



Lancashire
RFU

WIGAN
V
WARRINGTON

BRIAN LEIGH LANCASHIRE TROPHY FINAL

BOLTON RUFC

SATURDAY 2ND MAY 2026

KICK OFF 15:00

Lancashire County RFU
2025-2026

President:
I Spivey

Senior Vice President:
R Jones

Vice President:
S Godfrey

Chairman:
D Clarke

Honorary Secretary:
M Downs

Board of Directors:
CA Baker, K Bennetta,
GA Burns MBE, D Clarke,
AN Crabtree, P Deakin,
M Downs, C Gaffey,
H Hughes.

County Champions:
1891, 1935, 1938, 1947,
1948, 1949, 1955, 1969,
1973, 1977, 1980, 1982,
1988, 1990, 1992, 1993,
2003, 2006, 2009, 2010,
2011, 2013, 2014, 2017,
2018.

**Womens County
Champions:**
2017, 2023

U20 County Champions:
2025



Lancashire
RFU

As Lancashire President for 2025–2026, it gives me great pleasure and pride to welcome you all to today's Lancashire County Trophy Final.

As someone who has been involved in this great game for many, many years, I have continued my participation within this grand County of Lancashire, to enable others to get the same enjoyment from Rugby that I have had.

A special mention should go to the Players, Match Officials, Coaches and Team Managers for their collective effort and commitment and I would especially like to extend my thanks our host, Bolton RUFC, for making today possible.

We all appreciate how much hard work and organisation goes into hosting events like this, and we sincerely value the support of staff and volunteers in delivering rugby to the community.

I wish the finalists the very best of luck and look forward to seeing some great rugby played with Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship.

Ian Spivey
President
Lancashire County RFU



Bolton Rugby Club is delighted to welcome Warrington Rugby Union Club and Wigan Rugby Union Club to Avenue Street as we host this year's Brian Leigh Lancashire Trophy Final.

It's a privilege in my first year as Chairman to be hosting and, having personally played against both teams in recent years, I look forward to seeing the youth and talent at both clubs play the entertaining rugby that has delivered success in recent years. In fact it was quick, skilful teams like these on show today that made me realise that playing in the Vets might be a wise move!

Today brings together three proud Lancashire clubs who share deep roots in community rugby, a passion for developing the game, and a commitment to playing it in the right spirit. It's a privilege to host two sides with such strong traditions, dedicated volunteers and thriving rugby families behind them.

Our Clubs are built on volunteers and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 100+ volunteers at Bolton Rugby who put in hundreds of hours each month to enable our Senior and Junior players to turn out on a weekend and play the game they love. Your time, patience, resilience and energy are hugely appreciated.

We hope players, coaches, and supporters from both Warrington and Wigan enjoy their visit, the contest, the pies ... and the hospitality as we celebrate everything that makes rugby union in our county so special.

Mark Chappelhow

Chairman

Bolton RUFC



The Brian Leigh Lancashire Trophy

The Trophy was originally introduced in the 1893-94 season as the Lancashire County Rugby Challenge Cup (2nd Division) and was well supported up until the great schism. After 1895 clubs steadily joined the Northern Union and there were not enough remaining participants to make a meaningful competition for a second tier trophy, so the magnificent silverware was stored in a bank vault for many years until it was reintroduced in 1987, when it was decided to add a second tier to the Lancashire Cup Competition.

The first winners of the Lancashire Trophy were St Helens in 1893/94; the most successful club since 1987 is Leigh who have lifted the trophy five times; the current holders are Warrington.

The Lancashire Trophy became The Brian Leigh Lancashire Trophy in the 2010-11 season in tribute to the former Lancashire County Rugby Hon. Secretary who had served the game in many roles including Chair of Disciplinary and passed in 2009.



The Finalists



Wigan

R1 Wigan HWO Broughton Park
SF Wigan 41 - 18 Aspull

R1 Warrington HWO Littleborough
SF Warrington 32 - 29 Liverpool St Helens

Warrington





WIGAN RUFC

Chris Lowton

Harrison Kent Mannion

John Foster

James Hunter

Will Boardman

Hamish Rendell

Geoff Rigby

Harry Barker (C)

Max Roscoe

Ross Herron

Tapiwa Stansbie

Wayne Bullough

George Lowe

Tom Lowe

Mason Fillingham

Matty Tanks

Jack Proffitt

Chris Carr

Tom Seabrook

Nathan Butler

Sam Carleton

Tom Wilson

Tom Carter

Danny Chadwick

Coach

Martin Scott

Darren Fletcher

Physio

Hayley Sumner



WARRINGTON RUFC

1. Tom Green
2. Alex Stewart
3. Sam Bennett
4. Will Morgan
5. Harry Kellett
6. Jonny Evans
7. Joe Craven
8. Danny Fleming (C)
9. Jack Whittaker
10. JP Hudson
11. Kyle Cherrett
12. Archie Kellett
13. Ryan Newton
14. Tom McEniff
15. Luke Turner

16. Jack Barker
17. Oli Hudson
18. Andy Kellett
19. Ste Antrobus
20. Sam Whalley
21. Max Caldwell
22. Jude Lightfoot

Coach

Richard Park
John Callender
Dave Hartill

Physio

Jess Burrill

Thank you to the Manchester & District Rugby Union Referee Society and our Match Officials today:

Referee: Jonathan Cartwright
AR1: Joe Quinn
AR2: Alex Wood



MADREFS

Please support our match officials this afternoon in their efforts to keep the game safe and fair. Rugby is a physical and passionate contest requiring discipline - which is why we love it - and we ask all players, coaches and spectators to respect and accept decisions gracefully, even when you disagree.



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Lancashire RFU

In 1806 William Webb Ellis was born in Salford, Lancashire and in 1823 whilst a pupil at Rugby School, legend has it he first picked up the ball and ran with it, thereby defining the game that has since flourished around the world.

Long before Rugby Football had acquired commonly accepted laws Lancashire and Yorkshire were eager to compete with each other. From 1860 a Lancashire team played Yorkshire in an annual “Battle of the Roses” which was considered the blue ribbon of Northern Rugby.

The invitational Lancashire side was made up predominantly of players from the established clubs of Manchester and Liverpool. On the 22nd December 1881 at the Albion Hotel, Manchester, a meeting was convened of 16 invited clubs and the Lancashire County Rugby Football Union was formed.

Today, Lancashire RFU represents over 60 clubs and our unifying purpose is to bring people together to enjoy Rugby, so the game and its values grow and thrive across the region. We do this by organising competitions, fielding representative teams and supporting our member clubs, schools and universities.

To learn more about Lancashire RFU and what we provide to the rugby community, or to volunteer your support, please send us a message on social media @lancashirerfu, email honsecretary@lancashirerfu.com or visit our website.

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