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PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO 568
30 September 1975

CRONULLA-SUTHERLAND RUGBY LEAGUE

The Prime Minister added his voice today to appeals to save the Cronulla-Sutherland Rugby League Club.

Mr Whitlam represented the Cronulla area when he was first elected to the House of Representatives and his sons first played football at Cronulla schools.

He said at that time the area was just emerging from rural conditions. It had few prepared playing fields or facilities for its residents.

Since then, local government authorities had done a magnificent job and the shire was now represented in first grade competitions in most sporting codes.

Mr Whitlam said: "It would be a tragedy for the shire and for Sydney Rugby League football if this very young club which has achieved so much in such a short time should have to withdraw from the competition because of temporary financial difficulties."

Mr Whitlam is sending a donation to the club.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.