HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB 2018/19 SEASON







Hassocks v Eastbourne United

Saturday 22nd September 2018 Southern Combination Premier Division Kick off 3pm Programme £1





HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Founded 1902

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HONOURS

FIRST TEAM

Southern Combination Division One

Runners up 1995

Southern Combination Division Two

Winners 1993

Southern Combination Division Two Cup

Runners up 1988, 1991

Sussex Intermediate Cup

Winners 1975

Montgomery Challenge Cup

Winners 1960

Mowatt Challenge Cup

Winners 1928

UNDER 21 TEAM

Southern Combination Under 21 West Division

Runners up 2018

UNDER 18 TEAM

Southern Combination Under 18 Championship

Winners 2002, 2018

Runners up 2014

Southern Combination Under 18 Central

Winners 1999, 2002, 2006, 2014, 2018

Runners up 2008, 2013, 2015

Southern Combination Under 18 Cup

Winners 2001, 2008, 2009, 2018

Runners up 2002, 2014, 2015

Sussex County FA Under 18 Cup

Winners 2002

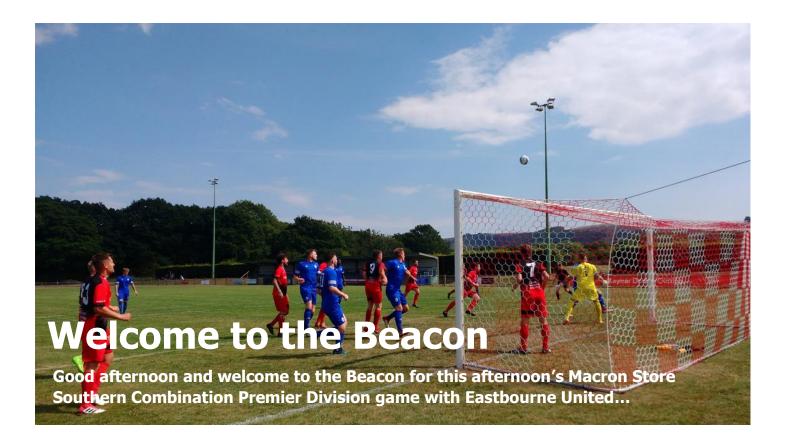
VETERANS TEAM

Fred Pretty Veterans Cup

Winners 1995, 1996, 2002, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2016

Runners up

2017



Robins in flying form

Since our last home game here against Bexhill United, Hassocks have been in absolutely flying form with two wins and a draw to give a real sense of optimism around the Beacon.

The 3-2 Peter Bentley League Cup victory against Bexhill was particularly pleasing given that it saw Hassocks do something that we haven't seen for a long time, namely overturn a significant deficit.

That gave the team great confidence going into the next game, a convincing 4-0 victory away at Loxwood for a first ever win over the Magpies and the Robins then repeated the trick of coming from two goals behind, rallying to draw 2-2 at East Preston.

It's the best run of form that Hassocks have been on for over a year and Mark Dalgelish and the players will be hoping to extend it in what will be a tough game against Eastbourne United.

Bant and Webster head for pastures new

Two players have departed the Beacon for pastures new with Bradley Bant and Dan Webster both moving on.

Bant leaves for Peacehaven & Telscombe after nearly four years and 131 appearances for the Robins while Webster featured twice after his

summer move from Horsham YMCA but has now decided to join Oakwood.

You can read more about both players departures further on in the programme, but everyone at Hassocks would like to wish them the best for their future careers.

Chi and Seaford ties for Hassocks in cups

There's more cup news with the draw for the Sussex Senior Cup handing Hassocks a difficult tie away at current Southern Combination League leaders Chichester City.

The third round of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup should at least prove a little more gentler in theory, with Seaford Town set to be the visitors to the Beacon.

Town booked their spot with a 6-1 hammering of fellow Division One side Southwick on Tuesday night.

No date has been set for either game yet but with Hassocks currently not scheduled a game for Saturday 13th October, there is every possibility that one of the ties will take place on that date.

As always, please keep an eye on the Hassocks website and the Robins social media feeds for details as and when we have them.

Under 23s, Under 18s and Ladies all remain unbeaten

Away from first team matters, the three other Hassocks sides have made excellent starts to the season and all remain unbeaten at the time of writing.

The Under 23s had been due to take on Pagham on Thursday night for what was shaping up to be a mouthwatering clash between last season's top two.

If you'd like to know how they got on, then please ask Owen behind the bar and he'll be able to tell you.

Prior to the clash with the Lions, Nigel Pearce's side had beaten Southwick 2-1 thanks to two late James Littlejohn goals which took them top of the table.

The Under 18s meanwhile have racked up four wins out of four under new manager Brad Sweetman to trail Haywards Heath Town only by goal difference and the ladies are two from two as they sit top of the South East Counties Women's League Division One.

Welcome to our visitors

Finally, we'd like to welcome the players, supporters and committee of Eastbourne United to the Beacon as well as today's match officials, and wish them a pleasant stay in Mid Sussex with us.



It' been a summer of transition at the Oval after Tobi Hutchinson's decision to stand down as boss, paving the way for Ryan Cooper to take up his first managerial post...

It's been quite the baptism of fire for Cooper, with United yet to win a game in the league so far.

Their record reads one draw and six defeats from seven games with that solitary point coming on the opening day when Ollie Black's 84th minute equaliser earned them a share of the spoils at home to Arundel.

United were unable to raise a side when set to be taking on Peacehaven & Telscombe on Bank Holiday Monday but there has at least been some steady progress since then.

Cooper tasted victory as a manager for the first time 11 days ago when his side ran out 1-0 winners in the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup away at St Francis Rangers.

Joel Mbiya Kalambayi got the only goal of the game for United in a confidence boosting win that supporters will hope proves to be a turning point in their campaign.

They'll have fond memories of their last visit to the Beacon which came in February. United ended a barren run of form of 17 games without a victory with a 2-1 success that proved to be the catalyst for a much improved second half of the season that saw Hutchinson led the side to safety, eventually finishing six points and two places clear of Hassocks who will filled the last relegation spot.

The Robins dominate the head-to-head with 18 wins to United's 10 and 12 draws in our 40 meetings.

Hassocks also have a very good record of hitting the net against them, having notched 78 times at an average of more than two goals a game – although that was helped hugely by a 7-1 win in the FA Cup in 2010 which remains the Robins second biggest win of the last decade.

Despite their trials and tribulations so far this season, United will still prove to be dangerous opponents for the Robins and Mark Dalgleish and his side will know they need to be at their best to continue their impressive run of form.



FACTFILE Eastbourne United

Founded 1896
Nickname United
Ground The Oval
Website eastbourneunitedafc.com
Twitter @eastbourneuafc
Manager Ryan Cooper
Top Scorer Tyler O'Callaghan, 2

HONOURS

Southern Combination League
Winners 1955, 1956, 2009
Southern Combination Division 1
Winners 2014
Sussex Senior Cup
Winners 1960, 1963, 1964, 1966, 1967, 1969
Sussex RUR Charity Cup

Winners 1956, 2009

Peter Bentley League Cup
Winners 1951, 1952

Sussex Intermediate Cup
Winners 1966, 1969

10 Key Moments

1921... known as Eastbourne Royal Engineers Old Comrades, they join the Southern Combination League **1946...** Eastbourne Comrades FC – the fifth of seven names the club have used – move to the Oval **1955...** United lift their first Southern Combination title, successfully defending it the next year

1963... they leave the Southern Combination League for the Athenian League

1977... another change of leagues, this time with a move to the Isthmian League

1991... after 28 years, United return to the Southern Combination League

2003... Eastbourne United merge with Shinewater Association to become Eastbourne United Association **2009...** complete a league and cup double, lifting the Southern Combination title and the Sussex RUR Cup **2011...** United are relegated into Division One of the Southern Combination League

2014... the Division One title is lifted and there is best ever run to the semi finals of the FA Vase

Last 20 Seasons

2017-18, Southern Combination One 16th 2016-17, Southern Combination Premier 7th 2015-16, Southern Combination Premier 10th 2014-15, Southern Combination Premier 12th 2013-14, Southern Combination One 1st 2012-13, Southern Combination One 4th 2011-12, Southern Combination One 6th 2010-11, Southern Combination Premier 20th 2009-10, Southern Combination Premier 6th 2008-09, Southern Combination Premier 1st 2007-08, Southern Combination Premier 11th 2006-07, Southern Combination Premier 7th 2005-06, Southern Combination Premier 14th 2004-05, Southern Combination Premier 5th 2003-04, Southern Combination One 3rd 2002-03, Southern Combination One 8th 2001-02, Southern Combination Premier 19th 2000-01, Southern Combination Premier 11th 1999-00, Southern Combination Premier 15th 1998-99, Southern Combination Premier 8th

Hassocks v Eastbourne United :: Head-to-Head

SCFL Premier Division... Played 30 - Won 10 - Drew 10 - Lost 10 - Scored 46 - Conceded 45 SCFL Division One... Played 6 - Won 5 - Drew 1 - Lost 0 - Scored 17 - Conceded 8 Sussex Senior Cup... Played 2 - Won 1 - Drew 1 - Lost 0 - Scored 5 - Conceded 1 FA Cup... Played 1 - Won 1 - Drew 0 - Lost 0 - Scored 7 - Conceded 1 FA Vase... Played 1 - Won 1 - Drew 0 - Lost 0 - Scored 4 - Conceded 2

Total... Played 40 Won 18 Drew 12 Lost 10 Scored 79 Conceded 57

Last 7 meetings

2017-18 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-2 Eastbourne United 2017-18 SCFL Premier: Eastbourne United 0-1 Hassocks 2016-17 SCFL Premier: Eastbourne United 1-2 Hassocks 2016-17 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-2 Eastbourne United 2015-16 SCFL Premier: Eastbourne United 0-3 Hassocks

2015-16 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-1 Eastbourne United 2014-15 SCFL Premier: Eastbourne United 1-2 Hassocks 2014-15 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 3-3 Eastbourne United 2010-11 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-1 Eastbourne United 2010-11 SCFL Premier: Eastbourne United 0-2 Hassocks

Played for both

Goalkeeper James Broadbent won every award going at the end of Hassocks' 2016-17 season, picking up a clean sweep of Players Player, Managers Player and Supporters Player.

That form was enough to earn him a move to the Bostik League with Shoreham and he has stayed with the Middle Road outfit for this season following their relegation back to the Southern Combination League.

He plied his trade at the Oval the season before he signed for the Robins and also had spells at United's rivals Eastbourne Town and AFC Uckfield Town.

Midfielder Zak Dove played 11 times and scored once in the 2013-14 season after signing for Hassocks from Ryman side Lewes.

He spent three years at the Oval between 2015 and 2018.



UNITED PUSH HASSOCKS DEEPER INTO THE MIRE

Another wretched afternoon means that the trap door to Division One is fast opening beneath the feet of Hassocks as they became the first team to lose to Eastbourne United Association since the final throes of the cricket season.

Seventeen league games and nearly five months had passed since United last tasted victory in the league way back in September, but they ended that barren spell with a 2-1 success at the Beacon through first half goals from Jamie Fielding and Tyler O'Callaghan.

Michael Death gave Hassocks a lifeline with his seventh goal of the season 15 minutes from time but that proved to be too little, too late as the Robins own winless streak was extended to a club record in senior football of 11 matches.

The fixture list has played its part in that sequence with Hassocks' last three game coming against title challengers Haywards Heath Town, Saltdean United and Chichester City while injuries and suspensions have also been an issue.

None of those excuses washed here though. With the exceptions of the crocked Charlie Pitcher, the suspended Ashley Marsh and James Westlake who is approaching the time of the year when his marathon running exploits kick in, Hassocks named the strongest side they possibly could based on the players still available to them against opponents who arrived sitting just one place above them in the relegation zone.

Goalkeeper Nathan Stroomberg returned from a three game ban while

there were also welcome returns for Jordan Badger and Matt Berridge.

Under 18s striker George
Galbraith-Gibbons was recalled at the expense of Will Broomfield as Mark
Dalgleish and Phil Wickwar selected a far more attacking line up than that which had battled valiantly for over an hour with 10 men against Chi last time out, a game in which the scoreline didn't really reflect the performance.

There were obvious questions

"Michael Death gave Hassocks a lifeline with his seventh goal of the season 15 minutes from time but that proved to be too little, too late as the Robins own winless streak was extended to a club record in senior football of 11 matches."

about rustiness given that Chi game a fortnight ago was the Robins only competitive action since the turn of the year thanks to the weather but if the players were putting in the work on the training ground then that really shouldn't be an issue - after all, United themselves had played only twice in 2018.

The real issue seems to be that the fighting spirit and commitment that characterised Hassock's last three escapes from relegation has gone and this is a squad of players that, with a few exceptions, care less about the club than those in years gone by while having something of a "we're too good to go down" mentality that treats the precariousness of their current situation with contempt.

That sense of apathy towards where the club is heading is translating to the stands as, despite there being only three other games on in the Premier Division, the Beacon suffered its second lowest crowd in five years.

Those who did turn up saw United make the better start to the encounter, taking the lead inside of 15 minutes through Fielding with O'Callaghan doubling the advantage for Tobi Hutchinson's side with nine minutes of the first half remaining.

Hassocks chucked on Broomfield and another under 18 striker in Jake Lindsey in the hope of salvaging something from the game and Death pulled one back in the 75th minute to move level at the top of the clubs scoring charts with seven - the same number as Liam Benson who departed for Lancing two months ago, which highlights lack of goals as another of the Robins problems.

Death's strike at least gave
Hassocks hope. But hope has been a
forlorn commodity for the Robins this
season and United held on to give
their survival hopes a real boost,
leaving Hassocks to wonder how and
where their next win could come
from.

Hassocks: Stroomberg; Dawson, Tuck, Slaughter, Badger; Bant, Mills, L Westlake, Berridge; Galbraith-Gibbons, Death.

Subs: Broomfield, Lindsey (used).

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SEVENTH HEAVEN AS ROBINS KICK OFF FA CUP CAMPAIGN IN STYLE

It was seventh heaven for Hassocks as they swept into the preliminary qualifying round of the FA Cup with a 7-1 demolition job of Eastbourne United Association at the Beacon.

This was a real statement of intent as new boss Mickey Jewell flexed all the muscle of his talented squad to blow away the Robins woeful Division One rivals.

Jewell had given debuts to six new signings in the first game of the season against Selsey on Tuesday night and he rang the changes for this one.

Out went Rob South, Andy Whittingham, Lee Waterhouse, Spencer Slaughter, Chris Maynard and Dan Smith and in came Luke Akehurst, Pete Lear, Richard Thompson, Daley Clark, Sam Jeremiah and Neil Kane.

Keeping so many good players happy could prove to be Jewell's biggest challenge in his first season at the helm but it is a good dilemma to have after a couple of years of struggle for the Robins.

For all the new arrivals to the Beacon over the summer, it was one of their stalwarts who got the party started against United as Anthony Hibbert notched his 100th goal for the club with 15 minutes showing on the clock.

A simple through ball straight down the middle from Phil Gault caused far more problems that it should have from a United point of view and that allowed Hibbert to race through, latch onto the pass and slot the ball past Adam Sargeant.

Hibbert joins James Laing, Pat Harding and Robbie Kitchen on the century makers list, an impressive feat given those three were all centre forwards and Hibbert has spent his entire Hassocks career in midfield.

Hassocks' second was a carbon copy of their first, this time Clark

playing the pass that sent Kane away to double the advantage with his first goal of the season.

United pulled one back on the half hour mark when Steve Reeve's shot deflected into the path of Shane Saunders who finished well from inside the box.

That led to a sustained period of United pressure for the remaining 15 minutes of the half but for all their possession, they weren't able to seriously test Mike Abbott in the Hassocks goal as the home back four of Akehurst, Lear, Ashley Marsh and Thompson stood firm.

"For all the new arrivals to the Beacon over the summer, it was one of their stalwarts who got the party started against United as Anthony Hibbert notched his 100th goal for the club with 15 minutes showing on the clock."

The Robins reached half time with their slender lead intact before completely blowing away the visitors with five unanswered goals in the second half.

The first of those arrived five minutes after the restart and once again it was another through ball down the middle that proved to be United's undoing.

Kieran O'Callaghan was the architect this time with Kane's searing pace taking him in on goal and around Sargeant for a cool finish.

Clark added the fourth on 55 minutes when he hit an effort from the edge of the box which Sargeant looked to have covered, only for an unfortunate deflection to take it away

from the United goalkeeper and in to the back of the net.

Jewell turned to his bench and made three quick substitutions, introducing three of those players he'd chosen to rest as Smith, Maynard and Waterhouse replaced Kane, Gault and Hibbert respectively.

They each impressed in the 20 minutes or so they were afforded, playing a part in Hassocks' final three goals.

Firstly, Waterhouse played a delightful lofted ball over the top which sent Smith in on goal.

The young striker still had plenty to do but he produced a sublime piece of skill to take out a defender and Sargeant in one move, leaving an open goal into which he tapped in his first goal for the Robins.

Waterhouse also created Hassocks' sixth when he found Maynard sliding in at the back post with 10 minutes left to play.

Maynard wasn't done there either as the summer signing from St Francis Rangers added the seventh in injury time, tapping in the highly impressive Jeremiah's pass.

Tougher tests will await Hassocks no doubt but Jewell was nonetheless a happy man at the final whistle while the Robins committee will have welcomed some very welcome prize money after failing to win a game in the FA Cup for the previous two seasons.

Their reward for victory will be a home tie with Farnham Town in two weeks time.

Hassocks: Abbott; Akehurst, Marsh, Lear, Thompson; Hibbert, O'Callaghan, Gault, Clark, Jeremiah; Kane.

Subs: Waterhouse (Hibbert 70), Maynard (Gault 65), Smith (Kane 60).



BYE BYE BANTS

Two players have left the Beacon for pastures new after Hassocks accepted seven day approaches for the services of Bradley Bant and Dan Webster.

Popular midfielder Bant has moved to fellow Premier Division side Peacehaven & Telscombe.

Bant joined the Robins a few months into the 2014-15 season from East Grinstead Town, having previously played for both Shoreham and Lancing.

He played a key role in the sides great escape from relegation following the appointments of Mark Dalgleish and Phil Wickwar a month after his arrival from East Court, scoring 4 times in 31 appearances in his first campaign at the Beacon.

Bant went onto rack up 131 games for the club, netting 12 times along the way.

He scored one brace against Lingfield in the Peter Bentley League Cup in the 2015-16 season in what was easily his best performance in a Hassocks shirt.

The Robins ran out 5-1 winners that day on their way to the quarter

finals of the competition, where they were eventually eliminated by Lancing.

He could've passed the 150 games mark were it not for his talents as a tennis player.

Bant represents The Weald, locatted just behind South Downs Nurseries to the North of the Beacon, at tennis and that made his availability when the two sports overlapped slightly restricted.

Webster meanwhile has dropped into Division One with Oakwood after just two appearances for Hassocks.

The defender joined in the summer from Horsham YMCA and started the first two games of the season, the 1-1 draw against Broadbridge Heath and the 6-0 home defeat against Chichester City.

Will Broomfield's return after a brief soiree with Haywards Heath Town has increased the competition at centre back however and Webster has therefore taken the decision to move to Tinsley Lane.





Robins handed Chi trip in Sussex Senior Cup

Hassocks have been handed a tough task in the first round of the Sussex Senior Cup with a trip to Chichester City.

The draw was made two weeks ago and sends the Robins to the current Southern Combination League leaders on a date and time to be confirmed.

Hassocks and Chichester have met once in the competition before, at the third round stage in the 2008-09 season.

Dave John's Robins had already been eliminated in the second round, but conquerors Bognor Regis Town played ineligible player in their 5-2 win and so the tie was awarded to Hassocks.

They took advantage of having a second bite of the cherry by scraping past Chi in one of the stranger games that the Beacon has seen.

The visitors arrived without any form of recognised goalkeeper available and so 58-year-old manager Adie Girdler was forced into deputising.

Despite having a man just seven years away from collecting his pension in between the sticks, Chi were by far the better side and dominated three-quarters of the tie only to go down 1-0 to an own goal.

"Prior to being handed Chi away, the first team, under 23s, under 18s and ladies had all been given games at the Beacon in their respective county cups."

Anthony Hibbert's pass got Laing in goal side of the defence and although his poor finish did not look like going in, Ford came sliding in to poke it over his own line.

That was enough to send Hassocks into the quarter finals, equalling their best ever run in the competition. They went down 1-0 to league rivals Shoreham at that stage.

Hassocks and Chichester have already met this season in the second match day of the season when Chi underlined their title credentials with a 6-0 win at the Beacon.

Gicu Iordache scored twice for Miles Rutherford's side that evening with Scott Jones, David Herbert, Jimmy Wild and Robert Hutchings also on target.

The Robins will have much fonder memories of their last visit to Oaklands Park.

That came in April when they effectively ended Chi's slim championship hopes with a shock 2-1 win courtesy of goals from Michael Death and George Galbraith-Gibbons.

The draw ends a remarkable run of home ties for Hassocks in Sussex FA competitions this season.

Prior to being handed Chi away, the first team, under 23s, under 18s and ladies had all been given games at the Beacon in their respective county cups.



First Team 2018-19

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
04/08 - 15:00	Broadbridge Heath (H)	SCFLP	1-1	Benson
07/08 - 19:45	Chichester City (H)	SCFLP	0-6	Delison
11/08 – 15:00	Erith Town (H)	FACEP	1-3	Slaughter
18/08 - 15:00	Peacehaven & Tels. (A)	SCFLP	1-3	Benson
21/08 - 19:45	Arundel (A)	SCFLP	3-1	Johnson (2), Stokes
25/08 - 15:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (H)	RURC2	2-1	Johnson, Benson
27/08 - 11:00	Saltdean United (H)	SCFLP	1-4	Johnson
01/09 - 15:00	K Sports (H)	FAVQ1	0-2	
04/09 - 19:45	Bexhill United (H)	PBLC2	3-2	Littlejohn, Jacques, Johnson
08/09 - 15:00	Loxwood (A)	SCFLP	4-0	Benson, Slaughter, Johnson (2)
11/09 - 19:45	East Preston (A)	SCFLP	2-2	Stokes (2)
22/09 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (H)	SCFLP		• •
29/09 - 15:00	Langney Wanderers (A)	SCFLP		
06/10 - 15:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (H)	SCFLP		
20/10 - 15:00	Little Common (A)	SCFLP		
27/10 - 15:00	Newhaven (H)	SCFLP		
03/11 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SCFLP		
10/11 - 15:00	Broadbridge Heath (H)	SCFLP		
17/11 – 15:00	Pagham (A)	SCFLP		
24/11 - 15:00	Lingfield (H)	SCFLP		
01/12 - 15:00	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFLP		
08/12 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (A)	SCFLP		
15/12 – 15:00	Peacehaven & Tels. (H)	SCFLP		
22/12 – 15:00	Chichester City (A)	SCFLP		
26/12 – 11:00	Lancing (H)	SCFLP		
29/12 – 15:00	Shoreham (A)	SCFLP		
05/01 – 15:00	East Preston (H)	SCFLP		
19/01 – 15:00	Eastbourne United (A)	SCFLP		
26/01 – 15:00	Arundel (H)	SCFLP		
02/02 – 15:00	Saltdean United (A)	SCFLP		
09/02 - 15:00	Loxwood (H)	SCFLP		
16/02 – 15:00	Newhaven (A)	SCFLP		
23/02 – 15:00	Little Common (H)	SCFLP		
02/03 - 15:00	Lingfield (A)	SCFLP		
09/03 - 15:00	Pagham (H)	SCFLP		
	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)			
23/03 – 15:00	Langney Wanderers (H)	SCFLP		
30/03 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (H)	SCFLP		
06/04 - 15:00	Horsham YMCA (A)	SCFLP		
20/04 - 15:00	Shoreham (H)	SCFLP		
22/04 – 11:00	Lancing (A)	SCFLP		
27/04 – 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (H)	SCFLP		



Proud Sponsors of the Robins in the 2018-19 season

Appearances 2018-19



		2018-19 Season:			Hassocks	Career:
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals	Games	Goals
Liam Benson	10	1	11	4	77	21
Harvey Blake	9	2	11	0	11	0
Jordan Badger	9	1	10	0	85	4
Harry Mills	9	1	10	0	76	2
Matt Berridge	8	1	9	0	24	0
Phil Johnson	8	1	9	7	119	53
Spencer Slaughter	8	1	9	2	273	44
Dan Stokes	6	3	9	3	113	8
Alex Harris	8	0	8	0	59	0
Jack Wilkins	7	1	8	0	66	1
Alex Spinks	7	1	8	0	9	0
Will Broomfield	7	0	7	0	34	0
Jake Lindsey	5	2	7	0	26	4
Joe Bull	1	6	7	0	7	0
Bradley Bant	4	1	5	0	131	12
Dan Jacques	4	0	4	1	194	9
James Littlejohn	3	1	4	1	5	1
Josh Green	3	0	3	0	9	0
Ryan Collins	2	1	3	0	35	2
Dan Webster	2	0	2	0	2	0
Harvey Enticknap	1	0	1	0	1	0
Ben O'Leary	0	1	1	0	7	0

Coming up...



ROBINS CUP COMEBACK SINKS PIRATES

Peter Bentley League Cup Second Round Tuesday 4th September 2018, The Beacon Hassocks 3-2 Bexhill United

At half time of Hassocks' Peter Bentley League Cup Second tie against Bexhill United, an all too familiar story was unfolding at the Beacon.

The Robins had been largely dominant in the first 45 minutes yet found themselves going into the break trailing 2-0 thanks to a combination of failing to take chances and some suspect defending.

Normally, that's how things finish as well and everyone is left to wonder what might have been had Hassocks taken those opportunities or defended slightly better.

But not on this occasion. On this occasion, three goals in 20 second half minutes turned the game on its head as Hassocks came roaring back to win 3-2 and book a spot in the third round of the competition for the first time in three seasons.

The Robins began the tie brightly with Matt Berridge hitting a shot straight at Pirates goalkeeper Dan Rose, Phil Johnson seeing an effort blocked and Liam Benson curling just wide of the post after being teed up by James Littlejohn, all inside of the first 10 minutes.

It was from Bexhill's first raid into the Hassocks half that they took the lead.

Josh Green was making his first appearance in four seasons for the first team in place of the suspended Alex Harris and he'd done well to keep out Wayne Giles' effort but nobody in red could react quick enough to prevent Jamie Bunn from pillaging the rebound.

Undeterred, Hassocks went back on the attack with Johnson's pace in particular leaving United all at sea.

The Robins striker was forging a particularly useful alliance with Harvey Blake who was cannon balling forward from right back at every opportunity.

Twice that duo linked up, the first time Blake slipping in Johnson who

saw his effort brilliantly blocked by a last ditch sliding tackle from Chris Rea and then another forward pass from Blake released Johnson who showed quick feet to get to the byline but there was nobody there to turn his cross home.

Berridge and Littlejohn then danced the hempen to set up Ryan Collins.

The midfielder was a nautical mile from goal but still released a crashing effort that flew just over Rose's crossbar.

At the other end, Nathan Lopez delivered an excellent cross straight onto the head of Giles, but he put his free header wastefully over the bar.

That was a warning shot across the bow for Hassocks which they did not heed and five minutes before half time they found themselves 2-0 down.

There seemed to be nothing on when Giles received the ball way out on the left, from where he sent a cross-cum-shot which dropped over the head of Green and into the back of the net.

Only Giles will know if it was intentional but whatever the striker meant, his side were now in a commanding position going into the break and it could've been even better but for Dan Jacques deflecting a Lopez effort wide and Green making a big, bold claim after Giles attempted an outrageous overhead kick from the resulting corner.

Hassocks supporters could've been forgiven for fearing the worst at that point, especially as United have become something of a bogey side to the Robins in recent seasons having knocked them out at the same stage of the same competition last year and the first round of the Sussex Senior Cup two seasons before that.

Whatever Mark Dalgleish said to his players at the break though had the desired effect and within 10 minutes of the restart they'd pulled one back.





The Bexhill dugout were incensed when Rea was booked for a rapscallion tackle on Collins and they were still holding parley towards referee Alex Howard when Spencer Slaughter sent the resulting free kick into the box with the ball eventually falling to Littlejohn who smashed under the body of Rose for his first season goal.

Blake flashed in a low cross which just evaded the onrushing Benson and Johnson and Benson was then too honest for his own good when he stayed on his feet and got a shot away after United captain Lewis McGuigan attempted to haul him down.

Had Benson hit the deck, he'd almost certainly have been awarded a penalty.

There were 20 minutes left when the equaliser did eventually arrive, and it came from an unlikely source.

Nobody could quite work out what Jacques was doing as the furthest man forward, but the Robins were thanking the stars that he was as he was there to barrel home Johnson's cross at the far post.

Bexhill seemed to lose their heads at that but worse was to come for the visitors three minutes later.

A long ball over the top left Johnson in a foot race with McGuigan and the Hassocks striker was never going to lose that one, accelerating onto the ball at a rate of knots despite the flailing arms of the United captain doing everything possible to try and stop him.

Needless to say there was no stopping Johnson and he went through to slot the ball past Rose and ensure Hassocks sail into the next round.

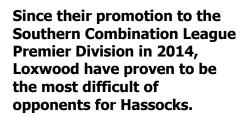
Hassocks: Green; Blake, Mills, Jacques, Badger; Berridge, Slaughter, Collins; Benson, Johnson, Littlejohn.

Subs: Spinks, Stokes (used), Wilkins, Broomfield, Enticknap (unused).



EIGHTH TIME LUCKY AS HASSOCKS HAMMER LOXWOOD

Macron Store Southern Combination Premier Division Saturday 8th September 2018, Plaistow Road **Loxwood 0-4 Hassocks**



In eight previous meetings between the two, the Robins had never won and only had two points to show for their efforts against the Magpies thanks to a couple of 1-1 draws back when Loxwood were in their first season in the top flight.

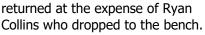
That barren run of form ended at Plaistow Road and in quite spectacular fashion too as Hassocks ran out convincing 4-0 winners.

The Robins had put on an outstanding second half of football in their midweek Peter Bentley League Cup comeback win over Bexhill United and it was a similar story here as three second half goals added to Liam Benson's first half opener to secure their biggest win in nearly two years.

Mark Dalgleish made two changes to the side that had beaten the Pirates.

"The Robins had put on an outstanding second half of football in their midweek Peter Bentley League Cup comeback win over Bexhill United and it was a similar story here as three second half goals added to Liam Benson's first half opener to secure their biggest win in nearly two years."

Will Broomfield took the place of unavailable captain Jordan Badger which necessitated a move to left back for Dan Jacques and Alex Spinks



In Badger's absence, Phil Johnson captained Hassocks for the first time and although he marked the occasion with two goals and another man-of-the-match showing, Johnson was keen to point out that this was a real team effort.

"It was a great team performance and everyone is working really hard for each other all over the pitch," Johnson said afterwards.

"The back four and Josh in goal in particular were excellent and they thoroughly deserved their clean sheet.

"There's a good vibe in the dressing room at the moment and we're all looking forward to the next game as we're enjoying our football."

The Robins faithful are enjoying it too.

They saw their side take the lead after some good build up play put Matt Berridge into a shooting position and although the post denied him what would have been his first senior





goal, Benson did what all good strikers do and followed up to sniff out the rebound and scramble it over the line.

Loxwood began the second half the brighter of the two sides, bombarding the Hassocks goal with crosses and corners but as Johnson highlighted, Josh Green put on a real show of confident goalkeeping in claiming everything that came into his box.

It wasn't just with his dominance that Green impressed.

He also made a couple of crucial saves late on to prevent what might otherwise have become a nervy last 10 minutes and Dalgleish now has a real selection dilemma on his hands with Alex Harris set to be available after completing his three-game ban against East Preston on Tuesday night.

Thanks to Green's excellence and the efforts of Jacques, Broomfield, Harry Mills and Harvey Blake, Hassocks withstood that 10 minutes of relentless pressure before hitting Loxwood with a sweeping counter attack move.

One minute the ball was in the Hassocks box and the next Johnson was skipping past Josh Courtney and cutting the ball back to the far post where Spencer Slaughter was arriving for a tap in.

That seemed to break the Magpies' spirit somewhat and 11 minutes later Johnson notched his first of the afternoon, cutting inside from way out on the touch line and hitting one from distance which picked up a slight deflection on the way through to beat home goalkeeper Liam Matthews.

Johnson's second was a goal of the highest quality as he powered past former Hassocks favourite Eddie French and then breezed past French's defensive partner Ollie Joels to slot past the advancing Matthews with 15 minutes remaining.

Hassocks: Green; Blake, Broomfield, Mills, Jacques; Berridge, Spinks, Slaughter; Littlejohn, Benson, Johnson.

Subs: Lindsey (Littlejohn), Bull (Benson), Collins (Berridge), Galbraith-Gibbons, Wickwar (unused).







To see the full set of photos from the Robins victory over Loxwood, please visit the Flickr page of Ray Merridew

SUPER SUB STOKES STRIKES LATE DOUBLE TO EARN ROBINS POINT

Macron Store Southern Combination Premier Division Tuesday 11th September 2018, The Lashmar

East Preston 2-2 Hassocks





Perhaps Hassocks should request their evening games kick off at 9pm from now on?

For the second Tuesday in succession, the Robins launched a dazzling second half comeback to take something from a game in which they came in at half time trailing 2-0 after a disjointed first half showing.

They simply weren't at the races in the opening 45 minutes at the Lashmar against a talented East Preston side who scored twice through Lucas Pattenden and Thomas Lyne.

The previous weeks comeback win against Bexhill United in the Peter Bentley League Cup came about when Mark Dalgleish told his players to abandon their haphazard attempts at passing football in favour of going direct in order to utilise the pace of Phil Johnson, Liam Benson and James Littlejohn.

And it was another tactical adjustment that turned the game here and allowed Hassocks to leave with a share of the spoils.

Dalgleish abandoned 4-3-3 at half time in favour of 4-4-2 which put the Robins firmly in control, although the introduction of their goal scoring saviour owed more to luck than design.

Dan Stokes was bought on early in the second half when the unfortunate Will Broomfield pulled a hamstring.

Stokes took full advantage of the opportunity, netting a brilliant brace in the final 10 minutes to earn his side a 2-2 draw.

Pattenden's opener for EP had arrived after just three minutes, the wing back dancing past three Hassocks defenders before whipping a left footed effort past Josh Green and into the top corner.

The hosts had a plethora of chances to extend their lead after that. Ryan Quirke fired wastefully over, Dan Huet saw an effort well blocked by Broomfield and Jack Barnes shot wide.

EP's second goal eventually arrived with 10 minutes of the half remaining.

Quirke delivered a free kick to the far post where Lyne had far too much time and space to bring the ball down and fire a left footed volley in via the upright.

"Dan Stokes was bought on early in the second half when the unfortunate Will Broomfield pulled a hamstring and he took full advantage of the opportunity, netting a brilliant brace in the final 10 minutes to earn his side a 2-2 draw."

Hassocks made their shape change at the break and there were a couple of personnel changes early on in the second half as well as Jordan Badger replaced Dan Jacques and young Joe Bull came on for Alex Spinks before Stokes' pivotal entrance to the game.

As a result of Broomfield's injury, Spencer Slaughter dropped back into defence and he began pushing his side higher up the pitch than they'd previously dared to go.

That, coupled with the tireless work rate of the Robins front three, began causing EP a world of problems and Hassocks spent most of the second half camped in the opposition half.

Despite their territorial and possession dominance, it took until the 80th minute for Hassocks to pull one back.

A succession of big tackles from the Robins saw the ball fall to Stokes

some 25 yards out and he hit a dipping distance effort which left EP goalkeeper James Fernandes grasping at thin air.

That sparked a manic last 10 minutes. Slaughter plucked a ball out of the air with the grace of a gazelle before hitting a 40 yard diagonal ball over the top for Littlejohn to chase. Littlejohn latched onto it and knocked it past Fernandes who then pole axed the Hassocks striker to concede a penalty and earn a straight red card.

EP sacrificed Quirke for substitute goalkeeper Leesun Donaldson and his first touch of the game saw him save Benson's spot kick, much to the delight of the home crowd who must've thought it was going to be their day at that point.

Stokes had other ideas though and he equalised with just one minute of the 90 remaining, producing a deft touch to escape the attentions of Nathan Da Costa and then hitting a peach of a shot back across goal that went in off the post.

Player coach Slaughter said afterwards, "It's four wins and a draw from our last seven games now and it could easily have been more."

"If we take the halves we are having here and there and turn it into a full game then we're going to be very difficult to play against."

Hassocks: Green; Blake, Broomfield, Mills, Jacques; Spinks, Slaughter, Berridge; Littlejohn, Johnson, Benson.

Subs: Badger (Jacques), Bull (Spinks), Stokes (Broomfield).

Under 23s Fixtures & Results 2018-19

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
24/08 - 19:45	Lancing (A)	SCFL23	1-1	Willcox
30/08 - 19:45	Midhurst & E'bourne (H)	SCFL23	9-0	Willcox, Bradley, Littlejohn (4), Galbraith-Gibbons (3)
06/09 - 19:45	Southwick (A)	SCFL23	2-1	Littlejohn
20/09 - 19:45	Pagham (H)	SCFL23		-
27/09 - 19.45	Mile Oak (H)	SCFL23		

Under 23s Appearances 2018-19

		2018-19 Season:					
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals			
Connor Bradley	3	0	3	1			
Ellis Common	3	0	3	0			
Louie Derham	3	0	3	0			
Harvey Enticknap	3	0	3	0			
Josh Green	3	0	3	0			
James Littlejohn	3	0	3	6			
Solly Ross	3	0	3	0			
Kieran Wells	3	0	3	0			
James Oliver	2	1	3	0			
Martin Ratcliffe	2	1	3	0			
Will Glenn	1	2	3	0			
Max Willcox	2	0	2	2			
George Galbraith-Gibbons	1	1	2	3			
Ben Miller	0	2	2	0			
Jake Lane	0	2	2	0			
Joe Russell	0	2	2	0			
Ryan Collins	1	0	1	0			
Ben Jonas	0	1	1	0			
Kieran Dimelow	0	1	1	0			





LITTLEJOHN LEAVES IT LATE TO EXTEND ROBINS RAMPANT START

Macron Store Southern Combination Under 23 West Division Thursday 6th September 2018, Old Barn Way Southwick U23 1-2 Hassocks U23







They left it late, but two goals in the final 10 minutes from James Littlejohn earned Hassocks Under 23s a 2-1 win at Southwick to maintain their impressive start to the season.

The campaign may only be three games old, but the Robins will be pleased with their position at the top of the table having taken seven points out of a possible nine.

They arrived at Old Barn Way having dished out a 9-0 hammering to Midhurst & Easebourne but this was always likely to be a much sterner test against opponents who'd given the Robins a real run for their money in last season's meetings, a 2-2 draw at the Beacon and an eventual 5-3 victory for Hassocks down on the coast.

Southwick had themselves been on the end of a heavy defeat last time out, losing 6-1 at Horsham YMCA

although they had ground out an impressive 2-1 win in a local derby with Mile Oak on the opening day.

It looked like a similarly resilient performance might inflict a first defeat of the season on Hassocks, given that the Wickers led until there were just eight minutes of the game remaining.

Jakob Ross' strike five minutes before half time looked like it would give the hosts all three points until Littlejohn's late intervention as he netted in 82nd and 85th minutes to turn the game on its head.

Littlejohn's goals capped off a memorable 48 hours for the striker.

He'd scored his first senior goal in the first teams 3-2 comeback win over Bexhill United on Tuesday night and this brace took him onto six goals in three games for the under 23s.

Given that Hassocks were without the services of last season's top scorer Max Willcox who picked up an injury in the win over Midhurst, Littlejohn's scoring form has come at just the right time for Nigel Pearce's side.

Willcox was replaced by George Galbraith-Gibbons in Hassocks' only change from the previous week.

Josh Green retained his place in goal despite having joined Littlejohn in the first team starting line up two days previously while Pearce gave Kieran Dimelow his first appearance of the season from the bench and handed an under 23 debut to Ben Jonas, part of last seasons treble winning under 18 side.

Hassocks: Green, Common, Wells, Derham, Oliver, Ross, Bradley, Enticknap, Ratcliffe, Galbraith-Gibbons, Littlejohn.

Subs: Lane, Russell, Jonas, Glenn, Dimelow (used).

Under 18s 2018-19

Date & Time 02/09 - 11:00 09/09 - 11:00 13/09 - 19:45 16/09 - 11:00 07/10 - 11:00 21/10 - 11:00 28/10 - 11:00 04/11 - 11:00 04/11 - 11:00 02/12 - 11:00 03/02 - 11:00 10/02 - 11:00 17/02 - 11:00	Opponents St Francis Rangers (A) Lancing (A) Upper Beeding (H) Broadbridge Heath (A) Steyning Town (H) Rottingdean Village (A) Haywards Heath Town (A) Steyning Town (A) Southwick (H) St Francis Rangers (H) Lancing (H) Broadbridge Heath (H) Upper Beeding (A) Rottingdean Village (H) Haywards Heath Town (H) Steyning Town (A)	Comp SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18 SCFL18	F-A 4-1 5-4 4-0 5-1	Scorers Le-May, Loveridge, Azizi (2) Moulvogny, Hayes (3), Baden Hayes (2), Azizi Azizi (2), Dimelow, Herd
17/02 – 1100	Steyning Town (A)	SCFL18		
24/02 – 11:00	Southwick (A)	SCFL18		

Under 18s Appearances 2018-19

	2018-19 Season:					
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals		
Yahya Azizi	4	0	4	6		
Jack Gardner	4	0	4	0		
Alex Moulvogny	4	0	4	1		
Josh Sansilands	4	0	4	0		
Brandon Sheppard	3	1	4	0		
Toby Fisher	2	2	4	0		
Sam Herd	1	3	4	1		
Jack Baden	3	0	3	1		
Jordan Fowler	3	0	3	0		
Tristan Hayes	3	0	3	5		
George Mercer	3	0	3	0		
Harvey Ransome	3	0	3	0		
Ross Pedley	2	1	3	0		
Harry Meredith	2	0	2	0		
Henry Le-May	1	1	2	1		
Alfie Loveridge	1	1	2	1		
Luke Brayne	0	2	2	0		
Connor Curran	0	1	1	0		
Kieran Dimelow	0	1	1	0		
Wilfres Tunley-Ho	0	1	1	0		

UNDER 18S MAKE IT A YEAR UNBEATEN WITH THREE MORE WINS

Victories in their last three games against Lancing, Upper Beeding and Broadbridge Heath extend Hassocks Under 18's winning run to 18 league games and past the 365-day mark....

Lancing U18 4-5 Hassocks U18 - 09/09/18

Hassocks Under 18s made hard work of making it two wins out of two to start the season.

They had led 5-1 with 25 minutes left to play at Culver Road but a remarkable comeback saw the Lancers get to within one goal of the Robins before the final whistle blew with the score 5-4 to the visitors.

Hassocks boss Brad Sweetman made three changes from the previous week's 4-1 win over St Francis Rangers as he continues to blood an entirely new squad.

There were debuts for goalkeeper Toby Fisher and forward George Mercer while Brandon Sheppard was handed his first start.

The Robins took the lead after just 10 minutes through Alex Moulvogny and doubled that advantage four minutes later when Tristan Hayes scored the first of what would turn out to be a hat-trick.

Captain Jack Baden made it 3-0 five minutes the break as the hosts were restricted to just a couple of half chances in an excellent first half display from Hassocks.

They extended their lead to four through Hayes again with the second half just 10 minutes before Lancing pulled one back when Oscar Pettit netted.

The lead was reduced to three for only a matter of minutes as virtually from kick off, Hassocks went straight up the other end and made it 5-1 as Hayes completed his treble.

That galvanised Lancing into life as goals three goals in the space of a quarter of an hour from Charlie-Joe Millard, Harrison Longley and Sam Wilinson sent up a tense last five minutes.

It was encouraging for Sweetman then that his side managed to see out the remainder of the game despite the pressure being cranked up, maintaining their 100% record in the process.

Hassocks: Fisher, Ransome, Sansilands, Moulvogny, Gardner, Baden, Sheppard, Fowler, Azizi, Mercer, Hayes.

Subs: Pedley, Herd, Curran (used).

Hassocks U18 4-0 Upper Beeding U18 – 13/09/18

Hassocks Under 18s made it three wins from three games after a 4-0 victory over Upper Beeding at the Beacon.

The Young Robins grasped the rare opportunity of playing under the lights by stretching their Under 18 Central Division winning streak to 17 games.

The last time Hassocks dropped a point came on September 24th last year in a 4-4 draw with AFC Varndeanians.

If they can avoid defeat in their next league game against Broadbridge Heath, they'll have gone a calendar year undefeated.

That will be quite the achievement given that Brad Sweetman has put together an entirely new squad for this campaign – not that you can tell as there are very few signs of unfamiliarity among the Robins.

First half goals from Tristan Hayes and Yahya Azizi sent Hassocks into the break 2-0 ahead and it was the same duo who netted again in the second half to walk away with braces.

Those goals take Hayes onto five for the seasons with Azizi on four and already an intriguing battle to be top scorer looks to be on the cards.

Hassocks: Fisher, Pedley, Sansilands, Moulvogny, Gardner, Baden, Sheppard, Fowler, Azizi, Mercer, Haves.

Subs: Herd, Loveridge (used).

Broadbridge Heath U18 1-5 Hassocks U18 - 16/09/18

With the under 18s not scheduled to have another game now until September 30th, their 5-1

success at Broadbridge Heath means that they've now won every league game they've played for a calendar year.

Hassocks last dropped points on AFC September 27th when drawing 4-4 with AFC Varndeanians.

The Robins last defeat came on September 24th when they went down 1-0 to Southwick at Old Barn Way.

Since that draw with V's, they've won 18 games in succession.

This most recent success was a routine one in the end although the Robins did make a slow start to proceedings with a slightly disjointed first half performance.

Despite that, they went into the break 1-0 ahead through Yahya Azizi's fifth goal of the season. Azizi then doubled the advantage five minutes after the restart and Hassocks were rampant after that.

Kieran Dimelow, the only member of last season's treble winning squad to still be eligible for under 18 football, added the third on 55 minutes in his first appearance of the campaign from the substitutes bench.

Sam Herd was given his full debut and he grasped the opportunity with both hands, rounding off the scoring in the 85th minute.

There was an own goal thrown in there from the Bears as well for good measure.

Brad Sweetman's side remain in second placed in Under 18 Central Division, behind local rivals Haywards Heath Town on goal difference.

The Robins' first meeting with the Blues is just over a month away and is already shaping up to be a must-see game.

Hassocks: Meredith, Pedley, Sansilands, Moulvogny, Gardner, Ransome, Sheppard, Fowler, Azizi, Mercer, Herd.

Subs: Le-May, Dimelow, Brayne, Fisher (used).

Ladies 2018-19

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
02/09 - 14:00	Oakwood/Islington (H)	FACQ1	2-4	Rushworth, OG
09/09 - 14:00	Steyning Town (H)	SECW1	8-1	K.Chappell (3), Philpott (3), Mair
16/09 - 14:00	Oakwood (A)	SECW1	1-0	Philpott
23/09 - 14:00	Steyning Town (A)	SECW1		
30/09 - 14:00	Mole Valley (A)	SECW1		
07/10 - 14:00	Milford & Witley (A)	SECW1		
14/10 - 14:00	Burgess Hill Town (A)	SECW1		
21/10 - 14:00	Bexhill United (H)	CWT1		
28/10 - 14:00	Victoire Development (H)	SECW1		
11/11 - 14:00	Wandgas (H)	SECW1		
25/11 - 14:00	Bexhill United (A)	SECW1		

Ladies Appearances 2018-19

	2018-19 Season:						
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals			
Tallie Bright	3	0	3	0			
Katherine Chappell	3	0	3	3			
Sarah Chappell	3	0	3	0			
Gemma Craig	3	0	3	0			
Chloe John	3	0	3	0			
Kirsten Mair	3	0	3	2			
Sam Newman	3	0	3	0			
Billie Philpott	3	0	3	4			
Kelly Rushworth	3	0	3	1			
Emma Young	3	0	3	0			
Liz King	0	3	3	0			
Ria Banitas	2	0	2	0			
Lisa Callow	0	2	2	0			
Jodie Johanson	0	2	2	0			
Laura Espana	1	0	1	0			
Jess Craig	0	1	1	0			
Ellie Moquet	0	1	1	0			
Claire Stevens	0	1	1	0			



Congratulations to our recent Hassocks Twitter Poll Winners





To cast your vote after today's game, Follow us on Twitter



22 QUESTIONS WITH... Ben O'leary

Last season's treble winning Hassocks Under 18s captain Ben O'Leary is the next player to answer 22 questions...

Whats your nickname? O'Leary.

What team do your support?

Chelsea. My grandparents grew up in that area so it is our family's team.

Who was your footballing idol growing up?

Frank Lampard.

What is the most valuable medal or award in your trophy collection?

Under 18s Central Division winners medal, Under 18s overall winners medal and Under 18s League Cup winners medal – all three trophies we picked up with the youth team last season.

Best moment in your career?

Did someone say the treble?

Most embarrassing moment of your career?

The amount of goals we concede that are accountable to a combination of Ben John and me.

Funniest thing you've seen in football?

I accidentally injured Matt Berridge when we were meant to be on the same team. Sorry, Matt.

Best player you've ever played with?

Dan Turner.



Best ground you've ever played at?

The Beacon.

Favourite opposition team to play against?

Broadbridge Heath.

Who is the best trainer at Hassocks?

Dave John.

Worst dressed player?

Charlie Tyzack.

What's the best thing about playing for Hassocks?

Dave John.

What's the best piece of footballing advice you've been given?

I probably shouldn't repeat the exact language that Dave John used so I'll

change it slightly, "Do the simple things right".

If you could introduce one rule to football, what would it be?

Bring in a straight red card for diving.

Messi, Ronaldo or another? Who is the greatest of all time? Messi.

Which player do you dislike in football the most and why?

Paul Scholes for two reasons. One, he was overrated. Two, he played for Manchester United.

What do you do with your life away from the Beacon?

I've just started a new job up in London.

Which three famous people would you invite for dinner?

Mickey Flanagan, Frank Lampard and Gordon Ramsay.

If you could attend one sporting event from any moment in history, which would you pick?

The 2012 Champions League final to see Chelsea lift the trophy.

If someone was playing you in a movie about your life, who would it be?

Danny Dyer.

Give us one interesting fact about you?

When I was younger, I refused to be called Ben. I instead wanted to be called Alan.

2012

12

After four consecutive defeats without scoring a goal and talks of a crisis at the Beacon, it's now six games unbeaten in all competitions for Hassocks.

This 3-1 victory over Rye United was easily their most impressive result of that run; while the 6-1 victory over East Grinstead Town a week previously had the goals, Rye arrived flying high in the table after an impressive start to the campaign.

Hassocks made them look relatively ordinary however as the Robins eased to victory through goals from Anthony Hibbert, Phil Gault and Nathan Miles.

United started the game with more urgency as Jack Simpson, returning in goal for James Plumley, was called into action saving at point blank range from Jordan Woodley.

Both Plumley and left-back Chris Maynard were absent so they could be at the birth of two new arrivals.

The Robins worked their way back into the game and soon opened the scoring.

A Jamie Weston shot was deflected behind from a corner and from the resulting set piece, Hibbert rose highest to head home with 35 minutes played.

Hibbert may have over 100 goals for the club, but there aren't many headers among his back catalogue so this was something of a collectors item for the midfielder.

The joy was short-lived however as the lead lasted just seven minutes before Anthony Atkin put Rye level. minutes later as Anthony Atkin put Rye level.

A cross from Anthony Storey evaded the Hassocks defence and

Atkin met the ball from close range with a diving header.

Neither Gault nor Miles had had a sight of goal for the opening 65 minutes of the contest until the former netted with his first opportunity of the game to put Hassocks back into the lead.

A poor clearance from Rye saw the ball skied high into the air and in the ensuing havoc, eventually the ball fell to Gault who powered it home.

Hassocks reverted to a defensive style of play after that as they tried to see out the game, sitting back and letting Rye try their luck with a number of distance efforts that proved no bother to Simpson.

Speedy substitute Martin Remes did cause problems for the Hassocks defence but it was the home side who got the last goal of the game in the 88th minute.

A long goal-kick from Simpson proved problematic for the United defence as it went all the way down the field of play.

Visiting keeper Callum Christie called for it but failed to collect as the ball bounced over his head.

Miles was lurking in the penalty area and he picked up the ball to move within a few inches of goal before accepting the gift and rolling into the empty net.

Hassocks: Simpson; South, Faith, Marsh, Bryant; Westlake, Hibbert, O'Callaghan, Weston; Miles, Gault.

Subs: Dan Smith (Westlake 70), Dean Smith (O'Callaghan 87), Pople (Gault 88).

Starman: James Westlake

2006

An exciting Friday night game under the Beacon lights saw Hassocks Reserves and Crowborough Athletic share the spoils in a 1-1 draw.

Hassocks made the possible start to the encounter as they took the lead with less than 10 minutes on the clock.

The pace of Dan Jacques took the forward clear of the visiting defence and as he rounded the Crows custodian, he was duly hacked down by the opposition custodian.

Lee Cooke duly dispatched the resulting spot kick but incredibly, there was no red card shown to the Crowborough goalkeeper.

Hassocks continued to pile on the pressure with Dickie Fernley teeing up Cooke for a chance which he snatched wide, injuring his aging limbs in the process.

That presented the opportunity for Laurence Robinson to make his reserve team debut from the bench and the gangly youth team striker did well in his hour on the pitch.

Crowborough equalised before half time with a neat shot and turn and dominated the final 15 minutes of the half when they should have taken the lead but for a quite remarkable miss from a matter of yards.

The Robins were much improved after the break and Jacques had a couple of opportunities to win it, the first seeing the ball hacked away when it appeared to be well over the line and the second being hacked away when it was nowhere near over the line despite Jacques' appeals.

Ian Church then hit the post, Robinson drew a good save from the goalkeeper and Beveridge wasted one final chance late on.

COMING UP





Langney Wanderers

When?

Saturday 29th September 2018

Where?

Priory Lane

Time?

3pm

Competition?

Macron Store Southern Combination Premier Division

Admission?

£6 adults, £4 concessions, £1 under 16s

Langney Wanderers this season?

Langney Wanderers are playing in the top flight of the Southern Combination League for the first time in their history. A runners up position in Division One last time out along with a move to groundshare at Eastbourne Borough's Priory Lane home allowed Wanderers the opportunity to take their place in the Premier Division. They are yet to win a game in the league so far but have proven to be stubborn opponents who are difficult to beat, registering four draws from their seven league games.

Hassocks' record against Langney Wanderers?

Hassocks have never faced Langney Wanderers in a competitive game at senior level before. The two sides did meet in a pre-season friendly in the summer of 2016 at Wanderers' former home of Shinewater Lane with Hassocks running out 2-1 winners

through goals from Josh Hawkes and Ben Bacon.

Last time Hassocks went to Priory Lane?

Hassocks were regular visitors to Priory Lane through the late 1990's before Eastbourne Borough's rise through the non-league pyramid. Our last visit there came in the Sussex Senior Cup in January 2013, going down 2-0 to a brace from Grenada international Elliott Charles.

How to get to Priory Lane?

Take the A27 towards Eastbourne and around the Polegate bypass before joining the A22 into Eastbourne. At the second roundabout, take the first exit onto the B2191 and head towards Eastbourne Crematorioum. Once you've passed the Crematorium, take the third exit at the roundabout onto Priory Road and the ground is about 500 metres down the road on your right.



Crawley Down Gatwick

When?

Saturday 6th October

Where?

The Beacon

Time?

3pm

Competition?

Macron Store Southern Combination Premier Division

Admission?

£6 adults, £4 concessions, £1 under 16s

Crawley Down Gatwick this season?

Crawley Down Gatwick haven't had the best of starts to the campaign, recording just one win from their seven games so far. That came against Shoreham over a month ago although they have picked up some useful draws, holding title chasing duo Saltdean United and Pagham to 4-4 and 1-1 stalemates respectively.

Hassocks' record against Crawley Down Gatwick?

There have been 15 meetings between Hassocks and Crawley Down since the Anvils joined the Southern Combination League in 1995. The Robins lead the head-to-head with eight wins to Down's five while there have been three draws although the league record is even stevens with four wins apiece. Hassocks have racked up 30 goals in games against Crawley Down while conceding 27 along the way.

Last time Hassocks and Crawley Down Gatwick met?

The two sides have actually faced each other already this season,

meeting in the second round of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup back in August here at the Beacon. Hassocks put in one of their most impressive performances of the season in that one as their pressing game proved too much for Down to cope with, the Robins running out 2-1 winners. Phil Johnson and Liam Benson were on the scoresheet with Sam Cane scoring an injury time consolation for the visitors.

Crawley Down is famous for?

Nothing, if we're being honest. That is why the football club added "Gatwick" to the end of their name upon winning promotion to the Isthmian League for the 2011-12 season, to try and give some sort of indication as to where they came from. The villages Wikipedia entry states that it has one church and one school although rather excitingly, it also says that in the 19th century it gained a reputation as a venue for illegal prizefighting fights with large crowds gathering to watch matches which proved to be a valuable source of income for the village.



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Around the League

Eight Southern Combination League sides moved into the first round proper of the FA Vase last weekend while there were also a number of Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup games taking place in midweek...

AFC Uckfield Town continued their excellent start to the season by being the day big FA Vase winners, knocking out fellow Southern Combination League side Southwick 5-0 at the Oaks.

Callum Smith hit a hat-trick for the hosts while there were also goals for Bailo Camara and Matthew Black as Town's fine form in the national cup competitions went on.

It took until the 85th minute for there to be a goal at the Trafalgar Ground where Callum Connor's strike gave **Newhaven** a 1-0 win over **Little Common.**

East Preston left it nearly as late to see off the challenge of **Broadbridge Heath,** Nathan Da Costa striking in the 79th minute to win the game 1-0 for EP.

Andrew Dalhouse gave

Shoreham the lead in their clash with Peacehaven & Telscombe at the Sports Park but that was about as good as it got for the Mussels as second half goals from Tyler Scrafton and a Marcus Richmond double sent the Tye through.

There was to be no shock at Hill Park where Division One **Littlehampton Town** were

eliminated 3-1 by **Saltdean United.**

Town had taken the lead with the second half less than a minute old through Jack Hands but the Tigers' quality shone through in the end as three goals in the final 15 minutes from Josh Street and a Jamie Brotherton brace gave Damion Freeman's side victory.

The battle of the Wick's saw **Wick** defeat Hackney Wick 4-2 at Crabtree Park.

Jack Cole scored twice for the hosts with David Crouch and Kieron Playle-Howard also on target.

There was a thrilling penalty shoot out at the Shooting Field where **Steyning Town** eventually triumphed 9-8 from 12 yards against Puniab United.

The game had finished level at 1-1 after extra time with Josh Maher scoring for the Barrowmen.

Sidlesham pulled off an excellent 1-0 win away at Colliers Wood United to be the eighth side through the next round while crashing out were **Lingfield** in a 5-2 defeat to AFC Croydon Athletic, **AFC Varndeanians** who lost 2-0 at home to Canterbury City, **Selsey** who went down 2-0 to Bearsted, **St Francis Rangers** who were hammered 6-0 by Lordswood and **Seaford Town** who lost 5-3 away at Sheppey United.

Three games took place in the RUR Charity Cup on Saturday with **Eastbourne Town** winning 7-1 against **Mile Oak** in the first round with braces from Daniel Perry, Samuel Carrington and Aaron Capon.

In the second round, **Chichester City** ran out 5-0 winners over **Oakwood** with Joao Andrade scoring a hat-trick and Division One's **Midhurst & Easebourne** shocked
Premier Division **Arundel** with a 3-0 win at the Rotherfield.

Nothing could separate **Loxwood** and **Alford** in their Peter Bentley League Cup second round meeting and so the tie went to penalties with the Magpies triumphing 3-2.

There was one Premier Division game at the weekend with **Horsham YMCA** coming away from the Haven with a 3-0 success over **Crawley Down Gatwick** thanks to goals from

Alex Barbary, Oliver Moore and David Brown.

Horsham YMCA weren't in such sparkling form on Tuesday night as they crashed out of the RUR Cup to **Broadbridge Heath** in a 4-1 defeat at the Leisure Centre.

Steyning Town also secured safe passage to round two, shocking Premier Division **Little Common** in a penalty shoot out.

There were seven ties in the second round and everything went largely as expected.

Pagham pulled off a big win over **Worthing United** with a 4-0 success in which former Hassocks player Jack Rowe-Hurst netted his first goal since joining the Lions from Lancing.

Speaking of **Lancing**, they hammered **Shoreham** 6-0 with another former Robin scoring as Charlie Pitcher helped himself to four goals at Middle Road.

Hassocks will face **Seaford Town** in the third round after they hammered **Southwick** 6-1 at the Crouch with six different scorers as Shaun Lee, Ally Rainsford, Harvey Storer, Carlos Anderson, Mo Zabadne and Tony Guilou all netted.

AFC Uckfield Town eased to a 3-0 success over **Littlehampton Town, East Preston** needed a winner in the 97th minute from Tom Lyne to defeat **Loxwood** 3-2 and **Billingshurst** were 1-0 winners away at **Selsey.**

The final tie in the competition saw **Sidlesham** win a back-and-forth tie 3-2 against **Storrington.**

In the Peter Bentley League Cup, **Saltdean United** hammered **St Francis Rangers** 7-0 and in the Premier Division, **Newhaven** won 2-1 at Langney Wanderers.



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How they stand...

Macron Store Southern Combination Premier Division Table

	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts
Chichester City	7	6	1	0	24	4	20
Horsham YMCA	7	6	0	1	18	7	18
Saltdean United	6	4	2	0	19	10	14
Newhaven	6	4	1	1	13	8	13
Peacehaven & Tels.	7	4	1	2	10	12	13
Pagham	6	3	3	0	14	4	12
AFC Uckfield Town	6	3	2	1	15	11	11
Broadbridge Heath	6	2	3	1	13	12	9
East Preston	7	2	3	2	12	11	9
Lingfield	7	2	2	3	12	12	8
Shoreham	7	2	2	3	12	14	8
Hassocks	7	2	2	3	12	17	8
Eastbourne Town	7	2	1	4	11	13	7
Little Common	7	2	1	4	7	9	7
Crawley Down	7	1	4	2	12	15	6
Lancing	5	1	2	2	5	9	5
Langney Wanderers	7	0	4	3	10	13	4
Arundel	6	0	4	2	4	7	4
Eastbourne United	7	0	1	6	5	22	1
Loxwood	7	0	1	6	6	24	1

Premier Division Attendances

	Ave	Tot	High	Low
Eastbourne Town	302	604	321	283
Pagham	130	260	156	104
Horsham YMCA	127	253	138	115
Peacehaven & Tels.	121	482	210	108
Lancing	109	327	132	95
Langney Wanderers	102	405	125	55
Eastbourne United	97	481	125	71
East Preston	98	391	128	61
Hassocks	93	277	104	84
Newhaven	86	171	97	74
Little Common	83	165	102	63
Shoreham	81	242	99	55
Crawley Down	72	359	92	38
Broadbridge Heath	63	188	89	45
Chichester City	61	301	80	65
Loxwood	57	171	63	46
Lingfield	57	170	73	45
AFC Uckfield Town	51	202	57	36
Saltdean United	45	90	52	38
Arundel	42	166	47	36

Premier Division Form Guide

Premier Division Scorers

Lee Robinson	Newhaven	8
Ben Bacon	Saltdean United	8
Devon Fender	B'bridge Heath	7
Callum Smith	AFC Uckfield	6
Alex Barbary	Horsham YMCA	6
David Herbert	Chichester City	5
Phil Johnson	Hassocks	5
Oliver Leslie	Crawley Down	5
Callum Overton	Pagham	5
Andy Dalhouse	Shoreham	5
Wayne Wilkinson	Langney Wand	5
George Gaskin	Pagham	4
Scott Jones	Chichester City	4
Evan Archibald	Eastbourne T	3
Sam Carrington	Eastbourne T	3
Chris Ransome	Lingfield	3
Lewis Hole	Little Common	3
Matt Black	AFC Uckfield	3
Ben Gray	Arundel	3
Joao Andrade	Chichester City	3

Macron Store Southern Combination Under 23 West Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hassocks	3	2	1	0	12	2	7
Horsham YMCA	3	2	0	1	13	9	6
Pagham	3	2	0	1	9	5	6
Broadbridge Heath	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Arundel	3	2	0	1	8	9	6
Lancing	2	1	1	0	11	1	4
East Preston	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Southwick	3	1	0	2	4	9	3
Midhurst & E'bourne	3	1	0	2	7	15	3
Selsey	2	0	0	2	4	6	0
Mile Oak	3	0	0	3	2	16	0

Under 23 West Scorers

James Littlejohn	Hassocks	6
Taku Madhlazi	Lancing	4
Jake Goulding	Midhurst	4
George G'Gibbons	Hassocks	3
Leon Eales	Horsham YMCA	3
Connah G'Lowe	Lancing	3
George Cody	Pagham	2
Max Willcox	Hassocks	2
Dion Jarvis	Arundel	2
Harry Batchelor	Horsham YMCA	2
Leon Earles	Horsham YMCA	2
Bradley Ross	Horsham YMCA	2

Macron Store Southern Combination Under 18 Central Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Haywards Heath	4	4	0	0	23	7	12
Hassocks	4	4	0	0	18	6	12
Southwick	3	2	0	1	16	7	6
Upper Beeding	3	1	0	2	10	12	3
Broadbridge Heath	3	1	0	2	9	16	3
Steyning Town	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
St Francis Rangers	2	0	0	2	3	9	0
Rottingdean	2	0	0	2	6	15	0
Lancing	2	0	0	2	4	14	0

Under 18 Central Scorers

Yahya Azizi	Hassocks	6
Ollie Broad	Haywards Heath	6
Tristan Hayes	Hassocks	5
Jacob Ross	Southwick	5
Ethan Carrick	Haywards Heath	4
Mahamadou Juwala	Haywards Heath	4
Morgan Kennett	Southwick	4
Max Lester	Upper Beeding	3
Kieran Bonner	B'bride Heath	2
Cameron Watts	B'bridge Heath	2

South East Counties Womens League Division One West Table Division One West Scorers

Hassocks Mole Valley Burgess Hill Town Milford & Witley Steyning Town Oakwood Wandgas Victoire Bexhill United

Keeley Wheatley	Burgess Hill	7
Billie Philpott	Hassocks	4
Charlotte Blunt	Mole Valley	3
Imogen Burns	Mole Valley	3
Katherine Chappell	Hassocks	3
Millie Morley	Burgess Hill	3
Liz Neatherway	Steyning Town	3
Louise Skerry	Milford & Witley	3
Iona Vilciu	Burgess Hill	3
Caitlin Garden	Burgess Hill	3



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ROBINS AWARDS

To vote for your Hassocks Man of the Match, simply head on over to our Twitter page after each game to cast your selection. And keep an eye out for the monthly poll to pick the winner of our Player of the Month Awards

Hassocks Twitter Man of the Match 2018-19

Broadbridge Heath home Liam Benson Chichester City home Jack Wilkins Erith Town home **Spencer Slaughter** Peacehaven & Telscombe away Liam Benson Arundel away Jack Wilkins Crawley Down Gatwick home Matt Berridge Saltdean United home Harvey Blake K Sports home Ryan Collins Bexhill United home Phil Johnson Loxwood away Phil Johnson East Preston away Dan Stokes Eastbourne United home Langney Wanderers away Crawley Down Gatwick home Little Common away Newhaven home AFC Uckfield Town away Broadbridge Heath away Pagham away Linafield home Horsham YMCA home Eastbourne Town away Peacehaven & Telscombe home Chichester City away Lancing home Shoreham away East Preston home Eastbourne United away Arundel home Saltdean United away Loxwood home Newhaven away Little Common home Lingfield away Pagham home Crawley Down Gatwick away Langney Wanderers home Eastbourne Town home Horsham YMCA away Shoreham home

Lancing away

AFC Uckfield Town home

Player of the Month 2018-19

August 2018 1st: Jack Wilkins 2nd: Harvey Blake 3rd: Phil Johnson September 2018 1st: 2nd: 3rd: October 2018 1st: 2nd: 3rd: November 2018 1st: 2nd: 3rd: December 2018 1st: 2nd: 3rd: January 2019 1st: 2nd: 3rd: February 2019 1st 2nd: 3rd: March 2019 1st: 2nd: 3rd: April 2019 1st: 2nd: 3rd:



Pay £1 every time the first team score a goal in 2018-19 and help the Robins raise vital funds for kit washing, match day equipment and ongoing improvements to the Beacon

Dave John Alan John Owen John Bob Preston Ken Finn Keith Low Ray Mills Les White

Ken Deaville
Jim Marsh
Mark Dalgleish
Frank Marshall
Eddie Benson
Paul Elphick
Matt Hicks
Ian Plummer

Money raised in 2018/19

August £144
September £144
October
November
December
January
February
March
April

TOTAL £288

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ho's who of

Hassocks

The top 50 appearance makers for the Robins in senior football

	Start	Sub	Total	Goals
Mickey Turner	573	21	594	63
Ashley Marsh	519	6	525	4
Chris Hewitt	493	15	508	22
Ashley Low	445	30	475	14
Anthony Hibbert	407	55	462	124
Andy Fisk	445	11	456	14
James Laing	298	53	351	143
Warren Dodds	311	37	348	3
Joel Harding	340	0	340	0
Phil Gault	323	10	333	185
Paul John	329	0	329	0
Richard Thompson	305	19	324	11
Robbie Kitchen	284	39	323	123
Stuart Faith	276	13	289	22
Spencer Slaughter	235	38	273	44
Dave Smith	203	57	260	53
Joe Fernley	205	40	245	45
Neil Smith	232	10	242	68
Mark Burnham	209	22	231	44
Nathan Miles	156	55	211	74
Pat Harding	178	17	195	131
Dan Jacques	166	28	194	9
James Westlake	177	13	190	28
Marc Rendall	150	33	183	37
Stuart Agate	172	7	179	4
Graham Beveridge	142	23	165	17
Jack Simpson	161	0	161	0
Matt Robbins	142	15	157	20
Steve Hards	146	9	155	65
Kieran O'Callaghan	141	14	155	17
Luke Flomo	126	20	146	31
Rob South	130	14	144	3
Peter Lear	137	3	140	6 7
Ian Dawson	70 77	66	136	
Andy Burt	77 117	56 14	133 131	35 12
Bradley Bant Nick Pitcher	117 111	1 4 19		12 13
Steve Wilkins	107		130	11
Phil Johnson	98	19 21	126 119	53
Nick Newman	110	4	114	2
Dan Stokes	82	31	113	8
Michael Death	87	25	112	38
Jamie Weston	84	23	107	14
Mark Launder	77	29	106	1
Sam Fisk	84	20	104	6
Tom Barnes	90	13	103	0
Jamie Hillwood	79	23	102	22
Eddie French	97	2	99	10
Luke Akehurst	86	10	96	1
		_		_

84

92

Chris Brown



Versatile youth team product Nick Pitcher racked up 130 appearances for the Robins between 2008 and 2016, winning a whole host of trophies at Under 18 and Reserve team level along the way.

Pitcher was a member of the Under 18 side that lifted the Southern Combination Youth League Cup at the end of the 2007-08 season and he made his first team debut early in the 2008-09 campaign after impressing new Hassocks boss John Suter in pre-season.

He found opportunities harder to come by once Suter was sacked in October and spent the majority of the next five years playing for the reserves, winning the Reserve Section Cup in 2012 and then going onto be a mainstay of Roy Staughton's treble winning side the next season.

That pushed him back into first team contention and he became an automatic pick at the heart of the Hassocks defence throughout the 2013-14 and 2015-16 seasons.

Pitcher then suffered with injuries with unfortunately curtailed his involved although he continued to put his body on the line when called upon, earning the captains armband on several occasions.

His 13 goals were a respectable return for a defence-minded player, helped largely by an impeccable record from the penalty spot.

Keep abreast of the Robins in 2018-19



for all the latest Hassocks news, views and updates, catch us online...





www.hassocksfc.net



Hassocks



Eastbourne United

Alex Harris		Cha
Josh Green		Jac
Harry Mills		Dal
Harvey Blake	Referee Marc Meeten	Ash
Ben O'Leary	riare ricecen	Wil
Jordan Badger	Assistants	Cur
Dan Jacques	Javier Diaz & Stuart Ramsey	Joe
Will Broomfield	Studit Ramsey	Tyl
Spencer Slaughter		Luc
Matt Berridge		Cha
Dan Stokes		Cha
Alex Spinks		Luk
Ryan Collins		Dal
Phil Johnson		Rya
James Littlejohn		Nic
Liam Benson		Jos
Jake Lindsey		Jor
Jack Wilkins		Ale
George Galbraith-Gibbons		Jos
Joe Bull		Hal

Manager Mark Dalgleish Coach Mark Price Goalkeeper Coach Haig Kingston Physio Phil Wickwar Charlie Barnard k Harris le Penn nley Darby liam Gordon rtis Beale el Mbiya Kalambayi er O'Callaghan ca Page arlie Ball arlie Curran ke Colguhoun le Waring an Cooper holas Cox shua Burcombe dan Sheppard xander Power sh Ensell llum Cousins

Manager Ryan Cooper

Next at the Beacon



Crawley Down Gatwick Saturday 6th October. 3pm SCFL Premier Division

Today's other Premier Division games

Eastbourne Town v Lancing
Horsham YMCA v Peacehaven & Telscombe
Lingfield v East Preston
Little Common v Broadbridge Heath
Loxwood v Langney Wanderers
Newhaven v Crawley Down Gatwick
Pagham v Shoreham
Saltdean United v Chichester City