



The MACKESON RUGBY LEAGUE CONTEST

*Organised by Whitbread & Co. Ltd. in
association with The Rugby Football League*

M The Mackeson Rugby League Contest Trophy and a cheque for 200 guineas goes to the team with the best scoring record for the season. Cheques for 100 guineas and 50 guineas go to the runners-up.

Specially inscribed silver tankards will be awarded to the top scoring team in each of five periods during the season, and a special champion's flag to be flown throughout the following period.

The 5 periods are:

AUGUST 22 to SEPTEMBER 26

SEPTEMBER 28 to NOVEMBER 21

NOVEMBER 23 to JANUARY 9

JANUARY 11 to MARCH 6

MARCH 8 to MAY 8

1964/5

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

WATERSHEDDINGS - OLDHAM

OFFICIALS

President : H. GOODWIN, Esq.

Vice-President : S. STRETCH, Esq.

Hon. Treasurer : P. G. CARTER, Esq.

Committee :

Messrs. C. Bradley, J. Burke, A. F. Campbell, J. Errock, W. Howard, H. Jones, T. E. Rees, R. L. Thomas, E. Watkins.

Club Doctors : Dr. A. CAMPBELL and Dr. A. R. NETTLETON

Secretary : H. SUMMERSCALES

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Standing, left to right : McIntyre, Parker, Mumberson, Bott, Wilson, Major. Sitting, left to right : Price, Nestor, Sims, Dyson, McCormack, Donovan. Kneeling : Pycroft

SEASON — 1964/65

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 6d.

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No 1964

Saturday, 10th October—

OLDHAM v ROCHDALE H.

—Kick-off 3 p.m.

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

What a shock our players gave our members and supporters in the match against Whitehaven at Watersheddings in our last home match. This coming on top of our Lancashire Cup defeat at Warrington on the previous Monday. Thus early in the season there have been unexpected victories and defeats which have set us wondering. We have received well earned victories and suffered reverse when we fully expected victory. We have played brilliantly in matches and practically the same team has shown great form one day and poor form another. These variations are puzzling. How are they to be explained or better still avoided. Naturally we want our team to win and however much we pride ourselves upon the sportsmanship which accepts defeat and acknowledges the skill of the victors there must be some measure of disappointment if defeat is due to bad play. How are we to avoid bad play? For the sting is in that, not in the defeat. How does it happen that a pack of forwards who under ordinary circumstances play a bright, exhilarating game, on another day are dull and sluggish? Also why is it that a set of backs who are capable of clever running and accurate passing on one day, on another day of gloom can do nothing right? In every case, no doubt, there are psychological as well as physical causes for the failure of a team to produce their best form, and of course one of the physical causes may be the strength of their opponents, but how are we to explain the fact that a team can play bad football against opponents who are showing no outstanding powers?

If there is a failure in a home match we must look to some personal factor for an explanation of the lack of consistency. For my own part I am inclined to think that the root of the trouble almost invariably is in a lack of physical fitness. It may be also that a player is over-trained or under-trained, or may be due to many matches in such a short period, the limit of exertion of the human frame must be respected as it was never intended to go at the pace, an abnormal pace, that exists to day. If a player is in physical health and perfectly trained I believe it possible for him, once he is on the ground to banish thoughts of trouble and concentrate on the game. I believe if we could trace these puzzling variations of form to their source we should find that when players went on the field they were not in the physical trim which is necessary if players are to do due justice to their powers. It is this which makes devotion to training and the cultivation of fitness so important.

OUR VISITORS

It is always a pleasure to entertain our near neighbours from Rochdale, as one looks upon these matches as 'Derby Days', but possibly in the present day this may be a wrong term to use. Gone are the days when we had a capacity crowd for the visit of our friends from Rochdale and likewise when we visited Rochdale. However we hope that today we shall see a

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VISIT A

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game worthy to our members and the patrons who pay to be entertained. The Hornets are still on the look-out for suitable players to strengthen their team and the latest addition who plays for them, is Stan Owen, a front row forward with plenty of experience with Leigh and later St. Helens. We trust that today's game will be free from any incident—good players have no need to take a dirty action—and that at the final whistle we can all say we have been entertained and the best team won on the day.

'A' TEAM

It is obvious that our 'A' team is not good enough to hold its own in the Lancashire Combination having played six matches and won only one. There may be several factors that are responsible for this and maybe we are playing young players lacking the experience, but will, eventually come along with coaching. Then there are players who appear to be regular players and who have been playing 'A' team football several seasons and from appearance will never make the grade to become first teamers. Of course there are exceptions and even with the inclusion of one or two experienced players, these cannot be expected to carry a bunch of inexperienced players or budding stars. There is a great difference between junior football and 'A' team football and a greater difference between 'A' team football and first grade. Experience is a dear school and it is only by patience and intensive coaching one can expect results, and for the young and willing players to come along and make the grade.

The committee are always on the look-out for young players to have a go in our 'A' team and travel miles each week in search of the required material. If we get a report of a young and up and coming junior it often appears that other clubs are also in the know and are on the spot, and the competition becomes intense, hence the remarkable signing-on fees some juniors of outstanding ability can command.

BRIEFS

We are still having our share of injured players and our latest which is a serious one is Trevor Simms, our winger who was making his first appearance in the first team on Saturday last at Leigh. Trevor is suffering from a compound fracture of the leg just below the knee and has spent six days in the Leigh Infirmary. In addition, he received a nasty gash on the leg when colliding with the concrete post which kept him in hospital a little longer than we expected.

Geoff Robinson has now been passed as fit from his shoulder injury received in the Charity match at Rochdale on August 15th.

Vin Nestor is still out of the game with a sprained ankle received at Blackpool on September 14th, but we now expect an early return to the game of this player.

James Gaskell (Wigan) is still having trouble with his rib injury which he received at Warrington on September 21st.

Joe Collins, Jim McCormack and Mike Elliott, who are out of the game but with not too serious injuries, are expected to make early recoveries.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. 'Tug' Wilson on the arrival of a baby daughter at Woodfield Nursing Home.

Don't forget to look at the number of this programme, as three prizes of 10/- each are given each issue. You may be one of the lucky winners.

APPEARANCES AND SCORERS (All Matches)

Up to and including Saturday last

Player	A	G	T	P	Player	A	G	T	P
Dyson	11	49	2	92	Major	6½			
Sims	11		5	12	Parker	11		3	9
McCormack	9		1	3	Bott	10		2	6
Nestor	6½		4	12	Price	10		9	27
Patterson	2½		2	6	Robinson	1		1	3
Donovan	8		2	6	Noon	½			
Pycroft	11		2	6	Smethurst	5½		1	3
Mumberson	11		1	3	Gaskell	2			
McIntyre	11		5	15	Collins	3		1	3
Wilson	7½				Howarth	3			
Simms	½				Crowther	1			
Wilkinson	1				Hill	½			

Appearances ½ indicates where a player has only played half the game
The Substitute Rule operating

NEWS FROM THE MACKESON RUGBY LEAGUE CONTEST

PERIOD 2 — September 28th to November 21st

Position after matches played on October 3rd

CLUB	Played	Pts. F.	Average	Pts. A.
1—Wigan	1	45	45.00	12
2—Hull K. R.	1	41	41.00	13
3—Leeds	1	31	31.00	11
4—Halifax	1	28	28.00	2
5—Hunslet	1	26	26.00	15
6—Barrow	1	23	23.00	13
7—St. Helens	2	42	21.00	14
8—Oldham	1	20	20.00	10

First period won by St. Helens with an average of 26.44

FIXTURES & RESULTS FOR 1964/65 SEASON

Date	Club	Grd.	Time	F. A.	Date	Club	Grd.	Time	F. A.
Aug. 15	Rochdale (Charity)	away	3.0	39-7	19	Liverpool	away	2.30	
22	Dewsbury	away	3.0	17-4	26	St. Helens	home	2.30	
25	Widnes (Tues.)	home	7.0	23-2	28	Keighley (Mon.)	away	2.30	
29	Swinton	home	3.0	13-2	Jan. 2	Hunslet	home	2.30	
Sept. 4	Whitehaven (Cup)	away	6-30	31-10	9	Barrow	away	2.30	
12	Liverpool	home	3.0	42-5	16	Rochdale H.	away	2.30	
14	Blackpool	away	6.0	13-2	23	Salford	away	2.30	
19	Widnes	away	3.0	21-2	30	Warrington	home	3.0	
26	Whitehaven	home	3.0	4-21	Feb. 6	(1st Rnd. R.L. Cup)			
Oct. 3	Leigh	away	3.0	20-10	13	Keighley	home	3.0	
10	Rochdale H.	home	3.0		27	(2nd Rnd. R.L. Cup)			
17	Workington	away	3.0		Mar. 6	Leigh	home	3.0	
24	Warrington	home	3.0		13	Workington	home	3.0	
31	St. Helens	away	3.0		20	Wigan	away	3.0	
Nov. 7	Barrow	home	3.0		27	Huddersfield	home	3.0	
14	Huddersfield	away	2.30		Apr. 3	(Semi-Final R.L. Cup)			
21	Wigan	home	2.30		10	(Semi-Final R.L. Cup)			
28	Salford	away	2.30		16	Swinton (G.F.)	away	3.0	
Dec. 5	Hunslet	away	2.30		19	Whitehaven	away	3.0	
12	Blackpool	home	2.30			Dewsbury (E.M.)	home	3.0	