

Quote from Magazine of May 1912:

" Although there are at the time of writing only two practices before our first match, the probable forwards of the First Fifteen are frightfully trained. After about a quarter of an hours play they are so tired that they can hardly move about. However, it is early in the season yet, and the teams we play will probably be in worse condition than we are."

Magazine Editorial May 1913.

"It was mentioned in one Magazine last year that it would be splendid if the Fiftieth Anniversary of the school was also record year for scholarship and in sport. As cricket, however, is now over for the time being, we shall speak here only of football. This record is to be obtained only by the hard and systematic training of the players throughout the whole season - not as some youths were known to do last year. They would spend half an hour or three-quarters of an hour in the gymnasium, and then, feeling somewhat "dry" would make for a certain well-known and much frequented shop in Arthur Street. It could not have been water they were looking for, because there is a filter at the School. Every player must, then, enter wholeheartedly into the game."

The Messrs Morris Cup was donated to the School by Mr Crosby Morris on behalf of his six brothers and himself. The trophy was to be awarded to "that member of the First Fifteen who is adjudged to be the best all round footballer of the year."

Magazine - Editorial December 1914.

"We now turn to a more pleasant task - that of congratulating the First Fifteen upon their splendid record for the season. Never, perhaps in its history has the School been represented by such a formidable team. To win all their fifteen matches is a performance of which any team may be justly proud. When it is considered that four of these victories were gained over such teams as those of Christ's College, Southland, Timaru and Christchurch Boys' High Schools, one must recognise their exceptional merit. The Fifteen's success is to a large extent due to the whole-hearted interest of Messrs Campbell and Phillips, while the coaching of Mr James Duncan is mainly responsible for the high standard of efficiency displayed."

Magazine - Athletics Report December 1914.

"Our team took its victory very modestly, recognising that it had achieved the result only by hard training and steady practice. It deserves every credit for its splendid work during the season. In the inter-College matches it scored 92 points to 18, and during the whole season its record was: matches played 15; matches won 15; points for 340; points against 40. This is a record which has never been equalled in the history of our School, and it is one the players of 1914 may look back to with the utmost satisfaction."

1915

1915 saw the format for the interschools v Southland, Timaru and Christchurch Boys' changed to that of a tournament, with all four schools meeting at the same venue. The order in which schools were to play each other was drawn from a hat; with the two first round winners playing each other and the two first round losers also fronting up to one another. Each team only played two games at the tournament with the result that the sequence of continuous interschool competition was broken. The tournament format continued until 1939. The match against Christ's College remained a "stand alone" fixture.

School Magazine November 1918

"It is with regret that we have to place on record the first instance of the abandoning of this annual fixture (against Christ's College). The team journeyed to Christchurch on Saturday, July 20, and that evening whilst they were being entertained at a concert given by the College boys, there began the worst snowstorm in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. On Monday, the day appointed for the match, four inches (100mm) of hard snow covered the College ground, and all attempts to clear it away proved unavailing. In the hope that play might be possible on the following day, the team remained in Christchurch, but the weather continued unfavourable, and, in spite of a very cherry dinner given by the Headmaster of the College on the Tuesday night, our boys, when they left for home on the Wednesday, were greatly disappointed."

Magazine October 1929

"For the first time in our history School played throughout the season with the 3-2-3 pack. Various criticisms have been levelled at the orthodox scrum formation, and will no doubt continue. For some years we have fielded lighter teams than any other school, and a trial of the 3-2-3 scrum was deemed advisable, and has proved not altogether a failure."

Magazine October 1934.

"For the first time since 1915 the High Schools' Tournament was not played, as we had a difference of opinion with another School about the eligibility of "terms students." While it is regrettable that the tournament should lapse, we admit that there are two sides to the question, and it is probably better that the games should not be played in the meantime than that any school should play under a sense of grievance."