THE DPL DISPATCH

Issue 04 - Season 25 / 26



Edited by Giles Kilshawe - Fall





Cobham Sports FC v Dorchester Sports FC – 30/08/25

Photo courtesy of Steve Harris - steve@bdfaimages.co.uk



Welcome

To the 4th edition of the Dispatch for this 25/26 Season, this edition covers the 9 League matches played on Saturday 30th August and a roundup of the League & Cup Games played on the 26^{th} & 27^{th} August.

We now have no sides boasting a 100%-win record after these last 2 rounds of games played. There are now only 3 sides that still boast an unbeaten start to their season, these are **Bournemouth Electric FC**, **Cobham Sports FC** & **Swanage Town & Herston FC**.

At the other end of the table **Westland Sports FC** picked up their 1st points and win of the season. Moving to the bottom of the table are **Poole Borough FC** who are still to win a game this season but more worryingly they have not scored a goal now in 540 minutes of League Football.

I am pleased to report that the **FA** will be running its **INTER LEAGUE CUP** Competition again this season, to that end an invitation has gone out asking for Applicants to apply for the position of Representative Team Manager, may I take this opportunity to thank those that have contacted me already, we have a closing date for applicants of the **14**th **of September 2025**I will then be in further contact with those applicants to discuss role further and invite them to attend an interview with the League Management Committee.

Applicants should e-mail me in the 1st Instance on dpl.generalsecretary@gmail.com

May I again remind ALL Clubs to fully read and understand the Rules of the Competition and if you are in any doubt, please contact the relevant League Officer for advice.

Ill Discipline is again rearing its head with certain teams clearly not understanding the new Disciplinary procedures, as an example, a Dissent offence carries 4 Penalty Points !!!, these will soon mount up!!! again your Clubs personnel are in

"Control of the Controllable offences!!!

The League is still looking for a Main Sponsor for season 2025 / 2026 and alongside a Main Sponsor there are other Sponsorship packages available, if this is of interest to you, please, in the 1st instance contact the General League Secretary on.

dpl.generalsecretary@gmail.com

Kind regards.

Giles Kilshawe-Fall









LEAGUE ROUND UP - 26th & 27th AUGUST - 2025

The 2nd round of midweek matches saw Cobham Sports FC begin their defence of the League Cup with a comfortable win on the road. Holt United FC's 100% winning record was ended by Bournemouth Electric FC at Petersham Lane

On Tuesday Night, Cobham Sports FC hit Verwood Town FC for 7 at Potterne Park as they began the defence of the League Cup in emphatic fashion winning 7-0, scoring for Sports on the night were 7 different scorers, Chris Manners, Callum Perry, Jow Wood, Daniel Lindenberg, Sam Lench, Alfie O'Connell & Ellis George

On Wednesday Night, Sherborne Town FC Reserves made it through to Round 2 of the League Cup after a 3-1 win against Hamworthy United FC Reserves at Raleigh Grove, scoring for the Zebras were Henry Lawrence-Napier, Ash Guppy & Corey Calway, who later saw Red, replying for the Hammers was Caldon Barton.

In the 2nd Round

Cobham Sports FC will now host Bournemouth Sports FC Sherborne Town FC Reserves will now travel to Hamworthy Recreation FC Reserves

In the League on Wednesday Night, the Bulls of Holt United FC were well and truly tamed, as Bournemouth Electric FC beat them 5-1 at Petersham Lane, scoring for Electric were Kareem Soliman, Matt Charalambous [x2] Jackson Kavita & Oliver Bird with George Lane scoring for the hosts who also had Levi Middlewick sent off to cap off a disappointing evening.

Finally, Bournemouth Sports FC welcomed Poole Borough FC to Chapel gate with Sports winning the game 2-0 with goals from Dan Hayward & Tommy White.







LEAGUE MATCH REPORTS - SATURDAY 23rd AUGUST - 2025

COBHAM SPORTS FC DORCHESTER SPORTS FC

(1) (0) 1

DPL Matchday 6 at Merley Park on a rain sodden afternoon saw an intriguing encounter between Cobham Sports and Dorchester Sports, it was pretty much a game of chess but a very entertaining game of football between two of the league's leading teams, the game finished as a 1-1 draw with both goals being scored within two minutes of each other.



The opening exchanges were very even, Cobham taking the game to Dorchester, but the defensive unit of the visitors broke play up on many occasions, Dorchester looked sharp on the break with Brinley Doyle and Dan Sheehy's pace always likely to cause Cobham problems but generally the home side coped well when being countered. Aldo Bertorelli was the first to get a save out of the keepers, Nick Hutchings dealing with his effort comfortably in the 19th minute, this sparked Cobham into life and two minutes later both Sam Lench and Asa Phillips had shots blocked by stretched Dorchester defenders. Dorchester came close with a ball into the box bouncing awkwardly for Jacob Deakin in the Cobham goal in the 24th minute, Dylan Riley's effort just clearing the bar. Hutchings made a fine save from Callum Clarke in the 27th minute and Lench's effort from the rebound went wide. Cobham were spending more time in the final third than the visitors







and when they won a free kick in the 36th minute up stepped Callum Perry but his shot was just wide of the right hand upright. Back came Dorchester on the counter and Dan Sheehy's effort in the 37th minute was just too high. As Phillips brought a good save out of Hutchings in the 44th minute but just two minutes later Cobham took the lead, Perry's excellent corner from the left was nodded home by **Ellis George** and Cobham led at the break.

HT 1-0

Cobham made a disastrous start to the second half, Chris Manners was caught on his heels inside his own half in the 46th minute and surrendered possession from which Dorchester ended with a corner, from the corner the excellent Sam Poole's header was headed off the Cobham line but only as far as **Callum Streamer** who poked the ball home to level things up. The game could possibly have been turned on its head in the 57th minute, Asa Phillips picking up a second yellow card reducing Cobham to ten men, but this seemed to spur the home side into action after their sluggish start to the second half. Cobham retained the ascendancy with Cam Beard instrumental in so positive in the heart of the Cobham midfield, he had a low shot saved well by Hutchings in the 73rd minute and the introduction of Amechi Eze-Sunday had a positive impact on proceedings. Cobham continued to push forward and when Hutchings dropped a cross in the 88th minute Eze-Sunday so nearly punished the mistake, but Dorchester cleared the ball to safety and this exciting tussle ended in a 1-1 draw.



Photos courtesy of Steve Harris - steve@bdfaimages.co.uk









BOURNEMOUTH ELECTRIC FC BALTI SPORTS FC

(3)(0)

4

Bournemouth Electric FC welcomed the much-improved Balti Sports FC to Broadway Park in the Dorset Premier Football League, and after the euphoria of their mid-week success at Holt, this game was always going to be the next difficult challenge.

Electric kicked off with a strong wind and driving rain behind them and soon found Balti a difficult nut to crack. Early raids were halted by Evans and Hawker at the centre of their defence who dealt with anything through the middle, it wasn't until electric got the ball out wide that things opened up for the attacking side, when the ball was switched from right to left to find **Oliver Bird** in space to volley a great shot into the net 1-0. Balti responded on the break, and it was only the slightest touch of Lucas Phillips fingertips that denied Balti an equaliser. Balti continued to frustrate the Electric forwards but in the 27th minute a clever ball from midfield allowed **Matt Charalambous** to slip through to make it 2-0. Balti settled and continued to threaten forcing Electric to defend, but it was from a Balti corner that Electric furthered their lead when a quick clearance found Oliver Bird whose pass put through **Kareem Soliman** who finished with some aplomb

HT 3-0

The second period started, and it was Electrics turn to face the Storm and Balti had the wind behind and stepped up the pace limiting Electric. However, it was Electric who found space on the counter found Charalambous in front of goal but the chance to kill the game off was missed with a good save from English. This seemed to give Balti some energy and Electric conceded a corner and from the resultant kick **Ryan McKechnie** crept in at the far post to score. Balti were on the charge now pressing Electric into spaces they didn't want to play and once again it was from a corner that Electric conceded their second when **Jake Hawker's** well-placed header found the net, game on now at 3-2. Electric rallied with fresh legs and forced themselves up the pitch but it wasn't until the 87th minute that Electric sealed the points when Balti conceded a free kick just outside their area, Birds fierce drive was unfortunately spilled by English and **Josh Reavenall-Nuete** was at hand to complete the job.

All in all, both teams adapted to the poor conditions, and the game was played in a good spirit with the match officials playing their part.





HOLT UNITED FC SHERBORNE TOWN FC RESERVES

(1) (0) 2

The "Bulls" entertained the "Zebras" with "Buck" hitting a brace as Holt United FC welcomed Sherborne Town FC Reserves to Gaunt's Lane on a lovely day for football with lots of rain and a sticky playing surface in the Dorset Premier Football League.



Before a ball was kicked, the game was delayed by 10 minutes due to an issue with one of the goals at Petersham Lane, once that was sorted, the game started with both teams passing the ball well on a difficult surface. There was not much to separate the teams in the rainy conditions. Holt created a good move down the left on 43 minutes when **Josh Buck** cut inside from out ide and slotted the ball to the goalkeeper right. 1-0 to Holt.

HT 1-0

The second half started in much the same manner. On 48 minutes the home side created a good shooting chance which was deflected wide. On 50 minutes Sherborne attacked through the middle, but the effort was cleared. On 58 minutes a good Sherborne attack created a shot on goal, but the Holt keeper saved well. The game was now end to end but on 82 minutes Micky Finch crossed from the left for **Josh Buck** to score his second of the match and double the host's advantage. There was eight







minutes of extra time played but no more chances were created, and Holt finished the game winning by 2 goals to 0.



Photos courtesy of Simon Carlton – carltonphotography@live.com

WESTLAND SPORTS FC	(1)	2
POOLE BOROUGH FC	(0)	0

Westland Sports FC welcomed Poole Borough FC to Alvington in the Dorset Premier Football League with a new era getting underway at the hosts after Chairman Harry Gibbs and previous reserve team manager Adam Barratt have taken charge of the team.

It was the perfect start for sports after **Josh Johns** header put them ahead after just 30 seconds. The chances came thick and fast for sports, and they doubled their lead in the 8th minute when **Luca Martin** cooly slotted his one-on-one effort through the visiting keepers legs. Sports then missed several chances from set pieces including Steve Ormrod somehow heading wide after looking certain to hit the net. Sports did make it 3









in the 30th minute when the referee played advantage to let the hosts counter, The ball ending with **Malik Kamal** beautifully bending the ball top corner from outside the box. Poole's best period of the game came in the last 5 minutes of the first half after heading onto the post from a corner and then hitting the crossbar from a one on one. Two big chances missed and a huge let off for Sports.

HT 3-0

The second half was very much one way traffic and completely controlled by the sports midfield trio of Harrison Foster, Jack Bareham and Malik Kamal. Sports made it 4-0 around the 60-minute mark after left back **Edward How** picked the ball up just inside his own half and took the ball all the way into Borough penalty area before playing a One-Two and then smashing home with his right foot. It was then quickly 5-0 after sports quickly broke away, Harrison Foster's initial shot was parried by the Poole keeper with the rebound finding **Steve Ormrod** who turned onto his left foot and drilled the ball into the bracket of the goal. Sports then quickly made four subs, but it didn't change the dominance of the half and if it wasn't for some excellent saves by the Poole Borough keeper they could of have easily extended the lead. Poole dug deep and deserve credit for keeping it at 5-0. A great start for the new management and a much welcomed first 3 points and win of the season for Westlands.

GILLINGHAM TOWN FC	(1)	2
HAMWORTHY UNITED FC RESERVES	(2)	3

Gillingham Town FC were hosts to Hamworthy Rec FC Reserves on what was a miserable afternoon for football, thankfully though for those in attendance, the football on show made up for the weather and the fans were in for a back and forth treat.

From the whistle GTFC got out of the blocks very well, which saw Hamworthy's Jordan Toop receive this first booking on the game within three minutes fouling his man to stop a dangerous counterattack. Within the first 10 mins they created two massive chances which should've seen them leading 2-0, but due to good goalkeeping and lack of finishing Hamworthy somehow managed to keep the score line at 0-0. GTFC would be made to pay dearly for their misses as this gave Hamworthy a chance to build into the game which they duly did. Growing in confidence after a shaky start, Hamworthy took the lead with a great strike from **Jaicob Crowther** putting the visitors 1-0 up against the run of play. Having settled with the goal Hamworthy starting to play football causing GTFC some problems of themselves to deal with. With the game flowing back and forth with plenty of chances either end, Gill manage to level the score at 1-1 with a neat timed headed finish from **Devon Proctor**. With halftime approaching it was another GTFC mistake that gifted Hamworthy the lead, a poor back pass to Gill goalkeeper, Hamworthy intercepted the back pass laying the ball to **Caiden Barton** to slot the ball home so putting the Hammers back in front.









HT 1-2

The Second half was much like the first chances at both ends and goalkeepers keeping the score at bay. Though it was Hamworthy again who were able to convert their chance and make it 3-1 through a finish from **Steven Mackay**. Right from kick off GTFC created a massive chance from a ball in from the right and Cam Butler making connection which saw his effort hit the underside of the bar and somehow stay out of the goal. Jordan Topp saw himself receive a second needless yellow card for kicking the ball away and in turn allow Hamworthy to see out the last remaining minutes with 10 men. Gillingham went all out attack trying to find a way back into the game which saw **Klarc Coates** make it 3-2 with a low shot into the corner of the net giving the visiting goalkeeper no chance of saving. Gillingham threw everything at Hamworthy for 15 mins but couldn't find a way to even things up. With good goalkeeping and defending Hamworthy they were able to take away the three points in a very entertaining match at Woodwater Lane.

A game which had everything and a game that GTFC will be very annoyed that they didn't get points from.

BOURNEMOUTH SPORTS FC
WIMBORNE TOWN FC RESERVES

(3)(1)

Bournemouth Sports FC made it four successive wins at home so far this season with a comprehensive 7-2 victory against an enthusiastic and energetic Wimborne Town FC Reserves side on a very wet and windy afternoon at Chapel Gate.

The hosts got off to a perfect start when winger **Taylor Webb** raced onto a through ball from captain Taylor Edwards to fire home inside the opening minute of the game. The men from Chapel Gate would double their lead only moments later when striker **Dan Hayward** headed home a cross from close range into the roof of the net. Relentless Bournemouth added a third in the 11th minute when new striker Sam Bennett & Taylor Webb combined well together in a move that saw **Taylor Webb** score his second goal of the game. As the half went on Wimborne grew into the game and had a lot of possession without creating too many chances. However, they did pull one back in the 32nd minute following some good approach play courtesy of **Kester Wilson**.

HT 3-1

Bournemouth started the second half brightly and substitute Tom Beckett saw his effort from just outside the area go close. The men from Chapel Gate would increase their lead in the 54th minute when **Taylor Webb** grabbed his hat-trick converting well from an excellent cross into the box by Josh Kerney. Sam Bennett would then score a debut goal in the 64th minute finishing well from a flick on by Dan Hayward. Central defender **Tommy White** would score his second goal of the week when he powerfully headed home a Taylor Edwards free kick in the 70th minute. Indeed, Edwards almost scored himself movements later, but couldn't quite get the right connection at the far post







following a low cross into the area. Wimborne scored again in the 73rd minute when **James Storey** headed home from a cross into the box. Substitute striker **Madison Wilkin** returning to Bournemouth Sports this season put the game to bed in the 77th minute firing home a left foot shot inside the box following a bit of a scramble. The win sees last season's league champions sit in 5th place having a had a reasonably decent start to their campaign.

SWANAGE TOWN & HERSTON FC	(0)	0
HAMWORTHY RECREATION FC RESERVES	(0)	0

Swanage dropped points but remain unbeaten in the Dorset Premier Football League after producing a disappointing display against a well organised young Hamworthy Recreation FC Reserve side at Day's Park in testing weather conditions.

The first half was a very low-key affair played in driving rain, both sides failed to create any clear-cut chances with home keeper Taylor Hibbs probably the busier of the two keepers.

HT 0-0

The second half continued in the same vein; Swanage showed their frustration and were unable to break the well organised visitors down. The Recreation Reserves were always dangerous on the break and the Swans defence had to be aware of any danger. All in all, a frustrating afternoon for the hosts but, being positive, the side still remain unbeaten after 6 games.

PORTLAND UNITED FC RESERVES	(0)	1
BLANDFORD UNITED FC	(1)	3

On a wet, blustery day at the Camp & Satherley Stadium, Portland United FC Reserves hosted Blandford United FC in what turned out to be a real test for both sides. With heavy rain quickening the surface, the game was always likely to favour the team that adapted fastest to the pace of the pitch.

Both teams started brightly, probing for the opening goal, but it was Blandford who struck first. On just 7 minutes, the Royals were awarded a free kick just outside the area. Up stepped **Dan Kelly**, who drilled a low, driven strike through the Portland wall and into the bottom corner — just out of reach of Blues goalkeeper Alfie Watts. The early setback left Portland chasing the game, and although there were half-chances at both ends, neither side managed to add to the score before the break. The first half ended with Blandford holding a slender 1–0 advantage.

HT 0-1









The second half followed a similar pattern, end-to-end football with both teams looking to seize control. Portland came out with renewed energy and got the perfect start. Just four minutes after the restart, **Kai Kilcoyne** latched onto a neat through ball and kept his composure to slot a low shot under the diving Blandford keeper, drawing the Blues level at 1–1 and sparking fresh life into the contest. But parity didn't last long. Barely three minutes later, a defensive mix-up in the Portland penalty area left Watts scrambling. The loose ball fell kindly for **Elliott Manson**, who reacted quickest, tapping into an unguarded net to restore Blandford's lead at 1–2. The Royals weren't finished. On 52 minutes, Elliott Manson again, timing his run perfectly to latch onto another precise through ball before driving a low effort under the keeper to make it 1–3. From there, despite plenty of endeavour from the Blues, Blandford managed the game well, using the slick surface to their advantage and keeping Portland at arm's length until the final whistle. In the end, Blandford United's ability to exploit the conditions proved decisive, leaving Portland United Reserves frustrated on home turf. The result keeps the Blues hovering just above the bottom of the table, one place off the foot of the standings on goal difference and leaves them with plenty to work on ahead of another tough test. Next up, Portland Reserves travel to Raleigh Grove on Saturday 6th September, where they face Sherborne Town Reserves in what promises to be another challenging encounter.

VERWOOD TOWN FC	(1)	2
BRIDPORT FC RESERVES	(0)	2

In very wet conditions, Verwood Town FC welcomed Bridport FC Reserves to Potterne Park in the Dorset Premier Football League, with the Bees returning to West Dorset with a well-deserved point after being 2 down.

Bridport's attack in the first minute was snuffed out by Pope and his through ball created a counter and Town almost went ahead with a snap shot from Gray, but the ball clipped the angle and sailed over the bar. The hosts having an edge in possession. Craciun earned a free kick from a heavy tackle on the edge of the area. There was no benefit as the ball sailed high and wide. Bridport claimed territory 20 minutes into the half putting pressure on our defence, they pushed up and a counter had Bridport's defence in a scramble allowing, **Nathan Gray's** toe ender to skip over the line to put the hosts ahead. Bridport's retaliation had Town on the back foot and the back four of Danvers Pope Harvey and Matthews were at full stretch keeping them at bay. By the end of the half possession evened out resulting in play contained in the middle of the park.

HT 1-0

A good start in the second half saw three shots in the first couple of minutes saved from ending up in the net by frantic Bridport defending. 5 minutes on the clock, and a sliding tackle on Gill earned a Verwood penalty. Gray stepped up but was denied the









opportunity of putting the hosts further ahead by the keeper's diving save palming the ball away from danger. Verwood stayed on top and with 9 minutes of the half gone the pressure on Bridport's defence paid off as **Connor Gill** atoned for his penalty miss when he blasted a 20 yarder past the Bees keeper to double the hosts advantage. Tackles then got tougher resulting in one of the Bridport players taking time off the pitch in the Sin Bin. On reflection it would have been better, if he had stayed on!!

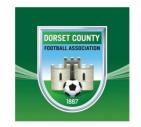
Bridport's play improved and Verwood were on the back foot giving ground against ten men. With 68 minutes on the clock, A deep Bridport cross went unchecked, and **Noah House** was free on the edge of the box and he steered a header past Beck in the Verwood goal to reduce the arrears. A few counter attacks from the home side should have resulted in a couple of safety goals, but they failed to increase the tally. With 15 minutes to go, Bridport drew level benefitting from a gap in the Verwood defence that was wider than the M25 with **Callum Arnold** benefitting to equalise. The score board registered 2-2. The game finished with the host's Beck making a great save at the foot of the post, so sending the teams in with a point each.







COUNTY CORNER



FOR 16/17-YEAR-OLDS

Who play open aged Football (Adult) - "KNOW YOUR RIGHTS"



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SEASON 2025 - 2026

- All clubs with open age teams will be required to have a named Club Welfare Officer at the point of affiliation for a New Season.
- All open age teams with 16/17-year-old players must ensure that the team coaches must have an in-date FA DBS in place.
- It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure that they are aware of any 16/17-year-olds playing, and to adhere to the FA DBS requirements.









STATS



League Table

Pos	Team	Р	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Cobham Sports FC	6	5	1	0	22	16
2	Bournemouth Electric FC	6	5	1	0	15	16
3	Holt United FC	6	5	0	1	7	15
4	Swanage Town & Herston FC	6	4	2	0	14	14
5	Bournemouth Sports FC	6	4	1	1	13	13
6	Dorchester Sports FC	6	3	2	1	7	11
7	Blandford United FC	5	3	0	2	1	9
8	Sherborne Town FC Reserves	6	3	0	3	-6	9
9	Balti Sports FC	6	2	2	2	6	8
10	Verwood Town FC	6	2	1	3	-5	7
11	Wimborne Town FC Reserves	5	2	0	3	-8	6
12	Hamworthy United FC Reserves	6	2	0	4	.9	6
13	Hamworthy Recreation FC Reserves	5	1	2	2	-7	5
14	Westland Sports FC	5	1	0	4	-2	3
15	Gillingham Town FC	6	0	2	4	-5	2
16	Bridport FC Reserves	5	0	2	3	-12	2
17	Portland United FC Reserves	5	0	1	4	-15	1
18	Poole Borough FC	6	0	1	5	-16	1





Upcoming Fixtures

Туре	Date / Time	Home	Team		Away	y Team	Venue	Competition
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Baltı Sports FC	•	VS		Gillingham Town FC	WEYMOUTH COLLEGE SPORTS CENTRE	Dorset Premier Football League
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Blandford United FC		VS		Holt United FC	PARK ROAD RECREATION GROUND	Dorset Premier Football League
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Bridport FC Reserves		VS	Ų	Poole Borough FC	ST MARY'S FIELD	Dorset Premier Football League
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Cobham Sports FC		VS		Swanage Town & Herston FC	COBHAM SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB	Dorset Premier Football League
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Dorchester Sports FC	#	VS	1	Bournemouth Electric FC	DORCHESTER TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB	Dorset Premier Football League
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Sherborne Town FC Reserves	۱	VS	9	Portland United FC Reserves	RALEIGH GROVE	Dorset Premier Football League
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Verwood Town FC	j.	VS	9	Hamworthy Recreation FC Reserves	POTTERNE PARK	Dorset Premier Football League
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Westland Sports FC	0	VS	0	Bournemouth Sports FC	YEOVIL TOWN COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE	Dorset Premier Football League
Lg	06/09/25 15:00	Wimborne Town FC Reserves	WIFE	VS		Hamworthy United FC Reserves	WYATT HOMES STADIUM	Dorset Premier Football League

Postponement Count = 0











15





		1 st Round	
26 Aug	Verwood Town FC	0-7	Cobham Sports FC
27 Aug	Sherborne Town FC Res	3-1	Hamworthy Utd FC Res

		2 nd Round	
10 Sep	Wimborne Town FC Res	V	Gillingham Town FC
16 Sep	Bridport FC Res	V	Westland Sports
17 Sep	Dorchester Sports FC	V	Balti Sports FC
20 Sep	Blandford United FC	V	Swanage Town & Herston FC
20 Sep	Bournemouth Electric FC	V	Poole Borough FC
20 Sep	Holt United FC	V	Portland United FC Res
4 Oct	Cobham Sports FC	v	Bournemouth Sports FC
15 Oct	Hamworthy Rec FC Res	V	Sherborne Town FC Res

Quarter Finals					
	V				
	V				
	V				
	V				

Semi Finals					
	V				
	V				

Final							
		V					











IFAB – Laws Of The Game Update 25/26

CAPTAINS ONLY PROTOCOL

LAWS OF THE GAME OVERVIEW

CAPTAINS ONLY PROTOCOL

Law 3 - Law 5

- Only designated captains (wearing an armband or identified at the coin toss) may approach the referee.
- Referees can activate the protocol by communicating with the players around them
 - Once the referees have communicated the captains only protocol is activated, Referees and Captains are expected to enforce
- A 4m "no-go" zone is established around the referee.
 - Other players entering this zone in an aggressive manner or to cause interruption to the process: YC for dissent
 - Multiple players = at least 1 caution; incident must be reported
- Protocol aimed at reducing confrontation and improving respect.

Purpose and Rationale

The protocol is designed to **strengthen respect between players and referees** by formalising that only the team captain may approach the referee to discuss key decisions. The aim is to reduce incidents of mobbing, dissent, and intimidation of match officials — improving the environment for everyone involved in the game.

Key Points

- Normal, respectful interactions with referees are still permitted; however, dissent (by word or action) remains a yellow card offence even for captains.
- Only the captain from each team is allowed to approach the referee on major decisions.
- Captains are responsible for ensuring teammates stay away from the referee during these moments.
- Referees may delay the restart to allow captains to communicate messages back to their teams if necessary.









Additional Details

- If the goalkeeper is the team captain, an outfield player must be nominated to fulfil this role for referee interactions.
- A "captain-only zone" of 4 metres will be established around the referee; no other players are permitted within this area.
- Any non-captain entering this zone should be cautioned for dissent by action. If multiple players enter, at least one must be cautioned, and the incident will be reported to the relevant authorities.
- Competition organisers are encouraged to introduce sanctions for repeated breaches across the season.

National Implementation

This protocol will be implemented consistently across:

- All professional competitions
- The National League Pyramids
- County FA-administered football

Our approach is to create alignment and consistency from the top tiers to grassroots, improving behaviour towards match officials at every level.

Education and Communication

We are currently rolling out education for referees, County FAs, Referee Development Officers, and other stakeholders to ensure clear understanding and consistent application.

Clarification for Youth, Veterans, Disability, and Grassroots Levels

Although IFAB have included an arm signal to initiate the protocol at these levels, in England we will not adopt this. Referees will manage the protocol themselves, using their existing match management skills.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the details further, please don't hesitate to get in touch through refereedevelopment@thefa.com









COUNTY CUPS 2025 - 2026



D.C.F.A - SENIOR TROPHY - Round 1 Sponsored by Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance



	Round 1										
4 th October	Westland Sports FC Res	V	Puddletown FC								
	HOLT UNITED FC	V	BLANDFORD UNITED FC								
	Cranborne FC	V	HAMWORTHY UNITED FC Res								
	Westover FC Bournemouth	V	Ridgeway FC								

12 Clubs have received Byes into the 2nd Round

Round 2									
		V							
		V							
		V							
		V							
		V							
		V							
		V							
		V							
		V							

Quarter Finals									
			V						
			V						
			٧						
			V						

	Semi -	Fina	als	
			٧	
			٧	

Final									
				٧					
	@ The County Ground – Hamworthy United FC								











D.C.F.A - SENIOR CUP



Round 1								
	Weymouth FC	V	Bridport FC					
	VERWOOD TOWN FC	V	Sturminster Newton United FC					
	Hamworthy Recreation FC	V	Wimborne Town FC					
	Shaftesbury FC	V	SWANAGE TOWN & HERSTON FC					
	Sherborne Town FC	V	Hamworthy United FC					
	Poole Town FC	V	Portland United FC					

Dorchester Town FC & GILLINGHAM TOWN FC both received Byes into the Quarter Finals

Quarter Finals									
			٧						
			٧						
			٧						
			٧						

Semi - Finals								
				٧				
				٧				
Final								
				٧				

@ The County Ground – Hamworthy United FC











H.F.A SATURDAY TROPHY

1 st Round									
	V								
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DPL – Respect Table 25/26

The DPL runs a Competition throughout each season to do with Respect and is based around the Points the Match Referee awards each Club in the following areas on a Match Day.

- Behaviour of Managers
- Behaviour of Players
- Behaviour of the Captain

Each area is marked out of 10 with 2 points deducted for each Sin Bin received & 3 points deducted for each S6 Red card received - (Foul & Abusive Language)

Each block is measured over 5 games with the Club receiving the most marks getting £100.00 from the League –

CURRENTLY – Due to FA Technology we are not able to produce the Table for games 1 – 5

The League is working as hard as it can to resolve this issue and will update Clubs as soon as possible.









Step 6 Leagues for Possible Relegations



st Table - Velocity Wessex League 1

Pos	Team	P	w	D	L	F	Α	GD	PTS
1	Whitchurch United	5	5	0	0	20	3	17	15
2	Romsey Town	5	4	1	0	13	5	8	13
3	Frimley Green	4	4	0	0	14	4	10	12
4	Ash United	4	4	0	0	9	4	5	12
5	Fleetlands	5	3	1	1	9	5	4	10
6	Amesbury Town	6	3	1	2	11	8	3	10
7	Folland Sports	4	3	0	1	11	5	6	9
8	Kintbury Rangers	6	2	3	1	13	10	3	9
9	Ringwood Town	5	3	0	2	11	12	-1	9
10	Hamworthy United	6	2	1	3	11	10	1	7
11	Alresford Town	5	2	1	2	9	8	1	7
12	Blackfield & Langley	5	2	1	2	6	9	-3	7
13	Cove	4	1	2	1	7	7	0	5
14	Clanfield	4	1	1	2	4	5	-1	4
15	Colden Common	4	1	1	2	10	14	-4	4
16	Newport (IoW)	4	1	0	3	4	9	-5	3
17	United Services Portsmouth	4	1	0	3	6	15	-9	3
18	AFC Aldermaston	4	0	2	2	4	6	-2	2
19	Lymington Town	4	0	1	3	4	10	-6	1
20	Yateley United	5	0	1	4	7	14	-7	1
21	Fawley AFC	5	0	1	4	2	12	-10	1
22	Totton & Eling	4	0	0	4	4	14	-10	0

<u>Latest Table – Jewson Western League 1</u>

Pos	Team	P	w	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Wells City	7	5	0	2	10	15
2	Devizes Town	6	4	2	0	11	14
3	Bitton	6	4	2	0	5	14
4	Sturminster Newton United	6	4	0	2	12	12
5	AEK Boco	7	4	0	3	3	12
6	Bristol Telephones	5	4	0	1	3	12
7	Avonmouth	5	3	1	1	5	10
8	Shirehampton	5	3	1	1	2	10
9	Mendip Broadwalk	6	3	1	2	0	10
10	Longwell Green Sports	7	3	0	4	-6	9
11	Odd Down (BATH)	6	2	2	2	4	8
12	Warminster Town	7	2	2	3	0	8
13	Cadbury Heath	6	2	2	2	-2	8
14	Almondsbury	6	2	0	4	-7	6
15	Keynsham Town	6	1	2	3	0	5
16	Calne Town	6	1	2	3	-4	5
17	Cheddar	7	1	2	4	-12	5
18	Radstock Town	6	1	1	4	-7	4
19	Welton Rovers	6	0	3	3	-10	3
20	Hengrove Athletic	6	0	1	5	-7	1









Feeder League Into the DPL



DORSET SENIOR LEAGUE

Pos	Team	Р	w	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Bournemouth Popples Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Bournemouth Sports Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Cobham Sports FC Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Cranborne First	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Maiden Newton & Cattistock First	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Mere Town FC Mens 1st	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Puddletown First	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Tisbury United First	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Wareham Rangers First	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Westland Sports Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Westover Bournemouth First	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Wincanton Town Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0

LATEST RESULTS

UPCOMING FIXTURES

L	06/09/25	Bournemouth Poppies Reserves	VS	Puddletown First
L	06/09/25	Bournemouth Sports Reserves	VS	Cobham Sports FC Reserves
L	06/09/25	Tisbury United First	VS	Cranborne First
L	06/09/25	Wareham Rangers First	VS	Westland Sports Reserves
L	06/09/25	Westover Bournemouth First	VS	Mere Town FC Mens 1st







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DPL-CLUB MAP 25/26











