

STFC v East Grinstead FC – Saturday January 3rd 2026

Pitching In Isthmian South East Division



THE OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME FOR THE 2025-26 SEASON

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Respect





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 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.

You can call the FA on 0800 085 0508 or Kick it Out on 020 7253 0162.

STFC welfare policy

As a 3-Star Accredited Club, child welfare and safeguarding is at the heart of what we do.

Sevenoaks Town FC Directors and Trustee's are responsible for the Club's compliance with the child protection and welfare issues that are related to running a youth football club.

The Club Welfare Officers are responsible for the welfare and safeguarding of all our club members. Three of the club's codes relate specifically to club welfare issues:

Safeguarding Children Policy

Child Protection Policy
Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure
All team managers and coaches must complete the following before taking charge of a team:

- valid Enhanced DBS check
- have or be working towards a minimum FA Introduction to football coaching qualification
- FA Safeguarding Children Training
- FA Introduction to First Aid in Football

Player Welfare

The club has four Welfare Officers: Sean Jarvie, Shannon Hyner, Darron Mace and Jennifer Mason. The Board Champion is Paul Lansdale who can be contacted on 07876444274. You can also email welfare@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk

FA Respect

As an FA Charter Standard Community Club, we expect the highest standards of conduct from our players, parents and supporters. We are passionate supporters of the FA Respect campaign.

FA Whistleblowing Policy

Any adult or young person with concerns about an adult in a position of trust with football can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863, by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, Wembley Stadium, PO Box 1966, London SW1P 9EQ, by emailing safeguarding@thefa.com or alternatively by going direct to the Police, Children's Social Care or the NSPCC.

STFC Club Information



Chairman and Director: Paul Lansdale
Secretary: As Chairman
Directors: Kevin Marsh, Ray Miles, Frank Le Siberel
Board Champion: (Welfare) Kevin Marsh
Club Welfare Officers: Sean Jarvis, Shannon Hyner, Paul Lansdale, Ben Franks
Committee Members: Shannon Hyner, Dan Thomas, Michael Tapp
Match Secretary: As chairman
Safety Officer: Ray Miles
Equality and Diversity Officer: Jahmal Howlett-Mundle
First Team Manager: Marcel Nimani
First Team Coaches: Craig Coles, Ben Franks, Liam Joyce
Goalkeeper Coach: Julian Leigh
Head of Analysis: Ben Maci
Sports Therapist: Alex Mulrooney
Head of Youth Football: Ben Franks
Press Officer/PA announcer: Andrew Gidley

Club Photographer/App/Social Media:
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Sevenoaks Samaritans

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From the Manager's Desk

"The travelling support from East Grinstead has brought great energy ..."



A warm welcome to Grant Hearn and Andrew Willis, the rest of the East Grinstead management team and their players, committee, and supporters.

Since I joined Sevenoaks, we have enjoyed some memorable derby encounters with our neighbours, fixtures that have traditionally produced exciting, high-scoring games. The travelling support from East Grinstead has always brought great energy, and I fully expect that tradition to continue again today.

I have shared the same message with our players throughout the week: East Grinstead's current league position does not reflect the true quality of their starting XI. They are a side that has only recently come together and is still finding its rhythm, but it will not be long before they click and begin to cause problems for many teams in this league.

They possess a squad full of vastly experienced players, and it is vital that we show the opposition respect based on their quality, not their position in the table. That said, we approach today's match fully prepared and well equipped, with a strengthened squad in good form and quietly confident in our own ability.

Our recent results have shown that if we apply ourselves correctly, we are capable of competing with anyone in this league. This season, it has been fantastic to see so many new faces joining us from the local community, and I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome all new supporters.

Both on and off the pitch, the club continues to move in a positive direction, and the upcoming move into our new clubhouse will further enhance the matchday experience for everyone. Your continued support is hugely appreciated.

Finally, I extend a warm reception to all supporters here today and wish everyone associated with both clubs a very happy New Year.
Enjoy the game.
Marcel

The Paul Lansdale Column

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to the Bourne Stadium for our first match of 2026 against East Grinstead.

That's extended to all connected with our visitors and to the three match officials appointed for today's game.

Today's programme is available only online due to our printers having an extended break over Christmas and New Year.

It could not have been a better way to end 2025 with three successive wins, a great platform to build on. We know how tough this league can be and there are bound to be more challenges ahead.

Reflecting on the past year the start



"Reflecting on the past year the start of building work on our new clubhouse was the headline moment ..."

of building work on our new clubhouse was the headline moment.

We were pleased to welcome the Mayor, Cllr Tony Clayton to join us together with other members of Sevenoaks Town Council, contractors and architects for the ceremonial dig.

On the field - a ninth place finish in the Pitching In Isthmian League South East saw us achieve our biggest points tally as a Step 4 club - 62.

Our re-formed reserve side competed in the Sevenoaks League, before switching to the NRG Kent County League, and currently head the Division Two Central table.

It has proved a challenging season for our newly promoted Ladies First Team in the London and South East Regional League, while the Development team top the South East Counties League.

Thank you to all our sponsors, volunteers throughout the club on and off the pitch who have helped in whatever capacity. It is valued and greatly appreciated.

Enjoy the game- and a safe journey home to everyone later

Paul



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Warren's priorities

"It has been a very difficult season, but we are now finding our feet, long may it continue ..."



Warren Mfula says Oaks winning matches is a bigger priority than his own goal tally.

He says it's more about the team than him after scoring twice in the 3-1 win Pitching In Isthmian League South East win at Broadbridge Heath on Saturday.

Rodney Eruotor played a part in both before adding an impressive third with Warren unselfishly missing out on a hat-trick late on.

It was a third successive victory for Oaks, a first in five league meetings against the West Sussex side, and moved them eight points clear of the drop zone.

Mfula who also scored twice in the corresponding game last season, now has eight for the season.

He said: "I'm happy to be back among the goals, but most importantly to get the win as well.

"It has been a very difficult season, but we are now finding our feet, long may it continue, and we are really happy to end the year with three points.

"It's all about the team, I want us to win and do well, and goals will come.

"It's three on the bounce, we are looking to 2026 now, hopefully we can carry on, and see where we finish."

He added: "Rodney also made one for me here last season, I know if I keep making the runs he will find me."

Mfula missed out on a third, choosing to lay on the chance for team-mate Dan Duncanson - only for it to be ruled out.

He said: "I could have walked away with the match ball, but Dan literally said please, I had never heard someone say that before - so I had to pass to him, only to be offside.

"In another game on another day, I am going to put it away and get three myself."

It's been a busy time off the field as well for Warren with the arrival of a new baby.

"We spent Christmas with the family and fatherhood is a lovely beautiful thing."

Ironically it was three years to the day when Mfula scored twice for Sheppen United in a 4-1 win at Sittingbourne.

Two of his Oaks team-mates then were Tom Hanfrey and Josh Wissom.

Isthmian round-up

Saturday 27th December 2025							
AFC Whyteleafe Holder 47, Goode 49	2	4	AFC Croydon Athletic Daniel 18, 43, Dreher 72, Pierrick 97	591			
Ashford United Bate 73	1	0	Hastings United	795			
Broadbridge Heath Peters 47	1	3	Sevenoaks Town Mfula 9, 33, Eruotor 57	139			
Crowborough Athletic Lyons 29	1	1	Eastbourne Town Paul Hover 15	426			
East Grinstead Town	0	5	Jersey Bulls Watson 38, Queree 49 pen, Carvalho 77, Ritzema 80, Yates 89	167			
Hassocks Daniel 5	1	5	Three Bridges Hallard 32, 68, Rivera 53, Bennett 75 pen, Adeyinka 92	526			
Herne Bay Townsend 13	1	3	Margate Greenhalgh 5, Blackman 35, 39	1,041			
Merstham Lewis 20	1	2	Sittingbourne Boachie 30, Foxley 62	611			
Sheppeney United Allan 89	1	2	Faversham Town Kwayie 14, Fagg 90	605			
VCD Athletic Christie 21	1	1	Deal Town Wilkinson 40	110			
Tuesday 30th December							
Jersey Bulls	0	2	Ashford United Dixon 43, Lockyer 91	824			

STFC Club News

WOMEN

Oaks Women face a swift New Year reunion against Sussex club Montpelier Villa AFC.

Beaten 2-1 at Lancing in their final league game of 2025 – the two teams meet again there tomorrow in the second round of London and South East Regional Women's Trophy.

They begin the New Year at home to Hastings United tomorrow week – hoping to complete a league double following a 1-0 win in the reverse fixture on the opening day of the season in August.

RESERVES

Oaks Reserves have been drawn away to Cray Wanderers Under-23s in the quarter-finals of the Go Cardless Kent Intermediate Cup.

The tie takes place on Friday January 16 at Flamingo Park, (kick off 7.45pm). Heading into the New Year they are also involved in two other competitions – The Leckie Family Cup and Sevenoaks Senior Cup.

The leaders resume their NRG Kent County League Division Two Central season at home to Crockenhill next week (2pm).

Isthmian round-up

Pitching In Isthmian South East Division									
Three Bridges	24	18	3	3	74	26	+48	57	
AFC Croydon Athletic	24	16	4	4	54	29	+25	52	
Faversham Town	23	14	6	3	52	31	+21	48	
AFC Whyteleafe	23	15	2	6	65	27	+38	47	
Sittingbourne	24	14	5	5	45	26	+19	47	
Merstham	24	12	5	7	45	35	+10	41	
Jersey Bulls	24	10	8	6	40	27	+13	38	
Margate	24	10	8	6	53	42	+11	38	
Herne Bay	24	11	5	8	42	39	+3	38	
Sheppeney United	24	10	4	10	44	50	-6	34	
Broadbridge Heath	24	10	3	11	50	43	+7	33	
Deal Town	23	10	3	10	43	41	+2	33	
Ashford United	24	9	4	11	49	45	+4	31	
Hastings United	24	8	4	12	35	39	-4	28	
Crowborough Athletic	23	8	4	11	34	47	-13	28	
Sevenoaks Town	24	9	1	14	36	54	-18	28	
Eastbourne Town	24	8	4	12	32	53	-21	28	
Hassocks	24	5	8	11	30	45	-15	23	
Erith Town	23	4	8	11	29	45	-16	20	
VCD Athletic	24	5	5	14	32	55	-23	20	
Beckenham Town	24	4	5	15	33	58	-25	17	
East Grinstead Town	23	1	1	21	16	76	-60	4	

Includes Tuesday night's result



Today's Fixtures

AFC Croydon Athletic v Beckenham Town
 Deal Town v Herne Bay
 Eastbourne Town v Hassocks
 Erith Town v VCD Athletic
 Faversham Town v AFC Whyteleafe
 Hastings United v Crowborough Athletic
 Jersey Bulls v Merstham
 Margate v Ashford United
Sevenoaks Town v East Grinstead Town
 Sittingbourne v Sheppeney United
 Three Bridges v Broadbridge Heath

Sevenoaks Town

Fixtures & Results 2025-26

KEY:

1 = Goal Scored
 * Player subbed
 ■ = Red Card
 + = Own goal
 ^ At Margate
 ^^ At Chichester

p = Bognor won 7-8 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 stated

	DATE	V OPPONENT	COMP	RES	ATT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	
	Sat 2	Athletic Newham	FACEP	3-1	54	Perrin	KD	Dickens	Hanfrey1*	Sawyer	Jonah	Stone*	Wisson	Mfula 1	Burnett 1*	Doughty*	DD	Bernal	Jeffrey	JHM		
SAT 9	AFC Croydon Ath	ISE	0-2	189	Perrin		Burnett*	Dickens	Diomande	Doughty*	Hanfrey	JHM	Jonah	Mfula	WPB	Wisson*	Jeffrey	Borders	Sawyer	Bunclark		
Tue 12	Ashford United	ISE	2-2	506	Perrin		Burnett*	Dickens	Diomande	Doughty*	Hanfrey*	Jeffrey*	Jonah	Mfula	Sawyer 1	Wisson 1	WPB	JHM				
Sat 16	Corinthian Casuals	FACP	5-3	302	Perrin	KD1	Dickens1	Hanfrey*	Sawyer	Jonah 1	Stone*	Wisson	Mfula	Jeffrey*	Doughty*	DD1	Burnett	Borders	Bernal	Bernal	JHM	
SAT 23	Crowborough Ath	ISE	1-0	222	Perrin	KD	Dickens	Wisson	JHM	Jonah	Stone*	Burnett	Mfula*	DD1*	Doughty*	Carney	Borders	Hanfrey	Sawyer			
Mon 25	East Grinstead T	ISE	2-0	212	Perrin	KD	Dickens	Hanfrey*	Sawyer	Jonah	Stone 1	Burnett	Mfula*	DD*	Carney*	Borders	Wisson	Doughty 1	JHM			
Sat 30	Folkestone Invicta	FAC1Q	0-3	218	Perrin	KD	Dickens	Hanfrey	Sawyer	Jonah	Stone*	Burnett*	Mfula	DD	Doughty*	Jeffrey	JHM	Bernal				
AUG																						
Sun 7	Bognor Regis TAA	FAT1Q	2-2p	232	Perrin	Doughty	Dickens	Hanfrey	JHM	Jonah	Stone 1	Burnett*	Mfula	DD 1*	Carney*	Green	Bernal	Morrison				
SAT 13	Sheppen United	ISE	3-0	178	Perrin	Majek	Dickens 1	Jackson	JHM	Jonah	Carvalho*	Burnett	Mfula 1	DD	Doughty*	DD	Borders	Carney				
WED 17	Merstham	ISE	1-4	202	Perrin	Majek	Dickens	Jackson*	JHM*	Jonah	Carvalho	Burnett 1*	Mfula*	DD	Stone	Wisson	Carney	Mfula 1	Wisson 1	JHM		
Sat 20	Margate	ISE	3-4+	408	Perrin	Majek ■	Hanfrey	Jackson	Sawyer	Jonah	Doughty*	Burnett*	Stone	DD*	Carvalho*	Carney	Jenkins					
Tue 23	AFC Whyteleafe	ISE	0-4	224	Perrin	Majek	Wisson	Jonah*	JHM	Stone	Jackson*	Mfula	DD*	Carvalho*	Burnett	Jenkins*	DD					
SAT 27	VCD Athletic	ISE	2-3	172	Perrin	Dickens	Hanfrey	Wisson 1	JHM*	Sawyer	Doughty*	Jackson*	Mfula	Stone	Carvalho*	Burnett	Jenkins*	Burnett 1	Doughty	Carvalho	Itauma	
SEPT																						
Sat 4	Deal Town	ISE	0-2	411	Perrin	Itauma	Dickens	Jackson	JHM	Jonah	Jenkins*	Wisson*	Stone	DD*	Carvalho	Burnett	Doughty	Mfula				
Tue 7	Faversham	KSC	2-1	224	Perrin	Majey	Dickens	Jackson	Sawyer	Hanfrey	Jenkins 1*	Wisson 1	DD	Burnett*	Doughty*	Itauma	JHM	Thomas				
SAT 11	Hassocks	ISE	4-2	183	Perrin	Itauma	Dickens*	Jackson*	JHM	Hanfrey	Jenkins 1	Wisson	Mfula*	DD 1	Stone 2	Majek	Jonah	Burnett				
Tue 14	Merstham	ISE	2-5	380	Perrin	Majek	Dickens	Jackson	Sawyer	Jonah*	Jenkins 2	Wisson	Mfula*	DD	Stone	JHM	Doughty					
Sat 18	Beckenham T	ISE	1-3	210	Perrin	Itauma	Dickens	Jackson	JHM	Hanfrey	Jenkins 1*	Wisson	Stone	Burnett*	Carvalho*	Mfula	Doughty	Bunclark				
OCT																						
Sat 1	Jersey Bulls	ISE	0-1	915	Perrin	KD	Dickens	JHM*	Sawyer*	Hanfrey	Carvalho	Perez*	Stone	DD	Jenkins*	Itauma	Majek	Wisson	Mfula	Borders		
WED 5	Sittingbourne	ISE	1-0	297	Perrin	KD ■	Dickens	Perez*	Sawyer	Wisson	Jenkins 1*	JHM	Mfula*	DD	Carvalho	Itauma	Andrews	Majek	Majek	Perez	Sawyer	
SAT 8	Erith Town	ISE	1-2	118	Perrin	KD*	Dickens	Perez	Sawyer	Wisson	Jenkins 1	JHM*	Mfula	DD	Carvalho*	Borders	Itauma					
WED 12	Ashford United	ISE	1-2	257	Perrin	Itauma	Dickens*	JHM*	Wisson	Hanfrey*	Jenkins	Borders	Mfula 1*	DD	Carvalho	Majek	Chiabi	Perez				
Sat 15	Faversham T	ISE	0-4	405	Perrin	Diomande	Dickens	Wisson*	JHM*	Jenkins	Mfula	DD	Itauma	Perez	Hanfrey	Chiabi	Jonah					
SAT 22	Eastbourne T	ISE	3-1	129	Perrin	Itauma	Dickens	JHM	Jonah	Hanfrey	Borders	DD	Mfula	Eruotor	JA 1	Jenkins 1	Chiabi 1	Majek	Itauma	Mfula 1		
Sat 29	AFC Croydon Ath	ISE	1-4	131	Perrin	Diomande	Dickens	JHM	Jonah	Hanfrey	Eruotor*	Perez*	Chiabi*	DD*	JA	Jenkins	Borders					
DEC																						
Wed 3	Gillingham	KSC	0-2	402	Perrin	Itauma	Jonah	JHM	Sawyer	Hanfrey	Jenkins	Perez*	Stone	DD	Jenkins*	Itauma	Majek	Wisson	Mfula	Borders		
SAT 13	Three Bridges	ISE	0-5	177	Perrin	Diomande	Dickens	McLeod*	Jonah	Hanfrey	Eruotor*	Borders	Mfula*	JA	Perez*	JHM	Jenkins	Chiabi	Vochyan	Tickle		
Sat 6	Hastings United	ISE	3-2	445	Perrin	Itauma	Dickens	McLeod 1	Sawyer	Hanfrey 1	Perez	JHM*	Mfula	Eruotor	JA*	Borders	JHM	Chiabi	Chiabi	Diomande 1		
SAT 20	AFC Whyteleafe	ISE	2-1	197	Perrin	Itauma 1	Dickens	McLeod	Sawyer	Jonah	Perez*	Borders 1	Mfula*	Eruotor*	JA*	Chiabi	DD	Chiabi	JHM	JHM	Diomande	
Sat 27	Broadbridge H	ISE	3-1	139	Perrin	Itauma	Dickens	McLeod*	Sawyer	Perez	Borders*	Mfula	Eruotor 2*	JA 1*	Jonah	DD						
JAN																						
SAT 3	East Grinstead	ISE																				
Sat 10	Herne Bay	ISE																				
SAT 17	Margate	ISE																				
Sat 24	Hassocks	ISE																				
SAT 31	Deal Town	ISE																				
FEB																						
Sat 7	VCD Athletic	ISE																				
SAT 14	Beckenham T	ISE																				
Sat 21	Sittingbourne	ISE																				
SAT 28	Jersey Bulls	ISE																				
MAR																						
Sat 7	Erith Town	ISE																				
Sat 14	Three Bridges	ISE																				
SAT 21	Hastings United	ISE																				
Sat 28	Herne Bay	ISE																				
APR																						
Sat 4	Crowborough Ath	ISE																				
Mon 6	Broadbridge H	ISE																				
Sat 11	Sheppen United	ISE																				
SAT 18	Faversham T	ISE																				
Sat 25	Eastbourne T	ISE																				

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A history of East Grinstead

East Grinstead Town Football Club was formed on May 8, 1890, although it was another ten years before they played their first competitive matches as founder members of the Mid Sussex Football League. In those early days the club played in blue and white with the town's coat of arms on the breast pocket. It was some years before they adopted their current colours of amber and black and were nicknamed 'The Wasps,' both of which survive to this day.

They won the Mid Sussex League in 1902 and their first major honour followed seven years later when they shared the Sussex Junior Cup with Arundel. In 1909 they were awarded senior status which they have held ever since apart from two seasons when they were relegated to the intermediate third division of the Sussex County League in 1989.

In 1912 Grinstead reached the Sussex Senior Cup final for the only time in their history but lost 4-1 to St Leonards Amateurs in a ferocious snowstorm.

The Wasps were original members of the Sussex County League when it was founded in 1920, but they struggled to make any impact and after finishing bottom in 1927 they were not re-elected.

Rather than returning to the Mid Sussex League, they had four successful seasons in the Brighton League before stepping up to the Southern Amateur League. A fresh challenge reinvigorated the club and they won the Division Three title in 1932 with 15 victories out of 18. Three years later they played on the Test match cricket ground at Trent Bridge in Nottingham when they defeated Nottinghamshire Amateurs 6-0 in the old FA Amateur Cup.

Determined to regain their place in the



**EAST GRINSTEAD
TOWN F.C.**

bers after that. They left West Street in 1959 but it wasn't until 1967 that they finally moved to their current home at East Court after a protracted battle to get the ground, which was prone to waterlogging, fit for football. In the meantime, they had a spell at King Georges Field in the town centre.

The club again finished third in 1973 in the Sussex County League but that was as good as it got for another 30 years although Grinstead did reach their first cup final since 1952 when they lost 4-1 to Haywards Heath in the RUR Cup in 1974 despite taking the lead. During the 1980s the club regularly hosted Crystal Palace and Brighton in charity fixtures watched by crowds of over 2,000.

Wasps found themselves in Division Two for the first time in 1979 and even had two sea-

Sussex County League, they were re-elected back in 1937 after winning the Mid Sussex League again and finished fifth in their first season.

In those halcyon days either side of the Second World War, four-figure crowds were the norm at their old ground in West Street, East Grinstead, which they shared with the town's cricketers. The club's record attendance is 2,006 for an FA Amateur Cup tie against Lancing in November 1947.

Success eluded Grinstead until 1952 when they won the Baldwin Cup, the forerunner of the Sussex County League Cup.

That team is reckoned by many to be the finest the club has ever produced. It was certainly the most entertaining - 42 games that season in league and cup produced 222 goals!

Grinstead finished third in 1955, but their fortunes began to decline along with crowd numbers

A history of East Grinstead

sons in Division Three before regaining senior status. They were promoted back to Division One in 1993 but lasted just two years.

Bob Smith, a former player, led Wasps back to Division One in 2003 and they also won their first trophy for 52 years, beating Three Bridges 4-0 in the final of the RUR Cup.

Unfortunately, the club were relegated back to Division Two on the final day of the 2004-05 season and in October 2006 Smith, the longest-serving manager in the club's history, was replaced by another ex-player Steve Norris, these days the club's vice-chairman.

In his second season Wasps romped to the Second Division title by a massive 18 points, losing just twice all season. Their winning run of 14 successive league games at the start of the season meant they became the last senior non-league team in the country to drop points.

The club established itself in the top-flight over the next decade and their progress on the field was matched off it.

Floodlights were installed in 1997 and in 2008 two new stands and a pitch perimeter barrier were erected. In 2014 with East Court already meeting the requirements of the Isthmian Football League after installing additional seating, the club began work on a new dressing room and hospitality area, turnstile block and entrance and a resurfaced car park. More than £225,000 of the cost came from external grant-aid funding.

Simon Funnell's side finished the season in second place, their highest ever County League position, and in May 2014 the club were accepted into the Isthmian League for the first time in our history. In October 2014, Simon was replaced by Tony Beckingham, who returned for a second spell having previously been in charge between February 2010-October 2011.

Tony managed to keep the club in the league for a second season despite finishing in 23rd place in the table but left to join Hythe Town in September 2015.

Matt Longhurst was appointed manager in October 2015 and consolidated the Wasps at Step 4 for three seasons, despite a big turnover of players. In December 2019, Matt was replaced by the former Kingstonian and Whyteleafe manager Leigh Dynan.

The suspension of the league saved the club from relegation, as they were bottom of the table when Covid-19 forced the curtailment, but Leigh rebuilt the squad, and the club began the 2019-20 season with renewed confidence and were fourth when the campaign was abandoned because of the pandemic.

Leigh had to step down at the start of 2021 due to work commitments and former Wasps' striker Tony Reid, who had enjoyed success with Westfield, was appointed in May 2021.

But after a disappointing start to the season Reid left the club in November 2021 and Beckingham returned for a third spell as joint-manager alongside Drew Cooney, who has made more than 400 appearances for the Wasps. Cooney took over as permanent manager in March 2022, and the club celebrated ten seasons at Step 4 in 2024 and consolidated their position at Step 4 last season (2024/25).

After a poor start to the 2025-26 campaign, Drew's resignation was reluctantly accepted by the committee in October 2025 and a few days later he was replaced by joint-managers Grant Hearn and Andy Willis.

During the summer of 2020 the first major overhaul of the pitch since 2003 took place with new drainage and irrigation systems installed, most of the cost being met by grants.

This project was completed in the summer of 2021 and further improvement work took place in 2024 and 2025 to enable the club to offer the best grass playing surface in the division, if not the league.



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



Oaks 2 AFC Whyteleafe 1

Jed Borders' 88th minute winner grabbed victory to cap a good five days for Oaks. He picked the perfect moment to score his first goal of the season, as they came from behind to follow up the midweek win at Hastings.

Kevin Diomande released Troy Chiabi, who crossed for Borders to show composure and control to score in the bottom right corner.

Dan Bennett, one of five ex-Oaks players in the Leaf line-up, put the visitors ahead after 26 minutes finishing well for his 13th goal this term.

However, Oaks' responded immediately, Sam Itauma breaking his duck for the season, with an excellent top left hand corner finish set-up by good work by Rodney Eruotor. He burst past former Oaks skipper Corey Holder on the by-line, after running onto Ryan Sawyer's perfect pass from deep in his own half.



Oaks On The Radio

West Kent Radio are featuring Sevenoaks Town on their Saturday afternoon sports programme. The show runs from 2pm to 6pm and includes three reports - preview, half-time and full time on all the club's matches, as well as midweek matches in breakfast sports bulletins the following morning. The station is broadcast on 95.5, 106.7 and 107.2 and is available on online, on smart speakers and app, which has been launched recently.



Broadbridge Heath 1 Oaks 3

Oaks improved on a poor record against the West Sussex outfit to earn back-to-back away wins for the first time this season.

Warren Mfula's early goal was the perfect start, and doubled the lead soon after the half-hour.

However as at Hastings, Oaks conceded immediately the restart, Jordan Perrin pushed Zachary Young's effort for a corner, Brad Peters heading home from the resulting kick.

The turning point in the game came eight minutes later when home skipper Byron Napper saw red following his last-man challenge on Mfula - home keeper Alfie Hadfield palmed away the free kick, but Heath failed to clear, the ball falling to Rodney Eruotor who crashed home the third.

Mfula missed out on his hat-trick then set-up Dan Duncanson whose effort was ruled out for offside

A great way to end the old year - what does 2026 has to offer?

Broadbridge Heath: Alfie Hadfield, Luke Straight, Neo Wooster **Byron Napper 54**, Lewis Hyde, Bradley Peters, Luke Bejashvili, Salvatore Marino, Zachary Young, **Louis Evans 55**, Mason Doughty

Substitutes: Callum Dowdell (Luke Bejashvili 65 mins), Emmanuel Abudioire (Mason Doughty 65 mins), Charlie Connell (Lewis Hyde 75 mins)

Sevenoaks Town: Jordan Perrin, **Sam Itauma 75**, Charlie Dickens, **Sammie McCleod 56**, Ryan Sawyer, Tom Hanfrey, Jaden Perez, Jed Borders, Warren Mfula, Rodney Eruotor, Jefferson Aibangbee

Substitutes: Dan Duncanson (Sammie McCleod 58 mins), **Troy Chiabi 77** (Rodney Eruotor 65 mins), Jahmal Howlett-Mundle (Jed Borders 66 mins), Kevin Diomande (Jefferson Aibangbee 83 mins)

Referee: Callum Peter (Surrey)

HT: 0-2 (46:00)

FT: 1-3. (50:50)

Attendance: 139



Reaction: Marcel Nimani

"The performance mirrored the one at Hastings.

We played the surface well, looked reasonably comfortable - our best form in the first half came on the counter - the amount of entries we had at 2-0 up we could have made it three or four - and our shape of the ball was very effective.

On a third successive win:

"Things weren't going our way, we didn't panic, we certainly didn't turn on each other. "We found a solution and at the moment it's working but we are far from anywhere near where we want to be, so there is lots of hard work still to do."

MATCH STATS:

BROADBRIDGE H SEVENOAKS

Shots on target:



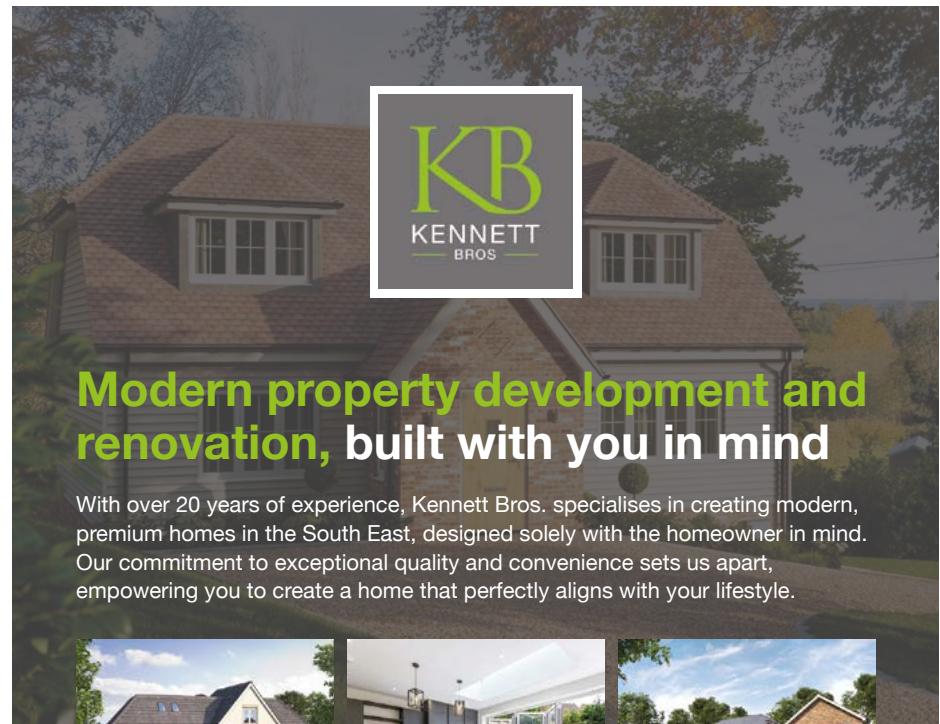
Shots off target:



Corners:



Free kicks conceded:



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STFC Squad 2025-26

STFC Squad 2025-26



Sevenoaks Town

East Grinstead

Manager: Marcel Nimani

Colours: Black/blue shirts, black shorts, black socks

Managers: Andy Willis & Grant Hearn

Colours: **Amber and black**



Match Officials:
Referee: Adam Steele
Assistants: Christopher Gustafsson
& Promise Phillips
Next home match:

**Saturday 17th January 2026, 3pm vs Margate,
Pitching In Isthmian South East Division**



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