

DORKING 25/26 WANDERERS B



VS
SALTDEAN UNITED

JANUARY 3rd 2026
KICK OFF - 3pm



CHARLIE'S NOTES

Good Afternoon Wanderers,

From myself and on behalf of the management team, players and volunteers, we wish you a Happy New Year and welcome you to Meadowbank for this afternoon's Southern Combination Division One fixture against Saltdean United - our first fixture of 2026!

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the committee, management, players and volunteers from Saltdean travelling across from East Sussex for today's game. We hope you enjoy your visit.

Following the disappointment of the narrow 2-3 defeat to Selsey on December 20th, we signed off 2025 emphatically last weekend with a 10-2 defeat of Copthorne at Meadowbank. It was an afternoon where we were able to welcome a few academy players now part of the first team set-up back to the matchday squad - Joshua Hebert, Jake Lawrence and Seb Tauta-Caballero. The trio showed their class on the day, Jake ultimately taking the Station View Garage Man Of The Match after scoring 4 goals in the game, and as always when we welcome boys back who have progressed within the club, it's a really positive experience for our regular players, who can benefit from playing alongside and seeing the type of consistency and standards required to ascend further up the pathway within the club.

Samuel N'Cho again impressed in the wider position last weekend and scored a hat-trick, and I was pleased for central midfielder Cristiano Barreca coming off the bench to grab the last two goals of the match, continuing to demonstrate his progression in recent weeks.

In a game of such dominance it was of course disappointing to not keep a clean sheet and concede two goals - it was a stark reminder that with only a few cleans recorded so far in 25/26, it's an area we must improve upon with the second half of the season now under way.

We welcome a Saltdean side who are just a point behind us in the standings and, like us, will no doubt be looking to push up the table in 2026. After the 1-1 draw back in September, we know it will be a tough contest to kick off the New Year.

Thank you for your continuing support - let's get 2026 off to a winning start!

Charlie

MONDAY

MONDAY



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SALTDEAN UNITED

Saltdean United formed in 1966 by seven founding members who were inspired by the victorious England World Cup campaign. The club started life in the local Brighton Saturday League and gradually moved up their divisional structure over the years.

Following the acquisition of their picturesque ground at Hill Park in the suburbs of Brighton, the club joined Division 3 of the Sussex County League in 1984/85, finishing third in their first season. More success followed and a promotion to Division 2 and senior football came in 1988/89 when Saltdean finished as champions. The next seven seasons were spent in this division, with the "Tigers" comfortably winning Division 2 in 1995/96 with games to spare.

Promotion to Division 1 saw the clubhouse completely revamped and floodlights installed, the first Sussex County League club to invest in the impressive Musco system from the USA. The Tigers quickly established themselves as a force in the top division, finishing 4th in their inaugural season and reaching the final of the Sussex Senior Cup only to narrowly lose out to St. Leonards by the odd goal.

In 1998/99 the club finished 2nd, and 3rd in 1999/2000 season when they also lifted the John O'Hara Cup, beating Burgess Hill Town after extra time in a thrilling match at Three Bridges.

SALTDEAN UNITED

In 2002 the club suffered its first ever relegation to Division 2 and in 2007 were relegated again back to Division 3 where they remained for several years until 2011 when the club won the Sussex County League Division 3 Challenge Cup.

A positive run in 2011/12 season saw the Tigers show their true spirit as they began the steady climb back up. As runners up in the league they were promoted back to Division 2 and lifted the Vernon Wentworth Cup.

A difficult period followed, with several years spent in the lower half of Division 2 until the 2015/16 season when a change a of circumstances, interest and investment in the club brought a new lease of life to the Tigers. Led by a celebrated ex player with the support of local businessmen the club was transformed on and off the pitch. Within a single season Saltdean Utd went from bottom to top of the league gaining promotion back to the top flight of Sussex football in 2017 and in 2018/19 the Tigers were the proud winners of the Peter Bentley League Challenge Cup.

In 2017 the Saltdean United Women's team were formed under the management of Joe McTiffen. The Women have gone from strength to strength and have enjoyed several promotions in a short period of time. As runners up of the Sussex Women's league in 2017/18, they were promoted to the South East Counties Premier Division. In 2018/19 as runners up in the league they were promoted to the London and South East Premier Division and were winners of the South East Counties Women's League Cup.

SALTDEAN UNITED

Into a new decade and the Men's First Team enjoyed a strong start to the 2020/21 season in the Southern Combination Football League Premier Division before the season was curtailed due to Covid-19. The 2021/22 season saw another strong finish for the Men's First Team as runners up in the league and the Sussex RUR Cup, missing out narrowly on both titles. Despite finishing second in the league, Saltdean missed out on promotion to step 4 due to not meeting the FA Ground Grading requirements.

The 2022/23 season saw a new young side put together under the management of Bradley Sweetman. The Tigers made a good start and held their own in a very difficult division for an inexperienced side. After hovering above the relegation places for most of the year, a difficult decision to relieve Brad of his duties was made, with Joe McTiffen coming in to take the reins for the last six games, assisted by Paul Stokes. The Tigers finished the season by winning three, drawing one and losing the other two. This saw us comfortably confirm our place in the Premier division for another season after finishing six points clear from relegation.

The 2023/24 season saw Kieran Ridley begin his reign as the men's manager and although it was a difficult season, the men finished the campaign nine points clear of relegation. The women's section had a historic year with the 1st team reaching the 1st round proper of the FA cup, and the development squad winning a fantastic treble which saw them gain promotion in to tier 6.

WANDERERS B

Manager - Charlie Dunne

SQUAD

Sam Allison (GK)
Cameron Sturman (GK)
Louie Sullivan (GK)

Finley Abbott
Rubens Andrade
Bertie Baker
Cristiano Barreca
Leo Bines
Tom Bland
Bruno Dackombe
Donny Daniels
Barney Dowling-Campbell
Chris Ewen
Donnell Fitzgerald
Luca Fulco
Dillon Grass
Max Holland
Gabriel Jacks
Elliott Lanaway
Liam Manby
Finley McIntyre
James McLeod
Noah Moore
Emmanuel N'Cho
Samuel N'Cho
Finley Powell
Miguel Rodriguez
Miles Straker
Ted Sullivan
Blaise Weller

SALTDEAN UNITED

Manager - Lawrence Edwards

SQUAD

Shay Hollobone (GK)

Marley Ambler
Lewis Barr
Thai Beebee
Joe Boland
Ed Bradley
Jordan Burstow
Sam Dunstall
Alfie Edmeads
Reece Edwards
Archie Jutton
Ben Kirk-Patrick
Fin Lambert
Theo Maryon
Louis McMahon
Frankie Osborne
Corby Ovenden
Alex Patching
Toby Reeder
Herbie Rogers
Josh Sudan
Beau Sullivan
Jayden Tant
Declan Torgersen
Dan Tyler-Dibley
Ben Whitmore
Aaron Winser
Charlie Yeates
Kacper Ziolkowski