

Latest Round-ups:

Midweek & Cup Action: **Portishead Town** extended their lead atop the Premier Division table with another commanding win on Wednesday evening, scoring four unanswered goals away at **Wellington**. It was Jay Murray who starred for the visitors once again, with his 20th minute effort putting them in front at the break. Welly were then reduced to ten men, and Portishead pushed on from there, with Murray scoring twice more in the early stages of the second half to complete his hat-trick. A late bullet header from Callum Eastwood completed the victory, with Portishead racking up their ninth consecutive victory in the league. 24 hours earlier, **Oldland** grabbed their second win in four days, with Sacha Tong and Jai MacLeod both netting during the first half of the Abbots 2-1 victory at home to **Shepton Mallet**.

There was a big night of First Division action on Tuesday, with three away sides prevailing from the five fixtures. One of the visiting outfits to come out on top were **Wells City**, for whom Ali Sen's late first half penalty handed them a 1-0 win at **Devizes**. There was also another three points for the in-form **Boco**, with Luke Bryan scoring twice in their 4-0 win at **Radstock**. After finishing off a smart team goal to break the deadlock, Bryan then capped the victory late on, adding to further goals from teammates Mitch Tippins and Ollie Williams. The other side to win on their travels were **Avonmouth**, with Kyle O'Donovan, Charlie Aldom and Mitch Wise all scoring in their 3-0 defeat of **Mendip Broadwalk.** The goal of the night came from **Bristol Telephones'** Lewis Ewins, with his incredible finish helping his side claim a 1-1 draw at **Hengrove**. Elsewhere, goals either side of the break from Trey Merrett and Ben Adam saw **Shirehampton** beat **Odd Down** 2-1 in Bristol.

Saturday then saw the Les Phillips Cup finalists decided, with **Portishead** and **Brixham** booking their spots in the showpiece event at the home of Tiverton Town later this season. For Premier Division table-toppers Portishead, it was a pair of usual suspects who helped fire them to a 3-0 win over **Street** in their semi-final. It certainly wasn't a one-sided affair by any means, with Jay Murray's prolific scoring run continuing to put the home side ahead after ten minutes. The second goal of the afternoon then came an hour later with Ethan Feltham pouncing at the back post to finally put some distance between the sides. Feltham was then on target once again in the closing stages, rounding out the 3-0 win after playing a one-two with teammate Alex O'Keeffe. The afternoon's other semi-final saw First Division outfit **Wells City** hold Brixham to a goalless draw at the end of 90 minutes, before suffering shootout heartbreak. The hosts had already knocked out higher-ranked opposition in their quarter-final victory, but couldn't quite repeat the trick on Saturday, with the Devonians prevailing 5-4 in a tight penalty shootout.

Premier Division: Barnstaple Town bounced back from last weekend's defeat with an impressive 2-0 win at home to Buckland Athletic, which saw them swap places with their visitors and jump into fourth spot. Following an opening half devoid of scoring action, the home side came to life after the interval, going in front after 65 minutes thanks to a strong headed finish from Brodie Montague. The victory was then wrapped up in the closing stages courtesy of Billy Hopcroft's smart finish, with Barnstaple ending a seven-match run which had seen them fail to pick up a clean sheet. The only other side who didn't concede during Saturday's action was Shepton Mallet, with a 1-0 win at home to Bridgwater helping them reach a half-century of points this term. The only goal of the game was certainly worth the wait, with Matt Morris firing home a screamer from long range to give Mallet victory 15 minutes from time. The late



drama of the day took place at Ironmould Lane, where Brislington came from behind to beat Wellington 2-1 thanks to a stoppage time penalty. Welly had suffered back-to-back 4-0 home defeats against the top two earlier in the week, but went ahead on Saturday after just four minutes with Tom Stone's thumping header finding the back of the net. An equaliser on the hour mark set up a tense finale, and it was Brislington who finally came out on top, with Shea Mannings tucking home a spot kick during injury time to complete the comeback. Winning by the same scoreline was Nailsea & Tickenham, with a strong showing from the Swags leading them to an away victory over Ivybridge. Things couldn't have started much better for Nailsea who were both a goal, and a man up inside the opening quarter, with Luke Osgood's early penalty followed shortly after by a red card to Ivybridge's Jake Lane. The ten-men battled well, but conceded midway through the second half with Jared Ford netting for 2-0, before Bailey Mabin then grabbed a late consolation for the Ivies. On the Devon coast, Corey Rawlings scored a quickfire double around the hour mark to lead Paulton to a 3-1 win at Ilfracombe. Rawlings' brace put Rovers two-up, which is how it stayed until deep into stoppage time, with Milo Murgatroyd finishing the scoring in the 99th minute to respond to an Ilfracombe goal less than 60 seconds earlier. There was also a 3-1 win for Saltash, with Joe Preece scoring twice in the first half to help them see off Oldland Abbotonians. Ashes leading scorer Rikki Sheppard then made it 3-0 in added time at the end of the first half, with Oldland only getting on the scoresheet with a 95th minute header once the contest was all-but over.

Achievement Award 24/25

For information on how to nominate candidates for the annual Achievement Award, please head to the following link from the official website:
https://www.westernleague.co.uk/news/achievement-award-202425

First Division: In the battle between top and bottom, Calne Town survived an early scare before eventually securing a 3-1 win away at Gillingham. There have certainly been some crazy results over recent weeks, and after four minutes on Saturday, Gillingham had hopes of joining that list when Mike Calverly put them in front. Calne responded well however, and after drawing level through Harry Stiles in the tenth minute, they then went ahead late in the first half through Nat Bell. A penalty shortly after half-time from Sam Francis then increased the Lilywhites advantage, with the 3-1 victory stretching their winning streak to six matches. Third-placed Bradford lost more ground in the title race after suffering a surprise 3-1 defeat at home to Hengrove Athletic. It was an entertaining first half for the neutral with plenty of incident, and it all started with an excellent goal from Goitom Asfaw in the 17th minute to put the visitors ahead. Bradford skipper Fabian Stanislas then drew his side level during a sin-bin period for the Grove, with Harvey Impey netting just before the interval to put the visitors back in front. Another Impey strike on the hour mark stretched Hengrove's lead out further, and it proved to be plenty enough to hold off the Bobcats who now only have one point from a possible nine in recent weeks. Equally struggling of late have been Devizes, but they rebounded from three straight losses by beating Radstock 3-2 in a thriller at the Southfields Rec. A lightning quick start from the visitors saw Devizes lead 2-0 within six minutes thanks to a Jack Baker double. Radstock started to build their way back into the contest, and got their just rewards late in the first half when Stan Ford halved the deficit with his first goal for the club. Devizes' leading scorer Luke Hopper then had his say on the game, making it 3-1 at the beginning of the second half, only for Radstock to hit back instantly when Jed Parfitt powered home a header. There was a chance for Devizes to wrap things up sooner than they did after being awarded a penalty 15 minutes from time, but home keeper Kieran Webster saved the spot kick to keep things up for grabs during the closing stages. Another 3-2 result saw Shirehampton topple Sturminster Newton at Penpole Lane. In another entertaining affair, two goals from Ryan Radford alongside a debut strike from Jacob Watson proved to be enough for the hosts, with Adam Hall, and the in-form Elliot Bevis scoring in defeat for eighth-placed Sturminster. Another strike who can't stop scoring at the moment if Longwell Green's Sonny Passco. Playing for one of the red-hot sides in the division certainly helps Passco, and his late double helped capped Longwell Green complete a 3-0 victory away at Avonmouth to help consolidate their position in the top five. Elsewhere, first half goals from Aaron Coleman and Kieran Clayton helped Cribbs Reserves beat Warminster 2-0, while Archie Dark struck in either half of Bristol Telephones 2-0 win over Cheddar. There was also a late penalty save from Phones keeper Ashton Trott to help his side preserve their clean sheet, with the win pushing them up into tenth spot. Keynsham's six-match losing streak was finally ended, but they will be gutted not to have picked up all three points after a late own goal denied them in their 1-1 draw at Boco. Having gone ahead late in the first half through Riley Gifford-Hobbs, the K's were on track for victory, before Boco got level during the final ten minutes to just about preserve their unbeaten start to 2025.



Latest Results

Tuesday 4th March 2025

Premier Division

Oldland Abbotonians	2-1	Shepton Mallet

First Division

Devizes Town	0-1	Wells City
Hengrove Athletic	1-1	Bristol Telephones
Mendip Broadwalk	0-3	Avonmouth
Radstock Town	0-4	AEK Boco
Shirehampton	2-1	Odd Down

Wednesday 5th March 2025

Premier Division

Wellington	0-4	Portishead Town

Saturday 8th March 2025

Les Phillips Cup Semi-Final

Portishead Town	3-0	Street
Wells City	0-0 (4-5 PENS)	Brixham

Premier Division

Barnstaple Town	2-0	Buckland Athletic
Brislington	2-1	Wellington
Ilfracombe Town	1-3	Paulton Rovers
Ivybridge Town	1-2	Nailsea & Tickenham
Saltash Untied	3-1	Oldland Abbotonians
Shepton Mallet	1-0	Bridgwater United

First Division

AEK Boco	1-1	Keynsham Town
Avonmouth	0-3	Longwell Green Sports
Bradford Town	1-3	Hengrove Athletic
Bristol Telephones	2-0	Cheddar
Cribbs Reserves	2-0	Warminster Town
Gillingham Town	1-3	Calne Town
Radstock Town	2-3	Devizes Town
Shirehampton	3-2	Sturminster Newton United

Leading Goalscorers

Premier Division

Freddie King (Clevedon) – 26
Lucas Vowles (Clevedon) – 22
Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 22
Rikki Sheppard (Saltash) – 18
Ryan Bush (Buckland) – 16
Jack Taylor (Bridgwater) – 15
Josh Parry (Barnstaple) – 15

First Division

Nathan Hall (Bitton/Odd Down) – 20
Josh Pike-Bright (Calne) - 19
Sacha Tong (Bitton) – 19
Luke Hopper (Devizes) – 19
Elliot Gardner (Hallen) – 17
Jack Guthrie (Cribbs Reserves) – 17

Upcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 11th March 2025

Premier Division

Oldland Abbotonians	vs	Wellington	19:45KO

First Division

AEK Boco	vs	Hallen	19:30KO
Bradford Town	vs	Wells City	19:30KO
Bristol Telephones	vs	Radstock Town	19:45KO
Cheddar	vs	Mendip Broadwalk	19:45KO
Hengrove Athletic	vs	Devizes Town	19:30KO
Shirehampton	vs	Bitton	19:30KO

Wednesday 12th March 2025

Premier Division

Ivybridge Town	vs	Brixham	19:30KO

Friday 14th March 2025

First Division

AEK Boco	vs	Cadbury Heath	19:30KO

Saturday 15th March 2025 (3pm Kick-off unless noted otherwise)

Premier Division

AFC St Austell	vs	Paulton Rovers
Bridgwater United	vs	Ivybridge Town
Clevedon Town	vs	Buckland Athletic
Nailsea & Tickenham	vs	Barnstaple Town
Oldland Abbotonians	vs	Brixham
Portishead Town	vs	Wellington
St Blazey	vs	Shepton Mallet
Street	vs	Ilfracombe Town
Welton Rovers	vs	Torpoint Athletic

First Division

Bradford Town	vs	Cribbs Reserves
Cheddar	vs	Sturminster Newton United
Gillingham Town	vs	Devizes Town
Hallen	vs	Warminster Town
Keynsham Town	vs	Hengrove Athletic
Longwell Green	vs	Bitton
Odd Down	vs	Mendip Broadwalk
Radstock Town	vs	Avonmouth
Shirehampton	vs	Calne Town
Wells City	vs	Bristol Telephones

On the latest episode of the podcast, we hear from Brixham's joint managers, Jason Couch and Tim Porter, who discuss their teams run-in, and ambitions for the playoffs and beyond. Ian also catches up with Cadbury Heath boss, George Boon, who reflects on their topsy turvy campaign. For an update on the fixture situation, Western League Fixture Secretary joins the show to look ahead to end of season promotion and relegation permutations.

https://www.westernleague.co.uk/news/podcast-episode-30



League Tables

	PREMIER DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
1	Portishead Town	31	24	3	4	60	75
2	Clevedon Town	31	21	5	5	58	68
3	Brixham	29	18	4	7	27	58
4	Barnstaple Town	29	17	3	9	23	54
5	Buckland Athletic	30	15	6	9	31	51
6	Shepton Mallet	31	15	5	11	21	50
7	Paulton Rovers	33	15	5	13	4	50
8	Nailsea & Tickenham	30	15	3	12	11	48
9	Street	29	14	6	9	8	48
10	Ivybridge Town	30	13	6	11	10	45
11	St Austell	31	14	3	14	1	45
12	Brislington	31	13	5	13	4	44
13	Oldland Abbotonians	29	13	4	12	2	43
14	Saltash United	32	13	3	16	8	42
15	Bridgwater United	32	11	4	17	-20	37
16	Torpoint Athletic	32	11	3	18	-8	36
17	Wellington	28	11	1	16	-22	34
18	Ilfracombe Town	31	6	5	20	-38	23
19	St Blazey	29	5	6	18	-38	21
20	Welton Rovers	32	1	0	31	-142	3

	FIRST DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
1	Calne Town	36	25	3	8	53	78
2	Hallen	32	23	5	4	55	74
3	Bradford Town	34	22	6	6	47	72
4	Bitton	33	21	5	7	30	68
5	Longwell Green Sports	36	20	7	9	32	67
6	Wells City	31	19	5	7	37	62
7	Devizes Town	32	18	6	8	47	60
8	Sturminster Newton United	34	18	5	11	11	59
9	Shirehampton	33	16	6	11	3	54
10	Bristol Telephones	33	14	8	11	20	50
11	AEK Boco	34	14	7	13	6	49
12	Cribbs Reserves	35	14	6	15	3	48
13	Cadbury Heath	34	14	5	15	-5	47
14	Mendip Broadwalk	33	13	7	13	-9	46
15	Avonmouth	34	12	6	16	-2	42
16	Hengrove Athletic	34	8	10	16	-9	34
17	Radstock Town	32	9	4	19	-20	31
18	Warminster Town	34	6	9	19	-44	27
19	Odd Down	35	6	8	21	-40	26
20	Cheddar	34	6	7	21	-44	25
21	Keynsham Town	35	4	6	25	-77	18
22	Gillingham Town	34	1	5	28	-94	8


WESTERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE
ESTABLISHED 1892
JEWSON