

#WeAreAscot



ASCOT UNITED vs. SOUTH PARK (REIGATE)

Sat 2 Mar 2024

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division



Matchday
Programme

Respect



Season
2023/24



THE YELLAMEN

THE SPARKS



twitter.com/AscotUnitedFC

www.ascotunited.net

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

Red

Danny Bracken
 Jack Tucker
 Daniel Pappoe
 William Grievesen
 Ryan Healy
 Brendan Murphy-McVey
 Sam King
 Kieran Lavery
 Aidan Brown
 Craig McGee
 James McElligott
 Kelvin Manuel Massango
 Deondre Date
 Jamarie Brissett
 Connor Gray
 Tom Smith
 Marco Haigh
 Courtney Swaby
 Joe Haigh
 Cerny Ando

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

Manager
 Asst. Manager
 GK Coach
 Coach
 Coach
 Physio

Tom Cope
 Ben Ewing
 Matt Dilger
 Glen Jacobsen, Roy Jacobsen
 Victoria Oprzedek

Match Officials		
Josh Burns	Neil Fyfield	Chad Greatorex

Last Match:	Corinthian Casuals	H	Sat 24 Feb	2-2	ISTN SC
Next Match:	Southall	A	Sat 9 Mar		ISTN 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 South Park (Reigate) 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 South Park - and welcome to all our visitors today.

As previously communicated 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 visit www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/stand4yellas

As well as the game today, our women's first team also have a big game this weekend, with a trip to Bournemouth in the League Cup semi final... these are the two sides at the top of the league as well fighting for the single promotion spot, so it's a tough ask but I know Darrel, Will, Alix and the whole squad are feeling confident. Good luck! ~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 South Park (Reigate). Enjoy the game!



Welcome to the Racecourse Ground for this afternoon's Isthmian League game against South Park. With ten league games left of the season we are aiming to finish positively and build momentum and motivation to take us into next season. For the third time, in a matter of weeks, against Corinthian Casuals, we have fought back from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 which shows our never give in attitude, although we would prefer not to put ourselves in that situation.

We are unbeaten in four games and the most we have been unbeaten is five which was back in late August / early September, so again, our results prove that we are making progress given the personnel changes in the squad.

South Park are a dangerous side with plenty of talent across the pitch. They have not been phased against higher opposition or teams in form this season as often they have won the game. I'm sure we will put on an entertaining game for our growing crowds.

On that note, last weekend we again played in front of a 200+ crowd and have done so over ten times this season. With our new stand on the way, we hope to see our crowds continue to grow so please do support us by donating on our crowdfund page (on our website).

Thank you for turning up and supporting us, we greatly appreciate it and it is fantastic to see. We will need your support again today as we continue to build towards our positive future. Thanks again and enjoy the game! ~JT



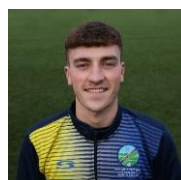
Dean Greenwood
Assistant Manager



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 South Park (Reigate) for this Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division match.



Welcome to The Racecourse this afternoon for what promises to be a tough test. South Park are in reasonable form with ten points from their last six and certainly put us to the sword in the reverse fixture when we lost 4-1. We've only conceded more than that in 1 game this season and they had some impressive FA Trophy performances, notably a big away win at Bognor Regis Town before only losing 1-0 at National League North giants Hereford. Last weekend, however, showed our ability to bounce back again and even if we probably should have won, it was great entertainment value in the end. Away from the first team, the Women's team are also proving exciting to watch – as you will see from the feature within they came from behind to win last weekend to maintain their advantage at the top of the league.

Usman Lalustani is flanked by his team mates after receiving his 100-appearance award last weekend. Usman wrote the perfect script by scoring an injury-time equaliser which was his 23rd goal for the club and first of this season.



In other 'stuff', things that amused me this week included Lawrence Shankland celebrating his equaliser for Hearts in the Edinburgh derby. If you look online there is footage of the Hibs fans throwing a pie at him – which he coolly caught with one hand, took a bite, and threw back at them! Also this week was of course, the FA Cup round-of-16. I was watching the Coventry-Maidstone tie until it became a formality, but credit the 5000-travelling fans who were in fine voice throughout and at the end of the game. For the record, Ascot United would be playing Coventry in the quarter final had they overcome Lewes, Aldershot, Swindon, Stockport, West Brom, Wolves and Brighton. Maybe next year. Anyway, back to this one, enjoy the game! ~Neal

WELCOME TO THE SPARKS

WELCOME TO THE SPARKS



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.

Please visit
PitchingInvolunteers.co.uk
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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	H	ISTH SC	2-2	135	Laffin, T. Morgan
10-Feb	Chinstead	A	ISTH SC	1-0	216	Tack
24-Feb	Corinthian Casuals	H	ISTH SC	2-2	238	Tack, Lalustani
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

YELLAMEN FIGHT BACK TO EARN DRAW

Late Lalustani leveller in 2-2 Casuals comeback

Saturday 24th February 2024, Pitching In Isthmian League South Central, Ascot United 2 - 2 Corinthian Casuals



Usman Lalustani scored a dramatic 94th minute equaliser on his 100th appearance for Ascot United as they battled back from two goals down to draw 2-2 with Corinthian Casuals on Saturday. The Yellamen paid the price for missing a series of chances before the visitors opened up a two-goal lead in the second half, only for Liam Tack and Lalustani to cap another comeback – although it could have been all three points amid a desperate late scramble.

Hosts hungry for goals after two-week hiatus

A fortnight's break since their victory over Chipstead had facilitated the recovery of some of Jamie Tompkins' troops; Sean McCormack in the starting line-up after pulling up during that match and Josh Edwards fit enough for a place on the bench after several weeks out; Lalustani also starting his landmark game after missing out last time with illness. Casuals, languishing at the foot of the table, were in desperate need of a kickstart to avoid being cut further adrift in the drop zone, but had earned a creditable draw with high-flying Southall last time out.

Ascot dominate but fail to find opener

The Yellamen carved out the lion's share of chances in the first half and Ben Harris's 14th minute effort from a tight angle deflected wide before Ollie Harris curled just wide of the top right four minutes later. Tack's effort then deflected over following a deep corner and Chris Ellis might have done better with a free header in a central position from McCormack's delivery in the 38th minute; the big defender's effort disappointingly off-target. Casuals offered little but when Aderi Arthur Dede wriggled clear of the home defence six minutes before the break he might have done better than trickle a disappointing left-footed effort which Mark Scott gleefully accepted. And, the hosts came closest to scoring a minute later when Ben Harris's glancing header clattered the right-hand post just when it looked as if he would turn Ollie Lahtinen-Kalsi's delivery into the net; goalless it remained.

Casuals stay in game before forging ahead

Casuals were gifted an opportunity nine minutes after the restart when the otherwise excellent Tack tripped Dede in the box, and he stepped up to fire the resultant spot-kick into the top right. At the other end, captain Quade's brilliant interception diverted Lalustani's low cross to safety, before Tack wastefully slashed over from a decent position. But after making a triple substitution, Ascot found themselves two down when substitute Finlay Evans received the ball near the corner of the penalty area, drifted across it before shrugging off substitute Edwards and somehow finding the net with a centrally-placed shot as Scott's momentum in goal took him away from the ball's trajectory.

Immediate response and frantic finale

Ascot's response, was, however immediate. Ben Harris's teasing cross took everyone out of the game as Tack ghosted in for the easiest of far-post tap-ins just a minute later, before the same player's goal-bound shot was blocked soon after.

But as the seven added minutes ticked by, Lalustani was on hand to head Harry Grant's deep cross down and into the bottom corner after Ben Harris had quickly taken a corner. Incredibly, the home side almost won it but Casuals hacked off the line in the sixth added minute – George Lock amongst various yellow shirts unable to turn the loose ball home – and there was still time for both HARRISES to waste further, albeit difficult, opportunities to win it at the death. But the visitors held on and defeat would have been particularly harsh on their 20-or-so vocal travelling supporters, who continued to laud their team even after squandering their lead. Ascot, meanwhile, are unbeaten in four and have come back from two goals down to draw in three of them.

What's next for Ascot?

The Yellamen have another week off before hosting South Park (Reigate) in the first of their final ten league games.

Ascot United: Scott, Lock, Lahtinen-Kalsi (Edwards 68'), Tack, Ellis, Tucker (Lynch 68'), McCormack (T. Morgan 68'), H. Grant, B. Harris, O. Harris, Lalustani. Subs unused: Bailey, Mason

Entertainment: 4 / Reporter's Star Man: Liam Tack (Ascot United) / Away fans (estimate): 30

PHOTOZONE



Photos from our win over Chipstead two weeks ago. **Clockwise from top left:** Usman Lalustani reaches 100 appearances, Chris Ellis goes for goal with a header, Liam Tack pulls one back, Ewan Lynch challenges the visiting 'keeper, Ascot almost find an unlikely winner, Lalustani equalises in injury time. **Shooting-stars.co.uk**

Right: Ricky Simons attempts to sneak a few extra goals onto the hosts' scoreboard.

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Photography
WWW.SHOOTING-STARS.CO.UK



ASCOT UNITED WOMEN

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1 Ascot United	13	10	2	1	18	32
2 Bournemouth Sports	11	8	2	1	24	26
3 Oxford City	13	5	4	4	8	19
4 Woodley United	11	5	3	3	7	18
5 Wycombe Wanderers	12	4	4	4	-3	16
6 Eastleigh in the Community	15	5	1	9	-10	16
7 Warminster Town	12	4	3	5	-4	15
8 Winchester City Flyers	13	3	1	9	-18	10
9 Badshot Lea	12	2	0	10	-22	6

League:

Southern Region Women's
Football League Premier

Level on Pyramid:
5

Management:

Darrel Evans, Will Blithing, Alix Todd

Next game: Bournemouth Sports (a),
Sun 3rd March, LC Semi Final

ASCOT UNITED WOMEN are sitting pretty at the top of the Southern Region Women's Football League and still in the hunt for two pieces of silverware. Locked in a title battle with Bournemouth Sports – the two sides set to meet in a potential title decided on 24th March – The Yellowwomen are also into the semi finals of the league cup where they also face the Dorset side this weekend.

Since the start of the calendar year Darrel Evans's side have remained unbeaten and have edged through two league cup ties on penalties. However, the league remains the priority and last Sunday's odds-defying win at Wycombe Wanderers was a real signal of determination and depth after losing regular goalkeeper Nicole Spittle to injury before the half-hour mark. At that point they trailed 2-1 and were under the cosh, but Amelia Kimble's leveller before half-time galvanised the side, who then dominated the second half and were rewarded with two goals in three minutes from captain Philippa Holden and evergreen forward Sarah "Lenny" Jones.

Their final three league games are all on the road and the title most likely won't be decided on or before the Bournemouth date in late March, but The Yellowwomen know that if they can produce the sort of performances they are capable of, they might just be heading out for their final fixture at Woodley on 7th April with destiny in their own hands.

But it's one game at a time, as the saying goes...



Left: Katie Vince in action; her stunning performance against Woodley in February underpinned a gutsy 2-1 victory and earned her the player-of-the-match award. **Right:** Striker Amelia Kimble, who scored twice in the first half at Wycombe last weekend en-route to a comeback 4-2 victory.





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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 2nd March

🕒 15:00 Ascot United vs South Park (Reigate)

🕒 15:00 Ashford Town (Middx) vs Leatherhead

🕒 15:00 Badshot Lea vs Uxbridge

🕒 15:00 Binfield vs Sutton Common Rovers

🕒 15:00 Chertsey Town vs Marlow

🕒 15:00 Chipstead vs Westfield

🕒 14:00 Guernsey vs Southall

🕒 15:00 Hanworth Villa vs Corinthian-Casuals

🕒 15:00 Metropolitan Police vs Northwood

🕒 15:00 Raynes Park Vale vs Thatcham Town

Tuesday 5th March

🕒 19:45 Binfield vs South Park (Reigate)

🕒 19:45 Northwood vs Hanworth Villa

🕒 19:45 Uxbridge vs Metropolitan Police



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WE'VE OFTEN been told how football can learn from its oval ball cousins in rugby union, especially when it comes to on-the-field discipline. While it's dragged its feet for years in introducing goal-line technology and then, of course, the dreaded VAR to bring it in line with the 21st Century, FIFA chiefs do at least appear to have the game's best intentions at heart in attempting to protect its integrity as much as it possibly can.

This latest plan, to introduce blue cards and sin bins, has split the opinions of the powers at be game, not least among the game's elite players, managers and pundits who already have their tails in a spin with the controversies over VAR. Sin-bins – essentially a 10-minute sending off for offences of dissent or cynical fouls - have been used successfully in rugby for more than 20 years but were only introduced in grassroots football, from Step 5 and below, from the 2019-20 season in an attempt to improve levels of respect and fair play in the game.

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

This week, NLP columnist Tony Incenzo - who has visited over 2,500 football grounds across the country and watches around 60 games a season at Steps 5 and 6 - went out and about asking referees at the level just what they think of the sin bin rule and whether they believe it could just work along the elite. His first port of call was a pretty significant one too. Starting his career in the Northern Premier League, Keith Hackett went onto become one of the top referees in world football before retiring from the Premier League ranks in 1994.

Now president of the Northern Counties East League and Penistone Church FC, Hackett told him: "Sin bins are definitely a deterrent. Although there are many opportunities for referees to use this sanction but often they don't "Match officials allow their performances at times to be undermined by not delivering the punishment when it would be to their own benefit and that of the game. A sin bin ruling not only penalises the individual but also the whole team. "When I have seen it applied, I have not witnessed the affected team adopting delaying tactics until their player returns after the ten-minute period of temporary suspension. I also consider using a different coloured card – like the blue one suggested – might give greater clarity to supporters and other participants that the sin bin has been invoked."

THE **NON-LEAGUE** PAPER



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Tony also spoke to David Stappleton, who referees in the Southern Combination League. He offered some firm views. "I have experienced football with and without sin bins," said Stappleton. "I prefer the latter with an ability to use it to desired effect during a game. I believe a good referee communicates to the players. And accordingly, I can implement the sin bin or potential use of it. "I try to use a stepped strategy when officiating. This includes public admonishments, then bringing the captain and the offending player into our discussions regarding their poor attitude and behaviour, before lastly deploying the sin bin.

"More often than not, I find responsible captains will speak with their player and the issue of dissent goes away. But if it doesn't or if the captain himself is involved, the sin bin becomes a useful tool. I would add there is extra work for referees due to sin bins. Although it stems from a lack of understanding generally. Most people don't realise it concerns 10 minutes of ball in play, rather than a straight 10 minutes. Dependent on breaks in the action, this can actually last 12 to 13 minutes."

Steve Joyce added: "I was a level 5 referee in Kent until a couple of years ago. The sin bins were brought in for dissent only. I was very sceptical initially but they worked well. At grassroots, you knew the players who were going to get a yellow for dissent at some point in the game and sin bins helped deal with them." Michael Pedler, chairman of Cardiff Referees' Society, says the figures speak for themselves. "Sin bins have been trialled in Wales and they obviously work since dissent has dropped," he said.

John Lowe is not convinced either: "My experience as a ref is sin bins don't work," he revealed. "Dissent hasn't declined. When a player is going to give you dissent, the thought of 10 minutes in the sin bin doesn't stop them so it is no deterrent. Players don't feel they're doing anything wrong anyway. What I'm also finding very common is that once asked to go to the sin bin, the dissent regularly escalates to foul and abusive language resulting in a red card. I don't think I've sent anyone off this season in anything other than those circumstances."

All in all, Tony encountered some mixed opinions across a decent cross-section of those at the sharp end, although, generally, it seems most refs are in favour of sin bins, with the odd caveat, of course. As Tony rightly pointed out though, here is a significant shortage of match officials in the grassroots ranks so protecting them from abuse of any type has to be the priority.

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

LEAGUE TABLES

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Chertsey Town	29	23	5	1	78	24	54	73
2 Marlow	30	21	2	7	82	37	45	65
3 Southall	30	19	5	6	65	34	31	62
4 Leatherhead	30	19	5	6	47	22	25	62
5 Raynes Park Vale	29	17	5	7	50	36	14	56
6 Westfield	28	15	7	6	58	43	15	52
7 Hartley Wintney	30	15	4	11	54	51	3	49
8 South Park (Reigate)	30	13	7	10	55	46	9	46
9 Thatcham Town	30	13	6	11	54	47	7	45
10 Hanworth Villa	27	11	8	8	52	44	8	41
11 Badshot Lea	26	11	7	8	43	40	3	40
12 Uxbridge	30	11	4	15	51	55	-4	37
13 Ascot United	30	9	5	16	40	48	-8	32
14 Sutton Common Rovers	30	8	7	15	41	52	-11	31
15 Northwood	27	9	3	15	47	46	1	30
16 Metropolitan Police	29	8	6	15	32	50	-18	30
17 Guernsey	28	8	5	15	46	57	-11	29
18 Ashford Town (Middx)	30	6	6	18	31	57	-26	24
19 Chipstead	31	6	5	20	39	67	-28	23
20 Corinthian-Casuals	29	3	6	20	21	69	-48	15
21 Binfield	27	3	6	18	29	90	-61	15

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 LEAT.	W 1-0 v METR.	W 2-0 v BADS.	W 2-1 v CHIP.	W 1-0 v MARL.	D 4-4 v SOUT.	6	5	1	0	12	6	+6	16
	2 Marlow	W 2-1 v CHIP.	W 3-0 v ASHF.	W 2-0 v LEAT.	L 1-0 v CHER.	W 4-0 v CHIP.	L 4-2 v GUER.	6	4	0	2	13	6	+7	12
	3 Guernsey	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.	W 4-2 v MARL.	6	4	0	2	18	12	+6	12
	4 Thatcham Town	W 3-1 v CORL.	W 3-0 v SOUT.	W 2-0 v HART.	L 4-1 v NOR.	D 2-2 v SOUT.	D 2-2 v WEST.	6	3	2	1	13	9	+4	11
	5 Leatherhead	L 2-1 v CHER.	W 4-0 v UXBR.	W 1-0 v SUTT.	L 2-0 v MARL.	W 1-0 v RAYN.	D 1-1 v CHIP.	6	3	1	2	8	5	+3	10
	6 Raynes Park Vale	L 2-0 v BADS.	W 2-0 v CORL.	D 2-2 v NOR.	W 2-1 v CHIP.	W 1-0 v ASHF.	L 1-0 v LEAT.	6	3	1	2	7	6	+1	10
	7 South Park (Reigate)	W 3-1 v SOUT.	L 3-0 v THAT.	W 2-0 v CORL.	W 2-1 v BINF.	D 4-4 v CHER.	L 2-0 v HANW.	6	3	1	2	11	11	0	10
	8 Westfield	W 3-2 v BINF.	D 1-1 v SUTT.	W 2-1 v NOR.	L 3-1 v SOUT.	D 1-1 v BADS.	D 2-2 v THAT.	6	2	3	1	10	10	0	9
	9 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
	10 Northwood	L 4-1 v MARL.	D 2-2 v RAYN.	L 2-1 v WEST.	W 4-1 v THAT.	D 2-2 v SUTT.	W 6-0 v ASHF.	6	2	2	2	16	11	+5	8
	11 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
	12 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
	13 Sutton Common Rov...	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.	D 2-2 v NOR.	6	2	2	2	8	6	+2	8
	14 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
	15 Hanworth Villa	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.	W 2-0 v SOUT.	6	2	2	2	9	10	-1	8
	16 Uxbridge	L 3-0 v NOR.	L 4-0 v LEAT.	W 5-0 v HART.	D 2-2 v BINF.	L 1-0 v HANW.	W 3-0 v ASHF.	6	2	1	3	10	10	0	7
	17 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
	18 Ascot United	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.	D 2-2 v CORL.	6	1	3	2	7	8	-1	6
	19 Corinthian-Casuals	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.	D 2-2 v ASCO.	6	0	3	3	5	11	-6	3
	20 Ashford Town (Middx)	L 3-1 v GUER.	L 3-0 v MARL.	L 1-0 v RAYN.	W 2-0 v METR.	L 3-0 v UXBR.	L 6-0 v NOR.	6	1	0	5	3	16	-13	3
	21 Chipstead	L 2-1 v MARL.	L 1-0 v ASCO.	L 2-1 v RAYN.	L 2-1 v CHER.	L 4-0 v MARL.	D 1-1 v LEAT.	6	0	1	5	4	12	-8	1

	ASC	ASH	BAD	BIN	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	2-2	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	0-6	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	9/4	1-3	26/3	2-2	2-2	16/3	2-0	0-4	30/3	13/4	2-2	2/3	16/4
BIN	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	4-4	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	10/4	16/3	0-1	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	2-0	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	1-1	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	4-0	30/3	2-4	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	0-1	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	2-2	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	1-2
UXB	1-1	3-0	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		2-2
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	38	2	252	12
H Grant	33	4	85	11
H Laffin	19	4	171	88
H Tucker	19	-	59	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	29	-	29	-
L Phillips	-	-	2	1
L Kassim	5	-	52	13
O Harris	21	3	41	15
O Lahtinen-Kalsi	36	-	36	-
R Gerrard	-	-	34	4
S McCormack	38	4	132	22
S Balogun	23	1	38	1
T Thompson	-	-	11	-
U Lalustani	25	1	100	23
O McCoy	7	2	7	2
R Case	11	-	11	-
C Ellis	20	-	131	2
C Goulter	12	-	12	-
T Morgan	12	4	68	21
L Edgecombe	3	-	4	-
J Clark	1	-	1	-
B Harris	8	1	15	8
L Tack	8	4	8	4
M Scott	6	-	6	-
E Lynch	2	-	2	-
O Mason	1	-	1	-
Own Goals	n/a	3	n/a	n/a
Total	561	60	1,877	343



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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.



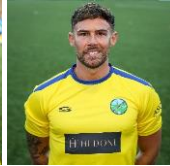
Oliver Lahtinen-Kalsi – defence. Exciting addition for the 23/24 campaign having joined us on a season-long loan from National League neighbours Aldershot Town.

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.



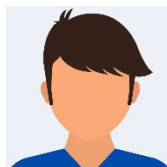
Harry Grant – midfield. A Rolls Royce of a player and an excellent addition to the club in 22/23. Ex-professional at Gillingham, winning EFL League 2 and the FA Vase with Thatcham Town in 2017/18 before repeating the feat with Ascot United in 22/23.

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 - SOUTH PARK (REIGATE)

South Park Football Club was formed in 1897 and immediately became founder members of the Redhill & District Football League along with other local clubs Godstone, Meadvale and Reigate Priory Reserves. The club remain members of the league today.

Although the facilities were basic the early matches were played in the original sports field which was in upper South Park between Crescent Road and Church Road. In 1925 under the direction of Canon Gregory from the local church, the football club together with the village cricket club formed the South Park Sports Association with the aim of the Association to provide sport and sporting facilities for the people of South Park. Within a few years it was realised that this new concept would be better served by an improvement in facilities and playing conditions. Fortunately for both club's suitable land existed in Whitehall Lane, the clubs current home and with the co-operation of the public spirited landowner, Harold Swannack, four acres of ground were purchased there. Always strapped for cash in these early years, the money was raised for the field largely by public subscription, which included door to door collections.

In order to preserve the land as a permanent sports ground, great foresight was exercised in vesting the land and subsequent purchases of further lots of two acres and four acres making ten acres in all in the National Playing Fields Association, now known as Fields in trust. The land became known as the 'King Georges Field' from 1935. The changing rooms were located on the far side of the field from Whitehall Lane at the bottom of the number two football pitch. Although the facilities were an improvement on their previous home they remained basic.

The football club flourished in the years leading to the Second Great War but obviously declined during and immediately after it. A handful of stewards rallied to the cause however and quickly resurrected its fortunes. One legacy of the hostilities, the air raid shelter, became the focus of attention when it became clear that further improvements were needed to the facilities if sporting aspirations were to be advanced. Thus it was that a shower room and toilet block and a modest clubhouse were attached to this building. Funding for this was achieved through the tireless efforts of the 'Friends of South Park Sports Association' organisation. Despite these commendable efforts, the Association lived for many years on a hand to mouth basis with the management all too frequently having to put their hands into their own pockets to ensure its survival.

During this period the playing side of the football club flourished with numerous honours won in the local leagues and cups together with appearances in County Cup finals. The club were also honoured in the fact that a number of players progressed to senior football with clubs such as Redhill and Eastbourne Town in the fifties and sixties, the heyday of non league football.

CLUB HISTORY - SOUTH PARK (REIGATE)

The seventies and eighties brought further improvements to the changing facilities and clubroom and the purchase of the land that is now our main pitch were made. In the early seventies the football club started the junior's section. Over the years the number of teams has increased on a regular basis and today we have boy's teams from under eight's through to under sixteen's. In 1997 the football club celebrated its Centenary year, the highlight of which was a celebratory dinner held at Reigate Manor Hotel at which over 150 people attended. Many players both past and present attended along with guests from The Football Association and Surrey County Football Association. The club was presented with its own unique framed certificate from the Football Association to mark this occasion. The club was once again celebrating in 1998 when Geoff Thatcher was awarded a Gold Medal by the Football Association to commemorate over 50 years service to football, the whole period with our club dating back to the war years when the club only played friendly matches as there was no competitive football during the war.

2001 saw Reigate Town Football Club move to South Park and the club became known as South Park & Reigate Town Football Club. In 2002 the club saw the formation of the first girl's team to play under the club's name and we now have four girl's teams. The following year saw the introduction of the youth team who are currently playing in the Southern Youth Floodlight League. The youth team played their home matches at Merstham Football Club from 2003–2007 as at the time we did not have floodlights.

For the 2003/04 season the club reverted back to its original name of South Park Football Club. In February 2004 the club became only the fifth in Surrey to be awarded the status of 'FA Charter Standard Community Club'. In 2006 the first team were promoted to the Combined Counties Football League and as our new changing facilities were being built played their home matches at Cranleigh. In their first season in the Combined Counties League the team finished in seventh place in the league. 2007 saw the completion of our new changing rooms and the erection of floodlights around our main pitch. This ensured that our first and youth teams could now play their home matches in South Park.

The 2008/09 season saw another landmark in the history of the club when we hosted Shoreham in our first ever FA Vase game. The 2009/10 season saw the club finish in their highest position (6th) since joining the Combined Counties League. The club has continued to progress and in August 2010 our stand will be erected which will give us the ground grading required for the first team to gain promotion. The 2010/11 season will see the club participate in the FA Cup for the time with an away tie against Greenwich Borough in the extra preliminary round. This game was covered by ITV Sport to start their Road to Wembley coverage as were our subsequent ties against Horsham YMCA and Cray Wanderers. The first team won the Surrey Premier Cup Final and the Lemon Recordings Division One Challenge Cup in addition to being promoted to the Premier Division of the Cherry Red Records Combined Counties League.

CLUB HISTORY - SOUTH PARK (REIGATE)

The 2011/12 saw South Park finish in eighth position in their first season in the Combined Counties League Premier Division. A good run in the FA Carlsberg Vase saw us reach the Fourth Round where we were beaten by Whitley Bay, the Vase winners for the previous three seasons. Playing in the Surrey Senior Cup for the first time Park beat Ryman Premier League Kingstonian and Leatherhead before finally being knocked out in the quarter finals by Conference South Sutton Utd. Season 2012/13 saw the club reach the 4th Qualifying Round of the FA Cup with Budweiser where we played Metropolitan Police in front of a club record attendance of 643. The team finished the season in 4th place in the league and reached the league cup final.

The 2013/14 season saw South Park win the Combined Counties League Premier Division and in doing so gain promotion to the Isthmian League Division One South. Our first season at step four saw us finish in a creditable 14th position. Each season has seen us improve on the previous season's league position with an 8th place finish in 2016/17. The 2016/17 season also saw us reach the 2nd Round of the FA Trophy where we drawn away to Tranmere Rovers. South Park finished the 2017/18 season in 13th place in the league. They also reached the semi finals of the Surrey Senior Cup for the first time. Malcolm Porter announced that he would be stepping down as manager due to business commitments at the end of the 2017/18 season. Mick Sullivan was appointed as manager however after a poor start to the season the club accepted his resignation in mid October. Jay Lovett was appointed manager and took charge of his first game at the beginning of November. Park went into the final game of the season needing to match Molesey's result to retain their step 4 status. Park gained a 3-2 victory to secure their Step 4 status.

The Sparks made a solid start to the 2019/20 season however manager Jay Lovett resigned at the beginning of November to take up a similar position at Burgess Hill. Martin Dynan was appointed as Manager in mid November. He guided Park to the ¼ finals of the Surrey Senior Cup and maintained their mid table position before the season was abruptly halted due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The 2020/21 season curtailed after 8 games due the pandemic. The 2021/22 season saw Park sitting in mid table in late January when Martin Dynan resigned. The club acted swiftly and appointed Redhill Manager Harrison Williams. Harrison and his management team settled in quickly and Park finished in 9th place in the league. Harrison resigned at the end of November 2022. Assistant Manager Tom Cope was appointed manager and the side matched the previous years finish of 9th place in the league with a higher points total.

Ahead of the 2022/23 season the club name was amended to South Park (Reigate) FC.

It must also be noted that without the tireless efforts of the late Fred Dearmun, Geoff Thatcher, Ray Wilson and Geoff Arnold to name but a few, the club would not be in the position it is today.