

Latest Round-ups:

Midweek Action: There were draws across the board during Tuesday and Wednesday's league action, with a couple of sides towards the bottom of the Premier Division claiming a much-needed point. On Tuesday, it was 19th placed **Ilfracombe** who battled well to hold off fellow Devonians, **Brixham**. In a mirror of the previous league fixture between these sides back in August, the game ended goalless, with Brixham missing out on the opportunity to close the gap on second place. 24 hours later it was **St Blazey** who picked up a precious point after drawing 0-0 with fourth-placed **Barnstaple**. The Blaze have now only lost one of their last five, and managed to survive on Wednesday night despite the visitors hitting the crossbar on two occasions. The points were also shared at Erme Valley, where **Ivybridge** were denied at the death by **Wellington** in their 1-1 draw. The Ivies made a strong start, going ahead after ten minutes through Connor Rush, before then being reduced to ten men early in the second half following a straight red to Sam Hillson. The away side finally took advantage of the man advantage in stoppage time, with a superb long range strike from Sam Towler finding the back of the net, and condemning Ivybridge to their league-leading eighth draw of the campaign. There was also late drama in the First Division contest between **Shirehampton** and **Wells** on Tuesday evening, with three goals in the final ten minutes eventually seeing the game end 2-2. Wells had won their previous five games away from home, and put themselves in position to increase that run when Luke Wilkinson fired home a free-kick after half-an-hour. The game then came to life during the closing stages, with a long-range effort from Ben Adam drawing Shirehampton level ten minutes from time. The game was then tipped back in the balance of Wells who went back ahead courtesy of Ali Sen, but it was the home side who had the last word, when Dylan Tate scored with the final kick of the game six minutes into injury time.

Premier Division: The action got underway under the lights at Fryth Way on Friday night, with **Nailsea & Tickenham** defeating **Street** 2-1 to leapfrog their opponents up into 7th spot. Following a goalless first half, the Swags soon took control of the game, with Seb Scott breaking the deadlock, before Luke Osgood fired home from the spot for 2-0. There was time for a late consolation from Street's Harry Foster, but the away side weren't quite at the races and have left themselves work to do in the race for the top five.

Saturday's standout result saw league leaders **Portishead** suffer their first league defeat since New Year's Day, after they fell to a 3-0 less away at **Barnstaple**. The home side endured a tough spell recently which saw them lose four on the bounce, but they look to be back in form right now, and had a great spell either side of half-time to defeat the table-toppers. Leading scorer Josh Parry set the ball rolling with the opener late in the first half, before Billy Hopcroft extended his scoring streak when he rifled home shortly after the interval. Any hopes of a Portishead fightback were extinguished following a red card to Hamish Hurst, with the Devonians extending their winning margin late on courtesy of Dan Wilson.

Second-place Clevedon Town were able to take advantage of Portishead's defeat, and moved within four points of the Somerset side after edging to a nervy 1-0 win at home to Saltash. Despite sitting in the bottom half of the table, the Ashes have been racking up the points over recent weeks, and they proved a tough out for the Seasiders, with a 20th minute header from Syd Camper all that separated the sides. There was also an impressive victory for the side who sit in third, with Brixham defeating Shepton Mallet 3-2 in an entertaining game at Wall Park. Yet another goal from James Moxon gave the Devon side a dream start, but they were soon pegged back with Jacob Sloggett producing a deft chip to make it one apiece. With the game still level heading into the final 20 minutes, Brixham's Charlie Johansen suddenly turned the game in his sides favour, with a quickfire double putting them two goals to the good. A stoppage time consolation from Taelan Savage gave Shepton the last word, but their run of disappointing away results continued to all-but end any outside hopes of reaching the playoffs. Meanwhile, Paulton Rovers strengthened their position in fifth after coming grom behind and beating St Blazey 2-1. Having fallen behind to Sam Clifton's powerful finish after 15 minutes, Paulton managed to get back on level terms midway through the first half thanks to a Josh Ford header. It wasn't long before Rovers completed the turnaround in its entirety, with Dan McBeam netting after 29 minutes to put the home side 2-1 up. A red card late in the first half to Jordan Bentley made St Blazey's task tougher, and the relegation-threatened outfit were unable to mount a fightback of their own, succumbing to their first defeat in four. There was another three points for Torpoint, with Curtis Damerell's screamer leading them to a 1-0 win over St Austell, while Oldland pinched a point away at Ivybridge after making it 1-1 in the fourth minute of stoppage time. There was also plenty of late drama at Homers Heath, where Buckland and Bridgwater eventually drew 2-2 at the end of a pulsating fixture. Things started brightly for United who took a ninth minute lead thanks to Jack Taylor's penalty, before Luke Forward levelled things up for the home side after 35 minutes. In the lead up to half-time, Bridgwater were awarded their second spot kick of the opening period, but second time around, it was Buckland keeper Adam Seedhouse-Evans who came out on top, saving Taylor's goal-bound attempt. It was then the home side's turn to be awarded a penalty of their own shortly after the break, and leading scorer Ryan Bush made no mistake from 12 yards out to give Buckland their first lead of the afternoon. Taylor came close to making amends for his penalty miss, only to see a late effort ruled out after creeping offside, but Bridgwater kept pushing and finally got their equaliser in added time thanks to a thumping finish from Haydn Chambers. A saved penalty also cost Wellington, with George Dorrington saving from Sam Towler early in the second half, before Brislington's Josh Lewis then volleyed home shortly after to lead his side to a 1-0 victory.





First Division: Hallen made a huge move in the title race, beating Calne Town 2-0 in the battle between the top two. The win was Hallen's sixth on the bounce in all competitions, and came thanks to another strong showing at both ends of the pitch. Elliot Gardner's terrific campaign continued, as he opened the scoring with a header around the half-hour mark. Calne were then forced to utilise defender Stu Windsor in between the sticks following an injury to their goalkeeper, and Hallen eventually took advantage of this, with Jack Askins scoring with a bullet header to wrap things up 12 minutes from time. Saturday also saw a return to winning ways for Bradford Town, with a strong second half showing helping lead them past Hengrove. Having suffered a surprise 3-1 defeat to the same opponent 14 days previously, it was the Bobcats who came out on top in reverse fixture, with Tyson Pollard and Jaiden Pearce scoring within five minutes of another at the beginning of the second period. There was also a bounce back from Bitton, who beat Radstock 1-0 thanks to a goal from George Lloyd, while the opposition side who defeated them last weekend were victorious again on Friday evening with Alex Grimshaw scoring in Longwell Green's 1-0 win at Shirehampton. The other fixture that night was a thrilling 4-4 draw between Bristol Telephones and Mendip Broadwalk, with the away side trailing 4-1 at one stage before claiming a share of the spoils. Jamie Noble reached the 20-goal mark with his early double, adding to further goals from James Batchelor and Archie Dark during a dominant opening half-hour from the Phones. Mendip wasted no time in mounting their comeback, scoring twice in the closing stages of the first half through Mason Dagger and Jacob O'Donnell to round out a 45 minutes which accounted for seven goals. There was only one further goal to come during a quieter second period, but importantly for the away side it meant they ended the night with a point, and it came thanks to a nerveless penalty from Jack Cousins. Back to Saturday, and there was a fifth consecutive away win for Devizes, with Matt Swann, Jacob Reader, Josh Parsons and Jack Baker all netting in their one-sided 4-1 defeat of Keynsham. That scoreline also came at Boco, where visitors Wells ran out comfortable victors behind Harry Warwick's brace. Goals with both his left and right feet helped Warwick and Wells establish an early three-goal advantage, with Elliot Creely and Jake Brown also finding the back of the net. Cribbs Reserves beat bottom side Gillingham 3-1 thanks to goals from Aaron Coleman, Harry Hambly and Andy Forward, while Odd Down made it three wins in four after Ashley Marsh and Harley Prior both struck in the final 20 minutes of their comeback victory at home to Cheddar. There was a late Ben Cowley winner in Sturminster's 2-1 triumph at Avonmouth, with Cadbury Heath making in nine points from a possible 12, after Josh Williams, Matt Isaacs and Dominic Anderson all scored in their 3-1 win at home to Warminster.



Latest Results

Tuesday 18th March 2025

Premier Division

Ilfracombe Town	0-0	Brixham

First Division

Shirehampton	2-2	Wells City

Wednesday 19th March 2025

Premier Division

Ivybridge Town	1-1	Wellington
St Blazey	0-0	Barnstaple Town

Friday 21st March 2025

Premier Division

Nailsea & Tickenham	2-1	Street

First Division

Bristol Telephones	4-4	Mendip Broadwalk
Shirehampton	0-1	Longwell Green Sports

Saturday 22nd March 2025

Premier Division

Barnstaple Town	3-0	Portishead Town
Brixham	3-2	Shepton Mallet
Buckland Athletic	2-2	Bridgwater United
Clevedon Town	1-0	Saltash United
Ivybridge Town	1-1	Oldland Abbotonians
Paulton Rovers	2-1	St Blazey
Torpoint Athletic	1-0	St Austell
Wellington	0-1	Brislington

First Division

AEK Boco	1-4	Wells City
Avonmouth	1-2	Sturminster Newton United
Bitton	1-0	Radstock Town
Cadbury Heath	3-1	Warminster Town
Cribbs Reserves	3-1	Gillingham Town
Hallen	2-0	Calne Town
Hengrove Athletic	0-2	Bradford Town
Keynsham Town	1-4	Devizes Town
Odd Down	2-1	Cheddar

On this week's podcast, we hear from Street manager, Ben Watson, who talks about their ambitions for the remainder of the campaign, while reflecting on the Cobblers developments on and off the field. Ian also catches up with Longwell Green boss, Chris Alway, with a place in the end of season playoffs becoming more likely by the week.
https://www.westernleague.co.uk/news/podcast-episode-32



Upcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 25th March 2025

Premier Division

Portishead Town	vs	Street	19:30KO

First Division

Devizes Town	vs	Bitton	19:30KO
Hallen	vs	Wells City	19:30KO
Radstock Town	vs	Cadbury Heath	19:45KO

Friday 28th March 2025

First Division

AEK Boco	vs	Bristol Telephones	19:30KO

Saturday 29th March 2025 (3pm Kick-off unless noted otherwise)

Premier Division

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

First Division

Avonmouth	vs	Odd Down
Bradford Town	vs	Hallen
Cadbury Heath	vs	Gillingham Town
Devizes Town	vs	Hengrove Athletic
Keynsham Town	vs	Wells City
Mendip Broadwalk	vs	Bitton
Shirehampton	vs	Radstock Town
Sturminster Newton	vs	Cribbs Reserves
Warminster Town	vs	Cheddar

Leading Goalscorers

Premier Division

Freddie King (Clevedon) – 26
Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 24
Lucas Vowles (Clevedon) – 23
Rikki Sheppard (Saltash) – 18
Ryan Bush (Buckland) – 17
Jack Taylor (Bridgwater) – 16
Josh Parry (Barnstaple) – 16
James Moxon (Brixham) – 16

First Division

Nathan Hall (Bitton/Odd Down) – 21
Jamie Noble (Bristol Telephones) - 20
Josh Pike-Bright (Calne) - 19
Sacha Tong (Bitton) – 19
Luke Hopper (Devizes) – 19
Elliot Gardner (Hallen) – 18
Jack Guthrie (Cribbs Reserves) – 17

League Tables

	PREMIER DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
1	Portishead Town	33	25	3	5	62	78
2	Clevedon Town	33	23	5	5	60	74
3	Brixham	33	21	5	7	31	68
4	Barnstaple Town	32	19	4	9	27	61
5	Paulton Rovers	35	17	5	13	7	56
6	Buckland Athletic	32	15	7	10	30	52
7	Nailsea & Tickenham	32	16	3	13	11	51
8	Street	31	15	6	10	9	51
9	Shepton Mallet	33	15	5	13	19	50
10	Ivybridge Town	34	13	9	12	9	48
11	Brislington	32	14	5	13	5	47
12	St Austell	33	14	3	16	-2	45
13	Oldland Abbotonians	32	13	5	14	-1	44
14	Saltash United	33	13	3	17	7	42
15	Torpoint Athletic	34	13	3	18	-4	42
16	Bridgwater United	34	11	6	17	-20	39
17	Wellington	32	12	2	18	-27	38
18	St Blazey	32	6	7	19	-38	25
19	Ilfracombe Town	33	6	6	21	-40	24
20	Welton Rovers	33	1	0	32	-145	3

	FIRST DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
1	Hallen	35	26	5	4	61	83
2	Calne Town	38	26	3	9	52	81
3	Bradford Town	37	23	7	7	46	76
4	Bitton	36	23	5	8	27	74
5	Longwell Green Sports	38	22	7	9	38	73
6	Devizes Town	35	21	6	8	54	69
7	Wells City	35	21	6	8	42	69
8	Sturminster Newton United	36	20	5	11	14	65
9	Bristol Telephones	36	16	9	11	26	57
10	Shirehampton	37	16	7	14	0	55
11	Cribbs Reserves	37	15	7	15	5	52
12	AEK Boco	37	15	7	15	4	52
13	Cadbury Heath	36	15	5	16	-6	50
14	Mendip Broadwalk	36	14	8	14	-9	50
15	Avonmouth	36	13	6	17	-2	45
16	Hengrove Athletic	37	8	11	18	-13	35
17	Odd Down	37	8	8	21	-38	32
18	Radstock Town	35	9	4	22	-27	31
19	Warminster Town	36	6	9	21	-48	27
20	Cheddar	37	6	7	24	-48	24*
21	Keynsham Town	37	4	7	26	-80	19
22	Gillingham Town	36	1	5	30	-98	8


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