

THE PROVINCIAL TOWNS CUP

FOR GENERATIONS IT'S THE SPIRIT OF RUGBY



2018
93rd

THE PROVINCIAL TOWNS CUP



*“ For me the **Towns Cup** encapsulates the essence of rugby and has been the pulse of Leinster rugby for well over 100 years – long may it last”*

OLLIE CAMPBELL

*“The **Provincial Towns Cup** has been the spirit of Club rugby and epitomizes the “Holy Grail” – it’s a great journey that involves passion, courage, despair and elation –
it’s one of the great Irish rugby tournaments”*

TONY WARD

*“A **Towns Cup** medal is one of the most prized rewards that a player can receive – not just for himself but also for his Club.*

A tournament for heroes”

CIARAN FITZGERALD

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR **YOUR TOWN, YOUR CLUB, YOUR CUP**

The **Provincial Towns Cup** trophy is one of the oldest trophies in existence in Irish Rugby. It was purchased in **1892** for **£25** from Wests in Grafton Street, Dublin.

The cup bears the title of **Leinster Junior Challenge Trophy** but it is not as old as the competition itself, which was established in **1888**. In 1883, the Leinster Branch established a sub-committee to investigate the establishment of a Cup competition for Junior Clubs to be run on a similar basis to the Leinster Senior Cup. The sub-committee reported back in 1888 (5 years later !) and recommended that no club should be allowed to enter the Junior Cup that had, in the same or previous year, entered the Senior Cup. The Leinster Branch accepted these recommendations and the first Junior Cup competition was run in **1889**.

Nine Clubs entered the first Junior Cup (**Blackrock College, Clontarf, Cabra, Rangers, Claremont, Farra, Santry and Athy**) and **Blackrock College** were the first winners. Medals were presented to the winners but no cup was as yet presented. Clubs were requested to subscribe to the cost of a Cup but the response was slow. The Leinster Branch records show that Blackrock College paid £2.2.0, Clontarf and Santry £2 each and Athy and Claremont 10/- each. **Blackrock College** who won the initial **Junior Cup in 1889** were the first club to be presented with the Cup when they won the competition in **1892**.

The **Leinster Junior Cup** final was staged for **33 seasons** from the 1888/1889 season 'till 1925 with no competition being held in 1915 to 1919 due to World War I and the list of winners inscribed on the Cup during this period includes **Blackrock College, Old Wesley, Clontarf, St Mary's, UCD. Blackrock** were winners in **1892** and became the **first** Club to be presented with the **Leinster Junior Cup. Eamon de Valera** was a member of a victorious Blackrock College side that won a Leinster Junior Cup. The first "Provincial" club to win the **Junior Cup** was **Co. Carlow** (5 Junior Cup wins) in **1904** followed by **Enniscorthy** (2 wins), **Dundalk, Kilkenny** and **Co. Kildare (Naas)**. From **1920** the Provincial based clubs dominated the Junior Cup, winning 6 consecutive finals. **Enniscorthy** won the last Leinster Junior Cup, which was staged in **1925** when they defeated **Co. Kildare (Naas)** and also became the first club to win the new competition named the **Provincial Towns Cup** in **1926** when they defeated **Co. Kildare (Naas)** at Donnybrook.

The **Leinster Junior Cup** competition was the fore runner of the **Provincial Towns Cup** and the 5 "Provincial Clubs" to have won it are

CO. CARLOW	5 wins – 1904, 1912, 1913, 1921, 1922.
ENNISCORTHY	2 wins - 1923, 1925
DUNDALK	1 win - 1909.
KILKENNY	1 win - 1920.
CO. KILDARE (NAAS)	1 win - 1924

The conditions of the competition were changed for the **1926** running of the competition and only teams who were located at least 18 miles from the **General Post Office** in O'Connell Street were eligible to compete. **Enniscorthy** won the final **Leinster Junior Challenge Cup** when they defeated **Naas** by 10 points to 3 points at **Lansdowne Road** and also won the first **Provincial Towns Cup in 1926** when they again defeated **Naas** by 6 points to nil at **Donnybrook**.

The **Provincial Towns Cup** finals were first staged at **Donnybrook** (1926 to 1928). In **1929** the final was staged at **Lansdowne Road** for the first time (**Co. Carlow** defeating **Athy**) and continued there for another **16 consecutive seasons**. **Skerries** won the last final staged at **Lansdowne Road** when they defeated **The Curragh** in **1944**. The tradition was that the Towns Cup final was staged at Lansdowne Road in conjunction with the **Leinster Senior Cup** final. The Towns Cup finals reverted back to **Donnybrook** in **1945** and continued to be played there for 8 more seasons. **Skerries** won the last final staged at **Donnybrook** in **1952** when they defeated **Naas** by 6 points to 5 points. Since **1953** a total of 21 Clubs throughout Leinster have hosted the Towns Cup finals.

To date a total of **23 Clubs** have won the Towns Cup the most recent being **Tullow**, who won their first Cup in **2017**. The record for Towns Cup wins is held by **Co. Carlow** with **12** wins, followed by **Skerries** who have won **11** wins including a **record 4 in a row. Towns Cup** and **Leinster League "doubles"** have been achieved by just **4 Clubs** - **Naas** (twice), **Co. Carlow, Kilkenny** and **Tullamore**.

The record for **final appearances** is held by **Co Carlow**, who have appeared in **16** finals followed by **Athy** (15), **Navan** (15), **Dundalk** (15). Three Clubs have 100% winning records in the final - **Edenderry** and **Roscrea** with **2 wins** while **Delvin** also won a Towns Cup in **1962** on their only final appearance.

A total of **10** Towns Cup finals have been **won by a single point** while the greatest winning margin was **32 points** recorded by **Tullamore** in 2013. To date **14 Cup finals** resulted in extra time being played with **7** of these finals going to a replay.

Well known Irish Internationals who have set out on the road to capture an elusive Town's Cup winners medal include **Mick Doyle, Jimmy Kelly, Willie Duggan, Ned Byrne, Tony Ensor, Ciaran Fitzgerald, Jim Glennon, Phil Lawlor, Geordan Murphy** and **Ian Dowling**.

THE CUP

The Cup is described as a London Presentation Jug and was made by **Robert Hennell III** in **1863**. The Hennell family were described as the royalty of silversmiths and were established in London by David Hennell in 1735. Over 30 personal silver marks were established by the family until the last son, Samuel died in 1837. A second Hennell firm was established in 1809 by David's grandson Robert (Born in 1769) which operated until 1887.

Robert Hennell III was born in **1794** and was a son of Robert Hennell II. He first entered a number of maker marks with the London Assay Office on the 30th June 1834 from an address at 14 Northumberland Street, The Mall, London and a second mark was entered on the 20th May 1857 from St John's Hill, Battersea, London.

Robert Hennell III died in **1868** aged **74** and 5 years after he made what is now one of the most historic trophies in Irish Rugby.

LEINSTER JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP Inaugurated for the **1888/89** season.

1889 BLACKROCK COLLEGE

1890 SANTRY SCHOOL

1891 RANALAGH SCHOOL

1892 BLACKROCK COLLEGE -**1st Cup is presented.**

1893 BLACKROCK COLLEGE

1894 OLD WESLEY- **Blackrock won 3-0 but were disqualified for "unfair" team.**

1895 OLD WESLEY

1896 GENERAL POST OFFICE F.C.

1897 GENERAL POST OFFICE F.C.

1898 BLACKROCK RFC

1899 BLACKROCK RFC

1900 CLONTARF RFC

1901 SANTRY RFC

1902 R.I. C. RFC

1903 R.I. C. RFC

1904 CO. CARLOW

1905 ST MARY'S RFC

1906 R.I.C. RFC

1907 ST MARY'S RFC

1908 ST MARY'S RFC 3 - ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE 0

1909 DUNDALK RFC 6 - ST MARY' COLLEGE 3 after a replay.

1910 MERRION RFC - DUNDALK after a replay.

1911 ST MARY'S RFC

1912 CO. CARLOW

1913 CO. CARLOW

1914 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

1915, 1916, 1917, 1918 and 1919

not played due to World War I

1920 KILKENNY RFC 3 - ENNISCORTHY 0

1921 CO. CARLOW - RAILWAY & SPU, 1st Final 6-6, Replay - 3-3.

1922 CO. CARLOW

1923 ENNISCORTHY RFC

1924 COUNTY KILDARE RFC (Naas) 12 ENNISCORTHY 3 (Ref T Bell).

1925 ENNISCORTHY RFC 10 **COUNTY KILDARE (Naas) 3 (Ref J H Sinclair)**

YEAR VENUE/Referee	WINNER	SCORE	RUNNER-UP
1926 DONNYBROOK W A Hunter	ENNISCORTHY Paddy Bolger	6 - 0	CO. KILDARE (Naas) Alma Sargent
1927 DONNYBROOK	ENNISCORTHY Charlie Lett	11 - 6	BALBRIGGAN Pat McGowan
1928 DONNYBROOK Replay at CARLOW	BALBRIGGAN	0 - 0 Replay 8 - 0	ATHY
1929 LANSDOWNE RD	Frank Larkin CO. CARLOW Jim Oliver	9 - 0	Jerry O'Neill ATHY Dan Carbery
1930 LANSDOWNE RD	WEXFORD WANDERERS Tom Walsh	6 - 3	ATHY Robert Anderson
1931 LANSDOWNE RD	CO. CARLOW Bill Duggan	9 - 0	BALLYMAHON Jimmy Duncan
1932 LANSDOWNE RD J H Mills	DUNDALK Arthur Halliday	7 - 0	LONGFORD Jack Callanan
1933 LANSDOWNE RD	CO. CARLOW Bill Duggan	6 - 5	WEXFORD WANDERERS Colm Harte
1934 LANSDOWNE RD	ENNISCORTHY Joe Tomkins	5 - 3	SHANNON BUCCANEERS Frank McDonald
1935 LANSDOWNE RD 10th L J Heaney	SHANNON BUCCANEERS Jim Mullen	16 - 0	NAAS Dick Alvey
1936 LANSDOWNE RD	SHANNON BUCCANEERS Jack Cornish	6 - 3	DUNDALK Jimmy Duggan
1937 LANSDOWNE RD	DUNDALK Donal O'Herlihy	18 - 3	SHANNON BUCCANEERS Jimmy O'Connor
1938 LANSDOWNE RD	ATHY Des McHugh	6 - 5	DUNDALK Bryan Jennings
1939 LANSDOWNE RD	DUNDALK John O'Neill	3 - 0	SHANNON BUCCANEERS Diarmuid Murtagh extra time
1940 LANSDOWNE RD	ATHY Norman Plewman	12 - 3	DUNDALK Frank Jeffers
1941 LANSDOWNE RD	SKERRIES Joey Sherwin	7 - 5	WEXFORD WANDERERS Frank Pettit
1942 LANSDOWNE RD	CURRAGH Dick Bunworth	9 - 0	DUNDALK Paddy Halpenny
1943 LANSDOWNE RD	SKERRIES Tommy Jenkinson	4 - 3	ATHY George Leonard
1944 LANSDOWNE RD	SKERRIES Oliver Duff	17 - 0	CURRAGH 2nd XV Cathal O'Shea
1945 DONNYBROOK 20th	DUNDALK Kevin Campbell	17 - 0	CURRAGH 2nd XV Louis Culliton
1946 DONNYBROOK	TULLAMORE Frank Egan	3 - 0	SKERRIES Johnny Drury
1947 DONNYBROOK	DUNDALK Larry Steen	9 - 6	CURRAGH Pat Sweeney -extra time
1948 DONNYBROOK D Williams	DUNDALK Nial McCann	3 - 0	ATHY Joe O'Neill
1949 DONNYBROOK	DUNDALK Ernie Jeffers	3 - 0	NAAS Joe Osborne

YEAR VENUE/Referee	WINNER	SCORE	RUNNER-UP
1950 DONNYBROOK	SKERRIES	0 – 0	RATHDOWNEY
		Replay 3 – 0	
1951 DONNYBROOK	Des Cashell SKERRIES	12 – 0	Hugh Brady RATHDOWNEY
1952 DONNYBROOK	John Heffernan SKERRIES	6 – 5	Sean Costello NAAS
1953 CARLOW	Steve Duff NORTH KILDARE	9 – 0	Barry O'Connor RATHDOWNEY
1954 TULLAMORE	Michael Ward MULLINGAR	3 – 0	Donie O'Malley NAAS
1955 ATHY 30th	Mylo Cox KILKENNY	3 – 3	Sean Fitzsimons NORTH KILDARE
		Replay 3 – 0	
1956 TULLAMORE	Ned Mitchell MULLINGAR	6 – 3	Michael Ward KILKENNY
1957 TULLAMORE	Mick Nugent CO. CARLOW	6 – 6	Ned Mitchell - extra time MULLINGAR
		Replay 9 – 3	
1958 ATHY	Paddy Nolan NORTH KILDARE	6 – 3	Kevin Quinn NAAS
1959 TULLAMORE	Fintan Buckley KILKENNY	3 – 0	Billy Brophy NORTH KILDARE
	Jack Notley		Colm Buckley
1960 KILKENNY J Bell	TULLAMORE Tom Murphy	17 – 8	WEXFORD WANDERERS Hugh Latimer
1961 TULLAMORE	CO. CARLOW Tom O'Brien	11 – 3	NAVAN Tony Wade
1962 TULLAMORE	DELVIN	12 – 0	ATHY
1963 ATHY	Billy Reynolds ENNISCORTHY	3 – 3	Jerry O'Neill SKERRIES
		Replay 5 - 3	
1964 TULLAMORE	Tony Reid NAVAN	6 – 6	John McIlvenna KILKENNY
		Replay 5 – 0	
1965 TULLAMORE 40th	Mick Fitzsimons CO. CARLOW	9 – 6	Gerry McCabe ATHY
1966 ATHY	Austin Lalor NAVAN	8 – 3	Eddie Kelly WEXFORD WANDERERS
1967 NAVAN	Dick Brady CURRAGH	6 – 3	Paddy Doris DROGHEDA
1968 CARLOW	Barry Studdert NAVAN	6 – 3	Arthur Mullan ARKLOW
1969 NAVAN	Barney Reilly EDENDERRY	6 – 3	Jim Killeen - extra time DROGHEDA
	Pat Mulvin		Jim Tully
1970 DROGHEDA	DUNDALK	8 – 3	NAVAN
1971 CURRAGH John West	Vinnie McGee SKERRIES	14 – 6	Pete Hogan NAVAN
1972 CURRAGH	Darragh McMahon SKERRIES	19 – 6	Robbie Dyer KILKENNY
1973 NAVAN	Darragh McMahon SKERRIES	12 – 11	Kevin Prendergast NORTH KILDARE
1974 CURRAGH David Burnett	Peter Quirke SKERRIES	6 – 3	Eddie Stafford ARKLOW
1975 EDENDERRY 50th Des Flanagan	Colm Sherlock ROSCREA	8 – 7	Liam O'Cleirigh CURRAGH
	Frank O'Connor		Dan Rae

YEAR VENUE/Referee	WINNER	SCORE	RUNNER-UP
1976 PORTLAOISE John Dardis	TULLAMORE Mick Clavin	9 – 3	DROGHEDA Donal Kinsella
1977 CARLOW Dave Burnett	CO. CARLOW Noel Quaid	9 – 6	ATHY Johnny Miller - extra time
1978 DUNDALK Michael Thomas	ATHY Johnny Miller	14 - 9	CURRAGH Donough O'Keeffe
1979 ARKLOW Owen Doyle	SKERRIES 2nd XV Darragh McMahon	12 – 7	CO. CARLOW Roy Elmes
1980 ATHY John West	ROSCREA Ger Hayes	11 - 10	PORTLAOISE Tom Casserly
1981 PORTLAOISE Dave McCorduck	ATHY Paddy Conway	8 – 3	CO. CARLOW Brian Carbery
1982 NORTH KILDARE Johns Dardis	PORTLAOISE Joe Finn	7 – 6	NAAS Seamus Lenehan
1983 TULLAMORE Philip Gray	EDENDERRY Christy Dunne	6 – 3	ATHY Keith Meredith
1984 ROSCREA Dave McCorduck	ATHY Ernie Stacey	13 – 6	PORTLAOISE Seamus Holden
1985 KILKENNY 60th Pat O'Keeffe	ARKLOW Mick Hickey	9 – 6	DROGHEDA Barry Roche
1986 DROGHEDA Chris Luckey	KILKENNY Mick McGrath	10 – 0	CURRAGH John Cremin
1987 LONGFORD Frank Burns	DUNDALK Robert Shekleton	13 – 6	KILKENNY Joe Reidy - extra time
1988 TULLAMORE John Dardis	NAVAN David Healy	7 – 3	PORTLAOISE Terry Hegarty
1989 ATHY Brendan. Jenkinson	ENNISCORTHY John Bolger	6 – 0	MULLINGAR David Farrelly
1990 NORTH KILDARE Dermot Lally	NAVAN John McLarney	14 – 13	CO. CARLOW Joe Walshe
1991 CURRAGH Pat O'Keeffe	NAVAN Peter Brady	34 – 15	ATHY Frank Dooley
1992 ARKLOW Larry Cooke	CO. CARLOW Trevor Shirley	25 – 15	ENNISCORTHY Colin Gainford
1993 PORTLAOISE Gerry Maher	CO. CARLOW Trevor Atkinson	9 - 9 Replay 25 – 18	MULLINGAR Fred Butler
1994 TULLOW Philip Gray	CO. CARLOW Trevor Atkinson	20 – 15	TULLAMORE Enda Molloy
1995 KILKENNY 70th Eugene Carbery	NAAS Colm Farrell	17 – 6	ENNISCORTHY Tommy James
1996 TULLAMORE Gerry Maher	CO. CARLOW Leonard Peavoy	25 – 10	MULLINGAR Fred Butler
1997 NAAS Tony Duncan	CO. CARLOW Leonard Peavoy	21 - 3	NAVAN Michael Gavigan
1998 ENNISCORTHY Eugene Carbery	NAAS Marc Fitzgerald	13 - 3	KILKENNY Willie O' Mahony
1999 MULLINGAR Gordon Black	NAVAN Christy Moffett	18 - 10	ASHBOURNE Paddy McLoughlin
2000 NAVAN Alan Lewis	NAVAN Jim McCartan	9 - 7	DUNDALK Ciaran Gallagher
2001 CARLOW David Keane	KILKENNY Simon Manuel	9 - 8	PORTLAOISE Donal Rigney
2002 NORTH KILDARE Tony Redmond	KILKENNY Willie O'Mahony	33 - 13	CO. CARLOW John Roache

YEAR	VENUE/Referee	WINNER	SCORE	RUNNER-UP
2003	ROSCREA Colin Stanley	PORTLAOISE Michael Fennelly	20 - 3	NAVAN Kieran Brazzil
2004	ATHY Des Woods	ARKLOW Anthony O'Donnell	8 - 3	PORTLAOISE Glen Adams.
2005	NAVAN 80th Terence Deacon	NAAS Stuart Pringle	23 - 16	BOYNE Wayne Mitchell
2006	NORTH KILDARE Robert Doyle	TULLAMORE Donal Milne	25 - 3	WICKLOW Noel Green
2007	CILL DARA Kevin Beggs	NAVAN Bernard Smyth	14 - 3	SKERRIES David Lee
2008	TULLAMORE Barry O'Keeffe	NAVAN Bernard Smyth	30 - 13	TULLOW Ivan Glynn
2009	ASHBOURNE Dudley Phillips	BOYNE Craig McGrath	27 - 21	TULLAMORE Gearoid O'Grady
2010	NAAS Brian MacNeice	BOYNE Craig McGrath	32 - 25	TULLAMORE Rob Connor
2011	EDENDERRY Paul Haycock	DUNDALK Steven McGee	35 - 20	TULLAMORE Adrian Hanley
2012	PORTARLINGTON Eanna O'Dowd	ENNISCORTHY Ross Barbour	23 - 17	TULLOW Frank Murphy
2013	EDENDERRY Gary Glennon	TULLAMORE Aaron Deverell	38 - 6	LONGFORD Derek Farrell
2014	TULLOW Ed Kenny	ASHBOURNE Rory Gleeson	6 - 3	KILKENNY extra time Joe Manuel
2015	CILL DARA Tim Townend	ENNISCORTHY Killian Lett	9 - 8	KILKENNY David O'Connor
2016	ASHBOURNE Gary Conway	WICKLOW Wesley Wojnar	28 - 21	ENISCORTHY Cillian Lett
2017	ATHY Brian Montayne	TULLOW Keiho Bloomfield	20 - 3	SKERRIES 2XV Barry Caldwell

PROVINCIAL TOWNS CUP ROLL OF HONOR

CO CARLOW -	16 final appearances- 12 wins -1929, 1931, 1933, 1957, 1961, 1965, 1977, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997 Lost 4 - 1979, 1981, 1990, 2002.
SKERRIES -	15 final appearances - 11 wins - 1941, 1943, 1944, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1979. Lost 4 - 1946, 1963, 2007, 2017.
NAVAN -	15 final appearances - 10 wins - 1964, 1966, 1968, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1999, 2000, 2007, 2008. Lost 5 - 1961, 1970, 1971, 1997, 2003.
DUNDALK -	15 final appearances - 10 wins - 1932, 1937, 1939, 1945, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1970, 1987, 2011. Lost 5 - 1936, 1938, 1940, 1942, 2000.
ENNISCORTHY -	10 final appearances - 7 wins - 1926, 1927, 1934, 1963, 1989, 2012, 2015. Lost 3 - 1992, 1995, 2016
ATHY -	15 final appearances - 5 wins - 1938, 1940, 1978, 1981, 1984. Lost 10 - 1928, 1929, 1930, 1943, 1948, 1962, 1965, 1977, 1983, 1991.
KILKENNY	12 final appearances - 5 wins - 1955, 1959, 1986, 2001, 2002. Lost 6 - 1956, 1964, 1972, 1987, 1998, 2014, 2015
TULLAMORE -	9 final appearances - 5 wins - 1946, 1960, 1976, 2006, 2013. Lost 4 - 1994, 2009, 2010, 2011.

NAAS	10 final appearances. 3 wins – 1995, 1998, 2005. Lost 7 – 1926, 1935, 1949, 1952, 1954, 1958, 1982.
ARKLOW -	4 final appearances – 2 wins – 1985, 2004. Lost 2 – 1968, 1974.
BOYNE	3 final appearances - 2 wins - 2009, 2010. Lost 1 - 2005.
CURRAGH -	8 final appearances – 2 wins – 1942, 1967. Lost 6 – 1944, 1945, 1947, 1975, 1978, 1986.
EDENDERRY -	2 final appearances – 2 wins – 1969, 1983.
MULLINGAR -	6 final appearances – 2 wins – 1954, 1956. Lost 4 – 1957, 1989, 1993, 1996.
NORTH KILDARE -	5 final appearances – 2 wins – 1953, 1958. Lost 3 – 1955, 1959, 1973.
PORTLAOISE	7 final appearances – 2 wins – 1982, 2003. Lost 5 – 1980, 1984, 1988, 2001, 2004.
ROSCREA	2 final appearances – 2 wins – 1975, 1980.
SHANNON BUCCANEERS	5 final appearances – 2 wins – 1935, 1936. Lost 3 – 1934, 1937, 1939.
ASHBOURNE	2 final appearances – 1 win – 2014. Lost 1 – 1999.
BALBRIGGAN	2 final appearances – 1 win – 1928. Lost 1 – 1927.
DELVIN	1 final appearance – 1 win – 1962.
TULLOW	3 final appearances 1 win – 2017 Lost 2 - 2008, 2012
WEXFORD WANDERERS	5 final appearances – 1 win – 1930. Lost 4 – 1933, 1941, 1960, 1966.
WICKLOW	2 final appearance – 1 win – 2016. Lost 1 – 2006.
DROGHEDA	4 final appearances – Lost 4 – 1967, 1969, 1976, 1985.
RATHDOWNEY	3 final appearances – Lost 3 – 1950, 1951, 1953.
LONGFORD	2 final appearances – Lost 2 – 1932, 2013.
BALLYMAHON	1 final appearance – Lost 1 – 1931.

WINNING STREAKS –

<i>4 in a row</i> –	
SKERRIES –	1971/1972/1973/1974
<i>TRIPLES</i> –	
DUNDALK -	1947/1948/1949
SKERRIES -	1950/1951/1952
CO. CARLOW –	1992/1993/1994
<i>BACK TO BACKS</i> –	
ENNISCORTHY	1926/1927
SHANNON BUCCANEERS	1935/1936
SKERRIES	1943/1944
NAVAN	1990/1991, 1999/2000, 2007/2008.
CO. CARLOW	1996/1997
KILKENNY	2001/2002
BOYNE	2009/2010

LOOSING STREAKS –

3 in a row –	
ATHY	1928/1929/1930
TULLAMORE	2009/2010/2011.
2 in a row –	
CURRAGH	1944/1945
RATHDOWNEY	1950/1951
NAVAN	1970/1971
KILKENNY	2014/2015

CONSECUTIVE FINAL APPEARANCES

FIVE IN A ROW –	
DUNDALK	1936/1937/1938/1939/1940
FOUR IN A ROW –	
SKERRIES	1971/1972/1973/1974 - all wins.
SHANNON BUCCANEERS	1934/1935/1936/1937
THREE IN A ROW –	
DUNDALK	1938/1939/1940 and 1947/1948/1949 – all wins.
ATHY	1928/1929/1930
TULLAMORE	2009/2010/2011 - all defeats

PHEW – THAT WAS CLOSE ! - 11 Finals won by a single point

1933	- CO CARLOW defeated Wexford Wanderers 6-5
1938	- ATHY defeated Dundalk 6-5
1943	- SKERRIES defeated Athy 4-3
1952	- SKERRIES defeated Naas 6-5
1973	- SKERRIES defeated North Kildare 12-11
1975	- ROSCREA defeated Curragh 8-7
1980	- ROSCREA defeated Portlaoise 11-10
1982	- PORTLAOISE defeated Naas 7-6
1990	- NAVAN defeated Co. Carlow 14-13
2001	- KILKENNY defeated Portlaoise 9-8
2015	- ENNISCORTHY defeated Kilkenny 9-8

IT'S EXTRA TIME and PLAY IT AGAIN –

1928	- BALBRIGGAN drew with ATHY 0-0 and won the replay 8-0
1939	- DUNDALK defeated SHANNON BUCCANEERS 3-0
1947	- DUNDALK defeated CURRAGH 9-6
1950	- SKERRIES drew with RATHDOWNEY 0-0 and won the replay 3-0
1955	- KILKENNY drew with NORTH KILDARE 3-3 and won the replay 3-0
1956	- MULLINGAR defeated KILKENNY 6-3
1957	- CARLOW drew with MULLINGAR 6-6 and won the replay 9-3.
1963	- ENNISCORTHY drew with SKERRIES 3-3 and won the replay 5-3.
1964	- NAVAN drew with KILKENNY 6-6 and won the replay 5-0.
1968	- NAVAN defeated ARKLOW 6-3.
1977	- CO. CARLOW defeated ATHY 9-6.
1987	- DUNDALK defeated KILKENNY 13-6.
1993	- CO. CARLOW drew with MULLINGAR 9-9 and won the replay 25-18.
2014	- ASHBOURNE defeated KILKENNY 6-3.

GREATEST WINNING MARGINS

32 Points	- in 2013 when TULLAMORE defeated LONGFORD (38 pts to 6 pts)
22 Points	- in 2006 when TULLAMORE defeated WICKLOW (25 pts to 3 pts)
20 Points	- in 2002 when KILKENNY defeated CO. CARLOW (33 pts to 13 pts)
19 Points	- in 1991 when NAVAN defeated ATHY (34 pts to 15 pts)
18 Points	- in 1997 when CO. CARLOW defeated NAVAN (21 pts to 3 pts)

TOWNS CUP & LEINSTER LEAGUE DOUBLES

2013 - TULLAMORE
2005 - NAAS
2002 - KILKENNY
1998 - NAAS
1997 - CO. CARLOW: -

HIGH SCORING FINALS

2010 - 57 Pts - BOYNE V TULLAMORE
2011 - 55 Pts - DUNDALK V TULLAMORE
1991 - 49 Pts - NAVAN V ATHY
2016 - 49 Pts - WICKLOW V ENNISCORTHY
2009 - 48 Pts - BOYNE V TULLAMORE

NO SCORE FINALS

1928 BALBRIGGAN V ATHY
1950 SKERRIES V RATHDOWNEY



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THE 1st PROVINCIAL TOWNS CUP FINAL-1926

ENNISCORTHY 6 V **CO. KILDARE (NAAS) 0**

For the third successive time **County Kildare** and **Enniscorthy** met in the Cup Final, the venue on this occasion being the Leinster Branch ground at Donnybrook. The contest was for the custody of the newly established **Provincial Towns Cup**, though the trophy was the old Junior Cup. In 1924 Kildare had beaten the Wexford men, but last year the “short grass” County had to go under to Wexford. Saturday’s final promised a keen contest, but it was marred by an incident which will be referred to later, and Enniscorthy, the holders, retained possession of the Cup by a win of two tries – or six points clear. The game started by drizzling rain, and with little abatement, these conditions prevailed to the end. A decision by the referee ten minutes before the interval reduced the Kildare strength to fourteen men and this handicap was more than they could overcome.

There was little between the sides. Both elected to keep the ball high and when it did come out, Kildare forwards bored their way through the opposition. It was, to use a hackneyed expression, a typical cup tie and the wing three quarters on both sides had little to do with the play.

The outstanding player on the field was the Enniscorthy full-back **Williamson**. He fielded and kicked in splendid style, and next to him was **C.J. Lett**, who exploited the winger game with great success, though he was often off-side.

The play in the first half in drizzling rain was very even, and both sides attacked in turn. However from a scrable near the Kildare line, after eighteen minutes’ play **P.D. Murphy** got over near the left corner flag. **C.J. Lett**’s effort to convert falling short.

In the second half, the Kildare side, though depleted, made desperate efforts to equalise, but it was not to be and nearing the end, **C.J. Lett** burst over for a smart try, but his kick fell short.

For Enniscorthy, Williamson played a splendid game at back, fielding and kicking faultlessly, except on one occasion. **Davis** showed speed and **P.D. Murphy** was also useful. **Mitchell** at the base of the scrum was energetic, but lacking in enterprise, for he mostly elected to forge through, and **Bolger**, **Ennis**, **Harte** and **G. Lett** were the best of the forwards. For Kildare, **J. O’Connor** has often played a better game and was outpointed by his rivals. **Dr. Ellison** got little or no chance., **Halpin** and **Hennessy** worked hard. **Sergeant**, **McDermott**, **Deering** and **E. O’Connor** were the best of the forwards.

Result – Enniscorthy 2 tries (6 points), Co. Kildare Nil.

Co. Kildare – J. O’Connor, Dr. C. Ellison, S.J. Halpin, J. Hennessy, T.W. Osborne, T. O’Dowd, J. Osborne, A. Sergeant (Capt), A. O’Connor, E. O’Connor, B. Gibson, M. Deering, J. Brady, B.J. McDermott, L. Kergan.

Enniscorthy – J. Williamson, F. Davis, B. Murphy, M.A. Furlong, P.D. Murphy, J.H. Lett, H.S. Mitchell, P.A. Bolger (Capt), R.J. Ennis, C.J. Lett, G. Lett, R.V. Harte, B. Martin, F. Sweetman, F.E. Walker.

Referee – Mr. W. A. Hunter.