

Honours		Ft.	Ins.	St.	lbs.
R. Lister	...Cumberland County	...	5 10½	12	10
J. Read	...	...	6 0	13	12
A. Brough	...Eng. Int. ; Lanc. County	...	5 8½	13	9
A. Baker	...Welsh International	...	5 10	13	0
P. Carter	...	...	6 0	13	9
J. Collins	...	...	5 11	13	7
R. Sloman (Capt.)	English International	...	6 0	13	8

Honours obtained by Club.

Lancashire Challenge Cup Winners, 1907-8 ; 1910-11 ; 1913-14 ; 1919-20 ; 1924-25.

Northern Rugby Football League Winners, 1904-5 ; 1909-10 ; 1910-11. Runners-up, 1906-7 ; 1907-8 ; 1908-9 ; 1921-22.

Challenge Cup Winners 1899. Runners-up, 1907, 1912, 1924. Winners, 1925.

CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION.

Results of Final Ties.

Year	Winners	G	T	P	Runners-up	G	T	P
1897	Batley	1	2	10	St. Helens	0	1	3
1898	Batley	2	1	7	Bradford	0	0	0
1899	Oldham	2	5	19	Hunslet	3	1	9
1900	Swinton	2	4	16	Salford	1	2	8
1901	Batley	0	2	6	Warrington	0	0	0
1902	Broughton R.	5	5	25	Salford	0	0	0
1903	Halifax	2	1	7	Salford	0	0	0
1904	Halifax	1	2	8	Warrington	0	1	3
1905	Warrington	0	2	6	Hull K. R.	0	0	0
1906	Bradford	1	1	5	Salford	0	0	0
1907	Warrington	4	3	17	Oldham	0	1	3
1908	Hunslet	4	2	14	Hull	0	0	0
1909	Wakefield T.	1	5	17	Hull	0	0	0
1910	Leeds	7	4	26	Hull	3	2	12
1911	Broughton R.	2	0	4	Wigan	0	0	0
1912	Dewsbury	1	2	8	Oldham	1	1	5
1913	Huddersfield	0	3	9	Warrington	1	1	5
1914	Hull	0	2	6	Wakefield T.	0	0	0
1915	Huddersfield	5	9	37	St. Helens	0	1	3
1920	Huddersfield	3	5	21	Wigan	2	2	10
1921	Leigh	2	3	13	Halifax	0	0	0
1922	Rochdale H.	2	2	10	Hull	0	3	9
1923	Leeds	5	6	28	Hull	0	1	3
1924	Wigan	3	5	21	Oldham	2	0	4
1925	Oldham	2	4	16	Hull K. R.	0	1	3

Score Board. O—Oldham

S—Swinton.

The Critic.



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SEASON 1925-6.

Rugby League Challenge Cup.

FINAL TIE.

OLDHAM v. SWINTON

AT THE

ATHLETIC GROUNDS, ROCHDALE,
MAY 1st, 1926. Kick-off 3-30.

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NOTES.

FOREWORD:

BY THE EDITOR.

Once again the Athletic Grounds has been chosen by the Rugby League Council as the venue for the Challenge Cup Final. This is the great day—the day of days in the Rugby League world—and all roads will lead to the Athletic Grounds this afternoon. Who will win? Oldham or Swinton. I would not like to prophecy, but it can be said that both teams are worthy finalists. To-day's game will have been fought out in a battle of words a hundred times by the followers of both clubs during the last few weeks. Then to-day, one incident—a movement arising from mischance, or perhaps a mishap—settles the argument out of hand. Months of struggle, weeks of preparation and debate, and then a lucky stroke settles all. Temperament decides. The scorers rejoice. The sufferers are staggered. Probably some poor soul has erred. That makes it worse. Despondency delivers the knock-out blow, for the frantic football team is rather easily kept at bay. The team that can keep their nerves under control and play their natural game are the most likely to succeed in such an important game as this. We, that is the Rochdale section of the crowd, will be able to watch the game from a neutral standpoint and hope that both teams will play the open passing game which is so attractive to the spectators. Whoever wins to-day, may the match be free from those mishaps which disturb the balance of teams, may the fates hold the scales evenly, may both teams be fit, clean, and clever, and I feel certain that we shall see a game of football such as all Rugby enthusiasts delight in.

MAY THE BEST TEAM WIN.

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Manchester.

Photo:
Daily Dispatch,
Manchester.

R. Sloman.

H. Halsall.

NOTES.

"BOB" SLOMAN'S OPINION.

Our players are fully aware of the fact that Swinton are a good combination side and that their forwards are a very strong set although on the last occasion that Swinton appeared in a Final at the Athletic Grounds for the League Championship against Hull Kingston Rovers in 1925, they did not appear to be able to rise to a big occasion. That is one reason why I think we shall win. Apart from that we know that we have a very big task in front of us, but our players will be all out to win, and if we have a bit of good luck I have no doubt but what we shall retain the Cup for another Season.

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OLDHAM.

- 1 E. KNAPMAN †
- 2 J. CORSI *1 try*
- 3 HIGGS
- 4 JOHNSON
- 5 S. RIX †*
- 6 G. HESKETH †
- 7 R. JONES
- 8 T. MARLOR
- 9 LISTER
- 10 READ
- 11 R. SLOMAN † (Capt.)
- 12 A. BROUGH †*
- 13 A. BAKER †

Reserves—CARTER
BEYNON

Red and White Jerseys, 3
Blue Pants.

† International * County.

Referee—Mr. A. Brown, Wakefield.

Linesmen—Messrs. H. Horsfall, Batley and Johnnie Thomas, Wigan.

SWINTON.

- 1 J. PEARSON
- 2 F. EVANS †
- 3 H. HALSALL * (Capt.)
- 4 J. EVANS †*
- 5 C. BROCKBANK
- 6 B. EVANS *
- 7 W. REES †
- 8 M. F. STRONG *1 try*
- 9 H. BLEWER
- 10 H. E. MORRIS *3 goals*
- 11 T. HALLIWELL
- 12 H. ENTWISTLE
- 13 F. BESWICK

Reserves—W. SULWAY
J. FAIRHURST

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NOTES.

WHAT HECTOR HALSALL THINKS.

Building my hopes on Swinton's consistent form throughout the season, I see no reason provided all our men are fit why we should not win. It is on the stability of our back division, where we reveal a marked superiority over Oldham that I rely mostly for our hopes of success. I am looking forward to a good clean open game played in a true sportsmanlike spirit, and while confident of Swinton, I hope victory will rest with the best team.

How the Clubs have progressed on their way to the Final can be seen at a glance:—

Oldham.	Points.	
	For	Agst.
1st Round—Leigh (away)	18	6
2nd Round—Rochdale (home)	12	3
3rd Round—Halifax (home).....	8	5
Semi-Final—Wigan Highfield (At Salford)	15	6
	53	20
Swinton.	Points	
	For	Agst.
1st Round—Batley (home).....	19	9
2nd Round—Broughton (home)	8	8
Replay (at Broughton)	20	3
3rd Round—Hull K. R. (home)	24	3
Semi-Final—Hull (at Halifax)	13	2
	84	25

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ROCHDALE.

WHO'S WHO.

Swinton.

Birthplace.	Height		Weight.	
	Ft.	ins.	St.	lbs.
G. Pearson ...	... 5	8	10	9
F. Evans ...	... 5	5	10	6
H. Halsall ...	... 5	8	11	7
J. Evans ...	... 5	8	11	12
C. Brockbank ...	... 5	6	11	2
B. Evans ...	... 5	6	11	4
W. Rees ...	... 5	5	10	10
M. F. Strong ...	... 5	10	13	7
H. Blewer ...	... 5	10	13	0
H. E. Morris ...	... 5	9	13	0
T. Halliwell ...	... 5	11	12	11
H. Entwistle ...	... 5	10	13	2
F. Beswick ...	... 5	8	12	0

Oldham.

Honours

	Height		Weight.	
	Ft.	ins.	St.	lbs.
E. H. Knapman English International...	... 5	8	12	7
J. A. Corsi ... Welsh International ...	... 5	10	12	10
A. Johnson ... Lancashire County ...	... 5	8	12	2
A. J. Higgs	... 5	10	13	7
S. Rix ... Eng. Int. ; Lanc. County	... 5	10	13	7
G. Hesketh ... Eng. Int. ; Lanc. County	... 5	4	10	8
B. Beynon ... Welsh International ...	... 5	8	11	6
R. Jones	... 5	7	10	7
R. Marlor ... Eng. Int. ; Lanc. County	... 5	9½	14	0