

#WeAreAscot



ASCOT UNITED vs. CORINTHIAN CASUALS

Sat 24 Feb 2024

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division



Matchday
Programme

Respect



Season
2023/24



THE YELLAMEN



Yellow and Blue

Alex Sykes (GK)
Mark Scott (GK)
Sam Hayes (GK)
Adam Everiss
Alfie Grant
Ben Harris
Charlie Morgan
Chris Ellis
Dan Bailey
Ewan Lynch
George Lock
Harry Grant
Harry Laffin
Harry Tucker
Joe Gater
Josh Edwards
Liam Tack
Luke Phillips
Oliver Lahtinen-Kalsi
Ollie Mason
Ollie Harris
Sean McCormack
Taylor Morgan
Usman Lalustani

Jamie Tompkins
Dean Greenwood
Alex Sykes
Steve Quelch
Stuart Britton
Nathan Riley

Manager
Asst. Manager
GK Coach
Coach
Coach
Physio

THE CASUALS



Chocolate and Pink

Daniel O' Donovan (GK)
Lewis Taylor
Sean Sankanu
Jacob El Hage
Michael Samson
Declan Kama
Oscar Walton
Ayo Majekodunmi
Aaron Clarke
Quade Taylor
Adam Pollock
Ashley Robinson
Thibault Abie
Koshey Murtra-Ebiesuwa
De Niro Pinto
Dylan Cascoe
Jack Lillie
Nebay Haile
Shea Cascoe-Rogers
Antonio Dembele
Saweed Djinadou

Paul Barnes
Justin Fevrier
Michael Fox
Ben Ewing

Carly Doyle

Match Officials

Benjamin Duffill	Jake Hillier	Christopher Binney
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Last Match: **Chipstead** **H** **Sat 10 Feb** **1-0** **ISTH SC**
Next Match: **South Park (Reigate)** **H** **Sat 2 Mar** **ISTH SC**





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ASCOT UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB



Racecourse Ground, Winkfield Road, Ascot, SL5 7LJ

Chairman: Simon Negus

Club Secretary and Football Operations Manager: Ricky Simons

Director of Football: Neil Richards

Director of Football - Women and Girls: Donna Graham

Director of Football - Boys: Tom Howland

General Manager: Jo Gavin

1st Team Manager: Jamie Tompkins

Assistant Manager: Dean Greenwood

Coach: Steve Quelch

Strength and Conditioning Coach: Stuart Britton

Goalkeeping Coach: Alex Sykes

Allied U18s Team Manager: Adam Clark

Veterans Team Manager: Jon Keough

Veterans Reserve Team Manager: Dan Hough

Women's First Team Manager: Darrel Evans / Will Blithing

Women's Phoenix Team Managers: Lisa Phillips / Kelly Rideout

Physio: Nathan Riley

Private Events Manager: Sam Knight

Administration Manager: Emma Paton

Child Welfare Officer / Club Director: Rob Jones

Match Reporting and Programme: Neal Jeffs / William Powell

Other Directors:

Doug Page

Mark Cooper

Phil Wray

Melanie Greaves

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IN THE CHAIR



Simon Negus
Chairman

A warm welcome to Corinthian Casuals for today's Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division fixture.



A warm welcome to The Racecourse for this afternoon's Isthmian League fixture against Corinthian Casuals - and welcome to all our visitors today.

I confirmed earlier this week that we have now received formal planning permission from RBWM and can therefore complete the ground improvements at The Racecourse that we have been working towards and allow us to satisfy the ground grading requirements for Step 4. By the end of March we will have a new 50 seater stand behind the goal at the office end of the ground – and we will also have a new entrance replacing the wooden hut that had come to the end of its lifespan... the new entrance will be easier for visitors to navigate and will also allow us to safely manage bigger crowds at The Racecourse.

Rather than seeking a headline sponsor for the new stand, we are offering our whole community the opportunity to get involved and have the naming rights to the new stand until the end of next season. It could be an individual (“The John Smith Stand”), a business you are involved in (“The Acme Trading Stand”) or a charity that is close to your heart (“The Thames Hospice Stand”)...

We are running a Prize Draw and entries cost from just £25 – the winner will be drawn in three weeks' time, and will have the naming rights as the winning prize. To enter please click the Ascot badge above, or visit...

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/stand4yellas>

... and please share with your friends!

Finally, I'd like to publicly thank Dave Good for driving this project as a volunteer for the past nine months... with support from Jo Gavin and Ricky Simons, he has navigated the various organisations and regulations to get us to this point and I'm personally very grateful for his support.

Enjoy the game today. ~Simon

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Sell Before We Dai

We are a campaign dedicated to pressuring Dai Yongge into selling Reading Football Club.

We are a club in massive trouble right now. During Mr Dai's tenure, 16 points have been deducted, we've been under a transfer embargo for around five years now, wages haven't been paid on time on multiple occasions, winding up petitions have been launched, sponsors have stepped in to cover player payroll, caterers have been removed from the training ground, staff are demoralised, players are reportedly being sold behind the manager and sporting director's back and two first-team coaches have been made redundant.

Some of these issues are worse than others, but combined, they have been disastrous and this has led to fans worrying about whether their club will be in existence at the end of the season. The prospect of back-to-back relegations is scary enough, but the thought of liquidation is unbearable.

We want our children and grandchildren to follow in our footsteps and support the club in the future. That is no longer a certainty thanks to Mr Dai and his sister Dai Xiu Li, who were tasked with taking care of this football club but have run it into the ground instead. Both of them need to be removed as quickly as possible.

Local teams who have benefitted and may continue to benefit from having some of our players on loan in the future would also benefit from an ownership change,

with our young players also profiting from gaining some valuable experience.

What are our hopes for the future?

We don't care about spending millions, we just want a fully functioning football club to support. Our situation has worsened considerably in recent months and the constant cycle of bad news is never-ending.

Whatever league we find ourselves in, we just need stability and a form of escape from the realities of life. At the moment, supporting the Royals is anything but that, and that's a massive shame because we used to be run incredibly well by Sir John Madejski.

In the short term, we need to save the club. As a campaign and fanbase, we will keep pushing until a sale is complete and having fans of all clubs onside will help to make that happen. Let's make Reading Football Club a Dai-free zone.



Please follow us on X via @SellBeforeWeDai or visit our website at: sellbeforewedai.co.uk for more information on our plight

FROM THE DUGOUT



Jamie Tompkins
First Team Manager

Welcome to the players, officials and supporters of Corinthian Casuals. Enjoy the game!



Welcome to the Racecourse Ground for this afternoon's Isthmian League game against Corinthian Casuals.

After a weekend off, it was planned that we would have a team social at the races with our neighbours, the Ascot Racecourse. We had a great turn out which is really supporting the togetherness and spirit within the current playing group. Better than it has been for some time and backed up by picking up points in 3 consecutive league games since August.

We played well against Chipstead, both attacking and defensively solid, so it was pleasing to walk away with home win and clean sheet. Again Mark Scott was superb in goal and with great energy in from Harry Grant, Liam Tack and Ollie Harris ensured we dominated the midfield.

Looking ahead, we have South Park at home next weekend and the teams towards the top end of the table where we can again test ourselves against the better teams in the league and aim to dampen their promotion hopes.

Thanks again for your support and enjoy the game! ~JT



Dean Greenwood
Assistant Manager



Stuart Britton
Strength/Con. Coach



Steve Quelch
Coach



Nathan Riley
Physio

ON COURSE!

With Programme Editor Neal Jeffs

Welcome to the players, officials and supporters of Corinthian Casuals for this Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division match.



A warm welcome to everyone after 2 weeks off, and hopefully another 3 points after our win over Chipstead last time out. Whilst we've not played for a while, the league table hasn't really changed much with ourselves still in 13th place. If you look at the form guide, we've gone three unbeaten and Casuals are really struggling down the bottom although they will reflect on holding promotion-chasers Southall in their last outing. Ashford and Northwood also picked up much needed-wins in their last games. As noted two weeks ago, Usman was set to make his 100th appearance until illness ruled him out of the Chipstead game a day or so before, so hopefully the milestone comes this weekend. Our Women's team saw their top of the table Bournemouth clash washed out on Sunday morning ahead of kick off, so that away day has been rescheduled – and their league cup semi-final opposition is now also known – and yes it is separate trip to Bournemouth!!! Both games are in March, three weeks apart, and in between a tough run-in where all five current games are away from home.

100 up! Usman Lalustani will make his 100th appearance for The Yellamen (assuming he features against Casuals!). Usman has scored 22 goals since first featuring in 2018/19. Click the photo to see his winning penalty at West Didsbury and Chorlton in the FA Vase shoot-out last season (you tube, forward to 9 mins 15)



In other news stories, two caught my eye. The first was Bury FC's league game on the Isle of man last weekend. 800 away fans made their way over, most on Friday, for a boozy trip – only to learn the team's flight on Saturday was cancelled due to bad weather! There was then a scramble for what hotel rooms were available and the game was hastily re-arranged for Sunday morning when the team flew out early and promptly won 2-0, so all's well that ends well. The other one I noticed as the unenviable Women's Championship journey for Lewes FC to Sunderland last weekend. The visitors, who now have the daughter of personal friend and local photographer Richard Claypole in their ranks on loan from Chelsea (Aimee Claypole), were leading 2-1 in the 95th minute. Sadly, they still managed to concede twice and lost 3-2, I guess the journey back was even longer after that! Anyway, let's back the boys today, and if you need a Sunday fix then the Women are away at Burnham FC on Sunday afternoon for a league clash with Wycombe Wanderers 2pm). ~Neal

WELCOME TO THE CASUALS

WELCOME TO THE CASUALS



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Isthmian 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.

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ANTI-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Ascot United endorses the zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination. We are equally proud to embrace football at all levels. Football is for all, and we help facilitate that desire.



The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association's statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination.

Any inappropriate conduct toward others, including but not limited to that based on an individual's sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national origin, age, marital or domestic-partnership status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities.

The Isthmian League and our Member Clubs are committed to promoting equity and equality by treating all people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of our communities.

With our focus on positivity, The Isthmian League aims to ensure that all our footballers are able to play in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment and all supporters can enjoy the game in surroundings free from discrimination and hate.



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RESULTS AND FIXTURES

Date	Opposition	H/A	Comp	Result	Att	Scorers
05-Aug	Ardlev United	A	FAC KP	1-1	96	Laffin
08-Aug	Ardlev United	H	FAC XPr	2-1	141	Killeen, Matthew
12-Aug	Ravnes Park Vale	A	ISTH SC	2-3	220	Matthew, Killeen
19-Aug	Mangotsfield United	H	FAC P	5-1	137	Matthew 3, Ajaniekoko, H. Grant
26-Aug	Guernsey	H	ISTH SC	4-0	189	Matthew 2, H. Grant, McCoy
28-Aug	Badshot Lea	A	ISTH SC	1-0	178	McCormack
02-Sep	Westfield	H	FAC 10	1-0	206	McCoy
09-Sep	Horndean	A	FAT 10	3-2	110	Matthew 2, Balogun
12-Sep	Leatherhead	H	ISTH SC	0-1	246	
15-Sep	Lewes	H	FAC 20	1-2	451	OG
23-Sep	Lancing	H	FAT 20	6-2	162	Matthew 4, Killeen, McCormack
26-Sep	Badshot Lea	A	LG 2	0-1	78	
30-Sep	Sutton Common Rovers	H	ISTH SC	1-1	136	H. Grant
07-Oct	Whitehawk	A	FAT 30	0-2	357	
14-Oct	Hanworth Villa	H	ISTH SC	1-3	218	Matthew
17-Oct	Ashford Town (Middx)	A	ISTH SC	1-2	127	Matthew
21-Oct	Chinstead	A	ISTH SC	0-1	97	
24-Oct	Binfield	H	ISTH SC	4-0	227	Matthew 2, Lock, McCormack
11-Nov	Southall	H	ISTH SC	1-3	186	Lock
14-Nov	Thatcham Town	A	ISTH SC	0-2	113	
25-Nov	Marlow	H	ISTH SC	0-2	186	
28-Nov	Corinthian Casuals	A	ISTH SC	2-1	135	Matthew, Harris
02-Dec	Westfield	A	ISTH SC	0-1	145	
09-Dec	Northwood	H	ISTH SC	1-0	202	Matthew
12-Dec	South Park (Reigate)	A	ISTH SC	1-4	62	McCormack
16-Dec	Metropolitan Police	A	ISTH SC	5-2	115	Matthew 2, T. Morgan 2, H. Grant
23-Dec	Chertsey Town	H	ISTH SC	1-2	332	A. Grant
26-Dec	Uxbridge	A	ISTH SC	1-1	147	Harris
30-Dec	Leatherhead	H	ISTH SC	0-1	486	
01-Jan	Badshot Lea	H	ISTH SC	3-1	213	Welch, Harris, OG
06-Jan	Thatcham Town	H	ISTH SC	1-5	212	Morgan
09-Jan	Beaconsfield Town	H	BB 4	1-3	75	Laffin
12-Jan	Binfield	A	ISTH SC	3-2	261	Tack 2, OG
16-Jan	Hartley Wintney	H	ISTH SC	0-2	168	
20-Jan	Hartley Wintney	A	ISTH SC	0-1	295	
27-Jan	Sutton Common Rovers	A	ISTH SC	0-1	74	
30-Jan	Ashford Town (Middx)	H	ISTH SC	2-2	137	Laffin, B. Harris
03-Feb	Hanworth Villa	A	ISTH SC	2-2	135	Laffin, T. Morgan
10-Feb	Chinstead	H	ISTH SC	1-0	216	Tack
24-Feb	Corinthian Casuals	H	ISTH SC			
02-Mar	South Park (Reigate)	H	ISTH SC			
09-Mar	Southall	A	ISTH SC			
16-Mar	Westfield	H	ISTH SC			
23-Mar	Marlow	A	ISTH SC			
30-Mar	Guernsey	A	ISTH SC			
01-Apr	Uxbridge	H	ISTH SC			
06-Apr	Ravnes Park Vale	H	ISTH SC			
13-Apr	Chertsey Town	A	ISTH SC			
20-Apr	Metropolitan Police	H	ISTH SC			
27-Apr	Northwood	A	ISTH SC			

ISTH SC - Pitching In Isthmian League South Central, FAT - Isuzu FA Trophy, FAC - The Emirates FA Cup, BB - Berks&Bucks Cup, LG - Velocity League Trophy

MATCH REPORT ROUNDUP

LIAM'S SPOT-ON AS ASCOT BEAT CHIPSTEAD

Tack's penalty enough for Yellamen

Saturday 10th February 2024, Pitching In Isthmian League South Central, Ascot United 1 - 0 Chipstead



Liam Tack's first half penalty was enough for Ascot United as they edged out Chipstead on Saturday. Tack's effort, awarded after a foul on George Lock, was the highlight of an otherwise stale first half before a second period littered with chances.

All change please! Team and trend on the agenda

Both sides were looking for an upturn in form with Ascot and Chipstead's last six games yielding five and two points respectively. And, much had changed in the hosts' squad since their reverse fixture defeat in October – Sobte, Case, Killeen, Matthew, Ajanlekoko, Surpanu, Welch and Balogun having all since departed – but with Ben Harris, Liam Tack, Mark Scott, and Taylor Morgan recruited alongside matchday new-boys Ewan Lynch and Ollie Mason.

Before kick-off, defender Lock received an award for reaching 250 appearances one week earlier, although Usman Lalustani's 100th appearance went on ice for at least another two weeks after illness ruled him out of the matchday squad.

Double injury blow for hosts but Chips pay the penalty

The first half was largely uneventful other than a late catalogue of errors that led to Ascot's half time lead, although the visitors almost scored in the sixth minute when Mark Scott tipped Danyaal Iqbaal's rising effort over after a fine, driving run from Daniel Berry who rode his way through a handful of attempted challenges. At the other end the Yellamen failed to forge a clear opportunity of their own, and were forced to reshuffle when Sean McCormack hobbled off midway through the half holding his hamstring – adding to Harry Laffin who pulled up in the warm-up in similar circumstances – although substitute Lynch got his moment as a result. And, it was Lynch's cross that led to Ascot's opener, although in fairness it was poor – although so was Bradley Wilson's awful attempted clearance – but defender Alfie Young eclipsed that with a poor challenge on Lock for a stonewall penalty. Up stepped Tack, and he netted the spot-kick into the bottom left; 35 minutes played and that is how it remained at half-time.

Yellas should have sewn it up before Chips rally late-on

Nine minutes into the second half, visiting 'keeper Harrison made a fine double save to keep his side in it, firstly blocking Harry Grant's shot after Morgan had dug out an inviting left-wing cross that Firth had initially cut out, before Ollie Harris saw his first effort from the rebound blocked and a follow-up also saved by Firth. At the other end, defender Daniel Vaughan's wayward header from a corner went begging, although his side showed more intent in the final fifteen minutes as Berry wriggled through a couple of challenges before firing over and Scott saved smartly from the same player after Wilson had played him in.

In between those chances Ascot threatened again from an unlikely source – the left boot of Chris Ellis – but he did well to fashion a left-footed effort from a tight angle that Firth dealt with. The excellent Ben Harris lasted 75 minutes in an end-to-end display – backing up a powerful attacking display with defensive work in his own penalty area – before Dan Bailey replaced the man-of-the-match. After that, Chipstead wasted their best chance in the 89th minute when substitute Jacob Sewell somehow scooped his effort over the crossbar at the far post after Berry's deep cross had picked him out, although in seven minutes of added time there was still time for the two sides to trade more chances as Morgan's shot nicked off a defender and over for an Ascot corner before Ollie Lahtinen-Kalsi's brave intervention deep into stoppage time thwarted one last throw of the Chips' dice.

Ascot United: Scott, Lock, Lahtinen-Kalsi, Tack, Ellis, Tucker, McCormack (Lynch 21'), H. Grant, B. Harris (Bailey 75'), O. Harris (Mason 90'+1'), T. Morgan. Sub unused: Sykes

Entertainment: 3 / Reporter's Star Man: Ben Harris (Ascot United) / Away fans (estimate): 15

PHOTOZONE



Photos from our win over Chipstead two weeks ago. **Clockwise from top left:** George Lock receives his 250th appearance award, Locky then earns a penalty, Liam Tack despatches it, Yellamen make promising new young signing (L), Taylor Morgan gets airborne, Chris Ellis stings the visiting 'keeper's palms. Shooting-stars.co.uk



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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - 23/24

Sponsorship Opportunities	Cost excluding VAT	Benefits	Electronic
Pitch-side board at Racecourse	£1400 per season, renewal price £1000 per season	Pitch side presence viewable to an average weekly footfall of over 1500 people, plus visibility in match photos on social media	Logo in club sponsor area on AUFU website with link to sponsors website with contact details.
5 a side Teams	£500 per season	Set of 8 shirts with sponsor logo	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details.
7 a side Teams	£600 per season	Set of 10 shirts with sponsor logo on	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details.
9 a side Teams	£800 per season	Set of 12 shirts with sponsor logo on	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details.
11 a side teams (ex. adult teams)	£950 per season	Set of 16 shirts with sponsor logo on	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details.
Men's First Team – next available 25/26 season	EPOA per season	Set of Home & Away shirts with sponsor logo on Front. Warm up shirts with logo on Front. Free advertising in programme with option for sponsor's message. Pitch-side board to sponsor's design	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details. Promotion via social media channels.
Women's First Team – next available 25/26 season	EPOA per season	Set of Home & Away shirts with sponsor logo on Front. Warm up shirts with logo on Front. Free advertising in programme with option for sponsor's message. Pitch-side board to sponsor's design	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details Promotion via social media channels.
Vets Team – next available 24/25 season	£2,000 per season	Set of shirts with sponsor logo on Pitch-side board to sponsor's design	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details Social media support
Allied Counties Youth Team – next available 25/26 Season	£2,000 per season	Set of shirts with sponsor logo on Pitch-side board to sponsor's design	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details Social media support
First Team Programme	£300 per season	Sponsors name on full page advert.	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details
Multiple New projects looking for sponsorship ranging from Stands to benches, box goals to footballs and many more.	POA	Dependant on project, ranges from visible branding on site, pitch side presence, social media engagement, membership and community support	Logo on AUFU website and social media support. Package can be tailored to requirements
Match Day Sponsorship	£500 per game	Advert in match day programme Free entrance for up to 6 people at sponsored games Reserved table in the bar Complimentary lunch for six with a beer or glass of wine Pre and post-game social media shout outs Vote and present the award for player of the match Photo opportunity with players	Pre and post match social media support Advert in the online programme

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FIXTURES

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division

Saturday 24th February

Ascot United	vs	Corinthian-Casuals
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Badshot Lea	vs	Hanworth Villa
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Chertsey Town	vs	South Park (Reigate)
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Guernsey	vs	Hartley Wintney
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Marlow	vs	Chipstead
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Raynes Park Vale	vs	Leatherhead
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Sutton Common Rovers	vs	Northwood
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Thatcham Town	vs	Westfield
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Uxbridge	vs	Ashford Town (Middx)
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Tuesday 27th February

Ashford Town (Middx)	vs	Northwood
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Hanworth Villa	vs	South Park (Reigate)
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Leatherhead	vs	Chipstead
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Marlow	vs	Guernsey
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The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

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IN THE week where the sporting world stood still for the Taylor Swift show (aka, the Super Bowl), our very own live TV showcase was entering the spotlight.

While the pop superstar took centre stage during the most-watched sporting event across the Atlantic, the Football Association here were finalising terms for a four-year, multi-million pound deal with TNT Sports to show the FA Cup from the 2025-26 season.

As part of the agreement, TNT Sports, who have won many plaudits this season for their coverage of the National League and even North and South, will share the rights with a free-to-air broadcaster.

As part of the deal, all games from the third round onwards outside of 3pm kick-offs will be broadcast live, while the Wembley final will be shown on both TNT Sports and free-to-air.

At present, and for the past four seasons, the BBC and ITV currently share rights for the FA Cup and details of the extent of the involvement of free-to-air channels covering FA Cup games will be announced in due course.

TNT Sports, however, insist the deal, reportedly worth £66million-per-year - an increase of 15 per cent on the current deal – “will ensure that the world's longest-running national knockout football competition continues to be as broadly available as possible across the UK”.

“Selected matches from every round will be available free-to-air, and highlights of every game will be made available,” they said in a statement.

In his NLP column this week, Matt Badcock outlined the pros and cons of the new deal amidst a rather mixed social media reaction with critics suggesting having fewer FA Cup games shown live on free-to-air television hammers another nail in the world's most famous cup competition.

But, as Matt rightly pointed out, FA Cup ties being played behind a ‘paywall’ is nothing new. Sky Sports, Setanta, ESPN and BT Sport have all had deals in the past with another channel showing games free.

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And, let's not forget, games will be free-to-air under this deal too. We just we don't yet know by who.

Suggestions are at least two games per round will be free to view – as well as one semi-final and the final – but, clearly, having stumped up the big bucks, TNT will dictate what they have.

From a Non-League point of view, that won't be such a bad thing if they put National League teams on the games. As mentioned earlier, their coverage of the National League this season has been exemplary.

Far from some of the patronising coverage Non-League often has to put up with in the past, the TNT commentary team led by Adam Summerton and including the likes of very own Adam Virgo and Aaron McLean tell the National League story with knowledge and passion, capturing some of the division's biggest moments as if it were a Champions League final.

Crucially, Matt also points out that while opinion is shared on the deal, the real focus should be on the extra revenue and what it can do.

FA Cup TV money is a key revenue stream for the FA to invest back into the game. A lot of good can be done with it and there are good people at Wembley who know that.

The fall-out from Covid saw the prize pot slashed. Having seen it doubled from previous years, it had to be trimmed back again with the Women's FA Cup – quite rightly – benefitting as a result.

It's vital for the Non-League and lower league game that the FA Cup fund is topped up again - especially in the early rounds where so many clubs have a chance at bringing in money on sporting merit rather than status alone.

We believe Non-League football deserves as many eyes on it as possible. And, of course, some more cash in the kitty. ~Jon Couch

LEAGUE TABLES

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Chertsey Town	28	23	4	1	74	20	54	72
2 Marlow	28	20	2	6	76	33	43	62
3 Southall	30	19	5	6	65	34	31	62
4 Leatherhead	28	18	4	6	45	21	24	58
5 Raynes Park Vale	28	17	5	6	50	35	15	56
6 Westfield	27	15	6	6	56	41	15	51
7 Hartley Wintney	30	15	4	11	54	51	3	49
8 South Park (Reigate)	28	13	6	9	51	40	11	45
9 Thatcham Town	29	13	5	11	52	45	7	44
10 Badshot Lea	26	11	7	8	43	40	3	40
11 Hanworth Villa	26	10	8	8	50	44	6	38
12 Uxbridge	29	10	4	15	48	55	-7	34
13 Ascot United	29	9	4	16	38	46	-8	31
14 Sutton Common Rovers	29	8	6	15	39	50	-11	30
15 Metropolitan Police	29	8	6	15	32	50	-18	30
16 Northwood	25	8	2	15	39	44	-5	26
17 Guernsey	27	7	5	15	42	55	-13	26
18 Ashford Town (Middx)	28	6	6	16	31	48	-17	24
19 Chipstead	29	6	4	19	38	62	-24	22
20 Binfield	27	3	6	18	29	90	-61	15
21 Corinthian-Casuals	28	3	5	20	19	67	-48	14

Chertsey Town 1 point deducted

Non League Pyramid (Extract)

Step 1 National League

Step 2 National League South

Step 3 Isthmian League Premier






















Step 4 Isthmian League South Central

Step 5 Combined Counties League

FORM GUIDE AND RESULTS GRID

Last 6 Matches

P W D L F A +/- Pts

	1 Chertsey Town	W 2-1 v ASHF.	W 2-1 v LEAT.	W 1-0 v METR.	W 2-0 v BADS.	W 2-1 v CHIP.	W 1-0 v MARL.	6	6	0	0	10	3	+7	18
	2 Marlow	W 3-2 v HANW.	W 4-1 v NORT.	W 2-1 v CHIP.	W 3-0 v ASHF.	W 2-0 v LEAT.	L 1-0 v CHER.	6	5	0	1	14	5	+9	15
	3 Raynes Park Vale	W 3-2 v GUER.	L 2-0 v BADS.	W 2-0 v CORL.	D 2-2 v NORT.	W 2-1 v CHIP.	W 1-0 v ASHF.	6	4	1	1	10	7	+3	13
	4 Westfield	W 5-4 v SOUT.	W 3-2 v BINF.	D 1-1 v SUTT.	W 2-1 v NORT.	L 3-1 v SOUT.	D 1-1 v BADS.	6	3	2	1	13	12	+1	11
	5 Leatherhead	D 1-1 v HART.	W 2-0 v THAT.	L 2-1 v CHER.	W 4-0 v UXBR.	W 1-0 v SUTT.	L 2-0 v MARL.	6	3	1	2	9	5	+4	10
	6 Thatcham Town	L 2-0 v LEAT.	W 3-1 v CORL.	W 3-0 v SOUT.	W 2-0 v HART.	L 4-1 v NORT.	D 2-2 v SOUT.	6	3	1	2	11	9	+2	10
	7 Guernsey	L 4-2 v BADS.	W 3-1 v THAT.	L 3-2 v RAYN.	W 5-3 v CHIP.	W 3-1 v ASHF.	L 2-1 v METR.	6	3	0	3	16	14	+2	9
	8 Metropolitan Police	L 2-1 v BINF.	W 2-1 v SOUT.	W 2-0 v CHIP.	L 1-0 v CHER.	W 2-1 v GUER.	L 2-0 v ASHF.	6	3	0	3	7	7	0	9
	9 South Park (Reigate)	L 5-4 v WEST.	L 3-0 v SUTT.	W 3-1 v SOUT.	L 3-0 v THAT.	W 2-0 v CORL.	W 2-1 v BINF.	6	3	0	3	11	13	-2	9
	10 Binfield	W 1-0 v SOUT.	L 3-2 v WEST.	W 4-1 v HART.	D 1-1 v HANW.	D 2-2 v UXBR.	L 2-1 v SOUT.	6	2	2	2	11	9	+2	8
	11 Southall	L 1-0 v BINF.	W 4-1 v HANW.	L 3-1 v SOUT.	W 3-1 v WEST.	D 1-1 v CORL.	D 2-2 v THAT.	6	2	2	2	11	9	+2	8
	12 Badshot Lea	W 4-2 v GUER.	W 2-0 v RAYN.	L 3-1 v HART.	D 0-0 v CHIP.	L 2-0 v CHER.	D 1-1 v WEST.	6	2	2	2	8	8	0	8
	13 Northwood	L 2-1 v LEAT.	W 3-0 v UXBR.	L 4-1 v MARL.	D 2-2 v RAYN.	L 2-1 v WEST.	W 4-1 v THAT.	6	2	1	3	12	11	+1	7
	14 Sutton Common Rov.	L 1-0 v SOUT.	W 1-0 v ASCO.	W 3-0 v SOUT.	D 1-1 v WEST.	L 1-0 v LEAT.	L 2-1 v HART.	6	2	1	3	6	5	+1	7
	15 Hartley Wintney	D 1-1 v CORL.	W 3-1 v BADS.	L 4-1 v BINF.	L 5-0 v UXBR.	L 2-0 v THAT.	W 2-1 v SUTT.	6	2	1	3	7	14	-7	7
	16 Ascot United	L 2-0 v HART.	L 1-0 v HART.	L 1-0 v SUTT.	D 2-2 v ASHF.	D 2-2 v HANW.	W 1-0 v CHIP.	6	1	2	3	5	8	-3	5
	17 Hanworth Villa	L 2-1 v HART.	L 3-2 v MARL.	L 4-1 v SOUT.	D 2-2 v ASCO.	D 1-1 v BINF.	W 1-0 v UXBR.	6	1	2	3	8	12	-4	5
	18 Ashford Town (Middx)	L 2-1 v CHER.	D 2-2 v ASCO.	L 3-1 v GUER.	L 3-0 v HART.	L 1-0 v RAYN.	W 2-0 v METR.	6	1	1	4	6	11	-5	4
	19 Uxbridge	L 6-0 v CHER.	L 3-0 v NORT.	L 4-0 v LEAT.	W 5-0 v HART.	D 2-2 v BINF.	L 1-0 v HANW.	6	1	1	4	7	16	-9	4
	20 Corinthian-Casuals	L 2-0 v SUTT.	D 1-1 v HART.	L 2-0 v RAYN.	L 3-1 v THAT.	L 2-0 v SOUT.	D 1-1 v SOUT.	6	0	2	4	3	11	-8	2
	21 Chipstead	L 5-3 v GUER.	D 0-0 v BADS.	L 2-1 v MARL.	L 1-0 v ASCO.	L 2-1 v RAYN.	L 2-1 v CHER.	6	0	1	5	6	12	-6	1

	ASC	ASH	BAD	BINF	CHE	CHI	COR	GUE	HAN	HAR	LEA	MAR	MET	NOR	RAY	SOU	SOU	SUT	THA	UXB	WES
ASC		2-2	3-1	4-0	1-2	1-0	24/2	4-0	1-3	0-2	0-1	0-2	20/4	1-0	6/4	2/3	1-3	1-1	1-5	1/4	16/3
ASH	2-1		12/3	6-0	0-3	1-1	13/4	1-3	3-5	0-3	2/3	1-3	2-0	27/2	0-1	16/3	0-0	1-1	30/3	1-2	20/4
BAD	0-1	3-0		2/4	0-2	4-2	3-2	4-2	24/2	1-3	26/3	2-2	16/3	2-0	0-4	30/3	13/4	2-2	2/3	5/3	
BINF	2-3	6/4	0-3		1-1	1-1	12/3	1-2	0-3	2-5	0-2	16/3	1-1	26/3	20/4	5/3	1-0	2/3	3-5	27/4	2-3
CHE	13/4	2-1	27/4	9-0		2-1	16/3	4-1	2-1	2-1	2-1	2/3	3-0	9/3	4-1	24/2	2-1	0-0	2-2	2-1	30/3
CHI	1-0	2-2	0-0	30/3	1-2		4-1	4-1	13/4	6-2	0-4	1-2	0-2	1-3	1-4	1-4	0-1	2-3	20/4	16/3	2/3
COR	1-2	1-2	23/3	0-0	0-6	0-1		9/3	1-0	0-3	1/4	1-4	2-1	6/4	1-2	0-2	1-1	0-5	1-3	20/4	1-1
GUE	30/3	0-1	1-3	13/4	13/3	5-3	1-1		20/3	24/2	16/3	1-1	1-1	21/4	2-3	0-1	2/3	4-2	3-1	3-0	3-1
HAN	2-2	1/4	3-1	1-1	6/4	3-1	2/3	4-4		1-3	20/4	2-3	0-1	2-1	1-3	27/2	3-3	16/3	1-1	1-0	4-2
HAR	1-0	1-0	0-1	1-4	1-3	6/4	1-1	2-0	2-1		1-1	1/4	5-2	4-0	1-1	0-0	20/4	2-1	16/3	1-3	0-4
LEA	1-0	1-0	1-2	23/3	0-1	27/2	1-0	1-0	1-1	27/4		0-2	9/3	0-0	4-1	30/3	2-1	1-0	5-0	4-0	0-0
MAR	23/3	3-0	9/3	8-1	0-1	24/2	30/3	27/2	27/4	2-3	4-0		4-0	4-1	2-1	2-2	1-2	6-1	0-1	3-2	13/4
MET	2-5	27/4	1-1	1-2	0-1	4-0	3-0	2-1	1-1	30/3	0-4	1-2		2/3	0-1	2-1	1-2	0-4	13/4	0-0	0-3
NOR	27/4	1-3	19/3	4-1	2-4	0-1	4-0	2-1	5/3	23/3	1-2	1-3	1-0		2-2	13/4	1-2	5-1	4-1	3-0	1-2
RAY	3-2	2-1	1-4	4-0	3-2	2-1	2-0	27/4	30/3	13/4	24/2	1-4	12/3	1-0		1-1	16/3	0-0	2-3	2-0	4-0
SOU	4-1	3-0	6/4	2-1	0-4	1/4	2-0	1-1	1-1	9/3	1-2	20/4	23/3	2-0	0-3		3-1	2-1	5-1	1-1	4-5
SOU	9/3	2-1	3-1	8-0	23/3	27/4	5-2	1-1	4-1	2-0	6/4	4-1	1-2	1/4	0-1	3-2		1-0	1-0	3-1	3-1
SUT	1-0	9/3	1-1	4-1	20/4	23/3	2-0	2-1	1-2	1-5	0-1	0-3	6/4	24/2	1/4	3-0	1-2		1-3	1-2	0-3
THA	2-0	2-0	0-1	9/3	1/4	3-0	1-2	4-1	23/3	2-0	0-2	6/4	0-2	2-0	0-0	3-0	2-2	27/4		4-1	24/2
UXB	1-1	24/2	3-0	2-2	0-6	2-1	5-0	23/3	1-3	5-0	1-3	1-3	5/3	4-2	9/3	1-2	13/4	30/3	3-1		1-2
WES	1-0	0-0	1-1	7-2	0-0	3-1	27/4	6/4	9/3	5-1	3-0	3-2	1/4	12/3	23/3	2-1	1-3	1-1	2-1	0-5	

APPEARANCES AND GOALS

	Season 2023/24		All-time	
	App	Goals	App	Goals
A Sykes	-	-	4	-
H Sobte	31	-	31	-
S Hayes	-	-	2	-
A Everiss	-	-	26	1
A Grant	12	1	43	7
B Matthew	26	21	80	68
C Morgan	12	-	17	1
D Bailey	27	-	137	15
D Brown	5	-	5	-
D Surpanu	2	-	59	10
G Lock	37	2	251	12
H Grant	32	4	84	11
H Laffin	19	4	171	88
H Tucker	18	-	58	3
H Killeen	14	3	14	3
J Welch	27	1	68	3
J Gater	3	-	3	-
J Ajanlekoko	21	1	76	5
K Allsopp	4	-	4	-
J Edwards	28	-	28	-
L Phillips	-	-	2	1
L Kassim	5	-	52	13
O Harris	20	3	40	15
O Lahtinen-Kalsi	35	-	35	-
R Gerrard	-	-	34	4
S McCormack	37	4	131	22
S Balogun	23	1	38	1
T Thompson	-	-	11	-
U Lalustani	24	-	99	22
O McCoy	7	2	7	2
R Case	11	-	11	-
C Ellis	19	-	130	2
C Goulter	12	-	12	-
T Morgan	11	4	67	21
L Edgecombe	3	-	4	-
J Clark	1	-	1	-
B Harris	7	1	14	8
L Tack	7	3	7	3
M Scott	1	-	1	-
E Lynch	1	-	1	-
O Mason	1	-	1	-
IOwn Goals	n/a	3	n/a	n/a
Total	543	58	1,859	341



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MEET THE YELLAMEN

Mark Scott – goalkeeper. A commanding, experienced goalkeeper who signed in January 2024 having played for a string of higher level clubs including Step 2 football with Hungerford Town. Previous clubs also include Bracknell Town, Slough Town, Oxford City, Beaconsfield and Basingstoke Town.



Alex Sykes – goalkeeper. Goalkeeping coach and reliable backup. Has international experience having played for the England Futsal team. Part of the successful double-winning squad of 22/23.

Josh Edwards – defence. Signed for the 23/24 season from Thatcham Town where he was player of the season in 22/23. A strong, powerful defender and excellent in 1 v 1 scenarios. Previously with Basingstoke Town.



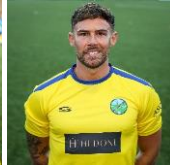
Oliver Lahtinen-Kalsi – defence. Exciting addition for the 23/24 campaign having joined us on a season-long loan from National League neighbours Aldershot Town.

Dan Bailey – defence. Experienced centre back and club captain. Previously played at a higher level with Marlow and has a FA level 2 coaching qualification. A great communicator who shows incredible commitment and leadership on the pitch. Pivotal member of our double-winning campaign in 22/23, leading the team to victory at Wembley.



George Lock – defence. A fearless right back previously with Binfield and Bracknell. Technically strong and a consistently high performer who likes to get forward and has weighed in with important goals. Has made over 200 appearances heading into the 23/24 campaign. Another FA Vase winner.

Alfie Grant – defence. Commanding and non-sense ball-playing defender who relishes winning aerial challenges. FA Vase winner who originally signed from Reading City in October 2022 and then re-signed in November 2023. Previously with Oxford United's youth team.



Harry Tucker – defence. Strong, commanding defender who oozes confidence on the ball and has excellent distribution. Previously with Kings Langley and Thame United. FA Vase winner.

Joe Gater – defence. Highly respected defender on the local scene having previously played Step 4 football with Bracknell Town and Binfield. Tall and physical with a strong aerial presence.



Charlie Morgan – midfield. Exciting young talent who first featured in 22/23 and will continue to improve.

Liam Tack – midfield. Signed from step 3 neighbours Bracknell Town in January 2024. Versatile midfield player with pace and good passing ability, plus has a good eye for goals. Also played for Flackwell Heath, Thame United and Egham Town.



Chris Ellis – defence. Came out of retirement what must be the 58th time this season. A strong defender who possesses a long throw-in, but has also proved versatile all over the park including a cameo in goal. Another FA Vase winner. Will probably retire again at least 5 more times!

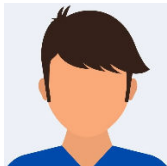
MEET THE YELLAMEN

Ollie Harris – midfield. Signed from near neighbours Binfield in 22/23 where he was a huge part of The Moles' run to the FA Vase final in 20/21. A true clubman, he was a huge part of Ascot's double-winning campaign in 22/23 despite long-term injury and will bounce back in 23/24. Exceptionally quick and talented forward with bags of tricks.



Harry Grant – midfield. A Rolls Royce of a player and an excellent addition to the club in 22/23. Ex-professional at Gillingham, winning EFL League 2 and the FA Vase with Thatcham Town in 2017/18 before repeating the feat with Ascot United in 22/23.

Ollie Mason - Midfield. Ollie, a dynamic midfielder, is an Ascot United youth product having first joined the club at our soccer school aged 5 and has since played for every age group for the club. Most recently joining Woking FC Academy, he returns to the yellas to gain first team experience.



Ben Harris - forward. Experienced striker who won the New Zealand championship with Team Wellington sandwiched between spells at Hampton & Richmond Borough, Windsor, Slough Town and Bracknell Town. Rejoined Ascot in January 2024 after featuring in 17/18 following his return to the UK. Excellent in the air and a proven goalscorer who has consistently played at a higher level.

Ewan Lynch - forward. Signed in February 2024 after playing college football for four years in the US. A Binfield youth product who also played for Maidenhead United.



Harry Laflin – forward. Needs little introduction. 'Laffers' is a goal-machine who returned late in the 22/23 season to add more attacking options having scored 29 goals in 30 appearances for Ascot in 21/22. Has netted over 80 goals for the club heading into 23/24 in just over 150 games.

Taylor Morgan - forward. Rejoined the Yellamen in December 2023 from Hartley Wintney having previously featured for Ascot United between 2020-2022. An experienced striker who has played Major League soccer in the US, as well as having spells in Sweden and Scotland. Pacey and holds the ball up well.



Sean McCormack – forward. Skilful forward signed from Walton and Hershham in 21/22 and previously with Maidenhead United and Bracknell Town. Was the players' and supporters' POY in his first campaign after dazzling on the right wing. Incredible workrate and vision and tracks back to cover the defence. Another FA vase winner.

Usman Lalustani – forward. Rejoined The Yellamen in 22/23 after featuring in 18/19 and 19/20 when he netted 11 goals from 38 appearances. Maintains high fitness levels and on his day will cause problems for any defence. An ice-cool character, he scored the winning penalty in the FA Vase Quarter Final in but was suspended for the final.



MEET THE YELLAMEN

Jamie Tompkins – manager. Highly respected throughout the club who won the league cup in his first season (18/19) and almost won the league in 20/21 only for COVID to strike. However, overseeing a league and FA Vase double in 22/23 eclipsed all that went before and he now gets the chance to have a crack at Step 4 in 23/24. Jamie is also Senior Director of Football Development at Brentford FC.



Dean Greenwood – assistant manager. Joined the coaching team in November 2022 and also has first team management experience from his spells in charge at Ashford Town (Middx) and Camberley Town. Also helped mastermind the league and FA Vase double.

Steve Quelch – coach. Many years of experience in the local game with Chalvey Sports and is a UEFA B coach, joined the club ahead of the 2019/20 season. A big character, especially during our 22/23 double-winning campaign.



Stuart Britton – strength and conditioning coach. Joining in the summer of 2021, 'Stu' joined to focus on the fitness, recovery and injury prevention and rehabilitation of the squad which was invaluable during the gruelling 22/23 league and FA Vase campaign.

Nathan Riley – physio. Joined us in 22/23 and becomes the club's main physio for 23/24. Another important member of our double-winning team.



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CLUB HISTORY - ASCOT UNITED

Ascot United as we know it, was founded in 1965 by a men's team who played their games at Sunninghill with "after match meetings" in The Wells in Cheapside village (now Mikado's). Teams played as long ago as 1928 under the name "Ascot United" but nothing to link them directly to the current club. In 1965, the club had gained permission from the Ascot Racecourse Trustees to convert the land east of coach park 10 into a football pitch. A wooden clubhouse was built, and this team went on to win many prestigious trophies in the years that followed.

Various youth teams represented Ascot United over the years up to 1988, and in 1992 the East Berks 7-a-side Association was formed by our then Chairman Keith Wicks, introducing small-sided junior games and having disbanded in 1980 the men's team also reformed. The men's senior team enjoyed early success through the East Berks League gaining continued promotions to the Senior division and winning various Cups including the Fielden Charity Cup in 1996/7. In 2001, the First Team join the Reading Senior League, were awarded FA Charter Standard status in 2004, and won the Reading Evening Post Senior Cup at the Madejski Stadium in 2006. Promotion to the Hellenic League Division 1 soon followed in 2007, before promotion to the Premier Division in 2009.

"The Yellamen" made their debut in the FA Cup in 2011 with a home tie against Wembley FC. The game attracted 1,149 people to The Racecourse on a Friday evening where the famous trophy itself was on display, and the match was streamed live on Facebook. In 2012-13 and 2015-16 we reached the Quarter Final of the FA Vase twice, enjoyed two top-three finishes in the UHlsport Hellenic League Premier Division, and won both the Bluefin Sport Challenge Cup and Perpetua Press Floodlit Cup. In 2018-19, new manager Jamie Tompkins led his side to the top of the table for long spells, and although they couldn't hang on to their lead, they would taste league cup glory once again by defeating Windsor FC 3-1.

A lateral move to the Combined Counties Premier Division for the 2019-20 season, combined with the installation of a new 3G pitch provided a platform for further development both on and off the pitch. The Yellamen were clear at the top of the league before COVID curtailed their first crack at the title before the 2021-22 season saw them reach the Bucks Senior Cup Final after defeating three sides from higher divisions, including Wycombe Wanderers in the semi-final in front of a club-record crowd of 1,267.

However, it is the 2022-23 campaign that will surely remain the club's most successful for decades to come. Tompkins' side dominated the league, taking 102 points from 38 league matches to win the title with four matches to spare. And if that wasn't enough, they achieved an incredible double by lifting the Isuzu FA Vase at Wembley in front of over 4,400 travelling Ascot United supporters and the BT Sport cameras. Impressively, they entered in the very first qualifying round before winning ten matches in a mesmerizing run; Kai Walters heading home in the 79th minute to secure a 1-0 win over the then-holders Newport Pagnell Town.

The club has also enjoyed much success at all levels particularly in the Women's and Girls Section. Our Senior Women won promotion to the Premier Division of the Southern Region Women's Football League in 2017-18 and enjoyed their best season in 2022-23 when they were runners-up but ended on a high by winning the league cup. Our Women's Phoenix side achieved back-to-back promotions from the Thames Valley League to take their place just one level below the Senior side for 2023-24, and the newly-formed Junior Premier League (U18s) also won their league title at the first attempt in 2022-23.

Ascot United has grown to become one of the largest Community football clubs in the UK with over 1,000 registered players and over 90 teams playing every weekend embracing all ages and abilities from 5 year olds through to veterans. We are also extremely proud to have a mixed-ability team representing our club, the Ascot United Warriors, who are affiliated with Special Olympics GB. The future is bright.



CLUB HISTORY - CORINTHIAN CASUALS

The newly amalgamated Corinthian-Casuals Football Club had played only one game before World War II broke out and the league was suspended. Remarkably, the team made the decision to tour France in the spring of 1940 as part of a Red Cross party, however they were forced to return home in haste when the German offensive was launched on May 10th. Come the recommencement of football in 1945, the new club proudly took Casuals' old place in the Isthmian League, where it would remain for another 39 years. It was decided that they would wear the famous chocolate and pink colours of the Casuals for their home matches, and Corinthian white away.

In 1954, the club beat Epsom 2-0 to win the Surrey Senior Cup. Two years later in 1956, they reached the FA Amateur Cup Final, drawing 1-1 with Bishop Auckland at a packed Wembley Stadium. However the legendary north-eastern club won the replay at Middlesbrough 4-1. A year later, another good run in the FA Amateur Cup saw Corinthian-Casuals reach the semi-final where they eventually succumbed to Wycombe Wanderers at Highbury. After this high point, the club slipped into a long decline, a rare moment of success seeing them reach the FA Cup 1st Round in 1965/66, where Watford won 5-1.

The 1973/74 season was a historic milestone; heralding the FA's decision to abolish official 'Amateur' status. As if in empathy with the end of the amateur era, Corinthian-Casuals steadfastly refused to accept the new 'semi-professionalism' and were relegated, for the first time in their history, into Isthmian League Division 2. Further relegation followed after a third bottom finish in four years. Then, in 1984, new ground-sharing rules summarily introduced by the Isthmian League saw the club unceremoniously thrown out of the league after 65 years of continuous membership (and in spite of a 5th place finish!) simply because the club's long nomadic history meant it shared a ground and thus did not have one of its own (imagine that today!). Ironically, the year this occurred was the club's best in quite a while. Casuals reached the 1st Round of the FA Cup, holding Bristol City to a goalless draw at Champion Hill, before losing 4-0 in the replay. The club also made it to the 5th Round of the FA Vase, the replacement competition for the FA Amateur Cup.

1988 was a truly historic year as the club, in addition to touring Brazil, finally secured its first ever home ground, taking over the lease at King George's Field from the crippled Tolworth FC. A colossal effort from the club's members helped to transform the ground - installing turnstiles, terracing and seating, as well as completing the construction of the clubhouse. A runners-up berth in 1993 and winning the League Cup in 1995 were the highlights of the Spartan League era, before the club switched to the Combined Counties League in 1996. This was a greatly improved experience. In the first season, a runners-up spot was achieved to at last win back our place in the Isthmian League.

In 2000/01, a 5th place finish - the team's best finish for many years - saw them miss promotion by a meagre three points, whilst the Reserves won the Suburban League South and London Intermediate Cup.

In May 2001, the club toured Brazil again, winning the Sao Paulo Athletic Invitation Cup. Victories were achieved over Paulistano and Sao Paulo AC, though SC Corinthians Paulista's U21's inflicted a 2-0 defeat.

CLUB HISTORY - CORINTHIAN CASUALS

The next season saw the reorganization of the Isthmian League, with a top 6 finish guaranteeing a place in the new Division 1 South. Despite being in the running for much of the season, a late slump saw the Corinthian-Casuals slip to finish in 10th place. However, thanks to some astute thinking, the ground had been improved anyway, gaining a "Grade B" award. Thus, due to circumstances elsewhere, the promotion places sank to as low as 11th and the club got to play its highest level of football since 1978.

Season 2006/07 saw regime change, Brian Adamson was appointed as new manager and hopes were lifted towards an improvement in fortunes. The season was certainly a tale of two halves, with the club eventually finishing second from bottom with more points than they had achieved since 2004/05, a somewhat pleasing 34. The team were very young, the majority without Isthmian level experience, and needed to gain that experience quickly. Up until December, it looked like the team would never get above 10 points. Luck did not seem to be on their side, frequently losing by a single goal. But they played exciting football, all with a speed and passion that had not been seen for several years at the Tolworth ground. With the arrival of the New Year, fortunes changed and the team produced a run of seven games without defeat. They continued with mixed fortunes, right up to the final game of the season. Here they needed to beat Leatherhead to get off the bottom of the table to be in with any hope of avoiding relegation. The 3-1 victory achieved just that, thanks also to the late merger of Hayes & Yeading.

While the 1st XI were finding Lady Luck a little fickle with her favours, the Reserves were steadily working their way up the Suburban Premier table. They showed strong nerves when beating Sutton United in the Champions Cup semi-final 2nd Leg, coming from behind to win 2-1 on aggregate. And then in the final, when they beat Waltham Forest 4-2 on penalties, following two hours of football and as many goals apiece. Their second trophy came from a rematch of the previous season's London FA Intermediate Cup final. This time the Reserves held their nerve to beat Metrogas 5-4 on penalties.

In 2008 the club enjoyed the momentous honour of celebrating 125 years of football with a commemorative match at Wembley Stadium. After staying up on merit for four consecutive seasons it is clear that the hard work, vision and dedication of management team, Brian Adamson, Kim Harris and Keith Holloway, was beginning to pay dividends.

The 2010/11 season was the most memorable for many years as the club lifted the Surrey Senior Cup for the first time in 57 years when Leatherhead were defeated 2-0 in the final at Gander Green Lane. This triumph was a fitting tribute to Brian Adamson who stood down as manager at the end of the season to be replaced by Matt Howard.

In 2015 Corinthian-Casuals returned to Brazil to take on SC Corinthians Paulista's First XI for the first time in an historic match organised to celebrate the the opening of the Brazilian club's brand new stadium, Arena Corinthians, and to commemorate the centenary of the Corinthian tour which had been abandoned due to the outbreak of World War One.

CLUB HISTORY - CORINTHIAN CASUALS

Predictably, the Sao Paulo team came out on top, eventually winning 3-0 in front of 40,000 spectators, but Casuals were welcomed as heroes by the locals in a truly memorable tour which was superbly documented in the BT Sports film 'Brothers In Football'.

James Bracken's arrival as Manager at the start of the 2015/16 season heralded the start of an exciting new era at Corinthian Casuals and the club only missed out on a spot in the play-offs due to a controversial points deduction. However, the following season saw the club reach the play-off Final, drawing 0-0 at Dorking Wanderers only to be cruelly denied promotion following a penalty shoot-out.

Despite the disappointment, James led Corinth to their second consecutive play-off Final in 2017/18. Sadly, once more the team were to fall at the last hurdle, losing the Final in yet another penalty shoot-out. However, due to Thurrock's resignation from the League, Corinthian-Casuals earned promotion to Step 3 as the losing Finalist with the best points-per-game average over the season. Casuals entered the Isthmian Premier Division 2018/19 season with excitement and anticipation and successfully retained their position in the League .

In the summer of 2019, The club made its first foray into Europe for many years, participating in the inaugural Egri Erbstein Tournament in Hungary. Thus, 115 years after the Corinthians first toured Europe, the team returned to Budapest - the site of their first ever game on the continent.

The occasion was celebrated by the UK Ambassador to Hungary, Iain Lindsay, OBE, who hosted a reception at the Embassy in the club's honour.

After beating Budapest Atletikai Klub (BAK) in the semi-final, Casuals triumphed 1-0 over Testveriseg SE with a last minute winner in the final to lift the trophy in Budapest.

The 2021-22 season would be James' last as he moved on to challenges new. Following the departures of Tony Reid and Justin Fevrier in 2022-23 and relegation to the Isthmian League South Central Division, Corinthian-Casuals legend Andy Gray was appointed Manager and took over the helm from interim Manager Brian Adamson at the start of the 2023-24 season. Sadly, Andy was unable to convert his love for the club into results on the field and, with the team languishing in the relegation places at Christmas, the decision was made to replace him.

Former Dulwich Hamlet and Hasting Utd manager Paul Barnes was appointed First Team Manager at the end of December and now leads the club into 2024 with renewed hope.

Corinthian-Casuals Football Club continues to take great pride in our rich and glorious history, as well as in our present day standing as the highest ranked amateur club in England.

