

# DOWN

## to a new level . . .

Auckland would have racked up losses of \$9.2 million for the period if not helped out by payments of \$5.6 million and \$2 million.

The documents outlined in the lawyers' summation indicate that Souths' Federal Court hearing will be interesting, to put it mildly.

They also provide the basis for division across the game . . . the last thing Rugby League needs as it tries to pull a ravaged sport together.

Not only will Souths fans be furious once the information unfolds, but supporters and officials from fellow

ARL-aligned clubs, including Norths, Manly, Balmain, Newcastle and Wests are likely to be angry as well.

There is also the potential for division within Super League ranks. On the surface, it appears Cronulla and Auckland have been the beneficiaries of significantly less largesse than some of their fellow travellers.

Analysis of the discovered documents has thrown fear into officials at Auckland and North Queensland, who wonder, in the event of Souths being reinstated, what their futures might hold.