

1985

Gary Martine continued as First Grade Captain / Coach in 1985, while Steve Smith took over the Reserve Grade side and Tony Murphy the Third Grade side. The successes in 1984 were harder to come by in 1985. All teams reached the semi finals, with First Grade and Third Grade going down by 2 points in the Final, and Reserve Grade being beaten by Lakes in the Grand Final. A number of West Juniors played their first grade games in 1985. These included Paul Bowen (who went on to play 223 games for West), David Ashman (136 games), Lorn McDougall (142 games), Wayne Moylan (from Kotara – 124 games), Ian Hextall (from Kotara –

75 games) and Tim Butler (71 games). The main out of club signing was Greg Eager from North Newcastle. The awards for the Most Outstanding Player in each grade were won by Peter Webber (Firsts), Peter Dedman (Reserves) and Shayne Brennan (Thirds), while the Clubman of the Year was awarded to Wayne Newling for “his contribution to Rugby League, dedication to training, and assisting in all Social Committee fund raising activities”. On the representative front Gary Martine, Craig Dedman, Greg Eager, Shane Matthew, Mitchell Knight and John Farrar (*pictured 2013*) all represented Newcastle. Interestingly, at the time of writing (*May 2014*) John Farrar is still heavily involved in the football club – indeed in many respects he is still

“doing the hard yards” for the club. Against most yard sticks 1985 was a most successful year. However although Lower Grade Premierships would be forthcoming most years, it would not be until 1992 that West again tasted success in First Grade.

<i>Pre Season</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>
Round 1	Lakes	Won 10 - 6	Rd 4 – Maitland	Won 24 - 4
Round 2	North	Won 30 - 2		
Round 3	Central	Won 36 - 0	<i>Final – South 32 West 16</i>	
<i>Competition</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Reserves</i>	<i>Thirds</i>
Round 1	Kurri	24 all Draw	Won 60 - 6	Won 38 - 10
Round 2	Macquarie	Won 44 - 22	Won 28 - 14	Won 59 - 8
Round 3	Maitland	Won 36 - 8	Lost 28 - 22	Won 22 - 16
Round 4	Waratah	Won 6 - 0	Lost 8 - 4	8 all Draw
Round 5	North	Won 40 - 0	Won 26 - 22	Won 22 - 14
Round 6	Cessnock	Lost 18 - 16	Lost 18 - 10	Lost 34 - 26
Round 7	South	Won 30 - 16	Lost 24 - 16	Lost 29 - 2
Round 8	Lakes	Won 22 - 14	Lost 44 - 4	Lost 24 - 16
Round 9	Central	Won 26 - 12	Won 48 - 4	Lost 48 - 6
Round 10	Kurri	Won 42 - 8	Won 30 - 14	Won 20 - 8
Round 11	Macquarie	Won 36 - 12	Won 64 - 2	Won 62 - 12
Round 12	Maitland	Won 36 - 12	Won 28 - 12	Won 14 - 12
Round 13	Waratah	Won 32 - 18	Lost 22 - 18	Lost 26 - 6
Round 14	North	Won 24 - 14	Won 34 - 13	Lost 10 - 0
Round 15	Cessnock	Lost 28 - 14	Won 30 - 18	Won 24 - 16
Round 16	South	Lost 21 - 16	Won 24 - 6	Won 14 - 2
Round 17	Lakes	Won 10 - 4	Lost 22 - 8	Won 20 - 4
Round 18	Central	Won 34 - 26	Won 50 - 4	Won 58 - 2
Preliminary Semi	Lakes	Lost 14 - 10	West 32 Waratah 10	Waratah 15 West 14
Minor Semi Final	Kurri	Won 24 - 8		West 19 Maitland 6
Major Semi Final			West 22 Lakes 16	
Final	Cessnock	Lost 20 - 18		Lakes 8 West 6
GRAND FINAL	Lakes 12 def Cessnock 6		Lakes 10 West 2	