

WINGATE & FINCHLEY FOOTBALL CLUB

Wingate & Finchley vs
Chichester City



VS



Saturday 21st
September 2024

Isthmian
Premier Division

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WINGATE & FINCHLEY FC

Hello and welcome to the Maurice Rebak Stadium! We hope that all associated with the club, the match officials and the staff, players and officials of Chichester City enjoy their stay in N12 this evening!

We believe that this afternoon's game is the first ever tie between our two sides; being the first campaign we have played in the same division and having never faced in any cup. This goes for the same with our predecessors Finchley, and Wingate.

Chichester City have risen up the division in recent years, playing in the Sussex County League Division 2 as recently as 1997

They won the Sussex Division 1 in 2015, going up to the Southern Combination Premier for the 2015/16 season. They then won this division in 2018/19 gaining promotion to the Isthmian League Division 1 South East. After finishing 5th last season, they won the playoffs to earn their spot in the Isthmian Premier this term.

Company Name and Number:

Wingate and Finchley Development Ltd, 6014465

Ground: The Maurice Rebak Stadium, Summers Lane, Finchley, London N12 0PD. Tel: 020 8446 2217

Company Number: 6014465

Training Ground: Barnet Lane, Barnet, EN5 2DN

League Match Ticket Prices:

£12 adults, £8 concession, £5 for ages 11-18, under 11 free

Chairman: Aron Sharpe

Vice Chairman: Nicky Rifat, Joe Sharpe

President: Harvey Ackerman

Life Vice President: David Ackerman

Life Vice President: David Wolff

Life Vice President: Peter Rebak

Life Vice President: Steven Astaire

Director: Paul Lerman

Secretary: Andrew Kouroushi

Finance: Liam Blaney

First Team Manager: Ahmet Rifat

First Team Coaches: Ruben Gaspar, Jonny Georgiou, Ricky Machel

First Team Goalkeeping Coach:

Gavin King

First Team Analyst: Michael Smith

Kit Manager: Peter Barker

Head Groundsman: Andy Ward

Welfare Officer: Jonny Georgiou

Bar Manager: Lorraine Coleman

Matchday Hospitality: Tony Ward

Programme Editor: Joshua Palmer

CLUB NOTES

Congratulations David Wolff!

Our life vice-president David Wolff has recently received the London FA's Bobby Moore Award for 2024 Grassroots Heroes Award (sponsored by Panini!)

Congratulations David!

Mr Wolff is also chairman of the Maccabi (Southern) GB Football League (since 1970!), overseeing the organisation of the league.

His footballing career began back in the 1950s as a member of the Ivri Maccabi Youth League and is a supporter of West Ham United – once being asked to manage their under 16s team. He joined the MSFL Management Committee in December 1963 as assistant secretary, before rising to vice chairman in 1965 then chairman in 1970. During his directorship, the league has risen from 12 clubs to 66.

David has also chaired the London FA since 2022.

From all at the club, congratulations on your award David!

Folkestone Invicta (H)

Following a horrible injury to our goalkeeper Prince Adegoke that saw the above tie abandoned late on, it has been decided that the game will not be replayed. The tie stands as it was at abandonment – a 3-3 draw, both sides receiving one point.

Cup draws

The league campaign has barely started, and somehow we already have our first cup ties of the season!

London Senior Cup – Receiving a bye in the first round, we will host Erith and Belvedere in round two, on Tuesday 29 October.

FA Trophy – Keep an eye out on the third qualifying round draw which takes place on Monday afternoon. The Blues will find out their opponents and venue for the fixture taking place in two weeks time, Saturday 5th October 2024.

FA Youth Cup

Our under 18s travel to Heybridge Swifts in the first qualifying round of the competition tomorrow night. Be sure to follow the young Blues on their progress in the cup!

FA Cup defeat

After a valiant fight, our run in footballs' premier knockout cup competition came to an end on Tuesday night when we were narrowly defeated 1-0 against Cray Wanderers.

Match report

See later pages of this programme for a match report from Tuesday's game against Cray.

LEAGUE RESPECT STATEMENT



“The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association’s statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination. Any inappropriate conduct toward others, including but not limited to that based on an individual’s sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national origin, age, marital or domestic-partnership status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities. The Isthmian League and our Member Clubs are committed to promoting equity and equality by treating all 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 our communities.”



Respect

A VIEW FROM AFAR

To begin with, three entirely random facts about the home of our visitors today, only one of which is correct; but which one?

- Chichester is the only place in Great Britain where the streetlights are required by law to remain on until 1am
- Chichester City Football Club once had to abandon a match when a hot air balloon accidentally landed on their old pitch, in Priory Park
- Chichester Cathedral is the only cathedral in England which is visible from the sea

Answer at the foot of the article.

It is a pleasure to welcome Chichester City to the Maurice Rebak today. After their promotion last season, they have become one of six Sussex based sides in our division. With another six from Kent, plus two from the London suburbs south of the Thames, this is particularly convenient for our fans based in the land of the South Saxons. That is, of course, me and the Lady Wife, whose travelling to away games has been much reduced.

Chichester is a place that we know quite well. It has an excellent theatre which we visit regularly. When Wingate and Finchley pay our visit to play the return fixture on 1st February, it is the last day of the theatre's production of 'A Man For All Seasons' which I believe is a play about Ahmet Rifat.

The theatre is based very close to the football ground and they share an enormous car park; fees are payable, but you try finding anywhere to park for free in Chichester! The car park would be large enough to re-enact the interesting experiment suggested and arranged by the late BBC Test Match Special statistician, Bill Frindall, who lived in Fortis Green, although I never saw him at one of our home games. This is a statistic that counts against him, obviously.

In New Zealand once, where the England cricket team were to play a One Day International, Bill suggested to the authorities that the large

A VIEW FROM AFAR

adjacent field being used as a car park, would make the ideal location for a brilliant photo opportunity. They arranged that any red cars would be directed to park in the first six rows. White cars would be placed in the next six and blue in the next. Presumably anybody arriving in, say, a green vehicle was told to park in Tesco down the road.

Somehow, the New Zealand car park attendants were persuaded to go along with the plan and performed their duties to perfection. An aerial photograph was taken and was indeed impressive; I'm sure any French holidaymakers who happened to be passing would have been especially pleased. The game progressed and a good time was had by all. Until the close of play that is, when the crowd began to leave. 'Where's my car?' was the politest comment that could be heard. Yes, it was clear which area of the car park should locate it, but trying to find your own car among a block of several hundred after a day in the sun was apparently quite a challenge!

So my advice to the travellers from North London (or other parts of Sussex) arriving on 1st February is that if anybody wearing a yellow tabard attempts to direct you where to park, suspect a trap and tell them where to go. The theatre is a good choice.

Which of the facts is true?

Unless you climb to the top of an exceptionally tall mast, in which case Truro might be visible in the far distance, Chichester Cathedral is indeed the only one that can be spotted from the ocean.

By Peter Brown

WINGATE & FINCHLEY CLUB HISTORY

Wingate and Finchley Football club can trace its roots back to the formation of Finchley Football Club in 1874 making it one of the oldest clubs in the country. Founded by Pa Jackson, who also was instrumental in the creation of the Corinthians, The London Football Association as well as later serving as secretary of the FA, Finchley became founder members of the Athenian League in 1912 after spells in the London League and North London League. They finished fourth in the maiden season, higher than such luminaries as Grays Athletic, Chelmsford City and Enfield.

However their stay was cut short due to the onset of World War One and they would only return for a lone season in 1929 before returning to the London League and forging success. The club's first piece of silverware was won during the 1934-1935 season when the League Cup was captured, with the taste of achievement forming Finchley went on to win the London League in 1936-1937 before World War Two scuppered their winning streak.

It was immediately after the conflict that saw Major Harry Sadow, Frank Davis, George Hyams and Asher Rebak form a Jewish Football Club believing the field of play was a ground of battling the ignorance of anti-Semitism. So in 1946 Wingate Football Club began life in the Middlesex Senior League. The club was named after General Orde C. Wingate who despite not being Jewish himself oversaw the creation of the Israeli Army during the Second World War. The club enjoyed early success and by 1952 they were promoted to the London League.

Meanwhile Finchley, back in the Athenian League, were in the middle of their glory years with the 1952-1953 season proving to be the pinnacle. That year saw their progression to the Third Round Proper of the FA Cup. Defeated along the way were Chelmsford City, Kidderminster Harriers (1-0 at Aggborough) and Crystal Palace (3-1 at Summers Lane) before the Finches were finally beaten 2-0 at Gay Meadow against Shrewsbury Town.

Despite an Amateur Cup semi-final appearance, losing to bitter local rivals Hendon at Highbury in 1965, a sense of decline was starting to emerge. A switch to the Isthmian Premier League failed to stop the halt, and in 1980-81 Finchley were relegated to the second division.

Wingate by now had become a senior club and were competing in the Athenian League. Many players had become members of the Middlesex FA representative side and also partook on behalf of Great Britain in the Maccabiah Games. Disaster struck though in 1972 when their Hall Lane ground in Hendon was lost to the M1 extension and despite a short ground share with Finchley FC the club reverted to junior football.

Wingate finally returned to the senior game with a brief merger with Leyton FC. This partnership proved to be unsuccessful and despite a 1984-1985 League Cup victory, ironically defeating Finchley in the final, both clubs went their separate ways.

In 1991 with Finchley struggling in the Isthmian League Second Division and with mounting debts it was announced that a merger with Wingate would take place in the

WINGATE & FINCHLEY CLUB HISTORY

summer. After extensive refurbishment and a name change of the Summers Lane ground in honour of long time Wingate supporter Harry Abrahams, Wingate and Finchley took to the field for the start of the 1991-1992 season.

Success was immediate and despite starting life in the South Midlands League the club were quickly competing in the Isthmian League and by season 2003-2004 were members of the newly formed Division One North.

In recent seasons the club has continued its growth. A brief flirtation with the Southern League was shortly followed by the arrivals of Manager Michael Stone and Chairman Aron Sharpe. Now back in the Isthmian League a youthful squad achieved seventh position in the First Division North in the 2008-2009.

Stone sadly left the club in 2009 after being offered the post of Assistant Manager at Conference giants Rushden and Diamonds. The club's first team manager in time for the start of the 2009/10 season was former Oswestry Town manager and Total Network Solutions Llansantffraid midfielder David Norman. At the end this season the Club finished in a record high position of 3rd in the Ryman Division One North, mainly thanks to a record run of 17 matches without defeat from the turn of the year, a run which included 13 wins. The Club reached the playoffs but lost out to Enfield Town in the semi-final 3-2 in an incredible match. This paved the way for what was to be a monumental and unforgettable 2010/11 season.

The Club was quickly becoming the most progressive non-league club in the area, thanks to Sharpe's focus on youth development. Bobby Aisien and Medi Alabimba had progressed from Hadley Wood and Wingate to earn professional contracts, and in 2011 over 20 of the U16-18 age group represented their County. Six boys at U16's were given scholarships with pro sides and the club developed into a community club with a Mencap disability initiative, work with schools, and it entered its fourth year of the Flex educational scheme.

A consistent league season for the First Team saw the side match their previous 3rd place league finish and earn a second crack at the playoffs. In the semi-final Harlow Town were beaten 4-2 after extra time, and promotion to the Ryman premier Division was won with a 118th minute winner over Brentwood Town in extra time of the final - The Blues winning 3-2 on their home turf.

This victory was the middle leg of a remarkable and unique Treble. Earlier that season the club had lifted the Ryman League Cup having beaten Dulwich Hamlet 2-0 at Imber Court, and London Senior Cup success was to follow shortly afterwards when Hendon were convincingly beaten 3-1 in the final.

Success flowed throughout the Club this year, with the youth teams also building on their previous season's work as they progressed superbly. The U18's won the Middlesex County Cup, and at U15 level the League Title and three Cup trophies followed (two County cups and the League cup). Even the Under 10's were getting in on the action as they lifted the Spring Cup!

WINGATE & FINCHLEY CLUB HISTORY

The first season in the Ryman Premier Division in 2011/12 saw the side secure safety in this new level with a comfortable mid-table finish, ending up closer to the playoffs than from relegation. The final third of the season saw breakthroughs for youth players Liron Mannie and David Smouha who both played big roles in the first team squad. Meanwhile there was huge cup success at youth level yet again; The Under 18's won the AFA Cup, beating Valley Park after extra time, as well as the London County Cup. The Under 17's won a double as they beat Thurrock in the EJA League Cup final to add to their earlier AFA Cup success having beaten Bethwin 8-1! The Under 16's also got in on the action securing their AFA Cup title beating Woodford FC, which they added later on securing their EJA (Herts) League title.

Success of the youth sides prompted three players - Ross Weinreb, Nathan Sollosi and Joe Sharpe - to earn selection to the Great Britain Maccabi Team for the world games in Israel during July 2013. Meanwhile the Barnet Mencap disability sides grew in strength as they entered the fourth season with the club, with three sides now competing in the Camden Step Leagues. The year ended on a high as McDonalds joined in lucrative sponsorship deal.

The following season, 2012-13, was a difficult one for the first team. Early season poor form led to the departure of Norman in November as ex-Northwood boss Gary Meakin came in. The Club flirted with relegation all season until a momentous 3-2 victory over Lowestoft two days before the final day secured survival. However Norman rejoined the Club in the summer as Director of Football, as veteran defender Daniel Nielsen was put in place as Head Coach. Meanwhile a new Under 21 Development squad was set up to compete in the inaugural Ryman U21 League.

There was continual success for the youth sides. The U17's added the London County Cup to an earlier EJA league title, the EJA cup and the AFA cup. These were also followed up with the League Regional Playoff title. The U16's won two cups in this season, the EJA and AFA trophies.

In 2014 the side faced another relegation fight in the league, which was lost on goal difference on the final day of the season despite a 5-0 victory over Billericay Town. However, when Worksop Town pulled out of the Southern League due to financial problems, Wingate & Finchley were the first in line to earn the reprieve back to the Ryman Premier Division.

The 2014-15 season resulted in a record finish of 12th place in the Ryman Premier League, and at the end of the season Norman departed, to be replaced by Simon Lane as Director of Football. However for the start of 2016 he was replaced by former Northern Ireland International Keith Rowland and the side finished in a stable 13th position. In August 2016 the stadium at Summers Lane was re-named after Wingate FC co-founder Maurice Rebak who had passed away in February of that year aged 95.

WINGATE & FINCHLEY CLUB HISTORY

The 2016-17 season saw the club set a new record, finishing in 5th place in the Ryman Premier League and qualifying for the end of season playoffs. A last-minute defeat at Bognor Regis Town in the semi-final ended the season, but this was a magnificent achievement and saw the Blues win the League's Team Performance of the Year Award.

A ninth-place finish followed in 2017-18 as the Blues narrowly missed out on a second successive play-off berth. There was success for the Under 23 side who won the Isthmian Development League North Division at a canter. Over the summer the Club embarked on an extensive state-of-the-art refurbishment of the stadium, for the first time since 1991's merger, giving the clubhouse a much-welcomed overhaul and making the stadium one of the most impressive in non-league football.

The subsequent three seasons saw a period of uncertainty both on and off the pitch, with short management stints for ex England International Nicky Shorey, ex Premier League stalwart Glen Little and ex West Ham Academy and Wingate & Finchley favourite Steve Clarke, followed by two null and void seasons under the stewardship of Spencer Knight due to the COVID pandemic. However, during this period there were still many successes, including U18s winning County Cup in consecutive seasons and the London Champion of Champions trophy, U23 Development Squad being victorious in Herts League Cup fielding a squad largely made up of Under 18s, while both U13s and U12s secured League Titles.

In the summer of 2021, Club legends Ahmet Rifat (Director of Football) and Marc Weatherstone (Manager) were appointed as a new Management Team after nearly 1000 first team appearances between them. Later in the 2022/23 season Ahmet Rifat was to take sole charge.

Season 2024/24 will go down on record as one of our finest if not the finest. Finishing in 4th position with a record haul of 76 points and scoring 78 goals. Ahmet Rifat's charges made it to the play offs on the last day of the season with a 3-0 win over Carshalton.

We faced local rivals Enfield Town in the play off Semi finals at the QE II Stadium. We narrowly lost a very tight match 1-0 in front of a crowd of 2,225 that night. A fine season was ended, but what memories it brought.

What does 2024/25 hold, a new revamped side, and a manager and coaching squad with that extra years experience. Looking forward to the journey.

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CRAY WANDERERS (H) – NOAH BERCOFF

The FA Cup is magic, so we're told. After a hard fought 180 minutes against bogey-team Cray Wanderers across two matchdays, plenty of adjectives spring to mind. You'd struggle to find magical in many peoples' descriptions, however.

Chances were at a premium in both ties, and despite a bright opening twenty minutes from the Blues to Tuesday night's replay, they weren't able to get a foothold in the game.

Ogo Obi, whose last minute penalty on Saturday meant we were even here in the first place, came closest to settling the tie for the Blues on three occasions. He had the ball in the back of the net in the first half, after a corner wasn't cleared by Cray and he found himself beating down on goal. He duly buried the chance, but looked up to see the offside flag had been raised.

The second half saw him through one on one for a second time, this after he and Zack Newton won the ball high up the pitch. He took perhaps one touch too many, however, and allowed Rowley in the Cray goal to get out quickly and smother his attempt and clear the danger.

The final chance, and perhaps the best was from a cross in from Tanimowo on the left. Obi rose highest in the box and saw his header come back off the crossbar and away to safety, rather than nestling in the back of the goal.

It is a bit of a pattern now for the Blues, who have created some good chances over the last few weeks, but just haven't quite been able to take their chances, often leaving the door open for a gut punch from the opposition.

On this occasion, it was from David Smith who broke quickly along with Imran Kayani in the fourth minute of added time at the end of the first half. Bearing down on goal, Kayani squared the ball to Smith, who fired it into the bottom corner from a tight angle. It was the goal that proved to be enough, and while Cray looked sharp on the break, it was their best chance of the game.

The fact they took it, when the Blues couldn't take theirs, means it's they who face Hastings at home in the 3rd qualifying round, with both clubs having a golden opportunity to make it the 4th qualifying round, where they could potentially mean National League opposition.

For the Blues it will be back to league action that weekend as they travel to Dover on the 28th September. But before then, Chichester will visit Summers Lane on Saturday. Don't miss out.

Wingate & Finchley: Grainger; Cracknell; Byron; Iontton (Deslandes 42'); Webb; Achuba; Garrett-Douglas (Oladipo 72'); Georgiou; Obi; Newton (Roberts 83'); Tanimowo
Unused Subs: Adegoke; Frempah

CHICHESTER CITY

The club's original home was Priory Park, but it relocated to Oaklands Park in the early fifties.

The club was represented at the inaugural meeting of the Sussex County FA in 1882 and featured in the first ever Sussex Senior Cup competition in the same year losing 5-0 to Storrington. In 1896 Chichester became members of the newly formed West Sussex League and remained there until they joined the Sussex County League in 1920. The first major honour was achieved in 1926 when they won the Sussex Senior Cup but inter-war success was limited.

In 1960 Chichester clinched their first Sussex County League title and then retained it the following season, shared the Sussex RUR Cup with Brighton & Hove Albion after a 2-2 draw and reached the first round proper of the FA Cup, only to lose 11-0 to Bristol City. Chichester beat Eastbourne in the RUR Cup in 1964 and recaptured the league title in 1968.

In the 1970s Chichester's fortunes were mixed; the high point being another league championship in 1973 and a good run in the FA Amateur Cup. At the end of the decade, City faced relegation for the first time. However, the appointment of ex-Plymouth and Portsmouth player, Richie Reynolds, as manager sparked an amazing revival which saw City claw their way to safety. The following season was one of City's best ever as Reynolds masterminded a league championship win.

The club was relegated though in 1983 after a dismal season. Promotion and Division Two Cup success followed in 1985 but they returned to the Second Division for the 1987-88 campaign winning the Division Two Challenge Cup again in 1988.

Steve White took over as manager in 1990 and the side enjoyed another promotion campaign alongside Division Two Challenge Cup success. The club struggled for several seasons in the County League top flight before again being relegated to Division Two in 1994. In 1997, City returned to the top flight after finishing runners-up. Permission was finally granted for floodlights at Oaklands Park and they remained in the top flight of the Sussex County League in one guise or another for over twenty years.

Following a millennium merger with Portfield FC the club became known as Chichester City United FC and in 2004 Adie Girdler and his assistant Gary Brockway led Chichester to their first Sussex County League title since 1980. The club also won the Brighton Charity Cup in 2005 and 2006 and the RUR Cup for a third time in 2007.

CHICHESTER CITY

At the start of the 2009-2010 season, following discussions with Chichester District Council, it was agreed to revert back to the name of Chichester City FC as this more clearly reflected the club and the city.

The club faced challenges after this, both on and off the pitch, for a number of years. However, the management team of Miles Rutherford, Graeme Gee and first team coach Danny Potter has transformed things at Chi in all sorts of ways. A top five finish in the Southern Combination Football League premier division in 2015-16 was followed by a third place spot in 2016-17, a six month unbeaten run in the league and a record equalling 4th round appearance in the FA Vase. Chichester went one round better in the Vase the following season, losing 1-0 to 1874 Northwich in the last minute of the game.

Chi won the RUR Cup in the 2017-18 season, beating local rivals Pagham 4-0 in the final at Culver Road, and gained promotion to Step 4 of the non-league football pyramid for the first time ever in the club's history after clinching the SCFL premier division title in 2018-19.

Darin Killpartrick joined the coaching staff at Chichester in the summer of 2019 and an exceptional start to life in the Isthmian League was complemented by an extraordinary FA Cup adventure as City progressed through six rounds of qualifying to make it to the first round proper of the competition – a run in which Chichester beat three Step 3 sides.

And in a unique FA Cup first round draw Chichester, the lowest ranked team left in the competition, were given the bye into the second round, only to lose 5-1 away at Tranmere Rovers in a match broadcast live on BT Sport.

That first league campaign was curtailed by COVID, as was the subsequent season, but in 2021-22 Chichester finished 11th in the table and 10th in 2022-23.

2023/24 brought promotion to the Isthmian League Premier Division via a 1-0 win at Ramsgate, and a 5-0 victory to win the play off final at Three Bridges.

MATCH PREVIEW

After 180 minutes of FA Cup football this week which saw us exit the competition on Tuesday night with a narrow 1-0 defeat, we are back in action at the Maurice Rebak Stadium on Saturday with an opportunity to bounce back against visitors Chichester City.

Our Opponents

Chichester City finished in 5th place last season in the Isthmian South East division, which saw them secure the final playoff spot in that division, alongside Ramsgate, Sittingbourne and Three Bridges, while Cray Valley PM were promoted as champions. In the playoffs, Chichester beat Ramsgate 1-0 in the semi-finals, which would have come as a shock to some, with many fancying 2nd placed Ramsgate to win the division altogether after their FA Cup exploits. This win set up a playoff final at Three Bridges where Chichester City secured a resounding 5-0 victory, settling any nerves with a goal inside the first minute, adding two further goals in each half.

Chichester City in its current form was established in 2000, with the previous Chichester City dating back to 1873, before its merger in 2000 with Portfield FC. In 2018/19, the Lilywhites were promoted from the Southern Combination Premier Division as champions (step 5) into the Isthmian South East, where they stayed for a few years either side of the pandemic, before securing their playoff promotion in 2023/24.

This season, Chichester City have made a steady start in their new division, with three wins and three defeats giving the Lilywhites nine points from their opening six matches, putting them in 10th place, two points and four places above the Blues going into this fixture. Highlights so far include a 3-2 win at Cheshunt; twice coming from behind before scoring a goal in the last few minutes to secure the win, and a 2-1 win over local rivals Bognor Regis in front of a bumper crowd of over 1,300 fans at Oaklands Park. In the FA Cup, it was a similar story for Chichester to the Blues, securing a replay on Saturday only to lose narrowly on Tuesday night to National League South side Slough Town.

Did you know? In 2019/20, Chichester City had their best ever FA Cup performance, thanks in part to a stroke of luck in the First Round Proper draw. Due to Bury's unfortunate demise, Chichester City received a bye in the First Round draw, seeing them through to the Second Round where they travelled to Tranmere Rovers as the lowest ranked side in the competition at that stage, where they ultimately lost 5-1.

Head to Head

Since Chichester City's formation in 2000, we have not yet faced each other given the Lilywhites recent progression to this level, so this fixture is a bit of a collectors' item!

MATCH PREVIEW

Last Time Out

In the aforementioned FA Cup clashes against Slough Town, it was a 2-2 draw at home last Saturday thanks to a late equaliser in extra time before another late goal on Tuesday night but this time not enough to salvage anything, falling 2-1 to the National League South side. In the league, Chichester's last match was a victory, thanks to Jimmy Wild's late winner at Cheshunt, securing a good 3-2 win in Hertfordshire.

The Blues faced a similar situation, with Ogo Obi scoring a dramatic late penalty at Flamingo Park last weekend to secure a home replay before a solitary goal on Tuesday night from Cray saw them through to the Third Qualifying Round. In our last match in the league, ten-man Blues fell to a late goal against Bognor as the Rocks won 2-1 to take all three points on the south coast.

Players To Watch

One man that has been finding the net for Chichester on a regular basis this season is forward Jimmy Wild. The striker has scored five goals in the league so far this season (eight in all competitions), having netted 17 last season in just three months at the end of last season, including four in one game in April as he fired the Lilywhites into the playoffs. Like the Blues, Chichester are yet to keep a clean sheet in the league so goalkeeper Kieran Magee will be looking to put that straight on Saturday; the stopper has been with Chichester throughout each of the last two seasons.

For the Blues, defender Bobby Webb played 180 minutes in our two FA Cup matches this week, as the teenager continues his development under the watchful eye of Rifat, Machel and co. Meanwhile, on Tuesday night, Matty Achuba returned to the starting XI for the Blues for the first time since the playoff semi-final last season. Achuba has been with the Blues since August 2021 and was awarded the player of the season award last year. All at the club are pleased to see Matty return and look forward to his tenacious work rate in our midfield.

Tickets for the game can be purchased in advance [here](#) or on the gate on matchday, with cash and card accepted throughout the stadium. All draught pints are £4.50 if purchased before 2.15pm and all season ticket holders and paying home supporters can get a FREE t-shirt at tomorrow's match - we look forward to welcoming you tomorrow!

SEASON TICKETS 2024/25



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- Adult £135.00 £6.43
- Conc. £90.00 £3.80
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Goalkeeping Coach: Gavin King

Analyst: Michael Smith

Kit Manager: Pete Barker

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Billy Cracknell

Luke Deslandes

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Ben Frempah

Rhamar Garrett-Douglas

Brian Garzon

Andronicos Georgiou

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Ayo Tanimowo

Bobby Webb



Manager: Miles Rutherford

Coach: Darin Killpatrick

Coach: Danny Potter

Physio: Kira Brown

Isaac Bello

Josh Clack

Joe Clarke

Connor Cody

Curtis da Costa

Ryan Davidson

Emmett Dunn

Jamie Horncastle

Rob Hutchings

Mo Jammeh

Dion Jarvis

Kieran Magee

Joe Moore

Olly Munt

Ben Pashley

Ethan Prichard

Lloyd Rowlatt

Jimmy Wild

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee:

Assistants:

Fourth Official:

NEXT UP IN N12:

TBC (FAT) – 05/10/2024

Bowers & Pitsea (ILP) – 15/10/2024

Chatham Town (ILP) – 26/10/2024