

= Sydney Roosters =

The Eastern Suburbs District Rugby League Football Club is an Australian professional rugby league football club based in the Eastern Suburbs of Sydney . The club competes in the National Rugby League (NRL) competition and is one of the oldest and most successful clubs in Australian rugby league history , having won thirteen New South Wales Rugby League (NSWRL) and National Rugby League titles , and several other competitions . Only the South Sydney Rabbitohs and the St. George Dragons have won more premierships . The club holds the record for having the most wins and the second greatest margin of victory in a match in Australian rugby league history . The Eastern Suburbs DRLFC is the only club to have played in each and every season at the elite level , and since the 1970s has often been dubbed the " glamour club " of the league . Coached by Trent Robinson along with captain Jake Friend , the Roosters play their home games at the Sydney Football Stadium .

The club was founded in 1908 in Paddington , Sydney , under the name Eastern Suburbs ; in 1995 the club 's marketing brand name was changed to the Sydney City Roosters and , in 2000 , to simply the Sydney Roosters . The Bondi Junction and Moore Park @-@ based Roosters have a long @-@ standing and fierce rivalry with other Sydney @-@ based clubs , especially the South Sydney Rabbitohs , a fellow foundation club based in neighbouring Redfern . Notwithstanding its branding as the Sydney Roosters , the official name of the club , holder of the NRL licence , remains the Eastern Suburbs District Rugby League Football Club , the same name it has had since 1908 . As such , much of the club 's merchandise and paraphernalia , especially those marketed directly to long @-@ serving and dedicated members , includes the insignia ESDRLFC .

= = History = =

The Eastern Suburbs District Rugby League Football Club (ESDRLFC) was formed on 24 January 1908 at a meeting at the Paddington Town Hall in Sydney after it was decided that the district should enter a team in the newly formed New South Wales Rugby Football League . The ESDRLFC was formed , under its articles of association with the NSWRL , to represent the geographic areas in Sydney covering the Waverley , Randwick , Woollahra , Paddington , Darlinghurst and Vacluse local government municipalities , as well as the eastern parts of the Sydney CBD . Indeed , the ' suburb ' of Sydney , postcode 2000 , falls entirely within the official boundaries of the ESDRLFC .

Unofficially nicknamed the " Tricolours " due to their red , white and blue playing strip , Eastern Suburbs won its first match , defeating Newtown 32 ? 16 at Wentworth Oval on 20 April 1908 . In 1913 , they became the first club to win three consecutive premierships ; the line @-@ ups during this period included the likes of Dally Messenger , Harry " Jersey " Flegg and Sandy Pearce , all regarded as all @-@ time rugby league greats . However , the club rapidly declined and failed to win the premiership for the next nine seasons .

Eastern Suburbs missed the finals once from 1926 to 1942 , and in that time won four titles and the minor premiership on seven occasions . During this period , Dave Brown set several point @-@ scoring records that still stand . In 1935 , the team lost just one game , and recorded the highest winning margin in their history , an 87 ? 7 (106 ? 8 in modern scoring) victory over Canterbury . In 1936 , Eastern Suburbs became one of five teams in premiership history to remain undefeated for an entire season , a feat they repeated the following year . They are the only club to remain unbeaten for two consecutive seasons .

Despite claiming the premiership in 1945 , Eastern Suburbs failed to make the finals for the following seven seasons . A runners @-@ up finish in 1960 was the closest the club came to claiming the premiership during this era . Eastern Suburbs were soundly defeated 31 ? 6 in the grand final that year , by the famous record @-@ beating St George outfit . In 1966 , the club fell to new depths and was winless for the first time in its history . It was also the last occasion in which the Roosters won the wooden spoon until claiming it again in the 2009 season . It ended a poor run for Eastern Suburbs ; from 1963 to 1966 , they won 8 of 72 matches , finishing second to last in 1964 and last in the other three years . The club underwent a renaissance in 1967 after appointing Jack

Gibson as coach (1967 ? 68) , and introducing a new emblem on the playing jerseys , the rooster .

From 1972 to 1982 , the Roosters won four minor premierships and played in four grand finals , winning two consecutively . Gibson , now dubbed as " Super Coach " , returned to lead the team from 1974 to 1976 . In 1974 and 1975 , the team won 39 of 44 matches , both minor premierships , and both grand finals and set a premiership record of 19 consecutive wins . The 38 ? 0 grand final victory in 1975 against St George was the largest margin in a first grade grand final , and the record stood for 33 years until superseded by Manly 's 40 ? nil win over the Melbourne Storm in 2008 . With line @-@ ups including Mark Harris , Elwyn Walters , John Brass , Bill Mullins , Russell Fairfax , Johnny Mayes , John Peard , Ron Coote , Ian Schubert and captain Arthur Beetson , the Centenary of Rugby League panel considered the Roosters of 1974 and 1975 to be among the greatest club teams of all time .

Between 1984 and 1995 , the Roosters reached the semi @-@ finals once , and became known to critics as the " transit lounge " , due to the high frequency of player purchases and releases . The club came close to reaching the premiership in 1987 under coach and favourite son Arthur Beetson , being defeated by eventual premiers Manly in a " bruising " major semi @-@ final , 10 ? 6 .

As the Super League war built up in the mid @-@ 1990s , the Roosters recruited high profile coach Phil Gould and star five @-@ eighth Brad Fittler , both from the Penrith Panthers . This helped to quickly send the Roosters back to the upper end of the ladder . Fittler 's presence proved invaluable ; during his reign , the Roosters competed in four grand finals in five years . In 2002 , the club captured its 12th premiership ? the first in 27 years ? defeating minor premiers the New Zealand Warriors 30 ? 8 in the 2002 NRL grand final .

In the 2003 NRL grand final against the Penrith Panthers , the Roosters lost 18 ? 6 in what was their heaviest defeat for the year . A decisive moment occurred midway through the second half : with the scores tied at 6 @-@ all , Roosters winger Todd Byrne made a clear break down the sideline and looked set to score a try before being chased down and tackled into touch by Penrith lock forward , Scott Sattler . From then on , the momentum of the game was with Penrith . The Roosters ' made the Grand Final in 2004 , when they ceded a 13 ? 6 half @-@ time lead to be defeated by the Bulldogs 16 ? 13 . The match was captain Fittler 's last for the team .

In 2007 , the Roosters became the first club to play 100 seasons of first grade rugby league ; they were the only outfit to play in each season since the competition 's inception in 1908 . They appointed Chris Anderson as coach for 2007 and 2008 following two relatively unsuccessful years under Ricky Stuart . On 9 July 2007 , Anderson resigned after a 56 ? 0 loss to the Manly @-@ Warringah Sea Eagles . Assistant Coach Fittler acted as the caretaker for the remainder of the 2007 season , before being appointed in August to the top job for two years . With eight rounds remaining in a disappointing 2009 season in which the Roosters finished with the wooden spoon for the first time in 43 years , Fittler was informed he would not be the coach in 2010 , his position to be taken by veteran coach Brian Smith . The Roosters wound up winning only five games for the entire season ; twice against Cronulla and once against each of Canberra in Canberra , eventual grand finalists Parramatta and Newcastle in Newcastle .

A year after finishing last , under the coaching of Brian Smith they reached the 2010 NRL Grand Final where the St. George Illawarra Dragons defeated them 32 ? 8 . The Roosters led 8 ? 6 at half time but were overrun in the second half .

What followed was another relatively disappointing season at Bondi Junction , with the Roosters finishing 11th in a 2011 season plagued by off @-@ field issues involving 2010 Dally M Medallist Todd Carney (who was later sacked by the Roosters at season 's end) . However , a four @-@ game winning streak to end the season should bring hope for the 2012 season . Other high @-@ profile players including Nate Myles , Mark Riddell , Jason Ryles , Kane Linnett and Phil Graham all left the club at season 's end .

The Roosters endured a disappointing 2012 season , finishing 13th . Brian Smith resigned from the coaching role shortly after the Roosters ' season concluded with a loss to the minor premiers Canterbury , and also at season 's end captain Braith Anasta left to join the Wests Tigers for 2013 .

The 2013 season saw new staff , a new coach , Trent Robinson , and several new players , including big signings Michael Jennings , James Maloney , Luke O 'Donnell and Sonny Bill Williams

, arrive at the club . This culminated in the Roosters finishing the 2013 season with a 24 ? 12 win over the South Sydney Rabbitohs , securing the minor premiership for the 2013 season and were the NRL 's best attacking and defensive team . The Roosters defeated the Manly @-@ Warringah Sea Eagles 4 ? 0 , in week one of the finals , earning a week 's rest . The Roosters defeated the Newcastle Knights 40 ? 14 in week three of the NRL finals , progressing to the 2013 NRL grand final , facing the Manly @-@ Warringah Sea Eagles , winning 26 ? 18 . It was a great comeback by the Roosters , down by 10 points in the second half they went on to score three consecutive tries to seal the win and their 13th premiership . They then went on to win the 2014 World Club Challenge against Wigan 36 ? 14 to claim the treble of club titles . No team in premiership history had come from a lower ladder position to win the following season 's title .

In 2015 , the Roosters claimed a third successive minor premiership , defeating the South Sydney Rabbitohs 30 ? 0 .

= = Emblem = =

Eastern Suburbs did not traditionally sport a crest on their jerseys in the first half of the 20th century . Other clubs occasionally sported simple designs on their strip ; however , this was not seen consistently on all jerseys until the 1950s and 1960s . In 1967 , the club introduced the first logo , displaying the motto " Easts to Win " , following a winless season . The crest also incorporated a rooster or cockerel in the design ; one source suggested that this choice of mascot followed after the Roosters ' jersey design was inspired by the French national team 's jersey . Given that the French team 's mascot was affectionately known to supporters as le coq , " the rooster " , connections have been made as to the choosing of a rooster for Eastern Suburbs ' mascot .

In 1978 , the motto was replaced with the team 's name , " Eastern Suburbs " . This name was kept until 1994 , when the club changed its playing name to the " Sydney City Roosters " for the start of the 1995 season to expand the club 's widening fan base . In 2000 , the club changed its name to the " Sydney Roosters " .

Although marketing names have changed , the Roosters are still registered with the National Rugby League competition as the Eastern Suburbs District Rugby League Football Club .

= = Colours = =

Red , white and blue have been the colours of every jersey design in the club 's history ; however , the jersey design has undergone several alterations . The red , white and blue colour scheme has traditionally been the colour combination for sporting teams representing Sydney 's Eastern Suburbs . Eastern Suburbs Rugby League club adopted these colours in 1908 , with its predecessor Rugby Union club , also known as Eastern Suburbs in the Sydney club Rugby Union , having played in the tri @-@ colours . The jersey worn in the first premiership season consisted of several hoops ; red stripes dominated over consecutive smaller white and blue stripes . Although the width and the order of these stripes have changed , the basic design has always been maintained .

During World War II , the design of the jersey was modified because the dye used to colour jerseys was needed for the war effort . This saw Eastern Suburbs playing in different colours and an altered design . Instead of using the traditional hoops , the side used a sky @-@ blue based jersey and a red and white V @-@ strip around the collar . This is the only noted time in the club 's history where the traditional deep blue , red and white combination was absent from the jersey . After the war , the V @-@ strip design reverted to the original blue that had been present in the original jerseys , and the single red and white stripes around the shirt 's chest were incorporated with a single white stripe surrounded by a red stripe on either side . This jersey appeared in the 1950s and remains the team 's base design .

Facing design clashes with other teams in the 1990s , the club adopted a jersey with a similar design to what became known as the " away jersey " , replacing the blue backing with white , and the outer red stripe with blue . As the club entered the new century , the team began to wear a " foundation jersey " . Although the design differs slightly from the jersey worn in the inaugural 1908

season , it did feature the traditional horizontal striped @-@ design . This jersey is normally worn when the Sydney Roosters face traditional rivals , such as the South Sydney Rabbitohs , or on special occasions such as Anzac Day when the team meets the St George Illawarra Dragons , the product of a team partly formed by the St. George Dragons .

= = Geographic area = =

The Sydney Roosters , namely the Eastern Suburbs District Rugby League Football Club was formed , under its articles of association with the NSWRL , to represent the geographic areas in Sydney covering the Waverley , Randwick , Woollahra , Paddington , Darlinghurst and Vaucluse local government municipalities , as well as the eastern parts of the Sydney CBD . Despite some junior Rugby League boundaries being redrawn over the 107 @-@ year history of the code in Australia , these articles of association remain unchanged . As such , the Roosters represent a small area of Sydney . The Roosters home turf is also home to a large number of supporters of rival codes and thus is the most competitive sporting market in Australia , with the Roosters flying the flag for Rugby League in Sydney 's east .

= = Stadium = =

Most sources suggest that the Royal Agricultural Ground was often used as a home venue between 1908 and 1910 , before the club hosted matches at the Sydney Sports Ground from 1911 onwards . It was here that the team played all of their homes games up until 1986 , when the ground was demolished with the Sydney Cricket Ground No. 2 to make way for Sydney 's main rectangular field , the Sydney Football Stadium . In 1987 , games were moved away to the Newtown Jets ' home ground , Henson Park , temporarily to await the completion of the Sydney Football Stadium . The team capitalised on this move , finishing second in the regular season . It was the only time between 1983 and 1995 that the side reached the finals .

In 1988 , the club moved to the newly built Sydney Football Stadium on the site of the old Sydney Sports Ground , opening the season with a 24 ? 14 defeat at the hands of the St George Dragons in front of 19 @,@ 295 spectators on a wet night on 4 March 1988 . At the Sydney Football Stadium , the Roosters have a 59 % win record from 256 games with a 58 % and 55 % win record at their old grounds the Sydney Sports Ground and the Sydney Cricket Ground respectively .

In 2022 Allianz stadium will be upgraded at at cost of \$ 450 million and is expected to take 4 years to complete . The Roosters are expected to play their Home games during this period at ANZ or Central Coast Stadium . Once competed the club is expected to call Allianz home again .

= = Supporters = =

The Sydney Roosters have a strong supporter group base across Australia . Aside from its traditional fan base in Sydney , which is most concentrated in its homeland in the affluent eastern suburbs . The club has an internet message board for supporters , " The Wall " , which has been the official forum since 1999 . The club has announced that " The Wall " will be closing as of late January 2012 . " The Chookpen " is an unofficial site .

In 2013 the club tallied the fourth @-@ highest home attendance of all National Rugby League clubs (behind the Brisbane Broncos) with an average of 19 @,@ 368 spectators at the Sydney Football Stadium .

At the club 's home ground , the Sydney Football Stadium , the supporters congregate in distinct sections . The " Chook Pen " , a designated area in Bay 35 , is the preferred location for the most animated fans . Members of the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust are seated in the Members ' Stand on the western side of the ground , and season ticket holders are located just beneath the Members ' area , in Bays 12 ? 14 .

In 2014 , the Roosters had nearly 17 @,@ 000 paying members , in addition to the 45 @,@ 550 members of the Roosters ' Leagues Club , which is the major benefactor of the football club . The

East's Leagues Club and the Sydney Roosters " operate as one entity " known as the East's Group . Under this arrangement , the Eastern Suburbs District Rugby League Football Club is the ' parent company ' of the East's Group . The Football Club delegates , however , overarching responsibility for both football and leagues club operations to a single general manager who oversees the whole group 's performance . The leagues club group provides financial support to the football club , only where necessary , as in recent years the football club 's sponsorships and TV revenues are generally covering most Rugby League expenditures .

= = = Notable supporters = = =

Scott Cam

Malcolm Turnbull , Prime Minister of Australia

General Sir Peter Cosgrove , Governor @-@ General of Australia

Luke Foley , New South Wales Opposition Leader

Mark Bouris , businessman

Steve Smith , captain of the Australia cricket team

David Warner , vice captain of the Australia cricket team

Alan McGilvray , cricket commentator

Guillaume Brahimi , chef

Harold Larwood , cricketer

Sir James Darcy Freeman , Catholic Cardinal

Paul Kelly , former Australian rules football player

Paul Sheehan , journalist

Peter O 'Malley , professional golfer

Brett Ogle , professional golfer

Simon Burke , actor

Amanda Keller , radio host

Erin McNaught , model

Kate Waterhouse , fashion writer and columnist

= = Statistics and records = =

Anthony Minichiello holds the record for the most first grade games (302) , having surpassed Luke Ricketson 's tally of 301 matches in round 3 of the finals in 2014 . Former team captain Craig Fitzgibbon holds the club record for scoring the most points , tallying 1 @, @ 376 over his 210 matches . Fitzgibbon also broke the all @-@ time point scoring record for a forward in the later rounds of 2006 . Dave Brown 's tally of 45 points (five tries and 15 goals) in a single match against Canterbury in 1935 remains a competition record after more than seven decades . Ivan Cleary scored 284 points in 1998 , which at the time was an all @-@ time points scoring record in a season .

Bill Mullins , father of 2002 premiership player Brett , scored 104 tries in his 11 @-@ year , 190 @-@ game career with Eastern Suburbs between 1968 and 1978 , meaning that on average , he scored at least one try every two games . Anthony Minichiello became the highest try scorer in the Roosters history when he scored his 105th try against the Newcastle at Ausgrid Stadium in June 2011 . ' Mini ' finally retired after the 2014 season , and ended his career with 139 tries . He is also the first fullback in 70 years to win the Grand Final (2013) , whilst captaining the Club . Rod O 'Loan scored seven tries in a single match against Sydney University in 1935 , and Dave Brown 's 38 tries in 15 games in the same year remains a competition record .

In 1975 , the Eastern Suburbs Roosters set an unparalleled 19 @-@ match winning streak on their way to their 11th premiership . In a 1935 match against Canterbury , Dave Brown scored 45 points , the highest score and victory margin for the club (the 87 ? 7 scoreline is equivalent to 106 ? 8 under the contemporary scoring system) . The winning margin is the second largest overall , behind St. George 's 91 ? 6 win over Canterbury a week earlier .

The club 's record attendance for a regular season game at its home ground ? the Sydney Football Stadium ? stands at 40 @, @ 752 , achieved in a match on ANZAC Day against the St George Illawarra Dragons in 2013 . The 2000 grand final between the Sydney Roosters and the Brisbane Broncos attracted 94 @, @ 277 spectators to the Olympic Stadium .

= = 2016 squad = =

= = Notable past players = =

In 2000 , the Sydney Roosters named their " Team of the Century " , which included players from 1908 to 2000 . The official team is listed below along with their Sydney Roosters cap number .

In 2007 , the Sydney Roosters announced " The Centurions " , a team consisting of those regarded as the greatest players to have played 100 or more games for the club between 1908 and 2007 . The team was selected by Ray Chesterton , Ian Heads , David Middleton and Alan Clarkson and was unveiled at the centenary season launch at the Michael Algeri Pavilion on 10 March 2007 .

= = Honours = =

= = = Major Titles = = =

Premierships ? 13 1911 , 1912 , 1913 , 1923 , 1935 , 1936 , 1937 , 1940 , 1945 , 1974 , 1975 , 2002 , 2013

Runners @-@ up ? 15 1908 , 1919 , 1921 , 1928 , 1931 , 1934 , 1938 , 1941 , 1960 , 1972 , 1980 , 2000 , 2003 , 2004 , 2010

Minor Premierships ? 19 1912 , 1913 , 1923 , 1931 , 1934 , 1935 , 1936 , 1937 , 1940 , 1941 , 1945 , 1974 , 1975 , 1980 , 1981 , 2004 , 2013 , 2014 , 2015

World Club Challenge ? 3 1976 , 2003 , 2014

= = = Minor Titles = = =

Club Championship ? 14 1930 , 1931 , 1934 , 1935 , 1936 , 1937 , 1945 , 1970 , 1974 , 1975 , 2004 , 2013 , 2014

Second Grade ? 9 1908 , 1909 , 1910 , 1911 , 1935 , 1937 , 1949 , 1986 , 2004

Jersey Flegg Cup ? 14 1914 , 1917 , 1924 , 1929 , 1930 , 1931 , 1932 , 1941 , 1947 , 1970 , 1976 , 1993 , 2002 , 2004

Presidents Cup ? 15 1910 , 1911 , 1913 , 1920 , 1922 , 1923 , 1924 , 1927 , 1938 , 1948 , 1949 , 1955 , 1978 , 1987 , 1993

S. G. Ball Cup ? 4 1997 , 2008 , 2010 , 2014

Amco Cup ? 2 1975 , 1978

City Cup ? 3 1914 , 1915 , 1916

Pre @-@ Season Cup ? 4 1974 , 1977 , 1979 , 1981

World Sevens ? 1 1993