**Latest Round-ups:**

**#17**

**Season 2023/24**

**Cup Action:** It was a busy midweek of local knockout competition, with county cup’s taking precedence in the second week of November. **Ilfracombe** and **Buckland** both progressed in theDevon St Lukes Bowl,sneaking past **Teignmouth** and **Crediton** in 1-0 wins thanks to goals from Jack Magarotto and Sam Stayt, respectively. Cornwall Senior Cup holders **Helston** made a dream start to their defence of the competition, running out 6-1 winners away at **Dobwalls** thanks to a hat-trick from Sam Carter. **St Blazey** also progressed in that competition following a 4-0 win away at **Camelford,** while second half strikes from Alex Wharton and Luke Barner led **Falmouth** to a 2-0 victory over **Torpoint**. In the Gloucestershire FA Challenge Trophy, **Bristol Telephones** came from behind to beat **Shirehampton** 2-1, and in the Somerset Premier Cup, **Street** and **Hengrove** were knocked out by **Taunton** and **Weston-Super-Mare**, respectively. There was also a Les Phillips Cup tie on Tuesday evening, with a goalscoring double from Jacob Saunders helping **Bitton** secure a 3-2 win at home to **Gillingham Town**.

The FA Vase then took much of the attention on Saturday afternoon, with a host of Western League sides impressing in second round action. One side to progress was **Clevedon Town** who stormed to a one-sided 5-0 victory at home to **Brockenhurst**. The Seasiders only led by one at the interval, with leading scorer Sam Beresford outmuscling the visiting keeper before slotting home. Alex Camm then doubled the lead on the hour with a well-taken spin and finish, with his penalty putting the result beyond doubt in the 79th minute. That still left time for Town to add a couple more to their tally, with Freddie King and Beresford completing a five-star performance in the closing stages. Joining them in the third round will be the in-form **Brixham** who secured a 1-0 win on the Isle of Wight against **Cowes Sports**. Despite losing last weekend, Brixham have been producing some exquisite performances over the past month, and they collected their fifth consecutive away win thanks to a 17th minute strike from Kieran Parkin. Another Devonian outfit to move on to round three are **Barnstaple Town**, with Oscar Massey starring in their 2-1 win over **Brimscombe & Thrupp**. Massey started the game in red-hot form, and after poking home inside two minutes to break the deadlock, he then rounded the keeper and rolled the ball into an empty midway through the first half to put Town two-up. The visitors did manage to trim the deficit before half-time, but Barnstaple managed to stay ahead for the entirety of the second period to continue their progress in the Vase.

The all-Western League tie went as expected, with Premier Division leaders **Bridgwater** toppling Division One mid-table side **Longwell Green Sports** behind the scoring expertise of Jack Thorne and Jack Taylor. Thorne laid the groundwork for the 5-2 triumph with an incredible 20 minute hat-trick which saw United go three-up after only a quarter of the contest had passed. Longwell Green pulled a goal back at the beginning of the second half, but that seemed to kick Bridgwater back into life, and Taylor then struck twice to put plenty of distance between the two sides. One First Division side who did secure victory were **Wells City** who knocked out **Portland United** following a penalty shootout. Having fallen behind, Wells pegged back their visitors 15 minutes from time through Harry Warwick to send the game to spot kicks. City were then successful with four of their five penalties, and that proved to be enough to create history, taking them further than they have ever been in the history of this competition. The other success came from **Falmouth Town,** with Alex Wharton, Brad Leivers and Luke Brabyn all on target during their 3-0 win at home to **Moneyfields**. Unfortunately, they won’t be joined in the next round by **Buckland** and **Saltash** after they fell to tight home defeats against **St Austell** and **Downton**, respectively.

**League Action:** A combination of Vase entrances and poor weather saw a much reduced league schedule, with only two Premier Division contests taking place on Saturday afternoon. The biggest winners were **St Blazey** who beat fellow bottom-half side **Wellington** 5-3 to register their fourth league victory of the campaign *(pictured, left).* It was the Somerset side who started strongest and they forged ahead in the 16th minute with a driven effort from Jordan Hayman. The remainder of the first half belonged to the hosts, and after drawing level through Ryan Downing, they then struck twice more through Owen Pritchard and Luke Cloke to move into a 3-1 lead. After an impasse during the second half, the game then came to life over the final 15 minutes, with the sides sharing four goals. Sam Clifton and Cloke twice extended Blazey’s lead to three, but they were quickly cancelled out on each occasion by goals from Ryan Brereton and Sully McKenna for a Wellington side who refused to bow down on their trip to Cornwall. Further South, **Helston** suffered a late setback, conceding in stoppage time to draw two apiece with **Street**. Having trailed at the interval following a close-range effort from Aaron Bentley, the Cobblers got back on level terms ten minutes into the second half thanks to a Josh Goodwin effort. Helston then moved back in front through Jordan Copp, but once again they couldn’t maintain their advantage and saw Jake Horsey pop up in injury time to secure a well-earned Street point.

 In the big game towards the top of the First Division, **Cribbs Reserves** saw their eight-match winning streak brought to an end courtesy of an excellent performance from **Bradford Town**. Having swept all before them over recent weeks, Cribbs’ found themselves behind early on Saturday afternoon with Jordan Pinder slamming home a tenth minute penalty. The hosts battled back and drew level just before half-time, but were then denied 15 minutes from time with Corey Gardner scoring the Bobcats winning goal. In the most dramatic encounter of the day, **Wincanton** scored twice in the final ten minutes to claw back a 3-2 victory at home to nine-man **Radstock**. After Martin Johnson headed Radstock ahead at the end of the first half, the Wasps got back on level terms soon after the interval via a Jamie Jordan effort. The major flash point then took place 15 minutes from time, with Wincanton’s Jake Seviour dismissed for a poor tackle, which saw a pair of Radstock also given their marching orders following their reaction to their challenge. Incredibly, it was then the nine man visitors who retook the lead, but they were unable to maintain that advantage for long with Charlie Berrington scoring from close range to set up a grandstand finish. It felt like a game which was always going to see a winning goal in the closing stages, and that was exactly what played out, with Wincanton’s Matt Garner getting his head on the end of a cross to secure the dramatic 3-2 victory.

****In another game decided at the death, **Warminster** were denied a third consecutive win after conceding a 90th minute equaliser to **Hallen**. Town made a horrendous start, falling behind in less than 100 seconds to Elliot Gardner, before hitting back through Sam Wright, who had also struck in their previous two victories. Having then completed the turnaround 15 minutes from time, it looked like Warminster would make it nine points from nine, however a mad scramble in the box saw Peter Majek-Oduyoye level affairs to grab a point for the Bristolians. In another game which finished two apiece, **Shirehampton** recovered from a poor first half to claim a share of the spoils awayat **Bristol Telephones**. The Phones had won the cup tie between these sides five days previously, and it looked as though they would complete a short-term double when they moved two goals ahead after 45 minutes. Kye Simpson took it upon himself to make sure that wasn’t the case however, and after giving Shirehampton a lifeline on the hour mark, he then scored an excellent solo goal in the 76th minute to make sure his side took something home from the BTRA Sports Ground. There was also a tight affair in Dorset, where a solitary goal from Aaron Laney proved to be enough for **Gillingham** to overcome **Hengrove** 1-0. The other two fixtures to beat the conditions ended up being one-sided affairs, with **Keynsham** claiming their first win since early September, scoring four unanswered goals after the interval to thump **Cheddar** 4-0. It was also four goals to nil at the Ethan Berry Pavilion where **Middlezoy** dominated **Odd Down** to complete the season double over the Bath side *(pictured, right).*

**Latest Results**

**Tuesday 7th November 2023**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Bitton 3-2 Gillingham Town

**Saturday 11th November 2023**

**FA Vase Second Round**

**Barnstaple Town** 2-1Brimscombe & Thrupp

**Bridgwater United** 5-2 **Longwell Green Sports**

**Buckland Athletic** 1-3 St Austell 194

**Clevedon Town** 5-0 Brockenhurst

Cowes Sports 0-1 **Brixham AFC**

**Falmouth Town** 3-0 Moneyfields

**Nailsea & Tickenham**  P-P Hartpury College

**Saltash United**  0-1 Downton

**Wells City** 1-1 (4-3 pens) Portland United

**Premier Division**

Helston Athletic 2-2 Street

Oldland Abbotonians P-P Torpoint Athletic

St Blazey 5-3 Wellington 172

Welton Rovers P-P Ilfracombe Town

**First Division**

AEK Boco P-P Bishop Sutton

Bitton P-P Portishead Town

Bristol Telephones 2-2 Shirehampton 36

Cribbs Reserves 1-2 Bradford Town 58

Gillingham Town 1-0 Hengrove Athletic

Keynsham Town 4-0 Cheddar 103

Middlezoy Rovers 4-0 Odd Down 55

Warminster Town 2-2 Hallen

Wincanton Town 3-2 Radstock Town



**Despite the bevy of postponements, we still caught up with a pair of managers in the latest episode of the podcast. As well as Tom and Ian looking back on the recent action, there is a conversation with Wellington boss Richard Cherry, who reflects on his side’s difficult start, while also explaining how the Somerset side have been rebuilding their squad. Marvin Brown of Keynsham also joins the show, to detail how the K’s want to remain competitive in games at the same time as developing the young talent in their squad.**

[**http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-15/**](http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-15/)

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Tuesday 14th November 2023**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Brixham vs Buckland Athletic 19:30KO
Keynsham Town vs Shirehampton 19:45KO

**Saturday 18th November 2023 (3pm kick-off unless noted)**

**FA Vase Second Round**

**Nailsea & Tickenham** vs Hartpury College

**Premier Division**

Buckland Athletic vs Millbrook

Helston Athletic vs Oldland Abbotonians

Ilfracombe Town vs St Blazey

Saltash United vs Brixham

Street vs Falmouth Town

Torpoint Athletic vs Bridgwater United

Wellington vs Clevedon Town

Welton Rovers vs Shepton Mallet

**First Division**

AEK Boco vs Radstock Town

Bishop Sutton vs Cribbs Reserves

Bradford Town vs Bitton

Bristol Telephones vs Hallen

Cadbury Heath vs Portishead Town

Cheddar vs Brislington

Hengrove Athletic vs Middlezoy Rovers

Keynsham Town vs Shirehampton

Odd Down vs Wincanton Town

Warminster Town vs Longwell Green Sports

Wells City vs Gillingham Town

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

**First Division**

**Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 24**

**Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 18**

**Milo Murgatroyd (Odd Down) – 16**

**Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 13**

**Ben Millett (Odd Down) – 12**

**Liam Clayton (Cribbs Reserves) – 11**

**Jack Guthrie (Cribbs Reserves) – 11**

**Josh Haynes (Cadbury Heath) – 11**

**Craig Wilson (Bristol Telephones) – 11**

**Liam Winter (Middlezoy) -11**

**Premier Division**

**Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 16**

**Rikki Sheppard (Helston) – 13**

**Ryan Richards (Torpoint) – 11**

**Curtis Damerell (Helston) – 10**

**Jared Lewington (Buckland) – 10**

**Lucas Vowles (Nailsea&Tickenham) – 10**

**Phil Ormrod (Street) – 8**

**Jack Taylor (Bridgwater) – 8**

**Rubin Wilson (Helston) – 8**

**Sam Beresford (Clevedon) - 8**

**All Competitions**

**Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 27**

**Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 22**

**Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 20**

**Milo Murgatroyd (Odd Down) - 18**

**Rikki Sheppard (Helston) – 14**

**Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 14**

**League Tables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREMIER DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Bridgwater United** | 13 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 28 | **31** |
| 2 | **Clevedon Town** | 12 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 22 | **30** |
| 3 | **Helston Athletic** | 13 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 36 | **29** |
| 4 | **Brixham AFC** | 15 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 23 | **27** |
| 5 | **Falmouth Town** | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 16 | **24** |
| 6 | **Buckland Athletic** | 13 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 12 | **21** |
| 7 | **Torpoint Athletic** | 14 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 0 | **21** |
| 8 | **Barnstaple Town** | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 16 | **20** |
| 9 | **Street** | 13 | 5 | 5 | 3 | -1 | **20** |
| 10 | **Shepton Mallet** | 13 | 5 | 4 | 4 | -2 | **19** |
| 11 | **Nailsea & Tickenham** | 13 | 6 | 0 | 7 | -2 | **18** |
| 12 | **St Blazey** | 15 | 4 | 5 | 6 | -1 | **17** |
| 13 | **Ilfracombe Town** | 13 | 4 | 3 | 6 | -2 | **15** |
| 14 | **Welton Rovers** | 13 | 3 | 3 | 7 | -5 | **12** |
| 15 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 13 | 3 | 0 | 10 | -24 | **9** |
| 16 | **Saltash United** | 14 | 2 | 2 | 10 | -16 | **8** |
| 17 | **Wellington** | 14 | 1 | 3 | 10 | -36 | **6** |
| 18 | **Millbrook** | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 | -64 | **0** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FIRST DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Portishead Town** | 19 | 15 | 3 | 1 | 45 | **48** |
| 2 | **Radstock Town** | 20 | 15 | 1 | 4 | 29 | **46** |
| 3 | **Cribbs Reserves** | 21 | 13 | 3 | 5 | 23 | **42** |
| 4 | **Brislington** | 19 | 13 | 2 | 4 | 44 | **41** |
| 5 | **Wincanton Town** | 21 | 12 | 4 | 5 | 9 | **40** |
| 6 | **Bitton** | 19 | 11 | 3 | 5 | 12 | **36** |
| 7 | **Bradford Town** | 21 | 10 | 5 | 6 | 15 | **35** |
| 8 | **Bristol Telephones** | 21 | 10 | 3 | 8 | -8 | **33** |
| 9 | **Wells City** | 16 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 11 | **29** |
| 10 | **Middlezoy Rovers** | 21 | 9 | 2 | 10 | -3 | **29** |
| 11 | **Cadbury Heath** | 18 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 11 | **28** |
| 12 | **AEK Boco** | 18 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 7 | **26** |
| 13 | **Odd Down** | 21 | 8 | 2 | 11 | -20 | **26** |
| 14 | **Hallen** | 20 | 6 | 6 | 8 | -1 | **24** |
| 15 | **Shirehampton** | 20 | 7 | 3 | 10 | -3 | **24** |
| 16 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 19 | 7 | 3 | 9 | -7 | **24** |
| 17 | **Warminster Town** | 19 | 6 | 3 | 10 | -7 | **21** |
| 18 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 21 | 5 | 4 | 12 | -17 | **19** |
| 19 | **Gillingham Town** | 19 | 6 | 1 | 12 | -17 | **19** |
| 20 | **Keynsham Town** | 17 | 4 | 1 | 12 | -23 | **13** |
| 21 | **Cheddar** | 20 | 3 | 1 | 16 | -31 | **10** |
| 22 | **Bishop Sutton**  | 20 | 0 | 2 | 18 | -69 | **2** |