

ISSUE  
26



# PEACOCKS



**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023**  
**KickOff 3:00pm**



**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023**  
**KickOff 7:45pm**



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## HONOURS

### LEAGUE HONOURS

SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE  
Champions 2017-18

#### WESTERN PREMIER DIVISION

Champions 1968-69, 1989-90, 1995-96,  
1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01

#### SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER SOUTH

Runners-Up 2018-19, Champions 2021-22

### CUP HONOURS

#### FA VASE

Winners 2000-01

#### SOMERSET PREMIER CUP

Winners 2002-03, 2005-06, 2013-14,  
2014-15, 2016-17

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Company Registration No: 1582031  
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## STAFF DIRECTORY

President: Tom Harris  
Life Vice President: Harold Needs  
Chairman: Kevin Sturme  
Chief Executive: Kevin Sturme  
Vice Chairman: Brian Pollard  
Vice Chairman: Alan Slade  
Fixture Secretary: Martin Dongworth  
Retail Commercial Director: Lee Derrick  
Hospitality Manager: Catherine Herbert

### LIFE MEMBERS

Mr D. Budge, Mr M. Dongworth, Mrs J. Ellis, Mr T. Gibbs,  
Mr J. Mayled, Mr P. Mayled, Mr R. Musker, Mr H. Needs,  
Mrs M. Needs, Mr A. Payne

### FOOTBALL OPERATIONS

Head of Football: Rob Dray  
Assistant Manager: Matt Willis  
First Team Coach: Michael Meaker  
Goalkeeping Coach: Connor Sidley-Adams  
Performance Analyst: David Cohen  
Sports Therapists: Anthony Cornish  
Sports Masseur: Paul Edwards  
Kit Manager: Karl Lindsay  
Club Doctor: Dr Tim Norbury

Head Groundsman: Kevin Sturme  
Safety Officer: Roger Conway  
Head Steward: Mike Parsons  
Welfare Officer: Neil White  
Turnstile Manager: Jason Mayled  
Stadium Announcer: Nick Rickards  
Club Shop Manager: Lee Derrick  
Club Photographers: Colin Andrews, Ashley Harris,  
Debbie Gould  
Media Team: Daniel Howell, Andy Power, Josh Perkins,  
Darren Harris, Jake Crump, Paul Smith

The Gaffer

# ROB DRAY



Welcome to the Cygnet Health Care Stadium for our Vanarama National League South games as we host Worthing and Weymouth over the next few days, which are also our final two games of the season here at home.

Our quest for National League South football next season was realised with a number of games remaining thanks to a string of good results that eased the pressure on the boys.

It has been a fantastic season for the club in our first at this level and we have applied ourselves brilliantly, especially defensively, allowing the fifth fewest goals against in the league so far this season.

We have identified throughout the season where we need to strengthen to be even more competitive in this league next season and hopefully we can do so in the off season, but for now it is about enjoying the remainder of the season and hopefully we can go out with a bang and give you, our faithful fans something to really cheer about.

I would like to say a huge thanks to all the staff, players and fans that have enjoyed this ride this season and we can't wait to do it all again next season.

Until then, enjoy the games and.....UP THE PEACOCKS!

Rob

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1947-2022

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## The Away End

# WORTHING

Worthing Association FC was founded in February 1886 and played home matches mostly in the People's (now Homefield) Park until the Club moved to Beach House Park in 1889.

The early years were spent playing friendlies and competing in the Sussex Senior Cup, in which our first tie on November 27th 1886 resulted in a 1-0 home win over Brighton Hornets.

Worthing reached their 1st Senior Cup final in 1891-92 (losing 5-3 to Brighton Hornets) before winning the 1892-93 final 2-1 against Eastbourne at the County Ground, Hove. This was the first of a record 21 Senior Cup wins, the most recent being in 1999.

Worthing were founder members of the West Sussex Senior League in 1896, along with their local rivals Worthing Athletic (founded 1891). The first of 7 championships was won in 1898-99, qualifying Worthing to play the East Sussex League champions Brighton Athletic in the Sussex Charity Cup donated by the Royal Irish Rifles. This match was lost 2-1, but we went on to win the RUR Cup (as it became known) 13 times (including twice jointly with Horsham).

In 1899-00 the name "Association" was dropped and we entered the FA Cup and FA Amateur Cup for the first time.

In May 1900 Worthing and Worthing Athletic merged and in 1901 the Club moved to its current home, then known as the Sports Ground, now as Woodside Road.

The team of 1903-04 contained 3 players who would become full internationals; S.S. Harris and E.G.D. Wright for England and Charlie Webb for Ireland. Harris played for England while still a

player for Worthing.

Worthing withdrew from the West Sussex League for the 1904-05 season, so as not to be in competition with the newly promoted Worthing Rovers (founded 1901). We rejoined the League in 1905 after merging with Rovers during the summer.

In 1907-08 Worthing reached the quarter-finals of the FA Amateur Cup, where we drew 1-1 away to the eventual winners Depot Battalion Royal Engineers, before losing the replay 1-0 before a then record crowd of over 3,100.

After World War I, in 1919-20, Worthing competed in 2 leagues, being founder members of the Senior Division of the Brighton, Hove & District League and rejoining the West Sussex League. The following year we helped found the Sussex County League and resigned from the West Sussex League in protest at a rule change. The County League championship was won for the first 2 seasons: another 6 titles were won during our stay in this league.

At the end of the 1921-22 season we applied to join the Athenian League, but withdrew the application before the AGM.

The FA Cup 1st Round Proper was reached in 1936-37, Worthing losing 4-3 at Yeovil & Petters United. In the 4th Qualifying Round we had beaten Wimbledon in front of our highest reported crowd of 3,600. This year also saw the first of 3 AFA Senior Cup finals reached, Worthing losing 7-1 to Harwich & Parkeston. The other 2 finals, in 1947 and 1949, were both lost to Cambridge Town.

In 1948-49 Worthing joined the Corinthian League. Little success was had in this league, finishing

bottom 4 times. The best season was 1949-50, when a highest placing of 5th was achieved, along with reaching the Corinthian League Memorial Shield final for the only time (losing 2-1 to Erith & Belvedere).

The Corinthian League became Division 1 of the Athenian League in 1963 and Worthing enjoyed immediate success, being promoted as runners-up to Leatherhead as well as reaching the Athenian League Memorial Shield final (losing 2-1 to Chesham United on aggregate) and winning the AFA Invitation Cup (3-1 away to Harwich) for the first of 4 occasions.

Three seasons were spent in the Athenian League Premier Division before two successive relegations saw us languishing in Division 2.

Worthing started their revival in 1971-72 by returning to Division 1 as runners-up to Staines Town and the following season reached the Athenian League Cup final, losing 2-0 away to Amateur Cup finalists Slough Town after extra-time.

Worthing left the Athenian League in 1977 to become members of the newly formed Isthmian League Division 2.

Barry Lloyd was appointed manager in 1981 and the Division 2 title was won in 1981-82, with prolific goal-scorer Micky Edmonds scoring 53 goals. In 1982-83 we won the Division 1 title and reached the 2nd Round of the FA Cup, losing 4-0 at Oxford United. The next 2 seasons saw Worthing finish as runners-up in the Premier Division to Harrow Borough and Sutton United, respectively.

At the end of 1984-85 the Club's main stand burnt down. In 1985-86 we reached the last 16 of the FA Trophy; then Barry Lloyd left to join Brighton & Hove Albion and the following year Worthing were relegated from the Premier Division. Four years later we had a disastrous season, finishing bottom of Division 1 with only 10 points and having conceded 157 goals.

Former Northern Ireland international Gerry Armstrong was appointed manager in 1991-92

and the following season Worthing became the first club to win Division 2 for a second time.

Armstrong left in the summer of 1994 to be replaced by his coach John Robson. Premier Division status was regained as runners-up to Boreham Wood in his first season and the FA Cup 1st Round reached again (losing 3-1 at AFC Bournemouth after taking the lead).

Worthing finished bottom in their first season back in the Premier and Robson was replaced as manager. Others followed before Brian Donnelly became manager at Christmas 1996. Under Donnelly's leadership, Worthing staged a remarkable late season recovery, winning their last 5 games to escape relegation on the last day. "Sammy" was to remain manager until November 2001 when Barry Lloyd returned for his second spell in charge.

In 1998-99 we were finalists in the Isthmian League Full Members' Cup and won the Sussex Senior Cup for the first time in 21 years. 1999-00 saw us reach the FA Cup 1st Round for a 4th time, losing at Rotherham United.

In 2001 Worthing celebrated 100 years of playing at Woodside Road, an event marked by the publication of the first book devoted to the Club.

In 2003-04 we finished 2nd in the league and thus regained our Premier Division place. Cup runs saw us reach the Senior Cup final and the last 32 of the FA Trophy, being beaten by eventual winners Hednesford Town.

In 2005-06 our youth team won their division and reached the 1st Round of the FA Youth Cup for the first time. Our first team had topped the Isthmian League at New Year 2006 but eventually just missed out on a play-off spot.

The following year we got relegated, but did reach the Senior Cup final for the 28th time. Our youth team were again champions and also captured the Isthmian Youth Cup for a second time. In 2007-08 they became founder-members of the Isthmian Youth League and won the Sussex FA Youth Cup for only the second time.

The management partnership of Alan Pook and Danny Bloor resigned at the end of 2008-09 and Simon Colbran took over. He lasted just one season, at the end of which we lost in the play-off semi-final for the 3rd year in a row. Colbran resigned in the close season and was replaced by Chris White.

Chris's first season, Worthing's 125th, saw us fielding a completely new squad of players and we managed to win some silverware, defeating Horsham in the last match of the season to secure the Brighton Charity Cup.

The Club's next appointment was joint -managers, Lee Brace and Kieran Collins. More mid-table mediocrity and disappointing early cup exits saw the duo depart in October 2013 and after a period of caretaker management under Mick Fogden and Jon Meeney, Adam Hinshelwood took the reigns on Christmas Day. The recently retired former Brighton & Hove Albion professional immediately went about re-building the side with young, hungry players. Coupled with the experience of Fogden and the enthusiasm of the young Meeney, hopes are high for a more settled and productive future.

The 2014-15 season was very much a one of ups and downs but, despite all the uncertainty surrounding the club's future a sixth place finish was achieved, our highest for five years.

Nobody could have predicted how the next nine months would unfold. The first team sealed promotion back to the Ryman League top flight for the first time since 2007 by winning the Division One South Play-Offs.

The following campaign saw us lead the embryonic league table with three straight wins from the opening day. Although cup runs and injuries to key players saw us eventually finish in fourteenth.

2018-19 started promisingly but an unprecedented number of injuries and suspensions - eleven players were out at one stage - saw a play-off place slip away in the final five games.

The following campaign was unprecedented, as Coronavirus spread around the world and ended all football in mid-March. Covid-19 also put paid to the following league campaign, in October, after just eight league games.

After two aborted seasons the promised land of National League South was finally reached in 2021-22, as Worthing hit the top with a home win over Merstham on 26th October and stayed there. Promotion was clinched with a 2-0 victory at Bowers & Pitsea on 9th April, thanks to goals from Ollie Pearce and Jasper Pattenden.



# ONES TO WATCH



**Ollie Pearce**

Made his long-awaited debut at Haringey Borough on 1st September 2019 and added his first goal for his new club at Lewes, a few weeks after that.

A Golden Boot win (35 goals) and a place in the Premier Division Team of the Season, as well as being voted Prem POY all added to a title winner's medal in 2021/22.



**Harrison Male**

Spent twelve years at Leeds United; rising through the ranks to reach their under-18's and under-23's.

Gained international honours with England at under-15's, 16's - making his debut at the age of just fourteen against USA - and 17's. Upon his release from Elland Road in the Summer and subsequent relocation down South, he signed for Worthing.

[www.worthingfc.com](http://www.worthingfc.com)

## VIEW FROM THE STANDS - by Dave Webster

### Taunton Town 0-3 Hungerford Town

If any one match sums up the insanity of this crazy season, then this is it. Its been said throughout the campaign just how small the margins are, from 2nd place right to the very root. This was a game, which on another day could have ended 5-5!!!!

To hear us go 0-1 down after only 25 seconds, to a goal, many of us did not see, due to taking up our positions behind the goal, to going 0-2 down from the penalty spot within a few more minutes, kinda killed all hope of a comeback. I cannot and will not be critical of our club. It is blatantly obvious to everyone, that our lads are tired, with many carrying injuries. Yet they are still trying as best they can.

We had many chances, no one can dispute that! Jake hit the crossbar, Ross had a effort go inches too high, Zac came close with the ball, almost going along the goal-line with Dylan and Nat stretching, but not quite able to get a boot on it.

And then in the 2nd half, 3 efforts were cleared off the line during goalmouth scrambles. On top of this we had 2 decent penalty shouts waved away. Hungerford went on and scored their third goal, and could have had a couple more during the game, but for at least 2 magnificent saves from Jack. I do feel that although Hungerford deserved their win, the 0-3 score-line was very flattering for them.

Hungerford worked hard for these 3 points, no one can take that away from them. I sincerely wish them all the best in their battle against relegation. It would please me no end to see them beat Dulwich Hamlet in their next match. There really is not much more to say on this match, a match i would sooner forget.

As for us, well 3 matches remain. Saturdays match verses Worthing has a special meaning for me, as it falls on my 65th birthday. Christ on a bike, come Sunday, i will be nearer 70 than 60!!! Oh well, time stops for noone. Would be lovely to see us turn play off hopefuls Worthing over, but with such a depleted squad, its going to be difficult.

Then its Weymouth, who are right in the quagmire. I

am sure they will want revenge for the 1-3 Taunton win earlier this season. Memorable, for many Taunton supporters because of a magical goal from Nick McCootie. And then its the final game of the 2022/23 season with the trip to Chelmsford, whom i feel confident will already have been guaranteed their play off spot.

Whatever happens from here on in for Taunton, its been a great campaign. Next season will be very interesting indeed with not one, but three Somerset derbies, with the promotion of Weston and the relegation of Yeovil. I cannot wait!!!! UTP.



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# HEAD 2 HEAD

# MEET THE TEAMS

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023 - KickOff 3:00pm



THIS SEASON  
AT A GLANCE



**43**  
GAMES PLAYED

**15**  
WON

**10**  
DRAWN

**18**  
LOST

**55**  
POINTS



**43**  
GAMES PLAYED

**20**  
WON

**12**  
DRAWN

**11**  
LOST

**72**  
POINTS



LAST 6  
FORM GUIDE



Head of Football: Rob Dray

Jack Bycroft (GK)	1
Jay Foulston	3
Nick Grimes	4
Dan Ball	5
Jake Wannell	6
Ollie Chamberlain	7
Lloyd James	8
Nat Jarvis	9
Nick McCootie	10
Joe Guest	11
Ross Stearn	13
Zac Smith	16
Dave Sims-Burgess	20
Lloyd Irish - GK	21
Dylan Morgan	22
Lee Lucas	31

Manager: Adam Hinshelwood


1 Harrison Male (GK)
2 Joel Colbran
3 Liam Vincent
4 Kane Wills
5 Aarran Racine
6 Danny Barker
7 Davide Rodari
8 Jack Paxman
10 Ollie Pearce
11 Sukjae Lee
12 Joe Rye
14 James Beresford
15 Mo Dabre
16 Ibby Akanbi
17 Reece Myles-Meekums
18 Josh Chambers

## Match Officials

Referee: Dean Skipper  
Asst Referee: Imran Khan  
Asst Referee: Paul Barber

# THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME



Where did this season go? It doesn't feel all that long ago the new campaign was kicking off. Suddenly we're on the final straight and some are already through the finish line.

On Good Friday, National League South Ebbsfleet United joined the Non-League champions' list following in the footsteps of Worksop Town, Macclesfield and Berkhamsted when it comes to Steps 1-4.

On Easter Monday it was the turn of South Shields, who were on course for the NPL Premier title back in 2020 before covid hit, and NPL Division One Midlands outfit Stamford.

If you're reading this on Saturday, April 15 there will no doubt be more this afternoon, with the likes of Hashtag United and Ramsgate as well as AFC Totton closing in.

Easter Monday also saw the National League biggie. The showdown between Wrexham and Notts County, that has been marked on the calendar for some time.

The pair showed up in north Wales having set the bar at new heights – both on 100 points, both with more than 100 goals and both miles ahead of the rest of the division.

But, as we know, only one is guaranteed to go up with just one automatic promotion spot into the EFL. While there is a growing sense that could become two in the near future, and that is surely the way to go, it has brought the drama to this year's promotion race.

And this game didn't disappoint. In case you missed it, former England keeper Ben Foster made a stoppage-time penalty save to help Wrexham to a 3-2 win and put them firmly in the driving seat for the title seeing as they also boast a game in hand.

Time for any more twists? We shall soon see but the two sides have produced incredible seasons and it does feel harsh one may not go up.

That's because the play-offs are a lottery. It would be a cliché if it wasn't so true. Anything can seemingly happen.

And while the bubbly is popped around the country to toast titles, it's the post-season play-offs that squeeze a season's worth of drama into a one-off tie. They are unscripted, unadulterated, adrenaline-fuelled, action-packed games.

From next season they will also be introduced at Step 5. The overwhelming positive reaction to the FA's announcement shows the people are largely getting what they want. They keep seasons alive for so many teams. And that brings fans through the turnstiles.

There are so many dynamics to the games. Often a team has been in the mix all season, pushing for the title and then they have to deal with the disappointment of missing out late on. At the other end of the scale are the teams who didn't necessarily expect to be there but they've been in the groove and gatecrash the qualifying places on a hot streak. Nobody wants to play this team.

And that's the thing about the play-offs. A team may have finished 20-odd points ahead of an opponent, but that doesn't always mean a whole lot in a one-off game where the stakes are at their highest.

If you've ever experienced your team in the play-offs you may well also subscribe to the view they are probably the worst way to lose. A season's work up in smoke in the blink of an eye.

The nature of football – sport in general, really – and the promotion system means there are far more disappointed teams at the end of the season than there are happy ones.

But my mind is taken to a quote from Notts County boss Luke Williams in the build-up to their huge clash with Wrexham.

"I don't think there has ever been a player on an open-top bus sulking because they didn't win the title," Williams said.

Worst way to lose, but certainly an exciting way to win. Here's to the play-offs, when they roll around.

**[www.thenonleaguefootballpaper.com](http://www.thenonleaguefootballpaper.com)**

## Last Time Out

# TAUNTON TOWN HUNGERFORD TOWN

0  
3

**VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH - TUESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**

**VENUE: THE CYGNET HEALTHCARE STADIUM - ATTENDANCE: 629**

Difficult to know where to start with this one in which the Peacocks dipped to defeat against a Crusaders side lying one place off the bottom of the table. The hosts never recovered from a disastrous opening spell which saw them concede twice in the first seven minutes and to be honest it might have been worse by the break had Hungerford taken their chances. A third goal in the second half clinched three valuable points for the visitors who managed to keep the Peacocks out during the latter stages as they searched for a way back.

Missing injured skipper Nick Grimes, the Town side was reshuffled with Ross Stearn coming in and Nick McCootie partnering Nat Jarvis up front in a rare starting combination. And barely had the whistle blown to begin proceedings in the Peacocks' 43rd League fixture of the campaign then Hungerford had gained the advantage, kicking off and keeping possession, the ball going infield to loanee from Farnborough Michael Fernandes who was just outside the box and he had time to place a shot beyond the reach of keeper Jack Bycroft into the right-hand corner after just 45 seconds.

The hosts had an immediate chance to hit back after Jarvis was brought down but Stearn's free kick went over before Bycroft made a fine save, tipping over a back header following a Jake Evans free kick. The threat had not gone away though because the resultant corner led to a handball

appeal against Joe Guest, granted by referee Ricardo and despatched by Evans who drilled home low under Bycroft for an unforeseen two goal lead with only seven minutes on the clock.

The shellshocked Peacocks nearly pulled a goal back soon after, winning their first corner of the game on nine minutes and from Lloyd James' delivery Jake Wannell steered a header against the crossbar with the follow-up from Dan Ball blasted at the target but somehow ending up in the arms of Crusaders' shotstopper Max Evans. Worryingly though there looked to be more goals in the Hungerford locker as they pressed forward, knowing only a victory would give them any realistic hope of remaining at Step 2 next season. A Fernandes ball over the top released Ryan Jones who lashed a strike just over before a chipped cross from Evans fell invitingly for Louis McGrory who was denied by Bycroft's block with the Town defence all at sea.

When Taunton did get forward, they displayed some nice touches at times but failed to trouble Evans. A promising break down the right saw Zac Smith drive into the box but instead of pulling the trigger his pass could not find Dylan Morgan and a Jarvis header was too high from a James corner while another Town corner produced a header for Wannell which was blocked, with Stearn unable to connect with the loose ball to send it goalwards.

With play going from end to end, Hungerford had

several opportunities to increase their lead. Bycroft advanced to clear but missed his kick, allowing Dan Roberts sight of an open net but fortunately he directed wide of the far post as Guest raced in to cover before the home keeper atoned by pulling off a fine save to touch over an Evans' half volley following yet another Crusaders' incursion. Joe Boachie and Jones then linked up for the former to clip an effort into the side netting.

The final stages of the first half wouldn't have looked out of place in Casualty, with both Jarvis and McCootie limping around following treatment which soon saw Jarvis replaced by Ollie Chamberlain eight minutes before the break. A couple of late raids saw Ball volley comfortably wide of the target while McCootie had a shot deflected for a corner but nothing doing in front of goal for the home side who were finally starting to show the weary effects of their seventh game in the month of April.

Attacking the Showtime Attractions End for the second half and with a big improvement needed to provide any hope of a comeback, the Peacocks won an early corner which led to Wannell placing a soft header wide. Crucially though it was the visitors who netted a third goal after 58 minutes. A free kick into the middle wasn't dealt with and Jerry Gyebi knocked the ball down for Boachie to slot over the line.

Boachie's header was saved by Bycroft while another header from Jones landed on the roof of the net before the home side had the better of the final stages, with Wannell prominent in trying to reduce the arrears. An intense minute of pressure on the Crusader's goal saw his header from a James corner blocked on the line and when the ball was eventually returned back in, Wannell met it again, only to see Evans claw out the header before it crossed the line.

Chamberlain fired wide and Wannell who on another day might have had a hat trick planted another header over, but a goal wouldn't come and when Guest blazed a shot high over the top

the game concluded to signal Town's eighth home League defeat of the season. With National League South survival having been guaranteed for the hosts after the weekend results, a combination of subconsciously relaxing the momentum and the exhausting recent schedule of games no doubt contributed to a performance and result which may not have been envisaged at 7.45pm. However, credit to Hungerford who had every motive to secure the win and deserved it on the night to give themselves a lifeline going into the final week of the season.





## The Away End



# WEYMOUTH

Founded in 1890, Weymouth FC play their games at the Bob Lucas Stadium, north of the town centre of Weymouth in Dorset. The Bob Lucas Stadium has been the home stadium since 1987, as the club relocated from the Rec. Originally named the Wessex Stadium, the Bob Lucas Stadium is named after the late Bob Lucas, who was the club's president up until his death in August 2010, aged 85.

Weymouth FC were relegated last season to the National League South following a two-year spell in the National League. Weymouth achieved back-to-back promotions to the National League when they became Southern League champions in 2018-19 season and followed up with promotion from the National League South in 2019-20. Weymouth advanced through the play-offs and defeated Dartford on penalties to achieve promotion. Current Aldershot manager Mark Molesley was part of the double promotion achievement but departed for Southend United at the end of the 2019-20 season. In the 20-21 National League season, Weymouth achieved an 18th placed finish under new manager Brian Stock. However, last season despite a

decent start to the league, Weymouth sacked manager Brian Stock in January 2022 after a run of seven consecutive defeats. The Terras replaced Stock with Oxford City manager David Oldfield who couldn't quite turn fortunes around as the club were relegated to the National League South last season. Oldfield left the club by mutual consent on the 16th September.

Former Bracknell Town manager Bobby Wilkinson became the club's new manager last month and has overseen Weymouth's progression to the First Round Stage of the FA Cup so far this season, with wins over Winchester City, Welling United and Havant & Waterlooville and a draw at home against AFC Wimbledon in the First Round tie means they have earned the right to a replay at Plough Lane next Tuesday.

The main focus however for Weymouth this season must be to turn around their league form and attempt to overturn the 10 point differential to escape the relegation zone and there is plenty of time left in the season to do so and retain their Vanarama National League South status.



# ONES TO WATCH



**Harry Kyprianou**

The full back joined Weymouth from Oxford City in the summer and has impressed defensively, but also going forward having scored two goals this season for the Terras.

Kyprianou scored in the FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round win over Winchester City and also against Eastbourne Borough in the league.



**Tom Blair**

Blair arrived at Weymouth from Eastleigh during last season and scored twice in the National League. Blair's qualities are his intricate passing and his pace on the wing.

Blair has scored once so far, with a goal against Chelmsford City. He also spent time on loan at Salisbury during his spell at Eastleigh.



# HEAD 2 HEAD

# MEET THE TEAMS

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - KickOff 7:45pm



THIS SEASON  
AT A GLANCE



**43**  
GAMES PLAYED

**43**  
GAMES PLAYED

**15**  
WON

**11**  
WON

**10**  
DRAWN

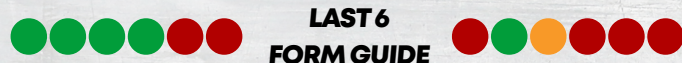
**6**  
DRAWN

**18**  
LOST

**26**  
LOST

**55**  
POINTS

**39**  
POINTS



Head of Football: Rob Dray

Manager: Bobby Wilkinson

Jack Bycroft (GK)	1	●	●	1	Zaki Oualah - GK
Jay Foulston	3	●	●	2	Luke Nippard
Nick Grimes	4	●	●	3	Harry Kyprianou
Dan Ball	5	●	●	4	Xander McBurnie
Jake Wannell	6	●	●	5	Dan Matsuzaka
Ollie Chamberlain	7	●	●	6	Nathan Carlyle
Lloyd James	8	●	●	7	Keelan O'Connell
Nat Jarvis	9	●	●	8	Teddy Howe
Nick McCootie	10	●	●	9	Ahkeem Rose
Joe Guest	11	●	●	10	Tom Bearwish
Ross Stearn	13	●	●	11	Bradley Ash
Zac Smith	16	●	●	12	Tyler Forbes
Dave Sims-Burgess	20	●	●	13	Harrison Bruton - GK
Lloyd Irish - GK	21	●	●	14	Tom Blair
Dylan Morgan	22	●	●	15	Ben Gerring
Lee Lucas	31	●	●	16	Josh Oyinsan
		●	●	17	Frankie Monk
		●	●	18	Cameron Murray
		●	●	19	Mitchell Parker
		●	●	20	Matt Burrows
		●	●	21	Ed James

## Match Officials

Referee: Phillip Eddie  
Asst Referee: Callum Waller  
Asst Referee: Mark Senior



## VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH 2022-23 LEAGUE STANDINGS

as at 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023

P	Team	GP	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	PTS
1	Ebbsfleet United	44	31	7	6	103	44	+59	100
2	Dartford	43	24	7	12	78	46	+32	79
3	Oxford City	44	21	14	9	81	53	+28	77
4	Chelmsford City	44	23	8	13	66	47	+19	77
5	St Albans City	44	21	9	14	69	49	+20	72
6	<b>WORTHING</b>	43	20	12	11	85	68	+17	72
7	Braintree Town	44	19	13	12	63	54	+9	70
8	Eastbourne Borough	44	21	5	18	72	63	+9	68
9	Havant & Waterlooville	43	18	11	14	75	63	+12	65
10	Farnborough	43	18	9	16	55	48	+7	63
11	Tonbridge Angels	43	18	9	16	63	66	-3	63
12	Bath City	43	17	10	16	59	53	+6	61
13	Hemel Hempstead Town	44	15	14	15	48	54	-6	59
14	Chippenham Town	44	14	16	14	54	64	-10	58
15	<b>TAUNTON TOWN</b>	43	15	10	18	44	49	-5	55
16	Hampton & Richmond Borough	43	15	8	20	59	66	-7	53
17	Slough Town	44	13	11	20	57	75	-18	50
18	Welling United (-1)	43	12	14	17	48	61	-13	49
19	Dover Athletic	44	12	12	20	42	63	-21	48
20	Dulwich Hamlet	43	13	7	23	60	87	-27	46
21	Cheshunt	43	10	10	23	46	70	-24	40
22	Hungerford Town	43	10	9	24	46	64	-18	39
23	<b>WEYMOUTH</b>	43	11	6	26	52	77	-25	39
24	Concord Rangers	41	10	7	24	36	77	-41	37

- P - Position GP - Games Played W - Won L - Lost D - Drawn F - For A - Against PTS - Points -

### Today's Fixtures - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

3pm	Braintree Town v Eastbourne Borough
3pm	Cheshunt v Bath City
3pm	Chippenham Town v Tonbridge Angels
3pm	Concord Rangers v Hampton & Richmond Borough
3pm	Dartford v St Albans City
3pm	Farnborough v Dover Athletic
3pm	Hemel Hempstead Town v Chelmsford City
3pm	Hungerford Town v Dulwich Hamlet
3pm	Oxford City v Havant & Waterlooville
3pm	Taunton Town v Worthing
3pm	Welling United v Ebbsfleet United
3pm	Weymouth v Slough Town

### Tonight's Fixtures - Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April

7.45pm	Cheshunt v Worthing
7.45pm	Dulwich Hamlet v Concord Rangers
7.45pm	Farnborough v Tonbridge Angels
7.45pm	Hungerford Town v Bath City
7.45pm	Taunton Town v Weymouth
7.45pm	Welling United v Hampton & Richmond Borough

### Upcoming Fixtures - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April

3pm	Bath City v Oxford City
3pm	Chelmsford City v Taunton Town
3pm	Dover Athletic v Weymouth
3pm	Dulwich Hamlet v Chippenham Town
3pm	Eastbourne Borough v Concord Rangers
3pm	Ebbsfleet United v Hungerford Town
3pm	Hampton & Richmond Borough v Dartford
3pm	Havant & Waterlooville v Welling United
3pm	Slough Town v Braintree Town
3pm	St Albans City v Farnborough
3pm	Tonbridge Angels v Cheshunt
3pm	Worthing v Hemel Hempstead Town

## NEXT UP

At The Cygnet Healthcare Stadium

# 2023-24 SEASON



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# 2022-23 FIXTURES & RESULTS

## AUGUST '22

Date	Venue	Opposition	Competition	KickOff/Score	Attendance
6th	HOME	WELLING UNITED	VNLS	0-0 D	813
13th	AWAY	CONCORD RANGERS	VNLS	1-0 L	285
16th	AWAY	FARNBOROUGH	VNLS	1-0 L	501
20th	HOME	DARTFORD	VNLS	2-1 W	743
27th	AWAY	ST ALBANS CITY	VNLS	0-0 D	766
29th	HOME	CHIPPENHAM TOWN	VNLS	3-1 W	1,148

## SEPTEMBER '22

3rd	AWAY	HUNGERFORD TOWN	VNLS	0-1 W	377
13th	AWAY	SLOUGH TOWN	VNLS	1-0 L	452
17th	HOME	LAVERSTOCK & FORD	FAC 2Q	1-0 W	645
24th	HOME	CHELMSFORD CITY	VNLS	0-0 D	928
27th	HOME	BATH CITY	VNLS	1-1 D	958

## OCTOBER '22

1st	HOME	WALTON & HERSHAM	FAC 3Q	1-0 W	731
4th	HOME	ODD DOWN	SPC	7-0 W	184
8th	AWAY	EBBSFLEET UNITED	VNLS	5-0 L	1,474
15th	AWAY	YEOVIL TOWN	FAC 4Q	0-0 D	3,093
18th	HOME	YEOVIL TOWN	FAC 4QR	1-0 W	2,347
22nd	AWAY	WORTHING	VNLS	1-1 D	1,295
25th	AWAY	OXFORD CITY	VNLS	2-1 L	374
29th	HOME	TONBRIDGE ANGELS	VNLS	4-1 W	872

## NOVEMBER '22

5th	AWAY	MILTON KEYNES DONS	FAC 1	6-0 L	2,739
12th	HOME	CHESHUNT	VNLS	1-0 W	720
19th	HOME	DULWICH HAMLET	FAT 2	2-1 W	661
26th	AWAY	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN	VNLS	1-1 D	452

## DECEMBER '22

3rd	HOME	BRAINTREE TOWN	VNLS	0-0 D	624
6th	AWAY	YEOVIL TOWN	SPC	2-1 L	441
20th	AWAY	SLOUGH TOWN	FAT 3	0-1 W	299
26th	AWAY	WEYMOUTH	VNLS	1-3 W	1,488

## JANUARY '23

Date	Venue	Opposition	Competition	KickOff/Score	Attendance
10th	AWAY	DOVER ATHLETIC	VNLS	1-0 L	502
17th	AWAY	TORQUAY UNITED	FAT 4	4-2 L	1,411
28th	HOME	ST ALBANS CITY	VNLS	0-1 L	807
31st	HOME	HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE	VNLS	2-0 W	551

## FEBRUARY '23

4th	AWAY	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH	VNLS	0-3 W	1,013
7th	HOME	DULWICH HAMLET	VNLS	1-1 D	687
14th	HOME	FARNBOROUGH	VNLS	0-2 L	690
18th	AWAY	HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE	VNLS	3-2 L	1,148
21st	HOME	OXFORD CITY	VNLS	1-1 D	521
25th	HOME	DOVER ATHLETIC	VNLS	0-1 L	787
28th	HOME	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH	VNLS	1-2 L	510

## MARCH '23

4th	AWAY	TONBRIDGE ANGELS	VNLS	2-3 W	933
7th	HOME	HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH	VNLS	1-2 L	456
11th	AWAY	CHESHUNT	VNLS	0-0 D	431
14th	AWAY	CHIPPENHAM TOWN	VNLS	3-1 L	612
18th	HOME	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN	VNLS	1-2 L	718
21st	AWAY	WELLING UNITED	VNLS	0-1 W	485
25th	AWAY	BRAINTREE TOWN	VNLS	0-2 W	820
28th	AWAY	HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH	VNLS	3-1 L	433

## APRIL '23

1st	HOME	EBBSFLEET UNITED	VNLS	0-1 L	958
4th	HOME	CONCORD RANGERS	VNLS	1-0 W	665
7th	AWAY	BATH CITY	VNLS	0-2 W	1,590
10th	HOME	SLOUGH TOWN	VNLS	2-1 W	908
13th	AWAY	DARTFORD	VNLS	0-1 W	877
15th	AWAY	DULWICH HAMLET	VNLS	2-0 L	3,291
18th	HOME	HUNGERFORD TOWN	VNLS	0-3 L	629
22nd	HOME	WORTHING	VNLS	3:00pm	-
25th	HOME	WEYMOUTH	VNLS	7:45pm	-
29th	AWAY	CHELMSFORD CITY	VNLS	3:00pm	-



# THE UNTOLD GAME

## - Goals win Games, but Points win Prizes -

'Attack wins you games, defence wins you titles.' When Sir Alex Ferguson tells you how to win a league championship, it's probably in your interest to sit up and listen. We usually think of great champions as dominant, free-flowing attacking sides, scoring goals for fun and, if possible, high on the entertainment factor. But really, it doesn't matter if you score the most goals, or have the meanest defence, or 98% possession. It's all about the points on the board, and however you accumulate them, in the end, the name on the trophy is all that anybody remembers. That's what Swedish side AIK realised in 1997-98, when they not only failed to score the most goals on their way to winning the Allsvenskan title; they scored the least.

In the middle of the 1990s, AIK were in a bit of a rut. One of Sweden's most successful clubs, their Allsvenskan titles had all come before the war, except for one in 1983. They had more consistent success in the Swedish Cup, winning it in both 1996 and 1997, as well as embarking on a run to the quarter finals of the Cup Winners Cup where they faced Barcelona. But that European run was to prove a double-edged sword. Success saw the poaching of AIK's prized talent: Magnus Hedman moved to Coventry, Gary Lundgren to Zaragoza, and both forwards ended their time in Sweden - one for Norway, the other for retirement. They retained Johan Mjallby, and placed a lot of faith in teenage defender Olof Mellberg, but in 1997 they finished a lowly eighth, far closer to the relegation zone in the 14 team league

than was comfortable.

A change was needed, and AIK director Stefan Soderberg set off to Japan to find it. There, managing Vissel Kobe, was Stuart Baxter, an Englishman who had played and managed in Sweden and, for tax reasons, was looking to leave the Far East. Soderberg refused to leave until he got his man, and contracts were signed. Baxter was left with a stack of Swedish football tapes and a ticket to Scandinavia.

Baxter's first job was to replace some of the talent that had set off around Europe, and in Anders Limpar he did just that. The former Arsenal man was beginning to wind down his career, but was still plenty good enough for the Allsvenskan. But more importantly, Baxter changed the way AIK played. Throughout Sweden, a flat 442 with balls down the line reigned supreme. So Baxter tried something different. Possession football, passing through the middle, pressuring the fullbacks. Mixed early results masked some impressive performances, such as the opening 1-1 draw in which AIK produced 23 shots on goal to their opponent's, Orgryte, three. Two defeats and two draws in the opening six games led up to the big game against IFK Goteborg. Something clicked, the players played out of the skins, and recorded a 1-0 victory. That was the confidence inducing moment, and another single goal victory against Malmo the following week set out the course for the rest of the season.

Far more draws than were comfortable followed, but AIK went unbeaten from that moment to the end of the season. Baxter's system was working, producing huge numbers of chances, but the quality wasn't quite there. AIK only scored more than one goal four times over the course of the season, never scoring more than two. They only won by more than a single goal twice. But they racked up the 1-0 victories, giving them a chance going into the final day. They would need to beat 12th placed Orgryte, the team against whom their season had started, while they needed already relegated Hacken to pull off a miracle against table topping Helsingborg.

AIK did what they had done all season, with a solid performance and a 1-0 win, never really being threatened by Orgryte's struggling side. For the last 15 minutes of the match, supporters in the stand crowded around handheld radios, desperate for news from Hacken. The relegated side had gone behind, but pulled one back through Mathias Larsson. As the game ticked on, Larsson

broke through, and slotted another into the net. AIK fans erupted as the final whistle went. Only 25 goals scored, just 15 conceded, and champions. It was an incredible achievement.

Baxter is insistent that his team didn't play defensively, they just so controlled the game that their opponents couldn't get at them. The following year, they conceded even fewer, 14, and finally got their shooting boots on, hitting 42 goals. But it didn't matter; Helsingborg got their revenge, and pipped AIK to the title by a single point. So, maybe, Sir Alex was right. Attack doesn't always win titles.

Enjoy the game.

*Martyn*

Martyn Green





## CYGNET HEALTHCARE STADIUM REGULATIONS

Persons entering this stadium must abide by the Stadium Regulations as printed in the matchday programme and displayed on posters inside the stadium. Failure to do so may result in ejection from the premises, a ban from attending any future events and also be the subject of a football banning order. Admission to and the right remain within the stadium is strictly on condition that any person attending will adhere to the Stadium Regulations as detailed below.

1. All persons must comply with any directions given by a Steward, Club Official or Police Officer.
2. Encroachment onto the playing area, sterile area, or its adjoining parts is prohibited.
3. Climbing on any building, wall, fence or any other structure is prohibited.
4. Persons must not throw any object onto the pitch or within the spectator areas.
5. Persons must not be in possession of, and/or lighting any firework or flare.
6. Chanting or singing of an obscene, indecent, discriminatory or offensive nature is not permitted.
7. Persons must not use obscene, indecent, discriminatory, offensive or threatening language.
8. Persons must not use obscene, indecent, discriminatory, offensive or threatening gestures.
9. Persons must not damage or deface Club and Stadium property.
10. Persons must not damage, deface or obstruct any notice or advertisement.
11. Alcohol must not be brought into the stadium.
12. Persons must not consume alcohol that has not been purchased at Taunton Town FC.
13. Persons must not consume alcohol in any alcohol free designated areas.
14. There will be zero tolerance to alcohol abuse/misuse.
15. There will be zero tolerance to drug possession, use and abuse.
16. Smoking is permitted in the stadium except in areas designated as a No Smoking area.
17. Umbrellas are permitted within the stadium but must not be used if obstructing the view of other spectators.

Spectators must also note the following:

- A) The Club does not accept any responsibility or liability whatsoever for any loss or damage to vehicles or their contents, or any other personal property brought onto the Clubs premises and stadium.
- B) The Club is unable to accept any additional responsibility for minors attending matches beyond those matters covered by the Stadium Regulations.
- C) Photography and use of video including CCTV is in operation at all matches and events and may be used in any of our media channels as well as press releases.
- D) Dogs on a lead are permitted in the Stadium but they remain the sole responsibility of their owner at all times.

**THE CLUB RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CARRY OUT PERSONAL SECURITY SEARCHES AND/OR REFUSE ADMISSION TO ANY PERSON AT ANY TIME, WITHOUT EXPLANATION.**

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