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Bromsgrove Sporting Football Club

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Incorporated 2009



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President: Jeff Rea

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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

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Crowd Doctor: Dr Jerome Wallington

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Schools & Community Ambassador: Nirm Bassi

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Reception: Sarah Lammas, Sandra Cable

Catering: Della Greatbach

Manager: Scott Adey-Linforth

Assistant Manager: Richard Batchelor

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

Website: www.bromsgrovesporting.co.uk

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Rouslers Bar Bookings telephone: 07353 862559 **Commercial:** 07809 836935

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Printed by Bromsgrove Printing, 14 Worcester Road, Bromsgrove B61 7AE. Tel 01527 873181

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Views expressed in this programme are those of individuals and not necessarily those of Bromsgrove Sporting Football Club

CLUB HONOURS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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

BROMSGROVE SPORTING MANAGERS

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

BROMSGROVE SPORTING CHAIRMEN

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

From the Boardroom - Rod Brown, Chairman



Can we welcome the directors, management, players and fans from St Ives for today's visit to the UK Electrical stadium?

We come into this game on the back of an early exit in the FA cup last Saturday losing to Evesham. A disappointing result, having led going in at halftime, but an early blitz in that second half put paid to us. A very disappointing performance.

Our results in our first half a dozen games have seen us only achieve one win which has created a lack of confidence for both the team and the fanbase alike. As is the case this reflects in our gates, which are currently down on last season at this time, a factor that is of concern.

On behalf of the board, we have notified the shareholders that we intend to hold an EGM to try and alter the Articles of Association in order that anyone person or persons can own more than 10% of the shares. This will create the ability to encourage investment in the club which is required urgently to maintain sustainability.

The date has been set for 25th September.

As the schools returned this week, that marks the commencement of the Colts, girls and ladies fixtures, I am sure they are all excited at the prospect ahead for their season.

Back to today's game, and we must hope that today Scott can squeeze a performance and result to lift everyone.

Enjoy.

Rod

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Manager - Scott Adey-Linforth



I apologise that my notes today are a bit scrappy but they are being done between my day job and training on Thursday evening.

Starting with last Saturday, we were really disappointed to lose to Evesham, particularly as we played well in the first half. But a mad period in the second half when they scored three goals killed us off.

We are obviously in a rut and it will be difficult to get out especially with so many young players but the squad is positive and working hard in training to turn things round.

Moving on to the match against St Ives today, it will not be easy as they are a good side, playing attacking football and we will need to take the game to them.

However there is a good spirit in the squad, we have trained well and we are fully focused.

As most people now know, Aaron Roberts has returned to the club and his winning mentality and leadership on the pitch will be vital to us today.

Reece King picked up a hamstring injury last Saturday and is doubtful but hopefully Ash Carter will be back after few matches out.

As usual thanks for your support and I hope that we can deliver a result today and get our season back underway.

Scott

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Meet the Rouslers (1)

	<p>Scott Adey-Linforth <i>Manager</i> Bromsgrove Dog Walking & Pet Services</p> 		<p>Richard Batchelor <i>Assistant Manager</i> Available for sponsorship</p>
	<p>Karl Fellows <i>First Team Coach</i> Available for sponsorship</p>		<p>Ryan Pratt <i>Goalkeeping Coach</i> Available for sponsorship</p>
	<p>Dean Ashford <i>Club Kit Man</i> Sponsored by Phil & Jane Baker</p>		<p>Dan Eyre <i>Sports Therapist</i> Available for sponsorship</p>
	<p>Reece King <i>Team Captain/ Midfielder</i> Sponsored by Kevin Baggott</p>		<p>Adam Harrison <i>Goalkeeper</i> Sponsored by Keaton Troth</p>
	<p>Charlie McNamara <i>Goalkeeper</i> Available for sponsorship</p>		<p>Koby Arthur <i>Midfielder</i> Available for sponsorship</p>

Meet The Rouslers (2)



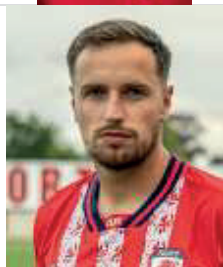
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Striker
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Marc Pullen and
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Josh Burgess
Defender
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Finlay Carson
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Ash Carter
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Midfielder
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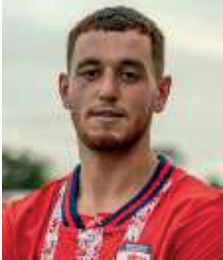

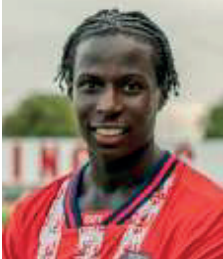




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Kobe Hall
Forward
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Meet The Rouslers (3)

	<p>Jack Kelly <i>Defender</i> Sponsored by the Sidewinders</p>		<p>Jordan Lyden <i>Midfielder</i> Available for sponsorship</p>
	<p>Bo Morris <i>Defender</i> Available for sponsorship</p>		<p>Taylor Morrison <i>Defender</i> Available for sponsorship</p>
	<p>Jack Newell <i>Defender/Midfield</i> Sponsored by Kevin Baggott</p>		<p>Gus Sanches <i>Forward</i> Available for sponsorship</p>
	<p>Billy Shaw <i>Midfielder</i> Sponsored by: The Fox family (Margaret, Christopher and Adrian)</p>		<p>Luke Softley <i>Defender</i> Sponsored by The Groundforce Team</p>
	<p>Aksum White <i>Defender</i> Sponsored by Daniel Blythe and Kelly Downing</p>		<p>Rebel Rousler Club Mascot</p>

Profile:
Kobe Hall
Striker



Birthplace and Date of Birth?	Birmingham, 26/8/06 (age 19)
Height?	6' 2"
Left or right footed?	Left
Previous Clubs?	Kidderminster Harriers; Alfreton Town, Rushall Olympic, Quorn, Stourport Swifts (all loan)
Football Honours?	National League North promotion, County Cup winner
Best moment playing football?	Making my professional debut and scoring my first professional goal.
Biggest influence on your career?	My brothers, my first coach at Kidderminster - Brandon and Steve
Which teams do you support?	Arsenal and Birmingham City
Favourite all-time players?	Cristiano Ronaldo, Romelu Lukaku
Best player you have played against?	Will Grigg (now plays for Chesterfield)
Favourite position on the pitch:	Striker
What boots do you wear?	I wear loads
What football law would you change?	VAR
Which team do you most like to beat?	Alvechurch
Nickname in the changing room?	Kobez
Do you play any other sports?	Tennis
Relationship?	In a relationship
Where do you live?	Stratford-upon-Avon
Job outside football?	Coach
What car do you drive?	Working on it
Favourite food?	Caribbean or Thai
Favourite drink?	Ginger Beer or Lemonade
Favourite biscuit?	Oreos (double-cream)
Favourite TV programme?	The Punisher or Jujitsu Kaisen (Manga series)
Favourite Film?	The Notebook or Scary Marie
Favourite actor or actress?	Tom Hardy
Favourite band or singer?	Drake, Lil Durk, Pop Smoke
Favourite Album or Single?	Walk Away from Love - Bitty McLean
Guilty Pleasure?	Listening to indie music
Least like to sit next to on an aeroplane?	Bo (Morris), never stops talking - my boy!
Favourite Holiday destination?	Malia (Crete)
Top of Bucket List	Getting my clothing brand (Euthymia) up and going. Travel the World
Claim to fame?	Once met Lionel Messi during pre-season tour for Barcelona in England. Have played with both the Bellingham brothers.



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From The Archives, 10 Years Ago

The FA Vase - First Qualifying Round - Saturday 5th September 2015 - 3:00 p.m. kick-off

Heath Hayes (1) 1 Bromsgrove Sporting 4 (0), The Coppice Colliery Ground.

Last Season Sporting had a good run in the FA Vase before losing out narrowly to Thurnby Nirvana in the third round so expectations were quite high as they kicked off against Heath Hayes at their delightful Coppice Colliery Ground just outside Cannock in this year's competition.

However dreams of getting all the way to a Wembley final quickly turned to a nightmare on just eight minutes. Aaron Roberts played an innocuous looking back-pass to his goalkeeper Brendon Bunn but in attempting to clear, Bunn mis-kicked and the ball tamely found its way to home striker Daniel Spragg who had the easiest of chances to bury his shot from just eight yards out.

Up to then Sporting had had the majority of the possession and the home side had hardly ventured into the visitors' territory. The rest of the half continued in the much the same vein with the Bromsgrove outfit bossing the midfield but Hayes defended in numbers so few chances came to anything. On 16 minutes home 'keeper Mark Wiggins gathered well from Sam Wills after a goalmouth scramble then seven minutes later Josh McKenzie managed to shake off his markers only to send his shot over the bar.

Sporting manager Paul Smith has developed a reputation for turning matches in the changing room at half-time and his talents were clearly needed to motivate a lacklustre-looking team who had dominated the play but again failed to find the net.

Whatever happened at half-time must have worked as the Rouslers came out after the interval with much more of a spring in their steps, moving the ball about better and increasing the tempo of the match.

With five minutes of the second -half gone Josh McKenzie got on to the end of a Simon Fitter free-kick beating 'keeper Wiggins only for central defender Jack Arrowsmith to head off his own goal-line. Hayes cleared the ball up-field but Craig Jones was quick to send it back again. Josh McKenzie managed to get to the edge of the home penalty area, slide the ball to Sam Wills who fired hard and low into the Hayes net for the equaliser.

Two minutes after that, Sporting were in the lead. This time it was Reece Hewitt the provider with a well-placed cross from the left that Sam Wills skilfully slid home with the outside of his right boot.

Sporting were looking to consolidate their advantage and it came on 71 minutes again with McKenzie the provider, this time to Luke Dugmore who was on hand to receive the lofty striker's pass and made no mistake with a fierce shot that left Wiggins helpless.

Sporting should have made it four just five minutes later as Hewitt hit the bar but they finally put the match well beyond their opponents on the 81st minute with the best strike of the afternoon from Wills who completed his second hat-trick in a Rouslers' shirt when he picked up a loose ball and drove it low from 20 yards just wide of the diving Wiggins' left hand.

There had been few interruptions in play so referee Mr Perry blew for full-time after two added minutes. Sporting now face Dudley Sports at home in the next round on 3rd October. Hayes will probably regret not having extended their lead but to be fair to them they had several first-choice players missing. However across 90 minutes Sporting were the better side and there were no arguments about the result.

Summing up, captain Brendan Kelly said, "We did not play well in the first half but the second was much better. We took our chances and it was a good afternoon".

Heath Hayes: Mark Wiggins, Harry Phillips, John Littler, Ryan Burns, Alexander Scott, Jack Arrowsmith (Capt.), James Russell (Steven Yates 62 mins), Liam Degville, Daniel Scragg, Dean Watkiss (Craig Holland 75 mins), Karl Wallis (Joseph Hartshorne 62 mins). Substitute not used: Ryan Kimberley

Sporting: Brendon Bunn, Aaron Roberts, Brendan Kelly (Capt), Simon Fitter, Craig Jones, Jamie McKeon (Joe Adams 66 mins), Luke Dugmore, Reece Hewitt, Josh McKenzie, Sam Wills (John Pykett 81 mins), Dale Edwards (Sean Brain 71 mins). Substitutes not used: Luke Corbett, Scott Smith.

Referee: Mr. M Perry (Stourbridge), Assistants: Mr R Griffiths (Brierley Hill), Mr N Gray (Tividale)

Crowd: 135

Weather: Warm, sunny

Sporting MoM: Sam Wills

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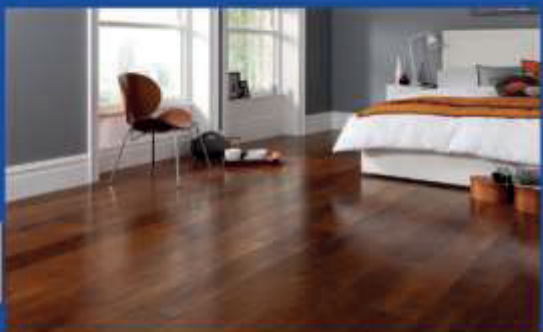
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The Non-League Paper provides a column for club programmes each week. This week's contribution is from Matt Badcock, Editor-at-Large.

IT'S easy to forget quite how big the National League System is and the broad church it represents. From huge ex-Football League clubs with seven-figure playing budgets for their season to very small community clubs run by a handful of volunteers. But that's what makes Non-League – and football in this country, generally – so unique and special.

You may have heard The FA last year introduced a new board to oversee this level of the game along with the women's pyramid.

We sat down with Head of National League System James Earl and National League System manager Matt Edkins to discuss all things Non-League for a three-part series in The NLP.

Don't miss this week's chat which covers club allocations, the pyramid's structure before we move into club licensing and technology the week after. Last week we touched on the new National Leagues Pyramid Board, including the appointment of its first ever independent chair, Chris Brown.

"The important bit to say is it's still a fundamental moment where this level of the game in both the men's and the women's pyramid have a strong collective voice with a senior seat at the table at the FA," Earl told us.

"Historically, certainly the National League System has been positioned between the professional and the grassroots game and has sat in a governance structure that's been in and around the grassroots game.

"But there's been a recognition of the importance of the National League System – and the women's football pyramid – and that it is unique in how we should be servicing it at The FA. So its introduction last year for the first time was a really key moment.

"That has had challenges and opportunities. Challenges is bringing two pyramids together that have been governed separately.

"One of the pieces of work we've been doing is around the brand and identity for the board, but also the level of the game.

"So there has been some work done around a new brand and hopefully that will be launched soon, which will bring a collective identity for not just the board, but leagues and clubs and other stakeholders to stand behind.

"It has been important to not make the board a repeat of committees that still exist. The intent is to make this a strategic board that looks at the broader direction of travel for clubs and leagues and players at this level of the game.

"We've still got a journey to go on to really understand what it is we want the board to do to be able to drive standards up, not just in the competitions, but the club landscape as well.

"I think after a year there's been some great success. We've had some good debates and good conversations, but actually the proof will be in delivery and I think that's going to come over the next couple of years."

You can find the full conversation on our website and pick up The NLP for two more instalments.

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With Sporting commemorating 140 years of football in Bromsgrove it seemed a good time to celebrate some of the greatest players to play for Rovers and Sporting over that time. Rovers historians Michael Tovey and Graham Reynolds choose their 'Player of the Decade' beginning with the 1890s.

1890's Player of the Decade

Playing at the Well Lane Ground, Rovers began their competitive journey in the 1892-93 season, joining the Studley and District League. They captured their first silverware in 1894 winning the Studley & District Cup, hammering Headless Cross 7-1. Further success followed with triumphs in the Worcester Junior Cup, the unimaginatively titled Studley & District Extra Cup Competition and the Chatrian Cup. Rovers then moved up a step in class by applying for and gaining admission to the Birmingham & District League in 1897. It was a great decade to be a Rovers fan.



Throughout this era Rovers were blessed with a number of quality players, mostly from the Bromsgrove area. George Brazier was a solid player in the Rovers backline, whilst William Wheelock, Arthur Depper and James Wallace were, for a number of years, regulars in the half back line. Up front, Thomas Dipple, George Nokes and F. Parker provided goals. But one player stood out above the others and is our first 'Player of the Decade' – goalkeeper George Stiles.

George was in his early twenties when he joined Rovers at the start of the 1893/94 season, making his debut in a Studley League match against Alcester on 30 September, 1893. He was the number one choice keeper for the next decade and was obviously a very fine goalkeeper as there are countless match reports over the years praising his performances.

He was also a giant of a man, who ran the Roebuck Inn, the Rovers Headquarters, and was obviously a very strong character. In one match against Evesham Wanderers in the 1896-97 season, when the referee decided the ball had passed the goal line and awarded a goal to Evesham, he strongly disagreed and led a player's protest where they refused to play on unless the goal was disallowed. Although play did eventually restart after a fifteen minute delay - following threats from the referee to report the team to the Association - George spent the rest of the match with his arms folded, making no attempt to stop the ball! On another occasion, against Oldbury Town, in the Birmingham & District Junior League in March 1901, he was sent off for insulting the referee after disputing a decision.

He was in goal when Rovers won their three cup competitions in the 1890s and helped them to the runners-up spot in the Studley & District League in 1893/94. He was also on the losing side in two other cup finals in 1897/98 campaign, in the Worcestershire Junior Cup, against Bournville Athletic and in the Chatrian Cup against Leamington Town.

Whilst records from this era are not always complete, he was almost certainly an ever present for his first four seasons with the club, playing 97 consecutive matches, a run that only came to

an end in October 1897, when the Rovers were required to play two games at the same time due to having entered various additional cup competitions.

There was talk of him retiring in the summer of 1898, however he decided to carry on and was once again ever present in goal during 1898/99. In the 1899/1900 season, he assumed the captaincy of the team and in March 1900, he was selected to represent the Birmingham & District Junior League in a match against Aston Villa Reserves.

In August 1900, he was appointed treasurer of the club. In February 1901, he signed amateur forms with Bolton Wanderers, who were in the first division of the Football League, and was promised a trial match, although there is no record of this trial match ever taking place. In April 1902 he was selected in a Worcester F.A. representative team to play Birmingham Juniors.

He eventually lost his place in the team at the start of 1904/05 season, to Stoke Prior native William "Gasser" Mason, although continued to play for the Reserves in the Bromsgrove Junior League whilst still making occasional first team appearances, usually as cover. In December 1906, he was approached by Worcester City to play for them, but stayed loyal to the Rovers.

He got another run in the side towards the end of the 1907/08 season, covering for the injured Mason, but this was brought to an abrupt end when he sprained his ankle after colliding with the goalpost in a game against Bilston United at Well Lane in 20 April, 1908.

Rather fittingly, his last appearance in the side was in the final of the Birmingham Junior Charity Shield, deputising for the injured Wilmore, against Bournbrook in April 1910, in a match played at Austin Motors Ground, Northfield. Rovers won 2-0. Now aged 39, it was a great end to a wonderful Rovers career, one which he finished as the club's all-time record appearance maker, a record which remained his until well after the Second World War.

After leaving the Rovers he continued to play football, and, in 1913, appeared in the Studley Cup Final, playing for Rubery St Chads, where they lost 2-4 to Bournville "A"

Not just a goalkeeper, he even refereed a Rovers game, against Nuneaton Town in December, 1913. With the appointed referee unable to make it, George stepped into the breach, apparently giving an excellent performance.

Away from the Rovers, he also found time to be a regular mid-week player for the Bromsgrove Early Closers team and the Bromsgrove Thursday Club, which he helped found in 1904. An all-around sportsman, Stiles had been a keen cricketer and rugby player in his youth, on one occasion in 1897, and whilst on the Rovers' books at the time, he even filled in as a back in the Bromsgrove rugby team! He was treasurer of the Bromsgrove & District Junior Football League, which was re-formed in April 1902, later becoming president in the 1920s. Meetings of the League were regularly held at his Roebuck Inn. He served on the Rovers committee, once again as treasurer, from 1912 to 1920. Whilst his family also owned the lease of the Victoria Ground from 1921 until 1934. In 1927, he even paid off the final instalment of the debt for the original Rovers grandstand which had opened in 1924.

He was Lieutenant in the Bromsgrove Fire Brigade from 1898 to 1920 and then a Bromsgrove councillor from the early 1920s until his death in 1931, aged 60, following complications which occurred after an operation for appendicitis. A born and bred Bromsgrovian, he was a popular man whose sudden death was felt throughout the town.

George Stiles. 283 appearances for Bromsgrove Rovers, 1893-1910. A true Rovers legend.

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Season 2025/26

The Pitching In Southern League - Premier Division Central Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Harborough Town	5	4	1	0	11	2	+9	13
2	Bishop's Stortford	4	4	0	0	11	1	+10	12
3	Kettering Town	5	4	0	1	11	5	+6	12
4	Quorn	5	3	1	1	11	4	+7	10
5	Spalding United	5	3	1	1	9	5	+4	10
6	Banbury United	5	2	3	0	10	6	+4	9
7	Halesowen Town	5	2	2	1	9	9	-	8
8	Leiston	5	2	2	1	7	7	-	8
9	Alvechurch	5	2	1	2	6	5	+1	7
10	Redditch United	5	2	1	2	6	6	-	7
11	Needham Market	5	2	1	2	5	6	-1	7
12	Bury Town	5	2	1	2	5	7	-2	7
13	Barwell	5	2	0	3	7	9	-2	6
14	Worcester City	5	1	2	2	6	5	+1	5
15	Stourbridge	5	1	2	2	7	7	-	5
16	St Ives Town	5	1	2	2	5	7	-2	5
17	Real Bedford	5	1	2	2	4	6	-2	5
18	Stratford Town	4	1	0	3	4	10	-6	3
19	Bromsgrove Sporting	5	1	0	4	4	12	-8	3
20	AFC Sudbury	5	1	0	4	3	13	-10	3
21	Royston Town	5	0	2	3	7	11	-4	2
22	Stamford AFC	5	0	2	3	1	6	-5	2

Table as at Saturday 23rd August 2025

Bromsgrove Sporting - Fixtures and Results - Season 2025/26

Day	Date	K/O	V	Opponents	Competition	Result	Att	Pts	Lgue Pos	MoM
Tue	08-Jul	7:45 PM	A	Romulus	Friendly	W 2 - 0	~85	-	-	-
Fri	11-Jul	7:45 PM	A	Stourport Swifts	Friendly	W 4 - 1	~130	-	-	-
Tue	15-Jul	7:45 PM	A	Coleshill Town	Friendly	L 0 - 3	88	-	-	-
Sat	19-Jul	3:00 PM	A	Sporting Khalsa	Friendly	L 1 - 4	~100	-	-	-
Tue	22-Jul	7:45 PM	H	Birmingham City U21	Friendly	L 1 - 3	330	-	-	-
Sat	26-Jul	3:00 PM	H	WBA U21	Friendly	L 0 - 1	~300	-	-	-
Tue	29-Jul	7:45 PM	H	Solihull Moors	Friendly	W 4 - 1	~230	-	-	-
Sat	02-Aug	3:00 PM	H	Hungerford Town	Friendly	W 4 - 1	~280	-	-	-
Sat	09-Aug	3:00 PM	H	Bishop's Stortford	Southern League	L 0 - 2	551	0	18	Adam Harrison
Tue	12-Aug	7:45 PM	A	Alvechurch	Southern League	W 2 - 1	482	3	11	Jack Kelly
Sat	16-Aug	3:00 PM	H	Spalding United	Southern League	L 2 - 3	460	3	15	Billy Shaw
Sat	23-Aug	3:00 PM	H	Needham Market	Southern League	L 0 - 3	450	3	17	Luke Softley
Mon	25-Aug	3:00 PM	A	Redditch United	Southern League	L 0 - 3	1227	3	19	Aksum White
Sat	30-Aug	3:00 PM	A	Evesham United	FA Cup Q1	L 2 - 5	429	-	-	Bo Morris
Sat	06-Sep	3:00 PM	H	St Ives Town	Southern League					
Tue	09-Sep	7:45 PM	H	Banbury United	Southern League					
Sat	13-Sep			No Match Scheduled						
Sat	20-Sep	3:00 PM	A	Barwell	Southern League					
Tue	23-Sep	7:45 PM	A	Quorn	Southern League					
Sat	27-Sep			No Match Scheduled						
Sat	04-Oct	3:00 PM			FA Trophy Q3					
Sat	11-Oct	3:00 PM	H	Bury Town	Southern League					
Tue	14-Oct	7:45 PM	H	Stamford	Southern League					
Sat	18-Oct	3:00 PM	A	Harborough Town	Southern League					
Tue	21-Oct	7:45 PM	A	Worcester City	Southern League					
Sat	25-Oct	3:00 PM			FA Trophy R1					
Sat	01-Nov	3:00 PM	H	Leiston	Southern League					
Sat	08-Nov	3:00 PM	H	Royston Town	Southern League					
Sat	15-Nov	3:00 PM	A	Stourbridge	Southern League					
Tue	18-Nov	7:45 PM	A	Banbury United	Southern League					
Sat	22-Nov	3:00 PM	H	Kettering Town	Southern League					
Tue	25-Nov	7:45 PM	H	Quorn	Southern League					
Sat	29-Nov	3:00 PM	A	AFC Sudbury	Southern League					
Sat	06-Dec	3:00 PM	H	Stratford Town	Southern League					
Sat	13-Dec	3:00 PM	A	Real Bedford	Southern League					
Sat	20-Dec	3:00 PM	A	Bishop's Stortford	Southern League					
Sat	27-Dec	3:00 PM	H	Redditch United	Southern League					
Sat	01-Jan	3:00 PM	A	Halesowen Town	Southern League					
Sat	10-Jan	3:00 PM	H	Alvechurch	Southern League					
Sat	17-Jan	3:00 PM	A	Bury Town	Southern League					
Sat	24-Jan	3:00 PM	H	Barwell	Southern League					
Sat	31-Jan	3:00 PM	A	Stamford	Southern League					
Sat	07-Feb	3:00 PM	H	Harborough Town	Southern League					
Sat	14-Feb	3:00 PM	A	Leiston	Southern League					
Sat	21-Feb	3:00 PM	H	Worcester City	Southern League					
Sat	28-Feb	3:00 PM	H	AFC Sudbury	Southern League					
Sat	07-Mar	3:00 PM	A	Kettering Town	Southern League					
Sat	14-Mar	3:00 PM	H	Stourbridge	Southern League					
Sat	21-Mar	3:00 PM	A	Royston Town	Southern League					
Sat	28-Mar	3:00 PM	A	Spalding United	Southern League					
Fri	03-Apr	3:00 PM	A	Needham Market	Southern League					
Mon	06-Apr	3:00 PM	H	Halesowen Town	Southern League					
Sat	11-Apr	3:00 PM	A	St Ives Town	Southern League					
Sat	18-Apr	3:00 PM	A	Stratford Town	Southern League					
Sat	25-Apr	3:00 PM	H	Real Bedford	Southern League					

Bromsgrove Sporting FC - Appearances / Goalscorers

Season 2024-2025

	League							Cups							Season Total				Sporting Career							
Name	App	Sub	Bench	Capt.	Yellow	Reds	Assts	Goals	App	Sub	Bench	Capt.	Yellow	Reds	Assts	Goals	App	Sub	Tot	Assts	Goals	App	Sub	Tot	Goals	
Koby Arthur		4	1		1				1								5	5					5	5		
Luke Benbow	5				1	1	2	1	1								5	1	6	2	1	5	1	6	1	
Josh Burgess																										
Finlay Carson																										
Ash Carter																						33		33	1	
Nick Clayton-Phillips	3	2							1							1	4	2	6		1	4	2	6	1	
Romehl Critchlow		2	3							1								2	2				2	2		
Tom Edge	4				2				1								5		5			5		5		
Josh Ezewele	3									1							3	1	4			13	1	14		
George Gillon																										
Kobe Hall	3	2					1	2	1						1		4	2	6	2	2	7	6	13	2	
Adam Harrison	5				1				1								6		6			6		6		
Jack Kelly	5				2		1		1								6		6	1		6		6		
Reece King	2			2					1			1					3		3			50		50	5	
Jordan Lyden	1		1														1		1			6	13	19		
Paul McCone	3				1	1											3		3			3		3		
Charlie McNamara																						1		1		
Bo Morris	4	1			1				1								5	1	6			6	4	10		
Taylor Morrison	1		2														1		1			1	3	4		
Lewis Neal																										
Jack Newell	5				1				1								6		6			99	26	125	6	
Ryan Pratt			1								1															
Gus Sanches		4	1								1							4	4				16	16	2	
Billy Shaw	5			3	1				1	1							1	6		6	2	55	11	66	6	
Luke Softley	3				1				1									4		4			4		4	
Aksum White	3		1						1									4		4			67	17	84	

Up to and including Saturday 30th August 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: Richard Batchelor	Squad Number: n/a	DoB: 20/10/88, Birmingham
Position: Assistant Manager	Height: 6' 3"	Weight:

Previous Clubs: Rushall Olympic, Alvechurch, Stourbridge, Redditch United, Leamington, Sporting Khalsa, Worcester City and Hednesford Town, He was most recently playing at Racing Club Warwick..

Extremely popular and highly respected no-nonsense midfielder who recently made the decision to retire from playing a few weeks into the new season at Alvechurch where he took on a player-assistant manager role and looking forward to building his experience in management with Sporting.

Name: Karl Fellows	Squad Number: n/a	DoB: 22/4/85, Solihull
Position: Coach	Height: 6' 1"	Weight: 86kg

Previous Clubs: Aston Villa

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

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

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' 6"	Weight: 72kg

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.

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: Romehl Critchlow	Squad Number: 14	Age 21, b. West Bromwich
Position: Centre Midfield	Height:	Weight:

Previous Clubs: Solihull Moors, Hednesford Town.

An exciting young player with bags of energy. Romehl impressed during pre-season and joined the club in August 2025. A hard-working player who covers plenty of grass and likes to get on the ball.

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 Ezewe	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 Ezewe 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 midfielder	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.		

Name: Charlie McNamara	Squad Number: 13	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: 5' 10"	Weight: 72kg
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-encompassing style of play, an excellent dribbler who has the ability to score and create goals.		

Name: Luke Softley	Squad Number: 5	DoB: 21/4/05
Position: Centre Back	Height 6' 1½"	
Previous Clubs: Aston Villa (youth), Hungerford Town		
A local lad who impressed when playing against us in pre-season. Luke is a centre back who loves defending and getting on the ball, and is comfortable playing anywhere across the backline.		

Name: Aksum White	Squad Number: 12	DoB: 21/12/00
Position: Right back	Height: 5' 11	Weight: 77kg
Previous Clubs: WBA, Tamworth, Sporting Khalsa, Worcester Raiders, Colehill Town, Stratford Town, Barwell.		
Returned to Sporting in August 2025 for his 3rd spell at the club. A solid full back who is good in the 1 v 1 and likes to get forward and support higher up the pitch.		

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"A family concern"

Thanks to Steve Richards for doing the quizzes again this season

Here is the number four, on England internationals

1. Which country are England playing at Villa Park this evening?
2. England's last match against Senegal in June was also played in the Midlands, at which ground?
3. When England played Spain at Villa Park in 2001, it was which manager's first match in charge of the Three Lions?
4. Which club was represented in the England team for the 1966 World Cup final but has never had a player appear for the national team since?
5. Apart from Harry Kane, who is the only player to be capped (39 times) for England whilst playing for Bayern Munich?
6. In 2008, who scored a hat-trick when winning his fourth England cap but managed no other goals in his first twenty-five appearances?

Answers: 1) Andorra 2) The City Ground, Nottingham 3) Sven-Göran Eriksson 4) Blackpool (Alan Ball) 5) Owen Hargreaves 6) Theo Walcott

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<p>In Loving Memory Jeff Black 1947-2023 Forever With Us</p>		<p>Average Goodlad Philip Bennett We Love You! Nes & Eric</p>	<p>Pete Smith Always With Us Never By All The Boys and</p>		<p>In Loving Memory Steven White 1948-2023 Forever With Us</p>		
<p>Robert Goodlad Rovers Forever We Love You! John & Carol</p>		<p>In Loving Memory Kevin Green 1947-2023 Forever With Us</p>	<p>Adam Hylton Never Forgotten 1982-2024 Always With Us</p>		<p>George Robinson Making You a Fan Happy 80th Birthday Alan, Phoebe & Co.</p>		
<p>Patrick King Never Forgotten 1947-2024 Always In Our Hearts</p>		<p>Best Dad Ever! Peter Stewart We Love You! Gavin & Mollie</p>	<p>Best Grandpa Ever! Arthur Cross Happy 70th Birthday Love From Anna</p>		<p>Peter Herring Never Forgotten 1994-2023 Always With Us</p>		
<p>Timothy Craft Forever With Us</p>	<p>Arthur Harrison Forever With Us</p>	<p>David King Forever With Us</p>	<p>Rachel King Forever With Us</p>	<p>Tom Graham Forever With Us</p>	<p>Mark Gray Forever With Us</p>	<p>Luke Farnworth Forever With Us</p>	

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Today's Visitors - St Ives Town FC - Club History



St Ives Town FC was formed on Thursday 15th September 1887. About 40 people met at the Unicorn Hotel to "consider the desirability of forming a football club". It was unanimously decided to form a club, to be called St Ives Town FC under Association Rules. The membership subscription decided upon was 3 Shillings & Sixpence including an entrance fee of 1 Shilling to be paid in advance. The kit was chosen to be black with a white star.

The club rose to success by the turn of the century in 1900. Collecting both Hunts Senior and Junior Cups in 1901. The Senior Cup was won again in 1912 and the club continued its success during the 1920's. Winning the Cambridgeshire League in 1923/24/25. Also, winning the Senior Cup in 1923 and 1926. Also winning the Scott-Gatty Cup in 1923 and 1924.

In the 1930's, Further success winning the Senior Cup again in 1930 and Scott-Gatty Cup in 1932. St Ives also won the Peterborough League in 1938.

In 1949 the Saints joined the far-flung Central Amateur League. However. Short lived due to travel and decided to move into the much more local UCL 2nd Division. This only lasted a few years before they decided again to move. This time back to Peterborough League.

The 60's was limited success, but they still managed to win the Scott-Gatty Cup in 1961. In the Peterborough League fortunes were not smiling on them and they slid down the leagues to Division 3. There they remained for quite a few years into the 70's.

In the late 70's St Ives turned the corner. They won the Peterborough Division 3 in 1978 and then further promotions the following years into the 80's, winning the Division 1 and gaining promotion into the Peterborough Premier League in 1982.

Fortunes remained positive in the 80's as they also won the Hunts Senior Cup in 1982, 1987 and 1988. During this period the club also moved back into the United Counties League Division 1. The revival of the Hunts Premier Cup also saw the Saints reach the final in 1989 losing 3-0 to a strong Cambridge United team.

Into the 90's. The team reached the Hunts Premier Cup final in 1997 and 1998 although going down to 5-4 to Potton and 2-1 to Biggleswade Town they put in excellent performances against strong opposition. In the UCL Division 1 the team were not doing so well and at the turn of the century in 2000 the team, although doing their best needed a change of fortune. In 2002, they finished the season next to bottom.

At this point the club appointed Neville Nania as the new chairman who had considerable success as both the St Ives Town Colts chairman over 6 years also running the most successful Cambridgeshire colts teams at the time with a group of the same colts from 10 year olds to 16 year olds. Never out of the top 2 and winning the league twice. Neville also ran the county u18 team with Neil King. So, very aware of the excellent youth talent in the area.

Neville stepped down from both roles to take on the senior chairman role and immediately appointed a St Ives legend Warren Everdell as player-manager. The idea was to provide a pathway for the many excellent 17- and 18-year-olds Neville had relationships with and blended with key experienced players to start a new beginning.

Warren then recruited Jez Hall a popular member of the club and good communication skills and a fitness and condition coach in Errol McGammon. A dream management team and the project began for the start of the 2003 season. The season went well and finished in the top half. Following a successful 2004-05 campaign the team finished 3rd which was enough for the team to win promotion to the UCL Premier League for the first time in their history and the highest they have been in the football pyramid. The youth were blending well with the experienced lads and things were on the up. Crowds were up and things were looking good.

Recent History

2015/16 saw the team exceed all expectations by achieving promotion to step 3 of the football pyramid for the first time in their history. The feat was achieved in the most exciting fashion possible via the play offs after finishing a creditable fourth place. Having won their play-off semi-final on penalties at Egham they followed up with a final victory against the mighty Rushden & Diamonds in front of a bumper crowd of over 1500 at the Pro-Edge Stadium. A late Danny Watson equalizer topped off by a winner from local lad Ben Seymour-Shove in extra time finished off a fantastic season in the best possible way.

2016/17 saw the team consolidate at step 3 with a creditable fifteenth place finish. This was topped off by a successful run in the League Challenge Cup where, an injury ravaged side, were unlucky to lose in the final to Hayes & Yeading United. The Ives were dumped out of the FA Cup at the first hurdle by the now famous Westfields. But they enjoyed their best ever run in the FA Trophy getting to the third qualifying round before falling to a single goal at Kings Lynn Town.

2017/18 turned out to be a tough season for the Ives with the team eventually finishing twenty second and only being saved from the drop by the reorganization of the Leagues. Early exits from the FA Cup and Trophy only added to the team's difficulties as on to many occasions they failed to turn promising displays into points.

On a happier note the Ladies side of the Club continued their fantastic run of success with the first team winning the Cambridgeshire Women's Premier League to win themselves promotion into the Eastern Women's Regional League

2018/19 saw the Ives surprise a few as they enjoyed their most successful season ever finishing thirteenth in a very competitive Southern League Premier Division Central. League success was topped off with a best ever run in the FA Cup which culminated in a trip to the once mighty York City in third qualifying round. The Ladies success continued as they marched on to the Premier Division of Eastern Region Women's League one step from the National Leagues.

2019/20 & 2020/21 turned into seasons that did not exist after the Coronavirus pandemic lead to early curtailments both of them.

2021/22 A season that started poorly for the Ives and saw them skirting the relegation zone for long periods picked up dramatically after Ricky was joined by ex Banbury manager Mike Ford as a joint manager in November. An excellent run of results post Christmas ultimately saw the Ives finish a very respectable 14th. Early exits from FA Cup and FA Trophy both at the hands of old rivals Needham Market simply highlighted the early season problems

2022/23 An excellent start saw the club flirting with the play-off places early in the season. This transposed into a historic FA Cup run with Ives unfortunate to fall to ex-Football League club FC Halifax Town in front of over 1000 people at quattro-tech Westwood Road in 4th Qualifying Round. Following the FA Cup exit and an early exit from the FA Trophy league results suffered a dip, but a late season recovery secured a 15th place finish.

2023/24 A fantastic run from Christmas saw the Ives overcome a slow start to the campaign to record their best step 3 finish in ninth place. The Ives also finished leading scorers in the division with 87 goals with Jonny Edwards claiming the golden boot in the Southern League Premier Central table.

2024/25 An up and down season saw Ives in danger of going down until another late season run including excellent away victories at promotion chasing Kettering Town and Harborough Town saw them pull up to finish 16th and earn themselves a remarkable tenth season at step 3.

With the division looking stronger than ever this term Ricky's twelfth season at the helm looks like offering yet another challenge and a realistic target has to be to simply earn an eleventh season in this elevated company. Achieving that could possibly be considered his biggest success to date.

St Ives Town - Profiles

Name: Ricky Marheineke, Position: Manager

One of the longest serving managers in the division Ricky is entering his twelfth season at the helm of St Ives Town. During his first season he took the club to a ninth place finish in Southern League Division One Central beating the previous year's points tally, and in his second season secured a memorable promotion, guiding The Ives to a play-off extra time win over AFC Rushden & Diamonds. In his first season at step 3 he continued to take the Club forward finishing a creditable 15th in the Premier Division also enjoying a run to the League Challenge Cup Final which unfortunately ended in defeat. Since then he has managed to ensure that Ives have retained their position at step 3 with some creditable mid-table finishes. The pinnacle to date was Ives first top ten finish in 2023/24 a return to mid table last season ensured a tenth consecutive season at step 3 and Ricky's challenge remains to be retention of that place in the upper echelons of non-league football

Name: Adam Fisher, Position: Joint Assistant Manager/Coach

After a spell as a coach at Barton Rovers, Adam made the switch to become Manager at Welwyn Garden City. A seven-and-a-half-year spell in charge of the Citizens proved to be successful as he guided the club to step 4 football for the first time in their history. His time at Welwyn came to an end when he felt the club didn't share the same ambitions to move it forward so he switched to a role at Hertford Town before moving to Baldock Town. After leaving Baldock, he has spent some time scouting for various clubs but is now relishing the challenge at St Ives.

Name: Jim Freeman, Position: Joint Assistant Manager/Coach

Jim was part of the coaching staff at Kettering Town and Bugbrooke St Michael with Mitchell Austin and came to Westwood Road with his former colleague in summer 2020. A former Nottingham Forest YTS player Jim moved to non league with Bridgnorth and Solihull Borough before a two year stint in the Gambian Premier Division.

Name: Frankie Fry, Position: First Team Coach

An excellent 2025/26 addition to the coaching staff Frankie has been plucked from under the noses of other suitors. He comes with an excellent pedigree having spent last season as assistant manager at play-off finalists Kettering Town and prior to his spell with the Poppies he had enjoyed success at Peterborough United and Nuneaton Borough. His development as a coach had seen him working in a variety of youth development roles at locations across the UK and United States. His final claim to fame is as the son of Peterborough United stalwart Barry Fry

Name: Paul Swannell, Position: Goalkeeping Coach

Paul is an important part of the coaching staff looking after the goalkeepers throughout the Club. He has worked with Ricky at both Huntingdon & St Ives and was proud to boast the joint top best clean sheet record during the successful promotion campaign. His keeper also went very close to equalling that record during 2018/19 season conceding only 43 goals in 42 games a record only bettered by the top three.

Name: Jardaine Patel-Joseph, Position: Physiotherapist

Experienced sports therapist Jardaine joined the Ives from local rivals Eynesbury Rovers in summer 2021. He graduated from the University of Bedford in 2019 with a BSc (Hons) in Sports Therapy and Rehabilitation having gained experience whilst getting his degree as physiotherapist with then Southern League Division One Central Kempston Rovers. With Ricky intending to operate with a relatively small squad again this season Jardaine will once more be a vital member of the team.

Name: Ollie Taylor, Position: Goalkeeper

Midlands based goalkeeper Ollie signed for the Ives from Redditch United during the summer. The son of former Birmingham City goalkeeper Maik Taylor was in his second spell with the Reds and he was a big figure in keeping

them in step 3 last season. He has a wealth of experience at this level having played over 250 games during spells with The Reds, Bromsgrove Sporting, Alvechurch and Stourbridge.

Name: Jordan Williams, Position: Defender

Fans favourite Jordan is a 26 year old commanding centre back who joined the Ives in summer 2022 from Stratford Town. He started his career at Cambridge United before crossing the river Cam to enjoy two spells at Cambridge City. He then switched to Stratford for his first spell with the Bards. A move to Stourbridge followed before moving back to Stratford. Jordan was part of the Stratford team that played against league one side, Shrewsbury Town in a televised FA Cup first round tie in 2021/22 season.

Name: Jiah Medrano, Position: Defender

22 year old defender Jiah joins the Ives from National League North Leamington where he has made 45 appearances over the past two seasons and was part of the squad that won promotion from Southern League Premier Central Division in 2023/24. He started his career in the academy at Yeovil Town and has also played for Step 4 Shepshed Dynamo.

Name: Ethan Creary, Position: Defender

Highly rated young defender Ethan started his career in the Luton Town Academy where he spent his development years. On leaving Kenilworth Road he joined Dunstable Town where he was an almost ever present before joining the Ives last season. He continued his development at quattro tech Westwood Road and quickly became a regular feature in the back line.

Name: Duncan Idehen, Position: Defender

Ex professional centre back Duncan started his career in the academy at Norwich City. On leaving the Canaries he moved to Lincoln City where in addition to appearing regularly in the youth side he was twice named in the first team squad for EFL Cup ties. Although not getting on to make his debut in either of those games his next move across Lincolnshire to Grimsby Town saw him make his professional debut in the 2020/21 season. He went on to make five more appearances for the Shrimpers before moving on again to Bristol City where he made two appearances during their Championship campaign. Loans then followed to Carlisle United, Yeovil Town and Bath City before his permanent move to Ireland to join League of Ireland Premier Division Derry City. A change of management at the Candystripes saw him released from his contract in the summer and a move back to England has given this classy defender chance to rebuild his career with the Ives

Name: Aaron Smith, Position: Defender

Aaron is a local lad who started his footballing journey with Mildenhall Town where his performances earned him a chance at Peterborough United. After a season with the Posh he was released and went on to join Ives local rivals St Neots Town where he was a regular for two seasons. He made a successful step back up the football ladder by signing for the Ives and has been an almost ever present over the last two seasons. Has a very impressive long throw in his armoury.

Name: Jernade Meade, Position: Defender/Midfield

Flying wing back Jernade has a fantastic pedigree and was picked up by Arsenal as an eleven year old. After eight years at the club, he made his first team debut for the Gunners as an extra time substitute in a League Cup tie against Reading, his only other appearance for the North London giants being in a Champions League tie against Olympiacos. Released by the club at the end of 2012/13 season he left to join Swansea City where he was a regular in U21 side without ever breaking into the first team. After a loan spell with Luton Town, he joined Spartan South Midlands Hadley before moving to Scandinavia for three years where he appeared in the Swedish Superettan and Norwegian Division 1. On his return to the UK he had spells with Dartford and Hemel Hempstead Town. During his spell at Dartford, he was called up to the Montserrat national team for 2022 World Cup qualifiers and has since made a number of appearances for his national side. Jernade is now in his second season with the Ives.

Name: Matty Miles, Position: Defender/Midfield

Versatile Matty is equally at home on the right side of a back four or in a defensive midfield role. He has joined the Ives from Stamford but spent the whole of last season as a regular starter for AFC Sudbury playing 41 games for the Yellows. Matty had started his career in the academy at Premier League Leicester City where he spent over ten years honing his skills. Since leaving the Foxes he has appeared for St Neots Town, Cambridge City,

Biggleswade Town and prior to joining Sudbury he was a regular at National League North Peterborough Sports.

Name: Kobe Chong, **Position:** Midfield

Exciting box to box midfielder Kobe joined the Ives from Southern League Premier Central Division rivals Stamford. Birmingham born he spent his youth career in the academies at West Bromwich Albion, Kidderminster Harriers and in Italy with Serie A side Cagliari. On his return to England, he joined Banbury United's very successful side under Mike Ford. Moves to Redditch United and Sutton Coldfield Town followed before he was picked up by Peterborough United in August 2021. Since his release from Posh, he has appeared for AFC Telford United, Alvechurch, Peterborough Sports, Barwell, Kings Lynn Town and Kettering Town.

Name: Ed Hottor, **Position:** Midfield

Hugely experienced Ed is a Ghanaian midfielder who made three senior appearances for Italian side Triestina before joining AC Milan in January 2010. Whilst never making a senior appearance for the Italian giants in his six years at the club he had loan spells with lower level Italian sides Lanciano, Nocerina and Venezia. In January 2016 he signed for Inter Milan and whilst, as at AC Milan, not making a senior appearance for his parent club he had loan spells with Portuguese sides Atletico CP and AD Fafe before playing 2017/18 season for Maltese club Sliema Wanderers. Had a brief spell with Kettering Town in 2018/19 before joining Banbury United in November 2018 and moving to Ives a year later. He has quickly made himself a favourite with the Ives fans for his never say die attitude.

Name: Michael Richens, **Position:** Midfield

30 year old midfielder Michael started his career in the youth system at Peterborough United. During his period with the Posh he spent time on loan at Histon, Nuneaton, Whitehawk and Bishop's Cleeve before making two appearances in the football league for the Stevenage both during another loan spell in September 2014. He returned to the Boro as a permanent signing early the following year but soon moved on and spent time at Farnborough, Hemel Hempstead Town and Biggleswade Town before arriving at Kettering Town in 2017 where he became club captain and lead the Poppies to promotion into National League North making 84 appearances and scoring eight goals along the way. He also spent a brief spell in 2019/20 season on loan at Ives Southern League Premier Division Central rivals Nuneaton Borough. A natural leader he brings strength and stability to the middle of the park for the Ives.

Name: Albie O'Keefe, **Position:** Midfield

Highly promising, powerful midfielder Albie joined the Ives on loan from League One Stevenage last season and enjoyed a successful spell in the second half of the season. Having been released by the Boro in the summer he returns to the Ives for the 2025/26 season and will be keen to make a big impression in the centre of the park.

Name: Gibou Njie, **Position:** Midfield

23 year old Londoner Gibou joins the Ives after impressing during pre-season. The powerful midfielder takes a step up on his arrival at quattro tech Westwood Road having previously played for Combined Counties League Molesey and Isthmian League South Central South Park (Reigate).

Name: Amir Hadi, **Position:** Striker

Exciting 21 year old striker Amir brings a new dimension to Ives front line. The prolific goal scorer joins Ives from Step 4 Biggleswade FC where he has six goals and three assists from sixteen appearances this season. He had joined FC in the summer from Spartan South Midlands Premier Division Sheffield Town and Campton where he been even more prolific in front of goal.

Name: Johnson Gyamfi, **Position:** Striker

Italian born Speedy winger Johnson joined Leicester City as an eleven year old and spent all his development years with the Foxes before moving on to join Peterborough United in summer 2021. He spent two years with the Posh appearing and scoring regularly for the under 23's. During his spell at London Road he also enjoyed successful loans spells at Boston United and Peterborough Sports.

Since his departure from Peterborough Johnson has appeared for Corby Town and now joins Ives from fellow Southern League Premier Central Barwell.

Name: Theo Alexandrou, **Position:** Striker

Theo is a 20 year old winger who returns to the Ives for the 2025/26 season. He started his career at Stevenage

before enjoying loan spell with the Ives, making the move permanent last summer. During the early part of last season, he was transferred to National League South side Dorking Wanderers where he made 11 appearances, scoring twice. However, he was then loaned to Welling United before ending the season at Wingate & Finchley.

Name: Liam Cross, Position: Midfield/Striker

Liam returns to the Ives for what will be his third spell at the club. The 22 year old started at Northampton Town before switching to the Ives for a loan spell in 2021. He scored four goals in 21 appearances. His second loan spell at the Ives came a year later where he made a further 13 appearances. He was signed by Brackley Town in 2023 and last season was loaned to National League North sides Gloucester City and Needham Market.

Name: Jamal Adams, Position: Striker

25 year old Jamal joined Ives this summer from AFC Rushden & Diamonds where he finished top scorer last season with 13 goals from 44 appearances. Prior to that he had enjoyed similar success at Coventry United where he racked up 15 goals in 33 games in 2023/24 season. He has also played for Bedworth United, Coventry Sphinx and Studley. Good in the air and a willing runner in behind he will continue to be a handful for step 3 defenders.

Name: Neo Dobson, Position: Striker

18 year old powerful, direct running Neo joins the Ives on loan from League One Northampton Town where he has already made nine first team appearances and scored three goals. Last season he enjoyed successful loan spells at Kettering Town, Banbury United and Corby Town scoring eight goals in 29 appearances. He certainly has an eye for goal and will look to continue to impress during his spell at quattrro tech Westwood Road.

Name: Alfie Shepherd, Position: Midfield/Winger

Tricky 18 year old winger Alfie has earned his chance with the first team by impressing manager Ricky Marheineke in his appearances for the under 18 and reserve sides. He will be keen to grab his opportunity when it comes and could become the first player since the establishment of the academy to rise through the ranks and gain a regular place in the first team match day squad

Name: Evan Watkins, Position: Midfield

Highly promising 17 year old midfielder Evan has worked his way through the Ives academy to earn his chance with the first team. He enjoyed a successful spell in men's football on dual registration with United Counties League Yaxley FC last season and will benefit from that experience in his quest to get into Ricky Marheineke's match day squad.

The Record against St Ives

Sporting have played St Ives Town nine times since joining the Southern League Premier Division Central in 2019 though the match played in season 2019/20 was expunged by the Southern League owing to the COVID pandemic.

The record is as follows:

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
Home	5	3	0	2	9	7
Away	4	3	1	0	8	5
Overall	9	6	1	2	17	12

The last time Sporting played St Ives Town was 15th March earlier this year when Sporting won 3 - 2 at Westwood Road.

Sporting's opener came on 7 minutes from Carter Lycett. Theo Robinson got the second 8 minutes later. Josh Allen got one back for St Ives on 28 minutes with the leveller scored by Will Glennon on 49 minutes.

The winner came from a 25 yards free-kick by Lycett six minutes into added time and the last kick of the match. 245 spectators watched the game.

There is no record of Bromsgrove Rovers having played a team from St Ives.



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Photos from Recent Matches



Luke Softley in action against Redditch United, photo: Lauren Hevey.



Plenty of goalmouth activity in the FA Cup match against Evesham United but not the result we wanted, photo: Chris Jepson

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Recent Results

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Saturday 23rd August

AFC Sudbury	0 - 4	Quorn	241
Barwell	1 - 2	Alvechurch	206
Bromsgrove Sporting	0 - 3	Needham Market	450
Harborough Town	2 - 0	St Ives Town	533
Leiston	2 - 0	Redditch United	150
Real Bedford	0 - 2	Kettering Town	1,084
Royston Town	2 - 2	Banbury United	322
Stamford	1 - 1	Halesowen Town	454
Stourbridge	0 - 1	Spalding United	495
Stratford Town	A - A (1 - 2 at 89 mins)	Bishop's Stortford	360
Worcester City	2 - 2	Bury Town	738

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Monday 25th August

Alvechurch	1 - 2	Stratford Town	390
Banbury United	3 - 2	Stourbridge	671
Bishop's Stortford	2 - 0	Royston Town	674
Bury Town	1 - 0	AFC Sudbury	1,338
Halesowen Town	0 - 3	Worcester City	2,034
Kettering Town	0 - 1	Harborough Town	2,091
Needham Market	1 - 2	Leiston	669
Quorn	0 - 1	Barwell	553
Redditch United	3 - 0	Bromsgrove Sporting	1,227
St Ives Town	0 - 0	Real Bedford	347
Stamford	0 - 3	Spalding United	642

The Emirates FA Cup - First Qualifying Round, Saturday 30th August

AFC Sudbury	4 - 0	Mildenhall Town	218
Alvechurch	4 - 2	Barwell	208
Boston Town	1 - 1	Sporting Khalsa	150
Coleshill Town	2 - 1	Worcester Raiders	159
Corby Town	1 - 2	Gainsborough Trinity	733
Evesham United	5 - 2	Bromsgrove Sporting	429
Halesowen Town	1 - 1	Stratford Town	807
Hanley Town	0 - 2	Stourbridge	155
Harborough Town	0 - 0	Leek Town	524
Hednesford Town	3 - 1	Basford United	1,226
Ilkeston Town	1 - 2	Spalding United	402
Kidsgrove Athletic	1 - 2	Racing Club Warwick	225
Long Eaton United	1 - 4	Kettering Town	432
Mangotsfield United	0 - 1	Banbury United	408
Needham Market	4 - 2	Tilbury	276
Quorn	8 - 0	Sherwood Colliery	332

Real Bedford	1 - 1	Bishop's Stortford	1,376
Redbridge	1 - 2	Royston Town	142
Redditch United	5 - 0	Skegness Town	393
Rushall Olympic	5 - 1	Atherstone Town	349
Stamford	1 - 0	Coventry Sphinx	292
Sutton Coldfield Town	2 - 2	Abbey Hulton United	226
Worcester City	1 - 1	Chasetown	871

The Emirates FA Cup - First Qualifying Round Replay, Monday 1st September

Abbey Hulton United	2 - 2 (aet, 4 - 5)	Sutton Coldfield Town
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The Emirates FA Cup - First Qualifying Round Replays, Tuesday 2nd September

Bishop's Stortford	1 - 0	Real Bedford	387
Chasetown	3 - 2 (aet)	Worcester City	478
Leek Town	0 - 3	Harborough Town	352
Sporting Khalsa	2 - 0	Boston Town	165
Stratford Town	0 - 3	Halesowen Town	

Today's Matches

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Saturday 6th September

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

Forthcoming Matches

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Monday 8th September

St Ives Town	v	AFC Sudbury
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The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Tuesday 9th September

Alvechurch	v	Halesowen Town
Bishop's Stortford	v	Leiston
Bromsgrove Sporting	v	Banbury United
Harborough Town	v	Quorn
Kettering Town	v	Spalding United
Real Bedford	v	Bury Town
Royston Town	v	Needham Market
Stamford	v	Redditch United
Stratford Town	v	Barwell

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Wednesday 10th September

Stourbridge	v	Worcester City
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Bromsgrove Sporting Ladies

It's FA Cup Week!



The countdown is on, and it's now only 1 day until the Ladies kick off their season in the 1st Qualifying Round of the FA Cup at the UK Electrical Stadium as they take on Kingfisher.

We would love to see you all come down and show your support.

Gates open at 1:00 pm and the main bar will be open!

Adults £3 Concessions £2

Under 16s £1

The kick-off is 2:00pm!

Thank-you to our Sponsors

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As the new season begins, we at Bromsgrove Sporting Ladies would like to say a massive thank-you for the continuing support of our corporate sponsors for the coming league and cup campaign.

Also, our individual player sponsors, volunteers and all of our Ladies' supporters who come and watch us regularly

Bromsgrove Sporting Ladies show off their brand-new training kit, proudly sponsored by Attleys Roofing

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Today's Teams

Bromsgrove Sporting red & white striped shirts, navy blue shorts and navy blue & red socks		St Ives Town Orange shirts, orange shorts, orange socks	
Teams to be chosen from the following:			
1	Adam Harrison (GK)	1	Ollie Taylor (GK)
2	Josh Ezeweke	2	Ethan Creary
3	Jack Kelly	3	Jiah Medrano
4	Reece King (Capt)	4	Michael Richens (Capt)
5	Luke Softley	5	Jordan Williams
6	Ash Carter	6	Duncan Idehen
7	Billy Shaw	7	Kobe Chong
8	Tom Edge	8	Albie O'Keefe
9	Luke Benbow	9	Jamal Adams
10	Nick Clayton-Phillips	10	Liam Cross
11	Koby Arthur	11	Neo Dobson
12	Aksum White	12	Matty Miles
13	Charlie McNamara (GK)	13	Aaron Smith
14	Romehl Critchlow	14	Jernade Meade
15	Jack Newell	15	Gibou Njie
16	Bo Morris	16	Amir Hadi
17	Taylor Morrison	17	Theo Alexandrou
18	Jordan Lyden	18	Ed Hottor
19	Gus Sanches	19	Johnson Gyamfi
20	Kobe Hall	20	Alfie Shepherd
25	Ryan Pratt (GK)	21	Evan Watkins

Match Officials

Referee:	Mr T Wall
Assistant 1:	Mr E Walker
Assistant 2:	Mr R Booth

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