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Rugby League

Looking at League

No. 18

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Semi-final Positions Wide Open

With two series of the 1986 competition remaining recent results have thrown the semi-final positions wide open, in fact no team has yet secured their actual finishing position.

After the 17th series this weekend, the position could be a lot clearer as Lakes United, present competition leaders, play second placed team Western Suburbs who have moved to within one point of Lakes after their win over Maitland and Lakes loss to South Newcastle.

A win in this game by Lakes will give them the Minor title as they would be three points clear of West with only one series remaining, however, if the result is reversed West would move into first position by one point.

Cessnock are two points clear of South Newcastle in the important third position but cannot afford a loss in the last two games if they are to hold that position. The Goannas play North this Sunday at Cessnock Sports Ground and will not be able to take the "Bluebags" lightly after their good win over Waratah last weekend to record their first win of the season. The win was a credit to their coach and the young team who have shown the fighting spirit of the North Club throughout the season. Cessnock play West at Harker Oval in the last match of the competition and therefore must defeat North on Sunday to ensure them of third position.

South Newcastle are assured of finishing no worse than fourth and play Central Charlestown at Townson Oval in a match that the "Butcher

Boys" must win. They are now only one point off the top five and a win over South Newcastle would give them a great chance of making the play-offs. They have won their last three games to challenge for a semi-final spot and will be keen to continue their winning form against South Newcastle. Central play North Newcastle in their last game.

Although defeated by Central last weekend Kurri Kurri retain fifth position on the points table by one point but must record a win over Maitland when they meet at the Maitland Sports Ground. These two clubs are traditional rivals and Maitland although their form during this season has been inconsistent they are sure to make Kurri work hard for the two points.

The other team still in a position to claim a semi-final spot is Macquarie United who travel to Waratah on Sunday to play the "Cheetahs". Macquarie are two points away from fifth position after their defeat by Cessnock on Sunday but still hold hopes of making the semi-finals. In their last match of the competition they play competition leaders Lakes United and therefore must win at the weekend to remain in semi-final contention.

The competition as it stands at present is the most open and interesting for many seasons and should ensure some great games of Rugby League in the coming weeks.

Vale Ian McDougall

Twenty-seven years continuous service as timekeeper of the Western Suburbs Club ended with the passing of Mr. Ian McDougall last weekend at the age of 80 years.

Many years of service has been given not only to Rugby League but numerous other community activities by Ian and his ability to communicate with people and co-operate unselfishly with them will always be remembered.

Ian was a Life Member of the Western Suburbs R.L.F.C. and in recent years served as official timekeeper for the Newcastle Rugby Football League at major fixtures.

Ian's sons, Kevin and Don are life members of the Western Suburbs Club and his grandsons, Ian and Lorn are current grade players also with the Club.

The sympathy of all involved with Rugby League is passed on to the family of Ian Holwell McDougall.

G. A. HARDES,
Manager

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS DETERMINED THIS WEEKEND

The clash of Lakes United and Western Suburbs on Saturday will determine this year's Club champions.

Lakes United lead West at present by 42 points and are certainly favourites to retain the title they won last season. A win for them in any of the three grades against West will give them an unbeatable lead.

● **CARLTON UNITED BREWERY**
Supports Newcastle Rugby League

NBN 3 — CARLTON PREMIERSHIP

Sunday, August 3—2.45 p.m.

Cessnock Sports Ground

Cessnock

Black and gold

Coach: Bruce Starkey

- 1—JUSTIN BARR
- 2—ALAN THOMPSON
- 3—ALLAN SMITH
- 4—BOYD DAVIES
- 5—MICK KERR
- 6—RICHARD CRAIG
- 7—JOHN HUNTER
- 8—MICHAEL SCHOFIELD
- 9—CHRIS CUMMINGS
- 10—DAVID WOODBURY
- 11—MARK WATSON
- 12—DOMINIC LEVIDO
- 13—BRUCE STARKEY (c)



SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

Referee: P. Riddell

North Newcastle

Royal blue and sky

Coach: Karl Hutchinson

- 1—WAYNE WALKER
- 2—DAVE ANDERSON
- 3—NICK O'BRIEN
- 4—TONY PICKIN
- 5—IAN MILLINGTON
- 6—MARK WRIGHT (c)
- 7—DAVID NEWTON
- 8—PETER WALKER
- 9—PATRICK MULLEN
- 10—COL GIGGINS
- 11—TODD ANDERSON
- 12—MICHAEL RYAN
- 13—TOM PARKS



SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

Late Touch Judges: R. Newstead (Blue), P. Parkinson (Red)

RESERVE GRADE

1.10 p.m.

CESSNOCK

Coach: Keith Onslow

- 1—Joel FITZGIBBON
- 2—Darren CUSSEN
- 4—John LITTLE
- 6—Kyle DAVIS
- 8—Darren WHITFIELD
- 10—Paul BROWN
- 12—Craig BEARD
- Michael CALLAGHAN—3
- Geoff O'BRIEN—5
- Shane MILLWARD—7
- Chris SMITH—9
- Terry BULLEN—11
- Darren SPRUCE—13

Referee: R. Haynes

NORTH NEWCASTLE

Coach: Mick Ryan

- 1—Darren MEHAN
- 2—Dave FLETCHER
- 4—Ron PAYNE
- 6—Darren MAXWELL
- 8—Carl BLICK
- 10—Tom PATTISON
- 12—Peter TAYLOR
- John BLENKIRON—3
- Rick COLEMAN—5
- Ken FAIRHALL—7
- Dale WALTON—9
- Brett DANN—11
- Wayne HYDE—13

THIRD GRADE

11.45 a.m.

CESSNOCK

Coach: Colin Bradley

- 1—James SKINNER
- 2—Mick BLACKHAM
- 4—Geoff KEMP
- 6—Peter CRAFT
- 8—Greg LEWIS
- 10—Adam LAIDLAW
- 12—David O'BRIEN
- Scott NEWSTEAD—3
- Lee RYAN—5
- Wayne RADOLL—7
- Gavin SHANNON—9
- Richard SANDERS—11
- Geoff BROMAGE—13

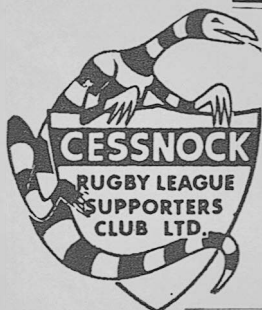
Referee: B. Farrell

NORTH NEWCASTLE

Coach: Terry Dent

- 1—Tony DODDS
- 2—Tony MANTON
- 4—Gary EVANS
- 6—Chris MEAD
- 8—Don HARDY
- 10—Steve NEWELL
- 12—Steven TERRY
- Graham CURRIE—3
- Brett REED—5
- Alan ARMSTRONG—7
- Ray KEATLEY—9
- Phil HARRISON—11
- Kevin ARMSTRONG—13

Early Touch Judges: E. McMinn (Blue), T. Sutcliffe (Red)



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NBN 3-CARLTON PREMIERSHIP

First Grade

CENTRAL CHARLESTOWN 28 (C. Hammond, D. McDonnell, C. Nealon, G. Houston, L. Hammond tries, L. Hammond 3, G. Price goals) d SOUTH NEWCASTLE 24 (N. Sheather, S. Lippiatt, J. Tongue, L. Rotumah tries, L. Rotumah 4 goals).

KURRI KURRI 21 (K. Huxley, P. Brady, B. Bates tries, P. Williams 4 goals, M. Mate drop goal) d MAITLAND 17 (B. Farrelly 2 tries, M. Finch 4 goals, drop goal).

CESSNOCK 54 (J. Hunter 3, B. Davies 2, A. Thompson 2, A. Smith, D. Woodberry tries, M. Scholfield 9 goals) d NORTH NEWCASTLE 4 (D. Newton try).

LAKE'S UNITED 32 (P. Walsh 2, M. Bates 2, T. Tuckwell, M. Sullivan tries, P. Walsh 2, D. Butler 2 goals) d WESTERN SUBURBS 6 (C. Higgins try, M. Knight goal).

MACQUARIE UNITED 24 (D. Hill, W. Snowden, T. Stevenson, P. Lockwood tries, W. Snowden 4 goals) d WARATAH MAYFIELD 16 (L. Phillips, K. Pywell, S. Robinson tries, T. Vaughan 2 goals).

Reserve Grade

Central Charlestown 16 d South Newcastle 12, Maitland 14 d Kurri Kurri 6, Cessnock 26 d North Newcastle 8, Lakes United 14 d Western Suburbs 10, Waratah-Mayfield 34 d Macquarie United 4.

Third Grade

South Newcastle 30 d Central Charlestown 0, Maitland 34 d Kurri Kurri 20, Cessnock 50 d North Newcastle 4, Western Suburbs 18 d Lakes United 10, Waratah-Mayfield 80 d Macquarie United 8.