

SEASIDERS



THE OFFICIAL 2025/26 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME SPONSORED BY:

CASE

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

VS
**CONCORD
RANGERS**
SAT 15TH NOVEMBER, 3:03PM



VICE CHAIRMAN: **ANDY CLARKE**



Good afternoon and a warm welcome to players, officials, and supporters for today's Isthmian League clash against Concord Rangers.

Our visitors have made a steady start to the season, sitting in a respectable 9th position, having amassed 24 points to date.

Once again, this is a fixture where the boys will need to remain focused, showing 100% work rate, concentration, and commitment. We've seen it time and time again at this level that, on their day, anyone can compete and take points.



It looked very much that way last week as we visited Walthamstow. On paper, three points – however, it's a ground where we've historically struggled over the years, and last week proved to be no different. On a heavy, bumpy pitch, it was never going to be one for the purists, with our opponents never allowing the boys to settle or get into any sort of rhythm.

We took the lead with Tom heading home at the far post before Walthamstow equalised before half-time. Even at the break, it was all to play for. It's a testament to the lads, with Jack and Stu ensuring the work rate remained high until the very end – and we were rewarded with a Sam Ford 70th-minute winner, a cool finish under pressure. Everything was thrown at the boys, but we came away with all three points – and, on the balance of play, just about deservedly so.



On to Tuesday, as we took to the road looking to retain the Premier Cup, facing a potential banana skin at Cornard. Changes were made as the management shuffled the pack, giving minutes and rests where needed. An early goal from Jose, quickly followed by Jacob grabbing a second, should have eased the nerves. However, Cornard huffed and puffed, and a long-range effort that looked to be heading straight to Harry took an extraordinary bobble and ended up in the net, 1–2 at the break.

As the game went on, our fitness and ball retention began to pay dividends as we pushed for a third, which eventually came from the skipper with a close-range header. Semi-final, here we come – one more game and the possibility of a third consecutive final!



I try not to pick out individuals too often, but just a couple of quick mentions: Harry Wright – what can you say? Some of the saves he's made this season have been nothing short of outstanding. His shot-stopping is by far the best I've witnessed at this level, and it must give the whole side a massive confidence boost having 'Golden Gloves' behind them. Added to that, I've been most impressed with Toby this season. With a full pre-season behind him, we're really seeing his true potential and talent.

Next up, a trip down the A14 as the minibus full of the red and white army heads off to Mildenhall – where, one game at a time, the challenge continues.

Enjoy the game,
Andy

NEXT MATCH

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STUART ***AINSLEY***



Good afternoon and welcome to the Martello Ground for today's league game against Concord Rangers. We're expecting another tough test and know we'll need to perform well to earn three points today.

I would also like to welcome the coaches, parents and players of our Under 10's Red and Whites as mascots today, we hope they enjoy the day and can cheer us on to three points!

Since my last set of notes we've had three different types of wins, a 3-0 at home to Brightlingsea which I thought for the first 20 minutes or so we rode our luck and really didn't start the game well, but responded a lot better after that period and were well worthy of the win. We then went to Walthamstow and picked up a 2-1 win, another really gritty performance in the end in which their keeper kept them in the game in the first half, they are a good side and their league position is false in my opinion. We then went onto Cornard on Tuesday night for the Premier Cup Quarter Final, a trophy which we're desperate to try and retain. We knew it wasn't going to be pretty on a really difficult surface but again the lads did enough to come away with a convincing 3-1 win, with the goal

we conceded taking the worst bounce. I've seen for a long time.

We've also recently welcomed Jose De La Paz and Jack Wilkinson into the squad, two very good players at this level who will only improve our squad and we're really looking forward to working with them. A little update on our injury front, Callum Bennett is going for a scan on his knee next week and things aren't looking promising unfortunately, Joe Whight should be returning to contact training in the next few days and Noel Aitkens also isn't too far away from full fitness. Dan Gilchrist is seeing a hand specialist next week for an update on his fractured wrist which hopefully is recovering well.

I would also like to mention the fantastic evening my family and I had at the fireworks last weekend, full credit to the guys behind the scenes putting on a great evening for our community with over 600 people in attendance and many more outside the ground!

A final message for Paul Secker who is recovering at home, we hope to see you back at the club fighting fit as soon as possible Paul!

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Enjoy the game
Stu





SEASIDER: **PHIL GRIFFITHS**



Not many people know this...

On Tuesday it was a touch of nostalgia for long term supporters with the trip to Cornard United, it's now 20 years since the Blackhouse Lane club were a regular fixture on the Seasiders calendar and who knows, it may be another 20 years before they are back on the football calendar again.

One of my two lasting memories of games at Cornard was the year we signed Alan Brazil, who some of you may have heard of in passing. Let's say Alan would be best described as 'not at his peak' in the few games he played for us and the game at Cornard was not his best game for us, but lovely guy, always a lively addition to any dressing room.

The second, goes all the way back to what might have been our first visit to the club in the early 1990's when we (the committee) arrived pre-match and asked if there was any chance of a cuppa, there was six of us, and after some grunts and groans six plastic cups of teas were produced, just as another of our committee turned up and

asked if he might possibly have one, only to be told, we had already had six and that was all they had to supply. Instead of getting upset we all started laughing and another cup arrived fairly sharply, someone other than the 'waiter' realised how it looked and in fairness we had a good afternoon from that moment and were well looked after.

We now have a semi-final to look forward to in the New Year on our quest to retain the trophy.

Today it's back to the main business against a side we have only met twice before, both last season in this competition. Joint boss Jack Ainsley should be pleased to see our opponents as he managed to score both home and away last season, they look a stronger outfit this time round, drawing with Tilbury in midweek and sitting ninth in the table at the start of play.

C'mon you Seasiders!



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A photograph of three men standing in a pub. The man on the left is wearing a grey jacket and a red scarf with 'THE ST' and 'Felixstowe & Walton Utd AFC' printed on it. The man in the middle is wearing a black jacket over a red sweater. The man on the right is wearing a black quilted jacket with a 'B' and 'CKHEAD' logo. They are all smiling. The background shows a pub interior with a bar and other patrons.

PLANES, TRAINS & AWAY DAYS

BY NEIL EDWARDS

Hi everyone, and welcome to the latest instalment of our away day reviews, bringing you the highs and lows of the "Away Day" experience following our club Felixstowe & Walton Utd around the country.

A few days after the impressive County Cup victory over AFC Sudbury it was back to league action, and a new ground for most, if not all, visiting Seasiders today as we travel to the home of Cambridge City, The FWD-IP Community Stadium. The Lilywhites had been living a nomadic existence since leaving their Milton Road home in 2013, sharing twice with both Histon and St. Ives. Their new home hosted its first competitive match, a home defeat to Tilbury, as recently as the final day of November 2024.

The alarm sounded at 06:30 and within 5 minutes I was quietly (I believe) getting myself organised for the day. It is at this point that I probably should give a shout-out to Gabi, my significant other, my better half, my rock. Behind every man is a great woman, as the saying goes, and this is certainly the case for me. You see, every

weekday, Monday to Friday, Gabi spends the first 30-45 minutes of her day trying to get both me and our 8 year old son George out of our respective sleep comas and into a civilised state, fit to mix outdoors with society. She brings me up a cup of tea, tunes the wireless to Capital Radio with Jordan, Chris and Sian, slowly and gradually opens the curtains, general chit-chat, that sort of thing. George and I are not morning people. So, I can only imagine what must go through her mind when Saturday comes, and I am in the bathroom at 06:35 and it's me offering to make the cuppas!!!

It was just me and Lorro at the train station today. Our usual travelling companions were absent for a variety of reasons, including work, dog sitting and 5-day beanos with the CAMRA boys in Nottingham. We decided on the 07:28 train as the line between Needham Market and Bury St. Edmunds was due to be impacted for a few hours from late morning, so we were anticipating a relatively quiet early journey from Ipswich. These hopes were soon dashed when we heard the guard announce that following overnight theft of some cabling in the Ilford

area, all London bound trains would terminate at Shenfield and that passengers for the capital and beyond should travel via Cambridge to Kings Cross.

On arrival at Ipswich, we headed over the bridge to platform 3 in the hope that our connection was ready and waiting. Sadly, it was not, but we were greeted for the second time this season by Billy Hollands dad and had a good natter about all things Billy. Our train, which began its journey in Harwich, soon arrived and Lorro and I managed to grab a table amongst the throng of theatre goers and University open day attendees that were having to go the long way round to reach their destination.

At Stowmarket, we were joined at our table by an 85 year old gentleman, and chatting to this man was the most humbling of experiences. He was going to visit his wife in Addenbrookes Hospital, where she is recovering from a stroke. He has made this journey every day for the past 9 weeks. After chatting about his wife and daily routine the subject naturally turned to football, and he took great pride in telling us that he is an ex-referee that reached the highest level of the game and had fond memories of Ipswich Town over the years. He delighted in telling us that he once took charge of a feisty Sheffield Utd v Sheffield Wednesday steel city derby at Bramall Lane in the old League Division 2.

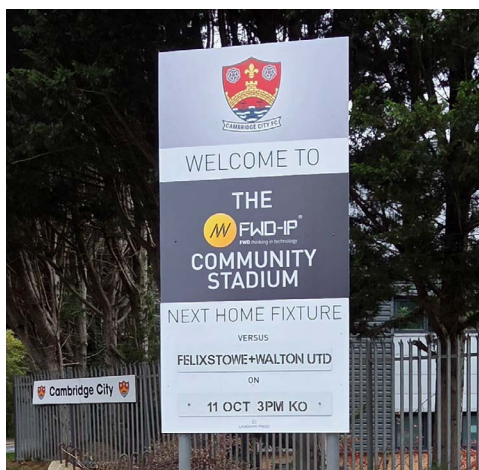
Engrossed in the tales of yesteryear, we soon arrived into Cambridge, and my intention of helping ex-referee John to the taxi rank soon disappeared as he was up and away before you could say VAR. Despite his senior years and using a stick for balance, he needed no help from us. I expect after doing the journey daily for 9 weeks he knows exactly where to sit on the train to get to the taxi rank ahead of the masses.

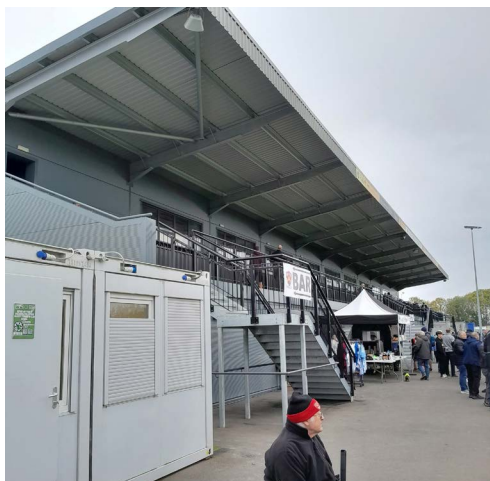
Having been to Cambridge a few times recently, including 3 visits to The Corn Exchange on Wheeler Street to see Paul Weller, Ocean Colour Scene and From The Jam, as well as a rather forgetful League One fixture between Cambridge United and Lincoln City last season, the route towards the city centre was a well-trodden one. We soon found ourselves at The Regal on St

Andrews Street, another of J D Wetherspoons no frills establishments, but perfect for our needs on a Saturday morning.

We ignored all of the more comfortable tables and chairs tightly packed in to the three levels of this impressive former cinema, a venue graced over the years by the likes of The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Kinks, Manfred Mann and The Bee Gees, and decided a high table and tall chairs near the bar would suit us more. A lovely 2-3 hours of cheap beer, a more than adequate full English breakfast, and lots of football talk is certainly a good way to spend a Saturday morning. We were joined briefly by our old friend, Felixstowe exile and QPR fan Andrew Urquhart. Erky has lived in Cambridge for some years now and still comes back home from time to time to see his dear mum. He has yet to find his way to Delwood Avenue this side of the millennium though but has vowed to put that right sooner rather than later. As we departed the pub, we asked the youngsters at the nearest table if they would kindly take a quick photo of us for posterity. As we thanked them and prepared to leave, I told them we were Right Said Fred and to Google us. I really hope they did!!

The No. 7 bus to Saffron Walden was our chosen method of transport to Sawston. We told the driver we had no idea where our stop was, so she kindly told us she would give us a shout when we arrived. A pleasant enough journey





south via the hospital grounds and in no time at all (if 22 minutes is a loose definition of no time) we were off the bus and walking along leafy Cambridgeshire streets and into an industrial estate. Hardly the stuff that evokes childhood memories of seeing a new football ground for the first time. There were no tall floodlight pylons to guide us, no smell of burgers and fried onions. There was instead commercial units and industrial sized recycling bins, and a small trickle of cars heading, thankfully, in the same direction as we were walking. But its home for Cambridge City, and for that we are all thankful, no club should be without a ground of their own.

Upon exiting the turnstile block, it really was a lovely sight. Nice clean stands behind each goal and on the far side, and a very impressive main stand that will one day be the focal point of this famous old club. I say one day because now, only the seated outer shell of the stand is operational. The inside of the building has only recently started to be fitted out, getting the ground open to spectators was the priority. This means that the large, concreted area in front of the stand is mainly populated by club merchandise stands, food outlets and temporary toilet blocks, with the clubhouse in a prefabricated building next to the stand.

We found Mistley John, dog-sitting duties concluded and having driven up from Essex in plenty of time for kick-off and positioned ourselves behind the goal we were attacking. The game itself was a decent affair, with Tom Warren giving Felixstowe & Walton a deserved first half lead, a goal John missed as he was off getting an Algerian burger.

After the break, Cambridge threatened to equalise, but as has been the pattern for most of the season so far, the back line proved to be impenetrable, with Harry Wright again defying logic with some outstanding saves. Any visiting nerves were put to bed 2 minutes from time with Toby finding the net with a free kick from just outside the box. Game over, and another thoroughly deserved 3 points to take back to



the Suffolk coast. The only sour note from today was injuries to Billy and Noel, both guys coming off in the final 20 minutes or so and both looking to be in some discomfort.

Mistley John kindly offered to give us a lift back to Cambridge train station, but we declined as that is in the wrong direction entirely for him, but we did settle on a lift to the bus stop instead. I said my farewells to a few supporters waiting to board the coach, which possibly went on longer than necessary, as John casually remarked when I finally got in his car that he could have been back home by now!!

The bus journey was shared with a lovely fella called Glen (or Glenn, he never specified) who happens to be the tannoy announcer at Cambridge City, so a bit like Steve Foley but with a university education. Glen was very insightful about all things Cambridge and shared some lovely stories of bygone days, before we parted ways at the train station. Glen was heading to Kings Cross, and then to his home in Croydon, whilst Lorro and I were briefed by the Croydon Crooner as to the location of 2 pubs/bars close to the station, as our train was not due to depart until 1846. The first bar we peered in was not for us. It had noise and loud "young persons" music blasting through the open windows. We settled for a

lovely beer at The Old Ticket Office bar before heading across the road to the shop to stock up on provisions for the journey home.

If we thought our day was reaching a quiet conclusion, we were sadly mistaken. The journey to Ipswich was pleasant enough. We noticed that after the 18:46 departure there was another train departing at 19:01, so we decided to get the slightly later one instead. This was perfect as we had a near empty carriage, and as the train pulled into Newmarket station there wasn't even any tail-end race goers which was a bonus. Don't get me wrong, we'll chat to anyone, but fatigue was knocking at our doors, especially for Lorro, having come to the game straight off a night shift. We got the 20:58 train for Felixstowe, for the final leg of our 15-hour day, for a 90-minute game of football played 70 miles away.

Just before the approach to Westerfield station, the train stopped. It soon became evident it was not a red light, and as we were sat next to the cab at the end of the train, we were able to overhear the comms between the driver and train HQ. Points failure. Not the sort of points failure that our friends over at Brantham have to deal with on a weekly basis, but the sort that instantly made us realise that this train is not moving any time soon. In fact, the next time it moved it was back





whence it came, as we returned to Ipswich, with all services to FXT now cancelled until further notice.

Rather than now being home and relaxed, we instead found ourselves waiting at the customer service desk for a taxi, one of 3 or 4 that the huffing and perspiring customer service clerk was begrudgingly having to organise. I did tell him on more than one occasion that we were personal friends with Mr Holland and should really be afforded priority, but sadly as we were last off the train it appeared we would be in the last taxi to arrive. That last line should not really be required, as outside Ipswich station we counted 14 taxis that were stood idle waiting for fares. Inside the station, around 12-15 passengers were waiting for taxis to arrive. It was at this point I remembered that in a couple of hours or so, the control of Greater Anglia was being transferred back to public ownership, as part of the renationalisation of the railways. It was almost as if Greater Anglia were spending every last pound left in the kitty and reminded me of the time the out-going Labour Treasury Minister Liam Byrne(*) left a note for his replacement after the 2010 General Election defeat which read.....Dear Chief Secretary, I'm afraid there is no money left.

Eventually, a taxi with our name on it did arrive, although the driver was reluctant to let us in until he had verified we were the correct passengers.

I think the cabbie may have had shares in Tesla as he spent most of the journey telling us all about the positives of owning a fully electric car. We just wanted to talk about the likely starting XI for the huge match in a weeks' time against Maldon & Tiptree, should Billy and Noel be unavailable. The cabbie won, they can talk for England, so we listened politely to his 14 positives of going green.

I finally got home around 11pm, around 90 minutes later than expected. Gabi was still up, and a cup of tea was waiting for me. It's true what they say about great women.

Thanks for reading
Up the Seaside

Please note there is a WhatsApp group available for supporters to join to discuss all things Felixstowe & Walton Utd. If you would like to join, please send your name and number to 07904 180225 to receive an invite link. Away match day plans are also discussed on this page, so if you are travelling independently, looking for a car share, or would like to go with other supporters this is a good place to start.

TODAY'S MASCOTS

Today we welcome Felixstowe and Walton United Under 10's Red and White teams as mascots for the game against Concord Rangers. The Reds are sponsored by Brinor and the Whites are sponsored by CP Transport and Green Space Landscape & Gardening.



FELIXSTOWE & WALTON UNITED

Ford (P), Hitter, Ford, Lay

TAKELEY

4
0

Saturday 1st November
Isthmian League North
Photos: Stefan Peck

LINE UP: Wright, Caley-Brown, Warren
Holland (C), Ainsley, Cullum, Gilchrist
Hitter, Ford, Brown, Garcia

SUBS: Lay, Santa De La Paz, Mayhew
Aitkens, Ottley-Gooch











OUR SQUAD

Introducing the Felixstowe
& Walton United playing squad
and management team of
2025/2026



JACK AINSLEY
PLAYER/MANAGER
Travis Perkins



STUART AINSLEY
MANAGER
Pat Haseman, Chris & Jayne Ryan



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COACH
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STUART STEVENSON
FITNESS COACH
Shirley Ainsley



ALEX EGELTON
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JOE WHIGHT
DEFENDER
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DEFENDER
Les Soall



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SEASIDERS PEN PICS

MANAGEMENT

Jack Ainsley – Manager

Rejoined for a second spell at the club from Stowmarket in 2023. Jack played professionally for ITFC after coming through their academy and went on to make four appearances playing under Roy Keane. Jack went on to have spells at Step 2 with Lowestoft and Step 3 with Leiston but is back at the Seaside as player/joint manager with brother Stuart.

Stuart Ainsley – Manager

Stuart joined the club for his second spell in 2014 from Lowestoft Town. Previous clubs include Chelmsford City, Canvey Island and AFC Sudbury. Stuart spent ten years at Ipswich Town, winning the FA Youth Cup in 2005. Having spent the last 11 years playing for Felixstowe, began his management career alongside brother Jack in May 2025.

Stuart Stevensen – Fitness Coach

After hanging up his boots Stuart joined Felixstowe Utd as a fitness coach/physio, then on to Trimley to help coach his son's team from the U8s-U16s. Stuart rejoined the Seaside to coach the U18s which lead him on to being part of the first team staff. Stuart is an FA level 2 coach and an FA level 1 mentor.



Leon Ottley-Gooch – First Team Coach

Leon signed for the club in 2020 and is another vastly experienced player at step 3 and 4 level. Previous clubs include Leiston, Bury Town, Hadleigh Utd and Stowmarket Town. Leon is very versatile but is predominantly a dynamic midfielder player. Was appointed first team coach in May 2025.

John Abbott – Physio

John is a vastly experienced physio, qualifying in 1992 and dedicating 37 years to the NHS. Previous football clubs include Enfield Town, Tottenham and Stevenage before taking early retirement to move to Felixstowe, where he joined the seaside in October 2024.

Alex Egelton – Goalkeeper Coach/Coach

Alex returned to Felixstowe last season having spent many years coaching within the youth and reserve setups at the club. Alex heads up the Goalkeeping section of the club and works with





the Youth section right through to the Seniors and is an important member of the First Team Management structure.

Doug French - Kit Man

Doug started his career in 1986 and played for East Anglian Customs, Walton United, Felixstowe United and Tattingstone, breaking his leg four times in the process. Whilst playing for Ipswich Wanderers vets, Doug finally hung up his boots. Having found his vocation in washing players dirty pants, Doug is excited for another season with the Seaside.

GOALKEEPER

Harry Wright

Harry started his career as a professional at Ipswich Town and left there in 2021 where he then went on to play for Fleetwood Town and Bury before

joining the Seaside in the summer of 2024. He has quickly become a firm fans favourite and works within the clubs Academy system.

DEFENDERS

Joe Whight

Joe came through the ITFC Youth system before playing for the likes of Needham, Bury and most recently AFC Sudbury where he captained their side. A left sided defender, Joe offers composure, a wonderful left foot and a toughness and desire to defend to the back line.

Ollie Caley-Brown

Ollie was signed in the summer of 2024 from neighbours AFC Sudbury and has played in recent years for Stowmarket and Leiston. An energetic and attacking full back who loves to get forward and create chances and with a wealth of higher level experience to boot.

Hugh Cullum

Hugh is a local lad who left Felixstowe's youth system and progressed through the Needham Market Academy. Hugh signed back with his local club in the summer of 2024 and has immediately impressed with his consistent and confident defending.

Hugo Akhuseyin

Hugo is an academy graduate that is now starting to flourish with his progression into the first team squad. A tough tackling and tenacious defender who likes to get forward.



Toby Stevenson

Ex-professional Toby scored a hat-trick on his debut for Charlton Athletic at 18 years old, the strong centre back or left back's previous clubs include Leyton Orient, Watford, Billericay and Braintree. An excellent defender at this level after joining the seashiders in early 2025.

Jack Wilkinson

Jack joined the Seashiders in October after having had a break from the game. He offers huge experience and versatility as a defender or midfielder which is a great asset to have in the squad, previous clubs include Stowmarket, AFC Sudbury and Needham Market.

Thomas Warren

Tom signed for the club in the summer of 2024 from Hadleigh United and played his first season for the Seashiders alongside his brother Charlie. Tom is an Athletic, strong and pacy full back or winger with a fantastic left foot and keen eye for a goal, scoring an impressive 17 goals in his debut season.

Callum Bennett

Callum returns to the club in 2025 after a brief spell away. Grew up at Ipswich Town Academy before spending a year at Notts County, returning back to local football with Bury Town in 2013, before signing for Felixstowe in 2014. Callum is in the top five for appearances made in the club's history.





MIDFIELDERS

Billy Holland

Billy started life at Ipswich Wanderers and has had spells at Needham, Leiston and AFC Sudbury. He's established himself as a mainstay in the centre of midfield. Players player and Supporters player of the year for the 22/23 season led to him being appointed captain the following year.

Josh Hitter

Josh signed for us in 2021 having played his football at Step 3 side Leiston for the previous three seasons and gained a vast amount of experience at that level. Josh is a dynamic attack minded player who likes to arrive in the box late and score goals.

Noel Aitkens

Noel's signing for the club in 2020 caused a stir amongst the non-league world, joining from step 3 Leiston and being described as "the best midfielder in this area". Noel is quick, strong, can tackle, is athletic and can really play football!

Ethan Garcia

Ethan signed for Felixstowe in the summer of 2025 after a two year spell with Walsham Le Willows where he impressed many at step 5. Only playing football for four years, a tricky winger with an eye for goal.

Olly Martin

Olly is a product of the clubs academy after more than ten years in the youth set up. An energetic and committed midfielder with an eye for a pass.

FORWARDS

Sam Ford

Having spent a successful period with Arbroath that saw them just miss out on promotion to the Scottish Premiership, Sam spent the Summer with Hume City FC in Australia before returning to Felixstowe in 2022. Coming through ITFC and later West Ham's academy, Sam is a local talent who will provide real firepower in front of goal.

Josh Mayhew

Josh joined us from promotion winners AFC Sudbury. An experienced front man who has

been prolific at Step 4 and 5 with an impressive spell at Stowmarket yielding 136 goals in 173 games. Josh's physical presence brings a focal point to our attack as well as a being natural finisher who is a proven goalscorer at this level.

Zak Brown

A sought after and highly rated young striker with blistering pace and a great goal scoring record. At just 17, Zak penned a two year pro contract with ITFC where he was a regular marksman in the U23's. Zak started life in the Seasiders Youth sections and has returned to lead the forward line as the clubs No. 9.



Dan Gilchrist

Dan's non league career started at Canvey Island before relocating to Suffolk where he went onto play for AFC Sudbury in the FA Cup First Round, before moving onto Bury Town and Thetford where he had two impressive goalscoring seasons. A hard working attacking player with an eye for goal.

Jacob Lay

Jacob rejoins the club for his second spell, after leaving in 2020, Jacob has gained promotion from step 3 and played at step 2 last season for Needham Market. A tricky winger who has huge energy and workrate.

Jose Santa De La Paz

Signed for the club in October 2025. Jose is a quick and powerful winger or striker with an eye for goal and assists, with previous clubs including Newmarket Market, Bury Town, Needham Market and Ipswich Wanderers.





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BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT

3

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Saturday 1st November
Isthmian League North
Photos: Stefan Peck

LINE UP: Wright, Caley-Brown, Warren
Holland (C), Stevenson, Cullum, Lay
Hitter, Ford, Brown, Garcia

SUBS: Ainsley, Santa De La Paz, Mayhew
Akhuseyin, Ottley-Gooch









THE OTHER SIDE: CONCORD RANGERS FC



Concord Rangers began life as a team of boys headed by Steve Lant playing friendly matches during 1966 on a pitch along the Canvey Island seafront close to the Concord Beach (hence the name Concord Rangers and the nickname The Beach Boys). In 1967 Albert Lant, Steve's father and current Club President, became the team manager and took the club into competitive football. The club initially joined the Thundermite Boys Football League, before moving into the Vange and District League in 1973 where they won several league and cup honours. Concord became the first winners of the Essex Sunday Junior Trophy in 1979, managed then by Chris Crierie, by beating Bishops Park 4-0, with the final being played at Tiptree FC. Saturday football was introduced to the club shortly after when Concord joined the Mid Essex League and played their home games at Waterside Farm on Canvey Island.

In 1985 Concord secured some land at the end of Thames Road, Canvey Island, using that land to develop the clubhouse and ground with current club treasurer Jack Smith being the mastermind behind the project. Jack organised the funds, labour & materials and worked many hours on the site. A special mention also goes to the late Clive Smith (Jack's brother) as without Clive's machinery and labour Concord's pitch would not exist, also Martin Gill, Steve Barnes, Brian Godfrey, Lee and John Slater, Rob Fletcher, Pat Bennett, Roger Tipthorpe, Barry Clark, Tony Ing and many more all contributed.

Further success came the Beach Boys way in 1988/89 as they joined the Essex Intermediate League and became Divisional League & Cup Winners that year. Two years later Concord Rangers made the step up to the Essex Senior League where they spent a total of 17 seasons.



In 1991 club founder Albert Lant retired as chairman after 25 years at the helm to become Club President, with Jack Smith taking over for two years. Grant Beglan became Chairman when Jack stood down, but like his predecessor only held the role for 2 years. A number of Chairmen held the role from 1995 & in 1998 the club was languishing at the bottom of the Essex Senior League, the youth section had been disbanded and the bar licence had not been renewed meaning no revenue could be made for the club.

Former Chairman Jack Smith's son Antony decided to step in and put a new committee together along with a plan to put the club back on its feet. Antony is very hands-on in his approach, which has helped guide the club through recent successes and the development on both the playing side & with the ground/facilities.

Under the guidance of manager Colin McBride, the Beach Boys won the Essex Senior League Cup in 1997 after beating Ford United 1-0, and the following season under Lee Patterson won the Essex Senior League Championship for the first time. Further cup success came during the 1999/2000 season with former player Steve Knott in charge as Concord beat Burnham Ramblers 3-2 to win the Harry Fisher Memorial Trophy. League success followed soon after as under manager Brain Horne the club finished as Essex Senior League runners up in 2002/03, and then won the league the following season with Ben Embury at the helm. It was during that 2003/04 season that striker Danny Heale won the Don Douglas trophy for being the leagues top scorer, notching up 32 goals for Concord Rangers.

As Concord Rangers began their 40 th Anniversary season in 2007/08, Danny Scopes and Danny Cowley become joint managers of the club. Concord ended the season winners of the Essex Senior League, and were Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy winners along with Essex Senior League Cup Finalists.

Concord also reached the Quarter-final of the FA Vase that year. Club President Albert Lant won an outstanding achievement award from the Essex County Football Association for 40 years unbroken service to Concord Rangers.



Having gained promotion from the Essex Senior League the club would have been happy with a mid table finish in their Ryman League Div 1 North debut in 2008/09, but expectations were exceeded as the two Dannys led Concord to a 5th place finish.

This highlighted how both managers could really get the best out of the players. Beating East Thurrock United in the Playoff Semi-Final set up a final vs Waltham Abbey, in which Concord led with 10 minutes to go before future Beach Boy Harry Elmes levelled things for Abbey, taking the game to penalties which we lost 5-4.

Concord didn't have to wait long to earn promotion though, as the following season they again reached the playoff final, this time beating Enfield Town 3-1 to reach the Ryman Premier Division. The club's first season in the Ryman Premier Division was a solid one, finishing in 8th place, which exceeded the target of simply avoiding relegation! Earning that respectful 8th spot and just missing out on a Play-Off position by two points was a great team effort.

2011/12 was a difficult season for the Beach Boys, as injuries to key players contributed to a poor start which was never wholly recovered from. Concord managed to finish the season in 14th though and secured a third season at this level. Danny Scopes retired from his post as joint manager, and soon afterwards Glen Alzapiedi was appointed as Danny Cowley's Assistant Manager. Another poor start was made by the club in 2012/13, but this was recovered from quickly and the Beach Boys displayed a never say die attitude to earn some incredible results both at home and away. Concord found themselves in the playoffs come the seasons end along with the Ryman League Cup final. Two fantastic away performances in the play offs saw us promoted to the highest level of football we've played at and a great performance in the cup final saw us end the season with 2 trophies.

The Beachboys lost their 2013/14 first Conference South fixture, however were soon picking up points regularly with determined & professional performances against some of the biggest teams at this level. Although there were a couple of harsh results, there was a level of consistency many didn't expect to see against this



opposition, this helped Concord reach what was a spectacular 9th place finish by seasons end. To cap it all off, The Beachboys were able to win the Essex Senior Cup against Braintree as the football season came to a close.

2014/15 was a season of historical moments, but started with 3 losses out of 4 games. Fortunes quickly turned around for the club as eventually a 7th place finish was achieved (a 13 game unbeaten run being a key contributor). The most incredible moment of the season was Concord Rangers reaching the first round of the FA Cup for the first time. Drawn away to Mansfield Town, Concord earned a 1-1 draw before losing 1-0 in the replay in front of 1500 at the Aspect Arena. The second round of the FA Trophy was reached, also for the first time. A penalty shootout filled Essex Senior Cup run saw Concord retain the trophy they'd won a year before, this time beating Billericay in the final. At the seasons end manager Danny Cowley & his assistant manager brother Nicky (who took over from Alzapiedi in September) left the club for pastures new.

2015-16 was a season of rebuilding with Adam Flanagan & Jody Brown in charge of the side which had lost a number of key players, whilst trying to maintain our National League south position. A poor start saw Brown replaced with the returning Alzapiedi as assistant manager, and things looked up. A 12 game unbeaten run at the start of 2016 helped the side reach their 3rd Essex Senior Cup final in as many years, making history in the April when beating Heybridge Swifts to retain the cup. A mid table finish guaranteed another season of National League South football.

2017/18 saw the Beachboys put an impressive 13 game unbeaten run together at one point, however the poor start and shaky end to the season saw the side stage off relegation by just a couple of points, which saw Flan and Glen be relieved of their positions.

Prior to the 2018/19 season, Sammy Moore and Jack Midson were brought in to take charge of the first team, as Concord Rangers looked to make their 6th season at this level a successful one, and a success it was as the club finished in 6th place. However due to ground grading issues, Concord were unable to take part in the playoffs.



Moore & Midson left the club by mutual consent, after which an old favourite returned to take the helm as Danny Scopes was appointed first team manager for the 2019/20 season.

Scopes enlisted the help of Lee Minshull, James Roach and Adam Drew for his time in sole charge of the Beachboys, and while the league form started well, it was the historic FA Trophy run that really set the tone for the year. Two seasons of prematurely ending league campaigns were the result of the pandemic, but Scopes's reign was capped off by a historic appearance in the FA Trophy Final at Wembley, losing 1-0 to Harrogate Town.

A new dawn beckoned as in the off season Danny Scopes resigned his position as 1st team manager and Ant Smith stepped down after 21 successful years as chairman. Jack Smith Jnr and John Smith assumed the interim chairman position off pitch and on the pitch under 18s manager Chris Search was brought in to lead the first team alongside Danny Green and Craig Shipman. After starting the season with a fantastic win over league favourites Dorking, the team were entertaining to watch but lacked consistency. The club went out of both FA competitions at the 1st stage but had a successful Essex Senior Cup campaign, culminating in a 4-3 defeat to Billericay in the semi final. The league campaign picked up towards the end and the management team led us to a final position of 14th and will be looking to build on this next season.

After a poor start to the 2022/23 season, and a winless run throughout September and October, the



decision was made between both the club and Chris Search to make a change in management. As November was about to get under way, former Concord player and Bowers manager Rob Small took the reigns at Thames Road, with the aim being to secure the Beachboys place in the National League South for another year. Fixture congestion played a factor towards the end of the season however, and ultimately the Beachboys were relegated back into the Isthmian Premier Division.

The summer then meant it was a time to rebuild, and former Beachboys player Sammy Collins was appointed as first team manager, bringing in an almost entirely new squad which included a number of familiar faces from his time as a player.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN: ***RESPECT***



Dear all,

As many of you may be aware, recent months have seen a steady increase in behavioural issues at The Martello Ground resulting in a variety of complaints, adverse comments and even property damage.

We pride ourselves on being a family friendly community club and try our very best to give everyone a happy and enjoyable experience whenever they visit the ground, over the years I think you will all agree we have built a ground that we can all be and should be very proud of – it belongs to all of us!

With growing attendances being attracted, there are bound to be issues from time to time, but can we all at least try and educate and influence all our own players, coaches, parents and supporters to treat people and property and The Martello Ground with the respect the whole club deserves....

- Minimal swearing
- Stopping all forms of Abuse
- Using the bins provided instead of littering the ground or stands
- No kicking of advertising boards
- No climbing on furniture or surrounding fences
- No whacking balls against club property or fences

I really want the club to continue being our Pride and Joy, please help this to continue..

I would really appreciate you conveying this message to all those you possibly can and ask all coaches to try and pass on to players and parents as well.

Thank you very much indeed for your help and understanding.

Yours
Tony

FIXTURES 2025/26

AUGUST

SAT 9	WALTHAM ABBEY	A	3PM	LEAGUE	L 1-0	ATT 302
TUE 12	WITHAM TOWN <i>Garcia, Mayhew</i>	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE	W 2-0	ATT 388
SAT 16	NEWMARKET <i>Garcia</i>	A	3PM	EMIRATES FA CUP PR	D 1-1	
TUE 19	NEWMARKET	H	7.45PM	EMIRATES FA CUP RR REPLAY	L 2-0	ATT 384
SAT 23	BOWERS & PITSEA	H	3PM	LEAGUE	D 0-0	ATT 340
MON 25	GORLESTON <i>Holland, Hitter, Gilchrist</i>	A	1PM	LEAGUE	W 3-1	ATT 121
SAT 30	GRAYS ATHLETIC <i>Mayhew, Hitter, Gilchrist</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 3-0	ATT 189

SEPTEMBER

SAT 6	HERTFORD TOWN <i>Ford (3)</i>	A	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY 1QR	W 3-1	ATT 377
SAT 13	NEWMARKET TOWN <i>Ford, Garcia</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 2-0	ATT 502
TUE 16	BRANTHAM ATHLETIC <i>Hitter, Brown, Holland, Gilchrist</i>	A	7.45PM	LEAGUE	W 4-0	ATT 185
SAT 20	GRAYS ATHLETIC	A	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY 2QR	L 2-0	ATT 194
SAT 27	TILBURY <i>Mayhew (P)</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 1-0	ATT 295

OCTOBER

SAT 4	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	H	3PM	LEAGUE	D 0-0	ATT 420
TUE 7	AFC SUDBURY <i>Lay, Warren, Gilchrist</i>	A	7.45PM	SUFFOLK PREMIER CUP	W 3-2	ATT 114
SAT 11	CAMBRIDGE CITY <i>Warren, Stevenson</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 2-0	ATT 563
SAT 18	MALDON & TIPTREE <i>Mayhew, Brown</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 2-1	ATT 1017
WED 22	BRANTHAM ATHLETIC <i>Ford</i>	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE	W 1-0	ATT 401

NOVEMBER

SAT 1	TAKELEY <i>Ford (2), Hitter, Lay</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 4-0	ATT 390
TUE 4	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT <i>Ford (2), Brown</i>	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE	W 3-0	ATT 251
SAT 8	WALTHAMSTOW <i>Warren, Ford</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 2-1	ATT 323
TUE 11	CORNARD UNITED <i>Santa De La Paz, Lay, Holland</i>	A	7.45PM	SUFFOLK PREMIER CUP QF	W 3-1	
SAT 15	CONCORD RANGERS	H	3.03PM	LEAGUE		

SAT 22	MILDENHALL TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
TUE 24	STANWAY ROVERS	A	7.45PM	LEAGUE
SAT 29	WALTHAM ABBEY	H	3PM	LEAGUE

DECEMBER

SAT 6	REDBRIDGE	A	3PM	LEAGUE
TUE 9	WITHAM TOWN	A	7.45PM	LEAGUE
SAT 13	WROXHAM	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 20	GRAYS ATHLETIC	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 27	LOWESTOFT TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE

JANUARY

SAT 3	GORLESTON	H	1PM	LEAGUE
SAT 10	DOWNHAM TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 17	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 24	CAMBRIDGE CITY	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 31	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	A	3PM	LEAGUE

FEBRUARY

SAT 7	TILBURY	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 14	MALDON & TIPTREE	A	3PM	LEAGUE
FRI 20	STANWAY ROVERS	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE
SAT 28	TAKELEY	A	3PM	LEAGUE

MARCH

SAT 7	WALTHAMSTOW	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 14	WROXHAM	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 21	REDBRIDGE	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 21	DOWNHAM TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE

APRIL

SAT 4	BOWERS & PITSEA	A	3PM	LEAGUE
MON 6	LOWESTOFT TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 11	NEWMARKET TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 18	CONCORD RANGERS	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 25	MILDENHALL TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE

THE COPPER RIVER

BY MARTYN GREEN, THE UNTOLD GAME

Find more at TheUntoldGame.co.uk or on social media [@TheUntoldGame](https://twitter.com/TheUntoldGame)



Stories exist of provincial clubs challenging the established elite, and occasionally winning in the most incredible stories. We've seen it in the UK, most recently with Leicester taking the Premier League title in a season that nobody thought would be possible again. Their near neighbours Nottingham Forest went one better, dominating Europe just two years after clambering out of the Second Division. But both of those clubs had history and tradition. In Chile, it was shown that this could be done from a standing start. And not just winning, but becoming a powerhouse. All it took was an impassioned fanbase, managerial ambition, and not a little bit of money.

Club de Deportes Cobreloa were formed in 1977, the same year that Brian Clough was leading Forest into the top flight. The region in which they played, Calama, had two prominent amateur teams in the middle of the twentieth century, but locals in the prosperous mining town increasingly felt it important that they were represented by a professional outfit. Deep in the Atacama desert, Calama gained its wealth through copper mining, and the company that ran that operation - CODELCO - decided to put its weight behind a football team. Named for the river that runs through the town, the Loa, and for the Spanish word for copper, 'Cobre', Cobreloa were formed. They joined the Chilean second division, but with mining wealth behind them they had a squad formed of players from some of Chile's best sides (and some from further afield). Among them,

however, was a 17 year old Armando Alarcon, who would become a legend in Calama and play for the national side, spending his entire career with Cobreloa. They secured promotion through the playoffs in their first season. By 1978, they had joined the elite.

Led by former Espanyol forward Andrew Prieto, Cobreloa weren't content merely to consolidate their place in the top flight. Their first ever match at that level was against the biggest giants of Chilean football, Colo-Colo. Eleven time champions and Copa Libertadores runners up, they were meant to provide a stiff test for the newly promoted side, but Cobreloa were he to stay. They brushed the Santiago giants aside 4-2, and it set the tone for a remarkable season. They overcame the likes of Universidad and O'Higgins, Chilean powerhouses, but were pipped to the title by Deportivo Palestino, a team formed by the Palestinian diaspora in Chile. The the playoffs that followed to decide a European place, Cobreloa picked up just one point and finished bottom. 1979 saw a repeat of this disappointment, missing out on the title by ten points to Colo-Colo. But nobody saw what the 1980s were to bring.

Heavy investment saw the replacement of Prieto by Vicente Cantatore, and the recruitment of national team stars like Oscar Wirth and Enzo Escobar, along with the addition of homegrown prospects like Hector Puebla. It was a long, hard season, that went to the final day. But as Universidad

dropped points, Cobreloa won and secured their first title. Just as impressively, they didn't lose at home, and wouldn't lose at home until 1985, a 91 match streak that remains unsurpassed. The following year they lost their title as they focused on continental ambitions, reaching the final of the Copa Libertadores, holding Brazilian powerhouses Flamengo over two legs, before losing the playoff through goals from Zico. They returned the following year, only to lose to Penarol, although they did secure the 1983 Chilean title again.

Two trophyless years followed, before another shake up and Jorge Toro was tasked with delivering the title again in 1985, something he was just able to do, beating Everton by two points. But two third place finishes followed, before a final title of the decade in 1988, beating Cobresal, a second mining-funded team who sprung up a couple of years after Cobreloa, in Atacama.

Cobreloa won an unlikely title in 1992, despite starting slowly. They ended the season with a 26 game winning streak, beating Colo-Colo by two points on the final day. And then mid-table

mediocrity set in, as the provincial side slowly began to drift. They watched Colo-Colo, with whom they had developed a rivalry, begin to truly dominate Chilean football.

Unlikely titles came in 2003 and 2004, the second of which was won in a playoff in Santiago against Colo-Colo, in what supporters call 'The Year of Orange', (the colour of copper, which Cobreloa had adopted as a shirt colour). But despite this high point, lows were to follow as international investment into the Santiago clubs made it difficult to compete. The side once again slipped toward the bottom of the table, and by the 2010s relegation was a real possibility.

In 2015, amid restricted investment from CODELCO, it finally happened, and Cobreloa dropped into the second tier for the first time since their founding season. And that's where they are today. But their story just goes to show that, with the right kind of support, anyone can achieve.

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Saturday 8th November
Isthmian League North
Photos: Stefan Peck

LINE UP: Wright, Caley-Brown, Stevenson
Holland (C), Ainsley, Cullum, Garcia
Hitter, Ford, Brown, Warren

SUBS: Lay, Mayhew, Santa De La Paz
Wilkinson, Ottley-Gooch









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BY JON COUCH

FOR managers, it's an extra three minutes to deliver the finishing touches to your pre-match team talk.

For fans, it's a chance to grab a quick coffee or spend in the warmth of the clubhouse bar.

Three minutes. One hundred and eighty seconds. It doesn't sound a lot, but it could make all the difference to the National League's 3UP campaign as it continues to ramp up pressure on the EFL to finally put a third promotion spot into League Two on the agenda.

This afternoon, over 200 clubs from Steps 1 to 4 will kick-off at 3.03pm in 'A Day of Action' to raise awareness on the issue with the Premier League and a large percentage of the EFL away on international duty.

National League chiefs and clubs have been pushing for an extra promotion place for a number of years to align with the rest of the English pyramid.

But while the EFL acknowledge it should be up for debate, the matter is yet to be officially brought to the table despite chairman Rick Parry's promise to "look downwards as well as upwards".

A recent Football Supporters' Association poll revealed 93 per cent of all supporters support the move, while 83 per cent of fans of EFL clubs are so in favour.

But Football League chiefs say any deal would have to form part of any funding agreement with the Premier League so with the two bodies at a stalemate amid the wait for the incoming Independent Football Regulator, National League chiefs have decided to up the stakes amid fears it could be years before EFL clubs vote on any changes.

National League vice-chairman and chair of the 3UP steering committee Steve Thompson MBE has been a key part of the push and he wants their message heard.

He told The NLP last week: "The games kicking off at 3.03pm is really going to shine a spotlight on it.

"We've got MPs from all over the country going to these games.

"It's not just the 12 National League games. While National League North and South aren't playing league games because it's FA Trophy, the Trident Leagues are also supporting it. That's fantastic.

"The whole football family at Non-League level sees how important it is."

So important that, in recent months, clubs and the league have been engaging with their local MPs with more than 100 – and members of the London Assembly – pledging their support.

And last week Sir Keir Starmer "commended" 3UP at Prime Minister's Questions with over 60 MP's actively supporting the campaign.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has formally "recognised" that 3UP's ambitions tie-in with the football regulator's objectives with a Backbench Business Debate planned later this month, as well as two supportive Early Day Motions.

"I was blown away," Thompson said of the political support received.

"So many MPs are season ticket holders at their local club. They realise how much their clubs do in their community. They realise how much the owners and chairs of those clubs do in the community.

"The fear is if you have this bottleneck and owners don't think there is a realistic chance of being promoted they will walk away. You need that competitiveness. It creates a healthy eco-system in football and that's what we face losing.

"The EFL say they've got to look down as well as up. Well, look down a bit more."

History shows there is no competitive imbalance between the National League and League Two.

No club has ever been relegated back into Non-League the season after they won promotion while Luton Town went through to the Premier League and others, including Yeovil Town, Doncaster, Burton Albion and Wrexham, have reached the Championship.

"There's over 30 clubs in the EFL that have been in the National League at some stage or another," Thompson added.

"There's Wrexham now in the Championship. There are 19 League Two clubs that have been in National League. Half of the National League have been in the EFL.

"There's nothing to fear but there is this bottleneck."

This afternoon, fans from clubs up and down the country will be involved both on the terraces and via social media making their voices heard.

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Tuesday 11th November
Isthmian League North
Photos: Stefan Peck

LINE UP: Wright, Akhuseyin, Stevenson
Wilkinson, Ainsley, Cullum, Lay
Hitter (C), Santa De La Paz, Brown, Garcia

SUBS: Caley-Brown, Holland, Ford
Warren, Ottley-Gooch











PARTNERS WITH
ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH ROUND UP

BY IAN TOWNSEND, TAKEN FROM WWW.ISTHMIAN.CO.UK

Felixstowe win again, Maldon do the same, and we've also wins for Gorleston, Jockeys, Redbridge, Hall, Lowestoft, City, Regent, Takeley and Downham - and red cards galore

Leaders **Felixstowe and Walton United**, who this week were awarded a second successive Vita Risk Manager of the Month Award this season and yet another Mitre Golden Gloves award to sit alongside it, travelled to East London to take on **Walthamstow**. The Seasideers had taken twenty eight points from the previous thirty available to them, and conceded only three goals all season, whilst their hosts were six without a win but had drawn their previous three.

United went ahead on twenty seven minutes, Tom Warren the scorer, but the hosts managed to score an equaliser in first half added time, Joe Elliott with the goal- the first conceded by United for three hundred and fifteen minutes. The next goal arrived twenty minutes from time, and it went to Felixstowe, Sam Ford restoring their lead- and this time they held on for three more points. They remain four points clear at the top.

Title favourites **Maldon and Tiptree**, in second place, welcomed **Waltham Abbey**. The Jammers had lost only once all season, the Abbots had lost two in a row but had been in good form prior to that, and the points were crucial for the promotion

hopes of both sides. A red card for the visitors Kieron Cathline on twenty five minutes handed the initiative to the Jammers, and it was soon top get worse for the visitors, a red card for Matthew Price seeing them down to nine. In first half added time, rather unbelievably, the visitors had a third player dismissed, Edwin Mensah the latest sinner, but by then the Jammers had- rather unsurprisingly- gone ahead, Tom Eastman the scorer. How much worse would it get for the EIGHT men in the second half.

Anisius Lewis added a second four minutes after the break, Tevan Allen quickly made it three, and just after the hour Freddie Sears added a fourth. Louis Dunne delivered a fifth with seventeen minutes left, and Macauley Bonne got number six three minutes from time. Finally the pain stopped for the visitors, six-nil the final score.

Third place **Wroxham** were at home to fourth from bottom **Brightlingsea Regent**, the Yachtsmen looking for a third win in succession, Regent to bounce back after two defeats. The visitors got the first goal of the afternoon after only eight minutes, Daniel Rowe with it, and they got the second, too, Jake Clowsley sixteen minutes later. The hosts hit back twelve minutes after the break, James Moore hoping to have started a comeback - and indeed he had, as fourteen minutes from time Jordan King drew Wroxham level. That looked to be that- but it wasn't! Four minutes into added time Regent were awarded a penalty, and Ola Bello stuck it away to give the visitors the points. Regent climb to seventeenth.

Gorleston, in fourth, welcomed **Witham Town**, both sides in decent form. Town took an early lead, Ben Allen the scorer, but the Greens were level just before the break, Rossi Jarvis making it one-one- and there was still time for Connor Ingram to give them the lead from the spot. Ten minutes from time Town drew level through Ziad Bakaar, but then things went rather wrong for the visitors. First, Zach Dronfield restored the hosts lead, and then added time saw not one but two Witham red cards, Ernest Okoh and then Archie McFadden dismissed. The Greens go third.

Bowers and Pitsea travelled to **Lowestoft Town** hoping to bounce back after losing their last two, and the visitors took the lead eleven minutes before half time, Michael Faulkner with his fourteenth in sixteen matches. The Trawler Boys were level seven minutes after the break, Sam Aldous with the equaliser, and that sparked a home onslaught, Aaron Bullent making it two-one just after the hour and William Unadike quickly adding a third. Jamie Salmon pulled it back to three-two twelve minutes from time, but that was soon followed by a Bowers red card, George Scales dismissed, and the hosts held on for three points. Bowers slip to seventh.

Sixth place **Newmarket Town** travelled to take on a **Grays Athletic** side who had only one defeat from nine, and the Jockeys were immediately ahead, Stan Leech with an impressive seventeenth goal in fifteen matches. Josh Lee made it two eleven minutes before half time, and Leech added a third with nineteen minutes left. Things got worse for the hosts when Joe Jude saw red, and Newmarket held onto their three goal lead and took three points- and fifth place.

Redbridge were looking to get back to winning ways as they travelled to **Brantham Athletic**, whilst their hosts were still hoping for their first win of the season. The opening goal arrived in first half added time, and it went to the Motormen, Malachi Napa scoring it - and as it turned out, the opening goal was the only goal. The Motormen are sixth, Athletic fourteen points from safety.

Concord Rangers arrived at **Mildenhall Town** looking for a fifth unbeaten match in a row, the previous four bringing three wins- but it was Hall who went ahead eight minutes before half time, Jonathan Kaye with the opener. The Beachboys were level just before the hour, Sherquan Toussaint with that one, but Hall were almost immediately ahead once more, Adam Capel making it two-one. Hall held onto what they had, and are ninth as a result.

Cambridge City welcomed **Tilbury**, seventeenth v eighteenth, both sides improving- and City went ahead just before the half hour, Usman Udeniji opening the scoring. Six minutes before half time they added another, this one from the spot, with George Smith scoring for the third game in succession, and just after the hour Jayden Randell made it three. Tilbury spoiled City's stadium opening party last season - revenge was certainly served. City are up to fourteenth.

Stanway Rovers were hit by a Charlie Royle double for **Downham Town**, the goals arriving on seven and eighteen minutes, but got back into the match on the half hour, Nat Mardell keeping his cool from the spot, and were level nine minutes later, Harrison Chatting with the equaliser. The match was to have a fifth goal, and it arrived seven minutes from time, Dylan Edge giving Town the edge, and three points. They remain second from bottom, but are now only two points from safety.

Takeley took on **Heybridge Swifts**, but it was Swifts who took the lead, Jack Adlington-Pile taking only eight minutes to open the scoring. The visitors were soon down to ten men, Mason Gillam sent off, and ten minutes into the second half they went down to nine, substitute Josh Parker departing. The hosts immediately levelled, Jack Mitchell the scorer, but the nine men regained the lead ten minutes later, Rob Harvey making it two-one. Swifts weren't ahead for long, Olly Miles equalising - and thirteen minutes from time the hosts were ahead, Zak Drake making it three-two. Takeley are fourth from bottom, but only one point from safety.

TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Gorleston headed to **Mildenhall Town**, the Greens looking for a fourth win in five. Their hosts have been in decent form, but the visitors were ahead on eight minutes and two up three minutes later, Connor Ingram and Spencer Keller the scorers. Hall quickly got one back, Ben Nolan with his sixth of the season, but the Greens ensured that they climbed to second by adding a third goal just after the hour, Joe Marsden the scorer.

Gorleston are three points behind leaders Felixstowe and Walton United, having played two matches more than the Seasiders. They have a one point advantage over third place Maldon & Tiptree, but have played four games more than the Jammers.

Bowers and Pitsea had seen their promotion hopes hit by three defeats in a row, but they went ahead against **Walthamstow** in first half added time - an own goal giving them a helping hand. As it turned out, that was all the help they needed, as they held on for three points despite a late red card for Ross Wall.

Waltham Abbey looked to bounce back from Saturday's debacle at Maldon as they took on **Takeley**, and they went ahead on nineteen minutes courtesy of Amrit Bansal-McNulty, quickly following up three minutes later with another from Kai Brown. The second half saw Brown score two more and take a match ball, taking his tally to eight for the season, and that was followed by the Abbotts fifth goal, scored by Matt Price. Five goals, three points, Abbey up to eighth, and Saturday as good as forgotten. Image from Bob Sharman.

Stanway Rovers saw a five match unbeaten run- containing four draws - come to an end against **Downham Town** at the weekend, but they had a fine start against Lowestoft Town, Tom Mayhew taking only three minutes to put them ahead. The Trawler Boys chances of a recovery were hit once more just before the hour, Harrison

Chatting making it two-nil, and it was to get worse for the visitors as Nat Marvel added a third and George Okoye scored a fourth. Four-nil the final score, Rovers fourteenth- but only six points away from the top five with two games in hand.

Cambridge City were in superb form, and looking for a fourth win in a row as they welcomed **Newmarket Town**. City went ahead on eleven minutes, Jett Murphy with his third in six matches, and nine minutes later the lead was doubled, George Smith scoring the second from the spot. That was his sixth of the season, and the fourth match in a row in which he'd found the net. Four minutes from time Codey Cosgrave rounded things off; three goals, three points and up to twelfth for the hosts.

Tilbury travelled to **Concord Rangers**, and the Dockers went ahead five minutes before half time, Jack Hayes the scorer- but they ended the first half with ten men, Luke Reeve sent off in added time. Despite that disadvantage, it looked as if they would hold on for victory- only for the Beachboys to level three minutes into added time, Bobby Kelman scoring his eighth of the season and earning his side a point.

Brightlingsea Regent had won four of their last six and were slowly climbing away from the drop zone. With only two wins from ten visitors **Heybridge Swifts** were worried that they were heading in the opposite direction, and those worries increased when Dan Rowe put Regent ahead on twenty seven minutes, and an own goal soon caused even greater concern, two-nil to the hosts at the break. Sixteen minutes from time the hosts added a third and secured the points, Charlie Durling rounding off victory. Regent climb to fifteenth- two points and two places above their visitors.

ISTHMIAN NORTH

DIVISION TABLE 2024/25

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Felixstowe & Walton United	15	12	2	1	29	4	+25	38
2	Gorleston	17	11	2	4	34	26	+8	35
3	Maldon & Tiptree	13	11	1	1	32	8	+24	34
4	Wroxham	17	9	4	4	29	20	+9	31
5	Redbridge	17	9	2	6	31	23	+8	29
6	Bowers & Pitsea	16	7	5	4	32	18	+14	26
7	Newmarket Town	15	8	2	5	31	20	+11	26
8	Waltham Abbey	15	7	3	5	29	23	+6	24
9	Concord Rangers	16	7	3	6	24	20	+4	24
10	Mildenhall Town	17	7	1	9	25	33	-8	22
11	Witham Town	14	6	3	5	18	16	+2	21
12	Cambridge City	17	6	3	8	22	24	-2	21
13	Lowestoft Town	16	6	3	7	24	30	-6	21
14	Stanway Rovers	14	5	5	4	26	16	+10	20
15	Brightlingsea Regent	15	6	1	8	23	22	+1	19
16	Grays Athletic	16	4	6	6	20	21	-1	18
17	Heybridge Swifts	17	4	5	8	13	26	-13	17
18	Walthamstow	17	3	7	7	20	24	-4	16
19	Tilbury	15	3	6	6	14	21	-7	15
20	Downham Town	17	4	3	10	16	32	-16	15
21	Takeley	16	4	3	9	14	34	-20	15
22	Brantham Athletic	18	0	2	16	10	55	-45	2

LAST UPDATED: WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 21:52:40

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MATCHDAY SQUADS

Isthmian League North
Saturday 15th November 2025
Kick-off 3:03pm



Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

Managers: Jack Ainsley and
Stuart Ainsley

Jack **Ainsley**
Stuart **Ainsley**
Hugo **Akhuseyin**
Noel **Aitkens**
Callum **Bennett**
Zak **Brown**
Ollie **Caley-Brown**
Hugh **Cullum**
Sam **Ford**
Ethan **Garcia**
Dan **Gilchrist**
Josh **Hitter**
Billy **Holland (C)**
Jacob **Lay**
Olly **Martin**
Josh **Mayhew**
Jose **Santa De La Paz**
Toby **Stevenson**
Thomas **Warren**
Joe **Whight**
Jack **Wilkinson**
Harry **Wright (GK)**

Concord Rangers FC

Manager: Sam Collins
Assistant Manager: Curtis Ujah

Jacob **Marsden (GK) (C)**
Charlie **Brown (GK)**
Louis **Ramsay**
Tambeson **Eyong**
Rob **Girdlestone**
Jamal **Allen**
Ehizojie **Onoabhagbe**
Teddy **Rumsby**
Tom **Stephen**
Kacper **Gruszczynski**
Kai **Torres**
Jaiden **Babalola**
Harvey **Brown**
Connor **Brooks**
Sam **Brogan**
Frederick **Buers**
Ricky **Modeste**
Kian **Cocking**
Bobby **Kelman**
Frank **Craik**
Harrison **Day**
Khris **Oti**
Stephen **Toussaint**

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Referee: Mr Paul Stratton **Assistant Referees:** Mr Stephen Viera and Mr Robert Willcocks