



**Souths' Adam Walker and Brothers' Blake Hinschen are ready to battle out round 1 of the Pride of Milton Street Cup.**

PHOTO: AMANDA BALMER 240209/248

# Milton St rivals turn up heat in battle for cup

By **SALLY BOXALL**

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**RUGBY LEAGUE:** There will be more than just competition points to play for when Souths and Brothers go head-to-head at Shark Park tomorrow.

It's also the first round of the Pride of Milton Street Cup, which will – by season's end – determine who can rightly call themselves the rulers of Milton Street.

Brothers and Souths are traditional arch-rivals so the introduction of the cup is sure to turn up the heat even further.

The initiative, which involves all three grades and will be decided based on points accumulation once the clubs play each other three times, will raise money for the Grapevine Group, a youth suicide prevention group.

## MERCURY CUP

### ROUND THREE

#### TODAY

■ Moranbah v Sarina, 5pm at JRL grounds

#### TOMORROW

■ Wests v Norths, 3pm at Tiger Park

■ Souths v Brothers, 3pm at Shark Park

■ Whitsunday v Magpies, 3pm at Les Stagg Oval

“Youth suicide is something that has affected both clubs in years gone by,” Souths operations manager Troy Rovelli said.

Players will be collecting donations for the Grapevine Group at the Shark Park gate and during the games, which start at noon with the under 18s.

In tomorrow's A grade game, Souths will be fancying their chances of picking up the first five

Cup points on offer after notching up two wins in the opening two rounds of the Mercury Cup.

They were significant wins, too – a 30 point victory over Moranbah and 40 point triumph against Whitsunday.

However, Rovelli admitted the side's “slow starts are a bit of a concern”, after they were down 8-0 against the Miners and 16-0 against the Brahmans before bouncing back with a vengeance in the second stanzas.

In the remaining games, Moranbah and Sarina meet in the curtain-raiser to tonight's Mackay Cutters clash.

Tomorrow, Norths will be looking for an upset when they take on Wests at Tiger Park, while Magpies make the daunting trip to Les Stagg Oval to meet Whitsunday.