



Latest Round-ups:

Midweek Action: The midweek FA Cup replays weren't lacking for drama, but unfortunately for the three Western League sides in action, none of the three managed to progress to the Preliminary Round. On Tuesday evening, two tight affairs both went to extra time, with **Brixham** knocked out by **Okehampton Argyle** after conceding twice during the additional 30-minute period. For **Oldland Abbotonians**, their incredible comeback attempt away at **Blackfield & Langley** fell just short, and they were defeated 3-2 after 120 minutes. Having slipped into a two-goal deficit, the Abbots then struck twice during the final ten minutes of normal time through Mason Davis and Zac Tucker to take the game to extra time. The hosts then rebounded and managed to move back ahead late on to knock out Oldland who had been reduced to ten men on their visit to Southampton. The following evening, a tight affair at Raleigh Grove saw **Shepton Mallet** beaten by former-Western League outfit **Sherborne**, with Henry Lawrence-Napier's first half effort proving to be enough for the Zebras.

There was also a full set of fixtures in the First Division during the week, with plenty of goals flying in across the 11 fixtures, and only one side failing to find the back of the net. The lone clean sheet belonged to **Bitton** who remained unbeaten following a 2-0 victory away at **Hallen**. The visitors got the best possible start to the fixture, scoring inside the opening minute through Joe Beardwell, before adding their second in the early stages of the second half through Stefan Lee. Tuesday night also saw another big win for **Bradford**, with first half goals from Jack Whitcombe, Fabian Stanislas and Josh Howlett helping fire them to a 5-2 victory over **Keynsham**. Ben Wickens then added a fourth for the hosts soon after the interval, with sub Sam Jordan scoring with his first touch to wrap up the scoring in the 65th minute. Another big winner was **AEK Boco**, with Luke Bryan on target once again during their 5-1 triumph away at **Hengrove**. Toby Rennie, Sam Thomas and sub Ollie Williams also got on the scoresheet for the Bristolians, who struck five in consecutive away games to lay down an early season marker. Reigning champions **Brislington** seem to be finding their feet, wrapping up back-to-back wins thanks to a 4-1 defeat of **Radstock**. Goals from Oaklan Buck and Danny Dodimead put the home side ahead, before a late double from Dean Griffiths wrapped up the victory against their previously unbeaten visitors. **Wells City** came out on top in a thrilling contest at home to **Longwell Green Sports**, with goals from Conrad Peck and substitute Jake Curtis helping them come from behind to secure a 3-2 victory. **Portishead** flew out of the blocks in their home clash with **Middlezoy Rovers**, scoring three times in the opening 15 minutes on their way to a 4-2 victory. After debutant Kyle Egan got the ball rolling, Posset adding two more in quick succession through Ethan Feltham and Mitch Osmond to move into a three-goal lead in no time at all. Liam Winter and Charlie Bridges then struck either side of the break to get Rovers within one of their hosts, but Portishead managed to pull clear once again, with Feltham converting an Osmond cross to secure their third win of the campaign.

In Bath, **Gillingham** came from three goals down to a secure a 3-3 draw against **Odd Down**. Raphy Waugh's double and a Milo Murgatroyd effort look to have put the hosts out of sight, but Gillingham had other ideas, and managed to grab a share of the spoils late on, with Sam Hodges, Iwan Walters and Aaron Lane all scoring during the incredible comeback.

Wednesday's fixtures very much followed suit in terms of the high scoring, spearheaded by **Cribbs Reserves** putting seven past a struggling **Bishop Sutton** outfit. Despite the game being one apiece at the interval, Sutton fell away during the second half for the third time this season, with Andrew Forward scoring a hat-trick for the hosts. Jack Guthrie added a second half double for Cribbs, with Tom Headford and Liam Clayton also getting on the scoresheet during the one-sided second period. **Warminster** also suffered their fourth consecutive defeat, squandering a lead in their 2-1 defeat at home to **Wincanton**. The hosts made a fast start, going ahead in the opening stages, but the confident Wincanton came back to extend their winning start, with Cam Vere getting them level, before then providing the assist for Matt Garner to bury what turned out to be the winning goal at the end of the first half. Elsewhere that evening, **Shirehampton** and **Cheddar** battled out a 2-2 draw at the Creek, while **Bristol Telephones** got back to winning ways by securing a 3-2 victory on their visit to **Cadbury Heath**.

Premier Division: **Torpoint Athletic** are the only side with three wins from three after a late goal helped them secure a 2-1 victory over **Wellington**. Having taken a first half lead via the head of Tommy Rowe, Torpoint were pegged back ten minutes from time when Rohan Poulson levelled for the visitors. With the game seemingly destined for a draw, Sean Thomson found time and space to volley home from close range to give the home side all three points at the death. In a battle of previously unbeaten sides, **Helston** dented **Bridgwater's**



Players from Wellington and Torpoint battle for possession during their clash on Saturday afternoon, via @AroundWelly

early season optimism thanks to a thumping 5-1 win. A third minute penalty from Jordan Copp set the home side on their way, before the contest came to life towards the end of the first half. Just moments after Jake Llewellyn had seen his own spot kick saved by Helston keeper Kyle Moore, Bridgwater did manage to get back on level terms, with George King scoring from six yards out. That wasn't the end of the scoring in the opening period however, and Helston managed to go back ahead in stoppage time thanks to a headed finish from Rubin Wilson. Another Wilson effort two minutes after the interval extended the home side's lead further, with a second Copp penalty and a late Rikki Sheppard strike wrapping things up during a one-sided second half.

Clevedon Town will be another side who have enjoyed the start to their campaign after coming from behind to defeat **Saltash** 3-1. Having seen Noah Crump edge the Ashes in front, Clevedon got back on level terms in the 37th minute when Sam Beresford raced through before slotting home. Elliot Nicholson's effort just after the restart completed Town's turnaround, with Alex Camm then adding a third in added time to wrap up proceedings. Another side with seven points from a possible nine are **Shepton Mallet**, with Conner Collins scoring the winner in their clash with **Welton**. Having made a dream start courtesy of Charlie Bateson's second minute strike, Mallet saw their lead disappear a couple of moments later when Lewis Hunt converted an in-swinging corner. It was then left to Collins to score what turned out to be the winner, with his goal on the hour mark handing Welton their second defeat of the campaign. **Street** followed up two draws with a 2-0 victory away at **Millbrook** thanks to Phil Ormrod's double, while Harry Stevens and Tyler Evans-Loude scored the vital goals in **Ilfracombe's** 2-0 triumph at home to **Falmouth**. In North Devon, a tight contest between **Barnstaple** and **St Blazey** ended two apiece following late, late drama. A 25th minute effort from Tom Rogers put the home side ahead at the break, only for St Blazey to hit back in the very early stages of the second half with Luke Cloke heading home to continue his strong start to the campaign. Barum went back ahead courtesy of a Stu Bowker penalty 15 minutes from time, but they were unable to hang on for victory with CJ Pritchard managing to force the ball home in the fourth minute of stoppage time to bring the game back to parity. Another tight affair in the county of Devon saw visitors **Nailsea & Tickenham** snatch a 3-2 victory at the hands of **Brixham**. Having fallen behind midway through the first half, Brixham suddenly found themselves in the ascendancy, going 2-1 up just after the hour mark following a quickfire double from Scott Robinson and Kieran Parkin. The Swags produced a strong comeback of their own however, and after equalising courtesy of Sam Thomas, they then went on to grab maximum points with Jacob O'Donnell scoring the fifth and final goal of the game 15 minutes from time. In another entertaining affair, **Buckland Athletic** secured their first league win of the season following a 2-1 victory away at **Oldland**. The visitors took the lead after half an hour courtesy of Rob Farkins, but didn't manage on top for long, with Harry Pruett sending the keeper the wrong way with his spot kick a couple of minutes later. A long range screamer from Sam Stayt put Buckland back ahead after 43 minutes, but they only managed to secure the win thanks to keeper Andy Collings who got revenge over Pruett, saving his second penalty attempt after a long delay during stoppage time at the end of the first half.

First Division: **Bradford Town** extended their consecutive win streak to five, starting with 15 points from 15 thanks to a 3-0 victory over **Hallen**. A Jack Witcombe strike was all that separated the sides at the interval, before second half goals from Sam Jordan and Ben Wickens wrapped things up for the Bobcats. It was a family affair for **Cribbs Reserves**, who maintained their strong start to the campaign with a 3-1 win at home to **Longwell Green Sports**. The hosts did all of their scoring during an impressive first half display, with Liam Clayton's goal adding to a double from his brother Kieran as free-scoring Cribbs secured another win. **Bitton** are the only side to have defeated the Cribbs outfit this year, and they solidified their excellent early-season form with a 1-0 win away at **Radstock Town**. In a tight, tense affair, the only goal to separate the sides at the Southfields Rec came midway through the second half courtesy of George Lloyd, with a fourth consecutive clean sheet helping lead Bitton to another win.

Portishead are another of the sides to have won four from five during the opening weeks, after they came from behind to hand the winless **Warminster** a 2-1 defeat at Weymouth Street. An early defensive error was capitalised upon to put Portishead in arrears during the opening stages of the contest, but they responded strongly with Ethan Feltham volleying home a Mitch Osmond cross to level affairs. The in-form Feltham had already struck five times during Town's two previous wins this week, and the frontman capped an incredible seven days by striking the late winner, converting a cross from Joel Bayliss to complete the Posset turnaround. In a much more one-sided affair, **Brislington** showed signs of the form which led



Brislington on the attack during their 7-0 win away at Odd Down

them to the title last time out, scoring seven unanswered goals on their visit to Bath to take on **Odd Down**. Danny Dodimead struck in either half for the visitors, with Jordan Scadding, Dean Griffiths, Josh Egan and Jordan Ricketts also getting their name on the scoresheet. AEK Boco produced a strong fightback in their home clash with Wincanton, coming from two goals down to secure a 2-2 draw, and denying their visitors

a fifth straight win. Town looked to be adding to their winning streak when goals from Jack Dicker and Cam Allen put them two goals to the good. However, Boco have one of the most lethal finishers in the division, and after Luke Bryan had pulled a goal back from the spot after 38 minutes, the off-season addition then struck again during the final ten minutes to secure a share of the spoils. **Gillingham Town** celebrated their first win of the season, with goals from Jack Male and Aaron Lane-Leney leading them to a 2-0 victory over **Bristol Telephones**, while **Middlezoy Rovers** returned to winning ways thanks to a 3-1 triumph over **Cadbury Heath**. At the AVB Stadium, a goalscoring double from Harry Warwick helped lead **Wells City** to a 4-1 win away at **Hengrove**. Having broken the deadlock with a long-ranger towards the end of the first half, Warwick then struck again in the opening stages of the second period to put Wells in command. A Jack Jones effort got Hengrove back into the contest, but Wells found a second wind and were able to close out the victory with Conrad Peck and Ali Sen wrapping things up during the final few minutes. Another side to prevail on their travels were **Keynsham Town**, with the youngsters flying out of the blocks, scoring three times inside the opening half hour to spearhead a 3-2 win away at **Cheddar** which has lifted them off the bottom of the table. **Bishop Sutton** also secured their first point of the campaign, but were denied victory late on during their 2-2 draw with **Shirehampton** at Lakeview. After falling behind in just the fifth minute to Lewis Hutchinson's early opener, Sutton were then denied from the penalty spot with Sam Hughes' spot kick saved by visiting keeper Frankie Phillips who was making his Shirehampton debut. Phillips wasn't able to maintain his clean sheet however, and after Sam Nye drew the hosts level, Tyler Lane struck a couple of minutes later to turn the game on its head. Sutton weren't quite able to hang on however, and with 15 minutes left on the clock, Shirehampton's Louis Snailham drew his side level with a well-taken finish.

Latest Results

Tuesday 8th August 2023

FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round - Replay

Brixham AFC	0-2	Okehampton Argyle
Blackfield & Langley	3-2	Oldland Abbotonians

First Division

Bradford Town	5-2	Keynsham Town	116
Brislington	4-1	Radstock Town	105
Hallen	0-2	Bitton	108
Hengrove Athletic	1-5	AEK Boco	114
Odd Down	3-3	Gillingham Town	80
Portishead Town	4-2	Middlezoy Rovers	151
Wells City	3-2	Longwell Green Sports	58

Wednesday 9th August 2023

FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round - Replay

Sherborne Town	1-0	Shepton Mallet
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First Division

Cadbury Heath	2-3	Bristol Telephones	68
Cribbs Reserves	7-2	Bishop Sutton	67
Shirehampton	2-2	Cheddar	54
Warminster Town	1-2	Wincanton Town	170

Saturday 12th August 2023

Premier Division

Barnstaple Town	2-2	St Blazey	168
Brixham AFC	2-3	Nailsea & Tickenham	123
Clevedon Town	3-1	Saltash United	126
Helston Athletic	5-1	Bridgwater United	157
Ilfracombe Town	2-0	Falmouth Town	98
Millbrook	0-2	Street	
Oldland Abbotonians	1-2	Buckland Athletic	75
Shepton Mallet	2-1	Welton Rovers	179
Torpoint Athletic	2-1	Wellington	155

First Division

AEK Boco	2-2	Wincanton Town	80
Bishop Sutton	2-2	Shirehampton	47
Bradford Town	3-0	Hallen	105
Cheddar	2-3	Keynsham Town	56
Cribbs Reserves	3-1	Longwell Green Sports	61
Gillingham Town	2-0	Bristol Telephones	32
Hengrove Athletic	1-4	Wells City	67
Middlezoy Rovers	3-1	Cadbury Heath	140
Odd Down	0-7	Brislington	42
Radstock Town	0-1	Bitton	63
Warminster Town	1-2	Portishead Town	

Midweek Fixtures

Tuesday 15th August 2023

Premier Division

Barnstaple Town	vs	Millbrook	19:45KO
Bridgwater United	vs	Welton Rovers	19:45KO
Buckland Athletics	vs	Ilfracombe Town	19:30KO
Nailsea & Tickenham	vs	Wellington	19:30KO
Saltash United	vs	Falmouth Town	19:45KO
Torpoint Athletic	vs	Brixham AFC	19:30KO

First Division

Bishop Sutton	vs	AEK Boco	19:30KO
Bitton	vs	Bradford Town	19:30KO
Brislington	vs	Hengrove Athletic	19:30KO
Cheddar	vs	Warminster Town	19:45KO
Keynsham Town	vs	Portishead	19:45KO
Longwell Green Sports	vs	Gillingham Town	19:30KO
Radstock Town	vs	Middlezoy Rovers	19:45KO
Wells City	vs	Hallen	19:30KO
Wincanton Town	vs	Odd Down	19:30KO

Wednesday 16th August 2023

Premier Division

Clevedon Town	vs	Shepton Mallet	19:30KO
St Blazey	vs	Helston Athletic	19:30KO
Street	vs	Oldland Abbotonians	19:30KO

First Division

Shirehampton	vs	Bristol Telephones	19:30KO
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On the latest podcast, Ian catches up with Martin Cassidy, CEO of RefSupport, who explains their #LoveFootballProtectTheGame initiative. There is also an interview with Helston boss Matt Cusack, who reflects on his sides progression in the FA Cup as well as charting his sides aspirations for the season ahead. Ray Johnston of Radstock also joins the show to look back on the Miners journey over the past couple of years, and explains why he thinks this could be a cut-throat season in the First Division.

<http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-3/>

Weekend Fixtures

Friday 18th August 2023

FA Cup Preliminary Round

Bridgwater United vs **Street** 19:45KO

Saturday 19th August 2023 (3pm kick-off unless noted)

FA Cup Preliminary Round

Aylesbury United vs **Clevedon Town**
Bideford vs **Helston Athletic**
Buckland Athletic vs Okehampton Argyle
Falmouth Town vs Frome Town
Nailsea & Tickenham vs Highworth Town
St Blazey vs Mousehole
Tavistock vs **Barnstaple Town**

Premier Division

Ilfracombe Town vs Saltash United
Welton Rovers vs Torpoint Athletic

First Division

AEK Boco vs Cribbs Reserves
Bradford Town vs Cheddar
Brislington vs Bitton
Cadbury Heath vs Wincanton Town
Hallen vs Bristol Telephones
Hengrove Athletic vs Radstock Town
Keynsham Town vs Longwell Green Sports
Middlezoy Rovers vs Shirehampton
Odd Down vs Wells City
Portishead Town vs Gillingham Town
Warminster Town vs Bishop Sutton

