

Respect

SEVENOAKS

**SEVENOAKS TOWN
VS SITTINGBOURNE FC**

WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2024: OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME: £2
PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN SOUTH EAST DIVISION



**MANAK
SOLICITORS**





PARTNERS WITH
ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



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ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Zero Tolerance

The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination.

Accordingly, any form of discriminatory abuse whether it be by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association.

The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of the community.

You can call the FA on 0800 085 0508 or Kick it Out on 020 7253 0162.

STFC welfare policy

As a 3-Star Accredited Club, child welfare & safeguarding is at the heart of what we do.

Sevenoaks Town FC Directors and Trustees are responsible for the Club's compliance with the child protection and welfare issues that are related to running a youth football club.

The Club Welfare Officers are responsible for the welfare and safeguarding of all our club members. Three of the club's codes relate specifically to club welfare issues:

- Safeguarding Children Policy
 - Child Protection Policy
 - Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure
- All team managers and coaches must complete the following before taking charge of a team:
- valid Enhanced DBS check
 - have or be working towards a minimum FA Introduction to football coaching qualification
 - FA Safeguarding Children Training
 - FA Introduction to First Aid in Football

Player Welfare

The club has four Welfare Officers: Sean

Jarvie, Shannon Hyner
Darron Mace and Jennifer Mason
The Board Champion is Paul Lansdale who can be contacted on 07876444274. You can also email welfare@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk

FA Respect

As an FA Charter Standard Community Club, we expect the highest standards of conduct from our players, parents and supporters.

We are passionate supporters of the FA Respect campaign.

FA Whistleblowing Policy

Any adult or young person with concerns about an adult in a position of trust with football can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863, by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, Wembley Stadium, PO Box 1966, London SW1P 9EQ, by emailing safeguarding@thefa.com or alternatively by going direct to the Police, Children's Social Care or the NSPCC.

STFC Club information



Chairman and Director: Paul Lansdale
Secretary and Director: Sam Lansdale
Directors: Kevin Marsh, Ray Miles, Frank Le Siberel.

Committee Members: Shannon Hyner, Dan Thomas, Michael Tapp

Match Secretary: As chairman

First Team Manager: Marcel Nimani

First Team Coach: Ben Franks

Goalkeeper Coach: Julian Leigh

Head of Analysis: Ben Maci

Sports Therapist: Carly Payne

Head of Youth Football: Ben Franks

Safety Officer: Ray Miles

Club Welfare Officers: Darren Mace, Sean Jarvis, Shannon Hyner

Equality and Diversity Officer: Jahmal Howlett-Mundle

Press Officer/ PA announcer: Andrew Gidley

Club Photographer/App/Social Media: Matt White.

Additional pictures by Simon Lapwood.

Programme Editor: Fred Atkins

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Sevenoaks Town Football Club

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charities:

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Sevenoaks Samaritans

In this edition ...

A message from the editor

It's another midweek game at Greatness Park and we'd like to welcome our friends from Sittingbourne, a Kent club with a long and proud history.

As we went to press we learned the very sad news that club president Eddie Dipolck had passed away at the age of 93. We would like to express our condolences to his family and a full tribute will appear in Saturday's programme.

The Brickies' progress in the FA Cup meant that this game, originally due to be played the Saturday before last, has been rescheduled for this Wednesday night.

As is now customary, due to the demands on everyone involved in producing a midweek programme, this edition is shorter than usual but we will be back to 24 pages for Saturday's visit of Erith Town and we hope to see you as many of you as possible then. Up The Oaks!



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the Brickies**



Hands up who saw that scoreline coming when we were 2-0 down?

The Oaks Report: Three Bridges

A 4-0 home Pitching In Isthmian League South East home defeat against Three Bridges saw Oaks finish with 10-men for the second successive game.

Michael Sarpong's two yellow cards in the space of six minutes – the fourth red of the season – among a total of 10 cautions collected by referee Elliott Mayer including the Bridges management team. Marcel Nimani introduced new signing Kevin Diomande at right back with Ryan Sawyer suspended.

Oaks started well, Sarpong shooting wide and Jefferson Aibangbee hitting the side netting, only to concede twice in eight minutes.

Reece Hallard headed in the first, before Archie Burnett doubled the lead direct from a corner.

Aibangbee went close again later, before Josh Wisson's free-kick bounced off the far post to safety in the last action of the first half.

Warren Mfula was foiled by Bridges keeper Luke Glover immediately after the restart before Hallard added Bridges third on the hour, before Burnett wrapped up their first win of the season with a stoppage time penalty.

Sevenoaks Town:

Jordan Perrin, Kevin Diomande, Salim Futa, Jack Bath, Adejola Lahan, **Josh Wisson 73**, Jefferson Aibangbee, **Ayomide Majekodunmi 76**, Warren Mfula, James Jeffrey, **Michael Sarpong 65, 71**.

Substitutes: Rodney Eruotor (James Jeffrey 55 mins), Dan Duncanson (Josh Wisson 79 mins)

Three Bridges:

Luke Glover, Dan Ferreira, Harvey Woollard, Hayden Velvick, Nodirbek Boburudov, **Reece Hallard 73**, Kevin Riveira, **Ben Holden 62**, Jamie Splatt, Billy Irving, Archie Burnett

Substitutes: Bradley Campbell-Francis (Noridek Boburudov 85 mins). Adam Adam (Ben Holden 89 mins), Elliott Romain (Reece Hallard 90 mins)

Additional yellows: **Jamie Crellin (manager 67 mins)**
Joe Fox (assistant manager 80 mins)

Referee: Elliott Mayer (AFA)

Att: 137

HT: 0-2 (48:09)

FT: 0-4 (96:30)



Match Stats

Shots on target

3 5

Shots off target

5 1

Shots blocked

5 0

Corners

2 4

Free-kicks conceded

13 12



REACTION:

Marcel Nimani

"It was self inflicted – absolutely – four key moments in the game were all down to our wrong doing. The way we concede goals is shambolic.

"We switched off from a free-kick for the first, the second was direct from a corner, the third came from our own goal kick, and we had a player sent off after we won the free-kick.

"It left us chasing the game and when you do that you lose a bit of shape and composure – we had five final third entries – and on another day we might have scored two or three."

Oaks on the Radio

West Kent Radio are featuring Sevenoaks Town on their Saturday afternoon sports programme.

The show runs from 2pm to 6pm and includes three reports – preview, half-time and full time on all the club's matches, as well as midweek matches in breakfast sports bulletins the following morning.

The station is broadcast on 95.5, 106.7 and 107.2 and is available on online, on smart speakers and app, which has been launched recently.



Good luck to all the teams this season!

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Two goal of the season contenders were the highlight as Oaks recorded their first Pitching In Isthmian League South East away success of the season with an 5-3 win at Herne Bay on Saturday.

Oaks who introduced latest signing Charlie Dickens at left back, recovered from 2-0 down inside the opening 20 minutes, to level before at half-time.

Warren Mfula set up the first for Jefferson Aibangbee, before scoring the second himself, taking full advantage of two mistakes by home keeper Harry Brooks.

His afternoon got no better in the second half - beaten twice by two near 30-yard strikes by Rodney Eruotor and James Jeffrey his first for the club.

Jeffrey laid on the pass for Mfula to make it 5-2 shooting past the grounded Brooks, before Bay pulled one back to set-up a lively finale with more than seven minutes stoppage-time added on at the end.

He denied Jeffery twice and Eruotor as Oaks continued to carve out chances late on. Things looked ominous for Oaks after conceding twice in two minutes - Ethan Smith getting the last touch from a corner - and Joshua Reid given time and space to fire home.

Sammie McCleod fired over the bar before Brooks' errors gifted Oaks a way back into the contest. He missed his clearance for the first, Mfula racing to the by line before crossing for Aibangbee to score, then dallied on the ball allowing Mfula to score into an empty net.

Eruotor made it 3-2 eight minutes after the interval with a nice turn and even better finish, before Jeffery produced an

almost carbon copy strike two minutes later. He then played Mfula in for the fifth - his eighth of the season, before Bay defender Joel Odeniran got their third - scoring from a rebound after Oaks keeper Jordan Perrin - facing his old club - blocked the first effort.

Sevenoaks Town: Jordan Perrin, Kevin Diomande, Charlie Dickens, **Jack Bath 85**, Ryan Sawyer, Sammie McCleod, Jefferson Aibangbee, **Ayomide Majekodunmi 47**, Warren Mfula, Rodney Eruotor, James Jeffrey

Substitutes:

Dan Duncanson (Ayomide Majekodunmi 62 mins), Oliver Gray (Jefferson Aibangbee 74 mins), Adejola Lahan (James Jeffrey 90 mins)

Herne Bay:

Harry Brooks, Skye Salmon, Jack Parter, Joel Odeniran, Mo Kamara, Artem Kuchkov, Joshua Reid, Ethan Smith, Kane Rowland, Kane Haysman, Frankie Smith

Substitutes:

Scott Heard 80 (Mo Kamara 59 mins, Michael Salako (Joshua Reid 59 mins), Tom Hanfrey (Ethan Smith 82 mins)

Referee:

Dan Blades (Kent)

Att: 382

HT: 2-2 (49:01)

FT: 3-5 (97:30)

REACTION:

Ben Franks:

"We have been due this change of fortunes. We exploded into life in the second half with some really good goals but it should've been so much more, could've been 8 or 9.

We have spoken for a couple for weeks now about staying together as a group and we saw that more during the game."



Match Stats

Shots on target



Shots off target



Shots blocked



Corners



Free-kicks conceded



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Sittingbourne FC: History

The club was started as Sittingbourne United back in 1881. In 1886 it became Sittingbourne Football Club and played at the Bull Ground in the centre of town. 1892 the club gained senior status.

The club won its first major title in 1897/98 when it won the Kent League. The Kent Senior Cup followed in 1902. After the First World War more senior cup and league titles followed with the club also enjoying the first of three spells in the Southern League. Success followed and in another spell in the Southern League Sittingbourne twice in succession missed promotion to the Premier Division only on goal average.

The club reached the first-round proper of the F.A Cup in 1962 but lost 3-0 at Hinckley Athletic. Back in the Kent League Sittingbourne were one of the strongest teams throughout the 1970s and 1980s in an era – unlike the one that followed, when what happened on the field got more attention than what went on off it! In February 1990, the club decided to sell its town centre Bull Ground (now Sainsbury's supermarket) and buy a 23-acre site on the town's Eurolink estate.

A magnificent stadium with a 2,000-seater stand, restaurants, bars, luxurious dressing rooms, greyhound track and training pitches was the envy of non-league football. There was success too, on the pitch when, in their first season at Central Park, Sittingbourne won the Winston-lead Kent League without losing a game – the only senior football team throughout Europe to achieve that feat in the 1990/91 season. Promotion to the Beazer Homes Southern League followed with the championship of the Southern Division secured in 1993 followed by promo-

tion to highest level achieved by the club since its foundation in 1891. The ground record was broken five times during that one season with 5,951 spectators watching a friendly with Spurs and more than 3,000 at the match with local rivals Gravesend – a Beazer Homes Southern Division record.



More money flowed in with the £21,000 sale of Neil Emblen (above) and Mickey Harle to Millwall before the bubble spectacularly burst.

Debts of more than £1 million were revealed, the team got relegated, the ground was closed for a while despite the intervention of the local council in taking it over, and the club was officially wound up.

Somehow Sittingbourne have survived it all and even got back to the Southern Premier Division during this traumatic time (in Steve Lovell's first spell as manager), finishing an equal highest ever eighth before the financial problems again began to bite and relegation followed.

A new management committee

headed by Andy Spice made great strides in tackling the debt problem and getting Sittingbourne Football Club back on an even keel financially. To ensure survival of the club, the decision was made to move out of the imposing main stadium and move to another pitch on the complex.

Because of the FA reorganising the leagues Sittingbourne faced a brand-new challenge playing a number of "unknown" teams in the Ryman Isthmian League for season 2006-2007.

The 2009-10 season, was one of the best since the financial problems, Sittingbourne being in playoff contention for much of the time but failing at the end. Still, a 9th place finish was no disgrace and for the first time in fifty years, Sittingbourne won the Kent Senior Cup in front of 618 at Folkstone Invicta. For the 2013-2014 season, Sittingbourne decided to leave their home of 10 years and accept an invitation to move to Woodstock Park a 14-acre area with superb social facilities.

Andy Spice, who almost single handedly kept Sittingbourne as a senior club, stood down as Chairman making way for Maurice Dunk, a Director of the company that holds the leasehold for Woodstock Park. After a three year reign as manager, Nick Davis resigned along with his Assistant manager, Tony Cornwell, in February 2018 after the committee decided a budget cut was necessary when it became clear that Sittingbourne would be unlikely to challenge for the play offs.

Coach, Aslan Odev took over and after initially taking The Brickies to the play off places failed to maintain this and after a number of losses it was mutually agreed that he would stand aside, paving the way in January 2019, for Dover Athletic Academy development manager, Chris Lynch, to take over.

After a disappointing end to the now expunged 2019-20 season Chris Lynch resigned to be replaced by his Assistant Darren Blackburn.

Because of Covid restrictions Darren's first full season was 2021-22 when the club had an early exit from both major cup competitions and finished in a mid table position in the league.

The Directors decided that a change at the top was required to enable the Brickies to push for a play off place in season 22-23 and Nick Davis was appointed as first team manager, returning 8 years after leaving the club.

Unfortunately a run of 12 games without a win ended in Nick Davis resigning in early January 2023 and the club brought in Ryan Maxwell to take his place. Ryan turned results round and Sittingbourne gathered enough points to avoid relegation. The 2024-25 season proved to be one of the best in recent times for Sittingbourne.

They finished in third place but lost out in the play off's when Three Bridges beat Sittingbourne at Woodstock Park in the semi finals.

Ryan Maxwell has bought in a number of experienced players to make a real challenge on the league title this season so there is much excitement around Woodstock Park amongst the supporters.



Sevenoaks Town

Sittingbourne FC

Jordan Perrin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harley Earle
Ryan Sawyer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Donvieve Jones
Jack Bath	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Liam Smith
Liam Northwood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Godfrey Poku
Salim Futa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Henry Lukombo
Sammie Mcleod	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Arthur
Rodney Eruotor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Richie Hammill
James Jeffrey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Henry Sinai
Josh Wisson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cody Cosgrave
Warren-Hughes Mfula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Kingsland
Ayomide Majekodunmi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ayman El-Mogharbel
Danny Divine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Boachie
Charlie Dickens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jay Beckford
Oliver Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagasan Graham (C)
Gael Kileba	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Troy Howard
Adejola Lahan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Kingsford
Jack Mahoney	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitchell May
Jefferson Aibangbee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charma Torsiello
Jahmal Howlett-Mundle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alex Georgiou
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Manager: Marcel Nimani
Colours: Black/blue shirts, black shorts, black socks

Manager: Ryan Maxwell
Colours: Yellow shirts, blue shorts



Match Officials:
Referee: Callum Parke
Assistants: Michael Hill and Jake Symes
Next home match:
 Sevenoaks Town v Erith Town
 Pitching In Isthmian South East Division
 Saturday 19th October, 3pm kick-off

