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Fixtures for the Season

1955-56	Opponents	Venue	K.O.	1955-56	Opponents	Venue	K.O.
Aug. 13—	Rochdale H. (Charity)	Away	3-0	26—	Swinton (Mon.)	Home	2-30
20—	Broughton R.	Away	3-0	27—	Blackpool (Tues.)	Away	2-30
27—	Blackpool (Lancs. Cup)	Away	3-0	31—	Whitehaven	Home	2-30
30—	Rochdale H. (Tues.)	Away	7-0	Jan. 2—	Workington (Mon.)	Away	2-30
Sept. 3—	Hunslet	Home	3-0	7—	Whitehaven	Away	2-30
10—	Leeds	Away	3-0	14—	Workington	Home	2-30
17—	Warrington	Home	3-0	21—	Widnes	Away	2-30
24—	York	Away	3-0	28—	Rochdale H.	Home	3-0
Oct 1—	Featherstone	Home	3-0	Feb. 4—	Leigh	Home	3-0
8—	Hunslet	Away	3-0	11—	1st Round C.C.		3-0
15—	Barrow	Home	3-0	18—	Wigan	Home	3-0
22—	Warrington	Away	3-0	25—	Featherstone	Away	3-0
29—	New Zealand	Home	3-0	Mar. 3—	2nd Round C.C.		3-0
Nov. 5—	Leigh	Away	3-0	10—	York	Home	3-0
12—	Liverpool	Home	3-0	17—	Blackpool	Home	3-0
19—	Wigan	Away	2-30	24—	3rd Round C.C.		3-0
26—	Widnes	Home	2-30	30—	Swinton (G.F.)	Away	3-0
Dec. 3—	Liverpool	Away	2-30	31—	Leeds (E.S.)	Home	3-0
10—	Salford	Away	2-30	Apr. 2—	Barrow (E.M.)	Away	3-0
17—	Salford	Home	2-30	7—	Broughton R.	Home	3-0
24—	St. Helens	Away	2-30	14—	St. Helens	Home	3-0

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— IN THE OLDHAM EDITION OF THE —
MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE

No. 2—Saturday, September 3rd, 1955

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. HUNSLET

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

The season is now on its way, and although it is too early to predict the future, we must admit that our team has yet touched the great style of play that we finished off last season with. However, we have confidence that this will return, but we cannot afford to have any slip ups, as a good start is essential.

Our first League match played at Rochdale on Tuesday evening last was one of disappointment to the large number of our supporters who saw the match. Although we were somewhat weakened by injuries to players, we cannot put this down to the defeat. The whole team appears to lack that nippyness which was apparent last season, plus the inability to stop the spotting game—not that our opponents are continually doing this—the Hornets are a greatly improved team and played as a team. All our deficiencies in this game can be corrected, as it is only by playing a game that one finds out where improvement can be made.

OUR VISITORS

To-day we have our first home engagement in the Northern Rugby Football League, and give a welcome to our visitors from Hunslet. We trust to have a splendid game, and record the first appearance of Derek Turner, our new loose forward from Hull Kingston Rovers.

The Hunslet team contains many well known players with Test, County, and Country honours.

Langton, full-back. One of the many local players signed by the club. A youngster of great promise.

Williams, Les. An International at both codes, selected to tour Australia, but could not make the trip.

Evans, J. A Welshman, Test full-back and many times played for Wales.

Harrison, D., centre. Player of great promise, hails from Wakefield.

Williamson, F., wing. A local player with Yorkshire County honours, very fast wing man.

Gabbitas, B., out-half. Another local player, Junior International and a player of exceptional promise.

Talbot, A., scrum-half. Secured from Dewsbury. Very good utility player.

Hatfield, D., forward. Yorkshire County player and has had service with Halifax and Dewsbury.

Smith, S., hooker. Ex-Hull K.R. A member of the World Cup team winners.

Shaw, B. Still another local. This player is sure to receive honours.

Gunney, G. Another local. Test player and member of the last touring team.

Clues, A. An Australian. Test player. Has had service with Leeds.

James, G. A Welshman with International honours and an expert at the loose forward position.

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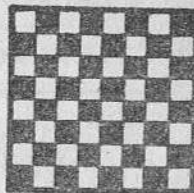
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OLDHAM

(Red and White)

1. STIRRUP, F./GANLEY, W.B
2. CRACKNELL, R.
3. BARROW, R.
4. ETTY, J.
5. O'GRADY, T./NOON, J.
6. DALEY, F.
7. PITCHFORD, F.
8. OGDEN, H.
9. KEITH, J.
10. JACKSON, K.
11. LITTLE, S.D.
12. ROGERS, J.
13. TURNER, D.

HUNSLET

(Myrtle-White-Flame)

1. LANGTON, H.
2. WILLIAMS, L.
3. EVANS, J.
4. HARRISON, D.
5. WILLIAMSON, F.
6. GABBITAS, B.
7. TALBOT, A. L.
8. HATFIELD, D.
9. SMITH, S.
10. SHAW, B.
11. GUNNEY, G.
12. CLUES, A.
14. JAMES, G.

Referee: Mr. R. Gelder, Wakefield

Touch Judges:

Mr. S. J. Heesom, Warrington (Red).

Mr. H. Holland, St. Helens (Blue)

OLDHAM'S OWN SPORTS PAPER

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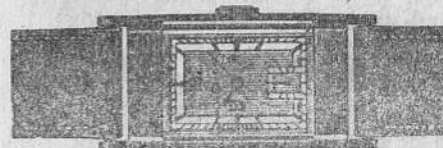
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NEW "PLAY-THE-BALL" RULE

Once again we have an alteration in the "play-the-ball" rule, but this time it is in agreement with the Rugby Football League International Board at a meeting held in Auckland, August 11th and 12th.

The new rule now reads as follows:—

One opposing player may stand immediately opposite the tackled player. A player of each side, to be known as the acting half-back, may stand immediately behind his own player taking part in the playing of the ball. All other players are on side if they are more than three yards behind their own player who is taking part in the playing of the ball. The distance of three yards shall be measured from the rear foot of the player playing the ball to the foremost foot of any player on his side.

At the International Meeting, England, France, Australia, and New were represented. The England representatives voted against the above rule but were out voted by three to one. So the above rule will now becomes operative, and we hope it will remain for a long time. This chopping and changing of rules does our game no good, to make the rules fit the players is a retrograde step. It is up to the players to play the game according to the rules, the referee is there to see that they are carried out, and if any player persists in transgressing the rules the referee has only one option—dismiss the player from the field, as being incompetent of not knowing how to play the game he is in.

BRIEFS

On Wednesday evening next we have a real titbit of Rugby League football at Watersheddings in the visit of Leigh in the second round of the Lancashire Cup. This is not an "all ticket" match. The usual 1st team league prices of admission will be charged with the exception of Enclosure and "E" Stand seats which are 6/- each and are available to seat-holder members only. Naturally some of our seat-holder members will be very disappointed at not receiving a ticket, owing to the fact that the Leigh club demand, as per Rugby League Rule, one third of our seating capacity. The kick-off is timed for 6-30 p.m.

Dennis Ayres, one of our players in the Services will be home on leave from Germany shortly and will be available for three Saturday matches from September 24th to October 8th inclusive. This young and promising player has been keeping fit whilst in the Services and we hope to find a place for him in our teams.

The annual Charity Match played at Rochdale on Saturday has realised a net amount payable to our Charity Match account of £286-11-10, which, with a credit balance brought forward of £19-13-11, makes a total of £306-5-9. Of this total £300 will be available for distribution. Rugby League Rules state that we must allocate 60% minimum to local junior football, so the local organisations will come into a nice little nest egg. The balance must be given to recognised charitable objects. The match at Rochdale was attended by 9,200 spectators who paid £961-14-6. Expenses of the match including entertainment tax, players tokens and sundry expenses absorb £388-10-10.

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