

The Official Match Programme

STFC

Sevenoaks Town FC v Whitehawk



Emirates FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round,
Saturday September 2nd, 2023, 3pm



Respect



PITCHING IN PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



PITCHING IN PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



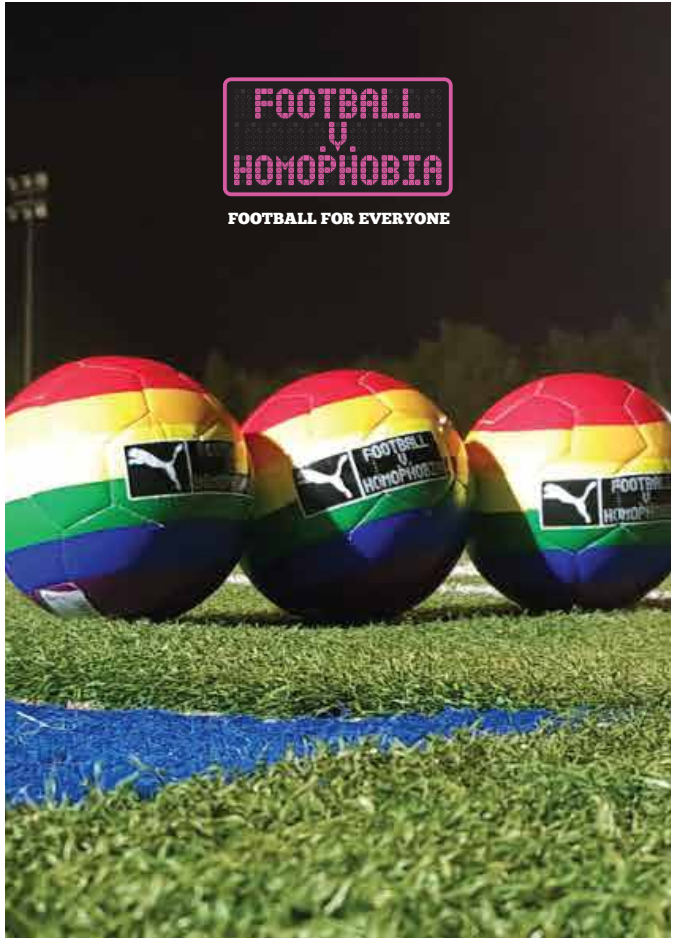
PITCHING IN PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

RACISM: ZERO TOLERANCE

The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination.

Accordingly, any form of discriminatory abuse whether it by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association

for action by that Association.
 The FA 0800 085 0508 / Kick it Out 020 7253 0162.
 The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of the community."



SEVENOAKS TOWN FC CLUB INFORMATION

Chairman and Director: Paul Lansdale
Secretary and Director: Sam Lansdale
Directors: Kevin Marsh, Ray Miles, Frank Le Siberel.

Committee Members: Shannon Hyner, Dan Thomas, Michael Tapp

Match Secretary: As chairman

First Team Manager: Harry Hudson

Assistant Manager: Mark Dacey

First Team Coaches: Dan Hogan, Adam Flemming

Goalkeeper Coaches: Danny Rose, Julian Leigh

Assistant Goalkeeper Coach: Alex Crean

Head of Analysis: Kevin Rawlinson

Analysts: Max Brandelli, Dan Lambert, Andy Nagy, Sebastian Sainz

Sports therapist: Carly Payne

Kit Man: Billy Thompson

Safety Officer: Ray Miles

Club Welfare Officers: Paul Lansdale, Darren Mace, Sean Jarvis, Shannon Hyner

Equality and Diversity Officer: Sam Lansdale

Press Officer/ PA announcer: Andrew Gidley

Club Photographer/App/Social Media: Matt White. Additional images in this edition by Alan Coomes

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Sevenoaks Town Football Club

Limited: Registered in England No. 07298016

Registered Charity No. 113763

Sevenoaks Town supports three charities:

Hospice in the Weald. West Kent Mind, Sevenoaks Samaritans



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THE MANAGER: HARRY HUDSON



Good afternoon and welcome to you all. An Emirates FA Cup tie against a team from the level above is a really good test for us, and one which we are relishing.

Whitehawk went up via the play-offs last season and have started the season well, beating Billericay and Horsham over the Bank Holiday weekend.

"I am expecting a really tough game, but we back ourselves at home and are looking forward to it."

I am expecting a really tough game, but we back ourselves at home and are looking forward to it. We go into it as big underdogs, but are in decent form ourselves.

The win against East Grinstead takes the pressure off us a little bit, and gives us the opportunity of

having a good hit at this competition and also the chance to measure ourselves as a side.

We had a really good run in the competition last season - beating a Step 3 side in Kingstonian on the way, and will draw on that experience.

We had to be patient again on Monday as East Grinstead came with a game plan to frustrate us.

We had plenty of opportunities in the first half, but again came up against an in-form keeper.

Dan Bennett's first came at a good time, making the sort of impact any manager wants to see when they make a change.

Ricardo Thompson has had to bide his time early season but I thought he was outstanding and did brilliantly when he went on after Matt Warren was injured early on.

Solomon Baugh put away a pressure penalty, and I was so pleased for Palace Francis who worked so hard with the ball and without it and got his reward.

We hope Matt's ankle injury isn't as bad as first feared and we will have assessed him in the build-up to today's game.

Rowan Liburd and Jack Sammoutis are both progressing positively. We hope to have both back in training this week, together with Dan Carr.

We have allowed Corey Holder and Isaac Okello to go on dual reg moves to VCD and Corinthian to allow both to get more game time, while Ben Cheklit is still at Whitstable on a similar arrangement.

THE CHAIRMAN: PAUL LANSDALE

Welcome to you all for this Emirates FA Cup First Qualifying Round tie against Whitehawk.

We offer the same to their officials, players and supporters and to the three officials appointed for today's game.

Victory against East Grinstead on Monday was the perfect way to put the disappointment of the defeat at Ashford behind us.

It was another tight game against a side still looking for their first win, and we had to work hard to get in front, but in the end we got the result.

Off the field things were a little anxious with running repairs needed on a problem in one of the dressing rooms, thankfully sorted out quickly.

It does illustrate the challenges that clubs of our size and resources have to face at any time and it was interesting swapping stories with our East Grinstead counterparts on the sort of problems - and offering a few ideas - how they might

overcome problems in trying to secure their own ground.

This programme includes a letter (on page 15) I sent to everyone this week who has a connection with this great club concerning our plans to build a new pavilion which will also serve the local community seven days a week.

The Sevenoaks Town Council's consultation runs until September 15 and alongside that we want to know what our members think about the existing facilities and football provision we offer here, and whether they would like to be actively involved in supporting the next phase of the development.

"This week's programme includes a letter I sent to everyone at this great club last week ... We would appreciate it if you would spend a few minutes completing the surveys."

We would appreciate it if you spend a few minutes completing both surveys.

Our Womens teams are preparing for the start of their league programme looking to build on their achievements last season.

They have put together some good results in pre-season. We will also be running a Development team this season. They will play in South East Counties Womens League Division 2.

Thanks for your continued support and we wish you all a safe journey home after the game.



THE OPPOSITION: WHITEHAWK FC

Whitehawk are Brighton's premier non-league club. Founded in **1945**, the Hawks have had two periods of unprecedented success as they have risen up the football pyramid from a team playing parks football to be within one game of an FA Cup third round tie at Everton in **2015**.

Between **1948** and **1952** the Hawks were promoted 4 times to reach senior county level where they remained until **2010**, when three further promotions in four seasons took them to just two leagues below the Football League.

The club was founded in **1945** as Whitehawk & Manor Farm Old Boys FC and entered the Brighton Junior Cup league. The club's first match was a 5-3 away win on 13 October 1945 against Hove County Old Boys at Hove Recreation Ground. Whitehawk & MFOB then joined the Brighton, Hove & District Football League, winning four titles and their first major senior trophy, the Sussex Senior Cup by beating Eastbourne Town 1-0 at Woodside Road, Worthing in **1951**. The Sussex Senior Cup win completed an unprecedented series of cup wins at junior, intermediate and senior levels in successive seasons, which still stands as a record in non-league football. Just how far the club had come in such a short time was illustrated by the fact that the reserves won the Sussex Junior Cup in **1952**, beating Selsey 3-1, so securing a trophy at the same level that the first team had been playing at, just four years earlier.

The club was admitted to the Sussex County League Division 1 in **1952-53** and finished third in their first season. The Hawks' first county league game was a 4-1 win at Crawley on 31 August 1952. The Hawks were Division 1 runners-up for three successive seasons from **1954-55** onwards, as well as Sussex Senior Cup finalists in 1954, losing 1-0 to Horsham at the Goldstone Ground in front of a crowd of 5626. For the **1954-55** season, Brighton Corporation allowed the club to move

onto a permanently enclosed pitch at the north end of East Brighton Park, on what is now the home pitch, known as the Enclosed Ground. The first match played there was a Sussex County League Division 1 game against Southwick on 1 September **1954**, which the Hawks won 6-2.

The Hawks won the Sussex RUR Cup for the first time in **1955**, beating Eastbourne United 1-0 after extra time at the Goldstone. The club were never out of the top five in the County League Division 1 for the rest of the decade and changed their name to Whitehawk FC for the start of the **1958-59** season.

In **1961-62** under manager Billy Thew, Whitehawk won the first of four County League One titles as well as the Sussex Senior Cup, beating Eastbourne United 4-0 at the Goldstone. Billy Ford scored 16 goals in Sussex Senior Cup football that season out of a personal haul of 93 for the season. The publicity generated by a civic reception at the Royal Pavilion led to Brighton Corporation providing a grant of £3,500 for the club to erect a self-build grandstand with standing for 500 spectators. In **1963-64** the Hawks retained the championship by winning their last six matches of the season. After losing the nucleus of the squad to Lewes the team then struggled and under manager Ron Pavey, who later became the Chief Executive of Brighton & Hove Albion, found itself relegated for the first time ever in **1967**. They made an immediate return as Division Two champions in **1968**.

The next nine years saw The Hawks continue to compete in the top division, during which time they lost 2-1 to Horsham at the Goldstone in the Sussex Senior Cup final in **1972**. The Hawks were relegated for a second time in **1977**. This time they were to spend four seasons in Division Two, having to apply for re-election in **1979** after finishing second from bottom, their lowest ever senior league placing.

The club gained its first club house in

September **1980**, using what was originally a prefabricated building that had been a temporary bank in Haywards Heath. A perimeter fence was added to the ground in **1981** and under new manager Sammy Donnelly, the Hawks won promotion from Division 2 as champions. In **1983-84** Whitehawk won County League One for the third time, winning their last 18 games of the season.

1986-87 saw the Hawks finish as runners-up to Arundel. In **1988-89**, again under Sammy Donnelly, Whitehawk had what was at the time their best run in the FA Cup, going out 2-0 in a fourth qualifying round replay to Bognor Regis Town. The home attendance record of 2,100 at the Enclosed Ground stood for 27 years. Floodlights were erected in **1988** and were first used in a match organised to mark the occasion against then First Division Luton Town on 21 March **1988**. The game finished 2-2.

The Hawks won the Sussex RUR Cup for the third time in **1990-91**, beating Peacehaven & Telscombe in the final 2-1, with youth player Darren Freeman, our future most successful ever manager, heading the winner. **1993-94** was another good season for the club, finishing once again as runners-up, this time to Wick. **2002-03** saw the club under manager and former youth player Ian Chapman once again finish in second place, this time to runaway winners Burgess Hill Town.

The club finally achieved the league title success that had previously eluded them, winning County League 1 in 2009-10 under Darren Freeman, to gain promotion to the Isthmian League Division One South for the first time. The Hawks also reached the semi-final of the FA Vase, losing 4-1 on aggregate to Wroxham of the Eastern Counties League Premier Division.

In their first season at the new level Whitehawk were in the title race but eventually had to settle for third place and an end-of-season play-off defeat on penalties to Leatherhead. The Hawks finished as Isthmian League Division One South champions the following season, as well as lifting the Sussex Senior Cup after beating Crawley Down 2-1 at the Amex. The club achieved back to back promotions in the **2012-13** season by winning the Isthmian League Premier Division at the first attempt to earn a place in the

Conference South.

The Hawks struggled in their first season in Conference South. After achieving three promotions in four years, Darren Freeman was sacked in January **2014** and replaced by Steve King. The club then enjoyed their most successful season ever in **2014-15**, finishing fourth in Conference South and earning a place in the play-off final against Boreham Wood, which was lost 2-1 after extra time. Whitehawk completed the season with a 5-0 victory over Lewes at the Amex to lift the Sussex Senior Cup.

In **2015-16** the Hawks reached the first-round of the FA Cup for the first time winning 5-3 against National League Lincoln City. Lincoln's next FA Cup defeat the following season came in the sixth round at the Emirates Stadium against Arsenal. In the second round the Hawks drew 1-1 at League Two Dagenham & Redbridge, following a dramatic headed goal in added time by Jordan Rose, which was broadcast live by the BBC during the afternoon sports programme. In front of a record crowd of 2,174 at the Enclosed Ground, the Hawks lost the second-round replay 3-2 after taking the lead through Danny Mills. To force the match into extra time, Whitehawk again equalised dramatically in added time. The whole match was broadcast live by BT Sport. In February **2016**, the club parted company with King after picking up just 9 points from the previous 36 available. Under Argentine Pablo Asensio, the Hawks finished the season in style, but lost in the promotion play offs to Ebbsfleet United.

The next two seasons saw frequent managerial changes and over 100 different players used, culminating in the inevitable relegation for only the third time in the club's history in **2017-18**. Not even the return of Steve King could arrest the club's fortunes and when he departed at the end of the season, he was replaced by the Hawks successful U18 manager Jude Macdonald.

The Hawks suffered successive relegations to the Isthmian South-East Division, but a new management team led by ex-Haywards Heath Town boss Shaun Saunders was appointed in April **2022** and in the **2023-24** season they were promoted after beating Hythe in the play-off final.

ROUND-UP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
Three Bridges	4	2	2	0	11	8	+3	8
Cray Valley PM	3	2	1	0	12	6	+6	7
Chichester City	3	2	1	0	6	0	+6	7
Hythe Town	2	2	0	0	6	0	+6	6
Sevenoaks Town	3	2	0	1	9	5	+4	6
Ramsgate	3	2	0	1	8	5	+3	6
Ashford United	2	2	0	0	3	1	+2	6
Sheppey United	3	1	2	0	8	4	+4	5
Sittingbourne	3	1	1	1	7	5	+2	4
Herne Bay	3	1	1	1	5	5	0	4
Burgess Hill Town	3	1	1	1	3	4	-1	4
Littlehampton T	3	1	1	1	3	6	-3	4
Beckenham T	3	1	0	2	4	4	0	3
Erith & Belvedere	3	1	0	2	2	3	-1	3
Lancing	3	1	0	2	1	4	-3	3
Broadbridge Hth	3	0	2	1	4	7	-3	2
Horndean	3	0	2	1	3	6	-3	2
Merstham	3	0	1	2	3	6	-3	1
Phoenix Sports	4	0	1	3	4	15	-11	1
East Grinstead T	3	0	0	3	2	10	-8	0

Last updated: Tuesday 29th August 2023 at 21:38:51

Early leaders **Three Bridges** were pegged back by two late goals in the derby with **Merstham** on Monday. After an impressive win at **Beckenham** on Saturday, Bridges fell behind on the Bank Holiday, but Archer levelled to make it 1-1 at the break and O'Neill struck twice to give them a 3-1 lead, only for the Surrey side to score twice in the final nine minutes.

Cray Valley, who themselves blew a two-goal lead at home to Broadbridge Heath on Saturday, are second with a game in hand after they hammered **Phoenix Sports** 7-2 on Monday, with six different players getting on the scoresheet.

Chichester are third after successive 3-0 wins over the holiday weekend, at home to Lancing and then away to **Broadbridge Heath**.

Hythe are fourth with maximum points from two games, but Monday's match with Ashford Town was abandoned after a serious injury to Ashford's Adem Ramadan.



Ramsgate are level with ourselves after taking maximum points over the weekend, a 4-0 win over **Littlehampton** at Southwood followed by a come-from-behind victory at **Herne Bay** on Monday.

There was late drama in the Swale derby at Woodstock Park as Sittingbourne came from a goal down to take a 2-1 lead with seven minutes left, only for Hamill to score a stoppage time equaliser from the penalty spot. An early goal from O'Toole gave Burgess Hill a 1-0 win at Lancing and Adesite's double saw Erith & Belvedere to a 2-0 win over Beckenham at Park View Road.

Tuesday night's fixture saw Littlehampton draw 1-1 with Horndean, Hopkinson equalising for them straight after half-time.

PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN SOUTH EAST: SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST 2023

Beckenham Town	1	2	Three Bridges	325
Oloyede 5			Lawson 39, 66	
Burgess Hill Town0	0	2	Erith & Belvedere	352
			Ajayi 28, Dickson 39	
Chichester City	3	0	Lancing	142
Hutchings 45, Dunn 47,				
Clack 69				
Cray Valley PM	2	2	Broadbridge Heath	136
Lisbie 2, Grant 47			Lindsey 30, Brackpool 82 pen	
East Grinstead Town	1	2	Herne Bay	115
Aubrey 3			Carvalho 4, Rowland 68	
Horndean	0	3	Sittingbourne	190
			Osude 22, Theobalds 26, Graham 51	
Merstham	0	2	Hythe Town	201
			Smith 13, Schafer 84	
Ramsgate	4	0	Littlehampton Town	680
Taylor 20 pen, 30,				
Martin 28, Parter 82				
Sheppey United	4	0	Phoenix Sports	177
Bradshaw 15, Lambert 49,				
Willis 81, Morris 90				

MONDAY 28TH AUGUST

Broadbridge Heath	0	3	Chichester City	182
			Davidson 37, Clarke 68, Honore 74	
Erith & Belvedere	2	0	Beckenham Town	159
Adesite 51, 68 pen				
Herne Bay	1	2	Ramsgate	1,039
Pont 3			Green 47, Martin 61	
Lancing	0	1	Burgess Hill Town	451
			OToole 20	
Phoenix Sports	2	7	Cray Valley PM	135
Thompson 69, 80			Grant 16, 63, Ademiluyi 39, Vigor 44,	
			Della-Verde 55, Lisbie 61, Parker 67	
Sevenoaks Town	4	1	East Grinstead Town	141
Bennett 68, Baugh 75 pen,			Wilson 90 pen	
Francis 89, 90				
Sittingbourne	2	2	Sheppey United	651
El-Moghaebel 45, 83			Bradshaw 33, Hamill 90 pen	
Three Bridges	3	3	Merstham	138
Archer 43, O'Neill 71, 79			Abnett 27, Pearch 81, Lusuku 85	
Hythe Town	A	A	Ashford United	

TUESDAY 29TH AUGUST

Littlehampton Town	1	1	Horndean	262
Hopkinson 46			Willett 4	



Sevenoaks Town Fixtures & Results 2023-24

KEY:

- 1 = Goal Scored
- 1st Player subbed
- 2nd Player Subbed
- 3rd Player Subbed
- > Sub subbed
- = Red Card

- + = Own goal
- * = Oaks lost 4-3 on pens
- ISE = Isthmian SE
- FAC = FA Cup
- FAT = FA Trophy
- KSC = Kent Senior Cup
- TBC = To be confirmed

All Saturday home fixtures
kick off at 3pm
Wednesday fixtures at
7.30pm unless otherwise
stated

	DATE	V OPPONENT	COMP	RES	ATT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3
AUG	Sat 5	A Lingfield	FAC	3-1	105	Tangara	Aboagye	KMN	Mensah	Bray	JHM	Shomotun	Cadogan	Liburd	Bennett 2	Baugh	Carr 1 >	Francis	Aghatise
	Sat 12	H Ramsgate	ISE	4-2	257	Tangara	Aboagye	KMN	Warren	Bray	JHM	Shomotun	Cadogan	Francis	Mensah 1	Baugh 1	De Silva	Carr 1	
	Tue 15	A Sittingbourne	VST	3-3*	89	Tangara	Aghatise	De Silva	Thompson	JHM	Holder	Shomotun	JDT	Addai	Bennett	Baugh 1	Cadogan	Mensah	Okello 2
	Sat 19	H Colliers Wood U	FAC	3-0	136	Tangara	Aboagye	KMN	Warren	Bray	JHM	Shomotun	Mensah 1	Bennett	Cadogan	Baugh	Francis 1	De Silva	Okello
	Tue 22	A Ashford United	ISE	1-2	131	Tangara	Aboagye	KMN	Warren	Bray	JHM	Shomotun	Mensah 1	Barrett	Cadogan	Baugh	Francis	Addai ■	De Silva
Mon 28	H East Grinstead T	ISE	4-1	141	Tangara	Aboagye	KMN	Warren	Bray	JHM	Shomotun	Mensah	Francis 2	Cadogan	Baugh 1	Thompson	Bennett 1	De Silva	
SEPT	Sat 2	H Whitehawk	FAC																
	Sat 9	A Uxbridge	FAT																
	Sat 16	A Burgess Hill Town	ISE																
Wed 27	H Herne Bay	KST																	
Sat 30	H Sittingbourne	ISE																	
OCT	Sat 7	A Lancing	ISE																
	Tue 10	A Hythe Town	ISE																
	Sat 14	H Horndean	ISE																
	Sat 21	A Erith & Belvedere	ISE																
Sat 28	H Chichester City	ISE																	
NOV	Sat 4	A Broadbridge Hth	ISE																
	Sat 11	H Sheppey United	ISE																
	Sat 18	H Merstham	ISE																
	Sat 25	A Littlehampton	ISE																
DEC	Sat 2	H Three Bridges	ISE																
	Sat 9	A Phoenix Sports	ISE																
	Sat 16	H Burgess Hill Town	ISE																
	Tue 26	A East Grinstead	ISE																
	Sat 30	A Ramsgate	ISE																
JAN	Mon 1	H Cray Valley PM	ISE																
	Sat 6	H Herne Bay	ISE																
	Sat 13	A Beckenham	ISE																
	Sat 20	A Sittingbourne	ISE																
Sat 27	H Hythe Town	ISE																	
FEB	Sat 3	A Horndean	ISE																
	Sat 10	H Lancing	ISE																
	Sat 17	H Erith & Belvedere	ISE																
	Sat 24	A Chichester City	ISE																
MAR	Sat 2	H Broadbridge Hth	ISE																
	Sat 9	A Sheppey United	ISE																
	Sat 16	H Beckenham	ISE																
	Sat 23	A Herne Bay	ISE																
Sat 30	H Ashford United	ISE																	
APR	Mon 1	A Cray Valley PM	ISE																
	Sat 6	A Merstham	ISE																
	Sat 13	H Littlehampton	ISE																
	Sat 20	A Three Bridges	ISE																
Sat 27	H Phoenix Sports	ISE																	



LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Paul Lansdale has sent this letter to everyone involved with Sevenoaks Town regarding the plans for Greatness Park. If you haven't already seen it, please take a look and take some time to complete the surveys:

Dear Club Members (parents, players, managers, coaches and volunteers) supporters and friends of the club,

As you maybe aware we are hoping to build a new club pavilion which will also serve the local community seven days a week

To supplement the current consultation being circulated by Sevenoaks Town Council, Sevenoaks Town Football Club are also working to find out more information about what STFC members think about existing facilities/football provision and whether they would like to be actively involved in supporting the next phase of the clubs development.

We would really appreciate it if you could spend a few minutes completing both surveys.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YHR68S5> - STFC Members Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/5Z2YD6D> - Sevenoaks Town Council Consultation

Paul Lansdale

West Kent SPORT & WELLBEING

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We are also extremely proud to announce that we are the sponsor of Sevenoaks Town FC's...

MAN OF THE MATCH



West Kent
SPORT & WELLBEING

MAN-OF-THE-MATCH



Palace Francis collects the West Kent Sport Man of the Match from Andrew Gidley after his star turn against East Grinstead

OAKS ON THE RECORD



When and Where:

East Grinstead: - home - Bourne Stadium

Date: Monday August 28 2023

Pitching in Isthmian League South East:

Weather: Sunny and Warm

Result: 4-1

Attendance: 141

Referee: Robert Harrison (Hampshire)

Line Up: Amadou Tangara, Jerald Aboagye, Karn Miller-Neave, Matthew Attenborough-Warren (Ricardo Thompson 25 mins), Rian Bray, Johan Howlett-Mundle, Fumnaya Shomotun (Kyle De Silva 76 mins), Emmanuel Mensah, Kieran Cadogan (Dan Bennett 58 minutes), Palace Francis, Solomon Baugh.

Scorers: Dan Bennett (68). Solomon Baugh (75 mins penalty), Palace Francis (89 mins and 90+6)

Yellow Cards: Solomon Baugh (15 mins), Kieran Cadogan (18 mins), Rian Bray (90 mins +4)

Oaks Review:

One change from the starting XI that lost at Ashford, Palace Francis replacing Dan Bennett who was among the subs. Boss Harry Hudson praised the impact of all three subs in the post match huddle. Dan coming off the bench to score the first and set-up the third for Palace Francis. Ricardo Thompson was introduced as early replacement for skipper Matthew A Warren forced off midway through the first half with an ankle injury.

For the second time in successive home games, Oaks came up against a visiting

goalkeeper in great form.

Matte Pierson made three important saves in the first half, the best of them from Palace Francis and Kieran Cadogan's free-kick while Manny Mensah's spectacular effort clipped the bar.

HT 0-0 (47:20)

Two goals in seven minutes eased Oaks' frustrations - Dan Bennett forcing the ball home (68 mins)

Solomon Baugh doubled the lead from the spot after Grinstead defender Cameron Reardon handled in the box. (75 mins).

Bennett was involved again from the third - following a corner - taking the ball to the near post before setting up Francis to score (89 mins)

Grinstead skipper Glen Wilson pulled one back from the spot (90 + 5)

Francis added the fourth, finishing off a powerful run into the box (90+6)

FT: 4-1. (90+8)

Reaction:

Palace Francis:

"I have been trying to get my goals going from early season, so scoring like that should push me on.

"We work in training on making your runs, and once you hit your zones you are bound to score - I had time and space for the second - so I thought if I went around the keeper, there is no way I could miss - but still had the thought in my head that I could.

I stared at Walton and Hershaw, had a really good six months there, before going off to Bromley, things didn't really go the way wanted, but grateful for the opportunity.

"I then went to Welling but didn't get the game time, so I felt it was the right time to step down, play my football and show I can go back up to the top - playing for a side like Sevenoaks who are looking to do good things this season."

By Jon Couch

BARELY three weeks into the new season and already the managerial merry-go-round is gathering momentum.

We're not even into September yet two National League bosses have lost their jobs - an ever-growing trend which has sadly been set year-on-year, whatever the level.

Friday night's defeat by Southend United spelt the end of the road for Eastleigh boss Lee Bradbury, whose side, despite heavy investment and much strengthening over the summer, had failed to hit the ground running.

And, a little over 48 hours later, it was a similar tale for York City's Mikey Morton as a 3-1 home defeat by Rochdale saw him follow the same path through the exit door and into the pool of the unemployed.

"Bradbury and Morton were sitting ducks. As will the successors be ..."

Sadly, given the re-structures, growth and ambition of the two football clubs they represented, Bradbury and Morton were sitting ducks. As will their successors be. Such is the high-octane nature and pressure cooker landscape of the game these days, even in the fifth tier of the English game, not a shred of leniency or empathy is afforded to the man in the hotseat. It's dog eat dog from the very first whistle. Three draws from their opening five games was deemed insufficient for Bradbury as the Spitfires, under returning owner and chairman Stewart Donald and director of football Richard Hill back at the helm, had brought in the likes of Scott Quigley, Paul McCallum, Enzo Boldewijn and Chris Maguire to bolster the Spitfires' chances of finally fulfilling their Football League dream.

At York, Morton was at least given six

"SACKED IN THE SUMMER"



games of the new season to save his skin, but the Minstermen didn't win any of them and would be bottom of the table but for Southend's 10-point deduction. That, sadly, is just not good enough for a club who have spent big over the summer with new owner Matt Ugglar rubber-stamping deals for the likes of David Stockdale, Tyler Cordner, Dipo Akinyemi and Alex Woodyard.

Lower down the pyramid, it's even less forgiving. While The NLP have continued through the summer bringing you all the latest, not many weeks have passed when there hasn't been one managerial casualty somewhere or another.

Take Jamie Ward for example. The former Northern Ireland international was in the final throws of preparing for the start of the new season at Ilkeston Town when a decision to 'mutually' end his contract came.

Despite being described as "a great manager" by Robins chairman Andrew Nally, opted to recommence his playing career at Nuneaton Borough where, guess what, another manager is under pressure.

A 7-0 defeat at AFC Telford United forced the club to issue a lengthy statement apologising to disillusioned fans and calling for unity, while manager Jimmy Ginnelly offered those who made the trip to the New Bucks Head free entry for their new home game, against AFC Sudbury. Ginnelly's got some work to do to appease fans at Liberty Way but it's a situation that he, along with any other every football manager, will be well used to. He's thick-skinned enough to know that, one day, the axe will eventually fall and he'll be back on the managerial merry-go-round seeking a new opportunity. It's such a brutal industry.



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Isthmian League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

Please visit Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk to find out more



ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



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Sevenoaks Circuits

For more details contact: Donna on 07730 252228

Tues/Thurs 9am
Chipstead Common.

Saturday 8:30am The Vine.

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@sevenoakscircuits



SEVENOAKS TOWN FC 2023-24



Sevenoaks Town

Manager: Harry Hudson
Colours: Black/blue shirts,
black shorts, black socks



Whitehawk FC

Manager: Shaun Saunders
Colours: All red

Amadou Tangara	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Walker
Jerald Aboagye	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hamish Morrison
Karn-Miller Neave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stefan Wright
Emmanuel Mensah	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Worrall
Rian Bray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Tennent
Jahmal Howlett-Mundle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Luca Cocoracchio
Fumnaya Shomotun	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dom Johnson-Fisher
Kieran Cadogan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joel Daly
Rowan Liburd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ben Pope
Dan Bennett	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charlie Lambert
Solomon Baugh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Luke Robinson
Dan Carr	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Louis Collins
Palace Francis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charlie Walker
Andrew Norburn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tommy Brewer
Sammy Johnson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Connor Cody
Jack Sammoutis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reece Price-Placid
Jordan Aghatise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Matt Warren	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ricardo Thompson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Match Officials:

Referee: Neil Morrison

Assistants: Patrick Jolliffe & Daniel Trout

Next home match:

DFDS Kent Senior Cup

Sevenoaks Town v Herne Bay

Wednesday 27th September, kick-off 7.30pm