

2005 Lions Tour to New Zealand

Alyn Lunt

December 7, 2010

Originally posted on MyPhilately

Overview: A Summary of the 2005 British and Irish Lions tour to New Zealand.

In 2005 the British and Irish Lions toured New Zealand for the first time since 1993; it was also the first time the team toured under the name British and Ireland Lions. The tour began with a warm up test match against Argentina at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium. The match was a draw with 25 points each.



Although the Lions were successful in 7 of their games, it was the first time that that Lions did not win a test match while on tour. On this tour the Lions also lost to the New Zealand Maori, which is a team composed of a players with Maori descent. Their most convincing win was against Manawatu where the Lions scored 71 unanswered points in the second half. It was the largest score that the Lions had ever defeated a team by in New Zealand.



In all three test matches the All Blacks defeated the Lions by convincing scores. The Lions lost their tour captain in the first test and during the second test; the Lions gave up the most points in the team's history. The third test saw the Lions play better but in the end the All Blacks still prevailed. The tour results were:

Lions 25 vs. Argentina 25

Lions 34 vs. Bay of Plenty 20

Lions 36 vs. Taranaki 14

Lions 13 vs. NZ Maori 19
Lions 23 vs. Wellington 23
Lions 30 vs. Otago 19
Lions 26 vs. Southland 16
Lions 3 vs. New Zealand 21
Lions 109 vs. Manawatu 6
Lions 18 vs. New Zealand 48
Lions 17 vs. Auckland 13
Lions 19 vs. New Zealand 38