**Latest Round-ups:**

**#25**

**Season 2022/23**

**Midweek Action:** With the weather showing signs of improvement, two fixtures managed to survive pitch inspections on Wednesday evening to end the constant stream of midweek postponements. In the Les Phillips Cup, **Almondsbury** produced a stunning five-minute spell to claim a come-from-behind 3-2 victory over **Shirehampton**. Goals either side of the interval from Scott Bamford and Will Gallagher had put the away side two goals to the good, before Tyler Dunnell-Luff struck to spark the Almonds comeback. With their next attack, Cole Jones headed home to draw the hosts’ level, and then less than two minutes later they had suddenly turned the game on its head with Ashley Knight smashing home their third in quick succession to stun their higher-ranked opponent. The other match to be given the green light saw **Nailsea & Tickenham** defeat **Radstock** 2-0 in their First Division clash *(pictured, right).* With neither side having played a league fixture in over three weeks, the game took a while to come to life, but it eventually went the way of the home side, with Gary Freeman and Sam Beresford each finding the back of the net after half-time.

**FA Vase: Bridgwater United** have qualified for the fifth round of the competition after coming out on top in a penalty shootout against **Erith Town**. Despite losing star man Jack Taylor to a straight red early in the second half, Bridgwater were bigger attacking threat throughout, and came closest to scoring in the 76th minute when Jack Thorne had an effort cleared off the line. However, the game remained goalless for 90 minutes, meaning spot kicks were required and a Jake Viney save was followed soon after by the winning penalty from Ross Edwards as United prevailed 4-1. Unfortunately for **Clevedon Town**, they were on the wrong end of a shootout, with **Harefield** **United** fighting back to book their spot in the next round. Goals from Ethan Feltham and Cam Salmon had put the Seasiders two goals clear after 26 minutes, but the visitors clawed their way back into the contest, eventually levelling five minutes from time through Hekmat Alizai. After being denied victory at the death, it was no surprise when Clevedon could only convert one of their four penalties meaning they would not continue in the competition. **Buckland Athletic** have also played their last Vase game of the season after they suffered a 3-1 defeat at home to **Ascot United**. Two goals at the end of the first half gave Buckland too much of a mountain to climb, with Jared Lewington’s injury-time consolation all they had to show for a tough afternoon at Homers Heath.

**Premier Division:** Leaders **Saltash** stretched their advantage atop the standings to four points after they overcame a resolute **Cadbury Heath** side by three goals to one at Springfield. After Sam Farrant had put the Ashes ahead from long range, they were pegged back by their hosts when Ali Boyer netted to make it 1-1. Adam Carter’s penalty soon restored Saltash’s advantage, and they then wrapped things up midway through the second half when Mike Smith beat the visiting keeper. Third-place **Mousehole** also prevailed 3-1 away at **Street** to stretch their winning run to six matches. Having gone ahead in the 14th minute through Callam McOnie, Mousehole soon saw their lead disappear when Street’s leading scorer Harry Foster levelled affairs after rounding the keeper. Another left-footed finish, this time by Jack Bray-Evans helped Mousehole go back ahead towards the end of the first half, with Max Hill then adding their third to complete victory. A solitary flash point decided the game at Bickland Park, with **Falmouth** defeating **Ilfracombe** 1-0 thanks to Luke Brabyn’s penalty. The big moment came after 32 minutes, with visiting keeper Laurence McCormick sent off for an altercation with Brabyn, with the forward then dusting himself down before tucking home the resulting spot kick against the stand-in keeper. Alongside Falmouth, there were a number of other strong defensive performances which helped side’s bag maximum points. One such victor was **Wellington** who claimed an impressive 1-0 win away at **Millbrook**, with Jake Quick taking advantage of a defensive error to steal in and score the 68th minute winner. **Barnstaple** also prevailed by a goal to nil, with a stoppage time penalty doing the business for them away at **Sherborne**. With the game seemingly headed towards a stalemate, Barnstaple earned a spot kick at the death, and Billy Tucker kept his nerve before tucking home from 12 yards. Second half strikes from Toby Cole and Owen Punselie helped **Welton** secure a 2-0 win at home to **Keynsham**, with **Ashton & Backwell** defeating **Helston** by the same scoreline thanks to a couple of late efforts, including an outstanding long-ranger from Miles Hardidge which broke the deadlock 13 from time.

**Action from Wellington’s tense 1-0 victory over Millbrook**

**First Division:** On an entertaining day up and down the division, the league lead changed hands, and there was also victory for the bottom side as teams returned to action following the recent poor weather. It is now **Nailsea & Tickenham** who sit top of the pile after they flourished in the second half during their 4-0 win at home to **Hallen.** Following 45 goalless minutes, the Swags made a dream start to the second period, with Callum Dunn putting them a goal to the good within five minutes of the restart. Luke Osgood then doubled their advantage from the spot, before a late brace from Jared Ford helped the hosts run out comfortable victors. Despite being level on points, **Wells City** had dropped down into second spot after they drew one apiece at home to **Bristol Telephones**. Having fallen behind to Billy Padfield’s opener, the Somerset side finally found their stride and secured a point thanks to Harry Horton’s leveller 15 minutes from time.

At the opposite end of the table, **Bishops Lydeard** secured just their fourth league victory of the season after toppling **Gillingham** by three goals to one. After Oscar Albano had put the Lyds in front, their hard work soon became undone with Jack Male striking to restore parity just prior to half-time. The home side came out firing at the beginning of the second half, moving back ahead through Jordan Hayman, with an 87th minute effort from Adam Willis earning them their first league victory since late August. The highly-anticipated top-five clash between **Brislington** and **FC Bristol** went the way of the home side, with Joe McLennan and Jordan Scadding both scoring in the opening half hour of their 2-0 victory. 2-0 was also the final score at **Hengrove**, where Jack Jones struck in either half of their triumph over **Shirehampton,** while **Oldland** went one better, striking three times before the break to ease to a3-0 win at home to **Warminster**. Bottom-half duo **Radstock** and **Cheddar** battled out a goalless draw at the Southfields Rec *(pictured, right),* with **Almondsbury** also taking home one point after they twice battled back to draw 2-2 with **AEK Boco.** Finlay Coombs struck the Almonds first equaliser on the hour mark, and then after falling behind once again, it was left to Ashley Knight to help rescue a point, with his penalty ten minutes from time closing out an enjoyable contest. In one of the day’s early kick-offs, **Odd Down** made a winning return in Bath, sneaking past **Portishead** by two goals to one. Matty Morris’ early effort helped the hosts head into half-time on level terms, and they then claimed all three points thanks to an excellently taken free kick from Jack Thomas midway through the second half. Another side who surged home after the interval were **Longwell Green Sports**, with star man Zach Feltham adding the finishing touches to their 4-1 win over **Tytherington**. After Bailey Croome drew the Rocks level two minutes into the second half, Longwell Green seemed to kick back into gear, with quickfire goals from Matt Brown and Rob Belcher putting them 3-1 up, before Feltham then added a late fourth to round out the victory.

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

**Premier Division**

**Jacob Brown (Bridgwater) – 16**

**Curtis Damerell (Torpoint) - 14**

**Harry Stevens (Ilfracombe) – 14**

**Harry Foster (Street) – 14**

**Rubin Wilson (Helston) – 12**

**Josh Webber (Buckland) – 12**

**All Competitions**

**Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 24**

**Jack Thorne (Bridgwater/N&T) – 23**

**Sacha Tong (FC Bristol) – 22**

**Adam Wright (Wells) – 22**

**Curtis Damerell (Torpoint) – 21**

**Scott Bamford (Shirehampton) – 20**

**Jacob Brown (Bridgwater) – 18**

**Craig Wilson (Bishop Sutton) – 17**

**Joe Berry (Nailsea & Tickenham) – 17**

**First Division**

**Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 24**

**Sacha Tong (FC Bristol) – 22**

**Adam Wright (Wells) – 20**

**Scott Bamford (Shirehampton) – 17**

**Craig Wilson (Bishop Sutton) - 17**

**Joe Berry (Nailsea & Tickenham) – 17**

**Recent Results**

**Wednesday 25th January 2023**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Almondsbury 3-2 Shirehampton

**First Division**

Nailsea & Tickenham 2-0 Radstock Town

**Saturday 28th January 2023**

**FA Vase - Fourth Round**

**Bridgwater United** 0-0 (4-1 pens) Erith Town

**Buckland Athletic** 1-3 Ascot United

**Clevedon Town** 2-2 (1-3 pens) Harefield United

**Premier Division**

Cadbury Heath 1-3 Saltash United

Falmouth Town 1-0 Ilfracombe Town

Helston Athletic 0-2 Ashton & Backwell United

Millbrook 0-1 Wellington

Sherborne Town 0-1 Barnstaple Town

Street 1-3 Mousehole

Welton Rovers 2-0 Keynsham Town

**First Division**

Almondsbury 2-2 AEK Boco

Bishops Lydeard 3-1 Gillingham Town

Brislington 2-0 FC Bristol

Hengrove Athletic 2-0 Shirehampton

Longwell Green Sports 4-1 Tytherington Rocks

Nailsea & Tickenham 4-0 Hallen

Odd Down 2-1 Portishead Town

Oldland Abbotonians 3-0 Warminster Town

Radstock Town 0-0 Cheddar

Wells City 1-1 Bristol Telephones



On this week’s podcast, Helston Athletic boss Matt Cusack comments on the Blues continued defensive improvements as they develop into one of the teams to beat in the Western League. There is also a conversation with Radstock supporter Dave Wilkinson who has played a big role in the Premier League Stadium Fund, explaining what clubs need to put in place to access money that can improve their grounds.

[Season 2022/23 Podcast Episode 25 | Toolstation Western League (toolstationleague.com)](http://toolstationleague.com/season-2022-23-podcast-episode-25/)

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Tuesday 31st January 2023**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Buckland Athletic vs Mousehole 19:30KO

Saltash United vs Torpoint Athletic 19:30KO

Shepton Mallet vs Wells City 19:30KO

**Premier Division**

Ashton & Backwell United vs Bridgwater United 19:30KO

Welton Rovers vs Street 19:30KO

**First Division**

Almondsbury vs Oldland Abbotonians 19:45KO

Gillingham Town vs Odd Down 19:30KO

Portishead Town vs Hallen 19:30KO

Tytherington Rocks vs Warminster Town 19:45KO

**Wednesday 1st February 2023**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Cadbury Heath vs Brislington 19:30KO

FC Bristol vs Sherborne Town 19:45KO

Falmouth Town vs Barnstaple Town 19:45KO

Wellington vs Clevedon Town 19:45KO

**First Division**

Bristol Telephones vs Bishops Lydeard 19:45KO

**Friday 3rd February 2023**

**First Division**

Hallen vs Almondsbury 19:30KO

**Saturday 4th February 2023 (3pm kick-off unless noted)**

**Premier Division**

Barnstaple Town vs Millbrook 14:00KO

Buckland Athletic vs Ashton & Backwell United

Clevedon Town vs Falmouth Town

Ilfracombe Town vs Helston Athletic

Mousehole vs Cadbury Heath

Saltash United vs Sherborne Town

Torpoint Athletic vs Street

Wellington vs Shepton Mallet

Welton Rovers vs Keynsham Town

**First Division**

AEK Boco vs Radstock Town

Bishops Lydeard vs Bishop Sutton

Brislington vs Odd Down

Bristol Telephones vs Warminster Town

Cheddar vs Tytherington Rocks 14:00KO

FC Bristol vs Gillingham Town

Hengrove Athletic vs Oldland Abbotonians

Nailsea & Tickenham vs Shirehampton

Portishead Town vs Wells City

Wincanton Town vs Longwell Green Sports

**League Tables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREMIER DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Saltash United** | 24 | 16 | 5 | 3 | 31 | **53** |
| 2 | **Bridgwater United** | 21 | 15 | 4 | 2 | 40 | **49** |
| 3 | **Mousehole** | 21 | 14 | 6 | 1 | 32 | **48** |
| 4 | **Shepton Mallet** | 20 | 13 | 3 | 4 | 24 | **42** |
| 5 | **Barnstaple Town** | 20 | 12 | 2 | 6 | 11 | **38** |
| 6 | **Buckland Athletic** | 22 | 12 | 2 | 8 | 9 | **38** |
| 7 | **Helston Athletic** | 21 | 9 | 6 | 6 | 2 | **33** |
| 8 | **Falmouth Town** | 20 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 7 | **30** |
| 9 | **Ashton & Backwell United** | 20 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 6 | **30** |
| 10 | **Clevedon Town** | 19 | 7 | 4 | 8 | -4 | **25** |
| 11 | **Street** | 19 | 7 | 2 | 10 | -15 | **23** |
| 12 | **Millbrook** | 22 | 6 | 5 | 11 | -15 | **23** |
| 13 | **Welton Rovers** | 24 | 6 | 4 | 14 | -31 | **22** |
| 14 | **Ilfracombe Town** | 19 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 0 | **20** |
| 15 | **Torpoint Athletic** | 21 | 5 | 5 | 11 | -13 | **20** |
| 16 | **Sherborne Town** | 22 | 5 | 4 | 13 | -10 | **19** |
| 17 | **Wellington** | 18 | 4 | 5 | 9 | -5 | **17** |
| 18 | **Cadbury Heath** | 21 | 3 | 5 | 13 | -21 | **14** |
| 19 | **Keynsham Town** | 24 | 3 | 3 | 18 | -48 | **12** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FIRST DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Nailsea & Tickenham** | 28 | 21 | 3 | 4 | 58 | **66** |
| 2 | **Wells City** | 27 | 21 | 3 | 3 | 43 | **66** |
| 3 | **Brislington** | 24 | 19 | 2 | 3 | 40 | **59** |
| 4 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 23 | 14 | 5 | 4 | 21 | **47** |
| 5 | **FC Bristol** | 27 | 14 | 4 | 9 | 8 | **46** |
| 6 | **Odd Down** | 26 | 11 | 8 | 7 | 20 | **41** |
| 7 | **Wincanton Town** | 24 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 19 | **40** |
| 8 | **Shirehampton** | 24 | 12 | 4 | 8 | 13 | **40** |
| 9 | **Warminster Town** | 24 | 11 | 4 | 9 | 1 | **37** |
| 10 | **Bishop Sutton** | 23 | 10 | 4 | 9 | 1 | **34** |
| 11 | **Portishead Town** | 23 | 10 | 3 | 10 | 3 | **33** |
| 12 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 28 | 9 | 6 | 13 | -6 | **33** |
| 13 | **AEK Boco** | 26 | 10 | 3 | 13 | -17 | **33** |
| 14 | **Hallen** | 25 | 9 | 5 | 11 | 0 | **32** |
| 15 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 27 | 8 | 5 | 14 | -18 | **29** |
| 16 | **Cheddar** | 28 | 7 | 6 | 15 | -16 | **27** |
| 17 | **Gillingham Town** | 24 | 7 | 4 | 13 | -11 | **25** |
| 18 | **Almondsbury** | 28 | 5 | 7 | 16 | -47 | **22** |
| 19 | **Bristol Telephones** | 27 | 5 | 8 | 14 | -19 | **20\*** |
| 20 | **Tytherington Rocks** | 25 | 4 | 7 | 14 | -36 | **19** |
| 21 | **Radstock Town** | 26 | 2 | 11 | 13 | -24 | **17** |
| 22 | **Bishops Lydeard** | 23 | 4 | 4 | 15 | -33 | **16** |