



LEITH RUGBY SEVENS 2018

BEER TENT | CAMPERVAN BREWERY | DJ | BBQ
ALSO FEATURING TOUR GAME AND JUNIOR RUGBY DEMO
SUGGESTED DONATION: £2 - ALL PROCEEDS TO LEITH RUGBY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**SATURDAY
28 APRIL**

TOUR GAME @ 12.00pm

LEITH RUGBY XV V MERTON RFC

FIRST 7S TIE @ 12.36PM

ACADEMY PARK | EASTER ROAD

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all players and supporters to the 2018 edition of the Leith Rugby 7s Tournament.



I hope you all have an enjoyable day with the sun shining on Leith. While there can only be one team winning the tournament it is my wish that the game of rugby and friendship are the ultimate winners. On the pitch the 12 teams will compete for the Carl Waugh Trophy which was presented to Leith Academics RFC in the early 1970's by Councillor Cornelius Waugh in memory of his late father when Leith Accies decided to first hold a 7s tournament.

Councillor Waugh, known to all as "Cornie" was a well-known and respected figure in the Leith community as well as the wider Scottish rugby community where he refereed at a high level following the end of his playing days. Cornie went on to become the President of Leith Accies RFC and we look forward to presenting the Carl Waugh Trophy to the victors today.

Good luck to all participants and a warm welcome to Merton RFC who are visiting Leith on tour this weekend. Remember to stay hydrated lads!



CAPTAIN'S CORNER

It is with great pleasure I welcome all players, supporters and visiting teams to Academy Park for another enthralling Leith Rugby 7s, a tournament which continues to grow and this year's competition will be no exception.

Today will see an action packed day of high quality rugby. Thanks to everyone who has made the effort to travel. Welcome also to Merton RFC who visit to us from London on their annual tour. A Leith XV will provide the opposition for what will be a thrilling encounter at 12pm.

We'd like to welcome Campervan Brewery who will be pitchside offering their tasty local brews. Big thanks to them and our own bar staff for keeping everyone hydrated on this scorcher of a day! Thanks also to Alex Bowman and Leith Rugby Youth Development for the fantastic BBQ. All proceeds will be donated to our youth rugby section, so grab a burger and enjoy! Look out for the fruits of your purchase during the Leith Hawks and Leith Vixens mini rugby demo on the main pitch at noon. I'd also like to thank the Hawks and Vixens for providing the ball boys and girls for the tournament.

Thanks to Dave and Margaret Richie for preparing the player's food, and a special thanks goes to Doug Watters for organising this event. Without you this would not be possible.

Finally, I hope you all have a great day at Leith Rugby. Here's hoping for some incredible rugby and another memorable competition. Enjoy.

LEITH 7s COMPETITION DRAW

POOL A		POOL B		POOL C		POOL D	
INVERLEITH		MERCHISTONIAN		QUEENSFERRY		WALKERBURN	
BOROUGHMUIR BEARS		LEITH RUGBY		EDINBURGH EAGLES		LINLITHGOW	
EDINBURGH NAPIER		KINROSS		FORRESTER		KILMARNOCK	
PITCH 1				PITCH 2			
				12:00	#00 LEITH RUGBY	V	MERTON
#01 INVERLEITH	V	BOROUGHMUIR BEARS	12:36				
#02 MERCHISTONIAN	V	LEITH RUGBY	12:54				
#03 QUEENSFERRY	V	EDINBURGH EAGLES	13:12	#04 WALKERBURN	V	LINLITHGOW	
#05 BOROUGHMUIR BEARS	V	EDINBURGH NAPIER	13:30	#06 LEITH RUGBY	V	KINROSS	
#07 LINLITHGOW	V	KILMARNOCK	13:48	#08 EDINBURGH EAGLES	V	FORRESTER	
#09 KINROSS	V	MERCHISTONIAN	14:06	#10 EDINBURGH NAPIER	V	INVERLEITH	
#11 QUEENSFERRY	V	FORRESTER	14:24	#12 KILMARNOCK	V	WALKERBURN	
				14:42			
#13 THIRD POOL A	V	THIRD POOL B	15:00	#14 THIRD POOL C	V	THIRD POOL D	
#15 FIRST POOL A	V	FIRST POOL B	15:18	#16 SECOND POOL A	V	SECOND POOL B	
#17 FIRST POOL C	V	FIRST POOL D	15:36	#18 SECOND POOL C	V	SECOND POOL D	
FINALS							
#19 SHIELD FINAL	#19 WINNER 13	V	WINNER 14	15:54			
#20 BOWL FINAL	#20 WINNER 16	V	WINNER 18	16:12			
#21 PLATE FINAL	#21 LOSER 15	V	LOSER 17	16:30			
#22 CUP FINAL	#22 WINNER 15	V	WINNER 17	16:48			
PRESENTATIONS						17:30	

THE TEAMS

POOL A

Boroughmuir Bears

The Bears are the Meggetland outfit's 3rd XV and one of the best in the country. Last year's beaten Leith 7s finalists, the Bears finished 7th in BT National Reserve League Division 2 and roll into their second consecutive appearance at the 7s full of confidence. A rich blend of up and coming youngsters and hardy veterans (probably more of the former today), the Bears last faced Leith in a friendly in 2014, running out winners in an entertaining game at - all 80 minutes of which is still available on YouTube!



Edinburgh Napier University RFC

The Napier Rangers come into 7s season off the back of a tough league season, with the 1st XV competing well in Scottish Division 1A, but ultimately succumbing to relegation. A fit and mobile side, they are well-suited to the 7s game however, and the squad do come into the competition with encouraging showings at the Dunbar and Edinburgh Northern 7s comps. Leith's own Doug Watters is part of the coaching setup at the Meggetland-based side, and it's great to have the club along to their 2nd Leith 7s.



Inverleith RFC

The Arboretum Park side are well known at Leith, with the two teams having competed in the same division for as long as anyone (Pitchero, anyway) cares to remember. It was one a piece at home in this year with the Ferry Road men winning 30-22 at the Arboretum before Leith claimed a 48-6 victory at Academy Park. Inverleith were fellow East 2 'Middle Section' combatants this term, finishing 11th. This is Inverleith's first visit to the Leith 7s since 2007, and we're delighted to welcome our near neighbours back to the tournament.



POOL B

Kinross RFC

Kinross and Leith are well known to one another, thanks to a player link built two seasons ago which helped bring back the Leith 2nd XV. Although there's been no player sharing recently, the clubs maintain the bond, and with the men from The Muirs winning friendlies home and away against the Leithers this season. A much improved season has seen Kinross finish 4th in BT Caledonian Midlands 2 this term, and having reached the Shield semis in 2016, will be looking for their first Leith 7s silverware this year.



Leith Rugby

The home side finished the season with five bonus point wins to close out the season in 7th place and "win" BT East Division 2B post-split. This is the club's 3rd 7s competition of the year, after sending teams to Dunbar and Edinburgh Northern, as like most, bad weather (and an ambitious league calendar) had us playing 15s into mid-April. Last winners of the Carl Waugh Trophy in 2007, there have been some near misses in recent years, going down in the final to Linlithgow in 2014, and running out Plate winners in 2015 and 2017.



Merchistonian FC

Merchistonian was a founding member of the Scottish Rugby Union and one of 5 Scottish clubs to issue the challenge to English football players that resulted in the first rugby international in 1871, supplying 3 players for the match which Scotland won 1-0. Unlike other boarding schools, players would disperse to other clubs after school. Those that remained would often play for Edinburgh Wanderers - until the club was revived as an invitational/7s outfit in 2013. They are captained by former Scotland Under 20 star, Hugh Fraser.



THE TEAMS

POOL C

Edinburgh Eagles RL

Scotland's premier rugby league side return to the Leith 7s for the first time since 2016, and the 2015 Shield Winners will be using the tournament as final practice ahead of getting their season underway against Strathmore RL next weekend. Nine times Scottish champions since their foundation in 1998, Eagles are playing in the North East RL Merit League in 2018, with home games at the Jack Kane Centre this summer. The club are also working with Leith Rugby in using clubhouse facilities and to bolster the player pool.



Forrester FP RFC

The holders of the Carl Waugh Trophy, we're delighted Forrester return to defend their Leith 7s title in 2018. The West Edinburgh side have had a similarly weather-affected season as ourselves, and at the time of going to print still had three league games to play - so if they're not actually here it's because the weather turned again! - but look to have secured 9th place in East Division 1. An impressive showing at the Dunbar competition means Forries will again go into the Leith 7s as one of the competition favourites.



Queensferry RFC

Queensferry have been the standout side for a second consecutive season in the BT East Region Development league this term, and one hopes they will soon be in a position to play senior rugby again, and rejoin the senior leagues. The 2017 Shield Winners are a well kent face at Academy Park, as with half the Development league fixtures cancelled on a weekly basis, the men from the 'Ferry have faced Leith 2nd XV four times in 2017/18, following three meetings the previous year.



POOL D

Kilmarnock RFC

The Ayrshire side return to the Leith 7s for a second successive year, having scooped the Bowl trophy in 2017. Founded in 1868, the Bellsland side are celebrating their 150th anniversary this year, and with a thriving youth setup, the club is very well positioned for as remarkable a future as past. The senior side are another with league games still to play, but look to have finished in 5th spot in BT West Division 1. They win the first award of the day for latest league finish - May 19th - which should leave time for about 10 days pre-season...



Linlithgow RFC

Regular participants at the Leith 7s, we're delighted to welcome the Mains Park side back to the tournament after last year's league-fix-ture-imposed-hiatus, and the 2014 champions will be one of the favourites to lift the Carl Waugh Trophy this afternoon. Closing out the season with a 30-20 win over fellow tournament attendees Forrester two weeks ago, which officially preserved their BT East Division 1 status, at the time of going to print The Reds look to have finished 7th in E1.



Walkerburn

Having performed very well in BT East Region Development league this season, Walkerburn are another club who will hopefully be rejoining the senior league set-up next term. And a welcome return it would be, as anyone who has ever played at Caberston Haugh - the most picturesque rugby venue in the country - will testify. Hosts of a fantastic annual 7s tournament themselves (May 26th this year), this is Walkerburn's first visit to the Leith 7s, and a first visit to Academy Park since 2013. A very warm welcome to the debutants.



LEITH XV VS MERTON RFC: ABOUT OUR TOURISTS



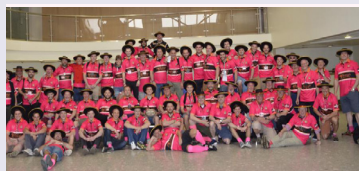
Kicking off before the 7s action gets underway today, a Leith XV welcome our tourists, Merton RFC from London, led by Captain Adam Cheek and Club President Jack Canniff. We're delighted to welcome their club to our 7s and look forward to a great game (probably to clear some heads!) before enjoying a few beers together. Many thanks to Jack and Adam for providing an introduction to our guests.



Merton RFC was originally formed in 1957, by a group of local Councillors, along with Huw Morris and Jim Steel, school headmasters working in the area. The club built themselves up from humble beginnings to reach a peak of 5 senior sides and a Colts XV before, like a lot of clubs, numbers began to drop. Having reached a low point around 15 years ago, Merton rebuilt themselves to fielding 3 teams each week, with an age range of 17 to 58.

Merton are an international club, attracting players from the southern hemisphere, as well as from not so well-known rugby outposts, such as Lithuania, Albania, Portugal and Malaysia, to name a few. The club have been active tourists for many years, including legendary trips to Berlin pre-the Wall coming down, and more recently to various cities in the UK, as well as Bilbao and Madrid.

Our 50-strong group for this weekend in Edinburgh features 12 tour virgins that are easily distinguishable, and is led by our 1st XV captain, Adam Cheek, a South African, with another native of SA, Barry Keiser, featuring as Head Beastmaster! The latter has dreamt up a couple of interesting games to keep the tourists on their toes, and the performance in the match against the Leith XV will be an indication as to how successful he has been!



Merton is very grateful to Leith Rugby for agreeing to host us and wish our hosts all the best for today's festival of rugby. Due to ongoing issues with our clubhouse, celebrations for our 60th anniversary have been relatively muted, so we see this weekend as being a particular highlight!



WANDERING BUT NOT LOST

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LEITH 7S ROLL OF HONOUR

2017	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP	
	CARL WAUGH TROPHY	FORRESTER FP	BOROUGHMUIR BEARS
	PLATE	LEITH RUGBY	MORAY HOUSE
	BOWL	KILMARNOCK RFC	PAISLEY
	SHIELD	QUEENSFERRY RFC	PANMURE RFC
2016	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP	
	CARL WAUGH TROPHY	LISMORE RFC	PORTOBELLO RFC
	PLATE	LINLITHGOW RFC	LEITH RUGBY
	SHIELD	AMIGOS DE SERRANO	PANMURE RFC
		MANCHEGO	
2015	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP	
	CARL WAUGH TROPHY	MORAY HOUSE	45 COMMANDO
	PLATE	LEITH RUGBY	DUNS RFC
	BOWL	LINLITHGOW RFC	EARLSTON RFC
	SHIELD	KINROSS RFC	EDINBURGH EAGLES RL
2014	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP	
	CARL WAUGH TROPHY	LINLITHGOW RFC	LEITH RUGBY
	PLATE	OCCASIONALS 7S	PENICUIK RFC
	SHIELD	EDINBURGH EAGLES RL	LISMORE RFC
2007	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP	
	CARL WAUGH TROPHY	LEITH SCOTTISH	LEITH IRISH
	PLATE	PORTOBELLO RFC	INVERLEITH RFC
	SHIELD	XL RFC	LEITH UNDER 18S



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LEITH RUGBY

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