



Victorious DUFC 1st XV celebrate their Colours win



Victorious DUFC (Trinity Rugby) 1st XV celebrate their Colours win



Students competing at the first ever Trinity Archery Open

For the Love of the Game

Maura Gallahue and Helen Hanley recall Trinity's sporting successes over the past year.

One of the stand-out events for anyone involved with Trinity's 50 sports clubs is Colours, the annual showdown with our biggest rivals University College Dublin (UCD).

The 2018-19 season represented a mixed bag of Colours results. DUFC men (Trinity Rugby) claimed victory out in Belfield although their female counterparts lost out to UCD.

Equestrian had a Colours win for dressage and they also won the show jumping team competition at Intervarsities. There were

Colours wins too for tennis while Trinity and UCD shared the honours in this year's rowing Colours.

After a rocky start (quite literally – the wind was buffeting the boats so much at the start line they found it hard to get into position), each university won two of the four races. In Trinity's case, this meant wins for the novice men (Dan Quinn Shield) and senior women (Corcoran Cup).

There were Colours wins for both the men's and women's sections of Harriers (DUHAC), which had some very strong results this year.

The profile of women's basketball was elevated thanks to the formation of new team Trinity Meteors, a combination of players from Trinity and Meteors. They finished just shy of the top spot in Division 1 while the women's varsity team finished the season as Division A winners.

It was a high-profile year for Harriers (DUHAC) who enjoyed successful outings at the Irish Universities' Indoor Championships, held in Athlone, and the Cross-Country Championships, hosted by National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG).

At the latter, the ladies secured silver while Trinity took third overall in the competition. At the former, highlights included a silver in the long jump for Shane Keane, while Sorcha McAllister won gold in the 3,000m.

Sorcha, who is on the high-performance programme with Trinity Sport, made her debut for Ireland this year at the European Cross-Country Championships in The Netherlands at U23 level.

SPORT IN NUMBERS 2019

50

sports clubs

64

sport scholarships awarded

12

University Pinks awarded



Cricketer and sport scholar Lorcan Tucker in action on College Park



Squash Club team photo

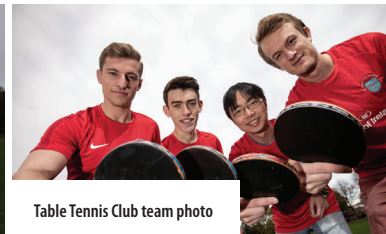


Table Tennis Club team photo



DULBC Senior 8 celebrating moments after winning the Colours boat race on the River Liffey

For a while, ladies' hockey (DULHC) looked like they might be heading back up to the top-flight women's EY league. However, the play-offs didn't go their way and their consolation had to be finishing the season as Leinster Division 1 winners.

It was a quiet enough year for GAA in Trinity with memorable moments from the Fresher Hurlers, who won the league for the second year in a row. A highlight for the senior men was winning their Fitzgibbon match against Garda College where they came from six points down to finish the game 1-15 to Garda's 0-13.

High-performance athlete Lorcan Tucker made his Ireland senior debut in cricket when he was part of the squad that played England in Malahide in April.

While these are all great achievements, there was one sport that stood out in the 2018-19 season and that was Trinity Rugby. The senior men's team had their best ever finish in Division 1's All Ireland League, completing the season in fourth place, two places above UCD. The U20s men won the Fraser McMullen Cup, beating UCC 41-24, and becoming the first side to claim back-to-back All Ireland titles since 2012.

Trinity Rugby's senior women also had one of their best seasons in recent years, earning promotion to Division 2 following a year of consistently strong results.

Keeping with rugby, the club had several players line out for interprovincial and international duty with Linda Djougang earning her first cap for Ireland senior women's team in the

Six Nations and DUFC man Jack Dunne earning his first Leinster cap.

One of the last big events of 2018-19 was the annual Sports Awards, which reflected rugby's year of dominance when they picked up six of the 11 awards. Other notable mentions go to Archery, which won Club of the Year; Fencing, which won Administrator of the Year; and Association Football's Áine Tucker, who picked up the inaugural Game Changer of the Year Award.

The Sports Centre also won the National Quality Standard Award for the fifth consecutive year. The awards, formerly known as the White Flags, are given to facilities around the country that meet strict operational standards for leisure and fitness facilities across 250 quality-based criteria.

The Sports Centre was deemed to be 'outstanding' within the awards' remit of safety, hygiene, customer service and human resources. Winners are compiled following an extensive audit by Ireland Active, the representative body for the leisure, health and fitness industry.

Find out more at tcd.ie/sport or follow us on Twitter @tcdsports

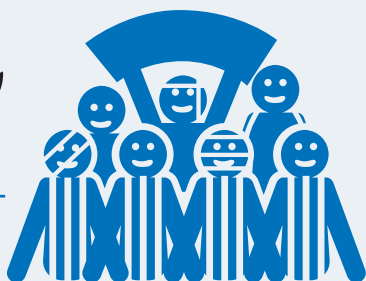
ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Maura Gallahue M.Sc. (2013) is a Communications Officer in Trinity Sport.

Helen Hanley B.A. (1995) is a communications professional with a particular interest in sport.

817

social sport participants



6246

students joined a sports club

