

WINCHESTER CITY Football Club



The Citizens Post



Saturday October 31st 2020

Barnstaple Town

3.00pm



Division 1



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The Citizens Post FROM THE BOARDROOM

Good Afternoon and welcome to The Simplyhealth City Ground for today's Southern League Division One South fixture between Winchester City and Barnstaple Town.



We would like to offer a warm welcome to the Players, Officials, Staff and Supporters that have made the long journey up from North Devon. We wish you an enjoyable afternoon and a safe journey home.

City come into today's game on the back of an impressive hard-fought victory away at Cinderford Town on Tuesday night. Thanks to everyone that made the long journey up to Gloucestershire. We were up against on a heavy, damp pitch and with a depleted side, but the boys fought-hard and came home a much deserved victory.

Unfortunately Tyrell Mitford suffered a serious injury on Tuesday night to his shoulder, and following a trip to A&E, has been ruled out for an extended period due to a dislocation.

We are delighted to announce that we have a new away kit coming soon - and we are proud to announce Ring-Go as our new away kit sponsor until the end of the 2021-22 season. We thank them for their valuable support!

Enjoy the game this afternoon and get behind the team!

Matt Richbell



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The Citizens Post

DAVOS DIARY

Good afternoon and a very warm welcome to everyone for today's league match against Barnstaple Town. I would like to wish their players, staff and supporters a pleasant stay with us and a very safe journey home afterwards.

I have had several reports on Barnstaple and it's fair to say that they are a dangerous team going forwards, they have been quite free scoring and so we are going to need to be fully switched on in order to get the result that we are wishing for.

We had a really good result in midweek at one of our bogey grounds Cinderford, always a tough game but made more difficult midweek and an earlier kick off than normal, we were short of Carr and Purdy unavailable due to work and the ridiculous time the lads had to leave, we were also without Simba Mlambo, Kieron Douglas and Liam Callaghan injured, then we lost Ty to injury (a bad shoulder one) and had to bring on Kel Akpobire who had been out for 5 weeks and so an hour that was remaining was a big ask! To come from behind and win in them circumstances takes a good result on paper to a brilliant win with what we had to contend with, well done lads! That win came hot on the heels of an unfortunate loss where a referee decision and performance in general had a huge impact on the result, a decision to not send off a player which he should have and then giving the most ludicrous back pass you are likely to see which they scored from, then a catalogue of missed chances, that resulted in a 1-0 loss, yes we were very much unfortunate with the man in the middle but can only look at ourselves for the missed chances and i am gutted that we lost the game.

It's been a cracking start to the season and 5 wins out of 7 games is very decent and if that can be replicated all year I would rip your arm off, it's a hard league and lots of good teams with far larger resources to us, there won't be many with the spirit and togetherness of ours though and we will do the very best we can!

Please do get behind the lads today, the atmosphere the last home game was something we haven't had for some time, the lads are so appreciative of it and long may it continue, we will try and give plenty to shout about, please do lift the boys when they need it as well though! We are all in it together.

Up the Citizens

DAVO

Match Report

By Malcolm Clarke



CINDERFORD 1 - 2 WINCHESTER CITY

Winchester showed great character in bouncing back from their disappointment at Highworth with a 2-1 win at Cinderford and came back from one goal behind to earn the three points. It was their first ever win at Cinderford's ground in seven attempts as although they have previously achieved three wins against Cinderford, all of these were at Winchester's ground.

Certainly Cinderford's ground has not been a particularly happy hunting ground for Winchester in the past with three draws and three losses from six previous visits and last season Cinderford did the double over Winchester for the first time.. In the most recent of these three draws at Cinderford's ground the stalemate earned Cinderford a playoff place at Winchester's expense.

At the start of the current season Cinderford appointed Steve Cleal who had been in charge of Bishops Cleeve for six years as manager and he replaces Paul Michael who has taken over at Yate.. They have made a few signings in recent weeks, but have been rebuilding the team from last season. However it is no mean achievement to come here in midweek with not everyone available and return with three points.

Cinderford went into this match with 2 wins, 1 draw and 3 losses from 6 league games, but are one of eight sides from this decision to progress in the F A Trophy. and they play Bracknell in this competition on Saturday. In the F A Cup though after beating Brimscombe and Thrupp they will have been disappointed to lose 6-5 on penalties to Wootton Bassett having been 2-0 ahead in the actual game.

Winchester made two changes to the starting line-up from Saturday with Joe Hayward and Reece Rusher who both came on as substitute at Highworth coming in. Josh Davies who Hayward replaced dropped to the bench, with Rob Carr whom Rusher replaced not among the four Winchester substitutes.

Early on the Cinderford goalkeeper had to make good saves from Ollie Balmer and Tyrell Mitford, but it was then Charlie Philpot's turn to make a good save. However in the 14th minute Cinderford took the lead as a result of a well struck shot from Kieran Alder that went in off the cross bar.

Winchester however drew level on the half hour with Ollie Balmer scoring from a free kick after Tyrell Mitford was fouled. Balmer then set up Rusher whose effort was wide as was an attempt by a Cinderford player later in the half. Before half time a good run by Josh McCormick is stopped at the expense of a free kick, but it remains 1-1 at the interval..

In the opening 10 minutes of the half both goalkeepers made good saves with Winchester's Danny King being denied, but 11 minutes into the half a header from Robbie Flocks gave Winchester the lead.

Ollie Balmer twice came close to increasing Winchester's lead having one shot just wide and another shot saved.

Winchester made three substitutions bringing in Kel Akpobire in for his first appearance of the season and they also replaced Dan Bradshaw with Ollie Griggs and Dan Williamson for Reece Rusher. Goalscorer Robbie Flocks then made a contribution at the other end of the pitch by clearing one effort off the line as Winchester completed a great victory.

A big thank you to all those who made the long trip to Gloucestershire for a midweek match in weather conditions that were far from ideal.

Cinderford Bring in Former Martyr

New defender for Foresters.

Cinderford Town have signed defender Dion Molyneaux.

Unfortunately for the 22-year-old, he joined Southern Premier Division South side Merthyr Town in early September, just before the club was forced into being `mothballed` due to the coronavirus situation in Wales.

Molyneaux can play in a variety of positions across the back but is predominantly a right-back.

He moved to the Martyrs from Cymru South side Cwmbran Celtic after one season at Celtic Park.

Originally on the books at League Two side Newport County, he joined Cwmbran from league rivals Goytre United.



Youssef`s On The Move Again

Third club of the season to date for
midfielder.

Pitching In Southern Football League Division One South club Melksham Town have signed midfielder Elias Youssef.

In making the switch to the InfiLED Arena at Oakfield, the 20-year-old is joining his third team of the season already.

He had signed for Southern Premier Division South side Merthyr Town in the summer but when the Martyrs were `mothballed` due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation in Wales, he moved to Southern Premier Division Central outfit Redditch United in September.

He made 27 appearances for Chippenham Town in the Vanarama National League South in 2019/20 before lockdown.

He had signed for the Bluebirds in the summer of 2019 after being released by League Two side Forest Green Rovers, where he progressed through the ranks at The New Lawn after starting out on the books of Cardiff City.

In 2018/19, he had a lengthy loan spell with UHlsport Hellenic League Premier Division side Royal Wootton Bassett Town



Second New Arrival of the Week at Cirencester Another new Centurian.

Cirencester Town have followed up the earlier return of Joe Shepherd from Swindon Supermarine by acquiring the services of full-back Lewis Binns.

The 24-year-old had been in limbo since Southern Premier Division South side Merthyr Town had been forced to go into 'mothballs' due to the Covid-19 rules in Wales.

Binns joined the Martyrs in June 2019 from Cirencester's league rivals Cinderford Town after being crowned supporters' player of the year.

He is former Hartpury College student who arrived at the Foresters in the summer of 2018 from rivals Evesham United where he spent four seasons.

Formerly with Newport County, he is a technically gifted footballer with a specialty for dead ball situations.



(Photo: Stuart Purfield)

Defender Makes Gosport Switch Boatman moves down the road.

Gosport Borough have signed central defender Owen Roundell from Southern Division One South neighbours Sholing.

The now 23-year-old was promoted through Sholing's youth system into the first team.

He is a classy central defender, who likes to get the ball down and play who also has the nice habit of popping up with vital goals.

The Boatmen's boss Dave Diaper said: "Unfortunately, I couldn't guarantee Owen a place every game in the starting line up so he has decided to go to Gosport where they feel they can accommodate him".



(Photo: Ray Routledge)

Division 1 South

BETVICTOR | SOUTHERN LEAGUE

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	GD	- Points	Points
Cirencester Town	7	6	-	1	17	3	14	-	18
AFC Totton	7	5	1	1	19	6	13	-	16
Basingstoke Town	7	5	1	1	23	13	10	-	16
Winchester City	7	5	-	2	14	8	6	-	15
Slimbridge	8	4	2	2	21	18	3	-	14
Willand Rovers	8	4	1	3	14	13	1	-	13
Highworth Town	8	4	1	3	11	14	-3	-	13
Frome Town	6	3	1	2	11	6	5	-	10
Paulton Rovers	7	3	1	3	11	7	4	-	10
Larkhall Athletic	7	3	1	3	11	11	0	-	10
Sholing	5	3	-	2	9	6	3	-	9
Evesham United	6	2	2	2	5	7	-2	-	8
Bristol Manor Farm	6	2	1	3	10	13	-3	-	7
Cinderford Town	7	2	1	4	10	21	-11	-	7
Thatcham Town	6	1	3	2	6	9	-3	-	6
Bideford AFC	6	-	4	2	7	9	-2	-	4
Moneyfields	4	1	-	3	7	7	0	-	3
Melksham Town	6	1	-	5	5	14	-9	-	3
Barnstaple Town	6	-	2	4	9	22	-13	-	2
Mangotsfield United	6	-	-	6	4	17	-13	-	0

Results

Barnstaple Town	2 - 8	Willand Rovers
Basingstoke Town	3 - 0	Mangotsfield Utd
Cinderford Town	1 - 2	Winchester City
Cirencester Town	3 - 0	Willand Rovers

Fixtures

Saturday 31st October 20

Mangotsfield United	v	Cirencester Town
Melksham Town	v	Basingstoke Town
Paulton Rovers	v	Slimbridge
Thatcham Town	v	AFC Totton
Winchester City	v	Barnstaple Town

FUND RAISING

The club is raising money for a Veo Camera. We will be holding a raffle at the Barnstaple game.

It is £10 to pick your team. The winner gets £500 plus 4 Season Tickets.

Under 16s Manager, Jamie Ricketts, will be selling squares, or you can contact Jamie on 07824 386985 to secure your chance to win and to support the club!



The Citizens Post

MALCOLMS MUSINGS

We welcome Barnstaple Town to Winchester for today's league game. Barnstaple Town who were promoted from the Great Mills Western League at the end of the 2015/16 season and are not to be confused with Barnstaple, who play in the North Devon League.

Last season we won 6-1 at Barnstaple with Simba Mlambo scoring a hat-trick, and I K Hill, Jamie Barron and Rob Carr scoring the other goals and Saddam Bello scoring a late consolation goal from the penalty spot, but we played very well that day against a Barnstaple team that had just signed a few new players.

Last season's corresponding match was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch and with the rearranged fixture being postponed due to the lockdown the match was never played.

However on Barnstaple's last visit to this ground in 2018/19 we won 7-0 with five of our goals coming in the last 12 minutes with our goalscorers being Tyrell Mitford with 2, Jamie Barron from the penalty spot, Simba Mlambo, Oli Bailey, Liam Gilbert and Joe Hayward. However earlier in that season Barnstaple beat us 3-2 in a game which we took an early lead through Oli Bailey and had an excellent chance to score a second before Barnstaple broke clear and scored a leveller and after two further goals from the home team a last minute goal from Tyrell Mitford was too late in the day to earn us a point.

Craig Davis though will not need reminding though that Barnstaple won here 3-0 in what was his first match as player manager of Winchester, with their goals coming from an own goal, a Liam Gregory penalty and a late goal from Shaun Copp, and despite the 7-0 result of 2018/19 Barnstaple have achieved 2 wins and 1 draw on their 4 visits to this ground having also beaten Basingstoke here on the opening day of last season. Although we have won 4 and drawn 1 of the 7 matches between the clubs we have yet to complete the double against them.

At the time of writing Barnstaple had yet to win a league game, but they beat Helston Athletic in the F A Cup and have achieved useful 2-2 draws against Basingstoke and Bristol Manor Farm, the latter result being achieved away from home.

The current Barnstaple manager is Dean Edwards who has also managed Bideford and Hedgesford and played for Wolves and Torquay scoring for the latter at Wembley in both the League Trophy final and the league play-off final, and he took over the role earlier in the season. Barnstaple are currently battling to avoid relegation, but will be battling for every point for the remainder of the season.

Barnstaple Town were formed in 1904 as Pitton Yeo Vale and prior to the second world war were members of the North Devon and Devon and Exeter leagues, both of which they had previously won.

In 1948 they joined the Western League, a league they had remained in ever since prior to being promoted to the Southern League at the end of last season. They finished champions of the top flight of Western League twice, in 1952/53 and 1979/80 and finished runners up three times. They have on three occasions finished champions of the second tier of Western League football, the most recent being in 2015 so this is their second successive promotion.

They have on four occasions reached the 1st round proper of the F A Cup, the most recent being in 1972/73 and have also reached both the 2nd round proper of the F A Trophy and the 4th round proper of the F A Vase, losing to eventual winners Arlesey Town in the latter instance.

Amongst their former players are Lew Chatterley and John Hinton who also both played for Southampton. Lew was also for six years Lawrie McMenemy's right hand man at The Dell, and also helped Alan Ball while Ball was manager at The Dell. John Hore who made a total of almost 600 football league appearances representing both Plymouth Argyle and Exeter City is amongst their former managers.

.Today is F A Trophy day and although it is disappointing that we are not involved especially as in the second half of the game with Highworth we had chances to get something out of the game, it is perhaps worth noting that 12 of the 20 clubs in our division including Barnstaple and ourselves are already out of the competition. However while on the subject of cups we must congratulate Sholing on being the only club from our division to reach the 4th qualifying round of the F A Cup. I am writing these notes before their tie with Torquay, so it is possible by the time you read these notes they may have made further progress in this competition.

Under 23's

	p	w	l	d	f	a	diff	pts
1 Gosport Borough	4	4	0	0	18	2	16	12
2 Hamble Club	5	4	0	1	17	8	9	12
3 Winchester City	3	3	0	0	8	1	7	9
4 Sholing	5	2	0	3	12	10	2	6
5 Whitchurch United	5	2	0	3	9	13	-4	6
6 North Waltham	3	1	0	2	4	11	-7	3
7 AFC Portchester	3	0	0	3	2	9	-7	0
8 Andover Town	4	0	0	4	4	20	-16	0

Fixtures

29th October

Gosport Borough v Romsey Town

Hamble Club v Sholing

3rd November

North Waltham v AFC Portchester

5th November

Winchester City v Hamble Club

12th November

AFC Portchester v Sholing

Gosport Borough v Whitchurch Utd

Hamble Club v Andover Town

Winchester City v North Waltham

Under 18's

	p	w	l	d	f	a	diff	pts
1 Horndean	7	6	1	0	34	3	31	19
2 Baffins Milton Rovers	6	4	0	2	17	9	8	12
3 Moneyfields	6	3	1	2	13	7	6	10
4 Winchester City Red	4	3	0	1	18	4	14	9
5 Utd Serv Portsmouth	5	2	3	0	8	6	2	9
6 Petersfield Town	5	2	0	3	5	14	-9	6
7 Gosport Borough	5	1	1	3	18	12	6	4
8 AFC Portchester	2	1	0	1	6	6	0	3
9 Hamble Club Blues	3	1	0	2	3	8	-5	3
10 Fareham Town	6	1	0	5	16	41	-25	3
11 Chichester City	5	0	0	5	1	29	-28	0

Ladies Fixtures

Sunday 1st November - Flyers v Warsash

Sunday 8th November - Flyers v Wycombe Wanderers

Sunday 15th November - Flyers v Abingdon United

Ground Regulations

Welcome to the Simply Health City Ground.

Please respect the staff and the facilities:

- ◇ Please do not enter the field of play before, during or after the game.
- ◇ Ball games are not permitted around the ground whilst matches are in progress
- ◇ Please do not use rude, obscene, racial or abusive language or gestures that are likely to cause offence.
- ◇ Please do not take glasses outside. Alcohol may now be consumed outside, but in plastic glasses only (in accordance with new Hampshire FA ruling).
- ◇ Please do not climb floodlights, pylons, fences, stands and other club structures.
- ◇ Please do not stand in the hatched areas around the pitch.
- ◇ No offensive objects are permitted (including bottles, cans, glasses, smoke bombs, flares etc.) or throwing any objects on the field of play.
- ◇ Please note that all vehicles parked on the club premises are at owners/driver's risk.
- ◇ The club accepts no responsibility for any damage to vehicles.
- ◇ Any supporter who encroached on to the playing area will be arrested.
- ◇ Comments or items in the programme do not necessarily represent those of Winchester City FC.
- ◇ The club reserves the right to refuse admission, eject from the ground, or prosecute any person in breach of the rules



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Today's Visitors

BARNSTAPLE TOWN



Founded in 1904 as Pilton Yeo Vale, the club entered the North Devon league. They were founder members along with Ilfracombe, South Molton, Pilton Social Barnstaple Y.M.C.A, Braunton and Bideford. Their first ever league Match was on 1st October 1904 when they played Ilfracombe at Pilton Park and were defeated 4-2. The club changed it's name to Barnstaple Town at the end of the season, and continued in the North Devon League, Devon & Exeter League and then the South Western League.

When the Western League was reformed after the Second World War, Barnstaple Town entered two teams, one in division 2 and a reserve side in division 3. The early 1950's were one of the club's most successful times under the management of Arthur Coles. In 1953, Barnstaple won the Western league First Division Championship but only after a nail biting climax to the season with everything depending on the results of matches being played on the final day of the League Season. On that day, Barnstaple Town beat Dorchester Town 6-1 and their challengers for the title, Street won 2-1 at Well City. That left the sides level on points and when the goal average was calculated Street had 2.07 and incredibly Barnstaple had 2.08. Rumour has it that most of the 3,000 crowd that watched Barnstaple beat Dorchester stayed behind at Mill Road after the match to await the Street result.

Barnstaple Town also beat Plymouth Argyle in the final of the Devon Pro' Cup at Home Park that season, but sadly Coles moved on to Weymouth and the club never had quite the same success again. Cameron Buchanan, the former Wolves and Bournemouth player, local lads Fred Smale and Ray Smith, Bill Johnson formerly of Grimsby Town, Noel Peyton, the ex Leeds United and Eire International, John Hancock formerly with Exeter City and ex Barnsley and Doncaster Rovers player Lol Chappell all tried to revive Barnstaple's fortunes from the managers seat but with no great success. Player Manager Charlie Sells, who had been with Exeter City, built up the club in the 1970's followed by the former Andover keeper Trevor Morris and then Brian Perks. Perks left Mill Road for Bideford during the season of 1979/80 and under the guidance of joint managers Brian Hill and Dave Baglow, Barum went on to win the Western League Championship for the second time, winning by one point from AFC Bournemouth Reserves. That title went virtually unnoticed as there was a printers strike at the time and no newspapers were printed.

Richard Gray, the former Falmouth Town player, took over the following season and brought some success to the club although they never won the title. A couple of seasons later he left after a disagreement with the club, and after a succession of managers Town lost their Premier status in 1989/90. Brian Hill was again appointed manager to put Town back in the Premier Division and after 3 seasons in the wilderness won the First Division Championship in 1993/94 in fine style scoring more goals and recording more points than ever before.

Jimmy Hargreaves, Eddie Kelly, Phil Lloyd, Mark Jenkins and John Hore have all tried the manager's seat since but all without success. Jeff Evans was appointed manager in 2002 and along with his assistant Peter Buckingham guided the club to the final of The Devon Bowl where they were narrowly beaten by Tiverton Town. The following season Peter Buckingham

Today's Visitors

BARNSTAPLE TOWN



took over as sole manager and Barum finished in seventh place in the league, their highest finish for many a season. During the 2008/09 season Owen Pickard took over the manager's seat for his first taste of management and was able to save the club from what looked like certain relegation at the Christmas period of the season.

Owen Pickard left at the end of the 2011-12 season and the team is now lead by Dave Griffiths and former second team manager Terry Chapple. With the club now working within their means Town are now fielding a much younger side with many of their players experiencing Western League football for the first time. Barnstaple remained in the Premier League until the end of the 2012/13 season when they were relegated to Division One – the first time in their history that they had finished at the bottom of their division. The gloom surrounding Mill Road was to be short lived as in the December of 2013 the club appointed the joint management team of Barry Yeo and Karl Baggaley and the rest, as they say, is history.

Building a squad where, on occasions, all eleven players on the field were born in Barnstaple – surely a record that not many teams at any level of football would be able to equal, the managers turned the 2013/14 season around and finished a creditable 3rd. In their first full season in charge, 2014/15, the club returned to the Premier Division by winning the First Division title for the 3rd time in its history. Their total of 100 points, 128 goals scored and a goal difference of 101 were among 15 club records set during the year, in addition to reaching the final of the Les Phillips Cup for the second time.

2015/16 was to be equally successful. After an average start the team went on two long unbeaten runs which saw them finish as runners up in the Premier Division, missing out on back to back titles by just 3 points, but securing the coveted prize of promotion to the Southern League Division One South & West. This would see them playing at the highest level in the club's history – the biggest step the club had taken since joining the Western League in 1948.

At the end of 2016/17, having secured Southern League football for a second season with a 17th place finish, the management duo stood down and as is often the case in these situations, most of the players also left for challenges elsewhere. Richard Pears left Exmouth Town and took over as manager during the summer and took Barnstaple Town into 2017/18 with virtually a completely new squad. After a run of poor results he decided to step down in the December and his assistants Kevin Darch and David Griffiths were appointed managers initially to the end of the season.



Winchester City FC

CLUB HISTORY



The Winchester Football Club was founded in 1884 as a result of the endeavours of two residents of the city – Oxford graduate and former England Rugby cap Charles Sylvester Wooldridge and Huntingdon-born all-round sportsman (and, incidentally, inventor of ice hockey!) Arnold Tebbutt. The football club, which had strong links with Winchester College, made quite an impact in the early years of association football in Hampshire, reaching the final of the inaugural Hampshire Senior Cup competition in 1888 and providing a number of players to represent Hampshire in county-based competitions. However financial difficulties, combined with the indifference of Winchester residents, led to the 1884 club folding in 1893.

The decline of the city's most high-profile club left a void that was subsequently to be filled by the Winchester Swallows FC. Formed in 1891, the Swallows were less socially exclusive than the 1884 club and had a membership more reflective of that of Winchester as a whole. The club changed its name to Winchester FC at the start of the start of the 1894/95 season, and again in 1907 when it became Winchester City FC. Like the 1884 club, the Swallows appeared in a dark blue and white strip and played their home games at Bar End, before moving in 1896 to a field adjoining the Old Red Deer pub in Stockbridge Road, and relocating again to the Roebuck Inn in 1902.

The club first played in a league-based competition in 1896/97 when it entered the newly-formed South Hampshire League. Winchester FC won the title in this first season, and repeated that feat in the each of the following three years. The club joined the Hampshire League in 1898/99 where, after struggling during their first few seasons, they remained unbeaten throughout the 1904/05 season and won the League's Northern Section. The club also enrolled to the Southampton and District League in 1908/09, but with no notable success.

Like a number of other football clubs, Winchester City FC effectively disbanded at the start of the First World War in 1914, and didn't reappear until 1920.

The rebirth of the club signalled two significant changes. Firstly, the club had moved again, this time playing its home fixtures at the Fair Field at Bar End (now the site of the Bar End Industrial Estate), a site where it was to stay until the Second World War. Secondly, it adopted a new strip, discarding its navy-blue colours in favour of red and white stripes.

The late 20s and early 30s proved to be a purple patch in City's fortunes. The 1929/30 season saw the side again win the Northern Section of the Hampshire League, and achieve its most successful FA Cup run to date. That year saw City reach the fourth qualifying round of the tournament where a 3-0 defeat by Thames FC at the 120,000 capacity West Ham Stadium deprived them of an away trip to Fulham in the First-Round proper. Any disappointment at this would have been forgotten two years later in 1931 when City lifted the Hampshire Senior Cup for the first time after defeating Andover at The Dell.

One of the key members of the team in that era was the teenage Ted Drake. A local gas meter-reader at the time of joining City, Drake went on to enjoy a successful career with Southampton before joining Arsenal and also collecting five England caps. The highlight of his subsequent managerial career saw him steer Chelsea to their first (and, until 2005, their only) league title in 1955.

Play was again interrupted by war in 1939, although the club did continue to play and took advantage of the presence of a number of enlisted players that passed through the city. The end of hostilities saw City move yet again, this time taking up a lease of the Army's playing field at Airlie Road, Stanmore.

The 1950s saw a second notable period of success at Winchester City. The side were runners up in the Hampshire League in 1949/50 and, in the same season, won their first Southampton Senior Cup final, an achievement which was repeated in 1951/52. The Russell Cotes Cup was also won for the first time in 1954/55. Success on the field was mirrored off the pitch as the club enjoyed some of its largest gates with crowds that regularly topped 1,000 filing into the Airlie Road stands.

CLUB HISTORY

It was during this period that the young Terry Paine ran out for his hometown club. His prodigious talent led to his being signed in 1956 by Southampton with whom he made a record number of appearances (713 over 17 seasons). Paine also made 19 appearances for England, the last of which was against Mexico in the 1966 World Cup finals for which he (belatedly) received a winner's medal in 2009.

Prior to the 1970s City had played virtually all of its competitive football, with the exceptions of the Amateur and FA Cups, within the confines of the Hampshire county border. However, after the club's Russell Cotes Cup victory and a creditable second spot in the Hampshire League in 1970/71 the club's Board decided to make the step up and enter the Southern League for the first time. City survived for just two seasons at that higher level, achieving disappointing final positions of 12th out of 16 (1971/72) and 21st out of 22 (1972/73), before electing to return to the Hampshire League.

For the remainder of the 1970s City yoyo'd between the top two divisions of the Hampshire League before a potentially fatal blow hit the club in 1981. In that year the lease agreement with the Army for Airlie Road expired and was not renewed. Briefly homeless, the club eventually moved to its current ground, a pitch leased from the City Council at Hillier Way. The ground needed a considerable amount of work to get it up to scratch, as did the team which had tumbled into the Hampshire League's third division by 1982/83. The ignominy of this decline was made all the greater by the success of local rivals Winchester Castle in the first division – City could no longer claim to be Winchester's premier club.

The continuing existence of Winchester City FC throughout the 1980s owed much to the work of Geoff Cox who at various times acted as Chairman, Manager, Coach and Groundsman at the club. Under his guidance the club was eventually to return to the Hampshire League's top division in 1993/94. The new millennium ushered in a period of unprecedented success for Winchester City. Prompted in part by the arrival of new and ambitious members to the Board, the club merged with Winchester Castle and began a rapid rise through the local league structure. Promotion to the Hampshire Premier League was achieved in 2000/01, and followed two years later by promotion to the Wessex League. The Wessex League title was secured at the first attempt.

That same season witnessed the club's greatest ever triumph. May 2004 saw City face Suffolk side AFC Sudbury in the final of FA Vase at Birmingham City's St Andrew's ground. Few that were there will forget the spine-jangling moment when club captain Danny Smith lifted the trophy after the 2-0 victory.

Further successes were recorded in the seasons that followed – 2004/05 saw City win the Hampshire Senior Cup for the second time, beating Aldershot 2-1 at Bournemouth's Dean Court ground, whilst 2005/06 witnessed the club regain the Wessex League championship and win promotion to the Southern League for a second spell.

City's return to the Southern League lasted three seasons. Financial problems, followed by a final day points deduction saw City return to the Wessex League for the 2009/10 campaign. Despite a concerted push to gain promotion back to the Southern League which ultimately proved successful in 2011/12, the resources required to sustain the club's position at that level proved elusive. Winchester City FC finished the 2012/13 season at the foot of the Southern league and facing an uncertain future. The late spring of 2013 saw a takeover at the club and, with a new Committee structure and financial backers in place, the 2013/14 season heralds the start of a new chapter in the history of Winchester City FC.

2013-2014 saw a season of re-organisation and team building, with City retaining a place in the Sydenhams Wessex League.

2015-2016 – City made a valiant attempt to take the Wessex title but just fell short to a very successful Peters field Town side who were rightly promoted to the Southern League. City under the Managership of Paul Masters then set about strengthening the squad to win the title next season when out of the blue they were offered a place in the Southern League due to a withdrawal. The Club were given 24 hours to pay their fees and attend the AGM in Torquay. A frantic drive by Director of Football Dave Malone saw him arrive just in time with the relevant papers and bank draft! As a result, our neighbours, Peters field Town, were moved out of Division 1 South and West to accommodate City and placed in the Central Division!

CLUB HISTORY

City's first season back in the Southern League was a success with them reaching the play-offs final losing to Banbury United in the quarter finals, who were promoted and coming within minutes of winning the Hampshire Senior Cup losing on penalties to Havant and Waterlooville. City's preparation for this season were disrupted by the unexpected resignation of Manager Paul Masters in the middle of pre-season friendlies. The Club quickly filled the vacancy by appointing Petersfield Town's Manager Ian Saunders to the post.

The club started the season brightly and made it to the fourth Qualifying Round of the FA Cup, beating US Portsmouth, Street and Truro City before finally succumbing to Harrow Borough. The club also had a successful run in the FA Trophy, thanks to wins against Petersfield Town, Fleet Town and Phoenix Sports before getting knocked out narrowly by Dulwich Hamlet. Craig Feeney and Howard Neighbour forced a strong strike partnership, added to that the midfield flair of Captain Stuart Green and winger, Andy Jenkinson, City recovered from a difficult spell before Christmas to mount a play-off push in the early stages of the New Year. Manager, Ian Saunders, went away with the military, and during this time, Mick Catlin stepped in to take over the running of the First-Team. When Saunders returned, form deteriorated and Saunders subsequently left the club and was replaced by Interim Manager, Craig Davis, who joined the club from Fleet Town. Davis took control of the club until the end of the season, when it was announced that he would officially be becoming Permanent First Team Manager.

'Davo' finished 11th with City in his first full season in charge, a season that saw a successful run, resulting in a Hampshire Senior Cup Semi-Final where City eventually lost to Blackfield & Langley. The Citizens also hosted Southampton FC in the Southampton Senior Cup and achieved memorable league victories against Didcot Town, Evesham United, Swindon Supermarine and Wimborne Town as well as impressive away draws at both Swindon Supermarine and Salisbury, the latter seeing City come from 2-0 down to salvage a point at the Raymond McEnhill Stadium.

In the 2018-19, City had an impressive pre-season including victories over Dorchester Town and Eastleigh. City started strongly in the league too. This went hand-in-hand with a cup run that saw the Citizens make it through to the 4th Qualifying Round of the FA Cup, following victories against Bournemouth Poppies, Frome Town, Merthyr Town and Cirencester Town before eventually losing 4-1 away at Torquay United. City's league form dipped slightly during this period but a strong finish to the season meant that City missed out on the play-offs on the last day of the season. City needed three points away at Cinderford Town, but the game finished 0-0 meaning it was in fact Cinderford that finished in the final play-off berth.

Tyrell Mitford, Joe Cook and Josh Harfield left the club during the 2019-20 pre-season and into the club have come Kieran Douglas, Keith Emmerson, Olly Balmer and Dan Williamson has returned to City. City performed well during the 2019-20 campaign and were 4th in the league with a play-off berth looking likely when the season was curtailed due to Covid-19. City made the First Qualifying Round of the FA Cup before losing to Taunton Town but impressive cup runs in the local competitions took place once again. City were also League Cup semi-finalists, securing £1000 prize money for doing so.



A belated pre-season campaign took place in August 2020 with away wins at Bedfont Sports, Hartley Wintney and Marlow FC. Tyrell Mitford has returned to the club along with Josh McCormick and new faces Graeme Purdy, Jack Wilson, Felix Davies, Charlie Philpott, Josh Davies and Kel Akpobire have all joined the club.

WINCHESTER CITY Football Club



COVID RISK ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

Sounds dull doesn't it? We take your safety seriously. We urge you to read our risk assessment statement. To familiarise yourself with what we expect of you so that football can continue to be enjoyed by us all, safely.

As well as instructions here, you will find many new signs around the ground. Please respect and obey the instructions

Introduction

This document is for all Players, Coaches, Staff, Volunteers, Officials and Spectators to prepare to the return of football at The Simplyhealth City Ground.

Winchester City Football Club has followed all FA guidance and risk assessed each directive to provide a policy that meets the criteria set by the FA. Many of the directives are mandatory, and if not, are at the very least, advisory, to ensure the complete safety of all those that enter the Simplyhealth City Ground.

It is critical that this document is read by all attending The Simplyhealth City Ground.

As per FA Guidance on 17th July 2020 relating to grassroots football, the following is applicable at The Simplyhealth City Ground:

Covid Officer

All Clubs must appoint a Covid-19 Officer. This Officer must constantly monitor FA Guidelines and ensure that all updated information is communicated to all Players, Coaches, Staff, Volunteers, Officials and Spectators (when they are permitted to return).

Code of Conduct

It is the clubs' responsibility to ensure that The Simplyhealth City Ground is a safe environment for all and we therefore need to minimise the risk of infection and use close care and attention in all aspects of preparation for the return of Football.

If you or anyone in your household is experiencing symptoms related to Covid-19, please do not enter The Simplyhealth City Ground. If you do experience any symptoms, you should stay at home, arrange a test and self-isolate. This applies not just to Spectators, but also to Players, Coaches, Staff, Volunteers and Officials.

If you develop any symptoms whilst at The Simplyhealth City Ground, please make a member of staff aware and leave the stadium to return home, arrange a test and self-isolate.

Guidance from both the Government and also the FA is changing on a regular basis so please ensure that you know the latest guidance before attending The Simplyhealth City Ground.

Before you arrive at The Simplyhealth City Ground, when you arrive at the stadium and also before you leave the ground, please wash your hands. There will be sanitizer available throughout the ground, so please make sure that you apply this regularly.

Please ensure that you maintain Social Distancing throughout The Simplyhealth City Ground. The two-metre rule is still applicable so please keep two metres apart wherever possible.

You will be requested to sign-in upon your arrival at The Simplyhealth City Ground and give your details in line with the government's Track and Trace guidelines. This will be done via PaSS – an App that can be downloaded, although there will also be a paper sign-in sheet. These details will be destroyed within 21 days to ensure that the club remains GDPR compliant.

COVID RISK ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

Please be considerate of others when you are using the facilities at The Simplyhealth City Ground.,

Travel

If you have to travel to the ground with someone, please ensure that you always travel with the same person. Ensure your windows are open to provide ventilation and do not sit face-to-face.

Where possible, try and use alternative methods of transport rather than driving and ensure a car is cleaned both before and after a journey. Please ensure that face masks are worn both to and from The Simplyhealth City Ground as well as to and from away fixtures.

Upon your arrival at The Simplyhealth City Ground, please ensure that you follow all guidelines that have been set by the club. There will be signage in place around the ground, as well as floor markings and restrictions on the facilities at the club. Toilet facilities will observe a strict 'one-in, one-out' policy, this will apply for both inside and outside toilets.

When you arrive at The Simplyhealth City Ground, please make sure you wash and sanitize your hands. There is ample handwash and sanitizer available around the ground. Please also ensure that you wash and sanitize your hands before you leave the ground too.

Players, Match Officials and Coaches/Staff are required to arrive at the ground already changed and showered wherever possible. Changing Rooms will be available, but there will be social distancing measurers in place.

Spectators must also observe all guidelines in place at the ground and maintain good hygiene and social distancing when it is safe for them to return to The Simplyhealth City Ground.

During Matches

There will be no pre-match handshakes (as was the case pre-lockdown). Make sure you wash and sanitize your hands before matches. There will be no team talk huddles – all team talks are to be carried out whilst maintaining social distancing, along with both warm-ups and cool-downs. There is no spitting permitted by either players or coaching staff. Players are reminded not to shout in each other's faces.

All Officials and Players must always socially distance on the touch lines and in dug outs etc. Due to the size of the dug-outs at The Simplyhealth City Ground, there will be a designated, socially distanced area for those that there is not room for.

Goal posts and balls must be sanitized before the games, at half-time and also again at full-time. There are to be no goal celebrations and no sharing of water bottles. Players are advised to bring their own drinks bottles with them. No equipment whatsoever is permitted to be shared.

Clubhouse

All drinks purchased in the clubhouse at The Simplyhealth City Ground will be served in single use disposable glasses. There is a one-way system in the clubhouse, entry through the main doors by the toilets and exit through the door heading out towards the pitch. Social distancing measures are in place in the clubhouse. After the game, the clubhouse area will be used purely for hospitality – as this can be offered with social distancing, provided that the numbers are restricted within the area. Spectators will still be able to purchase drinks and consume these outside the clubhouse area.

Cash payments will be accepted, but card payments are the preferred method of payment. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) is available on-site for staff and volunteers should they wish to wear it.

Final statement

Winchester City Football Club thank-you for both reading and following our club guidelines. This statement will be updated when further guidelines are issued by both the FA and the Government.

WCFC STAFF



BEHIND THE SCENES

PRESIDENT	JOHN MOODY RPSL
CHAIRMAN	KEN RAISBECK
VICE PRESIDENT	STEVE BRINE MP & COUNCILLOR IAN TAIT
LIFE VICE PRESIDENT	TERRY PAINE MBE
CLUB SECRETARY	MIKE CARTER
TREASURER	PHIL GOUGH

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MIKE CARTER	MATT RICHBELL	STEVE RAINBIRD	WAYNE ELKINS
JO BROCKSOM	PHIL GOUGH	KEN RAISBECK	JOHN MOODY
JUDITH TOWERTON	ALLAN HIGGS	MARK DODD	SALLY STATHAM

COVID-19 OFFICER	MIKE CARTER
CLUB WELFARE OFFICER	MIKE CARTER
CHARTER STANDARD OFFICER	MIKE CARTER
STADIUM GENERAL MANAGER	MIKE CARTER
STADIUM ANNOUNCER	WAYNE ELKINS
GROUND MAINTENANCE	DAVE GREEN
WEBSITE	STEVE RAINBIRD
MEDIA OFFICER	MATT RICHBELL
PROGRAMME EDITOR	MATT RICHBELL
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	WAYNE ELKINS
CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER	GARY MARSH
GROUNDS STAFF	RAY BULPITT & IZZY MEW
CHIEF STEWARD	STEVE RAINBIRD
BAR MANAGER	MIKE CARTER
CLUB CATERING	SALLY STATHAM, JUDY MALONE, JUDITH TOWERTON, MARGARET MOODY, JOHN MOODY, LYN BONE
50-50 DRAW	JUDY MALONE & JUDITH TOWERTON
TURNSTILE OPERATORS	RICH PICKETT & ALLY BROWN

ON THE PITCH

FIRST-TEAM MANAGER	CRAIG DAVIS
ASSISTANT MANAGER	SEAN BIRCHNALL
FIRST-TEAM COACH	CRAIG MARTIN
GOALKEEPING COACH	MARK COLE
SPORTS THERAPIST	JO BROCKSOM
PHYSIO	NINA PARKIN
UNDER 23S MANAGER	LUKE HAMPTON

CONTACT AND SOCIAL MEDIA



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commercial.wcfc@outlook.com



Winchester City Football Club



@wincityfc @WCFC-Staff
@WCFC_Fans

Winchester City Football Club is a committee run members club and as such is an unincorporated association

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TODAYS SQUADS



Charlie Philpott
Josh McCormick
Danny King
Dan Bradshaw
Joe Hayward
Rob Flooks
Max Smith
Jamie Barron (c)
Graeme Purdy
Olly Balmer
Rob Carr
Reece Rusher
Kel Akpobire
Ryan Pryce
Josh Davies
Ollie Griggs



Acheampong Richard
Baiden Myles
Baxter Josh
Bello Saddam
Bokhammas Jamal
Chamberlain Jamie
Clarke Harry
Cooper Nathan
Cresswell Bradley
Darch Kevin
Enongene Junior
Foster Jordan
Fosu Mikkell
Hopcroft Billy
Jones Ross
Kingswell Craig
Kuagica SebastiaoDavid
Larter Dominic
Levien Brian
Montague Brodie
Ndi Edward
Neild Daniel
Nlundulu Konda Rudy
Ofori Theophilus
Paul Benjamin
Phillips Ethan
Radford Tony
Roberts Christopher
Roberts Daniel
Rutty-Smith Yohan
Seedhouse-Evans Simpson
Adam Theo
Sloan Robbie
Tomlinson Oliver
Toop Lewis
Wight-Harper-Innis Vincent



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TODAYS OFFICIALS

Referee: Paul Barber
Assistant Referee: Carl Rooney
Assistant Referee: Rado Illiev