



## **WEEKLY NEWS AND MATCH BULLETIN**

**Season 2011/12 No: 01 - : - 16<sup>th</sup> August 2011**

### **SEASON 2011-12 WELCOME**

I wish to extend best wishes to all Member Clubs of the Ryman Football League in season 2011/12. As always, last season the three Divisions were particularly competitive, and I see no reason that 2011/12 will be any different.

Once again our good friends at Ryman Ltd. are sponsoring the League, Lucas Fettes & Partners will continue their sponsorship of the Youth Cup and the Macron Dealers will once again sponsor the monthly awards (Manager of the Month, Team of the Month and Golden Boot awards,

Season 2011/12 sees us warmly welcome the five new member clubs to our League – Crawley Down, Hythe Town, Leiston, Lewes and Soham Town Rangers - competing in a very strong Premier Division and two regional First Divisions.

At the same time we have had to say goodbye to a number of clubs – Horsham YMCA, Fleet Town, Sutton United, Tonbridge Angels, and we wish them every success and enjoyment in their respective new Leagues this season.

Hopefully, we will also see success for our Clubs in the FA Cup competitions, as well as in the respective County Cup games.

I also look forward with much anticipation to the fifth season for our Youth League, now with thirty-six clubs competing in four Divisions, together with our ever-growing Youth Cup, Veterans Cup and Women's Cup competitions.

The Ryman Football League is fully committed in its support of The FA's "Respect Programme", and look to the full co-operation of all Member Clubs of the League with this initiative to enhance our game.

Good luck to every Club in our League, and thank you for your support.

**Alan Turvey – Chairman**

## SEASON 2011/12 PREVIEW

By Peter Butcher – Ryman League Communications Administrator

### Premier Division

MUCH of the pre-season talk in the Premier Division has been about Carshalton Athletic. The south London club's owner-manager Paul Dipre has recruited heavily during the summer.

His new-look attack includes former Kingstonian winger Dean Lodge, who will be supplying the ammunition for marksmen such as Paul Vines, who played for Kingstonian and Bromley last season, Laurent Hamici, who netted 22 Premier goals for Cray, and Dean McDonald, a prolific scorer for Conference South play-off finalists Farnborough.

There are plenty of other new faces at Colston Avenue and if the Robins get off to a good start they will expect to maintain a strong title challenge.

Even so, they are far from being favourites. That status is generally being accorded to Lewes, just relegated from Conference South and preparing to play at Step 3 level for the first time in their history. During their 13-year climb from next-to-bottom of the old Isthmian Division Three to the Conference Premier, they managed to skip that level altogether.

Steve King is the manager who took them into the Conference Premier but left before they played a game in that division. Now he is back at the helm, having been at Farnborough last season, and most people expect him to work similar magic.

Lowestoft Town are likely to be there or thereabouts, though they will want a warm winter. They faded badly towards the end of last season as long midweek trips for rearranged matches took their toll, but still reached the play-off final before going down 4-3 in a thriller at Tonbridge.

The sides beaten in the play-off semi-finals were Bury Town and Harrow Borough. Bury will no doubt be up with the leaders again, but Harrow will find it harder after the departure of long-serving manager David Howells.

But maybe, just maybe, this will be Kingstonian's year. Beaten play-off finalists in 2010, they somehow threw away a play-off place on the final day of last season when, 3-0 up in 30 minutes at Margate, they finished on what can only be described as the wrong end of a 3-3 scoreline. Bobby Traynor, the division's Golden Boot winner for the past two years (and in Division One South a year before that) remains to spearhead their attack.

The Essex quartet of AFC Hornchurch, Billericay Town, Canvey Island and Concord Rangers all finished within four points of the play-offs in last season's hotly-contested race and are all likely to be there or thereabouts once more. Cray Wanderers were the other side in the play-off hunt but then came a big gap to the rest of the field, led by Wealdstone, who will be looking to improve, and Carshalton, already mentioned.

The four promoted clubs – East Thurrock United, Leatherhead, Metropolitan Police and Wingate & Finchley - all have a mid-table air about them, so no doubt one of them will be strong contenders at the top and one will struggle to survive. But which ones?

Favourites for relegation are homeless Horsham, whose financial difficulties forced them to part company with legendary manager John Maggs during the summer. His replacement, former

Faversham boss Justin Luchford, faces a thankless task.

Sussex opinion seems to be that Hastings United are also likely to find the going tough while Aveley gained a relegation reprieve last season after finishing 19th and, despite signing veteran midfielder Micah Hyde from Billericay, may not find it easy to do better.

Unmentioned so far: Tooting & Mitcham United, Hendon and Margate, with the latter, perhaps, the most likely of the trio to make progress up the table.

### **Division 1 North**

It's no surprise that newcomers Leiston are already widely fancied to win promotion at the first attempt. The Eastern Counties League champions have an experienced manager in Mark Morsley and a strong-looking squad.

History is also on their side: teams arriving in Division One North from the feeder leagues almost invariably enjoy impressive debut seasons and Suffolk clubs have done particularly well, with Lowestoft winning the title at the first attempt in 2010 and Needham Market finishing runners-up last season, 15 points clear of third place, though they crashed out in the play-off semi-finals.

The Marketmen have lost some key players, notably Craig Parker, who scored 33 league goals from midfield to win the division's Golden Boot. He has joined Chelmsford. A 7-0 defeat in a friendly at Lowestoft last Tuesday does not bode well but they will surely be in the leading group.

Another Suffolk club, AFC Sudbury, twice reached the play-offs in vain before spending two modest years in the Southern League. Returning to the Ryman League last season, they missed the play-offs by three points, largely thanks to some off days for their defence who five times conceded four or more goals. They will expect to improve this time.

The other two disappointed play-off clubs, Harlow Town and Brentwood Town, will be there or thereabouts again, though pitch problems have disrupted Brentwood's pre-season programme and they will hope that it does not cost them early points.

Maldon & Tiptree again have a strong squad. They failed to achieve their potential in 2010-11 and will be looking for a play-off place, at least, this time, as will Grays Athletic where former Thurrock manager Hakan Hayrettin has taken over from Julian Dicks.

Enfield Town's prospects may depend on how well they adjust to their new home at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium (its address, Donkey Lane, may not be the best of omens) when they move in. Their early home games will be played at Cheshunt.

Thamesmead Town will not have a new home but expect that an impressive new main stand development will be finished by the turn of the year.

Two other sides new to this division will provide an interesting test of its comparative strength. Chatham Town transfer from Division One South, where they finished 21st but gained a reprieve from relegation, and Soham Town Rangers switch from the Southern League, where they had a modest season, to bring Ryman League football to Cambridgeshire for the first time.

### **Division 1 South**

Bognor Regis Town suffered the cruellest of ends to the 2010-11 season. A carelessly-conceded injury-time goal in a 3-1 Easter Monday win over Worthing proved catastrophic when, five days later, they could only draw 1-1 at lowly Chatham in the final league game and lost the title by a single goal to Metropolitan Police.

Then, as often happens to clubs who go so close to automatic promotion, they crashed out in the play-off semi-finals.

The Rocks, as ever, will play entertaining football. They have retained the services of the overall Golden Boot winner, Jason Prior, whose tally of 38 league goals included 11 in the last four games, a spell in which he became the first Bognor player ever to net a hat-trick of hat-tricks. Another key forward, Ben Johnson, has gone to Dagenham & Redbridge but Rocks have snapped up Terry Dodd, who netted 21 goals in all competitions for neighbours Worthing.

Bognor probably start the season as favourites but they will face strong competition. All three clubs relegated from the Premier Division have come South and all have high hopes of an immediate return.

Maidstone United start work on their new ground in the town very shortly and want to be there for the start of next season. They have moved back to Sittingbourne for the current campaign and would like nothing more than to host Premier Division football when they at last return home.

Croydon Athletic have stabilised after last season's off-field misery and Folkestone Invicta will also hope for a swift return to the Premier. They will need to improve their goalscoring record: 16 clubs in the division outscored them when they went up in 2009-10 and, not surprisingly, they were the lowest scorers in the Premier last season as they claimed the wooden spoon.

Two ambitious newcomers may well be in the mix: Crawley Down ran away with the Sussex County League title last season while Hythe Town came out on top in a tighter battle for Kent League honours.

Not to be forgotten are two other Sussex clubs: Whitehawk reached the play-offs in their debut season, rattling in a

league-high 109 goals, and Burgess Hill Town were still in the play-off hunt on the final day.

A number of others, including Ramsgate and Worthing, will hope to step up a gear and challenge, while perhaps the club whose early results will be watched with the most interest are the league's longest-serving club, Dulwich Hamlet, ever-present since 1907. (Next in line, by the way, are Tooting, who joined 49 years later. Kingstonian arrived in 1929 but do not have unbroken membership).

After a strong second half, Dulwich crept into the play-offs at the death, 23 points adrift of fourth place (the same margin that separated them from 20th spot) and 31 points behind Bognor whom they proceeded to eject from the play-offs in style. Then they came within minutes of finishing the job, leading Leatherhead 3-1 before a Kev Terry hat-trick snatched a 4-3 victory for Tanners in what was, by common consent, the Ryman League's match of the season.

# Respect



# FINAL LEAGUE TABLES

*Season 2010/11*

## PREMIER DIVISION

	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>GD</b>
Sutton United	42	26	9	7	76	33	87	+43
Tonbridge Angels	42	22	10	10	71	45	76	+26
Bury Town	42	22	10	10	67	49	76	+18
Lowestoft Town	42	20	15	7	68	30	75	+38
Harrow Borough	42	22	7	13	77	51	73	+26
Canvey Island	42	21	10	11	69	51	73	+18
Kingstonian	42	21	9	12	66	50	72	+16
Concord Rangers	42	21	8	13	72	55	71	+17
Cray Wanderers	42	20	9	13	72	46	69	+26
AFC Hornchurch	42	19	12	11	58	46	69	+12
Billericay Town	42	20	9	13	56	45	69	+11
Wealdstone	42	16	10	16	58	54	58	+4
Carshalton Athletic	42	14	10	18	49	57	52	-8
Tooting & Mitcham United	42	13	10	19	63	85	49	-22
Hendon	42	12	10	20	61	81	46	-20
Margate	42	11	12	19	52	64	45	-12
Horsham	42	11	11	20	43	77	44	-34
Hastings United	42	9	11	22	50	65	38	-15
Aveley	42	10	8	24	35	62	38	-27
Maidstone United	42	9	10	23	43	75	37	-32
Croydon Athletic	42	10	4	28	44	95	31	-51
Folkestone Invicta	42	5	12	25	34	68	27	-34

*Croydon Athletic FC deducted three points*

## DIVISION ONE NORTH

	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>GD</b>
East Thurrock United	40	30	5	5	92	38	95	+54
Needham Market	40	26	9	5	95	49	87	+46
Wingate & Finchley	40	21	9	10	72	54	72	+18
Harlow Town	40	21	8	11	61	51	71	+10
Brentwood Town	40	20	9	11	75	55	69	+20
Enfield Town	40	21	5	14	76	44	68	+32
AFC Sudbury	40	18	12	10	82	64	66	+18
Maldon & Tiptree	40	18	9	13	70	67	63	+3
Heybridge Swifts	40	17	10	13	81	59	61	+22
Grays Athletic	40	17	10	13	69	51	61	+18
Waltham Abbey	40	16	10	14	75	63	58	+12
Romford	40	16	7	17	63	66	55	-3
Potters Bar Town	40	14	9	17	60	68	51	-8
Ware	40	13	6	21	57	77	45	-20
Great Wakering Rovers	40	13	5	22	60	82	44	-22
Redbridge	40	10	9	21	51	79	39	-28
Thamesmead Town	40	11	6	23	42	71	39	-29
Cheshunt	40	10	8	22	49	81	38	-32
Tilbury	40	11	4	25	41	66	37	-25
Ilford	40	8	8	24	42	81	32	-39
Waltham Forest	40	6	8	26	43	90	26	-47

<b>DIVISION ONE SOUTH</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>GD</b>
Metropolitan Police		42	30	6	6	102	41	96 +61
Bognor Regis Town		42	29	9	4	103	43	96 +60
Whitehawk		42	26	10	6	109	44	88 +65
Leatherhead		42	27	7	8	100	41	88 +59
Dulwich Hamlet		42	19	8	15	79	59	65 +20
Walton & Hersham		42	18	8	16	69	58	62 +11
Burgess Hill Town		42	16	14	12	69	60	62 +9
Faversham Town		42	15	16	11	56	48	61 +8
Ramsgate		42	16	12	14	65	63	60 +2
Chipstead		42	15	12	15	63	67	57 -4
Sittingbourne		42	16	8	18	52	66	56 -14
Walton Casuals		42	15	8	19	65	71	53 -6
Fleet Town		42	14	10	18	68	90	52 -22
Worthing		42	12	13	17	76	73	49 +3
Whitstable Town		42	12	13	17	58	75	49 -17
Whyteleafe		42	14	3	25	65	94	45 -29
Godalming Town		42	13	6	23	52	82	45 -30
Eastbourne Town		42	11	11	20	60	78	44 -18
Merstham		42	10	15	17	60	85	44 -25
Corinthian-Casuals		42	11	9	22	53	80	42 -27
Chatham Town		42	10	10	22	52	80	40 -28
Horsham YMCA		42	5	8	29	41	119	23 -78

*Merstham FC deducted one point*

## Forthcoming Fixtures

### Saturday, August 20th

#### PREMIER DIVISION

Aveley	v. Kingstonian
Billericay Town	v. Leatherhead
Canvey Island	v. Carshalton Athletic
Hastings United	v. Wingate & Finchley
Hendon	v. Concord Rangers
Horsham	v. Bury Town
Lowestoft Town	v. Lewes
Metropolitan Police	v. Harrow Borough
Tooting & Mitcham United	v. East Thurrock United
Wealdstone	v. Margate

#### DIVISION ONE NORTH

Cheshunt	v. Great Wakering Rovers
Grays Athletic	v. Ware
Harlow Town	v. Romford
Ilford	v. Enfield Town
Maldon & Tiptree	v. Chatham Town
Needham Market	v. Potters Bar Town
Redbridge	v. AFC Sudbury
Soham Town Rangers	v. Waltham Forest
Thamesmead Town	v. Heybridge Swifts
Tilbury	v. Brentwood Town
Waltham Abbey	v. Leiston

### DIVISION ONE SOUTH

Bognor Regis Town	v. Chipstead
Burgess Hill Town	v. Croydon Athletic
Dulwich Hamlet	v. Whyteleafe
Eastbourne Town	v. Sittingbourne
Faversham Town	v. Worthing
Folkestone Invicta	v. Walton & Hersham
Godalming Town	v. Hythe Town
Maidstone United	v. Whitehawk
Merstham	v. Corinthian-Casuals
Ramsgate	v. Crawley Down
Walton Casuals	v. Whitstable Town

**Sunday, August 21st**

### PREMIER DIVISION

Cray Wanderers	v. AFC Hornchurch
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**Monday, August 22nd**

### PREMIER DIVISION

Kingstonian	v. Horsham
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**Tuesday, August 23rd**

### PREMIER DIVISION

AFC Hornchurch	v. Canvey Island
Bury Town	v. Hendon
Carshalton Athletic	v. Wealdstone
Concord Rangers	v. Cray Wanderers
East Thurrock United	v. Hastings United
Harrow Borough	v. Billericay Town
Leatherhead	v. Tooting & Mitcham United
Margate	v. Aveley
Wingate & Finchley	v. Lowestoft Town

### DIVISION ONE NORTH

AFC Sudbury	v. Ilford
Brentwood Town	v. Thamesmead Town
Chatham Town	v. Harlow Town
Enfield Town	v. Tilbury <i>(at Cheshunt FC)</i>
Great Wakering Rovers	v. Maldon & Tiptree
Heybridge Swifts	v. Needham Market
Leiston	v. Cheshunt
Potters Bar Town	v. Soham Town Rangers
Romford	v. Redbridge
Ware	v. Waltham Abbey

### DIVISION ONE SOUTH

Chipstead	v. Merstham
Corinthian-Casuals	v. Folkestone Invicta
Crawley Down	v. Dulwich Hamlet
Hythe Town	v. Faversham Town
Sittingbourne	v. Ramsgate

Walton & Hersham  
Whitehawk  
Whitstable Town  
Whyteleafe  
Worthing

v. Burgess Hill Town  
v. Walton Casuals  
v. Maidstone United  
v. Eastbourne Town  
v. Godalming Town

### **Wednesday, August 24th**

#### **PREMIER DIVISION**

Lewes

v. Metropolitan Police

#### **DIVISION ONE NORTH**

Waltham Forest

v. Grays Athletic

#### **DIVISION ONE SOUTH**

Croydon Athletic

v. Bognor Regis Town

## **General Information**

### **Handbook Changes**

#### **Premier Division**

##### **Carshalton Athletic**

Chairman's email address -

[chairman@carshaltonathletic.co.uk](mailto:chairman@carshaltonathletic.co.uk)

Match Secretary - John Kistner

Tel: (h) 020 8224 6179 (m) 07720  
438425

Address: 49 Manor Drive, Ewell, Epsom,  
Surrey KT19 0EU

##### **Cray Wanderers**

Match Secretary – email should read -

[martin.hodson25@ntlworld.com](mailto:martin.hodson25@ntlworld.com)

##### **Wealdstone**

Kit Colour - shirts & socks should read  
blue with white trim and shorts white with  
blue trim

#### **North Division**

##### **Brentwood Town**

Club Secretary – Ray Stevens – Home  
telephone number is 01708 508704

##### **Chatham Town**

Programme Editor – email address -

[rachel.willett1987@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rachel.willett1987@yahoo.co.uk)

##### **Grays Athletic**

Club Secretary – email address is

[graysathleticfc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:graysathleticfc@hotmail.co.uk)

##### **Harlow Town**

Chairman – email address –

[maccahtfc@hotmail.com](mailto:maccahtfc@hotmail.com)

##### **Maldon & Tiptree**

Programme Editor – As per Club  
secretary, Phil Robinson

##### **Needham Market**

Shorts - Red

##### **Potters Bar**

Programme Editor – new email address:

[jeff@jeffbarnes.co.uk](mailto:jeff@jeffbarnes.co.uk)

##### **Thamesmead Town**

Programme Editor – email address is  
(mare underscore)

[mare\\_colin@hotmail.com](mailto:mare_colin@hotmail.com)



### Tilbury

Programme Editor - email: -  
[sharman0410@hotmail.com](mailto:sharman0410@hotmail.com)

### Waltham Abbey

Secretary Derek Bird – new mobile  
number 07427 138966

### South Division

#### Crawley Down

Fixtures Secretary - email should be  
[richardmunns@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:richardmunns@hotmail.co.uk)

### Godalming Town

Chairman Kevin Young, has changed his  
mobile to 07919 388388

### Folkestone Invicta

Programme Editor – new email address:  
[richardmurrill@gmail.com](mailto:richardmurrill@gmail.com),

### Maidstone United

Midweek playing night is Wednesday

## **Ryman Football League – Statistical Review 2010/2011 Season**

The fourteenth edition of “The Statistical Review of the Ryman Football League” – 2010-2011 season is now available. The book includes players league appearances, results of league and cup matches, goal scorers and attendances of the 66 clubs.

Also included is an index of players in alphabetical format of each player used in the Ryman League and their regular playing position.

The book costs £5.50 + £1.09 (1<sup>st</sup>), 92p (2<sup>nd</sup>) or £1.79 (Europe) postage and is available from :Mike Wilson 71 Elm Road, Slade Green, Kent, DA8 2NN. Cheques should be made payable to Mike Wilson.

### **Alan Boon**

It is with great sadness that we report that Staines Town chairman Alan Boon, an Honorary Vice-President of the Isthmian League and a former Board Member, died on Saturday night at the age of 65. He had been ill for some time.

Alan had been associated with Staines for well over 30 years and was one of the most popular men in non-league football.

Everyone associated with the Isthmian League extends their sympathy to Alan's family.



## Ryman Youth League Section

For season 2011/12 the League will operate with 36 teams playing in four divisions. The Competition will be administered by Bruce Badcock.

### Central Division

Carshalton Athletic  
Chipstead  
Kingstonian  
Leatherhead  
Metropolitan Police  
Sutton United  
Tooting & Mitcham United  
Walton & Hershaw  
Whyteleafe  
Woking

### South Division

Bognor Regis Town  
Burgess Hill Town  
Eastbourne Town  
Hastings United  
Horsham  
Horsham YMCA  
Lewes  
Whitehawk  
Worthing

### East Division

Ashford United  
Bromley  
Corinthian (Kent)  
Faversham Town  
Maidstone United  
Thamesmead Town  
Tonbridge Angels  
Welling United

### West Division

Ashford Town (Middx)  
Camberley Town  
Hampton & Richmond Borough  
Harrow Borough  
Hayes & Yeading United  
Northwood  
Staines Town  
Wealdstone  
Wingate & Finchley

## Forthcoming Youth League Fixtures

### Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August

#### EAST DIVISION

Faversham Town v. Maidstone United  
Tonbridge Angels v. Ashford United

#### SOUTH DIVISION

Hastings United v. Worthing

#### WEST DIVISION

Camberley Town v. Staines Town  
Hayes & Yeading United v. Wingate & Finchley

### Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August

#### EAST DIVISION

Bromley v. Corinthian

**Wednesday, 24th August**

**CENTRAL DIVISION**

Chipstead v. Carshalton Athletic  
Sutton United v. Metropolitan Police

**SOUTH DIVISION**

Whitehawk v. Lewes

**WEST DIVISION**

Harrow Borough v. Wealdstone

**Thursday 25th August**

**CENTRAL DIVISION**

Tooting & Mitcham Utd v. Woking  
Whyteleafe v. Leatherhead

**EAST DIVISION**

Thamesmead Town v. Welling United

**WEST DIVISION**

Northwood v. Ashford Town (Middx)



Visit the Ryman League Website at

[www.isthmian.co.uk](http://www.isthmian.co.uk)

if you want more news on the League before our next bulletin which we will publish on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2011.

Please send any news items for the Website to the League's Communications Administrator Peter Butcher (peter@isthmian.co.uk)