The Official Matchday Programme of

Sevenoaks Town vs Hastings United

HASTINGS UNITED

Season 2021/2022 Issue 05



Pitching in Isthmian South East Division Saturday 11th September 2021: Kick-Off 3pm











Sevenoaks Town Info

Chairman and Director: Paul Lansdale
Secretary and Director: Sam Lansdale
Directors: Kevin Marsh, Ray Miles, Frank Le Sibirel
Committee Members: Dan Thomas, Michael Tapp
Match Secretary: As chairman
Safety Officer: Ray Miles
Club Welfare Officer: As chairman
Covid-19 Officer: As chairman

Equality and Diversity Officer: Michael Tapp
Press Officer/ PA announcer: Andrew Gidley

Club Photographer, App and Social Media: Adam Beaumont

Video Analyst: Josh Hill
First Team Manager: Micky Collins

Coaches: Julian Leigh

Jason Bourne Terry Groom

Physio: Jade Shaw Club Address:

The Bourne Stadium.

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In today's programme...

5

The history of Hastings United FC

The men from the Pilot Field have a rich and varied history and have enjoyed FA Cup ties with Norwich and Middlesborough.

6-7

We meet again ...

The final home game of the aborted 2020-21 season took place between Sevenoaks and Hastings last October ... and it was damp.





10-11 Report round-up

You might want to skip this bit after what happened on Wednesday night ...

12-13
Player Profile

Tommy Cooney is Andrew Gidley's latest interviewee.





The History of Hastings United

The origins of the club began with the founding of old town side Rock-A-Nore in **1894;** five years later they became defunct but in 1901 a new club started-up using the same name.

They won the East Sussex League Championship in **1907/08** and were to be amongst the foremost local sides regularly winning trophies until World War One called a halt to proceedings.

The Rock-A-Nore club resumed in **1919**, this has lead to some confusion as to whether the Club was actually founded in 1901 or 1919 and Hastings United has taken the view that it was 1901 in which year the club won five local trophies plus the Sussex Junior Cup.

The latter success was crucial as it not only secured them an invitation to become a founder members of the Sussex League when it started in **1920** but led to the Council developing a community ground.

They purchased Pilot Field Meadow where the first pitch was prepared on the upper area, later "The Firs", with Rock-A-Nore having first call upon it.

Their opening match there was a County League fixture against Chichester on September 11th, 1920 when a crowd of over one thousand saw them lose by the odd goal of three. Having previously rejected a proposal to add Hastings to the club name, in April, 1921 it was agreed to change the name to Hastings and St. Leonards Football Club. The club suspended operations for the duration of the Second World War but maintained a link with local youth football and, therefore, were able to field teams in a full programme of club matches during season 1944/45.

Resuming in the Southern Amateur League, the club were again runners-up in **1946**.

Despite bringing a good class of amateur football to the town, there was a clamour in Hastings for professional football and in the summer of **1948** Hastings & St. Leonards found that the lease on the Pilot Field stadium had been awarded to the newly formed Hastings United F.C. who had gained admission to an enlarged Southern League without ever having kicked a ball.

With no suitable ground available, "The Amateurs" continued in the local leagues playing on the top pitch at the Pilot Field.

In **1952** the club became founder members of Division Two of the Sussex

County League, however, the transition was a huge step for which the club was not prepared and in the first three seasons they finished bottom of the division. Eventually in season 1959/60 the club finished as runners—up but with only the top side eligible for promotion they remained in Division Two for a further twenty years.

During that period the club changed its name to Hastings Town and improved The Firs ground, re-profiling the pitch and constructing a purpose built clubhouse. In 1979/80 when they won both the Division Two title and the divisional cup.

Meanwhile Hastings United, who had struggled during season 1984/85 ceased trading when it was found they could no longer sustain their accumulated debts.

Hastings Town made application to takeover their Southern League place but Witney objected as United's demise had saved them from relegation from the Premier Division and, instead, Town were offered a place in the League's Southern Division.

Several ex-United players joined Town and the unified side featured in the promotion race during their first two seasons but just missed out finishing third and fourth in **1986** and **1987**, respectively.

It was the return of former Hastings United manager Peter Sillett that saw Town establish themselves as a force in the Southern League winning the Southern Division in 1992. Playing at their highest level ever, Town struggled and Sillett was replaced by Dean White, the local former Chelsea and Gillingham player, who saw them to safety.

The club was to spend a further six seasons in the Premier Division of the Southern League, during which they won the Challenge Cup, and reached the final of the Sussex Senior Cup four times in five seasons, lifting the trophy in **1996** and **1998**.

Season 1998/99 saw an attempt to transfer to the Isthmian League refused but having resigned from the Southern League they were only accepted back as new entrants and started season 1999/2000 in the Eastern Division which they won in 2002.

At this time the club acquired the company name Hastings United and since have played under that title, however, promoted to the Premier Division a

The History of Hastings United

twentieth position finish saw them make an immediate return to the Eastern Division but a first appearance was made in the FA Cup proper when went through to the first round proper after winning in a replay at Kettering before losing to 1-0 at Conference side.

Relegation and the F.A.'s Non-League restructuring moved the side into the Ryman Isthmian League where they finished in eleventh and twelfth places in Division One in **2005** and **2006**.

Following a fourth place finish in season 2006/07, promotion to the Premier Division was won by defeating second placed Tooting & Mitcham United in the end of season play-off final.

During season 2007/08 Hastings United struggled in the Premier Division and mid-term the club dispensed with the services of Nigel Kane, reserve team manager John Lambert acting in a caretaker capacity, until former Millwall player and ex-Tonbridge Angels boss Tony Dolby arrived and steered the side clear of relegation. Tony did not stay at the Pilot Field and Lambert was appointed as manager for season 2008/09 but once again United found themselves in the lower half of the table for much of the season and after a prolonged spell in or just above the relegation places Tony Dolby returned to replace Lambert and once again oversaw them retain their place in the Premier Division.

The **2009/10** season was United's most successful since gaining promotion. They looked likely to make the end of season play-offs until a late dip in form saw them finish in seventh place. They reached the semi-finals of the Sussex Senior Cup, losing to Brighton & Hove Albion but found no success in the FA Cup, FA Trophy of League Cup.

Manager Tony Dolby left the club in December **2010** and was replaced by Jason Hopkinson who was previously assistant manager at Lewes. Results picked up which enable the club to retain its Premier Division status.

Results in the cup competitions were again disappointing. Jason left the Club during October 2011 following a disappointing start to the season and was replaced by central defender Sean Ray United again found themselves in a relegation battle but managed to

preserve their Premier Division status.

A poor league season in 2012/13 saw the club relegated from the Ryman League Premier Division. There was considerable cup success however. An FA Cup run saw United reach the third round proper before losing 4-1 away to Championship side Middlesbrough. They also reached the semi-finals of the League Cup, losing away to Concord Rangers, and the Sussex Senior Cup when they lost 1-0 to Bognor Regis Town.

Three days prior to the start of the new season manager Sean Ray resigned his position John Maggs was appointed as manager towards the end of August 2013, formerly with Crawley Town, Horsham and Crawley Down Gatwick.

John Maggs was dismissed towards the end of January **2014** and replaced by former player Terry White. Two other managerial changes were made during the season when results were disappointing especially as many had tipped the club to be challenging for a play-off place.

Towards the end of season 2014/15 the club changes hands when a new board of directors was appointed. Garry Wilson was appointed as manager during the close season with Danny Bloor joining as assistant manager.

Garry Wilson and Danny Bloor stepped down at the end of the 2015/16 season to be replaced by former United player Darren Hare who had previously been with Gillingham FC undertaking a number of rolls including caretaker manager. Darren rebuilt the squad during the close-season with a number of new signings.

After an excellent season which ended with a play-off semi-final defeat, on penalties, away to Dorking Wanderers, Darren Hare resigned.

His replacement was Adam Hinshelwood who once again had to rebuild the side as a number of players moved on.

Adam resigned during September to take on the managers role at Worthing FC and was replaced by his assistant Chris Agutter who remains at the helm to this day on a full time basis combining his role with being Head of Coaching & Recruitment within the Club's education and football scheme which it operates in conjunction with East Sussex College Group from Hastings College.







The last time we met

Saturday October 24 2020: Isthmian League South East: Sevenoaks Town 0 Hastings United 1 HT: 0-0 Attendance: 300

Sevenoaks Town: Ben Bridle-Card, Reion McFarlane, (Tom Ripley 87 mins), Joe Taylor, Dan Parkinson (Zac Guerfi 56 mins), Joe Tennent, Dean Gunner, James Bessey-Saldanha, Ryan Fowler, Jason Thompson, Kyle De Silva, Tyrell Richardson-Brown (Frankie Sawyer 76 mins).

Sevenoaks suffered defeat against a strong Hastings side, on what proved to be our final home game of the 2020/21 season before the second lockdown curtailed things. Ryan Worral's 56th minute goal from long-range proved the difference in a tight encounter, played in almost ceaseless drizzle.





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Who cares if it's 0-0?

By David Richardson

THE BEAUTY of watching football is not knowing what's going to happen inside those 90 minutes.

Unfortunately, for me, I was on the wrong end of that last weekend.

The National League went crazy with 50 goals flying in across 11 games. There were three 4-3s, two 3-2s, three 2-2s and a 3-3. There were comebacks galore, red cards, own-goals and more big attendances. The start of the National League season really has delivered a strong advert for Non-League football.

However, on the same day in the division, there was also one 0-0, between Boreham Wood and Stockport County, which myself and 782 others attended. Groundhoppers especially will have had a moment like this, watching a drab stalemate as wild scores from around the country filter through. 'Why did I pick this game?'. It could even be happening right now as you read this! Sods law!

There was a spell last season when, in consecutive weeks, the games I went to finished: 1-0, 0-0, 0-0, 1-1, 1-0, 0-1, 1-0 before Hartlepool United ended my torrid run with a 7-2 victory at Wealdstone. I'd put in the hard yards.

I can't complain too much, though. A month or so later, I was at Ashton Gate, watching Torquay United goalkeeper Lucas Covolan score a 95th minute equaliser against, coincidently, Hartlepool in the National League play-off final. It's cliché but it was truly an unbelievable moment. My brain couldn't process what my eyes had just seen.

It was the first time I'd attended a game in which a goalkeeper had scored and it made the arduous fixtures gone before all worthwhile. For every goalkeeper scoring a goal, there's several dozen 0-0s waiting around the corner!

Besides, if we knew how every game would finish, who would score and in what way, then football wouldn't have made it this far.

It's part of being a supporter too, each season different to the next, although usually with hopes of success often dashed as early as Christmas.

Football happiness is rare and short-lived. Here on Saturday, gone by Tuesday. Another fixture ready and waiting to deliver a dose of sporting reality.

In a strange way, however, as Boreham Wood and Stockport toiled to a goalless draw, it felt good, it felt normal, as the world continues to heal.

NLP reader Neil David wrote in our letters page last week how nice it was to be back in Non-League grounds after attending Mildenhall Town's FA Cup victory over Yaxley.

"The chatter among fans, having a beer watching the game, seeing how much the players are enjoying being back," he said, before delivering the crucial line, "I didn't think I'd miss live football as much I have."

And that's exactly how I felt at Boreham Wood despite the outcome. I hope now we have learned not to take things, or football, for granted. Not even the 0-0s.





A "Shambolic and embarrassing" loss

Sevenoaks Town 3 Redhill 4

Micky Collins didn't mince his words after watching this FA Cup exit at the hands of Combined Counties League Redhill.

"Shambolic and embarrassing" was his verdict after emerging from a "devastated" dressing room having seen his side concede a 3-0 half-time lead.

Son Louis scored one and made two others as Oaks scored three times in eight minutes to seemingly have one foot in the Second Qualifying Round first time since 2017.

Aidan Brown pulled one back 11 minutes after the break as a thunder storm added to an eventful night's, Sam King's double levelled the scores, before Brown's injury time winner put Oaks out - victim to a record equalling scoreline in the 150th anniversary year of the famous competition.

Three bookings in the opening 18 minutes summed up a fiesty opening with Nathan Hogan going close twice for the visitors early on, who won a string of corners that caused Oaks problems. Bradley Schafer's 28th minute opener boosted Oaks hopes, Collins setting him up to score, his low left foot finish going in off the post. Skipper Kyle De Silva set up Collins for the second six minutes later, leaving two defenders on the floor before doubling the lead. He then turned goal maker with two minutes later, aettina to the bye line to cross for Jason Thompson to convert at the far post.
If there was a turning point it came soon after Redhill reduced the arrears early in the second half.

Collins went clear - oneon-one with keeper Jack Minchin rounded him only to see his shot bounce off the post.

Thompson went close to scoring later, his back heel going close to the line with around 15 minutes left, before Redhill struck getting their fourth in the third added minute - breaking quickly after an Oaks free kick was cleared.

Sevenoaks Town: Ben Bridle-Card, Charlie Holmes, Tommy Cooney, Ben Davisson, Maxim Cabune, Danny Divine, Kyle De Silva, Bradley Schafer, Louis Collins, Jason Thompson, Stefan Wright (Ryan Fowler 44 mins).

Toby proud despite defeat

Sevenoaks U18s 0 Welling United 1

Coach Toby Lansdale said he was "proud" of his side after the 1-0 defeat by Welling United in the opening round of the FA Youth Cup at Bourne Stadium last Friday night

A 75th minute winner by Lewis Haywood decided a very entertaining contest in the Wings favour, with Oaks creating a string of chances in both halves - only to be denied by a post in the first half and then desperate defending in the second. Toby said: "Absolutely gutted to have lost that game. The boys really did not deserve to lose, we controlled large parts of the game, we kept knocking on the door but just couldn't find the cutting edge that we had all of pre-season.

"With only 13 outfield players available for the game, we gave it our best shot and I was proud of the boys efforts.

"We will certainly look to

bounce back this weekend when the Kent Youth League season begins against Kent Football United.

We also wish Welling the best of luck in the competition."

Meanwhile Libby Gregory's hat-trick led Sevenoaks Women to an 8-2 win over Maidstone United in their opening South Counties League Kent Division 1 game on Sunday.







Sevenoaks Town Fixtures 2021-22 season

All home Saturday games kick off at 3pm. Wednesday games at 7.30pm.

Key: ISE: Isthmian South East - FAC: FA Cup - FAT: FA Trophy
1 Goal scored - *Own Goal 1st sub 2nd sub 3rd sub Sent off

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				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Sub	Sub	Sub
Sat 7 Aug Cobham	FAC		2-2	Bridle-Card	Divine	Wright	Holmes	Tennent	Gunner	Walsh	Schafer	Deakins	Collins 2	Skerry	Thompson	Bah	
Wed 11 Aug Cobham	FAC	144	3-1	Bridle-Card	Divine	Bah	Holmes	Tennent	Gunner	Wright 1	Schafer	Deakins	Collins 1	Delgado-M	Walsh	Thompson	
Sat 14 Aug Whitstable	ISE	315	2-1	Bridle-Card	Divine	Cooney	Holmes	Tennent	Gunner	Walsh	Wright	Thompson 2	Collins	Dasho	Deakins	Schafer	Skerry
Sat 21 Aug Erith Town	FAC	115	2-2	Bridle-Card	Divine	Cooney	Dasho	Tennent	Gunner	Walsh	Wright 1	Deakins	Collins 1	Holmes	Skerry	Fowler	Town
Wed 24 Aug Erith Town	FAC	204	3-1	Bridle-Card	Divine	Cooney	Dasho	Tennent 1	Gunner 1	Parkinson	Wright	Thompson	Collins	Fowler	De Silva	Holmes	
Sat 28 Aug Haywards Heath	ISE	151	1-2	Bridle-Card	Divine	Cooney	Holmes	Tennent	Gunner	De Silva	Wright	Thompson	Collins 1	Skerry	Schafer	Walsh	Fowler
Mon 30 Aug Three Bridges	ISE	143	2-2	Bridle-Card	Divine	Cooney	Wright	Tennent E	Gunner I	De Silva	Schafer	Deakins	Collins	Skerry 1	Walsh 1		
Sat 4 Sep Redhill	FAC	174	1-1*	Bridle-Card	Cooney	Divine	Wright	Tennent	Gunner	De Silva	Schafer	Walsh	Collins	Skerry	Davisson	De Silva	
Wed 8 Sep Redhill	FAC	183	3-4	Bridle-Card	Holmes	Cooney	Davisson	Cabune	Divine	De Silva	Schafer 1	Thompson 1	Collins 1	Wright	Fowler		
Sat 11 Sep Hastings United	ISE																
Tue 14 Sep Phoenix Sp	ISE																
Sat 18 Sep Ramsgate	ISE																
Wed 29 Sep East Grinstead	ISE																
Sat 2 Oct Lancing	ISE																
Sat 9 Oct Burgess Hill Town	FAT																
Sat 16 Oct Ashford United	ISE																
Sat 23 Oct Burgess Hill Town	ISE																
Sat 30 Oct Corinthian	ISE																
Sat 6 Nov Herne Bay	ISE																
Sat 13 Nov Chichester City	ISE																
Sat 20 Nov VCD Athletic	ISE																
Sat 27 Nov Faversham	ISE																
Sat 4 Dec Whitehawk	ISE																
Sat 11 Dec Whitstable Town	ISE																
Sat 18 Dec Haywards Heath	ISE																
Mon 27 Dec Three Bridges	ISE																
Sat 1 Jan Sittingbourne	ISE																
Mon 3 Jan Hythe Town	ISE																
Sat 8 Jan Cray Valley PM	ISE																
Sat 15 Jan Ramsgate	ISE																
Sat 22 Jan Phoenix Sports	ISE																
Sat 29 Jan East Grinstead	ISE																
Sat 5 Feb Lancing	ISE																
Sat 12 Feb Ashford United	ISE																
Sat 19 Feb Burgess Hill	ISE																
Sat 26 Feb Corinthian	ISE																
Sat 5 Mar Herne Bay	ISE																
Sat 12 Mar Chichester City	ISE																
Sat 19 Mar VCD Athletic	ISE																
Sat 26 Mar Whitehawk	ISE																
Sat 2 Apr Faversham Town	ISE																
Sat 9 Apr Cray Valley PM	ISE																
Sat 16 Apr Hythe Town	ISE																
Mon 18 Apr Sittingbourne	ISE																
Sat 23 Apr Hastings United	ISE																

Player Profile: Tommy Cooney

Have boots will travel could be Tommy Cooney's motto - but he's hoping his stay at Sevenoaks will be a rewarding one for both him and the club. Another new face in the Oaks squad he talks about his lifetime in the game since moving from Ireland at the age of 16 to sign for Brentford.

Age: 26 (last Sunday) Position: Left Back Birthplace: Greenwich Home: Maidstone

Occupation: Football Coach

Previous Clubs / Countries played: Brentford, Morecambe, Finland, Sweden,

Boston United Braintree Town, Hemel Hempstead, Bognor Regis.

Best Mates in Football: Gil Carvalho, Zak Guerfi (was at Sevenoaks last season -

we played together in Sweden)

Best Football Memory: Making my debut for EPS - one of the biggest clubs in

Finland in front of more than 8000 people in November 2019.

Best Goal Scored: "To be fair I have only scored three in my career and I remember all of them. I have always been an assists kind of quy.

"The favourite one was when I was playing for Brentford Youth against Watford" when I won the game with a free kick.

Favourite Drink: Coke

Favourite Meal: Steak and Mashed Potato Favourite TV programme: Match of The Day

Favourite Film: Step Brothers

Best Thing about Football: Winning - no better feeling - whatever level you play Worst Thing about Football: Losing - every player will say the same - it can ruin

vour weekend.

Thoughts on joining Sevenoaks: "To be honest it came out of the blue. "I haven't played at this level before, but Micky and the club have been very good to me, and they have put together a coaching and football package together to bring me here.

I am 26 and I have accepted I might not go back into pro football, so coaching

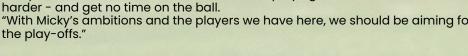
is going to my profession.

"Micky will get the best out of me, he tells me what I need to know, and he seems to be a very good man-manager, I like that about him, and we have got a very good relationship off the pitch, and I like what I have seen from him so far."

Prospects for Sevenoaks: "We are doing ok, I don't think we are playing particularly well at the minute, we are getting through games, which is a good sign and have only lost one game (before the Redhill replay).

"Micky brought me in and told me we wanted to go play-offs at least, I am not too sure of this level, players or the teams, and only played twice in the league, everyone else has been the one below - and playing those teams can be even

"With Micky's ambitions and the players we have here, we should be aiming for





Sevenoaks Town FC



History: Sevenoaks Town were originally formed in 1883, one of the founding members of the Kent League.

In April the same year, the club played Royal Arsenal, then the only professional club in the South East of England in front of around 1000 spectators at Knole Paddock.

They combined with St Johns United in 1951, and joined the Western section of the Kent Amateur League.

Division 1 League Cup winners in 1965–66, they were twice winners of the Premier Division in 1968–69 and 1975–76.

They won the Kent County League - three times - 1984-85, 1995-96 and 2002-3.

The club were Kent Intermediate Challenge Shield and Inter-Regional Challenge Cup winners twice, and lifted the Sevenoaks Charity Cup on 12 occasions.

Recent successes: Southern Counties East League Cup champions: 2016-17 Southern Counties East League champions: 2017-8

Best FA Cup Performance: Second Qualifying Round: 2016-17 Best FA Trophy Performance: First Qualifying Round: 2018-19

Best FA Vase Performance: Third Round Proper 2017–18.

A new state of the art 3G pitch was installed in June 2017, and plans are in place to construct a brand new stadium in the next two years.

2021 Squad Pictures



























Graphics by Leafcutter Studios

Support Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks Town FC has prided itself on providing for the local community to serve and assist those in the local area.

In March, the football season came to an abrupt end. In the unprecedented months that have followed, the club has had to re-focus, re-plan and re-model in order to find our feet again.

Following every step of Government and FA guidance, we were able to get back playing again in June.

Throughout lockdown and as measures have eased, our committee have recognised the need for the club to support those who need our help the most. One of the clear areas to focus upon was local business.

"We take great pride in our identity and the area we are a part of. We know first-hand, how challenging the past few months have been."

As a club, we want to be there for the people living, working and socialising in the area and have devised and a proud to launch a new scheme we hope you'll support and get involved with.

Support Sevenoaks is our campaign set up to help local businesses get back on their feet. We have created a Support Sevenoaks card which is free a loyalty scheme. If you make a purchase at stores and services who are a part of the scheme, you'll receive a stamp of thanks.

Once your Support Sevenoaks card is full of stamps, you can use it to gain free entry

to a First Team games during the 2020/21 season, when crowds are allowed to return. You simply bring the fully stamped card along to your chosen game and present at the turnstile.

And if for whatever reason, you don't want to use your card to attend a game, you can email hello@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk with your details and an upload of your complete card and we will donate the equivalent of the match day entity to a local charity.

Club Chairman, Paul Lansdale hopes the scheme will further incentivise local people to support businesses in the area.

"I am extremely proud to be launching ou Support Sevenoaks initiative. The scheme was devised by us as a club because we know just how important local provision and services are.

"We take great pride in our identity and the area we are a part of. We know first-hand, how challenging the past few months have been. The impact of Covid19 on businesses and organisations of all shapes and sizes has been huge. We want to help these businesses, their owners and employees find their feet again."

"We hope the idea is something those involved with the football club alongside residents and the businesses of Sevenoaks itself can get behind. Businesses can get in touch with us to be a part of Support Sevenoaks and we will equip them with the materials, the card and branding required. The Eat Out to Help Out scheme finishes at the end of the month, whereas this card will be in operation by us throughout the 2020/21 season and maybe even beyond if it proves to be valuable and enjoyed by people living, working and visiting Sevenoaks."

If you'd like to get involved with the Support Sevenoaks initiative please email charlotte@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk

Our supporters

Sevenoaks Haberdashery, Fargs Barbers, Archers Dry Cleaners, 7OaksTraditional Cobblers, Number Six Barbers, County Dry Cleaners, Paperchase, Nonna Cappuccini, Harveys Menswear, Wilkinson Eye Studio, Bat and Ball Sports, Marcos,
County Clothes,
Mint Dry Cleaners,
The Chocolate Shop,
Patmores,
Eat "N" Mess,
Hoads,
The Hardware Centre,
Sevenoaks Computer,
White Stuff.

UPDATE: The Support Sevenoaks initiative continues to gather impetus with more than 20 shops now signed up. Picking up a card at any of those listed allow shoppers in the town to make it a purchase and get it stamped. Every completed card will give free entry to a Pitching In Isthmian League first team game.

Shoppers not taking advantage can send the car to hello@ sevenoakstownfc.co.uk, and the club will donate the equivalent of the matchday ticket price between West Kent Mind and Hospice in the Weald.



Grow the Oaks!

Since 1883, Sevenoaks Town FC has provided playing opportunities for footballers of all ages and abilities. As our club seeks to take each step of the Government's Covid 19 roadmap and beyond with care, we are determined to find our feet as quickly as possible, making sure Greatness Park returns to becoming a safe, friendly hub of footballing activity for the local community and our football family.

It is now over a year since the global pandemic was declared, it is poignant to reflect on the things we've learned from these, tough, strange and unprecedented times. With our lives changed beyond recognition, we have learnt to appreciate all the things we enjoy – football being one of them. All the people who dedicate hours of time to helping Sevenoaks Town FC run are providing a selfless service we all appreciate goes beyond supplying physical benefits. It's the social elements of being part of a team; the mental health release of being active and empowered; its feeling and being a part of something unique, constructive and valuable.

With lots of people impacted economically, whether that be by being placed on furlough, losing employment or having planned opportunities postponed or cancelled, we are aware there may be individuals and groups out there who want to seize opportunity

once lockdown eases. Opportunity to give back. Opportunity to contribute to their local community. Opportunity to reignite with the game they love and have most probably sorely missed.

We want to #GrowTheOaks with a specific push to recruit volunteers to be a part of our team at Sevenoaks Town FC. However, no specifics are required for you to be a part of it. Whatever your skills, whatever your experience; if you want to get involved, if you'd like to contribute some hours and if you'd like to give up your free time, then you'd be most welcome.

Every volunteer at Sevenoaks Town FC is supported and given guidance around their role and responsibilities. We pride ourselves on looking after our players, coaches, officers and wider community. As a volunteer at our FA Charter Standard Community club, you will be a part of a club that prides itself on meeting and exceeding standards. You'll have opportunity to improve both yourself and the club in turn.

We are looking forward to a continued safe and positive return to football and if you want to be a part of it you can explore volunteering options and be a part of #GrowTheOaks by emailing info@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk

Zero tolerance for racism

"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."

STFC COVID-19 Policy Statement

The entire team at Sevenoaks Football Club are committed to providing a safe football environment.

COVID-19 RestrictionsIn accordance with the current Government guidelines and The FA guidelines, individuals can play match football and carry out competitive training with additional control measures in place. All of the well-publicised Government social distancing and hygiene requirements must be fully observed in and around the match and training pitches and parking areas at all times.

At the Bourne Stadium, anyone entering will be subject to a machine temperature check with anyone failing this check refused entry on safety grounds. In addition, there will be no access to the changing rooms except where league guidance requires it for matches or for safeguarding purposes. We have provided player/parent guidance and we are constantly receiving updates from The FA and Government which we will ensure to update our control measures when any further changes can be made. The measures that have been put in place are for you, your family and everyone else's safety.

- An individual is required to self-assess before travelling to a match/training and if showing any symptoms of the virus or has been in contact with someone displaying symptoms within the last two weeks, then they should stay at home and call 111. They should remain isolated until it is safe to return.
- We will be complying with additional control measure when carrying out match play and training with social distancing measures before, during breaks and after match play/training. Please respect each other and any decisions that are made on behalf of the club for safety reasons.
- For training, a maximum number of people are allowed into the designated training area within the red zone at any one time in order for social distancing to take place when contact training is not taking place.
 STFC and their coaches will abide by this maximum number as provided by The FA.

- All training activities are undertaken entirely at your own risk and parents/players must sign up to participate in footballing activity along with signing up to The FA's 'Code of Behaviour'.
- All players and attendees to training and matches are required to provide contact information to enable STFC to support the NHS Track and Trace program and all information provided will be covered under the club's Data Protection Policy.
- Players/parents/officials should arrive at the designated match/training time as entrance to the pitch will not be permitted before this time.
- All parents not remaining pitch side will be asked to drop and collect their children at the allotted time from the edge of the pitch or if at the Bourne Stadium from outside the around exit.
- Players should bring to training with them, named hand gel bottle and named water bottle as well as naming any other item they bring such as sun cream, medication, etc, for their own personal use.
- All training equipment will be appropriately sanitised including football equipment such as footballs, cones, goal posts and any other training equipment being used.
- At the Bourne Stadium, all signage for social distancing is installed in the ground to remind everyone of social distancing with volunteers to provide continued guidance.
- At the Bourne Stadium, the entrance and exit touch points, along with other areas at the ground will be sanitised with a cleaning sanitiser which continues to work for up to 30 days after it has been applied.
- Periodic touchpoint testing will take place to measure levels of microbes present on surfaces at the Bourne Stadium to ensure the sanitising program in place is effective. We look forward to welcoming you back to the club.

Play Safe, Stay Safe.







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PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE























PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Sevenoaks Town Women and Girls' Strategy

Sevenoaks Town FC are currently in the exciting process of putting together three-year plan for the women and girls' section of the club, in which they are aiming to help the team move from tier 7 (b) to tier 4 within the next 3 years. This is an ambitious jump to a high standard of football which STFC are confident they can achieve.

In order to help Sevenoaks Town accomplish this, the club has been working with two consultants who

both have a lot of first-hand experience in women's football: Natalie Curtis, a Football Development Officer for Women & Girls Football at the Kent FA who has also played for a pro club and managed and coached at the same level. and Charlotte Richardson,

an FA Club

Consultant who has been involved in the Women's Sport & Leadership Academy.

Both Natalie and Charlotte have experience of working with clubs and taking their Women's and Girls' teams up a few tiers, which is what Sevenoaks Town aspires to achieve. Natalie and Charlotte have begun to map out this three-year plan to help STFC achieve our goals.

Furthermore, Sevenoaks Town have also appointed Paul McDonagh who will be a great addition to the Women's and Girls section at Sevenoaks Town. Paul is a UEFA A Coach, and has also been Technical Director for Women's and Girls football at Charlton Athletic for two years.

Paul will take on and oversee STFC's Women and Girls' section, and he will also manage the Women's First

Team for the upcoming 21/22 season supported by Maddie Smith and Dan Thomas who bring a wealth of experience and have been instrumental in our progress so far.

We at Sevenoaks Town FC are confident that with the addition of Natalie, Charlotte and Paul to STFC's Women and Girls' section, as well as

the foundation we have built since our first girls' team in 2012, we will be able to really push on and increase the profile and exposure of women's football at the cub. The ultimate aim is to have our women's and men's teams run in the same way and be on the same level, and we hope to achieve this starting with the three-year plan which is being put in place.











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Next home match ...





Saturday 18th September - 3pm

Sevenoaks Town Vs Ramsgate FC





Today's team sheet

Sevenoaks Town

1: Ben Bridle-Card

2: Charlie Holmes

3: Tommy Cooney

4: Ben Davisson

5: Maxim Cabune

6: Danny Divine

7: Kyle De Silva

8: Bradley Schafer

9: Jason Thompson

10: Louis Collins

11: Stefan Wright

12: Ryan Fowler

14: Lammin Bah

15: Hayden Skerry

16: Reece Deakin

17: Max Walsh

Hastings United

1: Louis Rogers

2: Ollie Black

3: Gary Elphick

4: Craig Stone

5: Tom Chalmers

6: Lloyd Dawes

7: Jack Dixon

8: Ben Pope

9: Sam Hasler

10: Nathan Jenkins

11: Dave Martin

12: Sam Adams

14: Kenny Pogue

15: Harvey Greig

16: Knory Scott

17: Josh Turner



Saturday 11th September 2021, Pitching In Isthmian South-East

Division, kick-off 3pm.

Referee: TBA

Assistant Referee 1: TBA

Assistant Referee 2: TBA

Next home match: Saturday September 18th, v
Ramsaate, kick-off 3pm.

