



**Game on:** Warriors hero Steve Price in action against the Broncos in an NRL clash. The team will sport SkyCity's logo in a three-year sponsorship deal.

Photo: FAIRFAX

## SkyCity to play Warriors

### Nick Krause

SkyCity Entertainment Group ran in a solid annual result yesterday, as it announced it would be a big sponsor of the NZ Warriors rugby league club.

A three-year deal will have SkyCity's logo on the back of the players' shirts, and SkyCity chief executive Nigel Morrison said yesterday its Auckland casino complex would be the "home of the Warriors".

However, Auckland, cornerstone of SkyCity's casino businesses, was off

the pace for the June year, while Hamilton and Adelaide came through with strong figures, Mr Morrison said.

The group reported an annual net profit of \$102 million, down 11.5 per cent on the 2009 year. But the latest result included an adjustment for changes to depreciation and company tax in the May Budget and SkyCity said its profit would have been \$129.1m on a normalised basis.

Revenue fell one per cent to \$837.8m.

A final 9.25c dividend will be paid on September 17, lifting the annual rate from 15.5c to 17.25c a share.