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The Victoria Ground BROMSGROVE Worcs B61 0DR

Incorporated 2009



CLUB DIRECTORS AND OFFICIALS

President: Jeff Rea Chairman: Rod Brown

Vice-Chairman: Graham Scott Football Secretary: Dave Stephens
Director of Football: Iain Queen Operations: Simon Cadwallader
Safety: Rob McLaren Facilities: David Sheppard

Head of Commercial and Hospitality: Anita Gemmell

Directors: Joe Amess, Beni di Luca Commercial: Matt Foden, Peter Baker

Vice-Presidents: Brian Poole, Steve Smith, Richard Boorn Chaplain: Rev Steve Levett

Safety Officer: Simon Nichol Crowd Doctor: Dr Jerome Wallington

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Schools & Community Ambassador: Nirm Bassi Accountants: Taylor & Co. Reception: Sarah Lammas, Sandra Cable Catering: Della Greatbach

Manager: Scott Adey-Linforth Player/Assistant Manager: Paul McCone

First Team Coach: Karl Fellows GK Coach: Ryan Pratt

Club Kit Man: Dean Ashford Sports Therapist: Dan Eyre
Team Captain: Reece King Vice-Captain: Ash Carter
Social Media & Website: Max Banner, Chris Curtis, James Wattis

Photos & Video: Chris Jepson, Rob Clarke Tannoy: Adrian Fox, Chris Fox

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CLUB HONOURS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Season 2010/11	Promoted to The Midland Combination Division One
Season 2011/12	Promoted to The Midland Combination Premier Division
Season 2011/12	Finalists - The Evesham Hospital Junior Cup
Season 2012/13	Champions - The Midland Combination Reserves Division Two
Season 2012/13	Winners - The Worcestershire Football Association Youth Cup
Season 2013/14	Runners-up - The Midland Combination Premier Division
Season 2013/14	Winners - The Smedley Crooke Memorial Challenge Cup
Season 2014/15	Runners-up - The Midland Football League Division One
Season 2014/15	Winners - The Les James Challenge Cup
Season 2015/16	Finalists - The Worcestershire Senior Invitation Urn
Season 2015/16	Finalists - The Smedley Crooke Memorial Challenge Cup
Season 2015/16	Runners-up - The Midland Football League Division One
Season 2016/17	Semi-Finalists - The FA Vase
Season 2016/17	Winners - The Worcs Football Association Senior Invitation Urn
Season 2016/17	Winners - The Worcs Football Association Saturday Under 18s Cup
Season 2016/17	Champions - The Midland Football League Division One
Season 2017/18	Winners - The Worcs Football Association Senior Invitation Urn
Season 2017/18	Champions - The Midland Football League Premier Division
Season 2018/19	Runners-up - The Southern League Division One Central
Season 2018/19	Winners - The Southern League Division One Central Play-off Final
Season 2019/20	Joint Winners - The Worcs Football Association Senior Invitation Cup
Season 2019/20	Joint Winners - The Worcestershire Football Association Youth Cup

BROMSGROVE SPORTING MANAGERS

Myles Day	2010
Stewart Brighton	2010 - 12
Keith Draper Snr	2012-13
Graham Scott	2013
Adrian Mander	2013 - 14
Les Palmer	2014
Paul Smith	2014 - 18
Brendan Kelly	2018 - 21
Gavin Hurren	2021 - 22
Thomas Baillie	2022
Mike McGrath	2022 -2024
Tim Flowers	2024
Paul Smith	2024
Scott Adey-Linforth	2024 -

BROMSGROVE SPORTING CHAIRMEN

John Teece	2009 - 15
Jon Prescott	2015 - 16
Jeff Rea	2016
Mike Burke	2016 - 2023
Brian Seymour-Smith	2023
Graham Scott	2023
Rod Brown	2023 -

From the Boardroom - Rod Brown, Chairman



Firstly, can I welcome all the directors, management, players and fans from Bishop Stortford to the UK Electrical Stadium for our first Southern League Premier Division Central fixture of the new season?

It doesn't seem five minutes since we ended the campaign last season but I can assure you all that an awful lot has happened in the meantime.

In early May, we have enjoyed a "Party on The Pitch" celebration and our Colts "Five-a-Side tournament", both of which proved to be very successful.

We then got to work on the pitch and stadium renovations and as you can see the ground staff have achieved some great results.

The football first team squad has obviously changed, with Scott (Adey-Linforth, our manager) losing a few key players from last season but as always adding new players, especially a new player/assistant manager; the very experienced centreback Paul McCone. We believe that our current squad has more experience than that starting last season.

As I have continually stated, maintaining Non-League Step Three football in the modern game is extremely difficult and as in all progressive leagues, money is the necessary evil to be able to compete and progress.

Our annual funding comes from excellent and loyal local key sponsors, the loyal local fan base paying on the turnstiles, the community support using our bar and catering facilities on a match day and hiring for private functions. This aligned to our excellent volunteers are our only means to maintain a club at this level; no private ownership and no 3G or 4G facilities to gain additional income!

However, we are trying to address this situation and more information will be available soon.

We are hopeful of a reasonable season ahead so let's look forward to all the twists and turns, ups and downs starting today!

Finally, my thanks as usual to everybody who helps the club in particular our loyal sponsors and volunteers.

Enjoy.

Rod

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Manager - Scott Adey-Linforth



Good afternoon everyone and welcome to a new season of football!

Last time round, we managed to turn things round midcampaign and finished up 14th in the league, somewhat higher than most people would have given us at the New Year. However it was disappointing to lose our last two matches that included today's opponents.

Needless to say, our plan is for a much-improved season and starting with a win today would be very welcome.

Apart from the games against Coleshill Town and Sporting Khalsa, our pre-season matches went well and it was good to finish with a couple of decent wins against decent opponents.

We go into today's match with a number of players having departed including our star player from last season, Jamie Meddows who I would have loved to retain but I wish him well at AFC Telford United. I also wish well all the other players who have moved on.

We have been busy during the summer with recruitment and I am pleased to welcome back to the club, striker Kobe Hall who although still just 18 years of age is very mature and has lots of potential. Joining Kobe up front from Stourbridge is

the very experienced Luke Benbow. Along with Nick Clayton-Phillips, they give me a number of options in attack.

In midfield we now have Tom Edge, again he brings in a lot of experience and usefully he can play both defensive and offensive roles along with getting the odd goal. I am also pleased to have Jordan Lyden and Billy Shaw in the middle alongside Jack Newell who of course can also play in the back line.

Defensively Josh Ezewele is now fully fit again after his horrible injury last season. He is joined by Jack Kelly and Paul McCone at the back who again bring in a lot of experience and Paul will also carry out the role of my assistant. Ash Carter is also available and will be the team's vice-captain.

Adam Harrison is our new goalkeeper and he comes in with a good reputation.

Our captain Reece King is unfortunately unavailable today and the next two matches as he is suspended after getting a red card in the last match of last season.

As for opponents today, they will also be hoping for an improved season, they have an experienced team and a capable manager in Steve Castle so they will not be easy to get any points off today.

Finally it will be great to see everybody back at the UK Electrical Stadium today after a 3½ months break and look forward to you getting behind the team. Also my thanks to the volunteers for the hours they have put in to get the pitch in tip-top condition.

Scott

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Meet the Rouslers (1)



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Meet The Rouslers (2)



Luke Benbow
Striker
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Ash Carter

Centre-back and vice-captain

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Midfielder
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Meet The Rouslers (3)



Jack Kelly
Defender
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Sidewinders



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Bo Morris
Defender
Available for
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Taylor Morrison
Defender
Available for
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Jack Newell
Defender/Midfield
Sponsored by
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Gus Sanches
Forward
Available for
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Billy Shaw
Midfielder
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Christopher and
Adrian)



Aksum White
Defender
Available for
sponsorship



Rebel Rousler Club Mascot

Profile: Paul McCone Defender/Assistant Manager



Birthplace and Date of Birth?	Stourbridge, 28/9/91 (age 33)
Height, weight?	6' 3", 13st (82½kg)
Left or right footed?	Either
Previous Clubs?	Wolves (youth), Stourbridge (several times), Leamington,
	Hednesford Town, AFC Telford United, Halesowen Town,
	Stratford Town.
Football Honours?	Worcs and Birmingham Senior Cups several times.
Best moment playing football	Scoring for Stourbridge in the FA Cup First Round against
	Plymouth Argyle (many moons ago).
Biggest influence on your career?	My children, as they are so invested and taken a real interest
	in my football. They attend every game and it's inspired me to
Mile in Annual de Concession and Con	continue playing for a bit longer.
Which team do you support?	Manchester United
Favourite all-time player?	Roy Keane
Best player you have played against?	Jack Wilshire
Favourite position on the pitch:	Centre-back
What boots do you wear?	Adidas Copa
What football law would you change?	Diving
Nickname in the changing room?	Macca
Do you play any other sports?	Golf
Which team do you love to beat?	All of them
Relationship?	Wife Emma
Kids?	Francesca aged 7 (going on 17), Freddie Paul aged 5
Pets?	Bulldog x 2 and Chocolate Labrador
Where do you live?	Fairfield
Job outside football?	Builder
What car do you drive?	Pick Up Truck
Favourite food?	Herbert's Yard (street food) at Longbridge
Favourite drink?	Cup of Tea
Favourite biscuit?	Jam 'n Creams
Favourite TV programme?	Big Bang Theory
Favourite Film?	Top Gun
Favourite actor or actress?	Hugh Jackman
Favourite band or singer?	Oasis (they were amazing live last week)
Favourite Album or Single?	Currently, Stargazing by Myles Smith (my kids love it)
Guilty Pleasure?	Watching Friends with my wife.
Put in Room 101?	Taxes
Least like to sit next to on an aeroplane?	Don't do aeroplanes
Favourite Holiday destination?	Taking our kids to the caravan
Top of Bucket List?	Finding a piece of land in the middle of nowhere and building a
	dream house for me and my family.
Claim to fame?	When scoring for Stourbridge against Plymouth, the game was
	live on ESPN. I was on the front of The Telegraph the next day
	as the non-league builder who scored against League 1 team.



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

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

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

Please visit

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Be The Best You Can Be



From The Archives, 11 Years Ago

Midland Football League Division One - Saturday 9th August 2014, 3.00 p.m. kick-off

Bromsgrove Sporting 3 (0) Atherstone Town (1) 2

Occasionally there comes along a sporting occasion where the unexpected happens, there is enormous drama and it will remain in memories for a long time. This match was one of those occasions.

After the traumas of the previous 24 hours with manager Adrian Mander resigning from his post, coaches Les Palmer and Ross Collins assisted by football development manager, Graham Scott assembled a team together despite losing Sean Williams to Hinckley AFC and several absences due to injuries, holidays and work commitments.

Playing uphill, Atherstone had the bulk of the play for the first few minutes and should have gone ahead on the 7th when busy midfielder and former Sporting youth player Connor Leek put a great cross into the box that striker Simon Smith side-footed on to the bar only to see it bounce out.

However, the visitors continued their dominance and took the lead on 19 minutes when Smith beat the Sporting offside trap and slotted home after beating 'keeper Jake Bedford in a one-to-one.

After the half-time break, Atherstone had another couple of good chances that went begging before Will Tibbetts created the home side's first real opportunity with a quality cross into the penalty area but Luke Shearer failed to control with an open goal at his mercy.

Five minutes later Rico Taylor did manage to get in a good shot forcing Adders keeper Alex Horton to tip over. Atherstone then got the ball in the net but it was disallowed for offside on 62 minutes

Sporting at this point were getting themselves more in into the game and the hard-working Josh McKenzie went wide with a good effort.

However it was the visitors who doubled their lead on the 69th minute. This time it was George Brindley who got behind the back four and fired home from 15 yards out

A good move forced Alex Horton into a difficult save that he nearly carried into his own net and at this point Sporting looked to be short of ideas but there was still some determination showing. This outlook paid dividends on the 72nd minute when McKenzie finally got his head to a good cross from Tibbetts. Horton only managed to tip it on the bar but the lanky striker easy tapped home the rebound to get Sporting back into the match.

Burly striker Dave Almond substituted the tiring Rico Taylor and immediately started to unsettle the Atherstone defence with his presence in the box and it was he who got Sporting equaliser on 84 minutes with a superbly executed diving header from Will Tibbetts corner.

Two minutes into added time Atherstone striker Simon Smith should have settled the match when he shot wide when it was easier to put into the net. His team must have regretted that miss as from the goal kick Sporting raced upfield. Luke Shearer dummied a couple of defenders then chipped the ball into the top right hand comer of the net, giving Sporting the lead. Seconds later Mr Walker blew for full-time to the loudest cheer heard at the Victoria Ground for some time.

Sporting then managed to gain a totally unexpected victory particularly as their tank looked empty after Atherstone's second goal. After the match coach Les Palmer praised the fighting spirit of his team, "I thought we were dead and buried at 69 minutes but Josh's persistence got us back in the game. Having a noisy crowd behind us helped our confidence and get two more goals. A great day at the Victoria Ground". Sporting: Jake Bedford, Chris Duggan, Danny Ludlow, Craig Jones, Danny Parker (Capt.), Aaron Williams (Kieran Pace 81 mins), Will Tibbetts, Danny Agar, Josh McKenzie, Luke Shearer, Rico Taylor (Dave Almond 75 mins). Subs not used: Jason Newton, Max Bevis, Adam Went.

Atherstone: Alex Horton, Christian Mullings, Ashley Gray, Dave Alsop Matthew Stanley, Darren Eggleton, George Brindley, Danny Gaunt, Simon Smith, Connor Leek, Lee Smith (Capt.). Subs not used: Kiel Mullen, Hayden Wright, Ross Iness

Referee: Mr G Walker (Redditch), Assistants: Mr D Stokes (Bromsgrove), Mr C Thompson (Lickey)
Crowd: 285 Weather: warm, sunny. Sporting Man of the Match: Josh McKenzie

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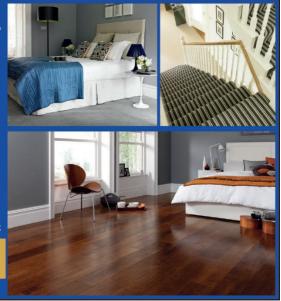
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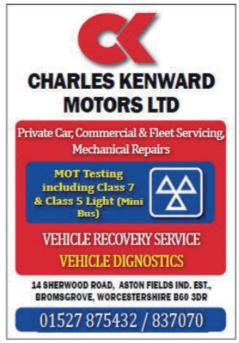
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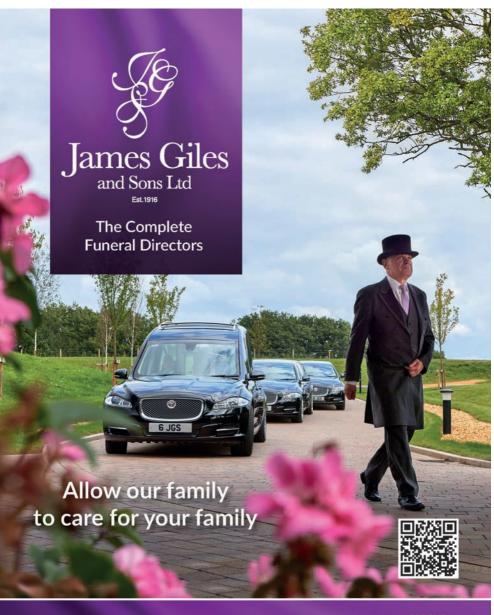
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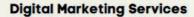
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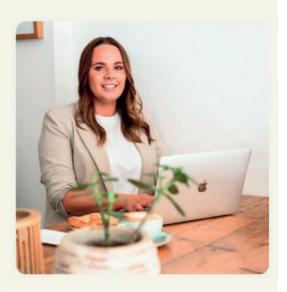
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The Non-League Paper provides a column for club programmes. This week's contribution is from Sam Emery AH competitive Non-League football, how we've missed you!

It doesn't seem all that long ago Oldham Athletic were partying on the Wembley turf as the curtain came down on the 2024-25 season.

But, for the vast majority in the National League System, a three-month wait for league action is finally over.

Steps 5 and 6 are already underway and lots were in FA Cup action last weekend - now Steps 1-4 are also set for the big kick-off.

Of course, this time of the year is awash with optimism for so many. Those exciting summer signings, the new kits, the fresh unblemished pitches – there's not many supporters who don't feel this could be their year.

Will York City be quick to banish the memories of last season's play-off semi-final defeat? How do the Step 1 new boys like Brackley Town and Truro City start? Is the National League South title race going to be as epic as we expect? Who will be this year's Step 4 club that race off into an early lead and canter to glory?

Where will the FA Cup shocks come from?

It's all ahead of us and we can't wait to tell those stories between now and May. We'll even be talking about them on our new weekly Non-League Goal Mouth YouTube show. Check that out if you haven't already.

It's not all been sunshine and rainbows this summer. The ongoing Morecambe takeover saga has shown the other side of this so-called beautiful game with their fans facing the very real prospect of not being able to watch their team this season.

There's been plenty of debate across the board - and in our pages - on their dire situation and we all feel for their supporters.

Thankfully there are plenty of success stories of clubs who have come through the other side that loyal Shrimps can hopefully take solace from. Many of them are kicking off this weekend with a new sense of hope. They say it's time for the talking to stop - but it's only just beginning!

Make sure you check out our famous Non-League Fantasy Football game. Pick your clubs to lead you to glory in 2025-26 with the overall winner bagging £1,000.

There are Manager of the Month prizes throughout the season too - even for finishing bottom! Check out The NLP this Sunday for your entry form.

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How 'Wrexham effect' is transforming Non-League Football A couple of years ago, a magazine article described Peter McCormack as a "budget Ryan Reynolds".

The comparison had nothing to do with their contrasting day jobs as a former advertising executiveturned podcaster and his Hollywood actor counterpart, but entirely related to their involvement in English non-league football.

While Reynolds - alongside fellow movie star investor Rob McElhenney - has revelled in sending Wrexham catapulting through the leagues into the Championship following a high-profile takeover in 2020, McCormack had boldly set his own sights on doing the same at Real Bedford, a lowly semi-professional club he acquired two years later.

To aid his cause, Bedford local McCormack secured a £3.6m investment last year - the largest seen in non-league football - from Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss, founders of a forerunner to Facebook and now cryptocurrency billionaires. It is here McCormack takes exception to the Reynolds parallels.

"My co-owners are worth 10 or 20 times what they [Reynolds and McElhenney] are," says McCormack mischievously. "Really, Ryan Reynolds is the budget Winklevoss."

The outspoken McCormack is at the forefront of non-league football's new wave.

Long considered an unfashionable world of bobbly pitches and run-down clubhouses, the recent arrival - and rampant success - of Hollywood nobility at Wrexham has injected a slice of glamour into a hitherto-neglected landscape.

Swiftly, it has spread across the country.

Peter McCormack wants to take Real Bedford's men's team to the Premier League and its women's team to the Women's Super League

Previously the sole domain of local businessmen - and, less commonly, businesswomen - growing numbers of clubs are now benefitting from the weight, and substantial cash, of celebrities, publicity-hungry entrepreneurs, social media gurus and foreign investors enticed by the lower reaches of England's football pyramid, which encompasses everything below the fully professional League Two.

Average weekly attendances across the top four non-league tiers reached an all-time high of 117,586 last season, marking an increase of 43% over the past five years and 89% in a decade.

Revnolds and McElhenney are now far from the only famous faces on the scene.

When multi award-winning rapper Stormzy and former Crystal Palace footballer Wilfried Zaha bought ninth-tier Croydon Athletic in 2023, their motivations were boosting the London borough in which they both grew up. The club immediately won promotion in their first season.

A couple of hundred miles further north, Westlife boyband member Brian McFadden told of aspirations to follow Reynolds' path when he and Boyzone singers Shane Lynch and Keith Duffy became the unofficial public faces of National League North club Chorley last year.

Elsewhere, Chesham United's National League South attendances have almost doubled in the two years since television hit Taskmaster became the club's shirt sponsor, courtesy of recently appointed club director, and the show's creator, Alex Horne.

Similarly, Line of Duty actor Vicky McClure and her husband Jonny Owen sponsored then seventhtier Merthyr Town's kit through their production company for three seasons from 2021-22. The club's attendances have almost trebled since and they were crowned Southern League Premier South champions last season.

Little Mix popstar Jade Thirlwall became honorary president and shareholder of her local non-league club South Shields in 2020, before donning the Mariners' scarf in her debut solo music video. The club reached the sixth tier for the first time in 2023-24.

Stormzy celebrated promotion with AFC Croydon Athletic players after the Combined Counties Premier League South play-off final in 2024

Social media has played a significant part in the popularity surge.

When a group of teenage friends bought 10th-tier Walton & Hersham six years ago, they marketed themselves as "the world's youngest football club owners" and rapidly earned more than a million TikTok followers.

They have since been promoted three times and opened the club's sister academy in Florida.

"The amount of people following non-league football today compared to five years ago is night and day," says owner Sartej Tucker.

"Non-league football, from a brand perspective, really is on par with League One and Championship clubs. The only difference is the footballing product. The game has been glamorised in a positive way."

After selling his global influencer marketing agency for a multi-million-pound sum, Harry Hugo searched for non-league clubs within a 25-mile radius of his house and purchased Farnham Town in 2022. They have partnered with various online content creators and experienced back-to-back title triumphs to reach the Southern League Premier Division South.

"At the start it was very sceptical and finger pointy," he recalls of his venture into non-league football. "But now I'd say we're the hottest ticket in town to get five minutes with. This is the greatest hobby in the world."

The Wrexham effect has also spread far beyond home shores, with ever-increasing numbers of foreign investors putting money into semi-professional clubs.

Earlier this month, former England striker Andy Carroll signed for National League South side Dagenham & Redbridge on the same day the club announced a Qatari takeover from their American owners.

Two National League North outfits last year received funding from overseas, with King's Lynn Town securing cash from Singapore and a 15-person consortium of Los Angeles-based investors putting their money into Telford United.

Elliot Stroud runs a website for people looking to invest in football clubs. Within a year of launching his company in 2023, he created a separate portal purely for non-league clubs, which now occupy 70% of his time. The reason, he says, is Reynolds, McElhenney and their Welcome to Wrexham TV show.

"People saying they want to 'do a Wrexham' has become a bit of a term," admits Stroud. "It's definitely had an impact.

"It's amazing how many potential investors I speak to who just want to talk about the show, how realistic it is to do what they've done, and how much money it will take. It very, very often comes up in conversation."

At Real Bedford, McCormack's ambition of taking the club from the 10th tier to the Premier League has begun with three comprehensive title wins. Continue at this rate and his side might one day meet Wrexham in the upper reaches of English football.

"Our club is unstoppable with what we want to do," he says.

"Football disruption is great. The downstream benefit is the expansion of football itself. It's new energy.

"Wrexham, as a town, has been transformed by Ryan Reynolds and I love it. Hopefully we are going to transform Bedford - the Wrexham thing has been great for everyone."

Thanks to the BBC website for this story





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Season 2024/25

The Pitching In Southern League - Premier Division Central Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
1	Bedford Town	42	25	7	10	79	58	+21	82
2	Kettering Town	42	22	11	9	73	44	+29	77
3	AFC Telford United	42	19	17	6	82	60	+22	74
4	Halesowen Town	42	21	11	10	65	46	+19	74
5	Harborough Town	42	20	11	11	65	42	+23	71
6	Stamford AFC	42	20	9	13	53	51	+2	69
7	Spalding United	42	20	8	14	70	54	+16	68
8	Stratford Town	42	18	13	11	61	44	+17	67
9	Stourbridge	42	18	9	15	60	50	+10	63
10	Leiston	42	16	12	14	56	58	-2	60
11	Royston Town	42	14	15	13	51	49	+2	57
12	Banbury United	42	14	15	13	40	40	-	57
13	Alvechurch	42	16	8	18	49	46	+3	56
14	Bromsgrove Sporting	42	15	6	21	57	61	-4	51
15	Bishop's Stortford	42	14	9	19	52	62	-10	51
16	St Ives Town	42	13	11	18	58	60	-2	50
17	AFC Sudbury	42	13	11	18	52	57	-5	50
18	Redditch United	42	13	10	19	50	58	-8	49
19	Barwell	42	13	7	22	56	75	-19	46
20	Lowestoft Town	42	10	7	25	55	106	-51	37
21	Hitchin Town	42	8	10	24	54	84	-30	34
22	Biggleswade Town	42	5	13	24	44	77	-33	28

Table as at Saturday 26th April 2025

Bedford Town promoted as champions
AFC Telford United promoted via play-offs
Lowestoft Town, Hitchin Town, Biggleswade Town relegated
Barwell reprieved from relegation

Bromsgrove Sporting - Fixtures and Results - Season 2025/26

	1	K/O	_	Opportung - FIXU		_		1		Laus Dos	
Day	Date	-		Opponents	Competition	_	Result	Att	Pts	Lgue Pos	MoM
				Romulus Stourport Swifts	Friendly	W	2 - 0	~85 ~130	-	-	-
Fri				Coleshill Town	Friendly Friendly	W	4 - 1 0 - 3	88	-	-	_
				Sporting Khalsa	Friendly	L	1-4	~100	-	_	-
				Birmingham City U21	Friendly	Ĺ	1-3	330	-	-	-
				WBA U21	Friendly	L	0 - 1	~300	-	-	-
Tue	29-Jul	7:45 PM	Н	Solihull Moors	Friendly	W	4 - 1	~230	-	-	-
Sat	02-Aug	3:00 PM	Н	Hungerford Town	Friendly	W	4 - 1	~280	-	-	-
				Bishop's Stortford	Southern League						
				Alvechurch	Southern League						
				Spalding United	Southern League						
				Needham Market	Southern League						
		3:00 PM	А	Redditch United	Southern League FA Cup Q1						
			н	St Ives Town	Southern League						
				Banbury United	Southern League						
		3:00 PM			FA Cup Q2						
Sat	20-Sep	3:00 PM	Α	Barwell	Southern League						
Tue	23-Sep	7:45 PM	Α	Quorn	Southern League						
		3:00 PM			FA Cup Q3						
		3:00 PM			FA Trophy Q3						
				Bury Town	Southern League						
				Stamford	Southern League						
				Harborough Town	Southern League						
Tue	21-Oct	7:45 PM	Α	Worcester City	Southern League						
Sat	25-Oct	3:00 PM			FA Trophy R1						
Sat	01-Nov	3:00 PM	Н	Leiston	Southern League						
Sat	08-Nov	3:00 PM	Н	Royston Town	Southern League						
Sat	15-Nov	3:00 PM	Α	Stourbridge	Southern League						
Tue	18-Nov	7:45 PM	Α	Banbury United	Southern League						
				Kettering Town	Southern League						
		7:45 PM		Quorn	Southern League						
				AFC Sudbury	Southern League						
				Stratford Town	Southern League						
				Real Bedford	Southern League						
		3:00 PM		Bishop's Stortford	Southern League						
				Redditch United							
					Southern League						
			_	Halesowen Town	Southern League						
				Alvechurch	Southern League						
		3:00 PM		Bury Town	Southern League						
		3:00 PM	-		Southern League						
			_	Stamford	Southern League						
Sat	07-Feb	3:00 PM	Н	Harborough Town	Southern League						
		3:00 PM			Southern League						
Sat	21-Feb	3:00 PM	Н	Worcester City	Southern League						
Sat	28-Feb	3:00 PM	Н	AFC Sudbury	Southern League						
Sat	07-Mar	3:00 PM	Α	Kettering Town	Southern League						
Sat	14-Mar	3:00 PM	Н	Stourbridge	Southern League						
			_	Royston Town	Southern League						
				Spalding United	Southern League						
				Needham Market	Southern League						
				Halesowen Town	Southern League						
		3:00 PM		St Ives Town	Southern League						
			A	Stratford Town	Southern League						
		3:00 PM	_		Ü						
sat	25-Apr	3:00 PM	Н	Real Bedford	Southern League						

Bromsgrove Sporting FC - Appearances / Goalscorers Season 2024-2025																									
				;	Sea	sor	20	24-	20	25	5														
League Name App Sub Bench Capt, Vellow Redd Assts Goals Appls:											ups				_	_	on '	_	_	Sporting Career					
Name	Арр	Sub	-	Capt.	Yellov	Reds	Assts	Goals	App	Sub	Bench	Capt.	Yellov	Reds	Assts	Goals	-	Sub	Tot	Assts	Goals	App	Sub	Tot	Goals
George Atwal	3	3	2														3	3	6			3	3	6	Ш
Ryan Boothe	4	1							1							2	5	1	6		2	5	1	6	2
Demico Burton	1	4	2						1								2	4	6			2	4	6	
Ash Carter	31				7			1	1				1				32		32		1	33		33	1
Kieran Cook	6	3			2		1	1	2	3					1	1	8	6	14	2	2	8	6	14	2
Keanu Cooper		3																3	3			36	8	44	4
Harry Crook	6	15	2			1	1	3	3	3			1			1	9	18	27	1	4	9	18	27	4
Josh Ezewele	2																2		2			10		10	
George Forsyth	8		1		2				1	2							9	2	11			24	5	29	
Fin Holmes	11	6					1	5									11	6	17	1	5	11	6	17	5
Reece King	40)		20	12	1	3	4	7			1	2		3	1	47		47	6	5	47		47	5
Callum King-Harmes	4	1	3		1				1	4	1				2		5	5	10	2		33	27	60	2
Darryl Knights		1	11								1							1	1				1	1	
Shaq Leachman-Whittingham		3								3						2		6	6		2	1	17	18	2
Carter Lycett	32				6		4	5	1	1					1		33	1	34	5	5	33	1	34	5
Jordan Lyden	4	13			3				1								5	13	18			5	13	18	П
Charlie McNamara			1						1								1		1			1		1	
Max Martin			1																						П
Jamie Meddows	41	1			7		13	13	7	1					1	5	48	2	50	14	18	48	2	50	18
Jamie Melbourne	1								3	h	1						4		4			4		4	П
Bo Morris	1	2	2						İ	1	1						1	3	4			1	3	4	П
Taylor Morrison		3	4						İ	h								3	3				3	3	П
Jack Newall	7	9	1		1		2	2	1	h							8	9	17	2	2	8	9	17	2
Jack Newell	31	7	1		7			1	5	2			1				36	9	45		1	93	26	119	6
Shav Palmer	16	-	5		2		1	2	-				1		1		22	5	27	2	2	22	5	27	2
Ethan Patterson	7	5	10		=			1	6	Ē	1		1		1		13	5	18	1	1	13	5	18	1
Zac Powell	Ť	8	3						2	3	2						2	_	13			2	11	13	Ħ
Charlie Price	42	<u> </u>			3				7		-		1				- 49		49			49		49	H
Aaron Roberts	40	-	2		7			2	6	2			-			1	46	2	48		3	315	14	329	23
Theo Robinson	26	_	2		1		4	10	5							3	31	13	-	4	13	31	13	44	13
Luke Rowe	22	_	1	22	9		3	10	7	-		7	2		1		29	5	34	4	1	76	5	81	4
Billy Shaw	21	_	_		3		9	2	1	1		,	_		_	_	22	5	27	9	2	49	11	60	4
Ryan Snape	-	12	1		5		,	_	3		1		1		1	1		ر 15		1	1	3	15	18	1
Jamie Soule	3	12	_					1	1	J	1				_	_	4	13	4	_	1	4	13	4	1
Reece Styche	8	3	2		3			1	Ė	H							8	3	11		1	9	4	13	1
·	1	_			3			1	1	H					1		-	_	4	1	1	3	-	4	1
Dylan Thomas	1	1	2						2	H	1				Τ		3	1	<u> </u>	1		3	1	-	H
Archie Thurston	124	1	3				_		_	_	1		2	Н			2.0	1	1	_		C 3	1	1	
Aksum White	31	_	3		8		5		5	3			2						47	5		63	17	80	\vdash
Byron Wilson	1	1	2				1			Н							1	1	2	1		1	1	2	\vdash
Charlie Wragg	11	1			1		3	3	1								12	1	13	3	3	12	1	13	3

Up to and including Saturday 26th April 2025

Bromsgrove Sporting - Player Profiles

Name: Scott Adey-Linforth Squad Number: n/a DoB: 6/9/94, Birmingham

Position: Manager Height: 6' 0" Weight: 75kg

Previous Clubs: Stourbridge, (Current) Aston Villa 1st Team Performance Analyst

Scott was promoted as 1st Team manager in November 2024 following a successful spell as first team coach and interim manager. A manager, who despite his young age has a

wealth of knowledge and experience.

Name: Karl Fellows Squad Number: n/a DoB:

Position: Coach Height: Weight:

Previous Clubs: Aston Villa

A former Bromsgrove Sporting player, Karl is well known to manager Scott Adey-Linforth

following their time together at Aston Villa.

Name: Ryan Pratt Squad Number: 25 DoB: 17/1/02, Stourbridge

Position: Player/Goalkeeper coach Height: 6' 1" Weight: 75kg

Previous Clubs: Redditch United, Aston Villa, Coventry City, Lye Town, Darlaston Town,

Sporting Khalsa, Bedworth united, Rushall Olympic, Stourport Swifts.

Our player/goalkeeper coach Ryan is a passionate coach who has great knowledge and

experience in non-league football. Now into his second spell with the club.

Name: Dan Eyre Squad Number: n/a DoB: 18/5/03

Position: Sports therapist Height: 5' 8" Weight: 90kg

Previous Clubs:

Dan joined Sporting at the start of the 2024/25 season. He is the Head Sports therapist at the club and outside of football is the head of medical for the Worcester Royals American football team

Name: Dean Ashford Squad Number: n/a DoB: 22/2/67

Position: Kitman Height: 5' 7" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Austin Ex-apprentices

An invaluable member of the backroom staff 'Deano' joined the club at the start of the

2024/25 season and is a popular member of the squad.

Name: Koby Arthur Squad Number: 11 DoB: 31/1/96, Kumasi, Ghana

Position: Attacking midfield Height: 5' 5" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Lincoln City, Birmingham City, Cheltenham Town, Macclesfield Town, Kidderminster Harriers, Dover Athletic, Maidenhead United, Hereford, Stourbridge,

Rushall Olympic, Barwell.

Joined Sporting in August 2025, the former Birmingham City player is a fast and tricky player who likes to get on the ball. Comfortable in a variety of positions and his versatility is a big asset to the squad.

Name: Luke Benbow Squad Number: 9 DoB: 21/8/91, Birmingham

Position: Centre forward Height: 5' 10" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Redditch United, Solihull Moors, Hednesford Town, Nuneaton Borough,

Stourbridge.

Joined at the start of the season from Stourbridge, Luke is well regarded centre-forward with extensive experience of Step 3 football. A strong and powerful forward with an eye for the spectacular.

Name: Ash Carter Squad Number: 6 DoB: 12/9/95, Birmingham

Position: Centre-back Height: 6' 2" Weight: 91 kg

Previous Clubs: Wolves, Chesterfield, Tamworth, Kidderminster Harriers, Alvechurch, Nuneaton Borough, Stourbridge, Halesowen Town, Coalville Town, Walsall Wood.

Vice-Captain Ash joined us last season following a spell with Walsall Wood and made a huge impact in our upturn in results. A natural leader with valuable experience Ash offers a strong and physical presence to our backline.

Name: Nick Clayton-Phillips Squad Number: 10 DoB: 23/9/95, Birmingham

Position: Left midfield Height: 5' 8" Weight:

Previous Clubs: WBA, Braintree Town, Kidderminster Harriers, Solihull Moors, Stourbridge, Alvechurch, Walsall Wood, Halesowen Town, Redditch United.

Known as NCP, the creative midfielder with an eye for the spectacular. Comfortable playing as a striker or number 10, Nick has the ability to score and create goals.

Name: Tom Edge Squad Number: 8 DoB: 8/11/98, Wolverhampton

Position: Centre midfield Height: 5' 11" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Leek Town, Alvechurch, Boston United, Rushall Olympic

The box-box midfielder is known for his no-nonsense style of play. A leader who has experience of playing Step 2 and abroad, Tom has made a big impact since he arrived at Bromsgrove Sporting.

Name: Josh Ezewele Squad Number: 2 DoB: 21/1/97, Birmingham

Position: Right-back Height: 5' 11" Weight: 80 kg

Previous Clubs: WBA, Yeovil Town, Kidderminster Harriers, AFC Fylde, Alvechurch,

Stourbridge, Spalding United, Halesowen Town.

A strong and attacking full back, Josh Ezewele rejoined us last season, before injury prematurely ended his season. Now fully fit, Josh's energy down the right-hand side of the pitch is a big asset for the club.

Name: Kobe Hall Squad Number: 20 DoB: 25/8/06, Birmingham

Position: Centre forward Height: 6' 2" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Kidderminster Harriers, Coleshill Town, Stourport Swifts, Quorn, Alfreton Town, Rushall Olympic.

Returning to the club after a brief spell in 2023, Kobe is a player with big potential. Despite his young age he has good experience at the level. A powerful forward with an eye for goal.

Name: Adam Harrison Squad Number: 1 DoB: 19/2/99, Nuneaton

Position: Goalkeeper Height: 6' 1" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Leicester City, Bedworth United, Tividale, Worcester City, Redditch United, Bedford Town. AFC Rushden & Diamonds.

Joined the club at the start of the season following a spell with AFC Rushden & Diamonds. A highly regarded keeper who had a successful spell with local rivals Redditch United.

Name: Jack Kelly Squad Number: 3 DoB: 1/1/96
Position: :Left back Height: 5' 11" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Nottingham Forest, Hemel Hempstead Town, Kettering Town, Newtown AFC, Shifnal Town, Hednesford Town, Walsall Wood, Sporting Khalsa, Redditch United.

An energetic left back who joined Sporting from Redditch United in June 2025. Jack has good experience at Step 3 and is a threat from set pieces with both his hands and feet.

Name: Reece King Squad Number: 4 DoB: 29/7/95, Worcester

Position: midfield and team captain Height: 6' 3" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Stourbridge, Buxton Town, Malvern Town.

Club captain, Reece joined us at the start of the 2024/25 season and impressed with his all-action style of play and scored some vital goals. Naturally a centre midfielder but also comfortable playing in centre defence.

Name: Jordan Lyden Squad Number: 18 DoB: 30/1/96, Perth, Australia

Position: Centre midfield Height: 5' 11" Weight: 79 kg

Previous Clubs: Aston Villa, Oldham Athletic, Swindon Town, Leyton Orient, Hereford.

Former Australia U20 international, Jordan has spent the majority of his career in the professional game. A technical player with and an excellent touch and range of passing.

Name: Paul McCone Squad Number: 5 DoB: 28/9/91, Stourbridge

Position: Centre back and assistant mgr Height: 6' 1" Weight: 82½kg

Previous Clubs: Wolves, Leamington, Stourbridge, Hednesford Town, AFC Telford United, Halesowen Town, Stratford Town.

Paul is an experienced and strong centre half who reads the game well, alongside being a real threat in both boxes. Signed from Stratford Town at the start of the season as a player/assistant manager.

Name: Charlie McNamara Squad Number: 1 DoB: 4/2/07

Position: Goalkeeper Height: Weight:

Previous Clubs: Bromsgrove Sporting Under 21s, Cradley Town, Gornal Athletic

Talented young goalkeeper who made his debut in the Worcestershire Senior Cup against Droitwich Spa in October 2024. Only 18 years old and currently out on duel registration gaining valuable experience.

Name: Bo Morris Squad Number: 16 DoB:
Position: Defence Height: Weight:

Previous Clubs: Bromsgrove Sporting Under 21s, Pershore Town

A young player who impressed with our U21 team and broke into the first team at the end of the 2024/25 season following a successful loan spell with Pershore Town. Comfortable playing at right back or centre half.

Name: Taylor Morrison Squad Number: 17 DoB: 7/6/99

Position: Left back Height: 6' 0" Weight:

Previous Clubs: WBA, Alvechurch, Stratford Town, Evesham United, Redditch United,

Worcester City, Tamworth, Littleton, Walsall Wood.

Taylor joined the club towards the end of 2024/25 season. A versatile player who can play in multiple positions, and will be a big asset to the club throughout the season.

Name: Jack Newell Squad Number: 15 DoB: 22/1/01, Kingston-upon-Thames

Position: Midfield Height: 6' 0" Weight: 80 kg

Previous Clubs: Northampton Town, Barwell, Highgate United.

Now into his 5th season at the club, and with over 100 appearances to his name for the club, Jack continues to impress in the centre of midfield. A player who reads the game well and specialises in breaking up play.

Name: Gus Sanches Squad Number: 19 DoB: 23/2/04

Position: Forward Height: Weight:

Previous Clubs: Boldmere St Michaels

Returned to Sporting following a brief spell in the 2023/24 season. A player with pace to burn, Gus can turn a game in an instance and has a fantastic work ethic.

Name: Billy Shaw Squad Number: 7 DoB: 17/12/01, Stourbridge

Position: Midfield Height: 5' 8" Weight: 70 kg

Previous Clubs: Halesowen Town, Worcester City, Redditch United.

A versatile player who is a big fan favourite at the club. Returned to Sporting after a brief spell away in 2024. Known for his all-energy style of play, an excellent dribbler who has the ability to score and create goals.

Bromsgrove Sporting - Results - Season 2024/25

			_	omsgrove spor	-	_	Scas				
Day	Date	K/O	٧	Opponents	Competition		Result	Att	Pts	Lgue Pos	MoM
Tue	09-Jul	7:45 PM	Α	Worcester Raiders	Friendly	W	3 - 0	~125		-	-
Sat	13-Jul	3:00 PM	Α	AFC Wulfrunians	Friendly	W	3 - 0	~145		-	-
Tue	16-Jul	7:45 PM		Stourport Swifts	Friendly	W	4 - 0	~140		-	-
Sat	20-Jul	3:00 PM	Α	Lichfield City	Friendly	W	1 - 0	~175		-	-
Tue	23-Jul	7:45 PM	Н	Birmingham City U21	Friendly	W	3 - 2	~800		-	-
Sat	27-Jul	3:00 PM	Н		Friendly	L	0 - 1	510		-	-
Tue	30-Jul	7:45 PM	Α		Friendly	L	3 - 4	~130		-	-
Sat	03-Aug	3:00 PM		Marlow	Friendly	D	1 - 1	470		-	-
Sat	10-Aug	3:00 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	W	3 - 1	547	3	2	Charlie Wragg
Tue	13-Aug	7:45 PM	Н		SL Premier Central	L	1-3	828	3	11	Luke Rowe
Sat	17-Aug	3:00 PM		Spalding United	SL Premier Central	W	2 - 0	604	6	5	Reece King
Sat	24-Aug	3:00 PM	Α	Lowestoft Town	SL Premier Central	L	0 - 3	333	6	12	Charlie Wragg
Mon	26-Aug	3:00 PM		Halesowen Town	SL Premier Central	L	1 - 2	1310	6	14	Luke Rowe
Sat	31-Aug	3:00 PM	Α	-	FA Cup 1Q	D	2 - 2	485	-	-	Theo Robinson
Tue	1-Sep	7:45 PM 3:00 PM		Belper Town	FA Cup 1QR	W	2 - 1 aet	517		- 10	Luke Rowe
Sat	07-Sep 10-Sep	7:45 PM		Biggleswade Town AFC Telford United	SL Premier Central	L	1 - 0 1 - 2	140 1054	9	10 16	Aksum White
_	14-Sep	3:00 PM	А	Bottesford Town	SL Premier Central FA Cup 2Q	W	2 - 0	575	-	-	Charlie Price Aksum White
Sat			Н		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	L	2 - 3	475	9	17	
Sat	21-Sep 24-Sep	3:00 PM 7:45 PM	Н		SL Premier Central SL Premier Central	L	1 - 2	907	9	18	Luke Rowe
Tue	28-Sep	3:00 PM	А		FA Cup 3Q	L	1 - 2	808	-	-	Reece King Charlie Price
Sat Tue	1-Oct	7:45 PM	A	· ·	Worcs Sen Cup 1R	W	3 - 1	321	-	-	Dylan Thomas
Sat	05-Oct	3:00 PM	Α	Chasetown	FAT 3Q	L	0-1	406	-	-	Shay Palmer
Sat	12-Oct	3:00 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	D	0-0	691	10	18	Jack Newell
Sat	15-Oct	7:45 PM	Н	'	SL Premier Central	L	1 - 2	571	10	20	Charlie Price
Sat	19-Oct	3:00 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	L	2 - 3	424	10	20	Carter Lycett
Tue	22-Oct	7:45 PM	Α	Harborough Town	SL Premier Central	L	0 - 2	289	10	20	Reece King
Sat	02-Nov	3:00 PM	_	Bedford Town	SL Premier Central	L	0 - 3	810	10	21	-
Sat	09-Nov	3:00 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	D	0 - 0	165	11	21	Jack Newell
Tue	12-Nov	7:45 PM	Н		Worcs Sen Cup QF	W	8 - 2	350	-	-	Jamie Meadows
Sat	16-Nov	3:00 PM	Н	Barwell	SL Premier Central	W	3 - 0	802	14	21	Luke Rowe
Sat	23-Nov	3:00 PM	Α	AFC Sudbury	SL Premier Central	L	0 - 1	306	14	21	Luke Rowe
Sat	30-Nov	3:00 PM	Н	Alvechurch	SL Premier Central	L	0 - 2	994	14	21	Aksum White
Sat	14-Dec	3:00 PM	Н	Royston Town	SL Premier Central	W	2 - 1	620	17	20	Aksum White
Sat	21-Dec	3:00 PM	Α	Stratford Town	SL Premier Central	W	3 - 2	794	20	20	Carter Lycett
Thu	26-Dec	3:00 PM	Н	Stourbridge	SL Premier Central	W	2 - 0	1307	23	20	Fin Holmes
Sat	28-Dec	3:00 PM	Α	Spalding United	SL Premier Central	D	1 - 1	425	24	20	Ash Carter
Wed	01-Jan	3:00 PM	Α	Halesowen Town	SL Premier Central	W	2 - 0	1503	27	19	Aaron Roberts
Sat	04-Jan	3:00 PM	Н	Hitchin Town	SL Premier Central	D	1 - 1	679	28	18	Reece King
Tue	14-Jan	7:45 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	W	2 - 0	233	31	15	Aksum White
Sat	18-Jan	3:00 PM	Н		SL Premier Central	L	0 - 1	725	31	17	Luke Rowe
Sat	25-Jan	3:00 PM	Α	Ü	SL Premier Central	W	2 - 1	1114	34	15	Carter Lycett
Sat	01-Feb	3:00 PM		Stamford	SL Premier Central	L	0 - 1	585	34	17	Reece King
Sat	08-Feb	3:00 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	L	0 - 3	405	34	17	Jack Newell
Tue	11-Feb	7:45 PM		Alvechurch	Worcs Sen Cup SF	L	0 - 1	411	-	- 17	Carter Lycett
Mon	24-Jan	3:00 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	W	3 - 2	282	37	17	Jamie Meddows
Sat	01-Mar	3:00 PM	Н	,	SL Premier Central	W	3 - 0	785	40	15	Fin Holmes
Sat	08-Mar	3:00 PM	Н	AFC Telford United	SL Premier Central	D	1 - 1	1037	41	15	Billy Shaw
Tue	11-Mar	7:45 PM	Α	Alvechurch	SL Premier Central	L	0 - 2	356	41	15	Ash Carter
Sat	15-Mar	3:00 PM	Α	St Ives Town	SL Premier Central	W	3 - 2	245	44	14	Carter Lycett
Sat	22-Mar	3:00 PM	Н	Banbury United	SL Premier Central	L	1 - 2	1012	44	14	Carter Lycett
Tue	25-Mar	7:45 PM	Н	Harborough Town	SL Premier Central	D	1 - 1	515	45	14	Billy Shaw
Sat	29-Mar	3:00 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	L	0 - 1	1225		15	Ash Carter
Sat	05-Apr	3:00 PM		Lowestoft Town	SL Premier Central	W	3 - 1	505	48	14	Carter Lycett
Sat	12-Apr	3:00 PM	Α	_	SL Premier Central	L	1 - 2	394	48	14	Reece King
Fri	18-Apr	1:00 PM		Biggleswade Town	SL Premier Central	W	3 - 0	670	51	14	Aaron Roberts
Mon	21-Apr	3:00 PM	Α		SL Premier Central	L	2 - 4	1282		14	Billy Shaw
Sat	26-Apr	3:00 PM	Н	Bishop's Stortford	SL Premier Central	L	2 - 3	970	51	14	Jordan Lyden
Jac	20 Api	3.00 F IVI		pishop a stortioru	Serremier Central	1 -	2.3	570	21	14	Jordan Lydell

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Thanks to Steve Richards for doing the quizzes again this season Here is the first one, a few general questions

- 1. Who was Sporting's top scorer across the eight pre-season matches with four goals?
- 2. Before Arne Slot last season, who was the last manager to win the Premier League in their first season in charge?
- 3. During the summer which manager moved from Macclesfield to Forest Green?
- 4. Who scored the decisive penalty for England in the Women's Euro 2025 final shoot-out?
- 5. Which three clubs were promoted via the EFL play-offs last season?
- 6. After promotion or relegation, who are the five new clubs in the Southern League Premier Central this season?

5) Sunderland, Charlton Athletic and AFC Wimbledon 6) Bury Town, Needham Market, Quorn, Real Bedford and Worcester City

Answers: 1) Kobe Hall 2) Antonio Conte 3) Robbie Savage 4) Chloe Kelly

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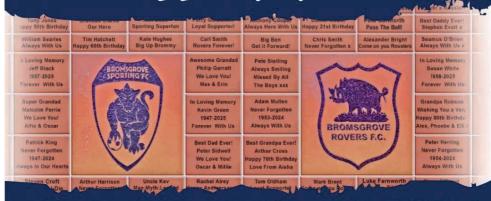
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Today's Visitors - Bishop's Stortford FC - Club History



The club was formed on Thursday 28th January 1874 at the Chequers Hotel in the town. Just over two weeks later the first match was played with the East of England Non Conformist Grammar School (now Bishop's Stortford College) being defeated 2-1, with both goals coming from Rev. R J Tomes. In that first season 15 games were played, three of which were won, with seven others drawn. The club colours at that time were vivid crimson and olive green. After several years of playing just friendly matches the club became one of the founder members of the Hertfordshire Football Association in

1885 and played in the first ever County Senior Cup competition that same season, beating Aspley 2-1 away from home in their first match.

The club progressed into league football in the 1890s by joining a succession of locally based competitions. The highlights between 1889 and 1929 were the "double" seasons in 1912-13, when both the Saffron Walden & District League and the Stansted & District League titles were secured, and 1919-20, when the East Herts League and the Stansted & District League were won.

The club was accepted into the FA Cup for the first time in the 1924-25 season and then it was in 1929 that the next milestone was reached when the club was accepted into Division Two (East) of the Spartan League. A good start was made with the Ministry of Health being well beaten 5-0. Three years later, at the end of the 1931-32 season, the Division Two (East) championship was won and with it promotion to Division One of the Spartan League. A year later Stortford won the Herts Senior Cup for the first time.

During the Second World War the club played mainly friendly matches against locally based service units. The 1945-46 season saw Stortford compete again in the Spartan League, where they stayed until the formation of the Delphian League in 1951.

The 1950s saw steady progress in the club's fortunes with the Delphian League title being won in season 1954-55. Until this time progress in the FA Amateur Cup had been nothing but a dream but in season 1962-63 Stortford found themselves only two games away from Wembley.

In a tense quarter-final, in front of 9,000 people, Stortford were defeated 1-0 by the Isthmian League champions Wimbledon at Plough Lane and Wimbledon went on to win the cup. The mid 1960s turned out to be a very exciting period for the club as in the space of three years, the Bishops having by now joined the expanded Athenian League, were runners-up in Division Two, champions of Division One and runners-up in the Premier Division.

The Premier Division title was eventually captured in the 1969-70 season. Then, a long-term ambition was realised when an application to join the Isthmian League was accepted for the 1971-72 season. The early 1970s was also another very successful period in the club's history, third place in the League was achieved in season 1973-74, Stortford's best ever position, whilst six cup final victories were achieved in the space of four seasons. The undoubted pinnacle of these highlights came fittingly in the club's centenary season when the FA Amateur Cup was won at Wembley Stadium by beating Ilford 4-1 in front of over 30,000 spectators. This in fact was the last FA Amateur Cup final ever held. Scorers for Stortford were Dave Lawrence, Peter Leakey, Dennis Murphy and lastly Martin Smith from the penalty spot.

The rest of the decade was something of an anti-climax, with the club being relegated to Division One, but there was another huge upturn in the club's fortunes as the 1980-81 season was another memorable one in the Bishop's history. The club won the Isthmian League Division 1 title and the "double" came in May 1981 in the final of the FA Trophy when Terry Sullivan scored a late goal to leave Isthmian League Premier Division side Sutton United defeated 1-0 This victory came after a record breaking run of 13 games that had begun in the preliminary round in the September of the previous year. In achieving this success, Stortford became the first ever club to capture both the FA Amateur Cup and the FA Trophy.

After reaching the quarter final of the FA Trophy again in 1982 and setting the record for consecutive unbeaten matches in that competition (17), Blues turned their attention to the FA Cup. Though they had reached the competition proper five times before, it was in the 1982-83 season that they really made an impact. After disposing of local rivals Harlow Town, third division Reading were beaten at Elm Park in the first round and then Slough Town were defeated in the second round. The third round saw the Bishops drawn away at Middlesbrough, then managed by Malcolm Allison. In the tie at Teesside, Stortford fought back from a two goal half-time deficit to earn a well merited replay thanks to two Richie Bradford goals. The following Tuesday over 6,000 people packed into the Rhodes Avenue ground for the replay. Lyndon Lynch gave Stortford the lead on the stroke of half-time but Middlesbrough's superior fitness told in the end and they fought back and eventually won through with two late goals. Stortford again faced League opposition in 1985 going out after a replay to Colchester United.

Towards the end of the 1980s, two former favourite players of the Rhodes Avenue crowds returned as Managers. Firstly, former England international John Radford, who had played in the FA Trophy winning side, became manager in 1987. He took the club to success in the Herts Senior Cup in his first season and continued the following season, 1988-89, by winning the Isthmian League Cup. Apart from the cup run in, he also took the team on a promotion challenge, which only faltered in the closing weeks and the club finished seventh in the table. Terry Moore, a record holder in his days as

Stortford's goalkeeper when he collected both FA Amateur and FA Trophy cup winners' medals – the only player to do so for the same club, then became manager and he led the Blues to victories in the Premier Inter-League Cup and Isthmian League Full Members Cup.

In more recent times, the club was relegated to Division 1 at the conclusion of the 1991-92 term, but with ex-Arsenal star John Radford now as the Blues manager Stortford regained Premiership status by winning the Division One championship in season 1993-94. Life back in the Premier Division was not easy, with a best position of 12th being achieved in season 1995-96. Off the field the club suffered delays moving to its new ground at Dunmow Road having left the Rhodes Avenue ground at the end of 1997, which they had been at since 1919.

After 18 months during which home league matches were played at Boreham Wood, St. Albans City, Hitchin Town, Dagenham & Redbridge and Ware, the club were once again relegated to Division One at the end of the 1998/99 season. But a new and eagerly awaited chapter in the club's history began on Saturday 17th July 1999 when the new Woodside Park Stadium finally opened with a pre-season friendly against Norwich City. The match ended in a 2-2 draw in front of a 918 crowd.

On Friday 3rd September a crowd of 2,444 saw the official opening of the stadium performed by George Graham followed by a match against a strong Tottenham Hotspur side including Hans Segers, David Ginola, Chris Armstrong, Ruel Fox, Jose Dominguez, Mauricio Tarico, Steffen Freund, Stephen Clemence and Justin Edinburgh. Blues made the record books on Thursday 30th December 1999 when they won 5-3 at Chertsey in a Ryman League match, which was the last competitive match played in England in the 20th Century.

The club, supporters and team finally settled in at Woodside Park but only after some serious problems with the pitch had seen many postponed games and fixture headaches in those first two seasons. In the 2000/2001 campaign, Blues came with a late challenge after making wholesale squad changes at Christmas and narrowly missed out on a promotion place. However, by season 2001/2 the playing surface was immaculate and hosting Ryman and England representative games along with many local and junior league cup finals and Blues themselves were faring better in the League. Promotion back to the Ryman Premier after a three years absence was secured on the 6th April 2002 with a 2-0 home win against Walton & Hersham.

The 2002/3 campaign saw Blues back in the Premier Division and the near disaster of the Rhodes Avenue sale and ground sharing were fading in the memory. On Tuesday 14th January 2003, Martin Hayes team travelled to Tring in the semi-final of the Herts Charity Cup and recorded the club's best ever win in a competitive match away from home with a 9-1 victory. Blues fortune in that cup continued as Hemel Hempstead Town were defeated 3-1 in the May final and Captain Rob French lifted Blues first silverware for six years. Back in February, the club had sold star striker Vinnie John to Hornchurch FC for a club record fee.

2003/04 saw the restructure of the football pyramid with Blues among the founder members of Conference South thanks to an 11th placed finish and manager Martin Hayes led them to first round proper of the FA Cup where 600 Stortford fans saw them go down 6-0 at Mansfield Town. In April, exactly 30 years to the day that Blues won the last ever Amateur Cup Final at Wembley Stadium, Stortford retained the Herts Charity Cup by defeating Cheshunt 4-1 to match that Wembley scoreline. The last game of the season saw tearful scenes as the fans said goodbye to midfield supremo, inveterate goal scorer and triple winner of the player of the season trophy, Glen Southam. His £20,000 fee to Dagenham & Redbridge set a new club record.

A brave new world opened for Blues in August 2004 as they kicked off their Conference South campaign with a 2-1 win at home to Eastbourne Borough. It was a journey into the unknown with league trips as far afield as Weymouth and Newport but Blues held their own in the autumn with a position on the fringe of the play offs before finishing tenth. By contrast the 2005-06 season was a disappointment and yet it ended with a trophy as the Herts Senior Cup was won for the first time in 20 years with a 1-0 win over Stevenage and the season was rounded off with a record Woodside Park league crowd of 1,016 as champions elect Weymouth visited. The Blues' leading goal scorer at this time was Steve Morison who went on to play in the Premiership for Norwich City.

In 2006-07 the club flirted with promotion to the National Conference, the top echelon of non-league football. A top-six league finish led to a play-off semi final against Salisbury City. The home leg, played in front of 1049 spectators ended in a 1-1 draw with Greg Pearson scoring for Stortford. Back at Salisbury, the score was again 1-1 after 90 minutes. But two extra time goals saw Salisbury march to the final and the Conference. The FA Cup first round was reached, but Blues lost 5-3 against Kings Lynn.

The 2008-2009 season saw Martin Hayes record 500 games and 10 years in the job. However, a shoestring budget and poor results led to his surprise dismissal and the promotion of reserve team manager, Mark Simpson assisted by Gordon Boateng. The new management team rung the changes and Stortford rallied to move from 20th in the league table to finish 9th.

Simpson remained at the helm until February 2011 during which time, in season 2009/10, Stortford again won the County Senior Cup. Simpson was replaced by ex-England and Spurs goalkeeper Ian Walker. A late three game winning run saw Walker save Blues from the drop and his side lifted the Herts Charity Cup with victory against Cheshunt. But the

club where hit by a bombshell at the Conference AGM in early June when they were placed in the northern section following the demise of Rushden & Diamonds. Despite the signing of future Premier League star Dwight Gayle and onloan Spurs keeper Jordan Archer, Blues struggled in their new surroundings and with the team in the relegation zone Walker departed early in December 2011 following a 5-0 FA Trophy at Isthmian League side Carshalton Athletic.

Under former Braintree boss Rod Stringer Blues had an excellent finish to the season, finishing tenth and winning both the Senior Charity Cups. The 2012/2013 season saw Blues drop to 17th as recruitment of players able to travel to the likes of Manchester and Workington on Tuesday evenings became an issue, but Stringers's side did win their way through to the first round proper of the FA Cup before going out to Hastings United.

A return to Conference South saw a fine first half to the 2013/2014 campaign contending for a "play-off" place and reaching the 1st Round of the FA Cup once again. They were handed a tie at home to Northampton Town that was televised live on ITV and attracted a record crowd of 2,548. Form dipped in the New Year however when faced with playing 22 games in final 50 days of the season and they finished below halfway in the League table. A small consolation was that the Herts Charity Cup was won once again.

The 2014/2015 campaign was not a great one for the Blues but after some inconsistent form up until the last few months of the season they improved to steer clear of the relegation zone to ensure another year as a member of the Vanarama National South.

Stringer resigned after four and a half seasons at the end of the 2015/16 campaign to take charge of Chelmsford City. That season saw the Blues again finish around midway in the League table and win the Herts Charity Cup. Striker Elliott Buchanan was the top goalscorer in the league and won the Vanarama Conference "Golden Boot" award.

The 2016/17 season was a disaster for the club and probably the worst in the history finishing in the second-from-bottom place to be relegated to the Evo Stik Southern League after 13 seasons in the Conference set-up. Stortford had two management teams running affairs before ex Spurs, Swindon, Rotherham United, Reading and Colchester United midfielder Kevin Watson was appointed manager late in the season. Stortford did reach the Senior Cup final but lost 2-1 to Hitchin Town.

A first season in the Southern League saw Watson's young side finish 18th in the 24 team league. A switch back to the Isthmian League saw former Witham Town boss Adam Flint step into the manager's shoes but his reign was a short one as he was soon to be replaced in mid-September by club owner Steve Smith and former Norwich City striker Jamie Cureton. The pair took the club to seventh place in the table, just missing out on the play-offs as well as reaching the league cup semi-final.

Cureton celebrated the achievement of playing 1000 competitive games in the 3-2 win against Brightlingsea Regent, netting twice on the way to finishing as leading scorer in the Isthmian Premier.

Smith took sole charge ahead of the two COVID hit campaigns, although the Blues did manage to reach the FA Cup First Round during those difficult years, eventually going out on penalties to National North side Brackley Town having had the BT Sport TV Camera's in town for the previous round with a famous 2-0 victory over St Albans City coming in front of a sell out crowd 600, all that was allowed during the pandemic, with most fans having to settle for watching live on TV.

The 2021/22 campaign was one of the most memorable in recent years with a settled squad setting about on a remarkable campaign that saw the club taste defeat just five times in 42 league outings, amassing 87 points to finish second behind Champions Worthing. The clubs all time clean sheet record was also broken, with an astonishing 1088 minutes without conceding a goal during the season. Unfortunately the team fell just short, suffering injury time heartbreak in a 2-3 defeat at home to eventually promoted Cheshunt.

The Blues would not be denied in 2022/23, however, collecting 88 points en-route to securing the Isthmian Premier Division Championship, the club's first league title win in 29 years.

With promotions and relegations once again not falling in the club's favour, Stortford were once again placed in the National League North, a move that placed great financial pressure on the club and saw the majority of the title winning squad depart, unable to commit to the travelling.

The celebration of the club's 150th Anniversary was the highlight of a tough 2023/24 campaign that saw relegation back to step 3 at the first attempt.

The appointment of former Royston Town manager Steve Castle at the beginning of the 2024/25 season gave the club a refreshed outlook, with a 15th placed finish in the Pitching In Southern Premier Central secured by his young side. Optimism is high for a successful 2025/26 season after a successful pre-season and the addition of more experience to the squad.

Bishop's Stortford - Profiles

STEVE CASTLE - Manager

Appointed as Blues Manager in the May 2024 having previously spent a decade at the helm of Royston Town. Racked up over 500 Football League appearances in a distinguished playing career, captaining the likes of Leyton Orient, Peterborough Utd, Birmingham City and Plymouth Argyle.

The UEFA 'A' Licensed coach two years as Cambridge Utd Assistant Manager after a knee injury ended his playing career before taking the reins at St Albans City. Spent three years at Clarence Park before taking charge of our neighbours Takeley for two seasons.

DAN EVANS - First Team Coach

Dan joined the club in May 2024 having previously worked under Steve as Manager of Royston U23s. Dan also plays a key role in the Bishop's Stortford FC Academy.

ADAM HAYTON - Goalkeeper

Impressive young shot stopper who joined the Blues after departing Barnsley in summer 2025. Spent a decade in the youth ranks at Tottenham Hotspur before heading to Oakwell on a permanent basis in January 2023.

MARK HAINES - Defender

Vastly experienced central defender who joined the Blues for a second spell in 2019 and formed a key part of our Isthmian Premier winning campaign. Former West Ham Utd and Southend Utd youth player who went on to make over 300 appearances in a decade with Chelmsford City.

COLE DASILVA - Defender

Former Welsh Youth International who joined the club in summer 2024 from Bedford Town. The former Chelsea and Luton Town youngster has also represented the likes of Oxford City and Hemel Hempstead Town. Voted Players' and Supporters' Player of the Season in 2024/25.

JADEN OGWUAZOR - Defender

Powerful central defender who joined the club in the summer of 2024 after a stint with Championship side Queens Park Rangers. The former Stevenage youngster has also represented Bedford Town and Kings Langley.

HARRY FORDE- Defender

Former Royston Town defender who joined the Blues in August 2024 from Spartan South Midlands League side Potton Utd. Netted his first Blues goal on the final day of the 2024/25 campaign at Bromsgrove Sporting.

JAKE THOMPSON - Defender

Central defender Jake arrived at the club in June 2024 after a five year stint with Brightlingsea Regent. Netted twice in 48 appearances during an impressive first season with the club.

EYITUOYO AKINBULUMO - Defender

Powerful central defender who joined the club in November 2024 after stints with Belstone and Leverstock Green. A favourite with fans after becoming a regular on the terraces after injury bought at early end to his campaign.

MICHAEL CLARK - Defender

Experienced defender who was snapped up by Steve Castle in summer 2025 having spent a number of years representing St Albans City in the National League South.

TOMMY LETHBRIDGE - Defender

Talented young full back who signed first team forms in July 2025 after impressing Steve Castle in preseason. The promising defender also gained experience last term with Potters Bar Town.

LEON DAVIES - Defender

Former Cambridge Utd Academy product who made over 60 first team appearances for us. Went on to enjoy successful spells with Southend Utd and Braintree Town before arriving at Woodside Park in July

ROSS MARSHALL - Midfielder

Equally at home in defence or midfield, the experienced former Stevenage man arrived at Woodside Park in July 2025 after recent spells with the likes of Barnet, Dulwich Hamlet and Torquay Utd.

HARRY TITCHMARSH - Midfielder

Former West Ham Utd and Peterborough Utd youngster who joined the Blues in summer 2025 following an award-winning last campaign with Southern League Premier Central side Hitchin Town.

JACK SMITH - Midfielder

Former Stevenage midfielder who made 30 first team appearances for our Hertfordshire neighbours before moving on to represent the likes of Dartford, Braintree Town and Enfield Town. Joined the Blues in July 2025.

BRADLEY RUSSELL - Midfielder

The former Stansted and Hullbridge Sports midfielder joined the Blues in June 2024 after an impressive spell with Isthmian North side Brightlingsea Regent. 10 goals in 40 games saw him scoop the Managers' Player of the Year last season.

FABIO VIRCIGLIO - Midfielder

Versatile midfielder who joined the club from Royston Town in May 2024, going on to score 3 times in 42 appearances in his first season at Woodside Park. Named Blues Young Player Of The Year in 2024/25.

ERIN AMU - Midfielder

Joined the Blues in August 2024 from Kempston Rovers having previously represented Kings Langley, St Neots Town and Berkhamsted. Working his way back from a serious knee injury suffered back in March.

CHARLIE CASTLE - Midfielder

Attacking midfielder Charlie joined the Blues from Royston Town summer 2024. The former Ely City man netted twice in 37 appearances during his first season at Woodside Park.

LUKA CHALWELL - Midfielder

Former Winchester City, Eastleigh and Poole Town midfielder who joined the Blues in February 2025. A British Virgin Islands international who netted his first Stortford goal in the 2-2 draw with AFC Telford Utd at Woodside Park last term.

OBI ONYEAGWARA - Midfielder

Exciting wide midfielder who arrived at Woodside Park in July 2025. Former clubs include Stevenage, Enfield Town and Biggleswade Town.

NAHUM MELVIN-LAMBERT - Striker

A product of the Reading Academy who spent time on loan with St Patrick's Athletic and Hemel Hempstead Town during his time with the club. Nahum has since represented the likes of Weymouth and Haringey Borough before joining the Blues in December 2024.

PRESLEY EVANS - Striker

A November 2024 addition who counts Barking, Takeley and Uxbridge amongst his former clubs. Netted his first Blues goal against St Albans City in the Hertfordshire Senior Cup on 19th November.

SALEEM AKANBI - Striker

Powerful young forward who joined the Blues in July 2025. The former Cambridge Utd man has also represented Hemel Hempstead Town and Chelmsford City.

The Record against Bishop's Stortford

Sporting have only played Bishop's Stortford twice; both earlier this year. The away match was on Tuesday 24th January that Sporting won 2 - 0. Ash Carter scored the first goal with an assist by Billy Shaw. Jamie Meddows got the second after a pass from Jack Newall. The crowd was 233 and the Player of the Match award went to Aksum White.

The Blues won the reverse fixture 3 - 2 on the last day of the season, needing a win to avoid relegation. However other results went their way away and they ended up on equal points with Sporting though one place behind on goal difference. Harry Forde gave the visitors the lead before goals from Jamie Meddows and Theo Robinson. Luka Chalwell and Rashawn Scott scored for Stortford in the second half. The attendance was 970 and Jordan Lyden was given the Sporting player of the match.

There is no record of Bromsgrove Rovers having played Bishop's Stortford







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Photos from Recent Matches



Kobe Hall in action against Hungerford Town after impressing in the pre-season matches.



Luke Benbow playing against Solihull Moors XI when he scored the 4th goal. Photos: Chris Jepson



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Results from the Last Day of Last Season

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Saturday 26th April

_	_		
AFC Sudbury	1 - 5	Harborough Town	864
AFC Telford United	1 - 1	Royston Town	1,496
Alvechurch	3 - 2	Lowestoft Town	294
Barwell	1 - 7	Spalding United	417
Bedford Town	2 - 0	Stourbridge	2,186
Bromsgrove Sporting	2 - 3	Bishop's Stortford	970
Kettering Town	2 - 2	Banbury United	1,868
Leiston	2 - 3	Biggleswade Town	441
Redditch United	4 - 0	Hitchin Town	596
St Ives Town	2 - 2	Stratford Town	389
Stamford	2 - 2	Halesowen Town	967

Today's Matches

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Saturday 9th August

AFC Sudbury	V	Redditch United
Barwell	V	St Ives Town
Bromsgrove Sporting	V	Bishop's Stortford
Harborough Town	V	Needham Market
Leiston	V	Halesowen Town
Real Bedford	V	Spalding United
Royston Town	V	Kettering Town
Stamford	V	Alvechurch
Stourbridge	V	Bury Town
Stratford Town	V	Banbury United
Worcester City	V	Quorn

Forthcoming Matches

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Monday 11th August

Redditch United	V	Stratford Town
St Ives Town	V	Stamford

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Tuesday 12th August

Alvechurch	V	Bromsgrove Sporting
Banbury United	V	Worcester City
Bishop's Stortford	V	AFC Sudbury
Bury Town	V	Royston Town

Halesowen Town	V	Barwell

Harborough Town v Spalding United

Kettering Town v Leiston

Needham Market v Real Bedford Quorn v Stourbridge

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Saturday 16th August

Alvechurch	V	AFC Sudbury
Banbury United	V	Leiston
Bishop's Stortford	V	Stamford

Bromsgrove SportingvSpalding UnitedBury TownvHarborough Town

Halesowen Town v Real Bedford
Kettering Town v Barwell

Kettering TownvBarwellNeedham MarketvWorcester CityQuornvStratford TownRedditch UnitedvRoyston TownSt Ives TownvStourbridge

Sporting on the Road

Tuesday 12th August, 7:45 p.m.

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central



Alvechurch vs Bromsgrove Sporting

Address: Lye Meadow, 53 Redditch Road, Alvechurch B48 7RS

<u>Directions</u>: Exit M42 Junction 2. Take A441 to Redditch. At island take B4120 to Alvechurch. Ground approx 1 mile on right, car park entrance just before ground.

9 miles, about 15 minutes from the UK Electrical Stadium.

Nearest Railway Station: Alvechurch, 1 mile.

Admission prices

Adults (21+) £10 online / £12 on gate, Concessions (Seniors 65+ / 16-20) £8 online / £10 on gate

Juniors (13-15) ± 5 online / ± 7 on gate, Children under 13 free with a paying adult.

Tickets can be purchased from the online ticketing service:

https://alvechurchfc.ktckts.com/

Match-day programme - £3, £2 charge for parking in the car park

There are a limited number of parking spaces for disabled supporters near the turnstiles. Please email the club secretary at alvechurchfc@btinternet.com to book a space and ensure you have your disabled permit to display.





Today's Teams

Bromsgrove Sporting		Bishop's Stortford
red & white striped shirts, navy blue shorts and navy blue socks		Blue shirts, blue shorts, blue & white socks
Team to be chosen from:	1	Team to be chosen from:
Adam Harrison (GK)	2	Adam Hayton (GK)
Ryan Pratt (GK)	3	Saleem Akanbi
Koby Arthur	4	Eyituoyo Akinbulumo
Luke Benbow		Erin Amu
Josh Burgess	5	Charlie Castle
Finlay Carson	6	Luka Chalwell
Ash Carter (Capt)	7	Michael Clark
Nick Clayton-Phillips	8	Cole DaSilva
Tom Edge	9	Leon Davies
Josh Ezewele	10	Presley Evans Harry Forde
George Gillon	11	Mark Haines
Kobe Hall	12	Tommy Lethbridge
Jack Kelly	12	Ross Marshall
Jordan Lyden	14	Nahum Melvin-Lambert
Paul McCone	15	Jaden Ogwuazor
Bo Morris	16	Obi Onyeagwara
Taylor Morrison	17	Bradley Russell
Jack Newell	18	Jack Smith
Gus Sanches		Jake Thompson
Billy Shaw	19	Harry Titchmarsh
Aksum White	20	Fabio Virciglio

Match Officials

Referee:	Mr M Jackson
Assistant 1:	Mr J Alliband
Assistant 2:	Mr G Thrower

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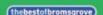
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