

No.1

ANDREW JOHNS

JOEY Johns once told RLW that carrying the tag of World's Greatest Player "spun him out a bit" and he considered himself "in the bottom five per cent of the competition athletically". But when it comes to rugby league royalty, this Cessnock product sits comfortably at the top . . . a bona fide genius who could kill you with a long ball, short ball, crunching tackle, 40-20 or sideline conversion, while making it all look like a stroll in the park. Regarded by many as the best player ever, let alone the last 30 years.

— MARTIN LENEHAN



CLUB FOOTY

Newcastle 1993-2007, 249 games, 80 tries, 917 goals, 22 field goals, 2176 points; Warrington 2005, 3 games, 1 try, 12 goals, 1 field goal, 29 points.

REP FOOTY

Country Origin 1995-96 and 2003, 1 try, 7 goals; 23 Origins for NSW 1995-2005, 4 tries, 37 goals, 4 field goals; 21 Tests and 5 World Cup games for Australia 1995-2006, 12 tries, 89 goals.

GRAND TOTAL: 304 games, 98 tries, 1062 goals, 27 field goals, 2543 points.

Footnote: Johns' games in the 1995 World Cup were officially designated as Tests.

- Born on May 19, 1974, in Cessnock, NSW
- Played junior football with Cessnock and represented NSW Schoolboys in 1989 and NSW and Australian under-19s in 1993.
- Made his first-grade debut against Gold Coast at Seagulls Stadium in round six, 1993.
- Holds Newcastle records for most first-grade appearances (249), most points in a match (34), equal most tries in a match (4), most goals in a match (11), most points in a season (279), and most points for the club (2176). His points tally is a record for premiership rugby league in Australia.
- Made his Test debut against South Africa in the 1995 World Cup and scored a world record (for a debutant) of 30 points. The 30 points also equalled the overall world record for points in a Test held by Michael O'Connor.
- Won the Dally M gold medal in 1998-99 and 2002, and the Provan-Summons Medal 1998-2002. Was RLW's player of the year in 1998-99 and 2002 and won the Golden Boot for best player in the world in 1999 and 2001.
- Played in premiership-winning Newcastle teams in 1997 and 2001 (as captain) and won the Clive Churchill Medal in 2001.

