

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

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