

# Vale: Malcolm (Mal) McMartin

**3<sup>rd</sup> March 1944 – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

*Michael Clark NSW Touch and Western Suburbs Touch LIFE MEMBER* wrote:

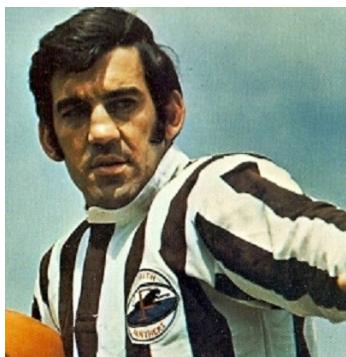
Mal had a touch career that spanned the mid-1970s through to the 1990s following 8 years of first grade Rugby League.

He played his park touch in the South Sydney affiliate and went on to represent Souths and Region 7 (now Southern Rebels). He represented NSW as a Link in the Mens 40 years division at the National Championships in Adelaide in 1986.



Mal competed in the Masters Games for more than 10 years during the 1980s and 1990s enjoying great success and achieving victory in all but one series.

*From Wikipedia*



Malcolm (Mal) McMartin (born 1944) is an Australian former rugby league footballer who played in the 1960s and 1970s.

McMartin started his first grade career at the Penrith Panthers in 1968. He remained there for four seasons between 1968 and 1971. He then joined Balmain for two seasons between 1972 and 1973.

He finished his career at the Parramatta Eels for two seasons between 1974 and 1975 and often played with his identical twin brother, John McMartin.

*From NSWRL Tue 13 Feb 2018, 06:38 PM*

The NSW Rugby League sends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of former Parramatta and Cronulla representative John McMartin who sadly passed away today.

McMartin played with the Eels from 1967 to 1975 before linking with the Sharks in 1976 where he finished his career in 1979. He represented NSW in 1975, also lining up for City Firsts in his final year at Parramatta. He was a life member of New South Wales Rugby League.

The twin brother of Mal, John was a highly consistent hooker and was an integral member of the Cronulla side which won its way through to the finals series in 1978.

He played in the 1978 drawn decider against Manly but was ruled out of the replay through injury.

“We are saddened to hear the news of the passing of a fantastic footballer and an even better man off the field,” NSWRL CEO David Trodden said.

“It’s always a dark day when we lose a member of the NSWRL family. As both a True Blue and Life Member of NSWRL, John made an enormous contribution to our organisation. His contribution to our tertiary competition is a particular legacy which he leaves. On behalf of everyone at the NSWRL I pass on my condolences to John’s family on their loss.”

*From parraeels.com.au Mon 12 Jan 2026, 06:33 PM*

The Parramatta Eels are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mal McMartin (Eel #320), aged 81. The twin brother of Eel John McMartin (Eel #243), Mal began his rugby league journey with Richmond Firsts before forging a strong career across several clubs.



Mal played with Penrith between 1968 and 1971, making 64 first grade appearances, followed by stints with Balmain from 1972 to 1973, where he played 15 games. He joined the Parramatta Eels in 1974 and went on to make 33 appearances across First Grade, the Pre-Season Cup and Mid-Week Cup during

the 1974–75 seasons. Primarily playing on the wing, in the centres and at lock, Mal also featured in 19 Reserve Grade matches in 1975.

He concluded his senior playing career with Wentworthville in 1976. The Parramatta Eels extend their sincerest condolences to Mal’s family, friends and former teammates during this difficult time.



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*Penrith Panthers wrote*

Panthers is saddened to learn of the passing of Panther No. 39, Mal McMartin. Mal made 64 appearances for the club from 1968-1971 and scored 15 tries in Panthers colours. Our thoughts are with Mal's loved ones.



## Mal McMartin Try Round 11 1969 Penrith v Western Suburbs

*(Click the Photo to watch Video)*



AWCINSW are deeply saddened by the passing of industry legend and AWCINSW Life Member, Mal McMartin.

A mentor, leader and champion of excellence, Mal's legacy will live on, our heartfelt condolences to the McMartin family.



### VALE - Mal McMartin, AWCINSW Life Member

We are saddened to share the news of the passing of a true industry legend and AWCINSW Life Member, Mal McMartin.

For more than 45 years, Mal was a central figure in our community. As the head of Gridcon Industries and a long-serving Vice President of AWCINSW (2020), he dedicated his life to advancing the wall and ceiling trade. Mal wasn't just a member; he was a mentor who believed deeply in supporting young apprentices and ensuring a bright future for the next generation.

Known for his integrity and his push for perfection, Mal helped set the benchmarks for quality that define our industry today. We honour his decades of service, his leadership, and his enduring kindness. He will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of working with him.

**The AWCINSW extend our sincere condolences to the McMartin family.**

**Shane Croker – AWCINSW President**

*From The Mole - 30 plus years NRL & NRLW sports journalist wrote*  
Sad news to report the death of former Penrith Panthers, Balmain and Parramatta Eels centre Mal McMartin. He was 81. Brother John, who also played first grade, died in 2018.

*Frank Hurst wrote*

Malcolm and John were twins, I went to school with both, Richmond High School. They were both very competitive with each other and often squabbled when playing. They Played for Richmond Firsts. Their father was a local ticketed referee. Richmond Club officials advised their father to split them and get them playing for different clubs to assist their development. It worked.  
RIP Mal and John.

*Peter McIntosh wrote*

Remember both well. RIP John and Mal. Will be forever remembered by the eels.

*Jack Mack wrote*

Rip Mal coached his young fella back in the early 80s.

*John Wood wrote*



Just a good bloke who was a regular at Southern Sydney Family of League events.

*Kenneth Ingersole wrote*

Laurie, saddened by your loss. Keep smiling.

*Gary Goodworth wrote*

Both Great Blokes, played Hard



*Golden Oldies News & Info's post wrote*

We are deeply saddened to announce the sudden passing of Mal McMartin. Details of Mal's funeral will be announced at a later date. If you have any fond memories or stories with Mal, please let us know.  
RIP Mal 1944-2026.

*Susan Witting wrote*

I'm so sorry to read this news. My deepest sympathies to his family and to all the Black and Blues.



*Brouke McLachlan wrote*

Very sad news to hear,

I was fortunate to play rugby with and against Mal when he played for Blakehurst Black & Blues and me for Engadine Limping Lions.

He was a great centre.

RIP- Mal 

*Dale Wells wrote*

RIP Mal. Some great times shared on and off the field 

*Paul Tomkins wrote*

RIP Mal. I enjoyed being able to play with you in Fiji and having a good old chin wag about your time at the Eels. Seeing you in Singapore again was a blessing. A true legend 

*Greg Trezise wrote*

So sorry to hear about Mal - his memory will live with me.

Best memory is going to a gay bar in Hawaii on a Sunday morning whilst coming back from Vancouver.

There was Rod and Jenny Hawks, Lesley and I, Richard, Robbie and Mal.

All the guys bought "I FEAR NO BEER" t-shirts and turned our back to the camera, pretending to pee in a garden.

Another good memory was Mal organising a dinner at Glenelg SA during another GO festival - huge sea food platters - not good for me with my allergy to seafood and I had to excuse myself from the dinner. My seafood allergy really kicked in. Even the table water smelt and tasted like seafood.

Great memories. Such a sad day.

Greg, Lesley and Kylie.

*Christine Vanderlouw wrote*

Deepest condolences to family. Another Black and Blue team mate. RIP Mal. Bill and Christine Vanderlouw

*Chris Mitchell wrote*

Sad news, have great memories of Mal playing touch football with him at Masters Games 

*Ron Gibbs wrote*

RIP Mal

*Ian Connolly wrote*

Sad to hear this. RIP Mal.

*Linda Leonard wrote*

Another one for Graham's Team...

RIP Mal ..