Latest Round-ups:

Midweek Action: There were goals flying in left, right and centre on Tuesday evening, with the matches averaging more than four per game. In the Premier Division, **Sidmouth** and **Saltash** set the ball rolling, sharing six goals in a thriller at Manstone Lane. After Jamie Price's bullet header had put the hosts in front early on, the Ashes utilised two spot kicks to turn the game in their favour, with Ben Goulty and Henry Donovan netting penalties either side of the break. A Nathan Cooper goal midway through the second half drew Sidmouth level, with the visitors then putting themselves back head courtesy of a Finley Wilkes strike 15 minutes from time. It was then to Cooper to save Sidmouth, with his second goal coming in the closing stages to make it three-apiece. In another belting tie, **Bovey Tracey** scored a pair of late, late goals to complete a 4-3 win at home to **Brixham**. Having made a dream start, leading by two goals to nil inside 15 minutes, Bovey then saw their visitors score either side of the interval through Ryan Beattie and Charlie Johansen to make it 2-2 early in the second period. A Reece Somers strike eight minutes then looked to have secured a brilliant turnaround in Brixham's favour, but the hosts surged to victory in the closing stages, with Josh Webber making it three-all, before Zico Kendall then found the top corner two minutes from time. Things were more one-sided in the remaining fixtures, with five different goalscorers leading **Clevedon** to a 5-0 win away at **Wells City**. After Dan Ball and Tom Chaplin had put the Seasiders in charge before half-time, further goals in the final quarter from Charlie Saunders, James Wakefield and sub Jamie King wrapped up Clevedon's big win. **Brislington** were also dominant in their 4-0 win at **Shepton Mallet**, with the visitors securing their first league points of the campaign. After losing their first four in the league, Bris have won back-to-back cup games, and used the confidence from those victories to win at Shepton, with Matt Wearne and Oaklan Buck making it 2-0, before a quickfire double from Tyller Davis-Whitlock completed the scoring. There was then some incredible drama in Wednesday's lone fixture, with **Tavistock** keeper Dan Holman heading home a 96th minute equaliser in their 3-3 draw away at **St Blazey**. In a battling performance from the Lambs, they fell behind on three occasions throughout the game, but responded well to end St Blazey's winning start. A fast start from the hosts saw them go ahead inside five minutes through Olly Redd, with an equaliser coming in added time at the end of the first half from Tom Chastey. Another goal at the beginning of the second period from Tallan Mitchell made it 2-1, before Shane White scored with a bullet header to get the visitors back on level terms. Tavy's hard work looked to have come undone five minutes from time when Kai Burrell powered home to make it 3-2, but after Burrell was then given his second yellow, Tavistock made use of the extra man, with Holman's stoppage time header securing a dramatic draw.

In Tuesday's First Division games, Nailsea United's Kelson Pollard plundered a hat-trick in his side's 4-0 win at Almondsbury. A brilliant counter-attack was finished off by Pollard to make it 1-0 midway through the first half, with teammate Joe Berry then slotting home to double the lead before half-time. Pollard then struck from the spot to extend the lead to three, with his hat-trick goal coming in the closing stages, after the Almonds had been reduced to nine men on a tough night for the hosts. There was also a near-perfect performance in front of goal from Josh Pearce, with his treble leading Avonmouth to a 3-0 win over Cadbury Heath, while efforts from Richard Wathen and Toby Davis at the beginning and end of the game helping Keynsham beat Welton by two goals to nil. Good things also seem to be happening for Odd Down *(pictured in action, right),* with their 3-1 win at Bitton giving them 12 points from a possible 12 to open the season. The Bath side started the game on the front foot, and took control early on, with Alfie Andrews opening the scoring, before an own goal quickly made it 2-0. Substitute Toby Cole then wrapped up the points, adding Odd Down's third in the closing stages, with a Sonny Parker consolation strike for Bitton completing the scoring in added time. Elsewhere, Longwell Green twice came from behind to rescue a 2-2 draw with Warminster. A goal in either half from Ben Snell gave Warminster the lead on two occasions, but the hosts were able to respond each time, with Omari Sims striking late in the first half, before a Will Cains header made it 2-2 ten minutes from time.



League Action: The goals then continued to flow in the Premier Division on Saturday afternoon, with Sidmouth and Newquay sharing six in another thriller at Manstone Lane. Having also draw 3-3 on Tuesday evening, Sidmouth were in the scoring mood once again, with first half goals from Lewis Hill and Cholwe Hachipuka putting them two-up at the interval. A red card early in the second half for Tom Badcott opened the door for Newquay, and they stormed right through it, with quickfire goals from Callam McOnie and Jack Bray-Evans making it two-all before the 65 minute mark. However, it was the ten-man hosts who made the next big play, going 3-2 up 15 from time, when their star performer Ryan White managed to find the bottom corner. White's goal looked like it would end up being the winner, however Newquay managed to level affairs with their final attack in the third minute of added time, with McOnie's second goal of the game leaving both sides with a point apiece. Further west in Devon, Saltash came away with a precious three points on their trip to Bovey Tracey, with first half goals from Alfie Wotton and Henry Donovan leading them to a 2-0 win.

Bottom beat top in another unpredictable day of action in the First Division, with the previously pointless Almondsbury toppling the unbeaten Odd Down 2-0 in Bath (pictured, right). With a game of few opportunities, it took a penalty to finally break the deadlock, with Lewis Hughes firing home from the spot 12 minutes before the end. With the hosts pushing for a leveller, it was Almondsbury who managed to add to their advantage, with Liam Nicholls heading home in added time to end Odd Down's winning start. The only other side to win on their travels on Saturday were Keynsham, with early goals from Mason Kelsey and Kyren Simpson-Cameron firing them into a strong position away at Oldland Abbotonians. Despite the home side having cut into the lead, Keynsham confirmed the 3-1 win after half-time, with Kevin Kyberi scoring midway through the second period. AEK Boco are now one of only two unbeaten teams remaining after they stormed to a 4-1 victory over Cadbury Heath. A fast start from the home side saw Nathan Legge open the scoring, before then teeing up Henry Winstone who made it 2-0 after less than 15 minutes. A pair of Jack Ball goals shortly after half-time then put Boco out of sight, with a last-gasp consolation from the visitors ending a near-perfect performance from the Hanham-based outfit. In a battle of fellow unbeatens, it was Avonmouth who ended the afternoon without a loss this term after they came from behind to beat Longwell Green Sports 2-1. A volleyed finish from the in-form Omari Sims had edged Longwell Green in front, before Ethan McMahon struck from the edge of the area to draw the hosts level late in the first half. The winning goal then came 15 minutes from time, with Harvey Jasper's rasping finish leading Avonmouth to their fourth home win on the bounce.



On a day of standout performances up and down the division, Nailsea United's Dylan Whittle plundered a second-half hat-trick in his sides 4-2 win over Mendip Broadwalk. Having fallen behind in stoppage time at the end of the first period, United then quickly went about turning things in their favour, with an equaliser coming within ten minutes of the restart. Whittle then took over the contest, scoring twice in the space of three minutes to make it 3-1, with a late penalty then completing his hat-trick in the closing stages. Nailsea's second-half performance was all the more impressive after they had been reduced to ten men, with Mendip completing the scoring five from time courtesy of Bertie Lucas. The biggest winners of the afternoon were Bristol Telephones, with Liam McCracken and Jamie Noble both netting twice in their 6-1 mauling of Bitton. From the moment McCracken broke the deadlock after 25 minutes, the Phones never relented for the remainder of the first half, with Leon Britton quickly making it 2-0, before Noble and McCracken quickly built a four-goal advantage. Archie Dark then extended the lead at the beginning of the second half, with Noble adding their sixth prior to a stoppage time consolation from Bitton's Aidan Noble.

Elsewhere, first half goals from James Barclay and Joe Beckey led Wincanton to a 2-0 victory over Welton, while Calne held off a fightback from Shirehampton to win 3-1 at Bremhill View. A dream start for the Lilywhites saw them score straight from the opening kickoff, with Will Banfield putting them ahead after just 38 seconds. Banfield then struck again on the half-hour to double Calne's advantage, with Louis Snailham hoping to get the visitors back into the contest when he claimed his fourth goal of the campaign. Town eventually wrapped up their victory seven minutes from time, with a fiery finish from Francis Abijo helping to restore the crucial two-goal lead.

FA Cup: Two huge victories for Western League sides saw them topple step-4 opponents in the Preliminary Round of the FA Cup. Starting with St Blazey who overturned an early deficit to beat Barnstaple 2-1 behind an excellent second half showing. Things couldn't have started much worse for the home side, with a defensive mix-up allowing Joe Hatch to steal in and fire the reigning Jewson League champions into a sixth minute lead. The Blaze have been on fire at the start of the season, remaining in both national knockout competitions to go alongside their unbeaten league start, with Harry Blows scoring from a tight angle to get them back into the contest on Saturday afternoon. It was then left to Kai Burrell to complete the comeback ten minutes before the end, with his cracking strike from the edge of the area helping to book their spot in the next round. Joining them there will be Brixham, who scored once in either half to beat Southern League opponents Willand Rovers at Haycock Lane. The Fishermen haven't quite had the start that is being enjoyed by St Blazey, but that didn't stop them completing a cup shock on Saturday afternoon, with Kieran Parkin and Ryan Beattie each finding the back of the net in their comfortable 2-0 win. The third of our sides to reach the next round were Wells City, with their tough start in the league pushed to the rearview thanks to a 3-1 win over Risborough Rangers. After Raphael Oppong's ninth minute opener had put them in front at the break, Wells then doubled their tally in the early stages of the second half courtesy of a looping finish from Jake Brown. The visitors did set up a slightly nervy finish when they pulled a goal back ten minutes from time, but Wells deservedly earned their progression through the competition thanks to a late third from Jacob Reader. Portishead Town remain in contention for a shot at progressing, with a replay required after they drew two-apiece with Larkhall Athletic *(pictured, right, courtesy of Jeremy Richards).* Having fallen behind to Freddie King's early screamer, Portishead enjoyed the best of the second half and took a 2-1 lead courtesy of headers from Jack Thorne and Ethan Feltham. However, Town were unable to hang on, conceding in the final few moments, meaning they will host Tuesday evening's return meeting.



The remaining five results all went the way of our opposition, including in Weymouth, where a huge moment at the end of the first half condemned Shepton Mallet to a heavy 6-0 defeat. With the game still goalless heading to the break, Shepton conceded a penalty, and were reduced to ten men for the same handball incident, with Toby Holmes firing home the spot kick in a triple-whammy of blows for the away side. Holmes then struck twice more for the Terras during the opening 15 minutes of the second half to all-but end the contest, with three more goals in the final quarter seeing the Dorset side run out big winners. Brislington also suffered at the hands of Thame United, conceding five times after the break in their 7-1 defeat, while Exmouth scored three times in the opening 12 minutes, before taking their foot off the gas during their 3-1 defeat of Bridgwater United. There was late heartbreak in the other ties, with a fortunate penalty awarded to Falmouth Town helping them to run out 2-1 winners at Street. After Chris Barrett's left-footed finish had edged the Cobblers in front, the visitors managed to level things up after 81 minutes, before then tucking home a penalty during added time to complete the late turnaround. There was a similar outcome for Ivybridge Town, who went ahead early on, before losing 2-1 away at Tiverton. Just moments after Kane Gregory had saved a spot kick, Ivies frontman Jake Lake then fired home a rocket at the other end of the pitch to put the visitors in front after 15 minutes. A Tiverton leveller on the hour mark then set up a grandstand finish, and it was the home side who had the last word, with Owen Howe smashing home in the dying embers to leave no time for any kind of Ivybridge fightback.

Podcast Episode 3

This week's episode of the podcast includes an interview with **Buckland Athletic** boss, Matt Cusack, who reflects on their topsy turvy start to the campaign.

Ian also catches up with **Cadbury Heath**'s manager, Nick Wilson, who touches on his sides Vase win at Clanfield 85, before detailing why it bodes well for a positive First Division season.

https://www.westernleague.co.uk/news/podcast-episode-3-2



Recent Results

Tuesday 18th August 2026

Premier Division

Bovey Tracey	4-3	Brixham
Shepton Mallet	0-4	Brislington
Sidmouth Town	3-3	Saltash United
Wells City	0-5	Clevedon Town

First Division

Almondsbury	0-4	Nailsea United
Avonmouth	3-0	Cadbury Heath
Bitton	1-3	Odd Down
Keynsham Town	2-0	Welton Rovers
Longwell Green	2-2	Warminster Town

Wednesday 19th August 2026

Premier Division

St Blazey	3-3	Tavistock

Saturday 22nd August 2026

Premier Division

Bovey Tracey	0-2	Saltash United
Sidmouth Town	3-3	Newquay

First Division

AEK Boco	4-1	Cadbury Heath
Avonmouth	2-1	Longwell Green Sports
Bristol Telephones	6-1	Bitton
Calne Town	3-1	Shirehampton
Nailsea United	4-2	Mendip Broadwalk
Odd Down	0-2	Almondsbury
Oldland Abbotonians	1-3	Keynsham Town
Wincanton Town	2-0	Welton Rovers

FA Cup – Preliminary Round

Brixham	2-0	Willand Rovers
Exmouth Town	3-1	**Bridgwater United**
Larkhall	2-2	**Portishead Town**
St Blazey	2-1	Barnstaple Town
Street	1-2	Falmouth Town
Thame	7-1	**Brislington**
Tiverton	2-1	**Ivybridge Town**
Wells City	3-1	Risborough Rangers
Weymouth	6-0	**Shepton Mallet**

Upcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 25th August 2026

First Division

Avonmouth	vs	Welton Rovers	19:45KO
Bitton	vs	AEK Boco	19:30KO
Keynsham Town	vs	Warminster Town	19:45KO
Mendip Broadwalk	vs	Almondsbury	19:30KO

FA Cup – Preliminary Round Replay

Portishead Town	vs	Larkhall	19:45KO

Wednesday 26th August 2026

First Division

Cadbury Heath	vs	Calne Town	19:30KO

Saturday 29th August 2026 (3pm kick off unless noted)

Premier Division

Brislington	vs	Ivybridge Town
Buckland Athletic	vs	Bridgwater United
Liskeard Athletic	vs	Sidmouth Town
Saltash United	vs	Shepton Mallet
St Blazey	vs	Clevedon Town
Street	vs	Brixham
Tavistock	vs	Portishead Town
Torpoint Athletic	vs	Bovey Tracey
Wells City	vs	Wellington

First Division

AEK Boco	vs	Avonmouth
Almondsbury	vs	Radstock Town
Cadbury Heath	vs	Shirehampton
Calne Town	vs	Keynsham Town
Longwell Green	vs	Bitton
Mendip Broadwalk	vs	Odd Down
Nailsea United	vs	Wincanton Town
Warminster Town	vs	Bristol Telephones
Welton Rovers	vs	Oldland Abbotonians


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