing to his request. J. D. Shaw is in a similar position regarding training, living far from this town.

It is only fair to the rest of the team that first-class condition of fitness must be maintained, and attendance at Watersheddings for this is essential at least once per week.

POSTPONEMENTS ? At the present time, as in various sports, The Rugby League is having an anxious time regarding the fulfilment of postponed league matches.

The Home Secretary has indicated to prohibit mid-week matches and that Easter Tuesday can be considered to be within the prohibited mid-week period.

Why Easter Tuesday? One cannot fathom this—a general holiday in Yorkshire, and the majority of Yorkshire clubs have fixtures on this date which were formulated last June.

This crisis convened an Extraordinary General Meeting of The Northern Rugby Football League which was held in Manchester on Monday, March 17th, 1947, and recommended for confirmation by The Rugby League Council at their meeting on Monday next:—

- 1.—The season to be extended indefinitely.
- 2.—Clubs to be circularised for a decision to express their views on the playing of Rugby League Football on Sundays.

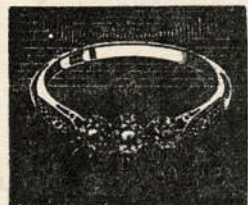
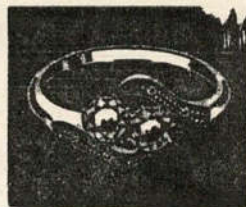
The whole question of playing of postponed matches will be discussed at this meeting in Leeds by the Council and the policy to be adopted.

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BY ENTHUSIASTS

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RIGHT

Red & White

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Jerseys

LEFT

1—INGLESFIELD, S.

2—EVANS, S. 3—MITCHELL, W. S. 4—HARRIS, N. (Capt.) 5—LARGE, E.
LEES, F.

7—SMITH, R. A. 6—KENNY, V.

AMBLED, H. D.

13—AYRES, T.

11—PUGH, N.

12—THOMAS, L.

8—MOORE, W. J.

9—FROST W.

10—THOMPSON, N.

Referee—

Mr. R. KENDALL,
of Keighley



Touch Judges—

Mr. C. C. SNOWDEN
and Mr. W. AINSCOUGH

10—KAVANAGH, R.

9—NOBLE

8—FALLON

12—TINDALL, J.

11—BEDFORD, H. A.

13—SHAKESBY, A.

7—GLYNN, T.

6—LAWRENCE, E.

5—BOWERS, A.

4—SULLIVAN, J.

3—SHAW, S. W.

2—SANDERS

1—MILLER, F.

LEFT

Black & White

HULL

Jerseys

RIGHT

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WINES AND SPIRITS

THE INDIVIDUAL GIFT In rugby football, as elsewhere, there is a diversity of gifts. Some men are richly endowed—they are the complete footballers—they can do anything. Some men are limited, but have one gift to a superlative degree.

To some men, dodging and swerving comes as naturally as walking. Some players have swerving power and no speed, and there have been really prominent players who have speed and little else. But there is that they would never have had the chance to serve their side to the full if the rest of the team had not worked in such a way as to provide them with the opportunities.

One of the greatest gifts is the power to dodge, swerve or side-step. Some players are born with a marvellous capacity in this direction. Some perfect a natural gift by studying the technique of the side-step, the swerve or the dodge by practising it, but no matter how great the natural gift, no player can make the best of it unless the rest of the team play to him and give him his chances in reason.



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OLDHAM

As in the case of our captain, a player who is extremely quick on his feet can take any defence by surprise and go flashing through a group of players in amazing perfect fashion. In a game where the defence is watchful and experienced, when every attacking player is faced with a defender, somebody has to make an opening and so open a way for a successful attack. The individual must use his gift with discretion, but the team must use it with wide generosity.

Play to your strength is a motto, work the sprinter clear, give the dodger the ball whilst he has room to move and opportunity to get on the straight line so that he can swerve either way, then success will come along.

WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW! The late Joe Ferguson once won a long kick competition with a soccer ball at Wigton (Cumberland), sending it 83 yards. The late Sam McClure, of Blackburn Rovers, was second with 62 yards, and Jack Cox, of Liverpool, third with 61 yards.

His best season in the Rugby League was 1906-7 season, when he scored 11 tries and 81 goals.

In season 1927-28 the Rugby League Final between Swinton and Featherstone Rovers and The Lancashire Cup Final between Swinton and Wigan was decided at Watersheddings.

Sid Rix played for the Oldham premier side for the first time against Rochdale Hornets at Rochdale in March, 1919.

During the course of the game between Oldham and Huddersfield on September 16th, 1922, Mr. Renton's watch stopped, with the result that the game was played 48 minutes in the second half, and Oldham won in this extra period by 13 points to 10.

The late R. L. Thomas signed for Oldham in 1897 and retired in the 1909-10 season. His first game for Oldham was played at Morecambe.

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HALF-TIME SCORES

The Half-time Scores in the Matches given below will be shown on the Score Board immediately they are received—

A	WIGAN v. LEEDS	D	BRADFORD N. v. WORKINGTON
B	WARRINGTON v. CASTLEFORD	E	ROCHDALE H. v. HALIFAX
C	WAKEFIELD T. v. LIVERPOOL STANLEY	F	DARLINGTON v. OLDHAM ATH.

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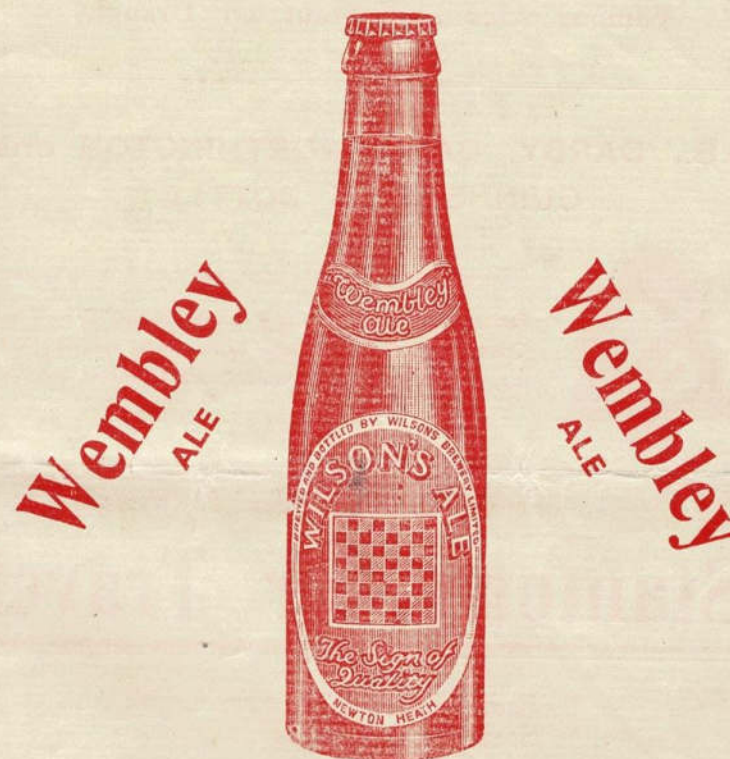
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