

1978

Bob Adamson took over as Captain/ Coach in 1978 with immediate success. West were Minor Premiers and defeated South 23 – 16 in the Grand Final. However Adamson broke his hand in the round 12 game against Macquarie and his playing season was over. So David Howell captained the team for the remainder of the season. The winning West team was 1. Paul Slattery 2. Bill Carrig (try) 3. Owen Wallace 4. Tim Lawrence 5. Michael Bond 6. David Howell 7. Rob Darcy 8. Terry Stevens 9. Graeme Wynn (try and 7 goals) 10. Mick Wallace 11. Geoff Coburn 12. Allan Dagwell 13. Steve Smith.



In an unusual feature of the Grand Final West scored 2 tries and kicked 7, yes seven, goals. Something unusual in Third Grade also – 3 consecutive draws and 4 draws for the season! Only a few new players joined West in 1978. Some were Trevor Priestley who came from West juniors, Greg Harrison, who went on to play 228 games, came from Kotara juniors and Michael Bond came from Forbes. The other notable player to arrive in

1978 was Allan Lennan who went on to play 118 games for West (*someone will know where Allan came from*). All in all it was a pretty good year, and another year when West were not beaten in all 3 grades on the one day, although in Round 5 we came awfully close. Allan Dagwell (pictured) played in the 1970 winning Grand Final team, and then “backed up” with this winning 1978 team. Dagwell played a record 332 games for West (301 in First Grade) from 1966 to 1980...a record that will never be broken (*says he in April 2014*).

<i>Pre Season</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Opponent</i>	<i>Result</i>
Round 1	Kurri	3 all Draw	Rd 4 – Lakes	Won 21 - 10
Round 2	South	Won 10 - 2	Rd 5 - Cessnock	Lost 20 - 5
Round 3	Maitland	Won 17 - 11	Final West 26 – Central 14	
Competition	Opponent	Result	Reserves	Thirds
Round 1	Kurri	Won 23 - 10	Won 18 - 0	Won 20 - 3
Round 2	Maitland	Won 31 - 0	Won 15 - 8	Won 22 - 13
Round 3	Cessnock	Lost 18 - 14	Lost 17 - 13	Won 8 - 7
Round 4	Central	Won 40 - 7	Lost 17 - 16	12 all Draw
Round 5	Lakes	Lost 18 - 12	Lost 30 - 9	10 all Draw
Round 6	North	Lost 17 - 7	Won 7 - 6	10 all Draw
Round 7	Waratah	Won 25 - 18	Lost 17 - 16	Won 19 - 0
Round 8	South	Won 15 - 10	Won 26 - 7	Won 23 - 10
Round 9	Macquarie	Won 23 - 10	Won 22 - 21	Won 12 - 9
Round 10	Maitland	Won 26 - 10	Lost 14 - 11	Won 22 - 13
Round 11	Cessnock	Won 18 - 14	Lost 22 - 10	Lost 33 - 7
Round 12	Macquarie	Lost 17 - 14	Lost 18 - 15	Won 17 - 7
Round 13	Lakes	Won 30 - 4	13 all Draw	Lost 14 - 12
Round 14	North	Won 13 - 6	Won 30 - 7	Lost 17 - 13
Round 15	Waratah	Won 36 - 14	Won 27 - 23	Won 18 - 9
Round 16	Central	Won 26 - 5	Lost 17 - 12	Won 40 - 8
Round 17	South	Won 12 - 5	Won 36 - 16	15 all Draw
Round 18	Kurri	Won 27 - 3	Won 27 - 18	Won 46 - 0
Minor Semi				South 15 West 8
Major Semi	Macquarie	Won 29 - 0		
GRAND FINAL	West 23 South 16			