**Latest Round-ups:**

**#31**

**Season 2021/22**

**Midweek Action: Wincanton** extended their unbeaten run in all competitions to 18 matches with a come-from-behind 3-2 victory away at **Welton** in the Les Phillips Cup on Tuesday evening. Goals from Jake Slocombe and Joe Garland had twice put the home side in front during the first half, but the Wasps hit back after the interval, with Dan Dix levelling the scores, before Connor Williams swept home the winner with a well-taken free kick. **Ashton & Backwell** also progressed to the next round, with the Premier Division strugglers securing a confidence-boosting 3-0 win over **Portishead** at the Lancer Scott Stadium. In Tuesday’s First Division clash, **Tytherington** swept aside **Bristol Telephones** at Hardwicke Field, with goals from Mike Johnson and Ethan Johnson helping them register a 2-0 victory.

**Premier Division:** In one of the biggest shocks of the season so far, leaders **Tavistock**suffered their first defeat since early September, going down to a 2-1 loss away at 18th placed **Ashton & Backwell**. The home side started the game strongly, and deservedly took a lead to the interval thanks to Kye Simpson’s 20th minute strike. Tavistock responded in kind at the beginning of the second half, drawing level through Josh Parry, but they were soon back behind after 16-year-old Alfie Cummings rifled home a terrific free-kick for the hosts. That still left the Lambs plenty of time to mount another fightback, but it didn’t materialise and their afternoon got even worse in the closing stages when Teigan Rosenquest was given a red card. There was also positive news for another of the strugglers, with bottom side **Bridport** ending their long run of defeats after securing a 2-2 draw at home to **Brislington**. Having gone in front through Callum Arnold after 28 minutes, Bridport found themselves trailing on the hour mark after Joe McLennan struck in either half for the visitors. For once, the home fans will have gone home happy however, and after Arnold was felled in the box, substitute Dan Baggs held his nerve to tuck home the 89th minute penalty to secure the Bees first draw of the entire season. Local bragging rights remain with **Shepton Mallet** after they completed the double over **Street**. Having beaten the same opponent exactly one month previously, Shepton repeated the trick on Saturday afternoon, with goals either side of the interval from Finn Haines and Joe Morgan leading them to an impressive 2-0 victory.

**Action from Shepton Mallet’s 2-0 win over Street, courtesy of Haydn Jones.**

**Exmouth Town** now find themselves just four points off top spot after claiming a 3-0 win away at **Wellington** *(see image below).* Dan Cullen broke the deadlock for the visitors ten minutes before the interval, with Levi Landricombe then striking twice during the second half to help Exmouth take all three points back to Devon. Another player to hit a match-winning brace was Hayden Turner, with the **Mousehole** attacker adding to an earlier goal from teammate Jack Calver during their 3-0 triumph at home to **Ilfracombe**. There was also a 3-0 victory for **Bridgwater**, with man of the moment Jack Taylor starring in their defeat of**Keynsham**. Having struck twice in their most recent win, Taylor repeated the trick away at Keynsham, handing Town a rare home defeat. Substitute Adnan Hiroli also got in on the scoring, coming off the bench to extend Bridgwater’s advantage in the closing stages. Ten-man **Clevedon**managed to claw out a terrific 1-0 victory at home to **Helston**, joining their visitors and four other clubs locked on 44 points. There was only 30 minutes on the clock when Town’s Oli Babington was given his marching orders, but to their credit, Clevedon battled on and got their rewards in the final quarter of the game when Syd Camper’s set piece was met by a stooping header from Glen Hayer. **Saltash United**produced a late show of their own, scoring a late winner in their back-and-forth affair away at **Buckland**. Having fallen behind after 19 minutes to Owen Price’s free header, the Ashes drew level ten minutes before half-time when Neil Slateford fired low into the bottom corner. That set up a tense second half, and just after Ryan Bush had seen his 89th minute effort thwarted by the visiting keeper, Saltash broke up-field and claimed the 2-1 victory with Dave Barker slotting home the dramatic winner. Matt Huxley was another man to score a meaningful goal in the closing stages of his match, with the **Cadbury Heath** front-man cancelling out Dean Griffiths’ eighth-minute opener in their 1-1 draw at home to **Bitton**.

On the latest episode of the official Western League podcast, Keynsham’s manager John Allen joins Ian to reflect on Town’s first full season in the Premier Division, explaining why he feels they have found the perfect balance between attack and defence. We then catch up with Portishead’s Eamon Daly, who looks back on what might have been for his side against some of the top outfits in the First Division this season, while also casting an eye forward to the good times ahead for his young charges as they continue to build for the future.

[**Season 2021/22 Podcast Episode 31 | Toolstation Western League (toolstationleague.com)**](http://toolstationleague.com/season-2021-22-podcast-episode-31/)



**First Division: Sherborne Town** have stretched their lead atop the division to ten points after claiming a 2-0 win away at**Bishops Lydeard**. The leading scorers in the league weren’t at their fluent best, but they still had enough to put away their hosts, with Alex Murphy scoring twice during the first half to help them capture maximum points. Sherborne’s title rivals **Welton** saw their match postponed on Saturday, while second-placed **Warminster** suffered a surprise defeat to 12th placed **AEK Boco**, with the home side scoring with the final kick of the game to grab the 1-0 win. There was also a 1-0 win for **Gillingham Town** over**Bishop Sutton**, with the free-scoring duo of **Longwell Green** and **Lebeq** both drawing rare blanks in their goalless draw at Shellards Road. **Wincanton Town** have gained ground on Warminster and Welton after beating **Bristol Telephones** by two goals to nil. Goals from Jamie Thompson and Cam Vere proved to be enough for the Wasps to extend their excellent unbeaten run to 19 matches in all competitions. Another side who have definitely showed improvements since the turn of the year are **Wells City**, and that continued on Saturday after they beat bottom-side **Devizes** 3-0. Adam Wright’s stellar form continued, with the former-Cheddar man opening the scoring towards the end of the first half, with Charlie Crook then striking either side of the interval to complete the win. **Radstock Town**have now won four of their past five fixtures after they toppled **Portishead** 2-1 at the Southfields Rec thanks to a pair of first half goals from Rico Sobers.

**Action from Sherborne’s 2-0 victory over Bishops Lydeard, courtesy of Debbie Gould.**

League supports ref Bodycam Pilot

The **Toolstation Western League** has thrown its support behind a national campaign by Ref Support UK, calling for the use of Bodycams by Match Officials.

The League’s Board have expressed concerns over abusive behaviour to match officials, and believe bodycams could *“mitigate potential problems and improve the match day experience”* for everyone.

Although it not currently allowed by the International Football Association Board (IFAB), the Western League have proposed taking part in a pilot for bodycam usage, with a trial period helping to consider their effectiveness in improving participant behaviour.

In a letter to Ref Support UK, the league recognised that *“there are other considerations that need to be taken account of prior to commencing (a pilot), but in principle we are keen to support any initiative that enhances the enjoyment of football by players, spectators, club officials and match officials.”*

**Recent Results**

**Tuesday 1st March 2022**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Ashton & Backwell United 3-0 Portishead Town

Welton Rovers 2-3 Wincanton Town

**First Division**

Tytherington Rocks 2-0 Bristol Telephones

**Saturday 5th March 2022**

**Premier Division**

Ashton & Backwell United 2-1 Tavistock 100

Bridport 2-2 Brislington 82

Buckland Athletic 1-2 Saltash United 135

Cadbury Heath 1-1 Bitton 62

Clevedon Town 1-0 Helston Athletic 101

Keynsham Town 0-3 Bridgwater United 172

Mousehole 3-0 Ilfracombe Town

Shepton Mallet 2-0 Street 213

Wellington 0-3 Exmouth Town 147

**First Division**

AEK Boco 1-0 Warminster Town

Bishops Lydeard 0-2 Sherborne Town 98

Bristol Telephones 0-2 Wincanton Town 37

Devizes Town 0-3 Wells City 88

Gillingham Town 1-0 Bishop Sutton 39

Longwell Green Sports 0-0 Lebeq United 130

Radstock Town 2-1 Portishead Town 67

**Leading Goalscorers** (Stats courtesy of FA Fulltime Website)

**First Division**

**Luke Bryan (Odd Down) -28**

**Oaklan Buck (Bishop Sutton) -27**

**Adam Wright (Wells) - 23**

**Alex Murphy (Sherborne) - 21**

**Bailey Croome (Tytherington) -20**

**Premier Division**

**Liam Prynn (Tavistock) – 30**

**Jack Taylor (Bridgwater) – 28**

**Jordan Harris (Exmouth) – 24**

**Will Hailston (Keynsham) – 20**

**Dean Griffiths (Bitton) – 19**

**All Competitions**

**Liam Prynn (Tavistock) – 36**

**Jack Taylor (Bridgwater) – 32**

**Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 28**

**Oaklan Buck (Bishop Sutton) – 27**

**Jordan Harris (Exmouth) – 25**

**Will Hailston (Keynsham) – 25**

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Tuesday 8th March 2022**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Brislington vs Bitton 19:30KO

Hengrove Athletic vs Keynsham Town 19:30KO

Radstock Town vs Gillingham Town 19:30KO

**First Division**

Bishop Sutton vs Wincanton Town 19:30KO

Devizes Town vs Longwell Green Sports 19:30KO

Portishead Town vs Bishops Lydeard 19:30KO

**Wednesday 9th March 2022**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Warminster Town vs Lebeq United 19:45KO

**Premier Division**

Exmouth Town vs Mousehole 19:45KO

Saltash United vs Bridgwater United 19:30KO

**First Division**

Oldland Abbotonians vs Bristol Telephones 19:45KO

**Saturday 12th March 2022 (3pm kick-off unless noted)**

**Premier Division**

Bridgwater United vs Helston Athletic

Cadbury Heath vs Buckland Athletic

Keynsham Town vs Saltash United

Millbrook vs Wellington

Mousehole vs Bridport

Shepton Mallet vs Ilfracombe Town

Street vs Ashton & Backwell United

Tavistock vs Clevedon Town

**First Division**

AEK Boco vs Oldland Abbotonians

Almondsbury vs Radstock Town

Devizes Town vs Welton Rovers

Gillingham Town vs Cheddar

Hengrove Athletic vs Bishops Lydeard

Lebeq United vs Tytherington Rocks

Longwell Green Sports vs Wincanton Town

Odd Down vs Bishop Sutton

Sherborne Town vs Portishead Town

Warminster Town vs Bristol Telephones

**League Tables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREMIER DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Tavistock** | 28 | 18 | 6 | 4 | 43 | **60** |
| 2 | **Exmouth Town** | 27 | 17 | 5 | 5 | 43 | **56** |
| 3 | **Mousehole** | 25 | 17 | 3 | 5 | 34 | **54** |
| 4 | **Bridgwater United** | 28 | 16 | 3 | 9 | 28 | **51** |
| 5 | **Bitton** | 28 | 13 | 6 | 9 | 10 | **45** |
| 6 | **Shepton Mallet** | 29 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 29 | **44** |
| 7 | **Saltash United** | 26 | 13 | 5 | 8 | 26 | **44** |
| 8 | **Helston Athletic** | 26 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 18 | **44** |
| 9 | **Clevedon Town** | 29 | 11 | 11 | 7 | 14 | **44** |
| 10 | **Ilfracombe Town** | 27 | 13 | 5 | 9 | 10 | **44** |
| 11 | **Keynsham Town** | 29 | 12 | 8 | 9 | 9 | **44** |
| 12 | **Buckland Athletic** | 27 | 11 | 6 | 10 | 11 | **39** |
| 13 | **Millbrook** | 27 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 10 | **38** |
| 14 | **Wellington** | 27 | 7 | 7 | 13 | -18 | **28** |
| 15 | **Brislington** | 27 | 8 | 4 | 15 | -39 | **28** |
| 16 | **Cadbury Heath** | 29 | 7 | 3 | 19 | -34 | **24** |
| 17 | **Street** | 26 | 6 | 3 | 17 | -25 | **21** |
| 18 | **Ashton & Backwell United** | 27 | 5 | 4 | 18 | -32 | **19** |
| 19 | **Bridport** | 30 | 1 | 1 | 28 | -137 | **4** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FIRST DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Sherborne Town** | 32 | 23 | 6 | 3 | 67 | **75** |
| 2 | **Warminster Town** | 30 | 20 | 5 | 5 | 36 | **65** |
| 3 | **Welton Rovers** | 29 | 19 | 6 | 4 | 35 | **63** |
| 4 | **Wincanton Town** | 28 | 17 | 5 | 6 | 45 | **56** |
| 5 | **Radstock Town** | 31 | 16 | 7 | 8 | 7 | **55** |
| 6 | **Odd Down** | 31 | 13 | 7 | 11 | 7 | **46** |
| 7 | **Wells City** | 31 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 8 | **43** |
| 8 | **Lebeq United** | 31 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 4 | **42** |
| 9 | **Tytherington Rocks** | 32 | 11 | 9 | 12 | -9 | **42** |
| 10 | **Cheddar** | 30 | 11 | 8 | 11 | 2 | **41** |
| 11 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 27 | 13 | 2 | 12 | 0 | **41** |
| 12 | **AEK Boco** | 29 | 11 | 8 | 10 | -2 | **41** |
| 13 | **Bishop Sutton** | 32 | 11 | 7 | 14 | 0 | **40** |
| 14 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 32 | 10 | 8 | 14 | -13 |  **38** |
| 15 | **Gillingham Town** | 33 | 9 | 9 | 15 | -13 | **36** |
| 16 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 32 | 9 | 9 | 14 | -13 | **36** |
| 17 | **Portishead Town** | 30 | 11 | 4 | 15 | -2 | **34\*** |
| 18 | **Almondsbury** | 29 | 10 | 2 | 17 | -22 | **32** |
| 19 | **Bristol Telephones** | 30 | 7 | 4 | 19 | -38 | **25** |
| 20 | **Bishops Lydeard** | 29 | 5 | 6 | 18 | -29 | **21** |
| 21 | **Devizes Town** | 30 | 4 | 3 | 23 | -70 | **12\*** |