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THE ROBINS



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PREMIER SPORTS SOUTHERN COMBINATION FOOTBALL LEAGUE
PREMIER DIVISION
SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2023 - 3PM

MATCHDAY
PROGRAMME NO. 7



HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Founded 1902

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UNDER 23s HEAD COACH

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UNDER 18s HEAD COACH

Sean Fernley

VETERANS TEAM MANAGER

Steve Spies

LADIES MANAGER

Sean Perkins

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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 23 TEAM

Southern Combination Under 23 North Division

Winners 2023

Runners up 2022

Southern Combination Under 23 West Division

Runners up 2018, 2019

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, 2019

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

Fred Pretty Veterans Plate

Winners 2022

Runners up 2017

LADIES TEAM

Sussex County Women's Premier Division

Winners 2023



Welcome to the Beacon

Good afternoon and welcome to the Beacon for this afternoon's Southern Combination Premier Division fixture

AFC Varndeanians provide the opposition in what is our first home match for over two weeks.

We would like to extend a special welcome to the players, management, committee and supporters of the Vs and hope they enjoy their stay with us this afternoon.

Unfortunately, we have to start by bringing the sad news that Robins supporter Dave Hollingdale passed away last Friday after a battle with illness.

Older fans will remember fondly how Dave religiously stationed himself behind whichever goal we were attacking - no matter the weather - in an attempt to suck Hassocks shots into the back of the net.

He also enjoyed a nip of whiskey at half time and full time to warm himself back up... even when he had not been stood out in the rain or freezing cold.

The funeral will take place on Wednesday 4th October at South Chapel, Woodvale. Afterwards, there will be drinks in The Thatched Inn from 2pm.

On behalf of everyone at the club, we pass on our respects to Dave's

wife Sally, his stepson Dan "The Gateman" Miles and the rest of their family.

It has been a busy period since we last played at the Beacon, with plenty of football for all four teams and moves in the transfer market.

Our most recent home fixture at the end of August resulted in a 3-1 win over Shoreham, including two wonder goals from distance.

Alex Fair and Kyle Woolven were the scorers of those, either side of Liam Benson continuing his red hot streak.

11 days off followed owing to Steyning Town remaining in the FA Cup before we lost our proud unbeaten league record at Eastbourne United last Saturday.

Any fears that defeat would spark a losing run were dispelled on Tuesday night via an excellent Sussex Senior Cup victory at AFC Uckfield Town. Alex Bygraves and Alfie Loversidge getting the goals at the Oaks.

The Under 23s suffered their first North Division defeat in over a year away at Broadbridge Heath. That was followed by another reversal a week later against Lingfield before Thursday night brought a 3-0 success

over Roffey.

The Under 18s have two wins from two having beaten Shoreham and then Haywards Heath Town to top the early Central Division table, whilst the Ladies started their campaign with a 4-1 loss against Welling United on Sunday.

There are reports from all those games contained within today's programme, as well as fixtures as far as we know them through to the middle of October.

It will be another 17 days until we play here at the Beacon when Horsham YMCA visit on Tuesday 3rd October. You can of course keep up-to-date with everything going on in the intervening period through our website and social media channels.

Last but by no means least, Westy has been working hard to further bolster the squad on the transfer front and we welcome Sean Stephenson to the Beacon from Newhaven.

Thank you for your support and enjoy the game,

Owen & Scott



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Like London buses, Hassocks have waited over 100 years for a competitive game against the AFC Varndeanians, then loads come along at once. This afternoon is Vs second visit to the Beacon of the current campaign and it is only mid-September

Last month saw the clubs face off in the first round of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup, where we progressed on penalties after 90 goalless minutes.

Last season, we were also drawn together in the Peter Bentley League Cup. That evening did not go quite so well, Varndeanians running out deserved 2-0 winners under the Beacon floodlights.

Those additional games in knockout competitions mean that we have gone from never facing Vs in a competitive match until 2021 to eight meetings in the space of three seasons.

That has created a degree of familiarity between the sides, something further boosted by the

number of players who have moved between the clubs in recent times.

Matt Gunn and Kyle Woolven swapped Withdean Stadium in the summer for the Beacon, whilst two of the stars of our title winning Under 23s went other way with Sam Rogers and Jude Wallis joining Vs.

They are not the only Hassocks connections at Varndeanians. Jamie Hillwood is also signed on although is yet to play a game. Vs also have ex-Robins defender Charlie Tuck on their books.

It has so far taken a young squad some time to gel. Varndeanians arrive here sitting 19th in the table with one win, one draw and seven defeats to their name.

That sole victory, however, is an

impressive one. They saw off Bexhill United 2-1 at Withdean with both goals coming from the former Hassocks contingent.

Wallis opened the scoring, followed by Tuck hitting an 89th minute winner for his first goal in Varndeanians colours.

Vs of course have history for slow starts. In their first Premier Division season for 60 years in 2021-22, they did not win any of their opening 25 games in all competitions.

Despite that leaving them rock bottom at Christmas, a remarkable run of form in the second half of the campaign saw them overhaul East Preston and Loxwood to avoid relegation.

Your write them off at your peril.

Vs Factfile

Founded 1929

Ground Withdean Stadium

Website

pitchero.com/clubs/afcvardeanians

Twitter @afcvardean

Instagram @afcvardeanians1929

Manager Justin Jones

Top scorer Adam Bukleb, 2

Club Honours

Southern Combination League Division One

Winners 1960

Southern Combination League Division Two

Winners 2016

Southern Combination League Division One Cup

Winners 1957

Mid Sussex League

Winners 2004, 2007, 2009

Runners up 2008, 2014

Montgomery Cup

Winners 2005

Runners up 2004

Alan Washer Trophy

Winners 2005

Brighton & District League

Winners 1974, 2000, 2001, 2003

Hove & Worthing Cup

Winners 1949

10 Key Vs Moments

1929... Secondary Old Boys FC become Old Varndeanians, forming the current club

1960... win the Southern Combination League Division One title, securing a two-year stay in the Premier

1972... leave the Southern Combination to join the Brighton League because of ground grading

1974... crowned Brighton League champions whilst playing at Patcham Place

2000... win their second Brighton League title, starting a run of three championships in four seasons

2003... moved to the Mid Sussex League, winning the title and reaching the final of the Montgomery Cup

2009... win the last of their three Mid Sussex Premier Division titles

2015... promoted to Southern Combination League Division Two and move from Brighton Uni to Withdean

2016... win the Division Two title at the first attempt, securing a return to senior football

2021... promoted by the FA to the Premier Division, playing top flight football for the first time since 1962

Last 19 Seasons

2022-23: Southern Combination Premier 17th

2021-22: Southern Combination Premier 18th

2018-19: Southern Combination One 3rd

2017-18: Southern Combination One 14th

2016-17: Southern Combination One 18th

2015-16: Southern Combination Two 1st

2014-15: Mid Sussex Premier 7th

2013-14: Mid Sussex Premier 2nd

2012-13: Mid Sussex Premier 7th

2011-12: Mid Sussex Premier 5th

2010-11: Mid Sussex Premier 9th

2009-10: Mid Sussex Premier 7th

2008-09: Mid Sussex Premier 1st

2007-08: Mid Sussex Premier 2nd

2006-07: Mid Sussex Premier 1st

2005-06: Mid Sussex Premier 3rd

2004-05: Mid Sussex Premier 3rd

2003-04: Mid Sussex Premier 1st

2002-03: Brighton & District Premier 1st

Robins v AFC Varndeanians

SCFL Premier > Played 4 - Won 3 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 9 - Conceded 2

Peter Bentley Cup > Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 0 - Conceded 2

RUR Charity Cup > Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 1 - Lost 0 - Scored 0 - Conceded 0

Total > Played 6 - Won 3 - Drawn 1 - Lost 2 - Scored 9 - Conceded 4

Previous Meetings

2023-24

RUR Cup: Hassocks 0-0 AFC Varndeanians

2022-23

SCFL Premier: AFC Varndeanians 0-3 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-0 AFC Varndeanians

Peter Bentley Cup: Hassocks 0-2 AFC Varndeanians

2021-22

SCFL Premier: AFC Varndeanians 1-0 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 4-1 AFC Varndeanians



Two Trigwell penalty saves take Hassocks through in RUR Cup

It was a case of job done for Hassocks in their Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup clash against AFC Varndeanians.

The Robins managed to successfully rotate their squad and secure safe passage to the second round of the competition, where they will travel to either Roffey or Montpellier Villa.

Fraser Trigwell ended up being the Hassocks hero. He made a couple of important interventions to keep Varndeanians at bay during 90 goalless minutes, followed by saving two penalties in the subsequent shootout as the Robins triumphed 5-4 from 12 yards.

Trigwell, Matt Gunn, Joe Bull, Josh Mundy and Liam Benson were the only survivors from Tuesday night's midweek win at Pagham.

James Westlake took the opportunity to rest Harvey Blake, Alex Bygraves, Tom Frankland, Jamie Wilkes, Pat Harding and Kyle Woolven.

In came Bradley Tighe, Sam Smith, Alfie Loversidge, Mike Williamson, Sam Geard and Alex Fair.

Hassocks knew from experience that making such wholesale changes is not without risk.

Westlake rested some big names in the Peter Bentley League Cup last season when Varndeanians provided the opposition at the Beacon.

On that occasion, the Robins were defeated 2-0. A year on and this Hassocks squad runs deeper. Westlake can make six changes and Hassocks can still get a result, although the head coach did admit afterwards that his side were nowhere near their best.

That made for a pretty turgid affair in which good chances were few and far between.

The first opportunity of the game summed up what was to come. Tighe was wearing the captain's armband with Bygraves watching from the

bench and seemed in particularly determined mood to score as skipper.

His charge forward from right back was picked out by Smith hitting a 70 yard pass up the pitch. The Varndeanians left back got stuck under the ball, leaving Tighe facing down goalkeeper Jordan Hawkins.

Tighe opted try and lob the bouncing ball first time over the head of Hawkins. This seemed bold and so it proved, the effort getting stuck in a tree behind the goal.

Two good chances came the way of Varndeanians in what proved to be an action packed lead up to half time.

Mundy surrendered possession to Max Vardy, whose shot Smith managed to get just enough of a head on to deflect over the bar.

No Hassocks player then picked up the run into the box of Oscar Pinnock. Luckily for the Robins, Pinnock headed wastefully over from a Lawrence Edwards cross.

Trigwell went long from the subsequent goal kick. Benson flicked on down the left and Fair crossed deep to the far post.

The ball did not fall kindly to Loversidge but once he had it under control, the young winger drew a good reaction save from Hawkins.

Varndeanians were not convincing in dealing with the resulting corner, failing to take two opportunities to clear.

That gave Fair the chance to work some space via a series of his trademark Cruyff Turns, leading Trammell Mthuzni on a merry dance before curling a shot easily held by Hawkins.

Hassocks had strong penalty appeals turned down in the final play prior to the break. Loversidge produced a delightful piece of skill to collect a long pass from Raging Bull, lobbing it over the head of a Varndeanians defender.

When said defender tried to recover the situation, he clumsily

caught the back of Loversidge's right leg to send the Robins wide man to the ground. Referee Ellis South waved play on.

Hopes that the entertainment value of those final 10 minutes of the first half would extend into the second were dashed pretty early on as the game struggled to reignite.

Bull took a corner short to Mundy whose whipped cross ended up being more of a shot, clipping the crossbar and bouncing behind.

Hawkins gathered a deflected effort and Wilkes blasted a shot from a promising position into orbit shortly after his introduction.

The tall striker was one of four replacements introduced by Westlake in an attempt to find a goal.

Harding, Frankland and Woolven also entered the fray. A foul on the latter as he attempted to run through after collecting a Wilkes pass resulted in Pinnock picking up his second yellow of the afternoon, leaving Varndeanians to finish with 10 men.

Just before that incident and Trigwell kept his side in it, saving brilliantly at the feet of Varndeanians substitute Marley Bigg.

Trigwell was equally impressive in the shootout, keeping out the second and sixth Varndeanians penalties with saves low down to his left.

Harding, Woolven, Bull, Frankland and Benson all converted for Hassocks. The only Robins player to miss was the rangy Wilkes.

Hassocks: Trigwell; B Tighe, Gunn, S Smith, Bull; Loversidge, Mundy, Williamson, Fair; Geard, Benson.

Subs: Harding (Fair 58), Wilkes (Mundy 66), Woolven (Fair 66), Frankland (Loversidge 79), Bygraves (unused).



John Broomfield

REMOVALS

TIGHE SCAFFOLDING

Jason Tighe

07446224005

07476711962

tighescaffolding@hotmail.com

Hassocks*Life*

hassockslife.co.uk



Robins sign former Tractor Boys youngster Stephenson

Hassocks have completed the signing of former Ipswich Town Under 18s player Sean Stephenson from fellow Southern Combination Premier Division club Newhaven.

Stephenson spent three years with the Tractor Boys, signing schoolboy forms in 2019 following a successful trial.

He then penned a two year academy contract in the summer of 2020, becoming part of Ipswich's Under 18s squad.

In October 2021, Stephenson was given his first taste of senior football with a loan spell at Eastern Counties League Premier Division side Brantham Athletic.

He played five times for the Blue Imps before injury brought his spell at Brantham Leisure Centre to an early end.

After leaving Ipswich, Stephenson

signed for Isthmian League South East outfit Lancing for the 2022-23 campaign.

Stephenson made 12 league appearances for the Lancers as well as a number of outings in cup competitions during his time at Culver Road.

In January, he moved to Southern Combination table toppers Broadbridge Heath but with the Bears on their way to the Premier Division title, was unable to force his way into a winning team.

Stephenson turned out four times for Heath from the bench. He also played four times for the Bears' Under 23s, scoring three goals in a more advanced role than the centre back position he filled with Ipswich.

Next came a move to Loxwood for the final few weeks of the 2022-23 campaign, where Stephenson grabbed two goals from his five matches playing as a forward.

The first of those ended up winning the Magpies Goal of the Season award, a superb volley assisted by former Robin Jake Lindsey in a 3-1 win over Saltdean United.

Stephenson's second goal endeared him greatly to the Plaistow Road faithful as it came against local rivals Alfold, securing a 2-2 Easter Monday draw at the Elliott Scott Group Stadium.

Impressed by his form with Loxwood, Newhaven took Stephenson to the Trafalgar Ground in the summer to boost their attack.

He has started once for the Dockers and come off the bench three times, registering one assist when unselfishly playing in Alfie Rogers with a cheeky backheel for the final Newhaven goal in a 7-1 FA Cup Preliminary Qualifying Round win over Spelthorne Sports.

Welcome to the Beacon, Sean.



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Benson bags six in eight and August Player of the Month

Not only did six Liam Benson goals in eight games help fire Hassocks to the top of the Southern Combination Premier Division in August, but they also saw the striker named a very worthy winner of the Robins Player of the Month award.

Benson enjoyed the most prolific season of his career in 2022-23, scoring 19 times and that form has carried over into the new campaign.

His first goal of 2023-24 came away against Loxwood, lashing home a Jack Troak corner on the volley at the second attempt as Hassocks ran out 3-0 winners at the Nest.

Benson provided the third goal in the 4-1 home rout of Lingfield 11 days later.

The score was 2-1 at the time and the Lingers were on getting on top when Benson latched onto a Joe Bull through ball and applied the finish for an important intervention which turned the tide back in favour of the

Robins.

The visit of Midhurst & Easebourne to the Beacon saw Benson write what is suspected to be a Hassocks record for the fastest ever hat-trick in the club's history.

He needed just eight minutes to hit a treble with all the goals coming before a quarter of an hour had been played in what turned out to be a 3-1 win for the Robins.

Benson rounded off August with a crashing header from another Bull assist when Hassocks saw off Shoreham 3-1 in their final game of the month.

Other individuals aside from Benson had profited from Raging Bull in August and Bull subsequently takes second place in Player of the Month for providing a glut of assists.

Whilst the majority of those have come from pinpoint set piece deliveries, Bull has also provided a set of swashbuckling attacking performances from left back.

And he might well have already won the Hassocks Goal of the Season

award for his incredible 35 yard strike into the top corner during the 1-1 FA Cup Extra Preliminary Qualifying Round draw with Erith Town at the Beacon.

Bull was named Robins Starman in that game against the Dockers and also took the accolade when Hassocks won at Loxwood.

Third place in August Player of the Month went to one of the Robins' summer recruits.

Defender Matt Gunn has made quite the impression in his first month in a Hassocks shirt since making the move from AFC Varndeanians.

He has established himself alongside Alex Bygraves at the heart of the James Westlake's defence, impressing with some important interventions in a Robins back line that have looked very solid throughout August.

Gunn has also caught the eye with his penchant for playing raking passes out of defence, one of which saw him assist Benson as part of that rapid hat-trick against the Stags.



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Six undefeated as rampant Robins prove too strong for Musselmen

**Southern Combination League Premier Division
Tuesday 29th August 2023, The Beacon
Hassocks 3-1 Shoreham**



Six league games undefeated and three points clear at the top of the Southern Combination Premier Division. To say the first month of the 2023-24 season has gone well for Hassocks would be a slight understatement.

Shoreham became the latest victims of a Robins side whose position at the head of the standings is as deserved as it is unexpected.

Spectacular strikes from Alex Fair and Kyle Woolven sandwiched a sixth of the campaign from in-form Liam Benson as Hassocks eased their way to a 3-1 win.

It took Fair just seven minutes to open the scoring, his first goal for the Robins coming against the club he helped win the Division One title last season under the management of ex-Hassocks striker Michael Death.

Seeing his side fall behind so early was not the first return to the Beacon as a manager Death would have wanted.

He did though have praise for his former side and the job being done in the dugout by old teammate James Westlake.

"Hassocks are flying at the moment and Westy and his team are doing brilliantly. Well done to them, they could really be in the mix this season," said Death afterwards.

There was also a face familiar to the Robins faithful leading the line for Shoreham, Death having convinced Nathan Miles to end a five-year exile from senior football.

The seventh-highest scorer in Hassocks history was afforded a warm reception on his first ever appearance against the Robins.

Or rather, a warm reception from the crowd. Bradley Tighe was not quite so generous, fouling his former colleague with less than 120 seconds on the clock.

Tighe redeemed himself by clearing away the resulting free kick,

crossed into the box by the Musselmen from a dangerous position.

Next came Fair's goal, a brilliant chest and dipping volley from the edge of the area after collecting a Tom Frankland throw.

The marking from Shoreham was non-existent, but nobody could argue with the quality of the finish which left another ex-Robin in young goalkeeper Joe Southam grasping at thin air.

Seven minutes later and Tighe came closer than ever to ending his 179 game wait for a senior goal, putting a header against the bar from a Joe Bull corner.

Shoreham fashioned their first chance on 17 minutes. Neil Munday flashed a shot across goal which Fraser Trigwell did well to divert with his legs.

A well worked short corner routine from Hassocks saw Benson lay back to take Frankland, whose curling effort from 18 yards needed a hand from Southam to turn it behind.

Frankland delivered that next corner directly into the box. Gunn nodded onto the chest of Fair but his subsequent volley from much closer range on this occasion ended up on the railway tracks rather than the back of the net.

Shoreham left back Tom Bond almost doubled the advantage for Hassocks on the stroke of half time.

Benson helped on a Super Pat Harding cross and under no pressure, Bond inexplicably headed the ball against his own crossbar.

From there, it bounced down and back towards Benson. Seemingly flummoxed by Bond's decision making, Benson could not quite react quickest enough to force the loose ball home. Levi Martin was able to nip in and clear.

Heavy rain arrived during the interval and continued into the second half, making the surface slick

and the ball greasy.

Tighe embarked on an early charge forward from right back, hitting a fizzing pass into Fair. Some trademark quick footwork from Fair created the space for a shot on the turn which whistled just past the post.

Frankland was equally nifty when lifting the ball over the head of Ross Myers in midfield, carrying into 40 yards of open space and slipping in Benson. It needed a firm block from Bond to turn the ball behind.

Benson would not be denied for long. Raging Bull delivered the resulting corner into a dangerous area where Benson headed home just before Southam could gather.

Woolven added the third with seven minutes remaining. Picking up possession some 30 yards out from goal, the substitute advanced a couple of steps before picking out the top right hand corner.

That a player as good as Woolven started the night on the bench is indicative of the squad depth Hassocks currently enjoy.

Keeping everyone happy will be no easy task for Westlake, but it is undoubtedly a nice problem to have.

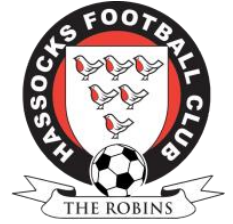
The Robins were 60 seconds away from a clean sheet when George Hollah struck the consolation for Shoreham, bending a superb left footed free kick over the wall and into the opposite corner.

Hassocks: Trigwell; B Tighe, Gunn, Bygraves, Bull; Frankland, Mundy, Williamson, Harding; Fair, Benson.

Subs: Woolven (Fair 60), Loversidge (Harding 77), Geard (Benson 87), Fogden (Bull 90), J Westlake (unused).

Hassocks find United too hot to handle on scorching September day

Southern Combination League Premier Division Saturday 9th September 2023, The Oval Eastbourne United 3-0 Hassocks



In their toughest test of the season so far, Hassocks surrendered both their unbeaten Premier Division record and top spot following a 3-0 defeat at Eastbourne United.

Not many people would have expected the Robins to come into their seventh game of the campaign leading the way having amassed 16 points from a possible 18.

United in contrast are heavily fancied to be involved in the promotion race having finished fourth last season.

They conceded only 32 goals, the joint-fewest in the division alongside runners up Crawley Down Gatwick.

Their six defeats meanwhile was a total bettered only by champions Broadbridge Heath on five.

Had United managed to turn some of their 12 draws into victories - both games with Hassocks ended level - then they would have been very much in the championship picture.

That gives Anthony Storey's side a obvious area for improvement. And based on what happened against Hassocks at the Oval, United look well capable of picking up the additional points needed to push even higher up the table.

They withstood plenty of pressure from the Robins at one end and proved clinical at the other.

The hosts needed just two minutes to take the lead. Hayden Beaconsfield swung over a corner which stuck Callum Barlow seemingly more by luck than design to defy Fraser Trigwell.

It was such an early opener that some of the Robins substitutes had the perfect view, watching it from behind the goal as they made their way from the changing rooms around to the dugouts on the opposite side of the pitch.

Hassocks strung their first passing move together five minutes later.

This eventually released Joe Bull down the left to flash a dangerous ball across the six yard box.

At least three red shirts were queuing up to convert and yet none where able to do so. A simple touch would have at least forced ex-Hassocks goalkeeper James Broadbent into action.

Alex Fair dragged one wide on 13 minutes before Broadbent found himself stretching to keep out a Raging Bull free kick.

United winger Tigana Quebe went for a spectacular bicycle kick which is best described as good idea, bad execution with the effort heading a long way away from the goal.

Both sets of players had cause to thank Quebe though for his boldness as it led to referee Daniel Cooper offering a water break whilst the ball was retrieved.

With the mercury touching 30 degrees and many of the 200 plus crowd wondering if they had made the right decision in choosing the Oval over the nearby beach, the pause in play was very welcome.

Hassocks enjoyed a good spell after the refreshment stop. Bailo Camara and George Olulode were both booked in the space of two minutes and another Bull delivery was crying out to be turned in.

Broadbent saved bravely at the feet of Liam Benson. When Fair then rattled the post three minutes before half time, United were visibly holding out for the interval and the chance to regroup.

The Robins in contrast found their momentum checked by half time. The first 15 minutes of the second half were a non event, leading James Westlake to make a treble change on the hour mark in an attempt to shake his team back to life.

Off went Alfie Loversidge, Jamie Wilkes and Alex Fair. One came Kyle Woolven, Josh Mundy and Sean Stephenson.

For former Ipswich Town youth team player Stephenson, it was a Hassocks debut following his signing earlier in the week from Newhaven.

The changes almost paid dividends with Hassocks coming close to an equaliser just three minutes later through Benson.

United survived though and as the half wore on, the Robins had to become ever more attacking in their quest for an equaliser.

The hosts remained solid despite the best efforts of Hassocks to find a way through. United man-of-the-match Alfie Headland stood out in particular at centre back.

Hassocks were pretty sturdy themselves, Matt Gunn proving the equal of Headland by taking the Robins' Starman award.

This was certainly not a day on which Hassocks deserved to concede three. They did so after being caught out by two sucker punches in the final eight minutes.

Substitute Ed Ratcliffe hit a crisp strike from distance to double United's lead on 82. The three points were then made safe as the game was about to tick into injury time with Ratcliffe again heavily involved.

He earned a corner with a shot from a Callum Barlow pass deflected behind. Beaconsfield played the set piece short to Ratcliffe, who embarked on a great solo run ended with a clinical finish from a tight angle to complete an impressive cameo from the bench.

Hassocks: Trigwell; Frankland, Gunn, Bygraves, Bull; Loversidge, Wilkes, Williamson, Harding; Fair, Benson.

Subs: Mundy (Wilkes 59), Woolven (Loversidge 59), Stephenson (Fair 59), S Smith, Geard (unused).

Late Loversidge winner sends Robins through in Senior Cup

Sussex Transport Senior Cup First Round
Tuesday 12th September 2023, The Oaks
AFC Uckfield Town 1-2 Hassocks



Alfie Loversidge picked the perfect moment to score his first goal in nearly 18 months, securing safe passage for Hassocks into round two of the Sussex Transport Senior Cup.

Loversidge burst onto the scene in the 2021-22 campaign, scoring nine times in 43 appearances to help keep the Robins in the Southern Combination League Premier Division.

But his progress was unfortunately stalled last season through injury. The young forward was ruled out for five months between August and January and then had his minutes carefully managed as Hassocks eased him back into senior football.

That meant Loversidge had not found the back of the net since the Robins defeated East Preston 5-2 at the Beacon in March 2022, a hugely important win in the ultimately successful battle for survival.

Fast forward to the Oaks on Tuesday night and penalties were looming in this Senior Cup first round tie against AFC Uckfield Town, the score locked at 1-1 with just 90 seconds of normal time remaining.

It was then that Loversidge struck, giving Hassocks a 2-1 victory, a place in round two of the competition and the prospect of a plum tie with one of the big clubs of Sussex football when the draw is made live on BBC Radio Sussex on Saturday evening.

James Westlake has made a habit of rotating his squad for cup matches, including last month when the Robins progressed beyond AFC Varndeanians in the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup.

He did so again here. And it is a sign of how much strength in depth the Robins currently possess that they have now seen off two fellow Southern Combination Premier Division outfits even when resting

key individuals.

Five of the XI from the weekend defeat at Eastbourne United were given a night off from starting duties against Uckfield - Tom Frankland, Matt Gunn, Jamie Wilkes, Alex Fair and leading scorer Liam Benson.

Josh Mundy, Kyle Woolven, Sam Smith, Bradley Tighe and Sean Stephenson came in, the latter making his first start in Hassocks colours since joining from Newhaven.

With three of the Robins' next four fixtures also coming in cup competitions, there are sure to be plenty of other opportunities for rotation as Hassocks navigate a busy schedule which has them playing two games a week through until the middle of October.

Having conceded after only two minutes against United at the weekend, the Robins would have been hoping to keep things tight early on.

Naturally, this led to them falling behind with only five minutes played. This young Uckfield side tried to keep the ball on the deck throughout, which is always easier said than done on the infamous surface of the Oaks.

Some neat passing out of a tight spot at right back worked the ball into the middle of the park.

Mundy thought he had successfully intercepted, only to fall over a divot. Uckfield made the most of the reprieve, switching to break down the opposite left flank where Ali Rainford crossed and Morgan Vale fired clinically beyond Fraser Trigwell.

The lead lasted for 14 minutes before Hassocks captain Alex Bygraves hauled his side level with his first goal of the season, coming after a typically threatening Joe Bull corner caused chaos in the Oakmen box.

Westlake's rotation policy means that Raging Bull is now the only outfield player to have started all 11 matches this season for Hassocks.

Pat Harding is the only other man to be involved in every game, despite being far and away the oldest member of the squad.

Harding had scored two of the goals on the only previous occasion Hassocks and the Oakmen had met in the Senior Cup back in December 2005, so just the 18-odd years ago.

Uckfield were known as Wealden back then and playing in Division One. They were easily swatted aside 4-1 by a Robins side who went as far as the quarter finals of the competition.

Harding would undoubtedly have been in the first five penalty takers had spot kicks been required to see off Uckfield in 2023.

Loversidge ensured that was not the case, capping off a man-of-the-match performance with that late goal greeted by wild celebrations from the travelling players and support.

Uckfield meanwhile could take heart from their performance and will hope to use it as a platform to push up the Premier Division table having won only two of eight games so far since Steve Ives' summer return as manager.

Other than the result, the only disappointment for them on the evening was Ellis Wright being sent off for two bookable offences.

Hassocks: Trigwell; B Tighe, S Smith, Bygraves, Bull; Loversidge, Mundy, Williamson, Woolven; Stephenson, Harding.

Subs: Fair, Wilkes, Frankland, Geard (used).

First Team Matches 2023-24

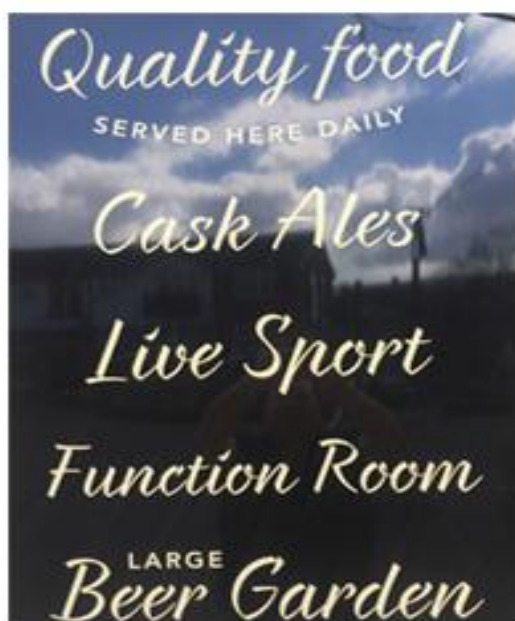
Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Att	Scorers
July					
29/07 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (H)	SCFLP	1-1	232	OG
August					
01/08 - 19:30	Loxwood (A)	SCFLP	3-0	82	Frankland, Benson, Harding
05/08 - 15:00	Erith Town (H)	FACEP	1-1	135	Bull
08/08 - 19:45	Erith Town (A)	FACEPR	0-4	111	
12/08 - 15:00	Lingfield (H)	SCFLP	4-1	101	Woolven, Frankland, Benson, Geard
15/08 - 19:30	Pagham (A)	SCFLP	2-1	76	Harding, Woolven
19/08 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	RURC1	0-0	105	<i>(Won 5-4 on pens)</i>
26/08 - 15:00	Midhurst & Easebourne (H)	SCFLP	3-1	101	Benson (3)
29/08 - 19:45	Shoreham (H)	SCFLP	3-1	265	Fair, Benson, Woolven
September					
09/09 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (A)	SCFLP	0-3	211	
12/09 - 19:30	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SSC1	2-1		Bygraves, Loversidge
16/09 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	SCFLP			
19/09 - 19:30	Roffey (A)	RURC2			
23/09 - 15:00	Sheerwater (A)	FAVQ2			
26/09 - 19:45	Selsey (A)	PBLC2			
30/09 - 15:00	Little Common (A)	SCFLP			
October					
03/10 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFLP			
07/10 - 15:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)	SCFLP			
14/10 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (H)	SCFLP			
28/10 - 15:00	Newhaven (A)				
November					
04/11 - 15:00	Peacehaven & Tels. (H)	SCFLP			
11/11 - 15:00	Crowborough Athletic (A)	SCFLP			
18/11 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (A)	SCFLP			
25/11 - 15:00	Saltdean United (H)	SCFLP			
December					
02/12 - 15:00	Bexhill United (A)	SCFLP			
09/12 - 15:00	Loxwood (H)	SCFLP			
16/12 - 15:00	Lingfield (A)	SCFLP			
26/12 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (H)	SCFLP			
30/12 - 15:00	Shoreham (A)	SCFLP			
January					
06/01 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (A)	SCFLP			
20/01 - 15:00	Little Common (H)	SCFLP			
27/01 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SCFLP			
February					
03/02 - 15:00	Pagham (H)	SCFLP			
10/02 - 15:00	Peacehaven & Tels. (A)	SCFLP			
17/02 - 15:00	Crowborough Athletic (H)	SCFLP			
24/02 - 15:00	Steyning Town (H)	SCFLP			
March					
02/03 - 15:00	Midhurst & Easebourne (A)	SCFLP			
09/03 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (H)	SCFLP			
23/03 - 15:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (H)	SCFLP			
30/03 - 15:00	Horsham YMCA (A)	SCFLP			
April					
01/04 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (A)	SCFLP			
06/04 - 15:00	Bexhill United (H)	SCFLP			
13/04 - 15:00	Saltdean United (A)	SCFLP			
20/04 - 15:00	Newhaven (H)	SCFLP			

First Team Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season				Hassocks Career	
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals	Games	Goals
Joe Bull	11	0	11	1	148	10
Fraser Trigwell	11	0	11	0	12	0
Pat Harding	9	2	11	2	249	143
Liam Benson	10	0	10	6	186	56
Alex Bygraves	10	0	10	1	54	5
Tom Frankland	8	2	10	2	22	2
Bradley Tighe	8	2	10	0	180	0
Jamie Wilkes	8	2	10	0	50	4
Kyle Woolven	4	6	10	3	10	3
Matt Gunn	9	0	9	0	9	0
Alex Fair	5	2	7	1	7	1
Josh Mundy	5	2	7	0	7	0
Alfie Loversidge	3	4	7	1	86	12
Mike Williamson	5	1	6	0	45	0
Sam Geard	1	5	6	1	10	1
James Westlake	4	0	4	0	261	31
Harvey Blake	3	1	4	0	116	4
Jack Troak	3	0	3	0	125	31
Sam Smith	2	0	2	0	43	3
Sean Stephenson	1	1	2	0	2	0
Ben Bacon	0	2	2	0	48	17
Alex Brewer	0	2	2	0	5	1
Elliott Hanslow	0	2	2	0	2	0
Charlie Fogden	0	1	1	0	1	0
Kian Nandhra	0	1	1	0	1	0

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TUESDAY	11.00 - 23.00
WEDNESDAY	11.00 - 23.00
THURSDAY	11.00 - 23.00
FRIDAY	11.00 - 00.30
SATURDAY	11.00 - 00.30
SUNDAY	12.00 - 23.00

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First defeat in 11 months for 10 man Hassocks against buoyant Bears

**Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division
Thursday 31st August 2023, Bodymould Mattresses Stadium
Broadbridge Heath U23s 4-1 Hassocks U23s**



The reigning Southern Combination Under 23 North Division champions met the previous Southern Combination Under 23 North Division champions at the Bodymould Mattresses Stadium in the third game of the new campaign.

And it was the 2021-22 title winners who came out on top, Broadbridge Heath inflicting a 4-1 defeat on Hassocks.

Both sides came into the game with 100 percent records, with the Robins unbeaten in the league for 11 months.

You had to go back to September 29th last year to find the last time Hassocks tasted defeat, a 3-0 home reversal against Horley Town.

The stage then was set for an enthralling encounter. But unfortunately for the Robins, their hopes of taking something were dealt a severe blow by having to play for more than an hour with only 10 men.

Julian Durand was the recipient of a straight red card midway through the first half for something allegedly said to referee Duncan Brooker.

Heath led 1-0 at the time, going onto ruthlessly exploit their man advantage by easing to what was a comfortable victory by the end.

Neil Parker made four changes from the side who had beaten Horley 4-2 at the Beacon a week earlier.

Charlie Fogden missed out altogether whilst Sam Fernley and Noah McHale dropped down to the bench.

Two first team players came into the side. Kyle Woolven has found starting opportunities limited thanks to the form which has led Hassocks to top spot in the Premier Division.

With no first team game at the weekend owing to Steyning Town still being in the FA Cup, Woolven given the opportunity to get minutes under

his belt 48 hours after coming off the bench to score a stunning 30 yard effort against Shoreham on Tuesday night.

The Robins were also boosted by the return of club captain Lewis Westlake, playing his first competitive action for over eight months following an injury-hit previous campaign.

Under 23s regular Jack Smith made his first start of the season, as did George Gladding from the Under 18s squad.

Gladding had impressed from the bench in the opening day win at Redhill.

The opening exchanges were pretty even. Initial impressions were that these were two well matched teams with not very much at all to separate them.

Both sides produced some eye catching approach work, only to be let down by the final ball.

A little over 23 minutes had elapsed when Szymon Kowalczyk decided to take matters into his own hands.

The Bears striker received the ball with his back to the Hassocks goal. After a sublime turn, he managed to weave his way around a couple of Robins defenders before firing left footed into the roof of the net from 12 yards.

Things got worse for Hassocks as just four minutes later, Mr Brooker sent Durand for an early bath.

The Robins were hoping to make it to half time for the chance to regroup.

Heath in contrast sensed an opportunity and duly went in search of a second goal.

It duly arrived 10 minutes before the break. Sam Lemon has been the scourge of Hassocks on many previous occasions at first team level and here he was, tormenting the Robins once again.

A ball hit out of hope more than

anything down the left flank was latched onto by Lemon, who did brilliantly to hit a sweet first time cross into the box.

It found its way to Wiktor Maznica, who took a touch before striking beyond Jack Thomas to double the Bears advantage.

Heath ended the game as a contest three minutes into the second half thanks to a fine individual goal from defender James Archard.

After advancing down the right flank and cutting inside, Archard exchanged a one-two with Kowalczyk on the edge of the box.

Having received possession back, Archard proceeded to go around two more Hassocks defenders before beating Thomas at the near post.

Heath added their fourth on 65 as Maznica completed his brace. Some quick feet on the edge of the box opened up enough space for Maznica to rifle home.

The floodgates could easily have opened further at that point. One positive for Hassocks is that they did not. Another positive was a debut goal for substitute Cavan Chedzey.

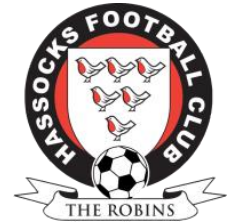
And some goal it was too. The former Hurstpierpoint player was 40 yards from goal and positioned on out on the touchline when he hit a right footed effort which flew over the head of helpless Heath goalkeeper Montgomery Watson-Price before dropping into the far corner.

Hassocks: Thomas, Gladding, J Smith, Dersley, Hicks, Loversidge, L Westlake, Mercer, Woolven, Geard, Durand.

Subs: Fernley, Chedzey, Dove, McHale, W Tighe (used).

Hassocks hit for six by early league leaders Lingfield

Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division
Thursday 7th September 2023, The New Defence
Lingfield U23s 6-1 Hassocks U23s



Having gone nearly a calendar year without losing a Southern Combination Under 23 North Division match, Hassocks have now been defeated twice in seven days.

Following last week's 4-1 defeat at Broadbridge Heath, the Robins had no answers to a hugely impressive Lingfield side.

The final score was 6-1 to the hosts, who are certainly enjoying life at their temporary home for the season of the New Defence having now won four out of four with 18 goals scored to top the early table.

When these sides last met back in March, Hassocks produced one of the most important results of their 2022-23 championship winning season.

Trailing 3-1 going into injury time, two late goals salvaged a 3-3 draw and provided the platform from which the Robins went onto lift the title thanks to the belief and confidence taken from that night at Godstone Road.

There was to be not such repeat on this occasion. The Lingers were comprehensive winners who had in their captain and hat-trick hero Ryan Lovejoy the best player on the pitch.

Hassocks made wholesale changes from the side beaten by the Bears a week earlier.

Julian Durand was suspended having been sent off midway through the first half at the Boydmoold Mattresses Stadium.

George Gladding, Ben Hicks and Kobe Dersley were unavailable with the latter returning to university.

Alfie Loversidge and Kyle Woolven were required for first team duty at Eastbourne United at the weekend whilst Lewis Westlake dropped down the to bench as his minutes continue to be carefully managed on his comeback from injury.

Sam Fernley, Billy Dove, Noah McHale, Wes Tighe and Cavan Chedzey were all promoted into the starting XI having sat on the bench against Heath.

The other two players coming in were Dan Turner and Sam Smith, providing some first team experience to what was a very young lineup.

At the age of 23, Turner was the second-oldest player on show after Smith.

Joining the impressive Lovejoy on the scoresheet for Lingfield were Jack Lazarus and two substitutes, both Ellis Newbold and Dylan Page notching from the bench.

Chedzey grabbed the Hassocks consolation on what was his full debut for the Robins.

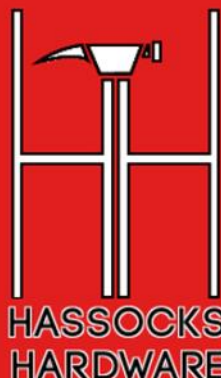
The former Hurstpierpoint youngster also notched from the bench against Broadbridge Heath.

After two very tough game on the road, the Robins will be hoping to bounce back to winning ways when they return to the Beacon next Thursday night.

Roffey are the opponents with kick off at 7:45pm and any support will be greatly appreciated.

Hassocks: Thomas, Dove, Turner, S Smith, J Smith, W Tighe, McHale, Mercer, Fernley, Geard, Chedzey.

Subs: L Westlake, China, Wintle, Akturk (used).



Under 23s Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
August				
17/08 - 19:45	Redhill (A)	SCFL23	3-1	J.Nhandra, Turner, Mercer
24/08 - 19:45	Horley Town (H)	SCFL23	4-2	Geard (2), Loversidge, Durand
31/08 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (A)	SCFL23	1-4	Chedzey
September				
07/09 - 19:45	Lingfield (A)	SCFL23	1-6	Chedzey
14/09 - 19:45	Roffey (H)	SCFL23	3-0	Mercer, Chedzey, Fernley
21/09 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFL23		
27/09 - 19:45	Oakwood (A)	SCFL23		

Under 23s Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season				Goals
	Starts	Used Sub	Games		
Sam Geard	4	0	4	2	
George Mercer	4	0	4	1	
Jack Thomas	4	0	4	0	
Billy Dove	3	1	4	0	
Sam Fernley	3	1	4	0	
Noah McHale	2	2	4	0	
Ben Hicks	3	0	3	0	
Alfie Loversidge	3	0	3	1	
Julian Durand	2	1	3	1	
Jack Smith	2	1	3	0	
Kobe Dersley	2	0	2	0	
Charlie Fogden	2	0	2	0	
Dan Turner	2	0	2	1	
Cavan Chedzey	1	1	2	2	
George Gladding	1	1	2	0	
Wes Tighe	1	1	2	0	
Lewis Westlake	1	1	2	0	
Evan China	0	2	2	0	
Will Lord	1	0	1	0	
Josh Nandhra	1	0	1	1	
Sam Smith	1	0	1	0	
Kyle Woolven	1	0	1	0	
Josh Akturk	0	1	1	0	
Sam Dean	0	1	1	0	
Jay Hudson	0	1	1	0	
Kian Nandhra	0	1	1	0	
Alex Wintle	0	1	1	0	



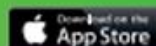
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Brewer bags four to get Young Robins off to perfect start

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division
Sunday 3rd September 2023, The Beacon
Hassocks U18s 6-1 Shoreham U18s



On a baking hot Sunday morning at the Beacon, Hassocks proved too hot to handle as they got their Southern Combination League Under 18 North Division season off to the perfect start against Shoreham.

It finished 6-1 to the Robins, although the final score was a little harsh on the visitors.

The Musselmen were hard working throughout and Hassocks only began to run away with things into the second half, partly because Shoreham began to tire in the searing heat having arrived with 11 players and no substitutes.

Hassocks finished a distant third in the standings last season behind Mid Sussex rivals St Francis Rangers and Burgess Hill Town.

The Robins cup form though was excellent as they advanced all the way to the semi finals of both the Sussex Dennis Probee Under 18s Cup and the Southern Combination Youth League Cup.

Those extended runs showed Hassocks could beat anyone on their day. The challenge for 2023-24 therefore is to show greater consistency in the bread and butter

of the Central Division.

A large number of the Robins' 2022-23 squad remain eligible for Under 18s football for the new campaign, meaning it has been a summer of evolution rather than revolution in terms of signings.

Five new players were in the starting XI for the Shoreham game. Theo Bradley lined up in goal, joined by Will Hartley, Evan China, Cavan Chedzey and Charlie Fogden.

China and Chedzey have already impressed suitably to have turned out for the Under 23s this season.

Chedzey marked his first appearance for Neil Parker's side with an outrageous consolation goal from 40 yards in Thursday's 4-1 defeat away at Broadbridge Heath.

Fogden meanwhile is dual-signed from Whitehawk Under 18s and is quite possibly the first ever player in Hassocks history to make his first team debut before his youth team bow.

He came off the bench to replace Joe Bull at left back during Tuesday night's 3-1 win, ironically also against Shoreham.

As for the returning players, they were Ben Foster, George Gladding, Oliver Goswamy, Sam Dean, Sam Fernley and Alex Brewer.

Brewer is another to have forced himself into first team contention through his scoring exploits, including 21 goals from 21 appearances last season.

He wasted no time in setting about plundering even more in the new campaign, providing four of the six goals scored by Hassocks.

Fernley joined Brewer on the scoresheet with the rout rounded off by debutant Hartley. Marley Green provided Shoreham with their consolation.

Two more players made their first appearances for the Robins from the bench, Marko Gabric and Jack Wood impressing with some neat touches once introduced.

All in all, an excellent morning for Hassocks. The Robins hit the road next week for an eagerly anticipated Mid Sussex Derby away at Haywards Heath Town.

Hassocks: Bradley, Gladding, Hartley, Foster, Fogden, Fernley, Dean, Goswamy China, Brewer, Chedzey.

Subs: Gabric, Wood (used).



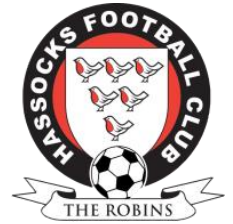
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Hassocks hold off late Heath rally for Mid Sussex Derby day delight

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division
Sunday 10th September 2023, The Beacon
Haywards Heath U18s 4-5 Hassocks U18s



The first Mid Sussex Derby at Under 18s level between Hassocks and Haywards Heath Town for four seasons did not disappoint.

Nine goals were shared at Hanbury Park, where the Robins survived a second half Heath rally to run out 5-4 winners.

The result took Hassocks to the top of the early Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division table with two victories from two matches and 11 goals scored.

Tougher tests undoubtedly lie ahead, including next week when last season's runners up Burgess Hill Town visit the Beacon.

Along with reigning champions St Francis Rangers, there are plenty more derby days to come for the Robins.

Hassocks have forged a strong link with Whitehawk at Under 18s level for the coming season.

Several players have dual-signed for the Hawks Isthmian Youth League team and Hassocks in the Southern Combination.

That helps give the Robins greater strength depth, so much so that Hassocks can still score five

times in a game even without the services of leading scorer Alex Brewer.

The striker plundered four of the Robins goals in the 6-1 win over Shoreham a week earlier but was unavailable for the short trip to Haywards Heath.

His place was taken by Josh Nandhra, who seamlessly slotted in by scoring a hat-trick.

There were two other changes for Hassocks. George Gladding missed out and Will Hatley dropped down to the bench.

Joining Nandhra in coming into the side were his brother Kian and Ed Tobias.

Kian Nandhra has already made his senior debut for the Robins, coming off the bench in the 4-1 win over Lingfield last month.

Tobias meanwhile won Players' Player of the Season last year having been an ever-present and breaking into the Under 23s.

Not wanting to be completely outshone by his brother, Kian Nandhra joined Josh on the scoresheet.

The other Robins goal came from Charlie Fogden, grabbing his first in Hassocks colours.

All four Heath goals came after

the break. Substitute Oscar Kemp showed Hassocks that the second half was going to be a much tougher 45 minutes than the first, scoring twice in the space of 120 seconds immediately following the restart.

Liam Deere provided the third for Heath on the hour mark. The Robins regrouped after that and managed to get through the next 30 minutes without conceding, up until Sam Quickfall struck in injury time.

Thankfully for Hassocks, there was insufficient time after that for the Bluebells to find an equaliser and so the three points and local bragging rights went back to the Beacon.

Hassocks: Bradley, Fogden, Tobias, Foster, Fernley, K Nandhra, Dean, Goswamy China, J Nandhra, Chedzey.

Subs: Gabric, Hartley (used).

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Under 18s Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
03/09 - 11:00	Shoreham (H)	SCFL18	6-1	Brewer (4), Fernley, Hartley
10/09 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (A)	SCFL18	4-5	J.Nandhra (3), K.Nandhra, Fogden
17/09 - 11:00	Burgess Hill Town (H)	SCFL18		
24/09 - 11:00	Mile Oak (A)	SCFL18		
October				
01/10 - 11:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)	C18C2		
08/10 - 11:00	Saltdean United (A)	SCFL18		
15/10 - 11:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	SCFL18		
22/10 - 11:00	Roffey (A)	U18LC2		

Under 18s Appearances 2023-24

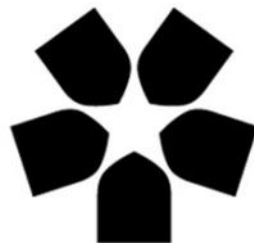
Player	2023-24 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Theo Bradley	2	0	2	0
Cavan Chedzey	2	0	2	0
Evan China	2	0	2	0
Sam Dean	2	0	2	0
Sam Fernley	2	0	2	1
Charlie Fogden	2	0	2	1
Ben Foster	2	0	2	0
Oliver Goswamy	2	0	2	0
William Hartley	1	1	2	1
Marko Gabric	0	2	2	0
Alex Brewer	1	0	1	4
George Gladding	1	0	1	0
Josh Nandhra	1	0	1	3
Kian Nandhra	1	0	1	1
Ed Tobias	1	0	1	0
Jack Wood	0	1	1	0



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Veterans Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
10/09 - 14:00	Lewes (H)	MSFLVE	1-5	Cook
24/09 - 14:00	Patcham United (H)	CVC1		
October				
01/10 - 14:00	Seaford Town (H)	MSFLVE		
15/10 - 14:00	Maresfield Village (A)	MSFLVE		
November				
12/11 - 14:00	Sidley United (A)	MSFLVE		
26/11 - 14:00	Burgess Hill Wanderers (A)	MSFLVE		
December				
10/12 - 14:00	Rotherfield (A)	MSFLVE		
January				
07/01 - 14:00	Jarvis Brook (H)	MSFLVE		

Veterans Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Jonathan Bundy	1	0	1	0
James Butcher	1	0	1	0
Chris Cook	1	0	1	1
Andy Darby	1	0	1	0
Mark Darbyshire	1	0	1	0
Phil Gault	1	0	1	0
Dave Juniper	1	0	1	0
Nick Newman	1	0	1	0
Steve Spies	1	0	1	0
Adam Waller	1	0	1	0
Andy Wilson	1	0	1	0
Ricky Betsworth	0	1	1	0

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Robins beaten in season opener but scoreline does not tell whole story

London & South East League Division One South
Sunday 10th September 2023, The Beacon
Hassocks Ladies 1-4 Welling United Women



In a hard fought match which was closer than the final score of 4-1 suggests, Hassocks Ladies lost their opening game in the London and South East Regional Women's League Division One against Welling United.

The match started fairly evenly with both sides threatening at a sunny Beacon.

Firstly, Hassocks captain Claire Stevens had to head clear two early crosses in quick succession.

Hassocks fashioned a half chance in response. Kirsten Mair hit a superb through ball which Welling goalkeeper Tania Morton had to come rushing from her box to clear.

Next came Holly Webb thwarting a Welling attack at the expense of a corner. Again, the delivery into the box was expertly headed away by Stevens.

This was followed by an almighty goalmouth scramble. Somehow, a combination of Hassocks defenders made to clear the ball.

The 22nd minute brought the best opportunity of the game so far. Jodie Johanson and Mia Pordage produced some neat build up play to create a shooting chance for Emily Spooner.

It needed a good save from Morton to prevent Spooner giving the Robins the lead.

Unfortunately, Hassocks found themselves a goal down shortly after that chance when Gracie Speak produced a clinical shot from distance which found the corner of the net.

New Robins manager Alison Page responded by making a substitution, introducing debutant Lola Moon in place of Mair. The change had an immediate impact as Hassocks equalised almost straight away.

Emma Flin hit a cross field pass to Johanson, who played the ball back inside for Katherine Chappell.

Having scored 30 times in only 13 games last season, Chappell continued where she left off by making no mistake with a shot drilled across Morton and into the bottom corner.

The visitors had seemingly not expected a Robins equaliser and they subsequently raised their game.

A dangerous Welling break ended with a shot just wide before Hassocks survived another chaotic scramble to again hack away.

The Robins lost Johanson to a head injury in the final 10 minutes of the half with Mair returning in her place. There was still time after that for Welling to threaten twice more.

A corner was headed wastefully wide, followed by Stevens taking a break from heading everything clear to expertly shepherd a forward into a position where the angle was too wide to finish.

Despite the very obvious improvement in the visitors' performance after Hassocks had levelled, 1-1 was ultimately a fair reflection going into the break.

Just like the first half, the second half began fairly evenly. A great run from Pordage won Hassocks a corner which came to nothing. Welling almost made more of corner of their own, only for Sarah Chappell to make a great claim under pressure.

The 57th minute saw Tallie Bright release Spooner into a dangerous position where she was halted by a foul. From the resulting free kick, Morton was required to make another good stop at the expense of another corner.

Welling then enjoyed a breakaway with Chappell producing a brilliant save. The Hassocks number one followed up with another important stop from a Welling forward racing through on goal.

There was nothing Chappell could do when substitute Carly Gray produced a crisp finish to give

Welling a 2-1 lead just past the hour mark.

Page again turned to her bench in response, bringing on Jess Gray. Hassocks forced a goalmouth scramble of their own but nobody in read was able to provide a finish.

A remarkable piece of skill from Gray then saw her turn and power a shot which beat Morton all ends up, only to crash against the angle of post and bar.

Page made several more changes in an attempt to find an equaliser. Pordage thought she had provided one, only for Morton to again thwart the Robins.

With the game entering injury time, Hassocks threw everything they had at Welling. That left spaces at the other end for the visitors to exploit on the counter, which they did ruthlessly as Gray scored a quickfire double to complete her hat-trick and end the Robins' hopes of a comeback.

Although Welling deserved their victory, the final scoreline was harsh and Hassocks could easily have taken a point from the match.

It is clear the London & Regional League is a big step up in quality from the Sussex League which Hassocks won last season, but the Robins will take heart from their efforts.

Full backs Katie Read and Webb can deal well with two very skilful and fast forwards. The Hassocks midfielders were always involved and had their share of possession and new players Moon and Gray look to be good additions to the squad.

Hassocks: S Chappell, Read, Flin, Stevens, Webb, Bright, Spooner, Mair, Johanson, Pordage, K Chappell.

Subs: Moon, Gray, Moquet (used).

Ladies Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
10/09 - 14:00	Welling United (H)	LSE1S	1-4	K.Chappell
17/09 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (H)	SWSC		
24/09 - 14:00	Eastbourne United (H)	LSE1S		
October				
01/10 - 14:30	Dartford Reserves (A)	LSE1S		
08/10 - 14:00	Herne Bay (H)	LSE1S		
22/10 - 14:00	Dartford Reserves (H)	LSE1S		
29/10 - 14:00	Newhaven (A)	LSE1S		
November				
05/11 - 14:00	Ashford United (H)	LSEC2		

Ladies Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Tallie Bright	1	0	1	0
Katherine Chappell	1	0	1	1
Sarah Chappell	1	0	1	0
Emma Flin	1	0	1	0
Jodie Johanson	1	0	1	0
Kirstin Mair	1	0	1	0
Mia Pordage	1	0	1	0
Katie Read	1	0	1	0
Emily Spooner	1	0	1	0
Claire Stevens	1	0	1	0
Holly Webb	1	0	1	0
Jess Gray	0	1	1	0
Lola Moon	0	1	1	0
Ellie Moquet	0	1	1	0



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On This Day...



Tame exit leaves Hassocks wondering what might have been

September 16th 2006: Hassocks exited the FA Cup at the first qualifying round away at Ryman League Sittingbourne in a game Dave John felt his side could have won on another day

It was a case of wondering what might have been for Hassocks as they exited the FA Cup in the first qualifying round away at Ryman League Sittingbourne.

Dave John had no complaints about the 3-0 scoreline, the hosts being worthy winners on the balance of play.

What the Robins boss did regret was that his side did not do themselves justice.

On another day, John felt it was a tie Hassocks could have won with the XI they had out - and even more so if he had a full squad to choose him.

The absence of the holidaying Matt Robbins was clearly a factor and Hassocks were also without Mark Sheriff, at a wedding having scored a hat-trick for the reserves in their 6-1 win over Worthing United on Friday night.

Chris Brown thankfully passed a late fitness test and was able to start, although he went off just before the hour mark.

The Robins then lost both Stuart Faith and skipper Chris Hewitt to injuries.

Three enforced substitutions in the space of 18 minutes did little to help their cause.

No doubt Hassocks showed the Brickies too much respect in the opening half hour.

That enabled the hosts to make all the running before being awarded a 14th minute penalty when one of many awkward bounces off a hard, bumpy pitch led to Hewitt handballing.

Andy Doerr made no mistake from the spot. And that is how the tie continued until the final 15 minutes of the first half, when the Robins at last showed a little more confidence.

They needed to be shocked into life by a close shave, however. An early Sittingbourne injury had seen

substitute Joe Dowley come on and his first time cross caught the Hassocks defence napping. Luckily for the visitors, Doerr headed wide.

It was young Matt Amos who began to offer Hassocks hope. The 17-year-old engineered a shooting chance well thwarted by Brickies goalkeeper Steve Williams.

The angle was then against Amos following an error by Paul Ainsworth. A better opportunity fashioned by good link up play between Amos and strike partner Richard Thomas was fired wide by Anthony Hibbert.

Suddenly, the game had become an end-to-end contest. Hewitt found himself in the right place at the right time when getting hit by a Mitchell Sherwood volley which appeared goal bound.

Another great early cross from Dowley next left the Hassocks defence for dead, only for Clint Goodling to somehow fire over from six yards with the goal gaping.

The Robins had the final chance of the half and it was a glorious one too.

Amos chipped a perfect ball over the top for Hibbert to chase onto. The connection from Hibbert was perfect but the volley flew inches over.

Had that gone in, the game may well have turned out very different. John said it was particularly disappointing as Hibbert had been working on that kind of finish in training and hitting the target regularly.

Not long into the second half and Amos went close with an acrobatic overhead kick which drew gasps from around Woodstock Park.

Joel Harding was forced into a good stop from Tristan Wells and Sam Fisk pulled a save from Williams after charging into the Sittingbourne area from left wing back.

Brown's 57th minute withdrawal

saw Fisk pushed into midfield and Ian Dawson take over on the left.

The positional roulette seemed to throw Hassocks however, and two goals in little more than a minute ended the game as a contest.

Both came from defensive errors. First, a long cross on 62 went over the head of last defender Ashley Marsh.

Part-namesake Kieran Marsh took his chance expertly from what had appeared a most unpromising angle.

The Robins tried keeping the ball from the restart but found themselves pushed back by Sittingbourne, leading to Dawson gifting possession to Mark Lovell on the edge of the Hassocks box.

Lovell saw his initial effort thwarted by Harding. The rebound fell kindly to the Brickies forward to apply the finish at the second time of asking.

Youngsters Spencer Slaughter and Martin Woods replaced Faith and Hewitt respectively, after which Hassocks should have claimed at least one consolation.

Amos side footed against the post when the whole goal was at his mercy and Thomas was denied by Williams having been sent clean through by Fisk.

This was no hard lucky story though and Harding had to distinguish himself on a couple more occasions in the final 15 minutes to prevent the Brickies adding to their three.

Hassocks: Harding; Turner, Lear, Hewitt, Marsh, S Fisk; Brown, Hibbert, Faith; Amos, Thomas

Subs: Dawson (Brown 57), Slaughter (Faith 64), Woods (Hewitt 75).

Around the League...



Last Saturday saw a full programme across the top two divisions in the Southern Combination League and approaching the quarter mark of the season already, a better impression is being formed of who might end up where come April

Steyning Town are the only club in the Premier Division to maintain a 100 percent record after hammering **Little Common** 7-1 at the Birchwood Ground.

Common had started the day above the Barrowmen in the table but that counted for nothing in a sign that Steyning will take some stopping this season.

It was 5-0 going into half time thanks to two Charlie Meehan goals and one apiece from Harry Shooman, Sam Remfry and Charlie Towing.

Remry added his second and the Barrowmen's sixth on 67 minutes and substitute Jack Langford made it seven with five minutes remaining. Sam Crutwell provided the Common consolation in injury time.

The current Premier Division leaders are **Peacehaven & Telscombe**, who enjoyed a straightforward 4-0 victory over **Horsham YMCA**.

George Cook, Harry Docherty, Billy Oliver and Lewis Croal were all on target for the Tye.

Our visitors this afternoon **AFC Vardeanians** were beaten 3-1 by **Crowborough Athletic**.

Lewis Unwin, John Sinclair and Rory Salter were the scorers for the Crows. Toby Reeder struck for Vardeanians.

Evan Archibald got the only goal of the game on the half hour mark to give **Eastbourne Town** a huge three points from a 1-0 victory away against **Haywards Heath Town**.

Six goals were scored at the Nest where **Loxwood** went down 4-2 at home to **Newhaven**.

Callum Edwards, Tyler Scrafton, Alfie Rogers and Lee Robinson were all on target for the Dockers.

Tristan Pereira and Matthew Hay responded for Loxwood, whose poor disciplinary record continued with a red card for Ethan Cumming.

Midhurst & Easebourne moved into the top half after seeing off **Crawley Down Gatwick** 3-2 at the Rotherfield.

Lewis Gould gave Down a 13th minute lead cancelled out by Marcus Bedford.

Two goals in the space of eight second half minutes from Lewis Rustell and Lewis Hamilton then put Midhurst firmly in control before Anvils substitute Torran Sawle pulled another back for the visitors in the 90th minute.

The spoils were shared between **Lingfield** and **Pagham** in a 2-2 draw at the New Defence.

Haydn Dickinson and Jimmy Williams struck for Lingfield. Both the Lions' goals came in the first half from Jamie Carroll and Ronald Kardos.

Four goals in the final 18 minutes saw **Saltdean United** to a 4-1 home win over **AFC Uckfield Town** at Hill Park.

Josh Marshall scored twice along with Marley Amber and former Robin Alfie Edmeads in an excellent victory for the Tigers.

Toby Potter-Drake provided the goal for Uckfield, who ended the contest with nine men following red cards for Shane Harper and Charlie White.

The final game in the Premier Division saw **Shoreham** lose 4-0 at home to **Bexhill United**, bringing to an end Michael Death's time as Musselmen manager as he resigned afterwards.

James Stone scored a second half hat-trick to go with Jack Shonk's 22nd minute opener.

In Division One, **Roffey** lead the way as they seek an immediate return to the Premier Division following relegation last season.

George Cousins and Jahobi Maher goals gave the Boars a 2-0 victory

against **Worthing United**.

A brace from substitute Jacob Todman helped **Dorking Wanderers B** overcome a straight red card for Jay Richardson as they beat **Wick** 3-0. Sebastian Tauta-Caballero was the other scorer.

James Norman and Robert Parrott goals gave **Godalming Town** a 2-1 win at **Arundel** and **Montpelier Villa** continued their impressive start by winning 3-1 at **Forest Row**.

Former Hassocks defender Jack Baden opened the scoring, followed by goals from Gabriel Robinson and Tom Shelley. Matthew Feeney-Hill hit a 89th minute consolation for Frow.

Banstead Athletic saw off **Selsey** 2-0 and **Mile Oak** were 3-1 winners at home to **Oakwood**.

Alfold beat **East Preston** 3-1 at the Elliott Scott Group Stadium and two goals from Tyler Capon helped **Seaford Town** to overcome **Billingshurst** 4-1 at the Crouch.

The game of the day in Division One came from the seven goal thriller between **Chessington & Hook United** and **Copthorne**.

Copthorne led 3-2 as late as the 92nd minute, only for Bailey Ellis and David Gabor to turn the match on its head and give Chessington a 4-3 victory.

Six Division Two clubs were in Sussex Intermediate Cup action, including two all-Southern Combination League ties.

Capel easily saw off **Brighton Electricity** 9-0 at Withdean Stadium and **Ferring** were 4-1 winners against **Rottingdean Village**.

Rustington also made safe progress by beating TD Shipley 3-0 and **Storrington** advanced past Lavant on penalties after a 1-1 draw.

Upper Beeding meanwhile crashed out, going down 1-0 away at Bexhill AAC.



Tables Form Top Scorers Attendances

Southern Combination Premier Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Peacehaven	7	6	1	0	19	4	19
Crowborough Athletic	8	6	1	1	20	8	19
Eastbourne United	7	5	2	0	17	6	17
Hassocks	7	5	1	1	16	8	16
Eastbourne Town	8	5	1	2	12	7	16
Steyning Town	5	5	0	0	20	3	15
Haywards Heath Town	8	4	2	2	24	10	14
Little Common	8	4	2	2	13	16	14
Newhaven	7	3	3	1	18	10	12
Midhurst & Easebourne	8	3	3	2	12	18	12
Lingfield	8	2	4	2	13	14	10
Horsham YMCA	7	2	3	2	8	11	9
Saltdean United	8	2	1	5	11	15	7
Crawley Down Gatwick	8	2	0	6	13	19	6
AFC Uckfield Town	8	2	0	6	11	18	6
Bexhill United	7	2	0	5	9	16	6
Pagham	8	1	2	5	8	15	5
Loxwood	8	1	2	5	10	21	5
AFC Varndeanians	9	1	1	7	8	26	4
Shoreham	8	0	1	7	8	25	1

Premier Division Attendances

	Ave	Total	League	Cup
Haywards Heath Town	274	1372	1088	284
Peacehaven & Telscombe	215	1292	1116	176
Newhaven	208	1044	683	361
Shoreham	190	951	766	185
Crowborough Athletic	183	1286	956	321
Eastbourne Town	167	1004	785	219
Hassocks	166	834	699	135
Little Common	160	641	641	
Steyning Town	155	1091	627	464
Eastbourne United	150	1053	749	304
AFC Varndeanians	142	426	426	
Bexhill United	130	261	156	105
Pagham	111	555	436	119
Saltdean United	110	774	485	269
Horsham YMCA	92	369	278	91
Crawley Down Gatwick	84	420	204	216
AFC Uckfield Town	78	471	345	126
Lingfield	69	346	239	107
Midhurst & Easebourne	68	409	349	60
Loxwood	65	327	272	55

Premier Division Form Guide

	Last 6
Peacehaven & Telscombe	WLWWWW
Eastbourne United	WDWWWW
Steyning Town	WWWWW
Hassocks	WWWWWL
Eastbourne Town	LWWWWW
Crowborough Athletic	WDWWLW
Haywards Heath Town	WWLWWL
Newhaven	DWDWLW
Lingfield	LDLWWD
Horsham YMCA	DLWWDL
Little Common	WDLDWL
Midhurst & Easebourne	DLLWLW
Bexhill United	LLLLWW
Loxwood	DLLDWL
Saltdean United	LLLDLW
Crawley Down Gatwick	LLLWLL
AFC Uckfield Town	WLLLLL
AFC Varndeanians	WLLLLL
Pagham	LLLDLD
Shoreham	DLLLLL

Premier Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Callum Barlow	Eastbourne Utd	8
Oli Leslie	Crawley Down	8
Charlie Meehan	Steyning Town	8
Hayden Beaconsfield	Eastbourne Utd	7
Callum Connor	Newhaven	7
Billy Oliver	Peacehaven	7
James Stone	Bexhill United	7
Liam Benson	Hassocks	6
James Crone	Little Common	6
Harvey Killick	Crowborough	6
Alfie Rogers	Newhaven	6
Jack Shonk	Bexhill United	6
Harry Shooman	Steyning Town	6
Hayden Skerry	Haywards Heath	6
Conor Wilford	Lingfield	6
Mark Goldson	Steyning Town	5
Archie Goddard	Loxwood	5
Siph Mdlalose	Midhurst	5
Lucas Murrain	Crowborough	5
Alex Patching	Shoreham	5

Under 23s

Under 18s

Ladies

Veterans



Southern Combination Under 23 North Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lingfield	4	4	0	0	18	5	12
Broadbridge Heath	3	3	0	0	20	2	9
Horsham YMCA	4	3	0	1	17	6	9
Roffey	3	2	0	1	9	6	6
Horley Town	4	2	0	2	10	12	6
Hassocks	4	2	0	2	9	13	6
St Francis Rangers	4	2	0	2	5	19	6
Steyning Town	3	0	0	3	2	7	0
Redhill	3	0	0	3	7	12	0
Oakwood	4	0	0	4	6	22	0

Under 23 North Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Wiktor Maznica	B'bridge Heath	6
Jamie Maunder	Roffey	5
Archie Street-Williams	Horsham YMCA	5
Harvey Burgess	Horsham YMCA	4
Szymon Kowalczyk	B'bridge Heath	4
Jame Skipper	Horley Town	4
Jack Lazarus	Lingfield	4
Ashley Aderemi	Lingfield	3
Younis Ainine	Horsham YMCA	3
Rodrigo Goncalves	B'bridge Heath	3

Southern Combination Under 18 Central Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hassocks	2	2	0	0	11	5	6
Lancing	2	2	0	0	10	1	6
Saltdean United	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
Burgess Hill Town	1	1	0	0	6	0	3
Mile Oak	2	1	0	1	4	7	3
AFC Varndeanians	1	0	0	1	0	8	0
Montpelier Villa	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Shoreham	1	0	0	1	1	6	0
Haywards Heath Town	2	0	0	2	4	11	0
St Francis Rangers	2	0	0	2	3	6	0

Under 18 Central Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Alex Brewer	Hassocks	4
Malik Mundoma	Saltdean United	4
Oliver Emery	Saltdean United	3
Josh Nandhra	Hassocks	3
Jayden Oriji	Lancing	3
Dillon Shrestha	St Francis	3
Oscar Kemp	Haywards Heath	2
Marley Kilroy	Saltdean United	2
Oscar Azeez	Lancing	1
Haitham Badri	Lancing	1

London & South East Women's Division One South

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newhaven	3	3	0	0	10	1	9
Dartford Reserves	4	2	1	1	8	5	7
Bromley	2	2	0	0	9	1	6
Herne Bay	2	1	1	0	8	5	4
Welling United	4	1	1	2	7	9	4
Eastbourne United	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Montpelier Villa	3	1	0	2	8	8	3
Steyning Town	3	1	0	2	4	6	3
Hastings United	3	1	0	2	4	9	3
Bognor Regis Town	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Hassocks	1	0	0	1	1	4	0
Bexhill United	2	0	0	2	0	10	0

LSER Division One South Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Charlotte Lee	Bromley	4
Aimee Ascott	Dartford	3
Tara Barratt	Montpelier Villa	3
Lucy Collinson	Newhaven	3
Chloe Evans	Newhaven	3
Carly Gray	Welling United	3
Abbie Potter	Herne Bay	3
Chloe Brian	Dartford	2
Charlotte Carter	Newhaven	2
Katherine Davyson	Montpelier Villa	2
Lauren Harris	Herne Bay	2
Emma Healey	Dartford	2

Mid Sussex Veterans East Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lewes	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
Jarvis Brook	1	1	0	0	4	3	3
Seaford Town	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Maresfield Village	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rotherfield	1	0	0	1	3	4	0
Sidley United	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Hassocks	1	0	0	1	1	5	0

Veterans East Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Rob Gordon	Jarvis Brook	2
Daniel Horan	Lewes	2
Elliott Hughes	Rotherfield	2
Chris Cook	Hassocks	1
Dougal Flemming	Lewes	1
Adam Hammond	Seaford Town	1
Jonathan Hesbon	Lewes	1

Upcoming Fixtures >>>



Roffey v Hassocks

Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup Second Round
Tuesday 19th September 2023, 7:30pm
Bartholomew Way, Horsham, RH12 5JL
Admission prices £7 adults, £4 concessions, Under 16s free

A run of three consecutive cup matches gets underway with a trip to Roffey in the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup on Tuesday night, meaning the opportunity to enjoy their famous woodland bar

Roffey this season

Roffey are back in Division One after their debut Premier Division campaign last time out did not go according to plan. The Boars were winless until mid-February and despite their form being much improved after getting the monkey off their backs, they were not quite able to claw together enough points to survive. What Roffey have done is keep together the squad they had in the second half of the campaign, who got them far closer to a great escape from relegation than anyone thought possible. As a result, the Boars lead Division One with six wins, one draw and one defeat from eight matches. They also held Saltdean United to a draw in the Sussex Senior Cup.

Head-to-head

There have been just three previous games between ourselves and Roffey. The Boars won 5-1 here in the Peter Bentley League Cup in September 2021, a result that did not come as a great surprise even though Roffey were a division below us at the time. Last season's August Bank Holiday meeting saw us run out 7-0 winners at the Beacon before a dramatic 2-1 win at Bartholomew Way in February to complete a league double.

Last time we met

Roffey were yet to win a Premier Division game when we rocked up at the Theatre of Trees. They deserved to end their drought, leading 1-0 as

late as the 88th minute despite playing for most of the second half with only 10 men. But then Phil Johnson decided to rescue the Robins, scoring two late goals to give us a totally underserved three points.

How to get to Bartholomew Way

It is quite a straightforward journey to the Theatre of Trees; take the A23 to the Pease Pottage turnoff and then follow the A264 towards Horsham. At the fourth roundabout for Ruser, take the first exit on Ruser Road for Roffey. Turn left at the next roundabout onto Lemmington Way and another left when you reach the end of the road to join Bartholomew Way. The ground is at the end of the road.

<<< Upcoming Fixtures



Sheerwater v Hassocks

Isuzu FA Vase Second Qualifying Round
Saturday 23rd September 2023, 3:00pm
Eastwood Leisure Centre, Albert Drive, Woking, GU21 5RF
Admission prices £8 adults, £5 concessions, Under 16s free

For those of us who like the chance to explore a new ground and opposition, then the FA Vase second qualifying round draw could not have gone much better as we head to Sheerwater for the first time next Saturday

Who are Sheerwater?

Sheerwater is a village more often considered a suburb of Woking. The football team were founded in 1958 and have played in the Combined Counties League since the 2000s. The Jam played some of their early gigs in the clubhouse at Sheerwater's former Recreation Ground home.

Sheerwater this season

The Sheers finished 16th of 20 times in the Combined Counties Premier Division South last time around, narrowly avoiding relegation. They currently occupy 17th spot having one won, drawn one and lost four of their six matches so far. They have played two Sussex-based teams this season, beating Broadbridge Heath 1-

0 away from home in the FA Cup before losing 3-0 to Eastbourne United at the Oval.

Head-to-head

This will be our first meeting with Sheerwater. Our most recent clash with opponents from the Combined Counties League came in August 2021, when Spelthorne Sports left the Beacon with a 2-1 FA Cup extra preliminary qualifying round win.

What is Eastwood Leisure Centre like?

Eastwood Leisure Centre opened its doors in 2021 and features a mix of standing and seating along one side of the pitch, capable of holding 500 people. The pitch is 3G and it would

appear that there is a very nice bar.

How to get to Eastwood Leisure Centre

Leave the M25 at junction 11, taking the first exit left onto St Peter's Way. At the next roundabout, again turn left onto Guildford Road. Once you reach the McLaren Technology Centre, exit the roundabout onto Martyrs Lane. Take another left at the end to join the A245, follow it around to the right and then turn right at the roundabout to join Albert Drive. The Leisure Centre is located a little way up the road. For those taking the train, West Byfleet is the nearest station around a 10 minute walk away.



Selsey v Hassocks

Peter Bentley League Cup Second Round
Tuesday 26th September 2023, 7:45pm
Seal Bay Stadium, High Street, Selsey, PO20 0QG
Admission prices £6 adults, £3 concessions, Under 16s free

One week after our trip to Roffey in the RUR Cup, another set of Division One opponents await with a long Tuesday night trip down to Selsey in the second round of the Peter Bentley League Cup.

Selsey this season

Having reached the Division One playoffs last season, Selsey will be hoping to go one better this time around and win promotion back to the Premier Division after an eight year absence. Easier said than done of course, with the league looking fiercely competitive. The Blues currently sit ninth with three wins, two draws and two defeats. An indication of the potential banana skin lying ahead is that Selsey have already eliminated Tooting & Mitcham United from the FA Vase and hammered Pagham 3-0 away from home in the Sussex Senior Cup.

Head-to-head

We were frequent opponents before

Selsey were relegated from the Premier Division in 2015, meeting 54 times in total. The Robins edge the head-to-head with 27 wins to Selsey's 22, leaving only five draws. In terms of the Peter Bentley Cup, there have been two previous clashes resulting in one win apiece. The most recent came in the 2007-08 campaign, Hassocks winning 2-0 away from home despite Dave John getting a call a few hours before kick off to say one of his midfielders would not be able to play having been arrested the previous evening. Can you guess who?

Last time we met

A 6-0 win at the High Street Ground as it was then known in April 2015

secured Premier Division survival for the Robins against the already relegated Blues. Phil Johnson hit a hat-trick and there were goals for Nick Pitcher, Jake Booth and Nathan Miles.

How to get to the Seal Bay Stadium

Follow the A27 to Chichester, joining the by-pass until you reach the third roundabout. Here, take the first exit onto the B2145 towards Selsey. Follow the road all the way into the town, with the car park for the ground being on your right immediately after the Methodist Church.

Robins Awards 2023-24



Starman Awards

Eastbourne Town home **Jack TROAK**
Loxwood away **Joe BULL**
Erith Town home **Joe BULL**
Lingfield home **Josh MUNDY**
Pagham away **Kyle WOOLVEN**
AFC Varndeanians home **Fraser TRIGWELL**
Midhurst & Easebourne home **Liam BENSON**
Shoreham home **Matt GUNN**
Eastbourne United away **Matt GUNN**
AFC Uckfield Town away **Alfie LOVERSIDGE**
AFC Varndeanians home
Roffey away
Sheerwater away
Selsey away
Little Common away
Horsham YMCA home
Crawley Down Gatwick away
AFC Uckfield Town home
Newhaven away
Peacehaven & Telscombe home
Crowborough Athletic away
Eastbourne Town away
Saltdean United home
Bexhill United away
Loxwood home
Lingfield away
Haywards Heath Town home
Shoreham away
AFC Varndeanians away
Little Common home
AFC Uckfield Town away
Pagham home
Peacehaven & Telscombe away
Crowborough Athletic home
Steyning Town home
Midhurst & Easebourne away
Eastbourne United home
Crawley Down Gatwick home
Horsham YMCA away
Haywards Heath Town away
Bexhill United home
Saltdean United away
Newhaven home



Player of the Month

August 2023
1st **Liam BENSON**
2nd **Joe BULL**
3rd **Matt GUNN**

September 2023
1st
2nd
3rd

October 2023
1st
2nd
3rd

November 2023
1st
2nd
3rd

December 2023
1st
2nd
3rd

January 2024
1st
2nd
3rd

February 2024
1st
2nd
3rd

March 2024
1st
2nd
3rd

April 2024
1st
2nd
3rd

HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Most Games



Most Goals

	Starts	Sub	Total	Goals
1. Mickey Turner	573	21	594	63
2. Ashley Marsh	519	6	525	4
3. Chris Hewitt	493	15	508	22
4. Ashley Low	445	30	475	14
5. Anthony Hibbert	407	55	462	124
6. Andy Fisk	445	11	456	14
7. Phil Gault	331	21	352	190
8. James Laing	298	53	351	143
9. Warren Dodds	311	37	348	3
10. Joel Harding	340	0	340	0
11. Paul John	329	0	329	0
12. Richard Thompson	305	19	324	11
13. Robbie Kitchen	284	39	323	123
14. Spencer Slaughter	250	43	293	47
15. Stuart Faith	276	13	289	22
16. James Westlake	241	20	261	31
17. Dave Smith	203	57	260	53
18. Pat Harding	215	34	249	143
19. Joe Fernley	205	40	245	45
20. Neil Smith	232	10	242	68
21. Dan Jacques	201	31	232	9
22. Mark Burnham	209	22	231	44
23. Nathan Miles	156	55	211	74
24. Phil Johnson	163	36	199	100
25. Liam Benson	141	45	186	55

	Goals	Games
1. Phil Gault	190	352
2. Pat Harding	143	249
3. James Laing	143	351
4. Anthony Hibbert	124	462
5. Robbie Kitchen	123	323
6. Phil Johnson	100	199
7. Nathan Miles	74	211
8. Neil Smith	68	242
9. Steve Hards	65	155
10. Mickey Turner	63	594
11. Liam Benson	56	186
12. Dave Smith	53	260
13. Spencer Slaughter	47	293
14. Joe Fernley	45	245
15. Mark Burnham	44	231
16. Matt Amos	38	81
17. Michael Death	38	112
18. Marc Rendall	37	183
19. Andy Burt	35	133
20. Jack Troak	31	125
21. Luke Flomo	31	146
22. James Westlake	31	261
23. Dan Smith	27	63
24. Jamie Hillwood	25	124
25. Stuart Faith	22	289





Player Sponsorship 2023-24

Basic: £40 per player

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Sponsor announcement on social media

Premium: £60 per player

Sponsor name in matchday programme alongside player

Sponsor announcement on social media

Gift & photo with your player if they win Player of the Month

Framed team photo of 2023-24 first team squad

To secure your favourite player or for more information, please speak to Owen behind the bar or email hassocksfc@outlook.com

Player Sponsors 2023-24



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SAM FERNLEY



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PHIL JOHNSON

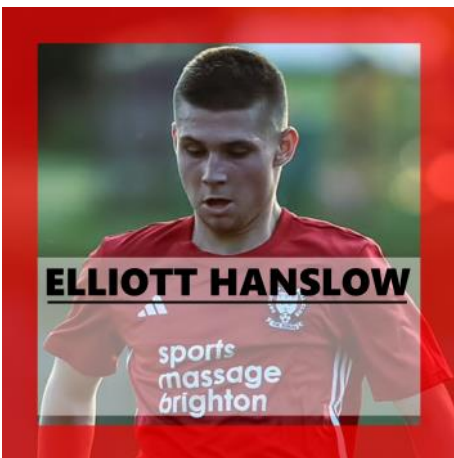
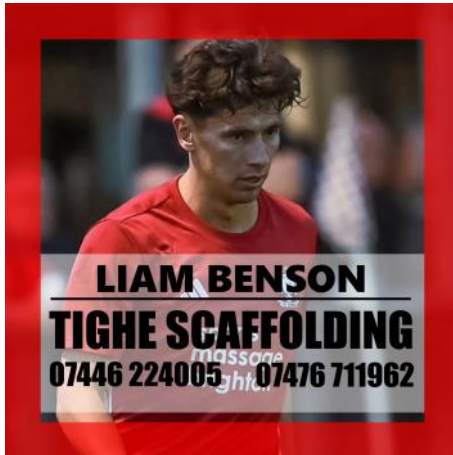
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Player Sponsors 2023-24



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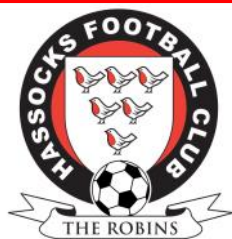
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Today's Teams



HASSOCKS

Fraser TRIGWELL	
Harvey BLAKE	
Joe BULL	
Alex BYGRAVES	
Bradley TIGHE	
Matt GUNN	
Sam SMITH	
Mike WILLIAMSON	
James WESTLAKE	
Josh MUNDY	
Jamie WILKES	
Tom FRANKLAND	
Sam GEARD	
Alfie LOVERSIDGE	
Alex FAIR	
Kyle WOOLVEN	
Pat HARDING	
Sean STEPHENSON	
Liam BENSON	
Alex BREWER	

Head Coach James Westlake

Assistants Tom Hughes & Jordan Wilson

Goalkeeper Coach Tim Edwards

Physio Jay Patel

Physio Ash Cooper

Physio Phil Wickwar

Next at the Beacon



Horsham YMCA

Southern Combination Premier Division
Tuesday 3rd October 2023. 7:45pm



AFC VARNDEANIANS

Jordan HAWKINS	
Adam BUKLEB	
Owen BENFELL	
Adam DAWSON	
Marley BIGG	
Alfie MARCHANT	
Omar BUKLEB	
Taylor EDWARDS	
Sam ROGERS	
Alfie PROTO GATES	
Jamie GROVES	
Oscar PINNOCK	
Lawrence EDWARDS	
Harry PRATT	
Matt WATERMAN	
Max VARDY	
Jude WALLIS	
George MAYBURY	
Ryan DAWSON	
Oli BARTON-HAGUE	

Referee
Daniel Jeffrey

Assistants
Peter Izard &
Paul Saunders

Manager Justin Jones

Assistant Paul Etteridge

Assistant Lawrence Edwards

Physio Dave Bridges

Match Secretary Martin Waner

Today's other Premier Division games

Bexhill United v Lingfield

Crawley Down Gatwick v Little Common

Crowborough Athletic v Midhurst

Loxwood v Eastbourne Town

Newhaven v Shoreham

Pagham v AFC Uckfield Town

Saltdean United v Haywards Heath Town



Keep abreast of The Robins

For the latest news and updates from The Beacon



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