



## Latest Round-ups:

**Midweek Action:** As the season reaches its finale, there was a fair amount of catching up to do over the final week, while some high stakes knockout clashes also make this time of year both nervy and rewarding in equal measures. Just three days after their league seasons had come to an end, **Wells** and **Shirehampton** met in their First Division playoff semi-final at the Athletic Ground. Given hosting honours due to their higher league position, Wells saw their hopes of promotion go up in smoke following a 3-0 loss at the hands of an in-form attacking duo. Ryan Radford was first to strike for Shirehampton, firing the visitors ahead after 16 minutes in the only goal of the first half. It was then over to Radford's partner in crime, Scott Bamford, to do what he does best, with the leading scorer in the entire division doubling their lead in the 63<sup>rd</sup> minute, before wrapping things up in stoppage time to book a spot in the playoff final. Elsewhere in Division One that evening, **Bishops Lydeard** ended their campaign on a high, with Callum Chivers, Harry Scott and Tai Bewes all scoring in their 3-0 win away at **Odd Down**. A brace of superb strikes from Harry Brock saw **Tytherington Rocks** come from behind to beat **FC Bristol 2-1**, while **Portishead** and **Warminster** drew one apiece. The clash at Lakeview also finished one-all between **Bishop Sutton** and **Radstock**, with substitute Jack Farion striking in added time to secure a point for the visitors. Despite conceding a late equaliser, the point gained thanks to Craig Wilson's ninth minute opener, was enough to lead Sutton to their best league finish in a decade.

Tuesday's Premier Division action peaked with a late comeback from **Falmouth** to win by three goals to two away at **Welton**. Having gone ahead just prior to half-time thanks to a Tom Annear penalty, Falmouth were pegged back soon after the restart following a Jaiden Savery equaliser. Lewis Russell then completed Rovers' turnaround, before Annear stroked home his second penalty of the night following a foul on Tim Nixon. Just four minutes later, Luke Brabyn found the back of the net for Falmouth to give the Cornish outfit another victory as their strong end to season continues. The other winners that night were **Barnstaple**, with Town pulling off a turnaround of their own to topple **Ashton & Backwell**. Having fallen behind to Shea Mannings early opener, Barnstaple managed to end the opening half on level terms thanks to Rhys Thomas strike after 41 minutes. With the game seemingly headed towards a draw, Barnstaple had one final attack and it ended with Callum Laird planting a header into the back of the net to grab all three points. The other game that night ended one apiece between **Wellington** and **Helston**, while on Thursday evening, Welly were in action again, and fell to a 1-0 defeat at home to **Ilfracombe**, with Charlie Prentice scoring the only goal of the game two minutes into the second half.

On the latest podcast, both title winning managers join Ian to touch on their impressive feats. Mousehole's Jake Ash starts by reflecting on an incredible season for the Seagulls, and even more impressive celebration by the Cornish boys! Then it's on to Brislington manager, Lee Perks, who talks about his sides incredible run of form which helped them storm to top spot in Division One, and the consequences of their voluntary relegation last season.

[Season 2022/23 Podcast Episode 37 | Toolstation Western League \(toolstationleague.com\)](https://www.toolstationleague.com/podcast/season-2022-23-podcast-episode-37)



**League Action:** The final Saturday of the league season saw plenty of success for the home sides in action, including **Ashton & Backwell** who defeated **Torpoint** 4-0 in their Premier Division encounter. The end of the first half proved to be crucial for Ashton, with Reece Hedges and Kitan Jaiyeoba striking in quick succession to hand them a two-goal advantage at the break. It was then left to Jamarni Langlais



Action from Barnstaple's clash with Buckland on Saturday, courtesy of @GoodmanJosh\_

to add the finishing touches, with his late double helping complete the one-sided victory. Third beat fifth at Mill Road, with **Barnstaple's** exquisite first half helping them hold off a late charge from **Buckland Athletic**, eventually prevailing by four goals to three. Having taken an early lead from the spot courtesy of Billy Tucker, Barnstaple were pegged back less than three minutes later when Sammy Stayt poked home. Stu Bowker's strong campaign continued with him adding Barnstaple's second of the afternoon to restore their lead, with Callum Laird then thumping home a header to make it 3-1 after 44 minutes.

The home side found time to add a further goal before the interval courtesy of another Tucker penalty, and that proved influential in the final reckoning, with Nick Milton and Josh Grant notching for the away side during the second period. **Street** ended their season riding a 12-game unbeaten streak after claiming a battling goalless draw away at **Falmouth**, with Nathanael West scoring the only goal five minutes from time to help **Helston** snatch a 1-0 win away at **Shepton Mallet**. There was also late drama in the other Saturday fixture, with Sherborne falling behind at Ilfracombe after 88 minutes, before grabbing a share of the spoils thanks to an equaliser with the last kick of the game from Declan Cornish. On Bank Holiday Monday, **Cadbury Heath** climbed off the bottom of the table thanks to a 2-1 win over third-placed **Barnstaple**. Having not enjoyed the taste of victory since October, the Heath will have been fearing the worst when Matt Isaacs 17<sup>th</sup> minute opener was cancelled out just three minutes later by Barnstaple's leading marksman Stu Bowker. However, the Heath were the stronger side for the remainder of the game and grabbed a deserved winner when Callum Whooley struck following a goalmouth scramble eight minutes from time.

There was a similar run of results in the First Division also, with all four home sides prevailing by pretty comfortable margins. The closest outcome of the afternoon was at **Portishead**, where a brace of goals from Hamish Hurst led the hosts to a 2-1 win over **Hengrove**. Things were much simpler for **Warminster**, with Tyler Gane starring in their one-sided 5-0 defeat of **Bishops Lydeard**. Gane struck in either half for the victorious hosts who wasted no time at all in forging ahead, with Tyson Pollard firing them in front after 20 seconds. Warminster haven't been beaten since early March, and they made sure to end their season on a high with Seb Hounsell and Corey Gardner adding goals four and five during the closing stages. The other two encounters both saw pretty incredible comebacks, with **Boco** scoring four times in the final 15 minutes to stun mid-table rivals **Odd Down**. A free-kick at the end of the first half from Curtis Dunn saw the Bath side move two goals clear, and that lead was sustained all the way up until the 75<sup>th</sup> minute when Ollie Williams gave the hosts a glimmer of hope. A header from Williams soon after then drew Boco level, before they completed their remarkable comeback with another headed effort from Tomas Mendez. Amazingly, there was still time for Williams to grab his hat-trick goal, with yet another header finding its way into the back of the Odd Down net as Boco pulled off a remarkable late salvo. In a similar occurrence at **Hallen**, the home side overturned a two-goal deficit to deny **Radstock**, surging home to win 5-2. Jacob Bird and Will Osborne scored within two minutes of one another around the half-hour mark to put Town in position to grab a rare away victory. Hallen seemed to have other ideas however, and after Harrison Fairman had pulled a goal back, it was then over to Nathan Hewitt who headed home twice in five minutes to make it 3-2. A second Fairman goal, also coming thanks to a headed finish, saw Hallen pull further clear, with leading scorer Elliot Gardner finally adding his name to the scoresheet as the game headed towards the final whistle. The final game of the season took place on Monday afternoon, with Portishead and Hallen battling out a goalless draw.

**Knockout Competitions:** On Saturday afternoon, **Saltash** were denied promotion after losing 2-0 away at **Bristol Manor Farm** in their Inter-Step playoff. Following the recent draw which pitted the Ashes away at the 18<sup>th</sup> placed finisher in Division One of the Southern League, they had a tough afternoon, conceding in either half to Aron Robbins and Jayden Nielsen as Manor Farm staved off relegation. In the First Division playoff semi-final, **Oldland** came through a marathon shootout to knock out **Wincanton** after their tie finished two apiece. With the original tie having been abandoned earlier in the week due to floodlight failure, both sides flew out of the gates on Saturday afternoon, with Mason Davis' seventh minute opener cancelled out by a Wincanton leveller most straight away. The Abbots maintained their pressure on the visiting goal, and went back ahead after just 15 minutes with Cash Vinall powering home a header. The 5-0 defeat at the hands of the same opposition just seven days previously may have been playing on Wincanton's mind, but it didn't show, and they drew level again on the cusp of half-time. The entirety of the second half was a shutout, meaning penalties would be required to decide the semi-final victor, and just like the 90 minutes, it was tough to split the sides, with Oldland eventually prevailing 10-9 in a dramatic sudden death shootout.

48 hours later, **Oldland** were back in action and came out on the winning side once again, overturning an early deficit to beat **Shirehampton** and confirm promotion to next season's Premier Division. Scott Bamford has been in unbelievable form over the past few months, and having scored a brace in their semi-final victory, the Shirehampton forward was on target once more to put the visitors ahead after only 14 minutes. The Abbots had already proved their never-say-die attitude in Saturday's semi-final victory, and they hit back instantly in front of a raucous home crowd with Matt Green sending the keeper the wrong way with his penalty after Mason Davis had been felled in the box. The game remained on a knives edge for much of the afternoon, before the deciding moment came in the 80<sup>th</sup> minute with Mason Davis heading home from close range after Zac Tucker had seen his lob come back off the post. In the Les Phillips Cup, **Helston** became the first side to book their spot in the final after securing a 2-0 win away at **Ilfracombe**. A quickfire brace early in the second half from Rikki Sheppard proved to be enough for the visitors who will take on the winner of the second semi-final which sees Shepton Mallet take on Brislington later in the week.

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

#### Premier Division

Curtis Damerell (Torpoint) – 25  
 Hayden Turner (Mousehole) – 24  
 Harry Foster (Street) – 20  
 Rubin Wilson (Helston) – 18  
 Ryan Richards (Torpoint) - 16  
 Jacob Brown (Bridgwater) – 16  
 Adam Carter (Saltash) -16  
 Stu Bowker (Barnstaple) – 15  
 Harry Stevens (Ilfracombe) – 14  
 Josh Webber (Buckland) – 14  
 Tim Nixon (Falmouth) - 14

#### First Division

Scott Bamford (Shirehampton) – 36  
 Sacha Tong (FC Bristol) – 32  
 Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 31  
 Adam Wright (Wells) – 30  
 Luke Osgood (Nailsea) - 24  
 Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 24  
 Joe Berry (Nailsea/Tickenham) - 23  
 Craig Wilson (Bishop Sutton) – 23  
 Elliot Gardner (Hallen) - 22  
 Mason Davis (Oldland) – 22  
 George Jones (Brislington) – 21

#### All Competitions

Scott Bamford (Shirehampton) – 42  
 Sacha Tong (FC Bristol) – 34  
 Curtis Damerell (Torpoint) – 32  
 Adam Wright (Wells) – 32  
 Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 31  
 Jack Thorne (Bridgwater/N&T) – 29  
 Hayden Turner (Mousehole) - 28  
 Matt Garner (Wincanton) - 26

## Recent Results

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023

First Division Playoff Semi Final

<b>Wells City</b>	<b>0-3</b>	<b>Shirehampton</b>
<u>Premier Division</u>		
Barnstaple Town	2-1	Ashton & Backwell United
Wellington	1-1	Helston Athletic
Welton Rovers	2-3	Falmouth Town
<u>First Division</u>		
Bishop Sutton	1-1	Radstock Town
Portishead Town	1-1	Warminster Town
Odd Down	0-3	Bishops Lydeard
Tytherington Rocks	2-1	FC Bristol

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Premier Division

Wellington	0-1	Ilfracombe Town
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Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Premier Division

Ashton & Backwell United	4-0	Torpoint Athletic
Barnstaple Town	4-3	Buckland Athletic
Falmouth Town	0-0	Street
Ilfracombe Town	1-1	Sherborne Town
Shepton Mallet	0-1	Helston Athletic
<u>First Division</u>		
AEK Boco	4-2	Odd Down
Hallen	5-2	Radstock Town
Portishead Town	2-1	Hengrove Athletic
Warminster Town	5-0	Bishops Lydeard

First Division Playoff Semi Final

<b>Oldland Abbotonians</b>	<b>2-2 (10-9 pens)</b>	<b>Wincanton Town</b>
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Inter-Step Playoff Final

Bristol Manor Farm	2-0	<b>Saltash United</b>
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Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Premier Division

Cadbury Heath	2-1	Barnstaple Town
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First Division

Portishead Town	0-0	Hallen
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First Division Playoff Final

<b>Oldland Abbotonians</b>	<b>2-1</b>	<b>Shirehampton</b>
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Les Phillips Cup Semi Final

Ilfracombe Town	0-2	Helston Athletic
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## Upcoming Fixtures

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Les Phillips Cup Semi Final

Shepton Mallet	vs	Brislington	19:30KO
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Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Les Phillips Cup Final @ Tiverton Town FC

Helston Athletic	vs	Semi-Final 2 Winner	15:00KO
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## League Tables

	PREMIER DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
C	Mousehole	36	26	8	2	61	86
2	Saltash United	36	26	6	4	59	84
3	Barnstaple Town	36	24	3	9	28	75
4	Bridgwater United	36	20	9	7	43	69
5	Buckland Athletic	36	22	2	12	21	68
6	Helston Athletic	36	18	12	6	22	66
7	Falmouth Town	36	16	8	12	14	56
8	Shepton Mallet	36	15	10	11	13	55
9	Street	36	15	10	13	-14	49
10	Ashton & Backwell United	36	14	6	16	8	48
11	Clevedon Town	36	13	7	16	-11	46
12	Torpoint Athletic	36	12	9	15	-7	45
13	Millbrook	36	11	7	18	-14	40
14	Welton Rovers	36	10	6	20	-36	36
15	Wellington	36	9	8	19	-21	35
16	Ilfracombe Town	36	7	11	18	-18	32
17	Sherborne Town	36	8	7	21	-23	31
18	Cadbury Heath	36	4	6	26	-53	18
19	Keynsham Town	36	5	3	28	-74	18

	FIRST DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
C	Brislington	42	36	2	4	95	110
P	Nailsea & Tickenham	42	31	5	6	75	98
3	Wells City	42	29	9	4	56	96
4	Oldland Abbotonians	42	24	9	9	39	81
5	Wincanton Town	42	22	5	15	22	71
6	Shirehampton	42	21	6	15	19	69
7	Bishop Sutton	42	19	9	14	7	66
8	FC Bristol	42	19	4	19	-3	61
9	Hallen	42	16	17	15	7	59
10	Warminster Town	42	16	10	16	-1	58
11	AEK Boco	42	17	4	21	-15	55
12	Longwell Green Sports	42	16	5	21	-18	53
13	Portishead Town	42	15	7	20	-15	52
14	Odd Down	42	13	12	17	0	51
15	Hengrove Athletic	42	14	8	20	-4	50
16	Bristol Telephones	42	14	11	17	-9	50*
17	Gillingham Town	42	11	8	23	-28	41
18	Cheddar	42	10	9	23	-19	39
19	Radstock Town	42	8	13	21	-22	37
20	Tytherington Rocks	42	9	9	24	-56	36
21	Bishops Lydeard	42	8	8	26	-56	32
22	Almondsbury	42	7	10	25	-74	31