

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. HALIFAX	D	SALFORD v. WARRINGTON
B	BELLE VIEW RANGERS v. WAKEFIELD	E	DEWSBURY v. HUNSLET
C	LEIGH v. WIDNES	F	OLDHAM ATHLETIC v. ACCRINGTON S.

Next Home Match

Easter Monday, March 29th

Oldham v. Hunslet

Kick-off at 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

3.
OLDHAM
v.
ST. HELENS

13
Saturday, 20th March, 1948

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

Official Programme - 2d.

Gordon Whittaker Ltd., Printers, Oldham.

CLUB CHAT.

And so we say goodbye to the Rugby League Challenge Cup for this season after a humiliating and inglorious defeat at Bradford on Saturday last, in the third round.

Disappointments we must have in our turn, but to be beaten by thirty to nil requires some explanation to our great following of supporters, and to set them wondering whatever had come over our team. The variation of form not only puzzles our supporters but is also a puzzle for the Committee who manage the Club. How is this lapse of form to be explained, and more important still, how is it to be avoided?

As explained in this programme some weeks ago, we all want the team we are associated with to win, and however much we pride ourselves upon the sportsmanship which accepts defeat and acknowledges the skill of the victors, there is bound to be some measure of bitterness in our disappointment if defeat is due to bad play. And so we try to find the explanation of a serious reverse; these surprising falls from excellence to badness, from brilliance to blundering.

To avoid these disconcerting variations from good football to mediocrity we must seek the causes and remedy them by all means. As we have no interest in any honours of the game for this season, now is the time to prepare for season 1948-49 with boldness and ability to secure the right type of player.

There is only one redeeming feature of last Saturday's match, and that was the large crowd of 33,000 people who paid the sum of £2,500. But the glory of the Cup has departed from us.

OUR VISITORS.

Our visitors to-day, St. Helens, we met at Watersheddings, on February 28th last in the second round of the Rugby League Cup, and defeated them by five points to nil after a good and even game.

If the same type of football is served up to-day we shall have no cause for complaint and we realise that our opponents will be all out to wipe out their cup defeat.

AMENDMENTS TO THE LAWS OF THE GAME.

Amendments to the laws of the game are now in the hands of the various clubs for their decision, and the principle amendments are as follows:—

During a scrum no team shall have more than eight players acting as backs.

The side not responsible for the stoppage of the game, which resulted in a scrum being formed, shall have the advantage of putting the ball into the scrum and of the loose head, except when a player kicks the ball into touch from a penalty kick, or kicks the ball towards his opponents in-goal and it bounces in the field of play before going into touch, in which case the kickers side shall have the advantages.

No player in the scrum shall raise a foot from the ground until the ball has been put into the scrum, and the ball shall first be played by a foot of either middle front row player (either hooker).

No player shall at any time during the scrum raise both feet from the ground.

The front row players on each side shall form in a straight line so as to provide a clearly defined tunnel, and the middle front row player shall not have one arm loose. No player shall advance his foot or feet into the tunnel until after the ball has been put in.

Other amendments will be published in a future programme.

On Friday next, Good Friday, is our time honoured visit to Swinton, and for the information of our supporters, the British Railways are running an excursion, leaving Mumps Station at 1.40 p.m., direct to Swinton, and return from Swinton at 4.50 p.m. Return fare 2/7.



TO-DAY'S TEAMS

3 OLDHAM

(RED & WHITE)

1. BARRACLOUGH, I.
2. HEWSON, P. E.
3. WOODS, G.
4. MITCHELL, W. S.
5. INGLESFIELD, S.
6. KENNY, V.
7. SMITH, R. A. (Capt.)
8. TAYLOR, J.
9. BROOKS, E.
10. JONES, W. J.
11. TOMLINSON, A.
12. THOMAS, L. M.
13. GIVVONS, A.

TRY 1

Reserves:

HARRIS, N.
FROST, W.

13 ST. HELENS

(BLUE)

1. LOWE
2. LLEWELLYN
3. STOTT, J.
4. STREET
5. GREENALL
6. CONSTANCE
7. JONES
8. PILKINGTON
9. BLAKEMORE
10. ASPINALL
11. ROBERTS
12. ASTON
13. LEYLANLD

TRY 1
Goals 2

TRY 1

Referee: Mr. W. STOCKLEY, Leigh.

Touch Judges: Mr. H. HYDE, Manchester.
Mr. C. CROSSLEY, Salford.