

Swindon and District Football League

Formed in 1891
Affiliated to the Wiltshire County Football Association Limited

Saturday 6th May, 2017

Gerrard Buxton Stadium,
Royal Wootton Bassett

George Thomas/Don Rogers Cup:

KO 11:00

**Ramsbury vs
Wroughton Reserves**

Britannia Majorettes display

Legends: KO 13:10

**Swindon Sport
vs SDFL heroes**

**125 Anniversary
speeches and thanks**

Majorettes display

Swindon Advertiser Final: KO 15:00
Tawny Owl vs Old Town United

**End of Season presentations,
League Winners & Runners up, 17:00**



Established 1891

— 1891 **125** 2016 —
YEARS



Established 1891

Swindon Advertiser

Chairman's message



Good afternoon everyone and a very warm welcome on behalf of the Swindon & District Football League. Welcome to the Royal Wootton Bassett Sports Association for the George Thomas Memorial & Don Rogers, and the Swindon Advertiser 2017 Cup Finals.

The Swindon and District League, established in 1891, is proud of its history with the amateur and professional sides of football. 125 years on we invite you to celebrate some of these memories with us.

In the first final today we see Ramsbury play Wroughton Reserves. There has been a team in Ramsbury since 1887, which is before our League began, whereas Wroughton bring a team from their junior players. Who knows whether experience or youth will bring the rewards today?

In the Swindon Advertiser Final, we see last year's winners and Premier champions this year Tawny Owl, play first division Old Town United. Tawny narrowly lost the Wiltshire Junior Cup final a few weeks ago, will they still have a hangover or will the talented players from Old Town take advantage?

On behalf of all the officers of the Swindon & District Football League, I would like to extend a warm welcome and congratulations to the four teams their managers, supporters and the match officials taking part, and hope they all have a good and enjoyable day.

I also extend my thanks and a warm welcome to Jim Thorn and Don Rogers, patrons of the George Thomas/Don Rogers Cup as well as to the Swindon Advertiser Sports Editor. We hope you all enjoy the day and the game.

I would like to extend our thanks to the Directors, Officers, Catering Staff, Bar Staff and the Ground Staff at the Royal Wootton Bassett Sports Association for their hospitality and for the use of their stadium and facilities.

I would especially like to thank our sponsors, the Swindon Advertiser and Don Rogers. In promoting and financially supporting these competitions, every player involved in the league gets a chance to play in the longest standing competition in local football.

Good Luck to all involved, and everyone have a safe journey home.

Jerry Welch

Chairman
Swindon District Football League



Welcome from the President



1966 was a memorable year for several reasons, firstly England won the World Cup (only time they have) and I made my debut in the District League for Shaw United. Little did I know then that 50 years later I would still be involved in the District League.

From being a player and manager I became a secretary when Moredon put a reserve side in and eventually gained promotion to the Premier division and won the Junior Cup.

When Moredon folded I took up refereeing, and in 1987 I was asked to join the committee and soon became involved in the bigger picture of administrating a league rather than a club, becoming the fixture secretary in 1990 a post I continue to hold.

Back then we had a committee of 18 people and today we are a group of 8 people who are working extremely hard and giving much of their own time in producing an expanding league in difficult times, I thank them all.

I have seen many changes, from having no changing rooms (Polo ground & Pembroke Gardens), dungeon rooms at Moredon unchanged since the 50's (the hub if developed will change that) through to the excellent facilities that are here at Gerard Buxton. Also we have had the introduction of 3G pitches, but now we have to organise the council pitches going backwards in having to put up the nets to keep the cost down.

The current North Wilts Youth League was initiated by the District League in the nineties before establishing itself in 2003 as a separate entity due to its popularity.

On the administration side we have seen the internet change everything, fixtures, referees, player registration all on our own website, the Whole Game System will take this even further. Technology although making it easier seems to make more work.

For the future we want all clubs to achieve Charter Status and next year the Pyramid system starts where clubs get promoted to the next level based on ability and other criteria.

Finally as we celebrate 125 years we must remember all those people who have contributed to the success of District League and we must be sure that the future of the Swindon and District League is secure.

Pete Mildenhall

President, Swindon District Football League



Hall of Fame



A new feature of the Final programme, but especially in our anniversary year, we remember and honour the characters and stalwarts of grass roots football in Swindon.

Barry Stephens nominates his father, Jim (James) A Stephens, JP.

Jim founded Castle Eaton – Castleford FC in 1962, when they entered the SDFL. He joined the SDFL Management Committee in 1967. After filling many posts, including Vice Chairman he became Chairman in 1983. He continued in that role until he became SDFL President a position he held until his passing in 1999.

This totalled 32 years of involvement with the League, 27 years as a part of their management. Jim was enrolled as a Honorary Member of the Wiltshire County FA in 1988. Jim was the Chairman of the SDFL for the Leagues 100th Anniversary.

Whilst with the League Jim played a major role in seeing the League through a very difficult period that threatened its existence. During all that time Jim was supported, as was the League, by his wife Jo. They donated the Presidential Chain of Office & also the Jim & Jo Stephens Club Trophy and Sportsmanship Award.

Their sons, Barry & Brian both played in the League, Barry with Castle Eaton, Fairford & Highworth, Brian with Castle Eaton, Blunsdon & Penhill RBL. barry.stephens@btinternet.com

Tim Smith nominates his mother Bet Smith, who was secretary of Meadowcroft in the four seasons that we played in the league 1974-1978.

Sadly Bet passed away in 2000 but she loved every minute back then. timsmith57@yahoo.com

David Rich nominates his father, Brian Rich who served on the League Management Committee for many years back in the late sixties and early seventies and I have many a fond memory as a boy when Dad was Secretary/Manager of Watchfield FC and then Shrivenham FC when they played in the League. david.rich289@btinternet.com

Current committee Chairman Jerry Welch proposes Jim Thorn as Secretary of the Swindon & District League from 1991 to 2000. Jim has some great memories of the Swindon & District League, not least when the league took over the running of the Swindon Minor League, and expanded it until they broke away to become the North Wilts League. The Swindon & District League was also the first League in Wiltshire to promote and establish Mini Soccer.

Pete Mildenhall nominates Trevor Boffin (previous president), who joined committee in 1971 and served right up to his death in 2012.

Peter Cejer nominates the club SKS Blyskawica. Founded in 1963 the club played in the League as well as the Swindon Sunday League, eventually playing in the Wiltshire Premier Division. They epitomised the ethos of fair play, being the first winners of a £500 sportsmanship bursary awarded by the County FA in 2004.

A celebration of a Sports Community



Swindon Sport vs SDFL Heroes 2017

25 years ago the league celebrated its 100th birthday with a handful of games played over the season by representative teams against Wilts League and Swindon Town opponents.

As competitive fixtures this was an opportunity for players normally on opposing teams to join together. This year's anniversary gives us a chance to share the same ethic of bringing together players and local celebrities, with the community as a whole celebrating in sport.

Players in local leagues across the country grow up and go to school together, they are work colleagues and they bump in to each other socialising. To maintain this community, when they meet on Saturdays as opponents we as league hope to foster a mutual respect for each other whether in closely contested matches, resounding victories made in honourable sportsmanship, or crushing defeats accepted with frustration but good grace.

These players turned out in the 100 year centenary match played at the County Ground against a Swindon Town 11. One nil down until the 70th minute they lost by three against players including Nicky Hammond, Paul Hunt, Eddie Murray, Sean Close and Paul Trollope.

Mal Chivers, Jim O'Brien, Jeff Pook ex Raychem, Nick Stanley ex Sauer Sunstrand, Wayne Angliss, Kev Gunning, Neil Brown ex Penhill Royal British Legion, Tony Law ex Bishopstone, Pete Jones, Tim North, Anthony Adams, James Toomey ex Greatfield.

We remember Bob Geddes ex Raychem, and John Skinner ex Penhill RBL both sadly passed away.

Look out for this year's participants, celebrities, ex-players and referees and share your experiences with them after the game.

Enjoy the game

Peter Cejer

Cup Secretary, Swindon & District League



Ramsbury

Secretary: Sean Evill

Manager: Sean Evill

We'd like to thank Adam Elmer and our fans, Dan's Mum and Dad, Stu Miller, Jack and Emily, Snooky, Raymondo and KFC!!! Thank you to Justine (for cleaning the kit), Ellie and Freinet for their support this season.

Chris 'Proccy' Procter. Keeper. Likes a danger save

Michael 'Mikey' Garratt. Defender. Likes to get his foot in!

James 'Sick note' Underwood. Defender. Likes an injury

Gareth 'Terminator' Brown. Central Defender. Likes to go head to head with forwards

Kevin 'Stats' Craner. Captain and Central Defender. Likes to organise

Thomas 'Crewe' Mildenhall. Central Midfield. Likes the centre circle!

Leigh 'See me' Harris. Central Midfield. Likes Cardiff!?

David 'Speedy' Audis. Right Wing. Likes to skin defenders

Jack 'Stoner' Stone. Central Midfield. Likes a Stella or two

Max 'Maxi' Derrick. Forward. Likes to dribble!

Matthew 'Ginger Ronaldo' Darvell. Left Wing. Likes to win shirt of shame

Daniel 'Danny Boy' Offer. Defender. Likes the free kicks!

Georgian 'Georgie Boy' Radulescu. Forward. Likes to wear a bit of Adidas

Chris 'Robbo' Roberts. Defender. Likes a crunching tackle!

Ashley 'Asher' Bowes. Forward. Likes all things weird

Peter 'Wheelo' Wheeler. Defender. Likes Tom!

Ramsbury share a long history with the League, with the first mention of the club's existence recently found in a local newspaper cutting from 1887. Ramsbury cater for all ages and service the Kennet Valley area for junior football from 5 up to 17. Last year the senior section gained Charter Standard status for the first time.



Wroughton Reserves

Secretary: Stef Kuczynski

Management: Ian Leonard & James Moxham

Thanks to everyone who's been involved with the club throughout the season on and off the pitch.

Not a bad first season for Ian and James first time in senior management after years in youth football. With a lot of our players who have not played for a few seasons and 4 or 5 young lads in their first senior season.

Cup final and mid table better than what we thought after the first few games.

Nick Entwistle. Goalkeeper. Loves to take the micky, and mess up the group chat.

Alastair Moxham. Defender. Solid young defender and whips in great crosses. First season in men's football.

Jake Kevern. Defender. Solid in the tackle & wears his heart on his sleeve.

Jake Henwood. Defender. David Luis lookalike, enjoys tackling.

Scott Currie. Defender (Captain). Wants to be a striker but a good strong defender.

Lee Curtis. Midfielder. Mr versatile with good feet. Seems like he's been playing for ever.

Ben Leonard. Midfielder. Great speed and ability to go around players. First season in men's football.

Ryan Rawlins. Midfielder. Great all rounder. Enjoys having a laugh with referees.

Daryll Chambers. Forward. Enjoys scoring goals.

Jamie Pidgeon. Forward. Loves to float around the pitch and enjoys hitting the back of the net.

Jack Hill. Midfielder. Good young player, can defend & attack down the left. First season in men's football.

Mikey Thomson. Midfielder. Great feet & awareness. Baby of the team at just 16 years old. First season in men's football.

Morgan Watts. Forward. Enjoys scoring goals and taking players on. First season in men's football.

Shamidur Chokdar. Forward. Loves giving advice.

Chris Sioley. Forward. Super sub. Only break glass in an emergency ;-)

Adam Holmes. Defender. Unable to play. Will be missed in defence.



George Thomas/Don Rogers Cup Final



Ramsbury

Colours: Red

Manager: Sean Evill

[] Chris Procter
[] Michael Garratt
[] James Underwood
[] Gareth Brown
[] Kevin Craner
[] Thomas Mildenhall
[] Leigh Harris
[] David Audis
[] Jack Stone
[] Max Derrick
[] Matthew Darvell
[] Daniel Offer
[] Georgian Radulescu
[] Chris Roberts
[] Ashley Bowes
[] Peter Wheeler

Wroughton Reserves

Colours: Blue & White

Management: Ian Leonard & James Moxham

[] Nick Entwistle
[] Alastair Moxham
[] Jake Kevern
[] Jake Henwood
[] Scott Currie
[] Lee Curtis
[] Ben Leonard
[] Ryan Rawlins
[] Daryll Chambers
[] Jamie Pidgeon
[] Jack Hill
[] Mikey Thomson
[] Morgan Watts
[] Shamidur Chokdar
[] Chris Sloley
[] Adam Holmes

Match Officials

Brian Bennett Murdoch: Referee

Leigh Treadaway: Assistant

Rory Peacey: Assistant Referee

Andrew Lincoln: 4th Official

Brian played for Swindon Supermarine, Highworth Town, Aldbourne and Chiseldon and VBA Rangers. Winning the Advertiser Cup with Liden FC. He's refereed Saturday & Sunday for 6 years with his wife a football widow and a Great listener!! He still enjoy turning up for each match ,and he says being involved in the final is a great way to end the season. Good luck to all involved..!!

Swindon born Leigh took to refereeing after managing a local grass roots team for 9 year, and has enjoyed every minute of development suggestions from polite players ever since.

Rory started refing at 14 and is now in his 4th season. He's been promoted to a level 6 and hopes to be the best he can be.

The George Thomas trophy was funded 22 years ago by his wife in memory of the Swindon & District chairman, who had been a stalwart of the League and local football for over 50 years, joining the committee in 1951, becoming chairman in 1962 and President in 1983. Don Rogers is rightly known far beyond Swindon, famously for his contribution in putting the Arsenal of 1969 in their place. In 412 appearances for Swindon in two spells between 1961 and 1977, Don scored 149 goals.

Swindon Advertiser Cup Final

Old Town United

Colours: Red and black

Manager: Chris Wood

[ ]	.....	Christopher Wood
[ ]	.....	Ashley Bragg
[ ]	.....	Godfrey Chlanga
[ ]	.....	Lewis Cholod
[ ]	.....	Eddy Essien
[ ]	.....	Joseph Gelston
[ ]	.....	Michael Gibbs
[ ]	.....	Alex Hammond
[ ]	.....	Lee Hayward
[ ]	.....	Jamie Hicks
[ ]	.....	Steven Holland
[ ]	.....	Stephen Low
[ ]	.....	Aaron Maximen
[ ]	.....	Jesse McGowan
[ ]	.....	Joe Miller
[ ]	.....	Steven Nesbitt
[ ]	.....	Christopher Reade
[ ]	.....	William Smyth
[ ]	.....	Jermaine Spellman
[ ]	.....	Mark Thatcher
[ ]	.....	Jake Tyson
[ ]	.....	Ashley Wallace
[ ]	.....	Anton Webb
[ ]	.....	Aaron Williams
[ ]	.....	Aiden Williams

Tawny Owl

Colours: Blue and white

Manager: Anthony Pascarella

[ ]	.....	Darren Coleman
[ ]	.....	Jack Allan
[ ]	.....	Mark Belcher
[ ]	.....	Reece Chaplin
[ ]	.....	Daniel Cole
[ ]	.....	Giovanni DeSando
[ ]	.....	Ryan Fry
[ ]	.....	Richard Gee
[ ]	.....	Danny Grainger
[ ]	.....	Kenny Hawkins
[ ]	.....	Danny Hyde
[ ]	.....	Lewis Page
[ ]	.....	Scott Price
[ ]	.....	Mani Randhawa
[ ]	.....	Ajay Sahota
[ ]	.....	Kevin Sandhu
[ ]	.....	Patrick Slattery
[ ]	.....	Dave Slattery
[ ]	.....	Craig Smith
[ ]	.....	Karl Spencer
[ ]	.....	Rory Sproule
[ ]	.....	James Townsend
[ ]	.....	Lewis Waldon

Match Officials

Mark Niemirski: Referee. Martyn Mitchell: Assistant. Laura Morgan: Assistant

Andrew Lincoln: 4th Official

Mark, 49, is married with 2 boys, having refed for 22 years from North Berks to Conference South. His hobbies include music, travel and going to European football matches (not for much longer! Ed).

Martyn is from Highworth and used to play locally at the Cirencester Academy. He's moved back from university this year and is enjoying his 2nd season with the league.

Laura started playing at the age of 4 and is an avid Arsenal fan. After 18 years playing for Swindon Town Ladies she took on the challenge and qualified as a referee last year. She referees boys, women and men and is pushing for promotion. Working as an IT developer and looking after her two boys she likes to keep active running or cycling.

Andrew is 20 and has been refing for 5 years. He's refed at Swindon, Cheltenham as well as Lilleshall. He's been an AR on the Toolstation Western League.

The Swindon Advertiser competition has been contested since the Advertiser donated the trophy for the 1900-1901 season, with the first final being played in front of 2000 supporters, where Even Swindon beat Stratton Reform at the Duke of Edinburgh public house ground at Gorse Hill. The cup was carried in a triumphant procession from Gorse Hill to Rodbourne led by the Even Swindon Band.

Tawny Owl

Secretary: **Deb Howse**

Manager: **Anthony Pascarella**

Jack Allan. Forward. Very good at holding the ball up as many defenders can't get round him to knock it! Lovable character. Very good at one liners!

Mark Belcher. Midfield. The Guv-nor who protects the defence. He's got a great tackle but we always think he's injured because he walks with a limp. Lovely eyes.

Reece Chaplin. Likeable character who's got a different hairstyle every week. Reece is the player in the team that you look to when you think you're having a bad game and think "actually I ain't playing that bad!"

Daniel Cole. Midfield. Engine of the team who is always in the mix of things. Biggest part of his game is bringing Ryan to matches.

Darren Coleman. GK. Top class keeper who's made crucial saves throughout the season to get us to where we are today. Nobody's ever seen him in the showers though, so the myth is still unknown.

Giovanni De Sand. Midfield. His long range of passing and set pieces are vital. Spends most of his games out with his wife!

Ryan Fry. Good winger known as Ryan Greggs amongst the lads. Good attitude seeing as he doesn't get as much game time as he'd like, but that's Cats' fault

Richard Gee. Defence. Mr Inconsistent. Superb on his day, but is partial to a good moan. His ball control is huge and the only team member that can bring the ball down on his nose!

Kenny Hawkins. Forward. For a little bloke, he wins most things in the air, takes off more than Easyjet

Danny Hyde. Defence. Commanding Centre Back who loves a header and a whinger. Started the last two seasons as skipper. Good all round lad apart from when he has a sulk, goes missing for a few weeks and loses the captaincy

Lewis Page. Midfield. Solid Winger who rarely loses the ball, but does tend to lose it when we concede.

Scott Price. A technically superb footballer, a joy to watch. If only he played like he does on FIFA he'd be a pro. Another keyboard warrior. Loves Millie.

Ajay 'Mr Step Over' Sahota. Defence. Has taken a back seat this year but when called upon he's always done a job.

Dave Slattery. Forward. Bit of a Glenn Hoddle Player/manager. Always provides inspirational team talks.

Karl Spencer. Ambidextrous footballer comfortable with both feet and both hands. Loves a showboat. Good craic and one of the team's social media warriors.

James Townsend. Joined half way through the season. Commanding in the air and jumps as high as the pitch of his voice! Seen milk turn quicker

All the lads would like to thank our main sponsors, Dan & Tracey at the Tawny Owl pub for always laying on a great spread after the games for us and for the tracksuit tops which have helped us look like a proper team at long last.



Old Town United

Secretary: **Chris Wood**

Manager: **Chris Wood**

We at Old Town United would like to take this opportunity to thank all players and volunteers that have helped us to achieve our success on the field. A special thanks to Steph for cleaning the kitchen each week. We would also like to thank everyone involved with the Swindon and District League without them none of this is possible they have done a fantastic job over the years. HAPPY 125th Birthday. I personally would like to thank Adam and Jodie and all the others at the Wilts FA for their help and continued support. Also we want to thank Your Sport Swindon and the Swindon Advertiser for all the coverage. Thank you to all the supporters that come and cheer us on no matter the weather you have all been great. Hope you all enjoy the day.

Ashley Bragg. Defender. made some fantastic tackles and scored some goals too. Solid at the back.

Godfrey Chlanga. Attacker. Wonderful to watch skilful player can score with ease.

Lewis Cholod. Attacker. Young lad, only 16!, with great potential. Skilful scored some good goals in his first season.

Joseph Gelston. Defender. First aider - defender - quick, plays the ball well, good all rounder.

Michael Gibbs. Defender. Good first touch, keeps things simple, never gives up.

Alex Hammond. Attacker. Rapid, skilful player who knows where the net is, scored some good goals.

Lee Hayward. Midfield. Team bus driver - fantastic left foot, plays the ball with ease, adaptable, has a great delivery can score goals too.

Jamie Hicks. Midfield. Quick, skilful player, good delivery.

Steven Holland. Defender. Good all round footballer. Great delivery.

Stephen Low. Defender. Great vision, good feet, loves a challenge.

Jesse McGowan. Defender. With some of best tackles we've seen, strong and reliable.

Christopher Reade. Defender. Quick, great crosser of the ball, can hit the back of the net too.

Ashley Wallace. Midfield. Strong calm player, breaks up attacks well, been constant all season.

Aaron Williams. Attacker. Great work rate, Good feet, quick, scored some very important goals this season.

Aiden Williams. Midfield. Runs forever, is everywhere, does all the hard work, likes a tackle.

Christopher Wood. Goalkeeper. Has got better as the season progressed but still finds himself in trouble a lot... sorry lads!

League Tables – correct 23 April 2017



Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
TAWNY OWL	19	19	0	0	90	57
DEERS LEAP	20	13	2	5	40	41
BASSETT BULLDOGS	20	13	0	7	21	39
SPORTZ CENTRAL	19	12	1	6	16	37
SWINDON SPITFIRES	19	8	5	6	15	29
FC DORCAN	20	9	2	9	-3	29
RAMSBURY	20	8	2	10	-16	26
SWINDON CENTURIANS	19	8	1	10	-18	25
VILLAGE INN	20	4	3	13	-27	15
NORTH SWINDON WMC	20	4	1	15	-61	13
SPECTRUM	20	1	1	18	-57	4

Division One

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
SPORT 4 PINEHURST	22	18	1	3	71	55
LYNEHAM	23	16	2	5	61	50
OLD TOWN UNITED	21	15	4	2	48	49
LOWER STRATTON	23	15	4	4	40	49
STRATTON JUNIORS	24	11	4	9	3	37
CORE CONSTRUCTION	23	10	4	9	18	34
WROUGHTON RES	22	10	2	10	18	32
NEW TOWN ALL STARS	22	9	1	12	-24	28
MARLBOROUGH RES	22	7	4	11	-7	25
MOREDON FC	24	7	2	15	-44	23
HAYDON WICK	23	5	7	11	-23	22
CHISELDON	23	3	1	19	-60	10
SWINDON AFC	22	2	2	18	-101	8



Route to the finals



SWINDON & DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE 125 YEARS

Advertiser Cup: First Round

	Home Club	Away Club	Result
1	Old Town United	v Stratton Juniors	6-3
2	New Town All Stars	v Marlborough Res	3-4
3	Tawny Owl	v Sportz Central	5-2
4	Deers Leap	v Sports 4 Pinehurst	1-2
5	Swindon Spitfires	v Ramsbury	7-3
6	North Swindon	v Haydon Wick	0-1
7	Spectrum	v Bassett Bulldogs	1-7
8	Wroughton Res	v Core Construction	H-W 3-4
9	Lower Stratton	v Moredon	2-1
10	FC Dorcan	v Swindon FC	3-1
11	Chiseldon	v Village Inn	H-W



Advertiser Cup: Second Round

	Home Club	Away Club	Result
1	Old Town United	v Swindon Spitfires	3-1
2	Bassett Bulldogs	v BYE into next round	-
3	FC Dorcan	v BYE	-
4	Haydon Wick	v BYE	-
5	Lower Stratton	v BYE	-
6	Marlborough Res	v BYE	-
7	Sports 4 Pinehurst	v BYE	-
8	Tawny Owl	v BYE into next round	-

GT/DR: First Round

	Home Club	Away Club	Result
1	Chiseldon	v Sports Central	5-4
2	Stratton Juniors	v Swindon AFC	4-0
3	New Town All Stars	v Wroughton Res	0-4
4	Deers Leap	v BYE into next round	-
5	Moredon	v BYE	-
6	North Swindon	v BYE	-
7	Ramsbury	v BYE	-
8	Spectrum	v BYE	-

Advertiser Cup: Quarter Finals

	Home Club	Away Club	Result
1	Marlborough Res	v Bassett Bulldogs	0-2
2	Old Town United	v FC Dorcan	3-0
3	Haydon Wick	v Sports 4 Pinehurst	7-4
4	Lower Stratton	v Tawny Owl	2-3

GT/DR: Quarter Finals

	Home Club	Away Club	Result
1	Wroughton Res	v North Swindon	6-1
2	Stratton Juniors	v Deers Leap	0-2
3	Chiseldon	v Spectrum	3-2
4	Ramsbury	v Moredon	4-3

Advertiser Cup: Semi Finals

	Home Club	Away Club	Result
1	Tawny Owl	v Bassett Bulldogs	0-2
2	Old Town United	v Haydon Wick	3-0

GT/DR: Semi Finals

	Home Club	Away Club	Result
1	Chiseldon	v Wroughton Res	3-5
2	Deers Leap	v Ramsbury	A-W

125 years of football in Swindon



1891 – In September, 8 clubs met in the Eagle Tavern, in Regent Street, to form the Swindon and District Challenge Cup, and competed for a trophy that was donated by Swindon Town Football Club. The competition was open to all clubs within a 12 mile radius of Swindon, their players aged 20 on 1st January each season, and living within a 5 mile radius of their clubs HQ. Mr. R Bird of St. Marks Y.M.F.S. was elected the very first Secretary with Swindon Town Reserves the winners beating Stratton Rovers 7-1.

1894 – The competition was restructured as a League with Mr. George Major as Secretary and with one division of 11 teams, was won by Cricklade Town, with Even Swindon as Runners up.

1897 – The League was dissolved, becoming a Cup competition once more, until the League was reformed in 1899 under the stewardship of Mr. H. Smith as Secretary back to a league competition

1900 – The Swindon Advertiser donated a cup for a knockout competition, open to the First division teams and with the winner of a qualifier competition of the other division taking part. The first final was played on March 23rd 1902 with Even Swindon winning 3-1 against Swindon Thistle with a crowd of over 2000 people at Gorse Hill.

1907 – First record of the Junior Cup appears when Gorse Hill beat Stratton Utd 5-2.

1913 – Highworth (when appearing in Cup final) made a claim for 16 shillings (80p) for a journey by a horse drawn vehicle holding 20 persons. This was refused instead the committee gave them 8 shillings (40p), this being equal to the train fare for the whole team.

1941 – The 50th anniversary coincided with World War 2 so the first celebration was for the 60th. This was a dinner with guest speaker Sir Stanley Rous (later to become chair of FIFA) from the FA, tickets cost 7/6 or 37pence and the event was televised on BBC evening news. This was an all male affair as no ladies invited, similar to when England won the World Cup in 1066

1952 – Moredon playing fields opened, not sure if the dressing rooms have seen any improvements since! The planned Hub being proposed cannot come soon enough.

1967 – There are many reasons for teams requesting postponements but this takes some beating, Hannington cancelled several home matches due to Foot and Mouth restrictions put to them by the Ministry of Agriculture.

1984 – The council had a phone line set up which could be used on Fridays regarding pitch postponements, also the janitor at the Civic Offices had the information on Saturday morning if you could not ring on the Friday!

1991 – The 100th anniversary was celebrated with a dinner at Blunsdon House with guest speaker Graham Kelly from the FA, this time ladies were invited.

2000 – At the beginning of this century the League were asked by the Wilts FA into organising youth football, this we did by expanding the committee to enable us to do it properly however this proved more difficult than anyone thought as off the pitch rules are so different between men and boys. However, what was set up was the beginning of the North Wilts Youth League and hopefully a defined path where these youth teams progress into the men's league.

2017 – The league sees the introduction of the Pyramid system with the first promotion of Bassett Bulldogs in our History to the Wilts League

Since 1990 cup finals being played at the County Ground, Highworth, Wootton Bassett's old ground, Nationwide and Supermarine.

Another change taken on has been the drive from the FA for leagues and club to be charter standard, from the early days of no interest, most clubs see that this is the way forward and as a League we should be there next season. The last couple of seasons has seen our membership steadily grow and currently has 2 divisions (Premier and Division 1), with 24 Club members.

As a League we have come a long way overcoming many problems to ensure that as many people as possible enjoy their football and long may it continue.

History



Swindon Advertiser Cup

- 1991/92 – Raychem SSC
- 1992/93 – Raychem SSC
- 1993/94 – Ivy Leaf
- 1994/95 – Old Nick
- 1995/96 – Ivy Leaf
- 1996/97 – FC Venus
- 1997/98 – Jacobs Ladder
- 1998/99 – Bliss Menswear
- 1999/00 – County Ground AFC
- 2000/01 – Liden FC
- 2001/02 – Wheatsheaf Sports
- 2002/03 – Custom Homes
- 2003/04 – Windmill
- 2004/05 – Zurich
- 2005/06 – Zurich
- 2006/07 – Fratellos
- 2007/08 – Rodbourne Arms
- 2008/09 – Queenstown
- 2009/10 – Old Town Wanderers
- 2010/11 – Queensfield Utd
- 2011/12 – Queensfield Utd. Ref: Kevin Small
- 2012/13 – Fratellos. Ref: Mark Willis
- 2013/14 – Fratellos. Ref: Chris Harris
- 2014/15 – Avtar Construction.
Ref: Martin Ealey
- 2015/16 – Tawny Owl. Ref: Jeremy Moyes

Chairman's Jubilee Cup

- 2003/04 – Windmill
- 2008/09 – Rodbourne Arms

George Thomas Memorial – Don Rogers Cup

- 1991/92 – CFC
- 1992/93 – Highworth Athletic
- 1993/94 – Pinehurst Community
- 1994/95 – John O'Flynn
- 1995/96 – Jacobs Ladder
- 1996/97 – Wroughton
- 1997/98 – Bliss Menswear
- 1998/99 – Swindon Eagles
- 1999/00 – Artois Athletic
- 2000/01 – Queenstown
- 2001/02 – Bulldog
- 2002/03 – The Regent
- 2003/04 – Wroughton
- 2004/05 – Ridgeway
- 2005/06 – Liden FC
- 2006/07 – Rodbourne Arms
- 2007/08 – South Swindon
- 2008/09 – Moonrakers
- 2009/10 – Queenstown
- 2010/11 – Swindon Auto Engine Tune
- 2011/12 – Spectrum. Ref: Graham Dancer
- 2012/13 – Ferndale Working Men's Club
Ref: Adrian Povey
- 2013/14 – Lower Stratton
Ref: Brian Bennett Murdock
- 2014/15 – Old Town United
Ref: Brian Bennett Murdock
- 2015/16 – Bassett Bulldogs
Ref: Colin Tewkesbury



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