

TODAY'S TEAMS

LYMM RL		WIDNES
Dane EVANS	1	Dean FRENCH
Frankie BIRD	2	Kevin GAMBLE
Carl LLOYD	3	Scott HARLAND
Neil EVANS	4	Craig MILLINGTON
Tom MAHONEY	5	Adam MIDDLETON
Paul FLANNERY	6	Steve CURPHY
Pete LEONARD	7	Ryan MILLINGTON
Nat ASHURST	8	John HETHERINGTON
Tim STUART	9	Mark FRENCH
Mick CADD	10	Stuart HARLAND
Mike WARD	11	Jason GREEN
Matt MAHONEY	12	Sean CONROY
Pete CANNON	13	Danny BURGAN
Matt ROCKEY	14	Andy BENSON
Paul BAGLEY	15	Mark BIRMINGHAM
Neil ASHURST	16	Kieran MCDONNELL
Dan FORSTER	17	Danny PRENDERGAST

For all the latest updates as the season continues, stay tuned to:

www.lymmrl.co.uk



Lymm RL
est.2008

LYMM RUGBY LEAGUE
Vs **WIDNES SAINTS**

Saturday August 15th 2009



RLC North West Premier
Division Grand Final

@ Crouchley Lane

Official Programme - £1

Welcome from the Chairman

Win or lose today, this will be the last day of competition within the North West Premiership and what better a tie could it be to have the teams who finished first and second in the regular season, once again in contention to go through to the national series.

I am, therefore, very pleased to welcome Widnes Saints, their players, officials and supporters to Crouchley Lane along with officials from the RFL, today's referee Bob Smithies, touch judges Alistair Schofield and Ian Scott plus all of our friends who have shown their support for us during the regular season.

I must also use this occasion to express my thanks to all those who have aided the success that Lymm have had this season, with hopefully more to come. All those associated with Lymm can not have failed to notice the impact on the team's performance with the arrival of Anthony Sullivan and Ged Sonerson to our coaching staff. The change from first game to last has been phenomenal and my thanks goes to them. I must also thank our players who have accepted and thrived on this new regime. This year we have registered 45 players and have retained a squad of 30 regulars during the season, which we should remember is only our second. If we can maintain these numbers into next year and recruit a few more, we will look to have two teams next season.

As all teams are aware it takes more than players to run a rugby club and I want to thank all those involved off the pitch who have helped make this our best season so far. Last but not least a huge thanks to our club sponsors Beechwood Industries Ltd and Qbase Ltd without whose financial support, we wouldn't have had a game at all!

I trust we shall have a hard, clean and close fought game today and after the final whistle I trust everyone will enjoy our hospitality in the clubhouse.

John Hopkinson - Chairman - Lymm RL.

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Rugby League Conference North West Premier Division Final Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1	LYMM RL	12	10	0	2	325	182	+143	20
2	Widnes Saints	12	8	0	4	376	243	+133	16
3	New Broughton	12	7	0	5	323	252	+71	14
4	Wigan Riversiders	12	6	0	6	434	252	+182	12
5	Runcorn RLC	12	6	0	6	308	330	-22	12
6	Blackpool SE	12	3	0	9	210	496	-286	6
7	Rhyl Coasters	12	2	0	10	141	362	-221	4

Lymm RL Fixtures 2009

Date	H/A	Opponents	Result
25/04/09	A	Wigan Riversiders	(L) 56-12
09/05/09	H	New Broughton	(L) 18-26
16/05/09	A	Runcorn RLC	(W) 10-26
23/05/09	H	Rhyl Coasters	(W) 24-0*
06/06/09	H	Widnes Saints	(W) 24-0*
13/06/09	H	Blackpool	(W) 48-12
20/06/09	A	New Broughton	(W) 16-24
27/06/09	H	Wigan Riversiders	(W) 26-16
04/07/09	H	Runcorn RLC	(W) 24-0*
11/07/09	A	Rhyl Coasters	(W) 24-0*
15/07/09	A	Crosfields (<i>Friendly</i>)	(L) 26-10
25/07/09	H	Widnes Saints	(W) 29-28
01/08/09	A	Blackpool	(W) 18-48
07/08/09	H	Wigan Riversiders (<i>NW SF</i>)	(W) 22-14 <small>aet</small>
15/08/09	H	Widnes Saints (<i>NW GF</i>)	

* = Opponents failed to raise a team, Lymm awarded the league points

Player Stats 2009

up to and inc. Wigan (H) - 07/08/09

Name	App	Tries	Goals	FG	Pts
Austin, Mick	1	-	-	-	-
Ashall, Jake	2	3	-	-	12
Ashurst, Nat	9	-	-	-	-
Ashurst, Neil	5	-	-	-	-
Bagley, Paul	8	1	-	-	4
Bancroft, Richard	7	2	-	-	8
Bates, Dan	1	-	-	-	-
Bird, Frankie	5	1	-	-	4
Cadd, Mick	8	5	-	-	20
Cannon, Pete	10	8	-	-	32
Dudley, James	6	2	-	-	8
Evans, Dane	4	4	-	-	16
Evans, Neil	7	4	-	-	16
Fisher, Scott	1	-	-	-	-
Fitton, Mark	7	3	-	-	12
Flannery, Paul	9	2	-	-	8
Forster, Daniel	5	-	-	-	-
Hennessey, Paul	1	-	-	-	-
Higginson, Oliver	1	-	-	-	-
Hopwood, Matthew	2	-	-	-	-
Hughes, Sean	2	1	2	-	8
Hobbs, Andy	2	-	-	-	-
Judge, Martin	2	2	-	-	8
Leonard, Pete	9	-	26	1	53
Lloyd, Carl	6	5	-	-	20
Lythgoe, Zak	7	1	-	-	4
Mahoney, Matt	5	1	-	-	4
Mahoney, Tom	5	-	-	-	-
Millington, Craig	3	-	-	-	-
Mullins, Ryan	4	1	-	-	4
Robinson, Mark	1	1	-	-	4
Rockey, Matt	3	1	-	-	4
Rudd, Paul	1	-	-	-	-
Sonerson, Ged	1	-	-	-	-
Stevenson, Matt	4	-	-	-	-
Stuart, Tim	10	-	-	-	-
Sullivan, Anthony	1	-	-	-	-
Ward, Mike	9	1	-	-	4
Woolvine, Craig	1	1	-	-	4

Introducing the opponents

Widnes have enjoyed a rich tradition of success in the summer era. Operating out of the famous St Maries club, the Saints formed in 2004 and were created with the aim of attracting new blood, be it Union players or players from other clubs, and retaining the youth players produced by Widnes St Maries.



In their very first season the Saints won the Harry Jepson Trophy at their first attempt on a brilliant day in St Albans at the Conference Grand Final against West London Sharks.

A quiet two seasons followed but the Saints turned things around with the use of some of the excellent youth players produced by Widnes St Maries blending with some of the more experienced players from around the borough.

2007 saw the Saints finish second in the league to Liverpool Buccaneers but the Saints managed to overturn them in the play-offs to win the North West Division title. A win against Edinburgh Eagles and then Rossington Sharks in the Semi Final saw the Saints advance to their second national Grand Final in four seasons, which they went onto win 27-18 against Bedford.

In 2008 the Saints again won the regular title in the North West before beating New Broughton in the Grand Final but were then heavily beaten by Moorends - Thorne Marauders from Yorkshire in the national quarter-final.

In 2009 the Saints finished the regular season in second behind Lymm, winning games impressively well when at full strength but struggling in a similar manner, when not. A similar close game to the 29-28 win for Lymm in July, looks in store today.

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Lymm RL 22 Wigan Riversiders 14 **aet**

An enthralling game of rugby league watched by a sizable crowd at Crouchley Lane saw Lymm progress to the North West Premier Grand Final with a nail-biting extra time victory over a plucky Wigan Riversiders side.

With both sides locked at 14 points each and with moments remaining, Lymm believed they had done enough to win the game in regular time when Pete Leonard banged over a field goal. However a Wigan player touched the ball in the flight and although it went over the sticks, the referee ruled the effort out.

The decision resulted in the tie heading into extra time where two Lymm tries in the first period from Carl Lloyd and Dane Evans sent the Crouchley Lane side through to the final.

In an exhilarating game in which both sides left nothing to chance it was Wigan who scored first as Greg Brown crossed out wide and then converted his own effort.

Lloyd responded for Lymm and Leonard goaled to square the game up, both teams then exchanged penalty goals and went in at the break all square.

It was a similarly tight affair in the second-half with Simon Atherton giving Wigan the lead only to have it pegged back when Mick Cadd charged over.

And so at 14 each a grand stand finish ensued and as it was with Lloyd, his second and Evans both crossing it was Lymm who were left to celebrate a most historic of victories.

Lymm: Lloyd, Bird, Dane Evans, Neil Evans, Judge, Flannery, Leonard, Nat Ashurst, Stuart, Cadd, Ward, Dudley, Cannon. Subs: Tom Mahoney, Neil Ashurst, Rockey, Forster.

Tries: Lloyd (2), Dane Evans, Cadd.

Goals: Leonard (3).

SULLY ON A MISSION FOR CHARITY

Lymm RL's Head Coach Anthony Sullivan is currently involved in a mammoth fund raising drive in aid of the Steve Prescott Fund - Carnegie Challenge. He has joined a group of ex-professional players in their attempt to deliver the Carnegie Challenge Cup match ball to



Wembley Stadium. The group are cycling 800 miles from Catalan to Calais, taking a dragon boat 24 miles along the Thames and then delivering the ball, after a half marathon, into the stadium.

Participants include Jimmy Gittins and Pete Stephenson, who both sustained career-ending injuries, taking part on specially adapted Quad bikes designed to help them complete the challenge. There are also a number of very brave and willing volunteers taking part in order to raise money for Christies Hospital and the Rugby League Benevolent Fund.

Anthony is currently looking for sponsors for his mission,

donations can be made on-line via his Just Giving page @ <http://www.justgiving.com/anthonysullivan1/>



Donating via Justgiving is quick, easy and totally secure. It's also the most efficient way to sponsor Sully. The Steve Prescott Foundation gets your money faster and, if you're a UK taxpayer Justgiving makes sure 25% in Gift Aid, plus a 3% supplement, are added to your donation.

Lymm square up to Saints in Saturday's Grand Final



Grand Finalists - the Lymm rugby league team based at Crouchley Lane.

Lymm RL...22 Wigan Riversiders...14 (aet)
LYMM rugby league team progressed to the North West Premier Grand Final with a nail-biting extra time victory over a plucky Wigan Riversiders side.

With both teams locked at 14 points each and with moments remaining, Lymm believed they had done enough to win the game in regular time when Pete Leonard banged over a field goal.

However, a Wigan player touched the ball in the flight and although it went over the sticks, the referee ruled the effort out.

The decision resulted in the tie heading into extra time where two Lymm tries in the first period from Carl Lloyd and Dane Evans sent the Crouchley Lane side through to Saturday's final, where Lymm will face Widnes Saints at Beechwood, home of Lymm Rugby Union Club, at 2.30pm.

Lymm: Carl Lloyd, Frankie Bird, Dane Evans, Neil Evans, Martin Judge, Paul Flannery, Pete Leonard, Nat Ashurst, Tim Stuart, Mick Cadd, Mike Ward, James Dudley, Pete Cannon.
Subs: Tom Mahoney, Neil Ashurst, Matt Rodley, Dan Forster.

Previous Meeting

25/07/09

Lymm RL 29 Widnes Saints 28

Lymm RL were crowned Minor Premiership winners with a game to spare in the North West after a nail-biting one point victory over near neighbours Widnes Saints, who had led the League standings on points difference going into the contest.

With many permutations possible for who would finish top in the regular season, Lymm were clear on one thing, a victory would see them head back to the top and claim the title even before playing the final league game at Blackpool.

The success has come just two years into the existence of the League team at Lymm sports club with the side now hoping to maintain their form moving into the play-off series which dictates the overall regional winner and offers the club the opportunity to play on a national stage.

In a very physical encounter Widnes opened the scoring in the sixth minute with a converted try before Lymm responded via James Dudley. From here on in both teams exchanged scores at regular intervals with other Lymm tries from Pete Cannon and two from the powerful Mick Cadd with Pete Leonard on top form with the boot, scoring six goals from six attempts.

Crucially Leonard went onto land two second-half penalties to punish the Saints indiscipline before coolly slotting home a long range field-goal with the sides locked at 28 apiece, leaving Lymm to frantically defend a one-point lead in the later stages of the game in order to take the well deserved title.

Lymm: Tom Mahoney, Bird, Matt Mahoney, Neil Evans, Fitton, Flannery, Leonard, Nat Ashurst, Stuart, Cadd, Ward, Dudley, Cannon.
Subs: Bagley, Bancroft, Millington, Lythgoe.

Tries: Dudley, Cannon, Cadd (2)

Goals: Leonard (6) + FG

A SEASON OF REAL PROGRESS

Paul Flannery who was fundamental in the setup of Lymm RL and coached the side in 2008, gives his assessment of the season so far and his hopes for the future.

This season has seen a real progression on the field at Lymm RL. After a slow start and some new faces joining the club we began to gain some momentum.

The win against New Broughton away was a real turning point where everyone knew that we could beat anyone after playing below par but still coming out on top.

The win at home to Widnes was a great result and proved that we have come along way since the club started last season. Last weeks game against Wigan again showed what we can do and despite Wigan throwing everything they had at us, we still had enough class and experience to come away with the win.

We have a great set of forwards that prove a real handful for the opposition and we have a mix of experience and youth in the backs that can kill a game off at the right moment.

The support from the rugby union club has been great and I can only see things developing well in the future.



Back in time. Action from Lymm's first season at Crouchley Lane in 2008 as Tim Stuart goes on the attack against Rhyl Coasters.

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