**Latest Round-ups:**

**#12**

**Season 2022/23**

**Midweek Action:** It was a big week of Les Phillips Cup action, with ten ties decided under the lights on Tuesday & Wednesday evening. **Radstock** were among the sides to progress, with the winless First Division outfit claiming their second win in the competition this term thanks to a 2-1 reverse away at **Cheddar**. Joining them in the next round will be **Longwell Green Sports** who prevailed on penalties after drawing one apiece with **Bitton**. It was Longwell Green keeper who proved to be the hero, with his two saves during the shootout allowing the visitors to knock out their higher-ranked hosts. Asa White and Jordan Ricketts were both on target during **Brislington’s** 2-0 victory at home to **AEK Boco**, with **Odd Down** defeating **Hengrove** by the same scoreline despite ending the game with leading marksman Luke Bryan in between the sticks. Goals from Will Humphries and 75th minute sub Cam New proved to be enough for the Bath side, but an injury to keeper Stuart Mason meant Bryan was required to stand in for the entirety of the second half, with Hengrove unable to take advantage. A solitary goal 15 minutes from time by Archie Ferris helped **Clevedon** progress following a tight contest away at **Nailsea & Tickenham**, while Jamie Thompson, Dan Dix and debutant Paulo Borges all struck during **Wincanton**’s 3-0 win **over Hallen**. 24 hours later, there was another Premier Division side who fell to lower-league opposition, with **Shirehampton** coming from behind to defeat **Ashton & Backwell** by four goals to one. Having gone ahead in the eighth minute, Ashton came unstuck at the hands of Ryan Radford and Scott Bamford, who each bagged braces to pull off the excellent Shirehampton comeback. **Cadbury Heath** also scored four, with Ewan McMillan, Matt Isaacs, Tom Withers and Josiah McKayle each netting in their comprehensive win over **Oldland Abbotonians**. Wednesday’s penalty shootout saw **FC Bristol** knockout Prem side **Street**. James Hall looked to have helped the visitors claim a famous victory, only for Harry Foster to level for the Cobblers in stoppage time. Following a marathon set of spot kicks, it was the Bristol side who claimed their spot in the next round thanks to a 7-6 shootout victory. Another entertaining saw **Wellington** defeat local rivals **Bishops Lydeard** by three goals to two. It was a hat-trick for former Lydeard frontman Jake Quick which did the damage for Welly, with his return to the side coming at just the right time on a night where they were pushed all the way by their visitors, for whom Ryan Brereton struck twice during a frantic second half period.

**On the Podcast this week, Millbrook’s Mackenzie Brown reflects on his sides start to the season, and discusses why he relishes the challenge of playing in the Western League. There is also a conversation with Hallen boss Stu Jones who gives an honest assessment of where he thinks his side will finish this season, while also rating the top teams in the First Division.**

[Season 2022/23 Podcast Episode 12 | Toolstation Western League (toolstationleague.com)](http://toolstationleague.com/season-2022-23-podcast-episode-12/)



**Premier Division:** In a battle between the two longest undefeated streaks this season, it was **Bridgwater** who came out on top in a tight contest away at **Shepton Mallet**. The game involved the two best defences in the league, so goals were always likely to be at a premium, with the deadlock broken in fortunate circumstances 20 minutes from time when Jake Brown’s cross deflected into the back of the Shepton net. Then, with Shepton doing everything within their power to equalise, Bridgwater broke down the other end, and wrapped things up in stoppage time, with George King firing home from the edge of the box to make it 2-0. **Clevedon Town** dominated mid-table rival **Millbrook**, scoring five times after the break to complete a 6-0 triumph at the Hand Stadium. Only Ethan Feltham’s 33rd minute effort split the sides at the interval, but the second period belonged exclusively to the hosts from the moment Freddie King doubled their advantage. Archie Ferris then made it 3-0 with their next attack, before Callum Eastwood curled home a beauty to put the result beyond doubt. Feltham and Ferris added further to their tallies in the closing stages to give the Seasiders their biggest win of the campaign by some margin. Second-placed **Saltash** kept up the pressure on Bridgwater thanks to a 3-1 win away at **Welton**. Callum Merrin got the ball rolling, continuing his fine run of form in front of goal, with Harrison Davis then scoring a quickfire double to help the Ashes build a comfortable three-goal lead at the interval. Jake Bird managed to pull a goal back in second half stoppage time for Rovers, but they didn’t come close to stopping Saltash’s charge towards a 12th league victory of the campaign. In the most dramatic finish of the day, **Buckland** grabbed victory from the claws of defeat, with Josh Webber striking twice in injury time to give them a 2-1 win away at **Cadbury Heath**. The Devonians had been unable to break their hosts for much of the afternoon, and looked certain to face defeat due to Matt Huxley’s excellent 17th minute header. Buckland never stopped pushing however, and after Webber finally managed to beat the home side’s backline to level the scores, he then got on the end of another attack less than two minutes later to deny the heartbroken Heath any points whatsoever.

**First Division:** With league leaders Wells not in action, second-placed **Nailsea & Tickenham** won the game of the day, holding off **FC Bristol** to prevail by three goals to one. The home team enjoyed the best of the opening half, and led by two at the interval thanks to a pair of quickfire efforts from Joe Berry and Luke Osgood. The Bristolians managed to pull a goal back on the hour mark through Twaine Plummer, but Nailsea restored their two-goal advantage soon after through Jack Thorne to move within five points of top spot. The biggest winners in the division were **Bishop Sutton**, who defeated **Longwell Green Sports** by four goals to nil at Lakeview. Having gone ahead inside the opening five minutes, it was a short spell just prior to half-time which really turned the game in Sutton’s favour, with debutant Josh Clark and Ethan Ballantine striking within three minutes of one another. The second half was a quieter affair, but there was still plenty of time for Craig Wilson to add to his tally for the season, completing the one-sided scoreline three minutes from time. There was plenty of drama in the day’s early kickoff, where **Tytherington Rocks** survived two penalties to beat **Cheddar** 1-0 *(pictured, right).* The Cheesemen had ample opportunity to go in front, including the two penalty misses, and they were made to pay in first-half stoppage time, when Charlie Derham scored what turned out to be the only goal of the game.

Having each claimed a victory over one another in the previous seven days, **Wincanton** gained ultimate bragging rights over **Hallen**, capturing their second win in the space of four days against the same opposition. Hallen were victorious in the reverse league fixture seven days previously, before the Wasps gained revenge in the Les Phillips Cup during midweek. Then, with the schedule playing out as it did, the sides went once more on Saturday, and it was Wincanton who claimed the 2-1 win. After an excellent free kick from Cory Thomas-Barker had levelled affairs after half an hour, it was left to recent addition Paulo Borges to grab victory for the Wasps, with his second goal in two matches moving Wincanton into the top half of the table. Calum Townsend and George Fowler were each on target in **Portishead**’s 2-0 win away at **AEK Boco**, while a couple of smashing long range finishes from Scott Bamford helped **Shirehampton** secure a 2-1 victory away at **Almondsbury**. There was also another away win for **Gillingham**, who have incredibly now won three on the spin after handing **Radstock** a 2-1 defeat. The recently surging Gills didn’t have to wait long before taking control against the bottom side, with James Boyland netting after just three minutes. Boyland was then on target once again at the beginning of the second half, and that goal proved to be crucial after Ian Jeffery pulled a goal back for the home side 20 minutes from time with a well-taken set piece.

**FA Vase:** Only three Western League sides are still alive in the FA Vase following a relatively disappointing afternoon of knockout action, with **Mousehole**’s 3-1 win at **Lydney Town** the pick of the results. After Mark Goldsworthy had fired the Cornish side ahead inside the opening few minutes, a second-half double from Hayden Turner helped complete victory for the visitors. The other two victories both came in all-Toolstation ties, with **Falmouth** holding on to knock out cup specialists **Helston** by two goals to one *(Falmouth pictured celebrating, below).* An early penalty converted by Jack Bray-Evans set the hosts on their way, before Luke Brabyn volleyed home a second just after the half-hour mark. Tom Payne managed to cut the deficit three minutes before the break, but a goalless second period meant that it was Falmouth who progressed to the next round. Two late goals were the difference in Somerset, where **Wellington** belied their lowly league position to knock out **Barnstaple Town**. When Jake Quick had an effort ruled out for offside, Wellington must have fancied it wasn’t going to be their afternoon, however they showed great perseverance to keep attacking, and were rewarded 12 minutes from time, when Sam Towler fired home from the penalty spot. Brodie Montague’s late own-goal confirmed the destination of the victory, with Wellington securing just their second clean sheet of the campaign. It was a tough afternoon for **Odd Down**, who were handed a 4-0 defeat at **Brixham**, with **Keynsham** beaten by the same scoreline at home against a strong **Corsham** outfit. **Street** were beaten 5-1 by **Andover New Street**, despite taking an eighth minute lead through Jake Horsey, while **Bishops Lydeard**’s Adam Willis’ late effort wasn’t quite enough for Bishops Lydeard in their 2-1 loss at home to **Roman Glass St George**. There were unfortunate penalty defeats for both **Torpoint** and **Oldland Abbotonians**, with **Ashton & Backwell United** undone by a fifth minute strike in their 1-0 loss at **Elburton Villa**.

**Recent Results**

**Tuesday 18th October**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Bitton 1-1 (4-5 pens) Longwell Green Sports

Brislington 2-0 AEK Boco

Cheddar 1-2 Radstock Town

Nailsea & Tickenham 0-1 Clevedon Town

Odd Down 2-0 Hengrove Athletic

Wincanton Town 3-0 Hallen

**Wednesday 19th October**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Cadbury Heath 4-0 Oldland Abbotonians

Shirehampton 4-1 Ashton & Backwell United

Street 1-1 (6-7 pens) FC Bristol

Wellington 3-2 Bishops Lydeard

**Saturday 22nd October**

**Premier Division**

Cadbury Heath 1-2 Buckland Athletic

Clevedon Town 6-0 Millbrook

Shepton Mallet 0-2 Bridgwater United

Welton Rovers 1-3 Saltash United

**First Division**

AEK Boco 0-2 Portishead Town

Almondsbury 1-2 Shirehampton

Bishop Sutton 4-0 Longwell Green Sports

Nailsea & Tickenham 3-1 FC Bristol

Radstock Town 1-2 Gillingham Town

Tytherington Rocks 1-0 Cheddar

Wincanton Town 2-1 Hallen

**FA Vase**

**Bishops Lydeard** 1-2 Roman Glass St George

Brimscombe & Thrupp 1-1 (5-4 pens) **Torpoint Athletic**

Brixham 4-0 **Odd Down**

Elburton Villa 1-0 **Ashton & Backwell United**

**Falmouth Town** 2-1 **Helston Athletic**

**Keynsham Town** 0-4 Corsham Town

Lydney Town 1-3 **Mousehole**

**Oldland Abbotonians** 0-0 (3-4 pens) Shaftsbury Town

**Street**  1-5 Andover New Street

**Wellington** 2-0 **Barnstaple Town**

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Tuesday 25th October**

**First Division**

Almondsbury vs Cheddar 19:45KO

Odd Down vs AEK Boco 19:45KO

Wincanton Town vs Nailsea & Tickenham 19:30KO

**Les Phillips Cup**

Welton Rovers vs Shepton Mallet 19:30KO

**Saturday 29th October (3pm kick-off unless noted)**

**Premier Division**

Barnstaple Town vs Mousehole

Cadbury Heath vs Clevedon Town

Falmouth Town vs Keynsham Town

Millbrook vs Buckland Athletic 14:00KO

Saltash United vs Street 14:00KO

Shepton Mallet vs Ilfracombe Town

Sherborne Town vs Ashton & Backwell United

Wellington vs Bridgwater United

Welton Rovers vs Torpoint Athletic

**First Division**

Almondsbury vs Warminster Town 14:00KO

Brislington vs Gillingham Town

Cheddar vs Shirehampton

FC Bristol vs Bishops Lydeard

Hallen vs Odd Down

Hengrove Athletic vs Nailsea & Tickenham

Longwell Green Sports vs Bishop Sutton

Oldland Abbotonians vs AEK Boco

Portishead Town vs Tytherington Rocks

Wincanton Town vs Radstock Town

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

**Premier Division**

**Jacob Brown (Bridgwater) – 15**

**Josh Webber (Buckland) - 10**

**Harry Foster (Street) – 10**

**Harry Stevens (Ilfracombe) – 9**

**Jack Taylor (Bridgwater) – 8**

**All Competitions**

**Sacha Tong (FC Bristol) – 18**

**Adam Wright (Wells) – 17**

**Jacob Brown (Bridgwater) – 15**

**Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 14**

**Jack Thorne (Nailsea/Tickenham) – 13**

**Rubin Wilson (Helston) – 12**

**Curtis Damerell (Torpoint) – 12**

**Connor Williams (Wincanton) - 11**

**Dean Griffiths (Brislington) – 11**

**Harry Stevens (Ilfracombe) – 11**

**First Division**

**Sacha Tong (FC Bristol) – 18**

**Adam Wright (Wells) – 15**

**Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 14**

**Jack Thorne (Nailsea/Tickenham) – 13**

**Joe Berry (Nailsea/Tickenham) – 11**

**Owen McCallum (Oldland) – 10**

**Dan Spicer (Shirehampton) – 10**

**League Tables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREMIER DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Bridgwater United** | 16 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 38 | **41** |
| 2 | **Saltash United** | 16 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 21 | **39** |
| 3 | **Shepton Mallet** | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 12 | **25** |
| 4 | **Buckland Athletic** | 14 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 6 | **24** |
| 5 | **Mousehole** | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 13 | **23** |
| 6 | **Barnstaple Town** | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 10 | **20** |
| 7 | **Clevedon Town** | 12 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 0 | **17** |
| 8 | **Helston Athletic** | 11 | 4 | 4 | 3 | -3 | **16** |
| 9 | **Millbrook** | 13 | 5 | 1 | 7 | -10 | **16** |
| 10 | **Street** | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | -10 | **16** |
| 11 | **Ilfracombe Town** | 11 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 | **14** |
| 12 | **Sherborne Town** | 13 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 1 | **14** |
| 13 | **Ashton & Backwell United** | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | -1 | **14** |
| 14 | **Falmouth Town** | 12 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 0 | **13** |
| 15 | **Welton Rovers** | 15 | 3 | 3 | 9 | -20 | **12** |
| 16 | **Cadbury Heath** | 14 | 2 | 4 | 8 | -12 | **10** |
| 17 | **Torpoint Athletic** | 12 | 2 | 3 | 7 | -13 | **9** |
| 18 | **Wellington** | 11 | 2 | 2 | 7 | -9 | **8** |
| 19 | **Keynsham Town** | 15 | 2 | 2 | 11 | -28 | **8** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FIRST DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Wells City** | 18 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 35 | **46** |
| 2 | **Nailsea & Tickenham** | 18 | 13 | 2 | 3 | 35 | **41** |
| 3 | **Brislington** | 16 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 25 | **38** |
| 4 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 16 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 15 | **35** |
| 5 | **FC Bristol** | 17 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 11 | **30** |
| 6 | **Shirehampton** | 16 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 8 | **28** |
| 7 | **Bishop Sutton** | 16 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 7 | **24** |
| 8 | **Portishead Town** | 14 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 3 | **23** |
| 9 | **AEK Boco** | 16 | 7 | 2 | 7 | -7 | **23** |
| 10 | **Hallen** | 16 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 4 | **22** |
| 11 | **Wincanton Town** | 13 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 8 | **20** |
| 12 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 17 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 0 | **19** |
| 13 | **Warminster Town** | 15 | 5 | 4 | 6 | -4 | **19** |
| 14 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 16 | 5 | 4 | 7 | -10 | **19** |
| 15 | **Odd Down** | 16 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 5 | **18** |
| 16 | **Tytherington Rocks** | 17 | 4 | 5 | 8 | -13 | **17** |
| 17 | **Cheddar** | 18 | 4 | 4 | 10 | -14 | **16** |
| 18 | **Bristol Telephones** | 17 | 3 | 4 | 10 | -18 | **13** |
| 19 | **Almondsbury** | 17 | 3 | 4 | 10 | -34 | **13** |
| 20 | **Bishops Lydeard** | 13 | 3 | 3 | 7 | -14 | **12** |
| 21 | **Gillingham Town** | 15 | 3 | 3 | 9 | -18 | **12** |
| 22 | **Radstock Town** | 17 | 0 | 6 | 11 | -24 | **6** |