**Latest Round-ups:**

**Season 2023/24**

**#39**

**Midweek Action:** The busy weeknight action got underway with a Monday night clash in the Premier Division, with **Millbrook**holding out for a goalless draw at home to local rivals **Torpoint**. The biggest moment came just after the hour mark, with Ryan Richards seeing both his penalty, and the resulting rebound saved by Millbrook keeper Jamie Dudley to help preserve the hosts’ clean sheet. 24 hours later, the goals flew in up and down the division, with **Bridgwater** toppling**Wellington** 5-3 in a high-scoring clash at Fairfax Park. United looked to be home and dry at the interval after goals from Adam Wright, Jay Murray and Jack Thorne put them three goals to the good. Wellington had other ideas however, and after trimming the deficit, Joe Wragg was then on hand again to score his second of the night to make it 3-2 after an hour. The home side soon found their stride again however, and both Murray and Thorne added to their earlier strikes to put plenty of distance between the sides ahead of a late consolation from Wellington’s Rohan Poulsom. Title-chasing **Helston**could only bank one point from their visit to Devon, with a late equaliser helping them secure a 3-3 draw at**Barnstaple**. The home side were much the better side before half-time, and built a two-goal advantage after 45 minutes thanks to Matty Andrew and Billy Tucker who converted from the spot following a handball inside the area. Helston then were awarded a penalty of their own right at the beginning of the second half, and Curtis Damerell found the back of the net to get his side back into the game. Skipper Harrison Jewell then made the game level just ten minutes after the restart, but Barnstaple hit back instantly, going back in front thanks to Harvey Dorothy. It remained 3-2 for a while, but then with five minutes left on the clock, Helston grabbed another equaliser courtesy of Jordan Bentley to avoid the same scoreline defeat they had suffered in the recent Les Phillips semi-final. Tuesday’s other matches were slightly one-sided affairs, with **Falmouth**putting four past**Ilfracombe**in front of a mega midweek crowd, while**Shepton**took advantage of a red card to win 5-0 at**Oldland**. The hosts were reduced to ten men on the stroke of half-time, with Mallet leading 1-0 at the time thanks to a third minute effort from Luco Ponsillo. The second half was predominantly one-way traffic with Charlie Bateson’s brace of goals sandwiched by efforts from teammates Callum Gould and Jacob Sloggett.

               It was also an exceedingly hectic week in the First Division, with **Portishead** claiming an impressive win away at **Wells** in the pick of Tuesday’s action. Despite being without 50-goal striker Ethan Feltham due to suspension, Town won 3-0 with Jack Harper, Kyle Egan and Jack Ball all scoring to hand Wells their first home defeat in the league since late November. Wells weren’t the only top seven side to slip up on Tuesday, with both Bitton and Brislington suffering home defeats against bottom-half opponents. For **Brislington**, it was a 2-1 loss against **Shirehampton**, with regular goal-getters Ryan Radford and Louis Snailham both netting for the visitors. **Bitton**meanwhile, were beaten 3-2 by**Cheddar**, for whom the in-form Morgan Bacon was among the goals once more. Having scored in their previous two fixtures, Bacon gave the Cheesemen a perfect start at Bitton, making it 1-0 inside the opening ten minutes. Lewis Chappell then nutmegged the home keeper to double the lead early in the second half, before Bacon struck again to make it 3-0. Two goals in the space of three minutes created some late drama, but Bitton were unable to find an equaliser and saw their lengthy unbeaten run brought to an abrupt halt.**Wincanton Town**racked up back-to-back wins, with two former**Gillingham**players, Tom Jarvis and Sam Hodges, scoring either side of the interval in their 2-1 win over the visiting Gills. Title-chasing **Radstock**were denied a crucial three points after conceding late on during their 1-1 draw at home to **Bradford**. Having gone ahead after an hour following a Corey Rawlings rocket, the Miners looked to have done enough to secure victory, but were left with having to settle for a point following Jack Witcombe’s late header. There was also late drama in Whitchurch, where the **Bristol Telephones**scored twice in the final seven minutes to come from behind and beat**Keynsham**2-1.

The bumper week of action continued with a solitary Premier Division game on Wednesday evening, where **Torpoint**beat fellow Cornish side **St Blazey** 1-0. The visitors have been busy in catch-up mode, playing four games in eight days, finally tasting victory during this hectic run of fixtures thanks to 62nd minute strike from Ryan Smith. Cornwall then hosted the biggest game of the season to date on Thursday evening, with title challengers **Helston**and**Falmouth** meeting at Kellaway Park. The visitors enjoyed a three-point lead heading into the game, and could have come close to confirming top spot with a win, but Helston had other ideas and secured a vital 1-0 victory. With a club record attendance of 1,179 in position, very little separated the sides, and it was Rikki Sheppard's 15th minute which helped the hosts secure all three points, allowing them to re-take ownership of first place by way of their superior goal difference. Elsewhere that evening, Harry Stevens scored, and then assisted teammate Rory Paine to help **Ilfracombe**win 2-0 away at**Saltash**, while in Devon, **Buckland**overcame**Shepton Mallet**to leapfrog their visitors up into sixth. The hosts made a dream start to the contest, going ahead after only three minutes when Cieran Bridger fired home a free-kick from just outside the area. Mallet soon found their groove, deservedly levelling through Charlie Bateson, before Buckland hit back through Ryan Bush, who scored what turned out to be the winning-goal just before the half-time interval.

****In Thursday’s First Division matches, **Portishead**put themselves within touching distance of the being crowned champions thanks to a 3-1 win away at **Cheddar**. After a blip at the start of the month, Town have powered towards the title with the win in Somerset making it five victories on the bounce. It wasn’t an easy night however, and despite going ahead in the 20th minute via the head of Jack Harper, they found themselves level at the break following an Ollie Hucker penalty. The away side were then awarded a spot kick of their own, converted by Kyle Egan, before Harper lobbed the Cheddar keeper to put his side two goals clear and helping them to complete a crucial victory. Elsewhere, Harry Warwick continued his magic run of form, scoring the only goal in **Wells City**’s 1-0 win at **Middlezoy** (pictured, right), while**Boco**left it late before securing a 1-1 draw with **Gillingham** when Will Humphries slotted home a stoppage time penalty. The fixture between **Brislington**and**Hallen** also ended one apiece, with 17 year-old Harrison Fairman opening the scoring for the visitors.

**On the podcast this week, Wellington manager Richard Cherry reflects on his side’s win against promotion candidates Helston, and the desire of the club to build upon their impressive form during the second half of the campaign. Ian also catches up with Brislington boss Lee Perks, who looks back on a different season for the reigning champions, and why his side have found consistency much harder to come by this time out.**

[**http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-37/**](http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-37/)



**Premier Division:** **Helston Athletic** moved one step closer towards claiming the title after holding off visitors **Buckland** to win 3-2 at Kellaway Park. After Sam Carter had scored Helston’s 100th goal of the campaign to put them ahead in the tenth minute, the visitors responded strongly to make it 1-1 after 19 minutes courtesy of the league’s top marksman Jared Lewington. Having then retaken the lead, Helston moved 3-1 ahead early in the second half with substitute Stevie Colwell finding the back of the net. Buckland weren’t going to make things easy for their hosts, and scored again late on through Lewington, but it wasn’t enough to ruin Helston’s afternoon with three points putting them on the brink of becoming champions. Second-placed **Falmouth** will now require a near impossible turnaround to pinch top spot after succumbing to a 2-0 defeat at **Shepton Mallet**. A goal late in the first half from Cam Allen set Shepton on their way, before an injury-time effort from Paul Braithwaite wrapped things up, handing Falmouth back-to-back losses at exactly the wrong time of the season. At the opposite end of the table, **Wellington** make sure they wouldn’t finish in the bottom three after winning 2-0 away at **Oldland Abbotonians**. A long-ranger early in the second half from Josh Lukins gave the Somerset side the lead, which they then added to in stoppage time thanks to a poked finish from Alex Cherry. 2-0 victories seemed to be quite popular on Saturday afternoon, and **Bridgwater** also won by that margin, with goals in either half leading them past **St Blazey**. Jack Taylor is closing in on goalscoring records for the club, and it was him who put United in front, making it 1-0 inside the opening 15 minutes. The home side then had to wait over an hour for the next goal to come, with Josh Phillips doubling their advantage late on and handing them their second win of the week. One side who rebounded well from a recent defeat was **Saltash**, with their 4-0 triumph over **Street** helping them to quickly forget about their Thursday evening loss. Joe Preece *(pictured scoring, left)* was the star of the show for the Ashes, and having already broken the deadlock in the fifth minute, he then tucked home a penalty to make it 2-0 after half an hour. Another goal early in the second half from Tyler Yendle put further distance between the sides, before Preece completed his hat-trick on a joyous afternoon for club and player alike. The other side to win on home turf were **Welton Rovers**, with Joe Cattermole, Brandon Oputeri and Logan Cassidy all netting their 3-2 defeat of **Millbrook**. Points were shared in the remaining fixtures, with **Nailsea & Tickenham** levelling late on in their 1-1 draw at **Ilfracombe,** while Ryan Richards saw a second half penalty saved in **Torpoint’s** goalless stalemate at **Clevedon.** There was also a 1-1 draw between Devon outfits Brixham and Barnstaple, with the away side probably the happier with their point. Having conceded after only ten minutes to the in-form Brixham frontman Charlie Johansen, Barnstaple levelled via a free-kick early in the second period from Scott Laird.

**Toolstation Western League x Wiltshire Mind**

To read about the Toolstation Western League’s partnership with Wiltshire Mind, and their recent appearance during the derby clash between Bradford & Warminster, please head to the [following page](http://toolstationleague.com/toolstation-western-league-x-wiltshire-mind/) on our website.

**First Division: Portishead** sprinted towards the title on Saturday afternoon, confirming they will finish this season atop the file following an astonishing 8-0 win at **Gillingham**. Despite what was on the line heading into the game, Portishead showed no signs of nerves whatsoever, charging into a four-goal lead inside the opening 25 minutes. Jack Harper’s rich vein of form has come at just the right time, and he was on hand on to knock the visitors in front after only five minutes. A 51st goal of the season from Ethan Feltham then made it 2-0 shortly after, before a Calum Townsend bullet header and a Kyle Egan penalty saw the away side go four-up. Another sweet strike from Feltham, number 52, made it 5-0 before the interval, with Townsend then scoring early in the second half to continue the scoring. There was then a five-minute spurt around the 65 minute mark which completed the scoring, with Egan scoring twice in quick succession to complete a treble on a memorable day for the club.

**Radstock** all-but wrapped up second spot after Will Osborne’s brace led them to a 4-0 win at **Middlezoy**, while **Wincanton** suffered a dramatic defeat at home to **Cheddar**, conceding on the counter-attack to Lewis Chappell in the sixth minute of stoppage time to hand the visitors a 1-0 win. **Brislington** were another side to win 1-0, beating **Boco** for the second time this season, with the **Bristol Telephones** storming their way into the top half on the back of a 4-0 win over **Warminster**, where Leon Britton led from the front with a brace of goals. The only other home side to taste victory on Saturday were **Hengrove**, with two goals from Pete Sheppard helping to lead them to a one-sided 4-0 win over **Shirehampton**. In Bath, **Odd Down** came close to extending their winning streak to three, only to concede five minutes from time in their 1-1 draw with **Bradford Town**. Having led from minute 12 thanks to a Curtis Dunn free-kick, the hosts were left ruing their fortune in the closing stages when Sammy Jordan struck a late equaliser. There was also late drama in Bristol, where **Bitton** went back ahead in stoppage time to claim a 3-2 win over **Cribbs Reserves**. Having fallen a goal behind in the first half, Bitton then struck twice at the beginning of the second period through Ash McGrane and Stefan Lee to turn the scoreline in their favour. It looked as though Bitton’s hard work had come undone when they conceded in the 90th minute, but they found enough time to grab a late, late winner with George Lloyd making it 3-2 deep into added time. Things were slightly more straight forward for **Hallen** who’s strong end to the campaign continued away at **Longwell Green** where they completed a 3-0 win. It was Elliot Gardner who was very much the star of the show for the away side, scoring twice, either side of a Patryk Kosciolek effort, as Hallen completed a dominant three-goal opening half. Josh Williams scored three goals all on his own to help spearhead **Cadbury Heath**’s 5-1 victory away at **Bishop Sutton**, while Joe Davis was on target again during **Keynsham’s** 2-1 win away at **Wells**.

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

**Premier Division**

**Jared Lewington (Buckland) – 31**

**Oscar Massey (Falmouth) – 24**

**Ryan Richards (Torpoint) – 23**

**Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 23**

**Rubin Wilson (Falmouth) – 20**

**Rikki Sheppard (Helston) – 18**

**Sam Beresford (Clevedon) - 18**

**All Competitions**

**Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 52**

**Jared Lewington (Buckland) – 36**

**Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 33**

**Harry Warwick (Wells) - 33**

**Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 29**

**Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 27**

**Liam Winter (Middlezoy) – 26**

**First Division**

**Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 49**

**Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 31**

**Harry Warwick (Wells) - 28**

**Liam Winter (Middlezoy) - 26**

**Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 23**

**Joe Beardwell (Bitton) - 22**

**Liam Clayton (Cribbs Reserves) – 21**

**Latest Results**

**Monday 15th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Millbrook 0-0 Torpoint Athletic 121

**Tuesday 16th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Barnstaple Town 3-3 Helston Athletic

Bridgwater United 5-3 Wellington 249

Falmouth Town 4-0 Ilfracombe Town 318

Oldland Abbotonians 0-5 Shepton Mallet 70

**First Division**

Bitton 2-3 Cheddar 38

Brislington 1-2 Shirehampton 82

Bristol Telephones 2-1 Keynsham Town 47

Radstock Town 1-1 Bradford Town 92

Wells City 0-3 Portishead Town 120

Wincanton Town 2-1 Gillingham Town 102

**Wednesday 17th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

St Blazey 0-1 Torpoint Athletic 96

**Thursday 18th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Buckland Athletic 2-1 Shepton Mallet 168

Helston Athletic 1-0 Falmouth Town 1179

Saltash United 0-2 Ilfracombe Town 110

**First Division**

AEK Boco 1-1 Gillingham Town 40

Brislington 1-1 Hallen 88

Cheddar 1-3 Portishead Town 103

Middlezoy Rovers 0-1 Wells City

**Saturday 20th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Bridgwater United 2-0 St Blazey 246

Brixham AFC 1-1 Barnstaple Town 161

Clevedon Town 0-0 Torpoint Athletic 119

Helston Athletic 3-2 Buckland Athletic 133

Ilfracombe Town 1-1 Nailsea & Tickenham 72

Oldland Abbotonians 0-2 Wellington

Saltash United 4-0 Street 88

Shepton Mallet 2-0 Falmouth Town 331

Welton Rovers 3-2 Millbrook

**First Division**

AEK Boco 0-1 Brislington

Bishop Sutton 1-5 Cadbury Heath 48

Bristol Telephones 4-0 Warminster Town 24

Cribbs Reserves 2-3 Bitton 41

Gillingham Town 0-8 Portishead Town 87

Hengrove Athletic 4-0 Shirehampton 55

Longwell Green Sports 0-3 Hallen

Middlezoy Rovers 0-4 Radstock Town

Odd Down 1-1 Bradford Town 80

Wells City 1-2 Keynsham Town 75

Wincanton Town 0-1 Cheddar 52

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Monday 22nd April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Cribbs Reserves vs Portishead Town 19:45KO

**Tuesday 23rd April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Bridgwater United vs Barnstaple Town 19:45KO

Saltash United vs Shepton Mallet 19:30KO

Torpoint Athletic vs Helston Athletic 19:30KO

Welton Rovers vs Ilfracombe Town 19:30KO

**First Division**

Bristol Telephones vs Hengrove Athletic 19:45KO

Cheddar vs Bitton 19:45KO

Radstock Town vs Brislington 19:45KO

**Wednesday 24th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Millbrook vs St Blazey 19:30KO

Street vs Wellington 19:30KO

**First Division**

Cadbury Heath vs AEK Boco 19:30KO

Shirehampton vs Portishead Town 19:30KO

Warminster Town vs Wells City 19:45KO

**Thursday 25th April 2024**

**First Division**

Brislington vs Keynsham Town 19:30KO

Cheddar vs Cribbs Reserves 19:45KO

Gillingham Town vs Bitton 19:30KO

**Saturday 27th April 2024 (3pm Kick-off unless noted otherwise)**

**Premier Division**

Barnstaple Town vs Buckland Athletic

Bridgwater United vs Millbrook

Brixham vs Wellington

Falmouth Town vs Oldland Abbotonians

Helston Athletic vs Clevedon Town

Ilfracombe Town vs Street

Nailsea & Tickenham vs Torpoint Athletic

Saltash United vs Welton Rovers

**First Division**

AEK Boco vs Wells City

Bishop Sutton vs Bitton

Brislington vs Warminster Town

Cheddar vs Cadbury Heath

Gillingham Town vs Cribbs Reserves

Keynsham Town vs Wincanton Town

Odd Down vs Hengrove Athletic

Portishead Town vs Hallen

**League Tables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREMIER DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Helston Athletic** | 32 | 24 | 4 | 4 | 73 | **76** |
| 2 | **Falmouth Town** | 33 | 23 | 4 | 6 | 54 | **73** |
| 3 | **Clevedon Town** | 33 | 21 | 6 | 6 | 44 | **69** |
| 4 | **Barnstaple Town** | 32 | 19 | 10 | 3 | 46 | **67** |
| 5 | **Bridgwater United** | 32 | 21 | 3 | 8 | 42 | **66** |
| 6 | **Shepton Mallet** | 33 | 18 | 6 | 9 | 20 | **60** |
| 7 | **Buckland Athletic** | 33 | 17 | 7 | 9 | 34 | **58** |
| 8 | **Brixham AFC** | 32 | 13 | 10 | 9 | 31 | **49** |
| 9 | **Torpoint Athletic** | 32 | 13 | 6 | 13 | -3 | **45** |
| 10 | **Nailsea & Tickenham** | 32 | 12 | 4 | 16 | -1 | **40** |
| 11 | **Street** | 32 | 9 | 7 | 16 | -16 | **34** |
| 12 | **Ilfracombe Town** | 31 | 8 | 9 | 14 | -15 | **33** |
| 13 | **St Blazey** | 30 | 9 | 5 | 16 | -18 | **32** |
| 14 | **Saltash United** | 31 | 8 | 5 | 18 | -17 | **29** |
| 15 | **Wellington** | 32 | 7 | 8 | 17 | -38 | **29** |
| 16 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 31 | 5 | 2 | 24 | -57 | **17** |
| 17 | **Welton Rovers** | 31 | 4 | 7 | 20 | -53 | **16\*** |
| 18 | **Millbrook** | 28 | 2 | 1 | 25 | -126 | **7** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FIRST DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| C | **Portishead Town** | 39 | 29 | 6 | 4 | 90 | **93** |
| 2 | **Radstock Town** | 41 | 27 | 7 | 7 | 54 | **88** |
| 3 | **Wincanton Town** | 41 | 26 | 4 | 11 | 26 | **82** |
| 4 | **Bitton** | 39 | 24 | 8 | 7 | 41 | **80** |
| 5 | **Cribbs Reserves** | 39 | 25 | 5 | 9 | 39 | **80** |
| 6 | **Wells City** | 40 | 26 | 2 | 12 | 37 | **80** |
| 7 | **Brislington** | 39 | 24 | 5 | 10 | 71 | **77** |
| 8 | **Bradford Town** | 41 | 18 | 11 | 12 | 22 | **65** |
| 9 | **Bristol Telephones** | 41 | 19 | 5 | 17 | -12 | **62** |
| 10 | **AEK Boco** | 40 | 18 | 7 | 15 | 15 | **61** |
| 11 | **Hallen** | 39 | 17 | 8 | 14 | 7 | **59** |
| 12 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 42 | 18 | 5 | 19 | -3 | **59** |
| 13 | **Middlezoy Rovers** | 41 | 18 | 2 | 21 | -9 | **56** |
| 14 | **Cadbury Heath** | 40 | 16 | 4 | 20 | 9 | **52** |
| 15 | **Odd Down** | 41 | 13 | 7 | 21 | -40 | **46** |
| 16 | **Shirehampton** | 40 | 12 | 7 | 21 | -9 | **43** |
| 17 | **Keynsham Town** | 40 | 12 | 4 | 24 | -26 | **40** |
| 18 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 39 | 11 | 6 | 22 | -26 | **39** |
| 19 | **Warminster Town** | 40 | 10 | 7 | 23 | -36 | **37** |
| 20 | **Gillingham Town** | 40 | 10 | 4 | 26 | -50 | **34** |
| 21 | **Cheddar** | 37 | 8 | 1 | 28 | -41 | **25** |
| 22 | **Bishop Sutton**  | 41 | 0 | 3 | 38 | -159 | **3** |