

## 1979

Bob Adamson was again Captain / Coach in 1979 and First Grade finished 6<sup>th</sup> with 9 wins and 9 losses. Reserve Grade under coach, Doug Farr were Minor and Major Premiers and Third Grade, under Captain / Coach Karl Hutchinson (*pictured*), were really hard done by...I mean really hard done by...to be beaten 10 -9 by Central with a penalty goal after the bell for an incorrect scrum feed. (In fact, in my corner of the field, I saw the West feed go into the Central 2<sup>nd</sup> row so as to avoid a penalty, and West still got penalised...tough I say..tough! *As you can see this decision still annoys me 35 years later.*) The winning Reserve Grade side was 1. Allan Lennan 2. Stephen Nelmes 3. Tony Murphy 4. Dean Lance 5. Ron Bailey 6. Ted Sulkowicz 7. Bob Paton 8. Doug Farr 9. Glen Willetts 10. Trevor Priestley 11. Steve Smith 12. Bob Hayden 13. Brendan Barber. The score was 29 – 6 over Maitland, and tries were scored by A Lennan, T Murphy, D Farr, B Paton, R Bailey while T Sulkowicz kicked 7 goals. Players who first played with West in 1970 included Glendale junior, Brett Nixon, who went on to play over 200 games for the club. Ken Groves (Queensland), Dean Lance (Narrabri), Mal Graham (Wauchope), Glen Willetts (Maitland), Bob Hayden and Bob Paton (Nelson Bay) and West juniors Ian Ross and Wayne Nichols also joined West. Dean Lance went on to a successful NRL career with the Canberra Raiders. West failed to make

the First Grade semi finals in 1979 and at the time of writing (*April 2014*) this has not happened again – a great record really! Would West's fortunes change in 1980?...YOU BETCHA!



<i>Pre Season</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>
Round 1	South	14 all Draw	Rd 4 – Macquarie	Won 19 - 7
Round 2	North	Won 7 - 5		
Round 3	Maitland	Won 14 - 9	<i>Final West 13 – Kurri 13</i>	
<i>Competition</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Reserves</i>	<i>Thirds</i>
Round 1	Cessnock	Lost 19 - 6	Won 25 - 13	Lost 10 - 3
Round 2	Lakes	Lost 36 - 5	Won 25 - 16	Won 13 - 9
Round 3	Waratah	Won 25 - 10	Won 28 - 27	Won 23 - 8
Round 4	Kurri	Won 27 - 18	Won 23 - 16	Won 17 - 16
Round 5	Macquarie	Won 14 - 10	Won 41 - 0	Won 24 - 3
Round 6	North	Lost 19 - 10	Lost 17 - 7	Won 13 - 6
Round 7	South	Won 22 - 11	Won 38 - 13	Won 12 - 8
Round 8	Maitland	Lost 16 - 10	Lost 14 - 13	Won 29 - 2
Round 9	Central	Won 22 - 9	Won 16 - 6	Lost 8 - 2
Round 10	Cessnock	Won 31 - 10	Lost 17 - 14	Won 22 - 2
Round 11	Lakes	Lost 25 - 13	Won 18 - 17	Lost 19 - 12
Round 12	Waratah	Won 19 - 13	Won 18 - 10	Won 7 - 3
Round 13	Kurri	Lost 8 - 6	Won 20 - 13	Won 18 - 2
Round 14	Macquarie	Lost 22 - 13	Won 27 - 5	Won 47 - 2
Round 15	North	Lost 17 - 6	Won 15 - 14	Won 16 - 15
Round 16	South	Won 32 - 7	Won 31 - 11	Won 35 - 2
Round 17	Maitland	Won 15 - 8	Lost 14 - 13	Won 8 - 5
Round 18	Central	Lost 23 - 17	Won 43 - 0	Won 23 - 5
<b>Major Semi</b>			<b>West 26 Maitland 7</b>	<b>West 21 Lakes 15</b>
<b>GRAND FINAL</b>			<b>West 29 Maitland 6</b>	<b>Central 10 West 9</b>