



Welsh Rugby Union Players Badge

Sold



REF: 29549

Height: 2 cm (0.8")

Width: 6 cm (2.4")

Depth: 6 cm (2.4")

Description

Wales v Scotland Rugby Badge (1896).

These original lapel badges were presented to players who took part in the Wales v Scotland Four Nations match held on 25 January 1896 at Cardiff Arms Park.

The badge is housed in an H. Kaltenbach jeweller's box and is engraved "At Cardiff, 1896."

The leather wallets shown in the final image are available separately on our website. All items originally belonged to G. Henry, Vice-President of the Welsh Rugby Union, and were kept together as part of his personal collection.

Match history (information sourced from the Cardiff Rugby Museum):

The match was played in heavy, quagmire conditions and was won by Wales by two tries to nil (6-0).

Despite the difficult ground, Wales produced impressive running and passing rugby. A standout performer was Gwyn Nicholls, the Cardiff centre, who was making his Wales debut. His centre partnership with Arthur Gould of Newport proved pivotal to the victory.

The Welsh tries were scored by Cliff Bowen (Llanelli) and Arthur Gould.

Nicholls, later known as the "Prince of Centres," went on to win 24 caps for Wales over a ten-year period, becoming a key figure during the first Golden Era of Welsh international rugby. Gould, the glamour figure of Welsh rugby during the three-quarter era, retired from international rugby after Wales's victory over England in 1897. His retirement followed controversy surrounding allegations of professionalism, after which he focused on his role as a Welsh selector.

The Gould-Nicholls centre partnership lasted just three international matches, but remains one of the most celebrated combinations in early Welsh rugby history.