

Leinster Senior Cup 1935 - 2018

Merrion defeat Leinster by three wickets in the 1940 final and also achieve the League & Cup double for first time in Leinster cricket

1940

Merrion won the Leinster Senior Cup at Sydney Parade with a victory over Leinster by three wickets. Leinster won the toss but didn't take full advantage of that as they were always fighting for runs and took two and three-quarter hours to make 121, after 5 wickets had been down for 90. A major factor from Merrion's point of view in dismissing Leinster for this figure was their magnificent fielding. Rarely indeed has such accurate fielding been seen throughout an innings and JA O'Donnell, SA Curley and WL Lindsay brought about the dismissal of Leinster batsmen through magnificent catches. Main contributors to the Leinster total were FG Connell with 35 and NH Lambert, 22. Chief wicket takers for Merrion were PA Warren, 4-49, and CG Mara, 3-36.

In their reply to Leinster's total Merrion started poorly losing JA O'Donnell and WL Lindsay with only 4 runs on the board. Then KC Dempsey and SA Curley put together a valuable partnership for the third wicket. This only ended with 90 on the board and an easy victory seemed assured. Then, however, JR Graham of Leinster intervened and wickets began to fall quickly and the finish was quite exciting. Curley batted in delightful fashion and hit all around the wicket, with his 61 featuring seven boundaries. JR Graham finished with the excellent figures of 5-40

Merrion 1st XI: Cup Winners



Back: Warren, D'Arcy, Waldron, Mara, Curley, Little
Front: Lindsey, Short, O'Donnell, O'Connor, Dempsey,

Cup Final

Cup Final 1940. Leinster v Merrion at Sydney Parade. 6th July 1940

Leinster

FG Connell		b <u>Shortt</u>	35
FW Fox	c O'Connor	b Warren	11
JR Gill	c Curley	b Warren	0
MD Burke	c O'Donnell	b Warren	19
NH Lambert	c Lindsay	b Mara	22
PC Mannion	c D'Arcy	b Mara	2
CR <u>Cuffe</u> +	c O'Donnell	b Warren	0
JR Graham		b Mara	13
PV Boland	<u>st</u> Lindsay	b Little	11
PB Murphy		b Little	2
WC Pemberton	Not Out		4
Extras			<u>2</u>
TOTAL			121

Bowling: Little 2-7; Mara 3-36; Shortt 1-27; Warren 4-49.

Merrion

JA O'Donnell *	c <u>Cuffe</u>	b Boland	0
WL Lindsay +	c <u>Cuffe</u>	b Murphy	3
KC Dempsey	LBW	b Graham	24
SA Curley	c <u>Cuffe</u>	b Graham	61
JD O'Connor		b Graham	7
J D'Arcy	LBW	b Graham	3
CJ Little		Not Out	17
CG Mara		b Graham	2
PA Warren		Not Out	3
P Waldron			
RH <u>Shortt</u>			
Extras			<u>3</u>
TOTAL	for 7 wickets		123

Bowling Boland 1-19; Murphy 1-18; Graham 5-40; Pemberton 0-43

Merrion won by 3 Wickets.

Leinster Senior League 1919 - 2019

Merrion win their first Senior League in 1940 and also achieve the League & Cup double for first time in Leinster cricket

1940

Merrion became a senior club in 1926 and won their first Senior trophy in 1940 under J. A. O'Donnell. Indeed they did the "Double", and it was the first ever "Double" achieved. Bowling and fielding won for Merrion. They went through the season undefeated. With much the same players in 1939 they won only one league match and finished bottom of the league. In the cup they had the ignominy of losing in the first round to YMCA, then a Qualifying League club.

Merrion drew the first two matches in 1940, in the second of which Pembroke needed 2 runs to win with four wickets in hand when time was called. Phoenix won 5 and drew one of their first six matches and had a long lead by mid-June. Then Merrion beat Phoenix and began a sequence of five successive wins. The fifth win in the sequence was also over Phoenix on August 17. This carried Merrion into a three-point lead over Phoenix. By beating YMCA by three wickets on August 31, Merrion clinched the championship. Merrion used only 15 players throughout the season and three of these played in only eight matches between them.

Merrion 1st XI: League Winners



Back row: S. Greer (S), W. Lindsay, S. Curley, C. Mara, P. Warren, P. Waldron, K. Dempsey, P. J. McEvoy (P).
Front row: J. D'Arcy, J. D. O'Connor, J. O'Donnell (C), R. Shortt, C. Little.

League Table 1940

Club	P	W	D	L	Pts
Merrion	12	7	5	0	71
Phoenix	12	7	2	3	62
Leinster	12	6	3	3	57
Pembroke	12	5	3	4	49
Clontarf	12	4	2	6	38
Dublin University	12	4	2	6	38
YMCA	12	0	1	11	3

Merrion averages 1940

Simon Curley led the batting averages [31.57] and also scored the most runs [442].
Rollie Shortt led the way in the bowling with 40 wickets at 10.40, able supported by Chris Mara for 46 wickets at 12.13.

Name	M	I	NO	50/100	HS	Total	Bat Ave	5W	Runs A	W	Bowl Ave	Ct/St
AE Bex	3	1	0		1	1	1.00					
Chris Mara	16	9	2		40*	78	11.14	4	558	46	12.13	3
CJ Little	16	14	3	3/0	68	346	31.45	1	489	29	16.86	3
HN Bligh	4	3	1		10	17	8.50		26	0		
JA O'Donnell [C]	16	14	2		26	163	13.58					7
JD O'Connor	15	14	3	1/0	74*	345	31.36					2
Joe Darcy	16	13	0		45	219	16.85					9
K Dempsey	16	16	1	3/0	72*	409	27.27					9
PA Warren	14	10	4		15	59	9.83		317	16	19.81	2
PH Waldron	10	8	4	1/0	50*	111	27.75		6	0		1
RH Shortt	15	5	2		14	26	8.67	1	416	40	10.40	2
Simon Curley	15	15	1	3/1	112*	442	31.57		142	6	23.67	8
TF McMahan	3	2	0		10	15	7.50					
Tommy Burke	1	1	1		4	4						
WL Lindsay[WK]	16	15	0		25	166	11.07					16/8

Leinster Senior League 1919 - 2019

Merrion win their fourth Senior League in 1958

1958

In this very wet season Merrion, under Tommy Burke, won the league for the fourth time, their last win having come in 1952. So wet was the season that 20 matches out of a possible 81 were never started. Old Belvedere had no less than seven unplayed matches. Phoenix led at the start until early July. Then YMCA followed by Railway Union took over for a week each. Merrion were ahead at the end of July and remained on top. They lost only once, to Old Belvedere at Anglesea Road, in the first match of the season. Clontarf, playing on their new ground, won no match at all in either league or cup.

Simon Curley leads the way with his batting [and winning the Marchant Cup], supported by JP Burke who tops the all-rounder table.

League Winning Team: 1958



Back row: T. McAlinden (S), G. Doyle, M. Boyle, R. Bernstein, D. Hayden, P. Meade, J. Hopkins (W), S. Doyle (U).
Front row: J. Burke, B. Curley, T. Burke (C), S. Curley, C. Mara.

League Table 1958

Club	P	W	T	D	L	Pts	%
Merrion	12	5	0	6	1	58	60.41
Railway Union	13	6	0	3	4	57	54.8
Phoenix	13	5	1	4	3	57	54.8
Malahide	12	3	0	8	1	48	50
YMCA	15	4	0	9	2	59	49.16
Pembroke	13	3	0	7	3	45	43.26
Leinster	14	3	1	6	4	47	41.96
Old Belvedere	10	3	0	3	4	33	41.25
Dublin Universtiy	8	1	0	3	4	28	23.16
Clontarf	12	0	0	5	7	15	15.62

Merrion Averages 1958

Simon Curley led the Leinster batting averages and won the Merchant Cup. JP Burke took the most wickets and also topped the Leinster All Rounder table.

Name	M	I	NO	50/100	HS	Total	Bat Ave	5W	Runs A	W	Bowl Ave	Ct/St
B Curley	14	15	4	2/0	51	402	36.55					4
C.Mara	15	8	1		6	19	2.71		240	14	17.14	3
CJ Little	1								15	0	?	
D Dorgan	3	1	0		21	21	21.00		23	2	11.50	3
D Gaynor	1											
D Petrie	3	2	0		6	6	3.00					3
ED Hayden	11	6	2		4	10	2.50	1	231	13	17.77	1
F Gaynor	4	2	1		7	7	7.00					
G Doyle	9	5	3		7	11	5.50					1
J Costello	1	1	0		4	4	4.00					
J Hopkins	12	12	2	1/0	50	126	12.60					10 / 2
J Leonard	4	1	1		4	4	?					
Joe Darcy	1	1	1		8	8	?					
JP Burke	13	13	1		45	278	23.17	3	311	34	9.15	3
M Boyle	13	8	1		43	88	12.57					5
P Meade	9	8	3		14	39	7.80	1	177	11	16.09	4
R Bernstein	14	13	2		40	132	12.00	2	301	29	10.38	5
S Curley	13	14	3	4/1	155	652	59.27		6	0	?	3
TF.McMahon	7	6	0		37	64	10.67					1
T.Burke [C]	15	11	0	1	90	244	22.18		85	3	28.33	5
V.Holloway	2	1	0		3	3	3.00					

