



2026/27 NUMBER 5 - WEEK ENDING SATURDAY 25 JULY 2026

WELCOME

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of your Newsletter, if you have any contribution, be it Match Reports, player news or photos please get in touch at - newsletter.wessexleague@gmail.com.

Keep up to date with all the news from around the League by following us on [Twitter/X](#) @WessexLeague That is where our main social output goes at present, but you may also find us on [Instagram](#) @wessexleague [Threads](#) @wessexleague [Bluesky](#) @wessexleague.bsky.social and also [TikTok](#) @wessex.football.

You are more than welcome to use any material (excluding attributed photographs) but it would be appreciated if any material used is acknowledged. It is hoped you enjoy reading this each week. With readership quite widespread, not only within our own competition, but across the three counties and beyond- if ANY club has anything they would like to have published in here, whether that be a request for helpers, promotion of forthcoming events, items required or available for sale please do get in touch.

The Wessex Post will be published each Saturday night. Please would all contributors note that the deadline for anything is 22:00 on the Saturday and this includes match reports- all home clubs are reminded to get their reports in before then, although if an away side does the report that will also be welcome. It should also be noted that whilst all contributions are welcome, they are subject to editorial scrutiny.

KICK OFF



League Chair Nick Taplin presents the Charity Cup to AFC Stoneham captain Jake Thomson after their 3-1 today against Hamble Club, where the crowd was 154.

TUNE IN

WESSEX LEAGUE FOOTBALL SHOW



Tune in to our official podcast live on
Fiesta 95FM and www.fiestafm.co.uk
every Sunday between 12-2pm, with
Cliff Pledge and Greg Dickson.

Featuring guest interviews and
rounding-up all the latest news from
around the Wessex League.

Listen back via the QR code!



Get In Touch with the Show!

greg.fiestafmuk@gmail.com
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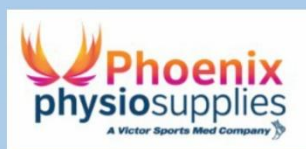
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PROGRAMME ADVERTS

Just a quick reminder that all Clubs must include the advertisements indicated by the League in **every** Match Programme they produce- in either the PRINTED or ON-LINE version.

New ones for 2026/27 are now available. Page 4 shows our Partners for 2026/27, this **must** be a full page and must also be in all programmes issued.

That for the "Wessex League Football Show" and the "Kick it Out" campaign are no longer compulsory for reproduction in club programmes.

CLUB NEWS

If you have any items- stories, initiatives etc., you wish to include please do send them in to the Editor.

PRE-SEASON 2026/27

Clubs are requested to send in details of their schedule for 2026/27.

Please do NOT forget that the HOST team also MUST obtain sanction from their County FA before the game is played and to ensure that all teams are correctly affiliated and covered with the correct level of Personal Accident Insurance. Games are subject to change at little or no notice and are listed in GOOD FAITH, but please note that the League have no control over these games, nor as to whether any games are changed or called off at short notice.

Spectators are strongly recommended to check nearer the time if making a special journey.

Tuesday 28 July

Amesbury Town v Bemerton Heath Harlequins	[Salisbury Hospital Cup Final 2025/26]	19:45
Ash United v Tongham	-	-
Colden Common v Alresford Town	[Barry Small Trophy]	-
Downton v AFC Stoneham	-	-
Fawley AFC v Crofton Saints	-	19:45
Liss Athletic v Cove	-	-
New Milton Town v Laverstock & Ford	-	19:45
Poole Town v Petersfield Town	-	-
Ringwood Town v Fordingbridge Turks	-	-
United Services Portsmouth v Hayling United	HMS Temeraire	-
Verwood Town v Christchurch	-	19:30

Wednesday 29 July

Whitecroft & Barton Sports v Newport IOW	Gatcombe	19:30
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PRE-SEASON RESULTS



Tuesday 21 July

Andover New Street 3-0 Whitchurch United

Bournemouth 4-1 Hamworthy Recreation Reserves [Jack Bellows Trophy]

Bradford Town 3-0 Bemerton Heath Harlequins
Brockenhurst 1-2 Dorchester Town
East Cowes Victoria 1-0 Newport IOW
Fawley AFC 1-1 Stockbridge
Hamble Club 2-2 Midhurst & Easebourne
Havant & Waterlooville 0-1 AFC Stoneham
Holt United 2-2 Sturminster Newton United
Horndean 2-1 Clanfield
Hythe & Dibden 3-0 AFC Totton
Laverstock & Ford 3-0 Ringwood Town
Petersfield Town 1-1 Alresford Town
Poole Town 1-0 Fareham Town
Portland United 2-0 Bashley
Sandhurst Town 4-9 Berks County
Swanage Town & Herston 3-1 Hamworthy United
United Services Portsmouth 3-5 Infinity
Weymouth 7-1 Downton
Whitehill & Bordon 2-5 Cove
Yateley United 4-0 Maidenhead Town

Wednesday 22 July

Bournemouth Electric 2-4 Christchurch
Dorchester Sports 2-2 Romsey Town
Hedge End Rangers 5-1 AFC Netley
Sherborne Town 4-1 Middlezoy Rovers
Waterlooville AFC 2-7 Colden Common

Thursday 23 July

Folland Sports 2-1 Baffins Milton Rovers
Hamworthy Recreation 3-1 New Milton Town

Friday 24 July

Dorchester Sports 5-2 Christchurch
Fareham Town 1-1 AFC Portchester
Laverstock & Ford 0-2 Shaftesbury
Warminster Town 4-2 Bemerton Heath Harlequins

Saturday 25 July

Andover New Street 3-1 Colden Common
Ash United 1-1 Cranleigh
Baffins Milton Rovers 0-1 Portsmouth Academy
Bashley 3-1 Dorchester Town
Blandford United 2-2 Sturminster Newton United
Bournemouth v Civil Service FC [*no score provided*]
Bridport 0-3 Portland United
Brockenhurst 2-2 Folland Sports
Cheddar v Wincanton Town [*no score provided*]
Cowes Sports 0-0 Wick
Dial Square 1-1 Cove
East Cowes Victoria 1-1 Infinity
Hamworthy Recreation 1-1 Badshot Lea
Hamworthy United 1-1 Fleetlands
Hedge End Rangers 5-2 Downton
Hythe & Dibden 3-1 Newport IOW
Kintbury Rangers 0-1 Clanfield 85
Meon Milton 0-1 Clanfield
Millbrook 2-1 Locks Heath
New Milton Town 0-0 Verwood Town

Sandhurst Town 2-2 Whitehill & Bordon
Shrewton United 2-0 Lymington Town
Thatcham Town 0-0 AFC Aldermaston
United Services Portsmouth v Paulsgrove [no score provided]
Whitchurch United 5-2 Hart United
Willand Rovers 3-2 Sherborne Town
Yateley United 1-0 Penn & Tylers Green

RESULTS ROUNDUP

Saturday 25 July

Wessex League Charity Cup

AFC Stoneham	3-1	Hamble Club	154
Kian Towse 18		Harry Hamilton 80	
Braydon Douglas 43			
Brad Johnson 88			

MATCH REPORTS

SATURDAY 25 JULY- WESSEX LEAGUE CHARITY CUP

AFC Stoneham 3-1 Hamble Club

Robin Caddy was pitchside

Stoneham Lane saw its last Wessex League fixture for the foreseeable this afternoon as it hosted the Wessex League Charity Cup season opener. The match between Premier Division winners AFC Stoneham and League Cup winners Hamble Club was raising money for the Geoff Smith Legacy Fund, with 154 spectators turning out on a hot and sunny afternoon.

There will be many changes from last season to this for both teams, but it was a case of Friends Reunited as Stoneham started the game with three former Hamble players in their starting 11 - the Johnson twins in defence, and attacking threat Braydon Douglas. There was definitely a sense of intrigue about how the game would go. Early in the first half the teams traded corners, with neither side getting on top. Then 18 minutes in Tom Annetts, always a good player to watch, played a rather speculative cross in to the box from the right. Speculative yes, but played in to exactly the right area, and Kian TOWSE calmly tapped in, under pressure, to open the scoring. 1-0.

Hamble have a good move culminating in a Jordan Cunningham shot headed behind for a corner on 22 minutes, meanwhile Annetts is left frustrated when he can't quite control the ball on the edge of the Hamble box on 32 minutes.

With two minutes to go until half time, Annetts wins a free kick somewhat centrally just outside the penalty area. DOUGLAS was such a threat with dead ball situations last year for Hamble, it was almost inevitable that he would curl the ball superbly into the top right hand corner making it 2-0 at the break.

HT 2-0

It's not all one-way traffic in the second half, but AFC Stoneham have started to get on top, and although Hamble are defending well, they aren't making much forward progress themselves. Around the 67 minute mark Hamble make 9 changes, well this is still pre-season and they have a game on Tuesday against Andover New Street to think about.

Ten minutes later Duarte Martins, a second half sub for Stoneham, plays through new signing Kian Towse (ex Fleetlands) whose dangerous shot is well blocked by Hamble centre half Ed Sanders. Hamble get a goal back around the 80 minute mark, when a goal mouth scramble, that seems to go on and on forever, is eventually forced home by Harry HAMILTON. 2-1

As we approach full time Towse is involved again for the Purps, winning a corner, which is well taken and Brad JOHNSON sends in a header which ends up looping up high and over everyone and somehow going in almost in slow motion to win the game 3-1 for the hosts.

FT 3-1

FIXTURES 2026/27

A general reminder that fixtures are subject to alteration and or cancellation at short notice.



Tuesday 28 July

Premier Division

Hamble Club v Andover New Street

Friday 31 July

Division One

Fawley AFC v Lymington Town

Saturday 1 August

Premier Division

Bashley v Hamble Club

Bournemouth Poppies v Hythe & Dibden

Cowes Sports v Brockenhurst

Downton v Petersfield Town

East Cowes Victoria v Andover New Street

Fleetlands v Laverstock & Ford

Horndean v Sherborne Town

Millbrook v Hamworthy Recreation

Sturminster Newton United v Fareham Town

Division One

Alresford Town v Blandford United

Amesbury Town v Folland Sports

Frimley Green v Totton & Eling

Hamworthy United v Newport (IOW)

Kintbury Rangers v Sandhurst Town

New Milton Town v Cove

Ringwood Town v AFC Aldermaston

Whitchurch United v Colden Common

Tuesday 4 August

Hampshire Senior Cup Preliminary Round

Cowes Sports v New Milton Town

Folland Sports v Hythe & Dibden

Hamble Club v Brockenhurst

Petersfield Town v Romsey Town

Ringwood Town v Newport (IOW)

Premier Division

Andover New Street v Bashley

Downton v Baffins Milton Rovers

Fareham Town v East Cowes Victoria

Sturminster Newton United v Christchurch

Division One

Amesbury Town v Blandford United

Ash United v Frimley Green

Hamworthy United v Fawley AFC

Kintbury Rangers v Lymington Town

Wednesday 5 August

Premier Division

Sherborne Town v Hamworthy Recreation

Division One

AFC Aldermaston v Totton & Eling

Hedge End Rangers v Alresford Town

Whitchurch United v Sandhurst Town

Friday 7 August

Division One

Folland Sports v Fawley AFC

Saturday 8 August

Emirates FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round

Andover New Street v Christchurch

Badshot Lea v Brockenhurst

Bournemouth Poppies v Downton

Cowes Sports v Hamble Club

Devizes Town v Hamworthy Recreation

East Cowes Victoria v AFC Stoneham

Horndean v Hartley Wintney

Laverstock & Ford v Eversley & California

Millbrook v Bradford Town

Paulton Rovers v Fleetlands

Petersfield Town v Fareham Town

Portland United v Sturminster Newton United

Shepton Mallett AFC v Bashley

Sherborne Town v Baffins Milton Rovers

Tadley Calleva v Bemerton Heath H'quins

Westbury United v Hythe & Dibden

Division One

Alresford Town v Kintbury Rangers

Ash United v Hedge End Rangers

New Milton Town v AFC Aldermaston

Romsey Town v Cove

Sandhurst Town v Colden Common

Whitchurch United v Ringwood Town

Tuesday 11 August

Wessex League Cup Second Round

Alresford Town v Whitchurch United

Premier Division

Bashley v Sturminster Newton United

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Sherborne Town

Bournemouth Poppies v Laverstock & Ford
Brockenhurst v Hamworthy Recreation
Downton v Christchurch
Fareham Town v Hythe & Dibden
Fleetlands v Hamble Club
Millbrook v Andover New Street
Petersfield Town v East Cowes Victoria

Division One

Ringwood Town v Hamworthy United
Romsey Town v New Milton Town

Friday 14 August

FA Vase First Round Qualifying

Sandhurst Town v Wokingham Town

Division One

Fawley AFC v New Milton Town

Saturday 15 August

FA Vase First Round Qualifying

Andover New Street v Bemerton Heath H'quins
Bashley v Blandford United
Bridport v Folland Sports
Bristol Telephones v AFC Aldermaston
Clanfield v Romsey Town
Cove v Laverstock & Ford
Fareham Town v Baffins Milton Rovers
Fleetlands v Wincanton Town First
Hamble Club v Cowes Sports
Horndean v Totton & Eling
Kintbury Rangers v Mangotsfield United
Newport (IOW) v Colden Common
Pagham v Millbrook
Selsey v Hamworthy United

Wessex League Cup First Round

Ash United v Hamworthy Recreation

Premier Division

Brockenhurst v Christchurch
East Cowes Victoria v Bournemouth Poppies
Sherborne Town v Petersfield Town
Sturminster Newton United v Hythe & Dibden

Division One

Amesbury Town v Whitchurch United
Hedge End Rangers v Lymington Town
Ringwood Town v Frimley Green

Tuesday 18 August

Hampshire Senior Cup First Round

Alresford Town v Totton & Eling
Alton v East Cowes Victoria
Bashley v Colden Common
Fareham Town v Fleetlands
Horndean v Cove
Millbrook v Andover New Street
Royal Navy F.A. v Bournemouth Poppies

Premier Division

Hythe & Dibden v Baffins Milton Rovers
Laverstock & Ford v Hamble Club

Sturminster Newton United v Downton

Division One

Frimley Green v Kintbury Rangers
Hamworthy United v Romsey Town
Sandhurst Town v Amesbury Town

Wednesday 19 August

Premier Division

Sherborne Town v Brockenhurst

Division One

AFC Aldermaston v Ash United
New Milton Town v Ringwood Town

Friday 21 August

Division One

Folland Sports v Lymington Town

Saturday 22 August

Premier Division

Baffins Milton Rovers v Horndean

Division One

Alresford Town v Newport (IOW)
Amesbury Town v AFC Aldermaston
Colden Common v Cove
Frimley Green v Fawley AFC
Kintbury Rangers v Hamworthy United
New Milton Town v Ash United
Romsey Town v Blandford United
Sandhurst Town v Hedge End Rangers
Totton & Eling v Whitchurch United

Tuesday 25 August

Wessex League Cup First Round

Bashley v Romsey Town
Hamworthy United v New Milton Town
Newport (IOW) v Folland Sports

Premier Division

Andover New Street v Petersfield Town
Baffins Milton Rovers v East Cowes Victoria
Bemerton Heath H'quins v Christchurch
Brockenhurst v Bournemouth Poppies
Hamble Club v Downton
Horndean v Cowes Sports
Hythe & Dibden v Sherborne Town
Laverstock & Ford v Sturminster Newton United
Millbrook v Fareham Town

Division One

Ringwood Town v Blandford United
Totton & Eling v Lymington Town

Wednesday 26 August

Division One

AFC Aldermaston v Whitchurch United

Friday 28 August

Premier Division

Downton v Bemerton Heath H'quins

Saturday 29 August

Wessex League Cup First Round

Sturminster Newton United v Lymington Town

Premier Division

Bashley v Brockenhurst
Bournemouth Poppies v Christchurch
East Cowes Victoria v Hamble Club
Fareham Town v Cowes Sports
Fleetlands v Baffins Milton Rovers
Millbrook v Hythe & Dibden
Petersfield Town v Horndean
Sherborne Town v Andover New Street

Division One

AFC Aldermaston v Kintbury Rangers
Ash United v Sandhurst Town
Colden Common v Folland Sports
Cove v Frimley Green
Hamworthy United v Blandford United
Hedge End Rangers v Newport (IOW)
New Milton Town v Amesbury Town
Ringwood Town v Totton & Eling
Romsey Town v Fawley AFC
Whitchurch United v Alresford Town

WESSEX TIMES THREE

As has been mentioned recently, the Wessex League has been successfully in existence for 40 years and has long been settled with a Premier Division and Division One. In the early days however, it was Division One and Division Two whilst for two seasons -2004/05 and 2005/06 – it also included a Division Three. At the end of that season most clubs left to form the new Hampshire Premier League.

A couple of decades on here is a “Where are They Now” look at the Clubs who formed Division Three in 2004/05 in the finishing order of the season-ending League table.

COLDEN COMMON. Long-time members of the Hampshire Premier League and as Champions in 2024/25, gained promotion to Wessex Division One, ground sharing at Winchester City. During all this time they have been served by Secretary Ian Steele who also has been occasional club linesman and photographer.

HAYLING UNITED. They remained in the Wessex League until 2013/14 but struggled with the ground grading criteria at Hayling College and dropped into the Hampshire Premier League where they remain although now in Division One.

FARNBOROUGH NORTH END. Stayed in the Wessex set-up for six seasons before moving to the Combined Counties League. They now run two first teams under the names of Farnborough NE Athletic and Farnborough North End who play in the Surrey Intermediate League and the Guildford and Woking Alliance, respectively.

FLEETLANDS. Founder members of Hampshire Prem but moved to the Wessex League in 2022/23 and will be competing in the Premier Division for the first time this coming season. A success story on and off the field whilst still at their original ground at Lederle Lane.

PAULSGROVE. A successful club in local football for many years and a force in the HPL. They have struggled on and off the field in recent seasons and will be in the HPL Division One this season having received a reprieve from relegation.

OTTERBOURNE. Something of a sad story in that after many years as a leading club in the Hampshire Premier League and having enjoyed a successful season in 2016, they disbanded after problems with the local Council regarding development of the ground.

OVERTON UNITED. Have been flying the HPL Flag in the north of the County for many years and their immaculate playing surface will host HPL Senior Division football in the coming season following their promotion.

TADLEY CALLEVA. A Club that has grown rapidly. They held their own in the Wessex League, but at the end of 2020/21 switched to the Combined Counties, and finished in runners up spot in the Premier Division South last season.

MICHELDEVER. A village team between Basingstoke and Winchester, played just one complete season in the Wessex League and withdrew part way through the following season. There has not been football in the village for many years.

CLANFIELD. Another success story from the Hampshire Premier who gained promotion to the Wessex League for season 2024 and have acquitted themselves well ground sharing at Havant & Waterlooville. The FA has moved them to the Southern Combination (Sussex) next season.

LAVERSTOCK & FORD. Came from old Hampshire League in 2004/05 and have been regular and consistent members of the Wessex League over the years from their base in Salisbury.

NETLEY CENTRAL SPORTS. Now known as AFC Netley. Will be in the HPL Senior Division this season, ground sharing at Romsey Town.

ORDNANCE SURVEY. Morphed into AFC Stoneham and carried all before them of late with the jewel in the crown being the superb FA Vase success. As well as a League championship. Isthmian League members next season though sadly without their stalwart President who passed away recently.

AFC PORTCHESTER. Also, now an Isthmian League club so another success story on and off the field. Wessex Premier since 2012 and Champions in 2024/25 before finishing a creditable fifth in their first season in the Isthmian League.

HAMBLE CLUB. Moved up from the HPL in 2016/17 and gained immediate promotion to the Premier Division. Now very much established at that level, enjoying success in the League Cup and reaching the League play-offs last Season.

VERWOOD TOWN. They came into Division Three from the old Hampshire League and stayed, playing in both Divisions, until relegation a year ago saw them drop to the Dorset Premier League.

FLEET SPURS. Remained in the Wessex League until 2022/23 apart from a short spell in the Combined Counties but struggled on and off the field in recent times. Had one unsuccessful season in the HPL and now play in the Thames Valley League.

LUDGERSHALL SPORTS. Wiltshire based and just the one season in Wessex Three. They have flirted with the Wiltshire Senior League and junior football in the area but now seem to have disbanded though we hear there are hopes of re-starting.

QK SOUTHAMPTON. Spent three seasons in the Wessex League before a lengthy period in the Hampshire Premier League. Have now merged with Southside to form Nursling & Shirley FC and will be playing in the HPL Division One next season. Another long serving Secretary here in Don Campbell.

YATELEY GREEN. Another Club who completed just the first season in the Wessex League. In 2013 merged with three other local Clubs to form Yateley United and, following a successful season in Wessex One last season they have been promoted via the play offs to Combined Counties Premier South.

2004/05 LEAGUE TABLE

RANK	DIVISION 3	PL	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	PPG
1	Colden Common	38	28	4	6	123	39	84	88	2.357
2	Hayling United	38	26	8	4	104	30	74	86	2.310
3	Farnborough North End	38	26	7	5	111	38	73	85	2.024
4	Fleetlands	38	23	6	9	115	42	73	75	2.000
5	Paulsgrove	38	22	7	9	93	46	47	73	1.905
6	Otterbourne	38	23	3	12	88	36	52	72	1.833
7	Overton United	38	22	6	10	88	52	36	72	1.714
8	Tadley Calleva	38	21	7	10	84	43	41	70	1.595
9	Micheldever	38	18	11	9	82	49	33	65	1.500
10	Clanfield	38	16	12	10	72	70	2	60	1.333
11	Laverstock & Ford	38	14	10	14	73	59	14	52	1.333
12	Netley Central Sports	38	13	7	18	71	66	5	46	1.310
13	Ordnance Survey	38	11	9	18	44	55	-11	42	1.286
14	AFC Portchester	38	11	6	21	65	83	-18	39	1.214
15	Hamble Club	38	9	11	18	51	86	-35	38	1.214
16	Verwood Town	38	8	6	24	54	95	-41	30	1.143
17	Fleet Spurs	38	6	11	21	59	98	-39	29	1.048
18	Ludgershall Sports	38	7	3	28	48	118	-70	24	0.976
19	QK Southampton	38	4	4	30	41	178	-137	16	0.881
20	Yateley Green	38	2	2	34	30	213	-183	8	0.714

Two Clubs – DC AFC from Salisbury and RS Basingstoke did not complete the first season.
The League's thanks are expressed for help over this article.

LEAGUE NEWS

The Wessex League have appointed Dean Button as League Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (ED&I) Officer. Dean brings with him a wealth of experience in this subject having undertaken a similar role in the Royal Navy and will be responsible for ensuring that our League remains an environment where players, officials, volunteers and supporters can enjoy the game and be treated with respect and dignity. Should you have any issues, enquiries or require information regarding this aspect of the game please contact Dean at respect.wessexleague@gmail.com

As a point of clarity, please note the following extract from Southern Water's directive regarding the hosepipe ban, which confirms that watering can still take place on the grass playing area.

"It should be noted that watering areas of grass, which are used for sport or recreation, is covered by a statutory exception for health or safety only in relation to the active strip/playing area, not the entire ground."

LAST WORD- CHARITY CUP WINNERS SOLL OF HONOUR

2022	Hamworthy United	2-0	Shaftesbury	94
2023	AFC Portchester	7-2	Baffins Milton Rovers	174
2024	Moneyfields	0-0	Hamble Club [4-2 on penalties]	84
2025	AFC Portchester	2-0	Hamble Club	172
2026	AFC Stoneham	3-1	Hamble Club	154

PHOTO FINISH



Midweek action from Poole Town's Tatnam Stadium, where Fareham Town (blue) were the visitors in a late switch of venue. The game attracted over 300 through the gate that saw the Dolphins win 1-0.



Midweek action from Broadway Lane, where Dorset Premier side Bournemouth Electric (blue) scored first against Christchurch but went down 4-2 on a bone dry surface badly in need of rainfall, as do many pitches



Friday night football from the Dell captured by Matt Gale. Laverstock & Ford (yellow) went down 2-0 to visitors Shaftesbury.



Pre-season action this afternoon from the County Ground where Hamworthy United and Fleetlands (grey) battled out a 1-1 draw.



Charity Cup action captured by Robin Caddy this afternoon, Here we have AFC Stoneham (purple) about to score their third in the 3-1 over Hamble Club.

