

**ARCHIVES OF THE LEINSTER BRANCH OF
THE IRISH RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION**

P280



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CONTEXT

Institutional history

The Leinster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU) is responsible for rugby union throughout the Leinster province.

The IRFU was formed in 1879 with the amalgamation of the Irish Football Union (Leinster, Munster and parts of Ulster) and the Northern Football Union of Ireland (Belfast). The Connacht branch was formed in 1900. The IRFU was a founding member of the International Rugby Football Board, now known as World Rugby, along side Scotland and Wales in 1886.

The Leinster provincial team has been active since 1875 when the first interprovincial match was played against Ulster. It wasn't until 31st October 1879 that the Leinster Branch of the IRFU was inaugurated at a meeting at 63 Grafton Street, Dublin 2. The clubs represented at this meeting were the Wanderers, Lansdowne, Arlington School, Dublin University, Dundalk, Phoenix F.C. and Stephen's Hospital.

Following the political partition of Ireland into the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland (governed by the United Kingdom), the then Committee of the IRFU decided that it would continue to administer its affairs based on the full 32 counties of Ireland and the four provincial divisions; Leinster, Munster, Ulster and Connacht.

The Leinster Schools Senior Cup, which is one of the biggest annual events in Leinster Rugby, commenced in 1887. The first Leinster Senior Challenge Cup was created in 1881, closely followed by the establishment of the Senior League. In the early 1920s the Provincial Towns and Metropolitan Cups were created.

Archival history

These papers were transferred to UCD Archives in 2014 from the office of Paul Rouse who had custody of the collection.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Scope and Content

Executive Committee: minutes and proceedings including a variety of sub committees (Finance, Selection, Donnybrook Grounds, Ticket Allocation, Coaching, Press and Public Relations, Fixtures, Statement of Accounts, Honorary Secretary's Report).

Junior League Committee: minutes and proceedings

Schools Committee: minutes and proceedings.

Letter books.

Newspaper cuttings.

Financial administration: accounts, ledger accounts, expenditure, affiliation fees and gate receipts.

System of arrangement

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CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE**Access**

Available by appointment to holders of a UCDA reader's ticket.

Language

English.

Finding Aid

Descriptive catalogue.

DESCRIPTION CONTROL**Archivist's Note**

This descriptive catalogue was prepared by Meadhbh Murphy.

1. MINUTE BOOKS

1.1 Executive Committee

P280/1-24 Minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee

Bound volumes of handwritten and typed minutes of the Executive Committee. This committee oversees the running of the Leinster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU). Minutes list the names of those in attendance and are signed and dated by a member of the committee. Meetings are held approximately every two weeks. Discussing such topics as rugby seasonal reports; committee elections; match schedules; team and referee selection; travel arrangements; rules and regulations; annual general meetings; fixtures and national and international tournaments. Other related material (letters, newspaper cuttings, reports etc) are loosely inserted or glued in.

P280/1 1894-1908

1 volume

P280/2 1909-1919

1 volume

Some minutes are taken in shorthand. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Schools Interprovincial Committee (February 1913-March 1918)
- Cup Committee (February 1913-February 1914).

P280/3 1921-1930

1 volume

Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Selection Committee (December 1921-December 1929)
- Finance Committee (December 1921-August 1930)
- School Committee (March 1922-December 1923)
- Sub Committee (January 1924-March 1930)
- Foreign Fixtures (November 1929)

P280/4 1930-1938

1 volume

Index at the back. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Finance Committee (October 1930-May 1938)
- Selection Committee (November 1930-November 1933)
- Donnybrook Grounds Sub Committee (March 1931-November 1937)
- Seven-a-side Sub Committee (April 1931-April 1936)
- Charity Matches Sub Committee (April 1933-January 1936)

P280/5 1938-1947

1 volume

Index at the back. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Finance Committee (May 1940-March 1947)
- Donnybrook Grounds Sub Committee (March 1939-March 1947)

P280/6 1947-1955

1 volume

Index at the back. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Finance Committee (April 1948-September 1955)
- Donnybrook Grounds Sub Committee (September 1947-September 1955)
- Sub Committee (December 1949-September 1955)
- Ticket Allocation Sub Committee (November 1952-September 1955)

P280/7 1955-1961

1 volume

Index at the back. Winners of the Senior, Metropolitan, Junior, Provincial Towns, Bateman, James O'Connor, Moran, Albert

O'Connell Minor, Minor League, Schools League, Winters, Senior Schools, Junior League, Junior Schools, Suttonians Spencer Memorial, Third A League cups are listed. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Ticket Allocation Sub Committee (October 1955-October 1960)
- Finance Committee (May 1956-June 1961)
- Donnybrook Grounds Sub Committee (September 1956-July 1961)
- Sub Committee (February 1956-February 1957)
- Fixtures Committee (October 1956-February 1961)

P280/8 1961-1966

1 volume

Index at the back. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Finance Committee (June 1962-June 1966)
- Donnybrook Grounds Sub Committee (November 1961-September 1966)
- Ticket Allocation Sub Committee (January 1962-June 1963)
- Coaching Sub Committee (January 1965-October 1966)

P280/9 1966-1971

1 volume

Index at the back. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Finance Committee (June 1967-June 1971)
- Coaching Sub Committee (May 1967-October 1971)
- Donnybrook Grounds Sub Committee (January 1968)

P280/10 1971-1974

1 volume

Index at the back. Winners of the Senior, Metropolitan, Junior League, Minor League, Moran, Anderson, Winters, Albert O'Connell Minor, Harry Gale, Junior 4 League, Tom Fox, James O'Connor,

McCorry Under 19, Spencer Provincial Towns, Provincial 2nd, Michael Dunne, Provincial Plate, School's Senior, Schools Junior and Schools League cups are listed at the back. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Finance Committee (November 1971-June 1974)
- Coaching Sub Committee (November 1971-June 1974)
- Ticket Allocation Sub Committee (November 1972)
- Press and Public Relations Sub Committee (April 1973-July 1974)

P280/11 1974-1976

1 volume

Index at the back. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Finance Committee (March-July 1975)
- Press and Public Relations Sub Committee (May 1975-1976)
- Coaching Sub Committee (April 1975-1976)
- Disciplinary Sub Committee (September 1975-1976)

P280/12 1976-1980

1 volume

Index at the back. Loose pages inserted. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

- Finance Committee (August 1976-January 1980)
- Donnybrook Grounds Sub Committee (January 1978-August 1978)
- Press and Public Relations Sub Committee (September 1976-February 1977)
- Fixtures Sub Committee (September 1976-March 1976)

P280/13 1980-1983

1 volume

Index at the front. Includes statistics for seasons 1979-1980, 1980-1981, 1981-1982 and 1982-1983. Contains minutes of meetings of the following:

Leinster Branch IRFU Archives

- Finance Committee (June 1980-March 1981)
- Donnybrook Grounds Sub Committee (December 1980-June 1981)

P280/14 1983-1987

1 volume

Index at the front. Includes statistics for seasons 1983-1984, 1984-1985 and 1985-1986. Contains the following:

- Statement of Accounts (1986-1987, 1987-1988)
- Honorary Secretary's Report (1983-1984, 1984-1985, 1985-1986)

P280/15 1987-1990

1 volume

Unused index at the front. Includes statistics for seasons 1986-1987 and 1988-1989. Contains the following:

- Statement of Accounts (1986-1987, 1987-1988, 1989-1990)
- Honorary Secretary's Report (1986-1987, 1987-1988, 1988-1989)

P280/16 1989-1992

1 volume

Includes statistics for season 1989-1990. Contains the following:

- Statement of Accounts (1989-1990, 1990-1991)
- Honorary Secretary's Report (1989-1990, 1990-1991)

P280/17 1992-1993

1 volume

Includes statistics for seasons 1991-1992 and 1992-1993. Contains the following:

- Financial Accounts (1991-1992, 1992-1993)
- Honorary Secretary's Report (1991-1992, 1992-1993)

- P280/18** 1994-1995
1 volume
Includes statistics for seasons 1993-1994, 1994-1995 and 1995-1996. Contains the following:
- Financial Accounts (1993-1994, 1994-1995, 1995-1996)
 - Honorary Secretary's Report (1993-1994, 1994-1995, 1995-1996)
 - Section 'A' Schools Secretary's Report (1995-1996)
 - Leinster Development Report (1994-1995)
- P280/19** 1997-1999
1 volume
Includes statistics for season 1998-1999. Contains the following:
- Financial Statements (1997-1998, 1998-1999)
 - Honorary Secretary's Report (1997-1998, 1998-1999)
- P280/20** 2001-2003
1 volume
- P280/21** 2004-2006
1 volume
- P280/22** 2006-2007
1 volume
- P280/23** 2008-2009
1 volume

P280/24 2009-2010
1 volume

1.2 Junior League Committee

P280/25-3 **Minutes of meetings of the Junior League Committee**
1

Bound volumes of handwritten and typed minutes of the Junior League Committee. This committee oversees the running of the Junior League within the Leinster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU). Minutes list the names of those in attendance and are signed and dated by a member of the committee. Meetings are held from January to July and again from September to December. Discussing such topics interprovincial and team selection; fixtures; competitions; committee nominations; administration and annual general meetings. Other related material (letters, newspaper cuttings, reports etc) are loosely inserted or glued in

P280/25 1919-1933
1 volume

P280/26 1933-1953
1 volume

Unused index at back. Contains list of date and venue of Dublin Junior XV versus Provincial XV winners from 1944-1953.

P280/27 1952-1965
1 volume

Index at back. Contains list of date and venue of Dublin Junior XV versus Provincial XV winners from 1944-1961.

P280/28 1966-1973
1 volume
Index at back.

P280/29 1974-1980
1 volume
Index at back.

P280/30 1980-1987
1 volume
Index at front.

P280/31 1987-1995
1 volume
Unused index at front.

1.3 Schools Committee

P280/32-3 **Minutes of meetings of the Schools Committee**
3

Bound volumes of handwritten and typed minutes of the Schools Committee. This committee oversees the running of the Schools league within the Leinster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU). Minutes list the names of those in attendance and are signed and dated by a member of the committee. Meetings are held from January to July and again from September to December. Discussing such topics team selection; fixtures and competitions; resolutions and annual general meetings. Other related material (letters, newspaper cuttings, reports etc) are glued in.

P280/32 1929-1947
1 volume
Unused index at back.

P280/33 1947-1973

1 volume

Index at back.

2. LETTER BOOKS

P280/34-6 Letter books
7

Bound volumes of copies of typed and handwritten letters sent by the Leinster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Association (IRFU). Includes annual general meeting reminders and material relating to various competitions.

P280/34 21 November 1928-31 August 1929

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/35 2 September 1929-30 January 1930

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/36 1 February-31 August 1930

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/37 3 September 1930-30 September 1931

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/38 2 October 1931-31 August 1932

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/39 1 September 1932-20 August 1933

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/40 1 September 1933-30 June 1935

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/41 4 July 1935-1 September 1936

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/42 14 June 1936-16 July 1937

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/43 31 July 1937-19 October 1938

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/44 6 July 1938-18 July 1939

1 volume

Index at front.

- P280/45** 28 July 1939-19 July 1940
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/46** 24 July 1940-31 August 1941
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/47** 3 September 1941-21 May 1942
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/48** 26 May 1942-31 June 1943
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/49** 25 June 1943-12 July 1944
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/50** July 1944-June 1945
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/51** August 1945-July 1946
1 volume
Index at front.

- P280/52** August 1946-July 1947
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/53** 20 June 1947-9 August 1948
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/54** 13 August 1948-30 July 1949
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/55** 4 August 1949-31 August 1950
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/56** 4 September 1950-13 August 1951
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/57** 1 September 1951-31 August 1952
1 volume
Index at front.
- P280/58** 20 August 1952-31 July 1953
1 volume

Index at front.

P280/59 August 1953-July 1954

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/60 July 1954-June 1955

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/61 June 1955-April 1956

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/62 1 May 1956-30 April 1957

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/63 1 May 1957-30 April 1958

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/64 1 May 1958-30 April 1959

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/65 1 May 1959-30 April 1960

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/66 1 May 1960-30 April 1961

1 volume

Index at front.

P280/67 1 May 1961-30 April 1962

1 volume

Index at front.

3. NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS

P280/68-8 Bound volumes of glued in newspaper cuttings and circulars relating
4 to the Leinster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU).

P280/68 December 1928-July 1932

1 volume

P280/69 April 1946-December 1948

1 volume

Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1928-1933.

P280/70 December 1948-February 1951

1 volume

Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1932-1939.

Leinster Branch IRFU Archives

- P280/71** October 1953-May 1955
1 volume
Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1931-1938.
- P280/72** August 1955-May 1957
1 volume
Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1946-1954.
- P280/73** August 1957-December 1958
1 volume
Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1923-1930.
- P280/74** November 1958-December 1959
1 volume
Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1938-1947.
- P280/75** December 1959-February 1961
1 volume
Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1955-1959.
- P280/76** February 1961-January 1962
1 volume
- P280/77** January-November 1962
1 volume
- P280/78** November 1962-October 1963

Leinster Branch IRFU Archives

1 volume

P280/79 October 1963-August 1964

1 volume

Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1959-1962.

P280/80 September 1964-October 1965

1 volume

P280/81 October 1965-June 1967

1 volume

Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1963-1965.

P280/82 August 1967-January 1971

1 volume

P280/83 January 1971-April 1974

1 volume

Newspaper cuttings glued over minutes from 1965-1969.

P280/84 March 1974-October 1979

1 volume

4. FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

**P280/85-1
00** Bound volumes of handwritten financial accounts relating to the Leinster Branch of the Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU). Includes general administrative costs such as affiliation fees; expenses; wages;

Leinster Branch IRFU Archives

gate receipts; grants; loans; insurance; pension; bank lodgements and petty cash expenses amongst others.

- P280/85** 1882-1896
1 volume
Accounts of Leinster Branch IRFU. Address book at front. Fragile.
- P280/86** 1885-1900
1 volume
Accounts of the Leinster Branch Challenge Cup.
- P280/87** 1887-1900
1 volume
Accounts of the Leinster Branch Schools Challenge Cup.
- P280/88** 1889-1900
1 volume
Accounts of the Leinster Branch Junior Challenge Cup.
- P280/89** 1905-1941
1 volume
Revenue accounts.
- P280/90** 1925-1937
1 volume
Expenditure accounts.
- P280/91** 1925-1947

Leinster Branch IRFU Archives

1 volume

Income accounts.

P280/92 1943-1968

1 volume

Affiliation fees. Accounts for 1966-1980 at back.

P280/93 1956-1980

1 volume

Gate receipts for Donnybrook and Lansdowne. Unused index at front.

P280/94 1964-1977

1 volume

Accounts.

P280/95 1972-1989

1 volume

Accounts.

P280/96 1976-1986

1 volume

Ledger accounts. Index at front.

P280/97 1983-1990

1 volume

Ledger accounts. Index at front.

P280/98 1988-1993
1 volume
Ledger accounts. Index at front.

P280/99 1989-1993
1 volume
Accounts.

P280/100 1991-1992
1 volume
Bank lodgements.