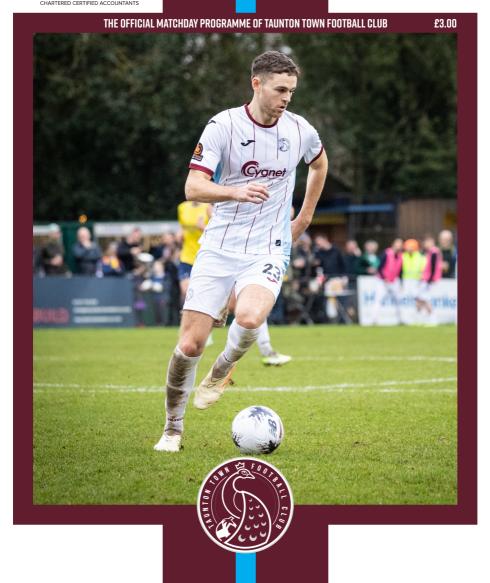
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Coach: Steve Phillips
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## THE GAFFER

Good evening everyone and once again it is fingers crossed that you are reading these welcome notes from me tonight and we have a home game of football to play at long last as we welcome Slough Town to Wordsworth Drive for tonight's Vanarama National League South game. My welcome extends to the fans and also the match officials.

Saturday was a disappointing result against Truro City, we simply weren't good enough in the first half of that game, we made some changes at half time and we competed better in the second half, but right now we can ill afford to be missing great chances and penalty kicks like we did on Saturday.

You can rest assured that we will be fighting hard in the remaining games of the season to obtain the necessary points that will see us retain our National League South status.

Peacock's fans we will need you in full voice tonight to get behind the team and to be that  $12^{th}$  man that we really do need at present.

Rob Dray
Head of Football, Taunton Town FC



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### THE AWAY END



### **SLOUGH TOWN**

The history of the club began in 1890 when three teams Swifts, Slough Albion and Young Men's Friendly Society formed a new club, Slough F.C., between them. The team initially played in the Southern Alliance alongside the likes of Tottenham Hotspur and Windsor & Eton before later moving on to the Great Western Suburban League. In 1921, it attempted to join the Isthmian League but lost out to Wycombe Wanderers in the voting. Instead Slough chose to join the Spartan League.

In 1936, the owners of the club's ground, The Godolphin Stadium, sold up to a greyhound racing consortium, which ordered the football club to vacate the stadium three years later. After being forced to groundshare with Maidenhead United for several years, the club agreed to a merge with Slough Centre F.C. to return to a ground in their home town. The new club took the name Slough United F.C.

After The Second World War Slough Utd was reluctant to rejoin the Spartan League and led a breakaway movement to form a new league, which became the Corinthian League. It was from this that the club derived its nickname of "The Rebels". Shortly after this the two clubs which had merged to form Slough United separated once again, with the former Slough F.C. continuing under the new

name of Slough Town F.C.

Slough Town won the Corinthian League in 1950-51 but in 1964 the league folded and Slough, along with many other former Corinthian clubs, joined an expanded Athenian League. The Rebels were champions of this league on three occasions, with the third win earning promotion to the Isthmian League in 1973. During the 1980s, they were league champions on two occasions, the second of which brought promotion to the Football Conference. Slough lasted four seasons at this level, were relegated back to the Isthmian League, bounced back at the first attempt, and then played three more seasons of Conference football. In 1998, the consortium which had bought the club out of receivership seven years earlier decided that they were not prepared to pay for ground improvements required to remain in the Conference, and so the club was demoted back to the Isthmian League despite having finished in 8th place.

Further relegation to the Isthmian League Division One followed in 2000–01 but the club regained its Premier Division status in 2003–04 and remained there until the end of the 2006–07 season, when they finished bottom and conceded over 120 goals. In the 2004–05 season, Slough knocked Walsall of Football League One out of the

FA Cup. Highlights of the game were shown on Match of the Day, though because of the team sharing the Stag Meadow ground at the time, the programme showed overhead shots of Windsor instead of Slough when introducing the rarely featured team. Slough transferred over to the Southern Football League Division One South & West for the 2007–08 season, where they finished 21st out of 22 teams. Although initially relegated (for the second year running), they were one of the teams given a provisional reprieve after Halifax Town went into administration.

In the season of 2004–05, Slough Town beat Walsall to reach the 2nd round of the FA Cup however they then lost to Yeading. Slough Town were also the Isthmian League Cup winners in 2004–05 after they beat Hampton & Richmond Borough 3–1 in the final with 2 goals from Ian Hodges and 1 from Josias Carbon to help them secure the win and the silverware.

Over the next two seasons, and now playing in the Southern Football League Division One Midlands, Slough's performance continued to improve. In the 2009–10 season, Slough Town finish 5th in the table, qualifying the team for the promotion play-off matches. Having beaten second-placed Hitchin Town 2–1 in the play-off semi-final, Slough lost 4–0 to Chesham United in the final, meaning they had to remain in the same division for the 2010–11 season. Once again they finished 5th in the 2010–11 season, but lost to Hitchin Town in the play-off semi-final 4–1.

Having come close to promotion to the Premier Division in the last few seasons, including two play-off final defeats, Slough parted company with manager Steve Bateman following the 2012–13 season after four years at the helm, the last of which saw them miss out on the play-offs by a solitary point. The club looked to take a new direction in 2013-14 and appointed Neil Baker and Jon Underwood, the management duo who had taken league rivals Godalming Town to the play-offs in the previous season. With Godalming forced to relocate to the South & West Division following their failure to win the play-offs, the majority of their squad decided to follow Baker and Underwood to Slough. In their very first season, the new management team steered the club to promotion via the play-offs. Slough claimed a 3-0 victory at Rugby Town in the semi-final before winning the play-off final against Kettering Town in front of 2,331 at Kettering's home of Latimer Park on 5 May 2014. Slough trailed 0-2 at half-time before staging a second half comeback. Two goals from Johnnie Dyer brought the Rebels level before James McClurg scored the goal that ultimately returned Slough Town to the third tier of non-league football after several years away.

The 2017–18 season was one of their best for many years. In December, they reached the second round of the FA Cup against Rochdale at home. The game was televised by BT Sport and Slough lost 4–0. With records broken for points attained and goals scored they went on to finish 3rd in the league. Slough were in play off action again. After a home 3–1 win against Kettering Town, they played away to King's Lynn Town in the final. By virtue of an 89th-minute winner from Manny Williams, they won 2–1 and thus secured promotion to the National League South for the forthcoming season.

#UpThePeacocks



## TWO TO WATCH



**MATTHEW LENCH** 

Slough secured the signature of Matthew Lench from Southern League Premier Division side Hitchin Town in June 2017.

Now 31, 'Lenchy' can play in a variety of midfield positions and gives excellent attacking options. He is technically very good, works hard and has a real eye for goal. He spent four seasons with Hitchin and scored 16 goals in the 2016/17 season - including the Canaries' goal in the playoff final against Leamington.



**NATHAN MINHAS** 

Nathan has proven to be a prolific goalscorer in the Southern League Premier South since joining the Beaconsfield Town in the summer of 2021, notching 25 league goals last season and 27 the season before.

Previously at Maidenhead United, he moved to Ascot United in 2018 where his performances earned him a move to Billericay Town in National League South before spells at Bracknell Town and Hampton & Richmond Borough.

### THIS SEASON AT A GLANCE





PLAYED 31

35 PLAYED

WON 7

15 WON

DRAWN 13

8 DRAWN

LOST

12 LOST

+/- -16

+9 +/-

POINTS 34

**53** POINTS

LGE POS 21ST

OTH LGE POS

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## DAVE WEBSTER View from the stands

### DARTFORD 1 TAUNTON TOWN 1

Vanarama National League South



Its now official! Taunton are the draw specialists, with more drawn league matches than any other club, not only in the National League South, but also the N.L North! In fact, there is only one other club in the top 3 non-league divisions, York City, who have drawn more! A whopping 15!!!!

Make no mistake, Taunton were the better club yesterday, where the victory would have been truly justified for the Peacocks. But not for the first time this season the clinical final touch was missing. Terrell in the Dartford goal, the far busier of the keepers.

Taunton went 1-0 up, courtesy of a rare penalty strike from Nick Grimes, after Zac Smith had been brought down. Nick smashed it straight down the middle, as Terrell dived to his left. The lead was not to last long, when 5 minutes later the scores were level, which has to be said, was due to a lapse of concentration from the Peacocks defence, with either of the 2 unmarked Dartford players on the far post, left free to smash home, after an inchperfect cross.

This was to be Dartfords only serious attack on the Taunton goal, until the 92nd minute, such was Tauntons dominance! The Peacocks had chance after chance! One such chance came after a good run from Rabby, ended with him putting the ball on a plate for Smith. Unfortunately Zacs effort was aimed straight to the keeper. Cam Evans had two headed attempts calmly collected by Terrell, and that was it for the action packed first half, that appeared to zoom by at the blink of an eyelid!

Taunton continued to run things in the 2nd half, with our control of both wings visible to all, as they tried their damnedest to find a winner. Bell found a loose ball, down the centre, but the keeper read it well, as he was out like a flash of lightening to thwart the chance of a shot. Dolman forced Terrell

into his first decent save. Chambo tried one from the edge of the box, which again the keeper read well after a slight deflection.

Then with just over 20 minutes remaining. Taunton made their only substitution, when Ross came on for Nat Jarvis. It didn't take Ross long to get in on the action, as he broke through the Darts defence, to hit a rocket destined for the back of the net, only to witness Terrell pull off a quite fantastic save. As the game reached its climax, it so easily could have gone so wrong for Taunton, with the referee having a very odd 5 minutes. First, Smith was carded after being sandwiched by 3 Darts players in the box, for supposedly taking a dive. Then., at the other end, we saw Lavercombe make the save of the game, keeping out a thunderbolt of a shot. And finally, right at the death we saw Captain Nick receive his 2nd yellow, for what? i don't have a clue! Nick certainly protested his innocence!.

The resulting free kick on the edge of the Taunton box, fortunately for us, all came to nothing. And that was that, on an afternoon when partly because of games that had been cancelled, not a single club in the bottom 12 mustered up a win!!! Dan Ball was named player of the match for Taunton, although he was pushed all the way by Chambo and Rabby, who were quite superb. We played some good football today, it was one of them games where either club could have nicked it in the end, so on that conclusion, the point apiece was a fair reflection.

And so on to Tuesday, where our home clash verses Weston-Super-Mare is looking unlikely to happen by the hour, as the rain continues to torment us.

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## THE CONTROL EAGUE PAPER ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

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We've often been told how football can learn from its oval ball cousins in rugby union, especially when it comes to on-thefield discipline.

While it's dragged its feet for years in introducing goal-line technology and then, of course, the dreaded VAR to bring it in line with the 21st Century, FIFA chiefs do at least appear to have the game's best intentions at heart in attempting to protect its integrity as much as it possibly can.

This latest plan, to introduce blue cards and sin bins, has split the opinions of the powers at be game, not least among the game's elite players, managers and pundits who already have their tails in a spin with the controversies over VAR.

Sin-bins – essentially a 10-minute sending off for offences of dissent or cynical fouls - have been used successfully in rugby for more than 20 years but were only introduced in grassroots football, from Step 5 and below, from the 2019-20 season in an attempt to improve levels of respect and fair play in the game.

By and large, the experiment been a success with the round ball too with managers and players acclimatising pretty quickly to the new dynamic under close scrutiny from governing bodies keen to determine whether it could be used in the higher reaches of the game in the

near future.

This week, NLP columnist Tony Incenzo - who has visited over 2,500 football grounds across the country and watches around 60 games a season at Steps 5 and 6 - went out and about asking referees at the level just what they think of the sin bin rule and whether they believe it could just work along the elite.

His first port of call was a pretty significant one too. Starting his career in the Northern Premier League, Keith Hackett went onto become one of the top referees in world football before retiring from the Premier League ranks in 1994.

Now president of the Northern Counties East League and Penistone Church FC, Hackett told him: "Sin bins are definitely a deterrent. Although there are many opportunities for referees to use this sanction but often they don't.

"Match officials allow their performances at times to be undermined by not delivering the punishment when it would be to their own benefit and that of the game. A sin bin ruling not only penalises the individual but also the whole team.

"When I have seen it applied, I have not witnessed the affected team adopting delaying tactics until their player returns after the ten-minute period of temporary suspension. I also consider using a different coloured card – like the blue one suggested – might give greater clarity to supporters and other participants that the sin bin has been invoked."

Tony also spoke to David Stappleton, who referees in the Southern Combination League. He offered some firm views.

"I have experienced football with and without sin bins," said Stappleton. "I prefer the latter with an ability to use it to desired effect during a game. I believe a good referee communicates to the players. And accordingly, I can implement the sin bin or potential use of it.

"I try to use a stepped strategy when officiating. This includes public admonishments, then bringing the captain and the offending player into our discussions regarding their poor attitude and behaviour, before lastly deploying the sin bin.

"More often than not, I find responsible captains will speak with their player and the issue of dissent goes away. But if it doesn't or if the captain himself is involved, the sin bin becomes a useful tool

"I would add there is extra work for referees due to sin bins. Although it stems from a lack of understanding generally. Most people don't realise it concerns 10 minutes of ball in play, rather than a straight 10 minutes. Dependent on breaks in the action, this can actually last 12 to 13 minutes."

Steve Joyce added: "I was a level 5 referee in Kent until a couple of years ago. The sin bins were brought in for dissent only. I was very sceptical initially but they worked well. At grassroots, you knew the players

who were going to get a yellow for dissent at some point in the game and sin bins helped deal with them."

Michael Pedler, chairman of Cardiff Referees' Society, says the figures speak for themselves.

"Sin bins have been trialled in Wales and they obviously work since dissent has dropped," he said.

John Lowe is not convinced either: "My experience as a ref is sin bins don't work," he revealed.

"Dissent hasn't declined. When a player is going to give you dissent, the thought of 10 minutes in the sin bin doesn't stop them so it is no deterrent. Players don't feel they're doing anything wrong anyway.

"What I'm also finding very common is that once asked to go to the sin bin, the dissent regularly escalates to foul and abusive language resulting in a red card. I don't think I've sent anyone off this season in anything other than those circumstances."

All in all, Tony encountered some mixed opinions across a decent cross-section of those at the sharp end, although, generally, it seems most refs are in favour of sin bins, with the odd caveat, of course.

As Tony rightly pointed out though, here is a significant shortage of match officials in the grassroots ranks so protecting them from abuse of any type has to be the priority.

After all, whatever shape ball you play with, you can't have competition without a referee.

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#Up The Peacocks

### OFFICIAL MATCH REPORT

## TRURO CITY 2 TAUNTON TOWN O

2.3.2024 VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH ATT: 196

A thoroughly miserable afternoon weatherwise was replicated on the Tiger Turf Stadium pitch as the Peacocks sunk to defeat to further heighten their relegation concerns. A lacklustre Town were fortunate to only be trailing by a single goal at the break but then had opportunities to secure something from the game in the second half. However their capability in front of goal yet again let them down and Truro, playing a 'home' game nearly 200 miles away from the Cornish city they represent, added a second for good measure to leave the Peacocks staring at a miserly haul of six points from their last 13 league outings.

With captain Nick Grimes suspended for a game after his dismissal at Dartford, the Taunton team had to be shuffled with Louie Slough slotting in on the left side. A cold, wet afternoon marked Town's first visit to Gloucester's home patch since the rebuilt ground had been reoccupied in 2020 and things couldn't have got off to a worse start. After Town had broken away from Truro's opening corner of a half they dominated, Ollie Chamberlain found Rabby Tabu Minzamba whose strike was pushed wide by City keeper James Hamon. That was as good as it got for the Peacocks in the first period as within six minutes they were behind. A free kick was conceded in a central position and when

Tyler Harvey's effort was palmed away by Town custodian Dan Lavercombe, the ball fell nicely for Tom Harrison to fire home into the unquarded net.

This early advantage gave City the impetus to go on and control the half, with the only mystery being how they failed to add more to their tally. That was in no small part due to Lavercombe who was kept busy during the first quarter, saving from Andrew Neal and holding a Ben Adelsbury header on his line before seeing a shot from Connor Riley-Lowe blocked after another former Peacock Dan Sullivan had created the opening.

The Town keeper then did well to tip a Dan Rooney shot onto his post and turned Harvey's effort wide as City threatened to remove their negative goal difference inside 45 minutes, the surge at the Town goal continuing up to the whistle with Neal rifling into the side netting after getting clear and then both Sullivan and Harvey having shots at goal blocked. In contrast the only other occasion that Taunton had any kind of a sniff was a Cameron Evans' cross being met by Slough's diving header which was directly at Hamon.

The Peacocks made a double switch for the second half, with Ross Stearn and Marcus Day replacing Minzamba and Zac Bell, and at last there was some kind of potency via the right-hand flank where Day got involved from the off. From the kick-off Chamberlain strode forward to find Day out wide and from his cross to the near post Adelsbury was forced to take drastic action to hack clear. A poor pass from a City defender was then intercepted by Stearn whose strike from 20 odd yards stung the palms of Hamon who parried and gathered before Town were denied an equaliser by some abject finishing. Day, whose performance provided the only positive in the second half, whipped in a lovely cross from the right to reach Zac Smith free at the far post. With the sizeable travelling support poised to celebrate their side's first goal from open play in five games, Smith somehow failed to hit the target from six yards, his mishit squirming across goal to land at the feet of Stearn on the opposite post and he followed suit by lashing the ball across the face and out. No words.

The White Tigers made their visitors pay by adding a second goal after 62 minutes. A spell of pressure led to a trio of corners,

the second of which saw Lavercombe save from an Ed Palmer header with Sullivan unable to force the ball over the line. However the third flag kick paid off with Palmer glancing a Will Dean corner into Lavercombe's right-hand corner.

New recruit Seb Bolton replaced Nat Jarvis with just over twenty minutes to go before moments later Town were given a lifeline back into the game. Smith was tripped by James Melhado as he drove into the box and no hesitation from referee Ellsmore in pointing to the spot. Stearn's penalty though was poor, Hamon saving with relative ease as the ball was cleared and with it went any hopes the Peacocks might have had. The final stages of the game passed by with little more to say. Neal dragged a shot wide for City while two corners for Taunton ended with Chamberlain slicing an effort onto the terraces. For Truro, their first win in seven league games propelled them up to the relative comfort of 18th spot. For the Peacocks though it's now 13 matches without a win. Grim times.



#Up The Peacocks



### VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH

### 2023-24 LEAGUE STANDINGS

P Team	GP	W	D	L	F	Α	+/-	PTS
1 Yeovil Town	35	24	6	5	67	36	+31	78
2 Chelmsford City	36	19	10	7	57	32	+25	67
3 Worthing	35	19	5	11	77	54	+23	62
4 Braintree Town	35	17	9	9	52	36	+16	60
5 Bath City	34	16	9	9	56	38	+18	57
6 St Albans City	36	17	6	13	64	52	+12	57
7 Hampton & Richmond	34	16	9	9	52	43	+9	57
8 Maidstone United	34	16	9	9	48	42	+6	57
9 Aveley	36	16	8	12	53	47	+6	56
10 SLOUGH TOWN	35	15	8	12	65	56	+9	53
11 Tonbridge Angels	37	13	9	15	52	52	0	48
12 Torquay United	35	14	6	15	55	58	-3	48
13 Chippenham Town	34	11	12	11	45	46	-1	45
14 Farnborough	35	11	12	12	54	58	-4	45
15 Hemel Hempstead Town	36	12	8	16	45	55	-10	44
16 Weymouth	35	10	13	12	49	56	-7	43
17 Weston-super-Mare	32	12	6	14	49	53	-4	42
18 Truro City	31	11	5	15	44	48	-4	38
19 Dartford	35	10	8	17	47	53	-6	38
20 Welling United	35	8	13	14	46	62	-16	37
21 TAUNTON TOWN	31	7	13	11	32	48	-16	34
22 Eastbourne Borough	34	8	6	20	37	63	-26	30
23 Havant & Waterlooville	36	8	4	24	42	70	-28	28
24 Dover Athletic	36	3	12	21	35	65	-30	21

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

### **TONIGHT'S FIXTURES**

### Tuesday 5th March 2024

7.45pm Farnborough v Welling United

7.45pm Hampton & Richmond v Eastbourne Borough

7.45pm Maidstone United v Bath City7.45pm Taunton Town v Slough Town

### **UPCOMING FIXTURES**

### Saturday 9th March 2024

3pm Aveley v Weymouth

3pm Bath City v Farnborough

3pm Braintree Town v Slough Town

3pm Eastbourne Borough v Hemel Hempstead Town

3pm Hampton & Richmond v Chippenham Town

3pm Havant & Waterlooville v Tonbridge Angels

3pm Maidstone United v St Albans City

3pm Torquay United v Dartford3pm Truro City v Chelmsford City

3pm Weston-super-Mare v Dover Athletic

3pm Worthing v Taunton Town3pm Yeovil Town v Welling United

### Monday 11th March 2024

7.45pm Aveley v Tonbridge Angels

### Tuesday 12th March 2024

7.45pm Bath City v Hemel Hempstead Town

7.45pm Braintree Town v Dartford

7.45pm Eastbourne Borough v Dover Athletic7.45pm Hampton & Richmond v Welling United

7.45pm Maidstone United v Chelmsford City

7.45pm Torquay United v Taunton Town

7.45pm Truro City v Weymouth

7.45pm Weston-super-Mare v St Albans City

7.45pm Worthing v Farnborough

7.45pm Yeovil Town v Chippenham Town

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RACE NIGHT @ Taunton Town Football Club

FRIDAY 12th APRIL 2024 - 7:30PM

£5 PER ADULT, £2 PER CHILD (UNDER 16), FAMILY TICKET (2 X ADULT 2 X CHILD) £12

FOR TICKET INFO CONTACT KATE RICKARDS VIA

peacockstrust.fundraising@gmail.com or Facebook



#Up The Peacocks

## Untild Fame

### **Zuperstars of the Zubeogtigegt**

One of football's great mysteries is the struggle of the subcontinent to make an impact on the global game. India now has the biggest population in the world, nearly 1.5 billion people, and yet the nation has been unable to find 11 individuals to get them to a level where they can even take part in a World Cup, let alone compete for one. Of course, football fights a losing battle for popularity with cricket in India, but perennial underachievement didn't have to be the expectation. There was a time when the future of Indian football looked bright, and they reached the summit of their continent's elite.

The Asian nation had shown promise in the previous decade, taking on France in an infamous barefooted performance at the 1948 Olympics and losing by a single goal. The appointment of Syed Abdul Rahim brought a focus on tactics rather than endurance. As the 1950s progressed, he adopted the successful Hungarian style that brought them so close to the World Cup in 1954, and saw his team grow in stature.

India reached the semi-finals of the 1960 Olympics with impressive victories against Hungary and France. But the 1962 Asian Games in Jakarta were nearly missed altogether. The Indian government almost didn't provide the finances for the team to travel to Indonesia, and then, under pressure from some countries, the Indonesian government refused to provide visas for Israeli and Taiwanese athletes. Guru Dott Sondhi, the Indian member of the International Olympic Committee, suggested the games be renamed the Jakarta games, if not every nation in Asia were able to compete. There was uproar.

India's team arrived in Indonesia to jeers that would continue throughout the tournament. Players had to sit on the floor of the team bus to avoid missiles. The offices of the Indian High Commission were ransacked by baying mobs. Not the best preparation for a talented team.

And the team was talented. Peter
Thangaraj had been voted the best
goalkeeper in Asia just a few years before.
Jarnail Singh was a powerful centre-back
who had won international acclaim in the
Olympics. Yusuf Khan was a beautifully
versatile midfielder who gave the team
whatever they needed. And Chuni
Goswami, the best footballer India has
ever produced, and a prolific insideforward. He turned down a trial with
Tottenham to stay at home, such was his
talent. The omens were promising.

But the atmosphere was not. India wilted under the Indonesian pressure in their first game, against South Korea, who they had never beaten. They slumped to a disappointing 2-0 defeat, with nobody doing themselves any credit. The only superstar who avoided criticism was Thangaraj; the goalkeeper was absent with 'flu.

The second match required a response, and after some harsh words from Rahim, India certainly provided it. Goswami opened the scoring in a 4-1 victory, but Jarnail Singh picked up a head injury toward the end of the match. India's confidence was up, though, and they cruised to a fairly comfortable 2-1 victory over Japan in their final group game, despite a late scare.

In the semi-finals, India would have to overcome a South Vietnam side who were quietly having a very good tournament, having scored 9 and conceded just 1 in the group stages. Rahim brough Jarnail Singh back into the team after missing out against Japan, but decided to reintroduce him as a striker.

India took the lead in the 12th minute, and ran riot in the first half, hitting the post before Jarnail Singh added a second just before half time. But South Vietnam were not overawed, and came out for the second half fighting. They reduced the deficit with a penalty, and then equalised just past the hour. India responded, and upped their attack again. On 75 minutes, Goswami scored a cheeky lob to reestablish their lead. It would turn out to be the winner.

In the final, India's opponents would be South Korea once again. The night before, unable to sleep, the squad went for a walk. They encountered Rahim, smoking in the darkness. With quiet calm, he asked them to win the gold for him.

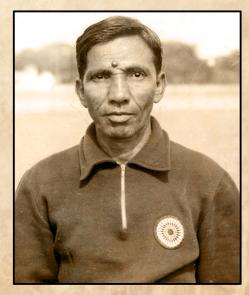
India flew out of the blocks, and on 17

minutes Goswami danced around a couple of defenders to set up PK Banejee for the lead. Three minutes later, Jarnail Singh - playing as a forward again - headed home a free kick. His move forward confounded the Koreans.

But India didn't extend their lead, and near the end of the game South Korea found a consolation. But the Indian defence held firm, and gave Rahim the gold he had wanted so desperately. As the players celebrated, and the disappointed crowd booed, they found their inspirational manager sitting quietly in the dressing room, crying with joy.

The country and the government were ecstatic, but that joy was short. Having achieved his gold, Rahim - a chain smoker - passed away from lung cancer the following year. His replacements, ever since, have focussed on the physical side of the game, to India's detriment.

As one of his players said, Rahim took Indian football with him to the grave.





### 2023-24 FIXTURES & RESULTS

Date	Competition	Opponents	KO/Score	Att	Lge Pos
AUGUST					
Sat 5th	League	BRAINTREE TOWN (H)	2-1 W	801	4th
Sat 12th	League	Aveley (A)	4-1 L	372	15th
Tues 15th	League	Weymouth (A)	1-1 D	1,252	14th
Sat 19th	League	WELLING UNITED (H)	1-0 W	727	9th
Sat 26th	League	ST ALBANS CITY (H) 3-2 W		642	5th
Mon 28th	League	Maidstone United (A) 1-1 D		2,014	6th
SEPTEMBER					
Sat 2nd	League	DARTFORD (H)	1-0 W	902	5th
Tues 5th	League	Chippenham Town (A)	3-3 D	634	6th
Sat 9th	League	Tonbridge Angels (A)	0-3 W	852	5th
Fri 15th	FAC 2Q	Merthyr Town (A)	1-1 D	1,583	N/A
Tue 19th	FAC 2QR	MERTHYR TOWN (H)	1-2 L	774	N/A
Sat 23rd	League	HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE (H)	0-0 D	877	4th
Sat 30th	League	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH (H)	2-1 W	670	3rd
OCTOBER					
Tue 3rd	SPC1	PORTISHEAD TOWN (H)	5-2 W	273	N/A
Sat 7th	League	Dover Athletic (A)	2-2 D	617	2nd
Sat 21st	League	HAMPTON & RICHMOND (H)	0-1 L	843	3rd
Tues 24th	League	Bath City (A)	3-0 L	1,537	5th
Sat 28th	League	Chelmsford City (A)	0-0 D	645	5th
NOVEMBER					
Tues 7th	SPC2	STREET (H)	2-2 (4-3W Pens)	298	N/A
Sat 11th	League	Hemel Hempstead Town (A)	1-0 L	491	13th
Tues 21st	League	Truro City (A)	2-2 (8-7L Pens)	-	15th
Sat 25th	League	WORTHING (H)	1-1 D	765	15th

Date	Competition	Opponents	KO/Score	Att	Lge Pos
DECEMBE	R				
Sat 2nd	League	Eastbourne Borough (A)	A-A	N/A	15th
Sat 9th	League	FARNBOROUGH (H)	4-0 W	680	14th
Sat 16th	League	Havant & Waterlooville (A)	3-0 L	766	16th
Sat 23rd	League	TONBRIDGE ANGELS (H)	2-2 D	768	17th
Tues 26th	League	Yeovil Town (A)	4-1 L	6,301	19th
<b>JANUARY</b>					
Sat 6th	League	Slough Town (A)	3-0 L	947	19th
Tue 9th	League	YEOVIL TOWN (H)	0-1 L	3,001	19th
Sat 13th	League	DOVER ATHLETIC (H)	1-1 D	847	20th
Tues 23rd	League	WEYMOUTH (H)	0-2 L	661	20th
Sat 27th	League	AVELEY (H)	2-2 D	766	20th
Tue 30th	SPC QF	BRIDGWATER TOWN (H)	1-1 (5-4W Pens)	579	N/A
FEBRUARY	•				
Sat 3rd	League	Welling United (A)	0-0 D	484	20 <sup>th</sup>
Tues 6th	League	TRURO CITY (H)	0-0 D	489	20 <sup>th</sup>
Sat 10th	League	St Albans City (A)	0-6 L	1,663	20 <sup>th</sup>
Sat 24th	League	Dartford (A)	1-1 D	1,018	20 <sup>th</sup>
MARCH	J				
Sat 2nd	League	Truro City (A)	2-0 L	198	21 <sup>st</sup>
Tue 5th	League	SLOUGH TOWN (H)	7:45pm	-	_
Sat 9th	League	Worthing (A)	7:45pm	-	-
Tues 12th	League	Torquay United (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 16th	League	Eastbourne Borough (A)	3:00pm	-	_
Sat 23rd	League	CHELMSFORD CITY (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Fri 29th	League	Weston-Super-Mare (A)	3:00pm	_	-
APRIL	3		<u>'</u>		
Mon 1st	League	BATH CITY (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 6th	League	Hampton & Richmond (A)	3:00pm	_	-
Tue 9th	League	Braintree Town (A)	7:45pm	_	-
Sat 13th	League	Farnborough (A)	3:00pm	_	_
Wed 17th	League	TORQUAY UNITED (H)	7:45pm	_	_
Sat 20th	League	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN (H	•	_	_
TBA	League	MAIDSTONE UNITED (H)	TBA	_	_
TBA	League	CHIPPENHAM TOWN (H)	TBA	_	_
TBA	League	WESTON-SUPER-MARE (H)	TBA	_	_
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### STADIUM RULES 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- Chanting or singing of an obscene, indecent, discriminatory or offensive nature is not permitted.
- Persons must not use obscene, indecent, discrminatory, offensive or threatening language.
- 8. Persons must not use obscene, indecent, discrminatory, offensive or threatening gestures.
- 9. Persons must not damage or deface Club and Stadium property.
- Persons must not damage, deface or obstruct any notice or advertisement.
- 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 tolorance to alcohol abuse/misuse.
- 15. There will be zero tolorance to drug possession, use and abuse.
- 16. Smoking is permitted in the stadium except in areas designated as a No Smoking area.
- 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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We have alumni working in each of the 20 Premier League clubs and 49 of the 72 EFL clubs



I really enjoyed my time at GISwhere I gained valuable analysisknowledge and additional coaching experience. This is definitely the place to go if working in football is your long term aim.

Dene Field

GISgraduate, First Team Analyst and Coaching
Assistant at Watford FC Women

They say if you have a job that you love you'll never work a day in your life and I genuinely feel like that.

Mya Graham,

UCFB graduate, Assistant Producer at talkSPORT



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Find out our plans for your area: footballfoundation.org.uk

### THE TEAMS

### VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH | TUESDAY 5 MARCH 2024 | KICK-OFF 7:45PM



### **HEAD OF FOOTBALL: ROB DRAY**

DAN LAVERCOMBE (GK) | O

ZAC BELL 2 O

NICK GRIMES 4 O

DAN BALL 5 🔾

OLLIE CHAMBERLAIN 7 🔾

LLOYD JAMES 8 C

NAT JARVIS 9 🔾

RABBY TABU MINZAMBA 12 🔾

ROSS STEARN 13 🔾

PHIL MENDONCA 15 🔾

ZAC SMITH 16 O

CAMERON EVANS 17 O

MARCUS DAY 18 O

CALLUM DOLMAN 19 OLLOYD IRISH (GK) 21 O

MARLEY ROSE 22 O

LOUIE SLOUGH 23 O

0

O

0

0

0

EVANDER GRUBB 32 O

V



### MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE:

TOM ELLSMORE

ASSISTANT REFEREE:

PAUL BARBER

ASSISTANT REFEREE:

JACK BROMHAM



### **MANAGER: SCOTT DAVIES**

O I DAN LINCOLN (GK)

O 2 JOSH JACKMAN

O 4 JOE DANDY

O 5 DAN BAYLISS

6 JEANMAL PROSPER

7 GARY ABISOGUN

8 MATTHEW LENCH

O 9 NATHAN MINHAS

O 10 JOHNNY GODDARD

12 LEON CHAMBERS-PARILLON

O 15 EZE EBUZOEME

O 16 TEMLEWEKA

O 17 TYRESE DYCE

O 23 DAVID OGBONNA

O 24 SLAVESPASOV

O 26 OLIVER SPICER

**28** ALFIE TUCKER

O 30 FREDDIE SOLLY

O 31 KIAN AUSTIN

32 HARRISON MARQUEZ

37 JOSH STRANKS

38 KEVIN BILICKI

40 RYAN NORTH (GK)

O 42 WILL BALLEY

DAWID HAMIGA

CHRISTIE WARD

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