Signed B. Warsop, Marylebone Cricket Bat 1936

Warsop

Sold

Manfred Schotten Antiques
109 High Street • Burford • Oxfordshire • OX18 4RG
01993 822 302 • schotten@sportantiques.co.uk

REF: 31593

Height: 85 cm (33.5")

Width: 11 cm (4.3")

Depth: 5 cm (2")

Description

1936 All India XI Autographed B. Warsop Cricket Bat
An exceptional and historically significant short-handle willow cricket bat by renowned English maker B. Warsop of Marylebone, England, dating to the celebrated 1936 tour of England by the All India XI. Rich in character, this beautifully aged bat features a traditional cord-bound handle and an attractive, untouched patina acquired over decades.
The bat is embossed to both shoulders with the maker's name, "B. WARSOP, MARYLEBONE", while the blade bears the distinctive B. Warsop trademark together with the inscription "B. Warsop's Improved Conqueror Patent Bat Handle" surrounding the maker's cannon-and-cannonballs trademark emblem. The reverse is stamped "Short Handle."
Most notably, the bat carries approximately 68 original ink autographs, including members of the famous 1936 All India XI cricket touring side captained by the Maharajkumar of Vizianagram, widely known as "Vizzy." Among the celebrated players associated with the tour were Indian cricket greats Vijay Merchant, Mushtaq Ali and C. K. Nayudu, with several signatures on the bat believed to include members of this distinguished squad.

The front of the bat displays 11 signatures attributed to members of the touring Indian side, with examples believed to include: Maharajkumar of Vizianagram ("Vizzy") - Captain, Mushtaq Ali, Phiroze Palia, Syed Wazir Ali, Jahangir Khan and L. P. Jai.
A further 57 signatures appear on the reverse, possibly gathered during the team's extensive 1936 English tour. It is thought the bat may have been signed in aid of or during a visit to a hospital, although the institution's name is now largely illegible.

The 1936 tour was one of the most important early overseas tours undertaken by an Indian cricket team, featuring 58 matches across England and Ireland, including Test matches at Lord's, Old Trafford and The Oval. This bat stands as a fascinating surviving relic from that landmark tour and offers tremendous appeal to collectors of cricket memorabilia, sporting history and colonial-era artefacts.
A superb display piece with outstanding historical charm and significance.

The matches played were:- Worcestershire v Indians at Worcester, 2-5 May, Oxford University v Indians at Oxford, 6-8 May, Somerset v Indians at Taunton, 9-12 May, Northamptonshire v Indians at Northampton, 13-15 May, Marylebone Cricket Club v Indians at Lord's, 16-19 May, Leicestershire v Indians at Leicester, 20-22 May, Middlesex v Indians at Lord's, 23-25 May, Essex v Indians at Brentwood, 27-29 May, Cambridge University v Indians at Cambridge, 30 May-2 Jun, Yorkshire v Indians at Bradford, 6-8 Jun, Nottinghamshire v Indians at Nottingham, 13-16 Jun, Minor Counties v Indians at Lord's, 17-19 Jun, Surrey v Indians at Kennington Oval, 20-23 Jun, 1st TEST: England v India at Lord's, 27-30 Jun, Lancashire v Indians at Manchester, 4-7 Jul, Ireland v Indians at Dublin, 9-11 Jul, Lancashire v Indians at Liverpool, 15-17 Jul, Derbyshire v Indians at Derby, 18-21 Jul, 2nd TEST: England v India at Manchester, 25-28 Jul, Glamorgan v Indians at Swansea, 1-4 Aug, Warwickshire v Indians at Birmingham, 5-7 Aug, Gloucestershire v Indians at Cheltenham, 8...

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