

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.
BATLEY

D ST. HELENS
v.
HULL

B LEIGH
v.
HUNSLET

E WORKINGTON
v.
BARROW

C SALFORD
v.
SWINTON

F LIVERPOOL
v.
WHITEHAVEN

Saturday next, at Watersheddings

7th January, 1950

THE MATCH OF THE SEASON!

Oldham v. Wigan

Kick-off 2-15 p.m.

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

OLDHAM v.

ROCHDALE HORNETS

at Watersheddings

Monday, 2nd January, 1950

Kick-off 2-15 p.m.

Official Programme - 2d.

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS.

Our Christmas matches are now over, and it is a pleasure that we can look back with a little satisfaction of having obtained four points out of a possible six, but we have paid heavily for the price of victory at Hunslet on Monday, 26th December.

Our players on Saturday, 24th December, against Liverpool Stanley, gave a good display of the open game, even allowing for the somewhat weak opposition, and we must congratulate the losers in never giving up the battle, and for the spirit in which the game continued throughout. In this match we were honoured by a visit from the President of the Rugby League, the Earl of Derby, who thoroughly enjoyed the match.

On Boxing Day we visited Hunslet, and earned a well won match by five points to nil, but this victory has been paid for by the heavy toll of injuries received during the match, not that the match was played in a spirit contrary to the rules, but hard knocks were given and taken, with the result that we had five players injured who could not partake in the match played at Salford the following day. Our injured players are Barraclough, Heyes, Silva, Ogden and Brooks. Of these injuries, our hooker, Brooks, has a very severe injury, one that will keep him out of the team for several weeks. X Ray photographs reveal a cracked bone at the top of the spine. It is very unfortunate for us that we shall be deprived of the services of our hooker for a considerable period, as in our opinion we had welded together a team that would hold its own with the best in the league; but injuries come along and we must be prepared to meet the emergency. This accident to Brooks happened through the pack collapsing with our hooker underneath. It is amazing that more accidents of this nature do not occur during the course of a match.

Our match at Salford, on Tuesday, 27th December, although with five reserve players in, resulted in our only defeat during the holiday fixtures, but our team as a whole gave Salford a fright, and we are of the opinion that had we had our full team available we should have been victorious. We say this without being disrespectful to the players who filled the vacancies.

To-day we entertain our old friends, Rochdale Hornets, and we begin a series of hard matches, both home and away. Our next two Saturdays, we have Wigan and Swinton at Watersheddings, and then visits to Barrow and Castleford; to be followed by the first round of the Rugby League Challenge Cup; home and away matches for the first round only. This is a very strenuous period, and one which we hope will result in a good run of victories, and a good financial return for the monies that have been expended on new players so far. Our gate receipts for the last three home matches have not come up to what we fully expected, but the weather possibly had an effect on our matches against Warrington and Barrow, on December 3rd and 10th respectively; but we move hopefully on, and trust that the weather will be more kind to our future home matches.

Our team during the last month has played football worthy of good attendances at Watersheddings. We have the team spirit, and every man is all out for victory by fair means, and I am sure that the team do try their best to entertain the public by playing Rugby League Football as it should be played. It is up to the public to support the team by increased attendances at Watersheddings; it is only by increased "gate" receipts that the Committee can get in the market for any player in these days of inflated bonuses and transfer fees.

In conclusion, may we wish all our players, members, friends and supporters A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR for 1950.

TO-DAY'S TEAMS

OLDHAM

(BLUE JERSEYS)

- ✓ 1. BARRACLOUGH, I
- ✓ 2. BATTEN, R.
- ✓ 3. ~~WARD, K.~~ WILLIAMS
- ✓ 4. MITCHELL, W. S.
- ✓ 5. WARHAM, J.
- ✓ 6. HEYES, F.
7. SILVA, J. ~~MORGAN~~
18. ~~OGDEN, H.~~ AMBLER
9. ~~KEITH, J.~~ DEAN
10. TOMLINSON, H.
11. FEARNLEY, A.
12. LEYLAND, T. H.
13. ~~GOLDSWAIN, B. V.~~ (Capt.)

ROCHDALE HORNETS

(RED, WHITE & BLUE)

3. CAHILL, E.
2. RIGBY, W. ✓
3. SPOONER, J.
4. WILLIAMS, G.
5. MCGILLVRAY, J. 1
6. JONES, R. LOMAS
7. LAMB, F. WILDE
8. WAGSTAFF, F. ✓
9. MITCHELL, F. ✓
10. ~~ROSTRON, T.~~ DAVIS
11. STOCKLEY, ✓
12. JENNINGS, ✓
13. GRONOW, P. ✓

Referee: Mr. C. F. APPLETON, Warrington.

Touch Judges: Mr. MULLERY, Leigh.
Mr. R. TYSON, Barrow.