



BINFIELD FC

THE MOLE RETURNS

Binfield FC

1892

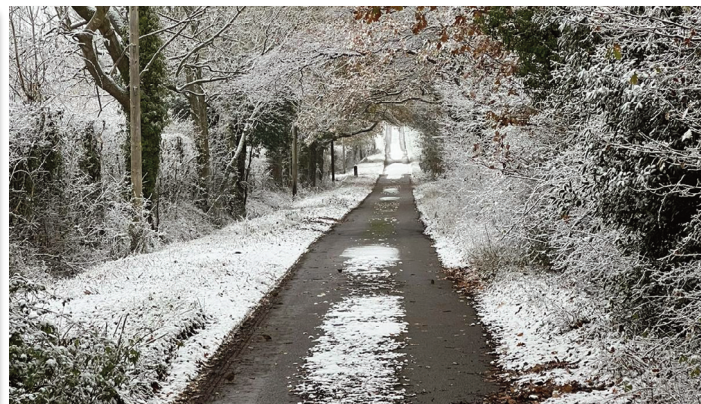


Respect

PITCHING IN PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - SEASON 2022-23
FRIDAY 6 JANUARY 2023
KICK-OFF 7.45.P.M.
ISTHMIAN DIVISION 1 SOUTH CENTRAL
TONIGHT'S OPPONENTS:
ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDLESEX)





**It was cold, wet and windy.
Then, snow, snow go away,
Come again another day.
Not to mention, the fog ...**



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Isthmian League - South Central Division

Ashford Town (Middx)	(0)	1	3	(1)	Southall
Basingstoke Town	(0)	2	0	(0)	Thatcham Town
Chertsey Town	(0)	3	0	(0)	Westfield
Chipstead	(1)	2	0	(0)	Tooting & Mitcham United
Leatherhead	(1)	4	3	(2)	Sutton Common Rovers
Marlow	(1)	2	2	(1)	Binfield
Merstham	(1)	3	3	(2)	Walton & Hershaw
Northwood	(0)	1	4	(2)	Hanworth Villa
Uxbridge	(0)	2	3	(3)	Bedfont Sports

TODAY'S TEAMS

Binfield FC	vs	Ashford Town FC
<i>Harvey Rackley-Hayes</i>	1	<i>Fred Chapman</i>
<i>Kai Hobbs</i>	2	<i>Ben Peden</i>
<i>Massimo Giamettei</i>	3	<i>Clyde Ondo</i>
<i>Johnny Denton</i>	4	<i>Chad Goulter</i>
<i>George Winsor</i>	5	<i>Dale Burnham</i>
<i>Liam Gavin</i>	6	<i>Olukayode Osu</i>
<i>Connor Holland</i>	7	<i>Javon Dougan</i>
<i>Brandon Curtis</i>	8	<i>Wayne Ridgley</i>
<i>Taylor Morgan</i>	9	<i>Daniel Brown</i>
<i>Harrison Bayley</i>	10	<i>Tomasz Siemieniczuk</i>
<i>Harvey Harry</i>	11	<i>Luke Maguire</i>
<i>Brad Pagliaroli</i>	12	<i>Daniel Iqbal</i>
<i>Will Shaw</i>	14	<i>Lindell Stewart</i>
<i>James Beauchamp</i>	15	<i>Isy Nzelo</i>
<i>Kian Duncan</i>	16	<i>Prince Mbengui</i>
	17	<i>David Pitt</i>
	18	
	19	
<i>Garry Haylock</i>	Mgr	<i>Paul McCarthy</i>
<i>Roger Herridge</i>	Asst	<i>Paul Mills</i>
<i>Keith Pennicott- Bowen</i>	Coach	<i>Kevin Cleary</i>
<i>Amy Coglan/ Carl Bennett</i>	Therapist	<i>Freddie Greaves</i>

WELCOME TO OUR OFFICIALS

Referee	Jake Hillier
Assistant	Matthew Childs
Assistant	Tom George

**Welcome
to
Binfield FC
from our
chairman,
Andy Cotton**



Binfield FC offer a very warm welcome to everyone for tonight's Pitching In Isthmian South Central League game against Ashford Town (Middx) Football Club.

On Bank Holiday Monday, Ashford lost 3-1 to their tenants Southall whilst the Moles drew 2-2 away at Marlow. Binfield are 9th in the league on 28 points whilst Ashford currently sit 14th with 20 points.

The Moles played The Tangerines back on the opening day of the season winning 1-0 away at Short Lane. Last season, the Moles won away

twice; one in the League and once in the Velocity Cup. The corresponding fixture at Hill Farm Lane ended 1-1.

The Moles haven't played a home league fixture since our 2-1 victory of Leatherhead way back on the last Saturday in November. The cold snap which engulfed the country in December created complete havoc in the football world and there will now be a raft of football to look forward to in the New Year as we all look to work through the fixture backlog. The weather caused some extensive damage to both our own Changing Room Block and Clubhouse through multiple burst pipes— following some monumental effort by Rob, Mickey, Craig, Ian, Lewis and many others we actually got the ground ready for the Basingstoke clash just before Christmas—sadly, it was not meant to be as the weather Gods were against us again and the game was postponed through a waterlogged pitch. Please be patient with us as we spend the next month or so completing the repairs,

Our 1st Team played some wonderfully attractive football at the Marlow game on Bank Holiday Monday, we were very unfortunate not to come away with all 3 points from the game. With 9 games coming up in January this month is going to likely dictate where we finish this season. It would be great for us to count on your support so please come to as many games as you can.

I don't know where the past year has gone but everyone involved with the club can feel rightly proud of the significant progress that the club has made both on and off the field. We've all had multiple challenges to contend with but have come together and found a way to make Binfield FC an even better club within our growing community.

Finally, on behalf of everyone here at Binfield FC, I would like to extend my very best wishes to you all for the New Year. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers and supporters – we really do appreciate you all.

“C'mon you Moles”

Andy Cotton
Chairman

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WE ARE THE MOLES

Binfield FC is a FA Charter Standard Community Club committed to providing football for all ages, male and female players. Starting at Soccer school and on to our Senior team who play in the Isthmian League South Central Division. The club runs over 36 teams and is a great place to enjoy your football.



CLUB CONTACTS / OFFICERS

Chairman: Andy Cotton - chairman@binfieldfc.com
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Printed Programme content and design: Challis-White Ink



In accordance with the Football Association Rule 2.13 Publication of ownership in relation to Step 1 to Step 6 clubs in the Football Pyramid we hereby confirm that the legal status of BINFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB as an Unincorporated Association (Members Club).

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YOUR FOOTBALL PAGE >

Private group · 11.2K members

John McClure's Facebook page showcases non-league football from grassroots, upwards and anywhere in between. He has a few helpers with the editorial side of things and he needs them as 'Your Football Page' has over 11,000 members, many of which are my friends and some are the hierarchy of senior non-league football clubs. Here are some of the postings for 1st and 2nd January 2023. John has given me permission to extract what I deem suitable for Binfield Football Club. It's all part of the providing written content for discerning customers.

From: Dave Higgins
 1/1/23 - League 1
 Plymouth Argyle 3 MK Dons 1
 Admission £18
 Programme £3
 Crowd 15,421
 100 games without a 0-0 for me

From: Victor Klarfeld
 Game 101 - Goals 289
 Sunday 1st January 2023 - National
 Maidenhead Utd 0 Wealdstone 0
 Admission £15 (Concession)
 Programme £3
 Attendance 1635

From: PMW
 85. Sunday 1 January 2023 - National - Attendance: 1,635
 Maidenhead United (red & black stripes/white/red) 0-0 Wealdstone (yellow/blue/white)
 Ground: York Road, in the town centre, near the railway station, high grandstand
 Pitch: obviously wet, looked superb
 Weather: wet end to the old year, wet start to the new year, then it rained
 Travel: 🚗 - Miles: 38 - 📱: ✅
 I've ground to a halt, as the recent fixtures have not been on the right day at the right time. Inserted in the middle was one pre-op assessment, one Friday night music gig, played and sung with all the right notes and words in the right order and a visit to see Shane in her care home, to ask if they have any vacancies? 0-0 was a good point gained by the Stones, opposed to two points being lost, which was on the cards for most of the second-half. Not such a good idea by Wealdstone to play in Brazil's kit. Pele was very upset.
 Match rating: ★★ out of 5.

Unpopular Opinion on Facebook from: Jeff Roberts of Middlesbrough
 "Just watched Jools Hootenanny on catch up, I know it's unpopular opinion, but it's essentially the same song for two and a half hours, interspersed with the same interviews with the same people for the past 20 years".

Extra Extra Opinion on Facebook from: Rob of Benalmádena
 New Year Greetings to everyone. No resolutions from me this year! It's too easy to break! ... and you're not getting one from me either. Wishing you all, a Happy New Year. **PMW**

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I'M OUT IN THE COLD NEARLY EVERY NIGHT, FOOTBALL, FOOTBALL AND MORE FOOTBALL. WHERE HAVE I BEEN? I'VE BEEN TO BASINGSTOKE TOWN, WHICH AMONGST OTHERS OF LATE IS JUST ENOUGH TO 'FILL A PAGE'.

78. Sunday 11 December 2022 - Isthmian Premier - Attendance: 166 - At Bromley Cray Wanderers (amber & black sleeves/black) 5-1 Haringey Borough (green/yellow)

⚽: C W (24, 50, 58, 64 pen & 81 mins) H B (5 mins)

Ground: Hayes Lane, Bromley - Pitch: a frosty white 3G

Weather: freezing fog, temperature didn't reach freezing point, snow on the way home

Travel: 🚗 + 🚆 + 🚶 - Miles: 56 - 📶: ✓

Wealdstone played here yesterday against Bromley, hence this game being on Sunday. H B missed a hatful in the first-half and 1-4 at half-time would have been about right. Half-time was 1-1. Very open and entertaining game, with H B being loose at both ends. C W ran away in the second-half for a final score of 5-1. Match rating: ★★★★★ out of 5.

79. Tuesday 13 December 2022 - National South - Attendance: 200

Oxford City (blue & white hoops/white) 5-3 Chippenham Town (maroon/maroon/black)

⚽: O C (37 pen, 45, 50, 69 & 86 mins) C T (32, 54 & 77 mins)

Ground: modern complex with multiple facilities - Pitch: 3G

Weather: 2 C today, -2 C tonight, not the coldest I've been at a football match, but almost

Travel: 🚗 - Miles: 85 - 📶: ✓

I wasn't sure where my next game was coming from, but I've earmarked 3G pitches for the next week. I may be down on games numbers-wise, but not much will be played around here on grass. Herald the advent of 3G pitches and a goal-feast of pieces of eight in under 60 minutes. Match rating: ★★★★★ out of 5.

80. Saturday 17 December 2022 - Isthmian Division 1 South Central - Attendance: 560

Basingstoke Town (blue & yellow stripes/blue) 0-1 Walton & Hersham (red/red)

⚽: W & H (31 mins)

Ground: Winklebury, Hampshire FA headquarters, no clubhouse - Pitch: 3G

Weather: afternoon temperature 5 C - Travel: 🚗 - Miles: 96 - 📶: ✓

I couldn't believe it. -4 C in High Wycombe in the morning (thick frost and snow) yet 40 miles away in Basingstoke there was no frost, no snow, no nothing. I can only assume Basingstoke has its own micro-climate, bit like the Vendee region of France, but no palm trees. This was a top game between two of the leading clubs.

W & H produced a good opening, giving B T the runaround. It took a while for B T to get a foothold, but once play had levelled out, B T fell behind to an outstanding strike. Taurean Roberts received the ball out on the left. He has a full bag of tricks, but elected to shoot across the face of goal. It was the only goal of the game and the match winner. B T recently demolished Guernsey 8-0, but during the second-half, W & H were strong and gave nothing away. B T made no noticeable changes to their tactics and made little headway.

Ed: I hate these rewrites on a Saturday, but I had to rush around to find a game. I'm slightly disappointed that Slough Town's plastic needed a Saturday morning pitch inspection to postpone their Trophy game. That was not the case at Basingstoke Town, as their 3G pitch was near perfect. It seem lots of all-weather pitches have not lived up to expectations, but I do agree, it's been a bit cold. Only the other day, I found two penguins in my fridge. I often keep them in there to stop the chocolate melting - not much chance in this weather, but they do have the company of a brass monkey. Match rating ★★ out of 5.

PMW'S RAMBLINGS - INSIDE THE PROGRAMME - I'LL DO IT MYSELF

BINFIELD FC
THE MOLE RETURNS



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - SEASON 2021-22
SATURDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2021

FA TROPHY - KICK-OFF 3.00.P.M.

TODAY'S OPPONENTS: TRURO CITY



APEX
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Three of the best, but every programme cover tells a story. I've produced around 50 so far and we're getting better. We will never win a competition, but that's not the idea. Simply, it's to promote Binfield FC and everything that goes into this club.

If I can find something unusual, it'll get a mention and if it's not good, we don't mention it at all. The cover is usually two tone red fading to the lighter colour, but occasionally, I design something different.

The fade for the Truro City was silver, but I can't imagine for one minute, they liked the photo of their old ground. I did.

Then, we had the one and only navy blue cover. I didn't like the new away kit, but Rob Challis sent me the photo. Okay, I like navy blue and the proof was on the programme cover, probably my best yet and I'm working on more. Lastly sky blue, a photo of a frozen wasteland - Hill Farm Lane.

BINFIELD FC
THE MOLE RETURNS

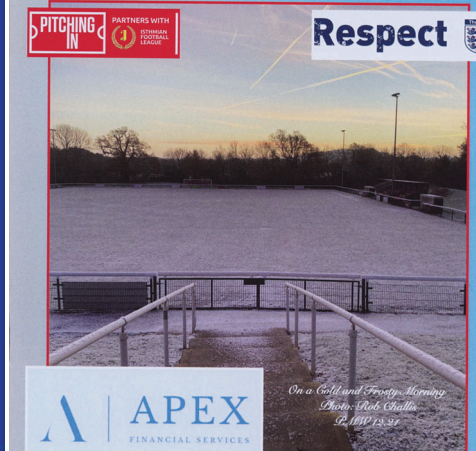


APEX
FINANCIAL SERVICES

BINFIELD FC
THE MOLE RETURNS



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - SEASON 2021-22
TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2021 - KICK-OFF 7.45.P.M.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE DIVISION 1 SOUTH CENTRAL
TONIGHT'S OPPONENTS: TOOTING & MITCHAM UNITED



APEX
FINANCIAL SERVICES

*On a Cold and Frosty Morning
Photo: Rob Challis
Ed: PMW 18.27*




"The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly any form of discriminatory abuse whether it by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association." (The FA 0800 085 0508 / Kick it Out 020 7253 0162)

The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating 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 the community.

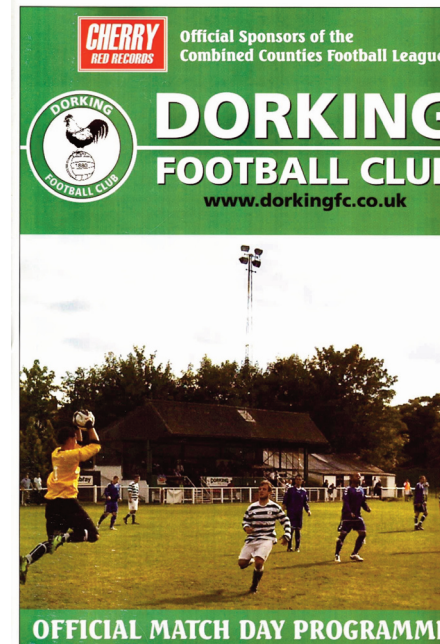
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PMW'S RAMBLINGS WITH CRAIG DABBS - LOST CLUBS - DORKING FC

The advent of John McClure's Your Football Page recently gave me an idea. It saves me lots of writing if I can get others to do it for me. John has given me permission to take what I like, but Craig is a bit special (he's my mini-bus driver) therefore permission was sought directly from the man himself. Incidentally, Craig has supplied one Binfield front cover, plus an insight into the Wimbledon clubs, which up to that point had confused me completely. Thanks Craig - your comp entrance is on the gate. Just let me know?

Dorking 1880-2017 at Meadowbank (Prior to re-development) 1953-2013



Both clubs technically still exist, although Dorking FC who closed in 2017 were absorbed into Dorking Wanderers. In reality there's nothing left of the club, that were the main team in the town for well over one hundred years.

The Chicks played their early years in the Mid Surrey League, until becoming founder members of the Surrey County Senior League in 1922 and moved to Meadowbank in 1953. The ground was a gem with the pitched roof stand built shortly after it opened and behind it the spire of St Martin's Church providing the backdrop and with the other bits of rickety cover it made for such a charming ground.

Those early days saw Meadowbank's record attendance set at 4,500 for a FA Cup game against Folkestone Town, they were playing as a Corinthian League club then moving to the Athenian League in 1963. They stayed and eventually struggled in the league then in 1974 they merged with Guildford City to become Guildford & Dorking United.

It didn't go well, the club were in the Southern League Premier Division and finished rock bottom, 75/76 was also a struggle in Division One South, the following season saw the club resign from the league. Dorking Town were formed in 1977 in the Surrey Senior League and by 1983 it was back to Dorking FC in the Isthmian League. The clubs stay in the league lasted until 2006 when they joined the Combined Counties League.

The club was struggling both on and off the field and Meadowbank was closed due to safety concerns. The club soldiered on with Meadowbank out of action until 2017, the club just couldn't continue and closed in same year, swept up by the new kids in town Dorking Wanderers, who moved into a revamped Meadowbank along with the county FA.

Craig Dabbs

PMW'S RAMBLINGS WITH CRAIG DABBS - LOST GROUNDS - HENDON FC

Lost Grounds - Hendon FC - Claremont Road, Hendon (1926-2008)

Another lost London ground, Claremont Road was home to Hendon FC for 82 years. When the club were offered the site they moved quickly preparing the ground and constructing the stand which survived to the end.

The venue had large swathes of terracing and could and did hold more than the 3,000 capacity, 9,000 attended an FA Cup tie against Northampton Town in 1952 giving you an idea of it's size.

Aside from the main stand there was a sizeable cover opposite, known as the Gordon Raymond terrace, it used to run virtually the full length of that one side but was cut down considerably later on.

The ground staged other notable matches down the years, Wolverhampton Wanderers would send a team featuring Ron Flowers, Peter Broadbent and Alan Hinton for the floodlight switch on in 1962 and in 1967 it became an Olympic venue staging a qualifying game between Great Britain and West Germany.



Wealdstone were the last visitors in 2008 when 280 spectators watched the curtain come down on this great venue. The £10 million estimated value of the land too good to ignore. The ground is now a housing estate. The club upped sticks and now play at Silver Jubilee Park, former home to Kingsbury Town, much more modest and much easier to maintain, nevertheless London lost another classic non-league venue, such a shame.

[Ed: Like Wealdstone's Lower Mead ground in Harrow, this is another excruciating tale of a non-league club losing their ground. When I supported Wealdstone, I visited Claremont Road many times. The

former grounds of Hendon, Kingstonian, Leytonstone, Tooting & Mitcham, Walthamstow Avenue were majestic sporting arenas and however biased 'Stones fans can be, these grounds were very special, but Hendon always topped my list. The 'away' fixture was usually on Boxing Day, a game played in front of 2,000 spectators, although I can't remember Wealdstone winning many of them.

In 2009, after a break of some 30 years, I returned to watching non-league football. I was amazed that Tooting & Mitcham United had a new ground, and so did Enfield Town. To commemorate the occasion, I presented Enfield Town with 50 toilet rolls ...]



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Pitchin Isthmian League Fixtures 7th January 2023

Isthmian League - South Central Division

Bedfont Sports v Basingstoke Town

Hanworth Villa v Uxbridge

South Park v Chertsey Town

Southall v Merstham

Sutton Common Rovers v Chipstead

Tooting & Mitcham United v Northwood

Walton & Hersham v Marlow

Westfield v Leatherhead

The View from the Dugout Garry Haylock

Welcome to the players, staff, officials and supporters of Ashford Town, I hope they enjoy their short stay with us

So much has happened since our last home game against Leatherhead on 26th November, players leaving, players arriving, Christmas, New Year, World Cup! I have been so impressed with the application and enthusiasm that our team has shown during this period, training has continued and we have prepped for each game with a passion that shows no sign of fading. Our performance on Monday at Marlow was excellent and considering it was the first game in a month, the fitness levels were very high.

The World Cup final was a wonderful game full of drama and excitement that was very enjoyable to watch but the rest of the tournament failed to excite me which may have been to do with the distractions of our own games and training or maybe the quality wasn't as high as previous tournaments or just maybe I am getting old and think that everything was better years ago!!!

We said farewell to Lewis Pegg, who earned his move to a higher level and he goes with our best wishes, joining us are Harrison Bayley and George Winsor who have both been excellent and really contributed to our recent good results.

Due to our early cup success and the inclement weather over the past month, we now enter a period where the games are coming thick and fast, we have 10 games between 2nd Jan and 4th Feb which is a punishing schedule for professional players never mind those who have full time jobs. Imagine the response from a Premier League manager if his team faced that kind of programme, however at Binfield we are made of sterner stuff and will just get on with it and push ourselves to our limits to try and achieve success. This next month will define our season and dictate whether we make the push for promotion or start to focus on building for next year.

Enjoy the game



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ORGANISING a game of football, at any level, is no easy task.

From ground staff to safety officers, from stewards to caterers, these people – volunteers more often than not – play a vital role in the day-to-day running of a matchday to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for all those who click through the turnstiles.

But there is one thing that even these superheroes just can not control – the weather!

As I'm sure you are all well aware, temperatures last week plummeted to 12-year lows in some parts of the UK, putting all best-laid plans into jeopardy. The now obligatory winter footage of groundsmen and women up and down the country braving the big freeze to sweep snow off the pitch swamped social media, while fans too leant a helping hand. At Macclesfield, for example, early morning pleas from the club to join in the clean-up operation and ensure their game with Ramsbottom United went ahead were answered by a large pool of their loyal fanbase and they certainly played their part in a 4-0 win. But, unfortunately, these things don't always go quite to plan and when Jack Frost does decide to play havoc with the football calendar things can get, well, a little bit ice-cold.

Let's start with AFC Rushden & Diamonds, for example, after players, staff, officials and fans were left "furious" after their Southern League Premier Central match at Needham Market was called off just 40 minutes before kick-off, ensuring a wasted 174-mile round trip. Later that evening, Needham Market said in a statement: "The football club would like to put on record it's sincere apologies to everyone connected to our opponents AFC Rushden & Diamonds, Needham Market players and staff, and supporters of both teams who arrived for the 1:00pm kick off." Upon the match officials arrival they carried out a pitch inspection but despite much deliberation they agreed to postpone the match at 12:15pm.

"No further comment will be made by the Football Club surrounding the issue."

And it wasn't just AFC Rushden & Diamonds left with a bitter pill to swallow. Hendon, too, were left aggrieved after travelling two-and-a-half hours to Yate Town – on a coach costing over £1,000 - only for the game to be called off shortly after their arrival. To make matters worse for the Greens, Yate's Lodge Road pitch had reportedly passed a 10am inspection carried out by the referee's assistant. Furious Hendon boss Lee Allinson tweeted at the time: "Arrived at Yate, two-and-a-half hours on a coach, game off! Shambles, nowhere near playable." And it was the same also for Hendon's league rivals Winchester City, who suffered the same fate of a late postponement on their arrival at Poole Town's Black Gold Stadium.

Sadly, this is nothing new in Non-League football. While 90 per cent of postponements are announced in good time to prevent the visiting team from travelling unnecessarily, there will always be occasions where it's difficult to avoid. I do feel, though, that in an era where we can send a man to the moon and launch the worldwide web then surely a protocol can be put in place to prevent this from continuously happening? Safety of the players can never be compromised when it comes to frozen pitches – and if last-minute calls suggest that a pitch may be 50/50 playable, then I would argue that it's not.

But is there the slightest possibility that the Football Association and/or individual leagues, can sit down and devise a routine inspection system – taking into account the distance travelled by the visiting team – where calls must be made before a certain time by local officials to clear the situation of any such doubt? No-one wants any frosty atmospheres at Christmas.

Have a good one. **From Sec - Groundsman should make these decisions not officials who are likly to have seen the pitch once in a blue moon**

TILEHURST
GREEN
—
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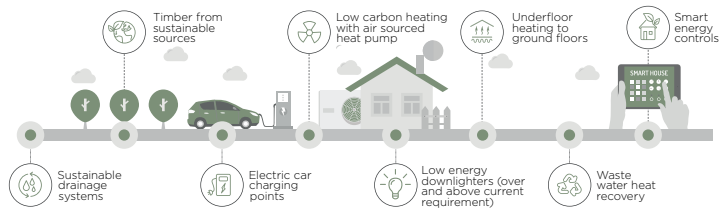
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South-Central Table



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1 Northwood	20	13	1	6	35	25	+10	40
2 Walton & Hersham	20	12	1	7	45	29	+16	37
3 Marlow	19	11	4	4	35	19	+16	37
4 Basingstoke Town	18	11	2	5	41	18	+23	35
5 Chertsey Town	18	9	5	4	39	18	+21	32
6 South Park	18	10	2	6	22	20	+2	32
7 Southall	18	8	6	4	28	19	+9	30
8 Westfield	18	8	5	5	28	19	+9	29
9 Binfield	16	8	4	4	32	20	+12	28
10 Hanworth Villa	18	7	6	5	28	30	-2	27
11 Chipstead	18	7	5	6	29	27	+2	26
12 Leatherhead	18	6	4	8	21	28	-7	22
13 Uxbridge	17	6	3	8	21	21	0	21
14 Ashford Town (Middx)	17	6	2	9	19	38	-19	20
15 Thatcham Town	18	5	4	9	24	28	-4	19
16 Bedfont Sports	19	4	7	8	22	30	-8	19
17 Sutton Common Rovers	20	5	1	14	24	44	-20	16
18 Tooting & Mitcham United	18	3	5	10	17	32	-15	14
19 Merstham	19	1	8	10	20	38	-18	11
20 Guernsey	17	2	5	10	9	36	-27	11



Isthmian League Fixtures 2022/23

Date	Opposition	Venue	Comp	
10/09/22 - Sat	Marlow	A	FA Trophy	0-4
17/09/22 - Sat	Tonbridge Angels	H	FA Cup	4-0
20/09/22 - Tues	Thatcham	A	League	0-4
24/09/22 Sat	Thame United	A	FA Trophy	1-2
27/09/22 - Tues	Marlow	H	Velocity	3-0
01/10/22 Sat	Beckenham	A	FA Cup	5-3
04/10/22 Tues	Sutton Common	H	League	3-2
08/10/22 - Sat	Hendon	H	FATrophy	0-0 W
15/10/22 - Sat	South Park	A	League	3-1
18/10/22 - Tues	Basingstoke	A	Velocity	0-2
29/10/22 - Sat	Tavistock	A	FA Trophy	2-1
01/11/22 - Tuest	Amersham	A	CC	2-1
05/11/22 - Sat	Hanworth Villa	A	League	2-2
08/11/22 - Tues	Westfield	A	League	2-1
12/11/22 - Sat	Bedfont	H	League	3-1
15/11/22- Tues	Guernsey	H	League.	PP
19/11/22 - Sat	Southall	A	League.	2-1
22/11/22 - Tues	Tooting and Mitch	H	League.	4-1
26/11/22 -Sat	Leatherhead	H	League.	2-1
28/11/22 Tues	Sutton Common	H	Velocity.	0-1
03/12/22 Sat	Chipstead	A	League.	1-1
10/12/22. Sat	Uxbridge	H	League.	P-P
17/12/22 Sat	Northwood	A	League.	P-P
23/12/22. Fri	Basingstoke	H	League.	P-P
02/01/23. Mon	Marlow	A	League.	2-2
06/01/23- Fri	Ashford	H	League	

Next Game at Hill Farm Lane



Isthmian League

Guernsey

Wednesday 11th January 2023

Kickoff 1945

Admission £8 and £5 Concessions U16' £1



ASHFORD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB POTTED HISTORY

The 2008-09 season saw Ashford begin the campaign in electrifying form, winning their opening six matches to top the table. Mark Butler's side followed this up with a fantastic FA Cup run which saw them come agonisingly close to eliminating Forest Green Rovers in the Fourth Qualifying Round at Short Lane. Rovers won the replay and went on to run Derby County close in the Third Round. Ashford endured a difficult winter, which saw them flirt with relegation, before a late resurgence saw the side safely into mid-table. The cup competitions added much adventure to the season, as Ashford followed up their exploits in the FA Cup with runs to the semi-finals of both the Middlesex Senior and Isthmian League Cups and end their campaign by defeating Conference Premier outfit Woking 3-2 at Metropolitan Police to win the Surrey Senior Cup.

The 2009-10 season saw Ashford make a reasonable start to the campaign, but the Ash Trees were shocked when manager Mark Butler tendered his resignation on Friday 23rd October, in order to take up the Manager's role at Margate, who were struggling at the foot of the table. Ashford appointed former Leicester City and Bradford City midfielder Jamie Lawrence as his replacement, and the Jamaican international immediately led his new charges on a twelve-match unbeaten run. However, issues off the pitch were causing problems for the club and a number of players, including leading goalscorer Byron Harrison left for Carshalton Athletic, where Mark Butler had accepted a coaching role after leaving Margate, where he had been in charge for just three months. Ashford found scoring a problem after Harrison left and a dreadful run of form saw them go from the fringe of the play-off zone to battling relegation. Ashford went into their final match knowing a win would almost guarantee survival, while a draw would see them finish fourth from bottom – technically a relegation place, but certain to receive a reprieve owing to the demise of various other clubs. Sadly, a heavy defeat for Ashford, coupled with wins for Carshalton and Margate saw the latter two clubs survive – Margate receiving the reprieve for finishing fourth from bottom.

During the summer of 2010, the club were initially placed in the Central Division of the Southern League but were then offered the chance to remain at Step Three of the non-league pyramid. However, as this offer was as a direct replacement for defunct Southern League side Merthyr Tydfil, the decision was made that the vast increase in travelling would be too great a burden for the club and the club elected to remain in the Central Division. During this time, Bob Parker stepped down from his role as Chairman after twenty-eight years in the role. The club's home ground was renamed the Robert Parker Stadium in honour of Bob, who remains at the club as President.

The club entered a new era in the Central Division of the Southern League with Jamie Lawrence at the helm and with a mixture of established local players and new faces but the season was a challenging one. The club played some sparkling football at times and enjoyed an exciting run in the FA Trophy, reaching the Last 32 in the competition before losing at home to Dartford. However, League form was patchy and the club finished 16th. One bright spark was the club winning the Southern Combination Cup, defeating Hanworth Villa 1-0 in the Final.

Jamie Lawrence resigned as Manager in June 2011 and the club immediately appointed his assistant, Paul Burgess, to take the helm after more than 21 years at the club, including 683 First Team appearances. Despite having little time to do it and few resources at his disposal, "Burgo" assembled a young and exciting team. Although any hopes of a tilt at the promotion play-offs were dashed by a dreadful run where the club failed to win at home for four months, Ashford finished the season strongly, winning two Cup Finals in 48 hours. In the Middlesex Charity Cup Final, the Ash Trees were 3-0 down to Northwood after 48 minutes before substitute Kofi Lockhart-Adams scored four times to put his team ahead. The game finished 4-4, with Ashford winning the penalty shoot-out 4-2.

Two days later, Ashford defeated Badshot Lea 3-1 to add the Aldershot Senior Cup to the cabinet, aided by a fine performance from Paul McCarthy, who had saved two penalties in the first Final. A memorable season was capped by the club being named winners of the Southern League Fair Play Award.

The 2012-13 campaign saw Ashford reach the Final of the Middlesex Senior Cup against near-neighbours Staines Town. However, Ashford were unable to claim the trophy, eventually falling to a 2-0 defeat. At the end of that season, assistant manager Steve Battams left the club for work reasons. Youth Team Manager Ben Murray, who had been coaching at Ashford since his teens and won an FA Community Award, was promoted into the senior management team.

An awful start to the 2013-14 season saw the Ash Trees cut adrift at the foot of the Southern League Central Division and Paul Burgess was relieved of his duties after an 8-1 defeat at Dunstable Town. Ben Murray was appointed Manager and although results did not improve initially, performances and discipline did. A rally during the final months of the campaign offered hope of a remarkable 'great escape', although relegation was confirmed at North Greenford United.

As a result, Ashford returned to the Combined Counties League. The Ash Trees were able to renew a number of old friendships and friendly rivalries and the greater number of local matches rekindled some enthusiasm that had been lost towards the end of Ashford's time in the Southern League. The Ash Trees first campaign back in the competition saw Ashford finish third, while their second saw Town claim promotion.

The club's return to Step 4 was earned after Ashford finished second in the League, thanks to a remarkable end-of-season run which saw the Ash Trees finish the season with 96 points. This was 10 points behind the Champions, Hartley Wintney, but as 'The Row' did not then have the requisite facilities to play at Step 4, they could not go up. They helped Ashford to do so by defeating Camberley Town in their final match to ensure that Ashford claimed the runners-up spot.

Ashford's reward was a third brief spell in the Southern League. A good start to the 2016-17 season allayed any fears that a return to the Central Division would see a repeat of the club's previous struggles, while a genuine highlight of the campaign was a third triumph in the Middlesex Charity Cup. The Final saw Ashford defeat Wealdstone of the National League to claim the magnificent trophy.

For 2017-18, what had been the Central Division of the Southern League became the East Division. Awful weather made for a difficult season for all clubs and contributed to Ashford's campaign petering out into a mid-table finish. A new reorganisation of the National League System sees the club move back into the Isthmian League as members of the South Central Division for 2018-19.

The 2018-19 season was another mid table finish with us also through to the Final of the Middlesex Charity Cup although just losing out to Uxbridge. Ben Murray then decided to stand down after his 6 year tenure as first team manager. The board and team were grateful for the results and hard work he had put in over the years. Up Stepped Russell Canderton to take the reins (having played nearly 700 games for the club).

The 2019-2020 season is the season that never was. We got part way through the season to then be instructed to go into lockdown due to the Corona Virus Pandemic and the FA decided to expunge the whole season.

Season 2020-21 The Fa decided to curtail this season as well (however still deciding to do the Full restructure of the FA pyramid).

21-22 see us stay in the Isthmian League (South Central Division) with one of the shortest distances to travel throughout the season that we have seen for some years. Having gone through 3 managers this season it was particularly difficult but we managed to Finish mid table after a slow start.

22-23 sees our previous goal keeper Paul McCarthy take to the helm after seeing us safely through the latter part of last season