

HALF-TIME SCORES

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

A	ROCHDALE HORNETS v. BELLE VUE RANGERS	D	WARRINGTON v. SALFORD
B	SWINTON v. WHITEHAVEN	E	LEIGH v. LIVERPOOL STANLEY

The above matches are 2nd leg of the Lancashire Cup, 1st leg results as follows:—

Belle Vue Rangers	18	Salford	9
Rochdale H.	2	Warrington	22
Swinton	2	Liverpool Stanley	0
Whitehaven	3	Leigh	41

SATURDAY NEXT
at **WATERSHEDDINGS**
SEPT. 3rd, 1949.

OLDHAM
v.
HUNSLET

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM **FOOTBALL CLUB**

1st Rd. Lancashire Cup (2nd Leg)

OLDHAM
v.
WIGAN

at Watersheddings

Wednesday, 31st Aug. 1949

Kick-off 6-30 p.m.

Official Programme - 2d.

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS.

To-days match sees the 61st year of the opening of the football season at Watersheddings, a season which we are hoping to be a considerably better one than last season.

There is a saying that "Nothing succeeds like success," and if that is so the teams which had a successful time last season should set off again amid a wave of enthusiasm. Even in some clubs, and particularly in those which do not afford such satisfactory reflections, there is no better encouragement or tonic than a new face or two, especially if they are men of good reputation.

We do not remember a close season where the transfer market or the signing of Rugby Union men has been so quiet. Keen enthusiasts of our game never lose hope, and they find something to key them up with the intimation, and always couched in sincere terms, that intensive searches for talent are in progress.

As for our own club one star player has been secured so far and a few junior players have been signed in the anticipation that they will make the grade. The signing of B. V. Goldswain, loose forward from Hull Kingston Rovers has merited the outlay of money expended on this player. The Committee are fully alive of the weaknesses and requirements of our team and every effort is being made to strengthen these weak spots. Disappointments are bound to come your way, but for the recent ban re-imposed on overseas R.L. Players there would have appeared two players of international reputation, at Watersheddings, but there it is, the search must go on until we secure the men who will make Oldham the team we all expect. Some great teams have represented this club in the past, but the past is gone, with pleasant memories, and one must not forget that good players are very scarce, and clubs with the star players are loth to part with them, even to name their own price for such stars.

SIGNALLING BY THE REFEREE OF INFRINGEMENTS.

Many letters are received from the public at the Rugby League Offices stating that it is not always possible to understand the decisions given by the referee. Observation has proved that in the past Referees have been using their own gestures and signals to indicate the nature of the infringements which have been committed. In some cases no indication has been given at all by the referee. An effort is being made by the Management Committee of the Northern Rugby Football League to standardise the signals to be made by the referee. At a recent meeting of the Committee between Grade I. and Grade II. Referees at Huddersfield a system of signalling was agreed upon—a description of all the signals would be too lengthy to include in this programme.

However it can be stated now that Referees are expected to conform with the instructions issued and to adopt the following procedure when stopping the game for an infringement.

The referee blows his whistle and follows it by the signal indicating the decision which he has given, i.e. he may award a penalty kick or order the formation of a scrum, etc. He will then follow this signal by another indicating the nature of the infringement which has been committed. In many cases these later signals will mime the action of the player committing the offence. It is hoped that this standardisation of signals will be one step towards ensuring uniformity of interpretation and application of the Laws of the Game by all Referees.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE GAME?

You cannot derive maximum enjoyment from the game unless you understand its laws. These can now be learnt quickly and pleasantly. Every Rugby League Supporter should have a copy of the new Official Illustrated Book on the Laws of the Game. It contains over sixty illustrations and can be obtained from the Offices of The Rugby League, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, 7, or from Educational Publications Ltd., East Ardsley, Wakefield, Yorks.

1 copy 3d. 3 copies 5d. 12 copies 9d. 18 copies 11d.
30 copies or over post free.

TO-DAY'S TEAMS

OLDHAM

(Blue Jerseys)

1. Barraclough, I.
2. Batten, R.
3. Williams, T.
4. Platt, L.
5. Spencer, W.
6. Hayes, F.
7. Gilmore, G. P.
8. Ogden, H.
9. Brooks, E.
10. Tomlinson, H.
11. Sugden, J.
12. Leyland, T. H.
13. Goldswain, B. V.

Reserves:

Welsby, G.

Daley, F.

WICAN

(Red and White)

1. Ryan, M.
2. Ratcliffe, G.
3. Cunliffe, J.
4. Ashcroft, E. J.
5. Norgren, B. C.
6. Mountford, R. C.
7. Bradshaw, T.
8. Gee, K.
9. McIntyre, H.
10. Slevin, E.
11. Barton, F.
12. Blan, W.
13. Hudson, W.

Referee: Mr. N. T. RAILTON, of Liverpool.

Touch Judges: Mr. G. LANG, of Warrington.

Mr. F. G. GROVES, of Rochdale.