JEWSON WESTERN LEAGUE 2025/26

BULLETIN #2

Latest Round-ups:

Premier Division: The midweek portion of this week's schedule saw most of the Premier Division sides in action for the second time, with **Buckland Athletic** among those to make it two wins from two after holding on to beat **Barnstaple** 2-1. After Luke Forward had scored for the second consecutive game to make it 1-0 after 28 minutes, a goal early in the second half from Myles James then doubled the visitor's advantage. The game got the grandstand finish it deserved following a late effort from Town's Brad Williams, but they were unable to find the leveller meaning Buckland took home all three points. Tuesday also saw a second win of the campaign for **Clevedon**, with goals either side of the interval from Seb Scott and Henry Westlake leading them past **Brislington**. There was also a 2-0 win for **Bridgwater** at home to **Street,** with Dan Dodimead scoring the second to double his season tally. The individual performance of the night belonged to **Saltash**'s Deacon Thomson who bagged a hat-trick in United's thumping 7-0 win at home to **St Austell.** Having relied on a stoppage time winner to prevail in their opener, the Ashes had an easier time of it at the Kimberley Stadium, with Hayden Greening, Freddy Tolcher, Fin Wilkes and Jayden Giilbert joining three-goal hero Thomson on the scoresheet in front of a healthy three-figure crowd. Promoted outfit **Bradford Town** secured their first victory of the campaign after defeating **Paulton Rovers** 2-1. Having gone ahead courtesy of Harvey Woods, the home side were pegged back on the half-hour mark when Chris Peck nodded home Curtis Dunn's corner. The game wasn't level for long however, and Town re-took the lead thanks to an excellent finish from Leo Gallazi, with a goal that turned out to be the winner just prior to half-time. The other winning side on Tuesday were **Oldland Abbotonians**, with Jai MacLeod scoring the only goal in their 1-0 victory away at **Nailsea & Tickenham**. Meanwhile, **Wellington**'s James de Selincourt played a starring role from the bench, levelling twice for the Somerset side in their 2-2 draw away at **Shepton Mallet**.



Wednesday's double-header saw a pair of away victories, with **Torpoint** coming from behind to clip the wings of **Newquay** in their Western League home debut. A dream start for the hosts saw Jake Bray-Evans (pictured) produce a moment of excellence, lobbing the visiting keeper from close to halfway to thrill much of the 502 fans in attendance. It was the visiting side who took home all three points however, and they had one more to thank, with Joe Rapson curling home two exquisite goals after the interval, one from each side of the edge of the area to single-handedly complete Torpoint's fightback. **Helston** made it back-to-back wins to open their campaign, beating **St Blazey** 2-0 at Blaise Park then to goals either side of the interval from Liam Eddy and Rocco Hill.

First Division: In the craziest game on the opening day, Odd Down came back from both 3-0, and 4-2 deficits to draw four-all away at Cadbury Heath. Things seemed to be going to plan for the Heath, who moved into a three-goal lead early in the second half thanks to a brace from Tyler Lane, sandwiching an effort from new signing Riley Gifford-Hobbs. The visitors then made their first comeback attempt, scoring twice through Alfie Andrews and Dom Walter to get back into the contest. A penalty from Tom Withers with around ten minutes remaining restored the Heath's two-goal advantage, but it didn't prove to be enough, with substitute's Matt Hoare, and James Hare both striking in the closing stages to bring the curtain down on an eight-goal thriller. There was another wild comeback at Hengrove, where the visitors from Almondsbury struck twice in stoppage time to complete a 3-2 turnaround victory. A dream opening from the home side saw Brad Skidmore break the deadlock inside two minutes, before Harvey Impey doubled the advantage midway through the first half. The Almonds were in desperate need of a strong start to the second period, and they got just that, with Craig Lancastle slotting home a penalty to get them back into the contest. The incredible finale then saw the away side get back on level terms thanks to an own goal in the 93rd minute, and then with their next attacking foray, Reece Hedges nodded home a corner to make it 3-2 and cap an amazing return to the Western League.

One of last season's standout sides, Devizes, opened their account with an impressive 3-0 win away at Boco. It was new signings who did all the scoring for Town, with Sam Jordan's first half effort putting them ahead at the break, before fellow debutant Dan Demkiv added a double to help his new side to a comfortable opening day win. There was also a 3-0 win for Longwell Green, with goals from Sonny Passco, Finn Burnell and Matt Brown leading them past Radstock Town. The biggest winners of the afternoon, and subsequent league leaders after day one, are Sturminster Newton after they ran out 6-1 victors over Welton Rovers. After Nick Hewlett had headed the hosts into an early lead, further goals from Elliot Bevis and Adam Hall helped build a three-goal advantage early in the second half. George Coleman's goal extended the lead further, before Welton finally got some joy with Alex Kieh opening their account. Sturminster finished strongly however, and added two more goals to their tally, with substitutes Aaron Lane-Leney and Buddy O'Shea both coming off the bench to wrap up the six-goal victory.



Things were much tighter in the remaining fixtures, including the game at Avonmouth (pictured, right) where the hosts defeated Warminster in a hard-fought contest. Having taken the earliest of leads inside 20 seconds through Ethan McMahon, Avonmouth were pegged back before half-time, with Jack Newman levelling affairs for the visitors. It was then left for Charlie Aldom to score the winner, with his powerful volley making it 2-1 and giving the hosts all three points. There was also an opening day victory for Bristol Telephones, with debutant Liam McCraken scoring ten minutes from time in their slender 1-0 win over Calne Town. 1-0 was also the winning scoreline for Bitton, with an injury time effort from Luke Bryan giving them a dramatic victory over Wells, while Shirehampton snuck past Keynsham thanks to a solitary goal from Ryan Radford in the 70th minute. A word must also go to Shirehampton keeper Kieran Webster, with his penalty save midway through the first half preserving their clean sheet on the way to victory. Elsewhere, the fixture between Cheddar and Mendip Broadwalk ended goalless.

FA Cup Extra-Preliminary Round: As ever, it was mixed bag in opening rounds of the world's oldest football competition, with teams still getting into the flow of a new campaign. Among those to impress, and also progress to the next round, were **Barnstaple Town**, with goals in the opening 20 minutes from Josh Parry and Gabby Rogers leading them to a 2-0 win away at **Willand Rovers.** Another early season goal from Kitan Jaiyeoba led **Paulton Rovers** to a 1-0 win at home to **Hamble**, while both Praise Amaefule and Jacob Saunders were on target during **Oldland Abbotonians** 2-0 home defeat of **Wallingford & Crowmarsh**. There was a big win for **Torpoint** away at **Saltash**, with Curtis Damerell notching a hat-trick in the 6-1 win. Having opened the scoring after 17 minutes, Damerell saw his side pegged back when Kieran O'Melia levelled for the early-season league leaders. Torpoint then took control of the game either side of the break, with Sam Pearson and Callum O'Brien both finding the back of the net to make it 3-1 to the visitors. Damerell then took over, scoring twice in quick succession to complete his hat-trick and put the game out of reach for the Ashes. In another all-Western League clash, **Sidmouth** secured their first win of the season by beating **Ivybridge Town** 3-1. After taking an early lead through Craig Veal, Sidmouth doubled their advantage on the half hour through Louis Spalding. On his first start for the club, Cholwe Hachipuka added the finishing touches to Sidmouth's win, heading home to put the hosts out of sight shortly after half-time. There was late drama at Blaize Park, where **Buckland** struck in stoppage time to complete their 2-1 comeback win over **St Blazey**. Having fallen behind to Charlie Menear's close range opener, Buckland got back on level terms in the 65th minute through Jake Lane. With a midweek replay looming, Scott Pocock took it upon himself to settle the contest, with his headed goal giving the hosts no time to respond. Those who will face replays include **Clevedon,** who drew 0-0 away at **Kidlington Rovers**, and also **Street** who came back two goals down to a secure a dramatic 2-2 draw with **Brixham.** Another pair of sides who will meet again in the coming days are **Newquay** and **Shepton Mallet**, after the Somerset side twice came from behind to tie the score at two-all. A Reece Simmonds effort was all that separated the sides at the end of 45 minutes, before Mallet started the second period strongly, levelling through Ashton Shanley. Newquay's Louis Price then capitalised on a defensive error to put the Cornishmen back ahead, but it wasn't enough to move through to the next round, with Ben



Snell equalising eight minutes from time to draw things level once again. Elsewhere, there were heavy defeats for **St Austell** and **Bridgwater**, away at **Tavistock** and **Mousehole** respectively, while **Wellington** conceded three after the break to lose 4-1 at **Bideford**. There was late heartbreak for **Helston** who saw **Falmouth** score with the final kick of the game to win 2-1, with **Brislington** suffering a similar fate away at **Wokingham Town** on Friday evening, while on the same night **Nailsea & Tickenham** conceded seven unanswered goals at **Roman Glass St George**. Finishing on a high, and it was a brilliant afternoon for **Bradford Town**'s new recruit Jensen Wakefield, with his hat-trick leading the Bobcats to a 3-1 win at home to **Bournemouth FC**. After scoring two quickfire goals to put his side 2-0 up midway through the first half, Wakefield capped a dream afternoon, completing his treble shortly after the break to see off the challenge of the Wessex League outfit.

Recent Results

Tuesday 29th July 2025

Premier Division

Barnstaple Town	1-2	Buckland Athletic
Bradford Town	2-1	Paulton Rovers
Bridgwater United	2-0	Street
Brislington	0-2	Clevedon Town
Nailsea & Tickenham	0-1	Oldland Abbotonians
Saltash United	7-0	St Austell
Shepton Mallet	2-2	Wellington

Wednesday 30th July 2025

Premier Division

Newquay	1-2	Torpoint Athletic
St Blazey	0-2	Helston Athletic

Friday 1st August

FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round

Roman Glass St George	7-0	**Nailsea & Tickenham**
Wokingham Town	3-2	**Brislington**

Saturday 2nd August 2025

First Division

AEK Boco	0-3	Devizes Town
Avonmouth	2-1	Warminster Town
Bitton	1-0	Wells City
Bristol Telephones	1-0	Calne Town
Cadbury Heath	4-4	Odd Down
Cheddar	0-0	Mendip Broadwalk
Hengrove Athletic	2-3	Almondsbury
Keynsham Town	0-1	Shirehampton
Longwell Green Sports	3-0	Radstock Town
Sturminster Newton	6-1	Welton Rovers

FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round

Bideford	4-1	**Wellington**
Bradford Town	3-1	Bournemouth FC
Falmouth Town	2-1	**Helston Athletic**
Kidlington Rovers	0-0	**Clevedon Town**
Mousehole	4-0	**Bridgwater United**
Newquay	2-2	**Shepton Mallet**
Oldland Abbotonians	2-0	Wallingford & Crowmarsh
Paulton Rovers	1-0	Hamble Club
Saltash United	1-6	**Torpoint Athletic**
Sidmouth Town	3-1	**Ivybridge Town**
St Blazey	1-2	**Buckland Athletic**
Street	2-2	Brixham
Tavistock	5-0	**St Austell**
Willand Rovers	0-2	**Barnstaple Town**

Upcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 5th August 2025

FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round - Replay

Brixham	vs	Street	19:30KO
Shepton Mallet	vs	Newquay	19:30KO

Wednesday 6th August 2025

FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round - Replay

Clevedon Town	vs	Kidlington Rovers	19:30KO

Saturday 9th August 2025 (3pm kick off unless noted)

Premier Division

St Austell	vs	Shepton Mallet
Bridgwater United	vs	Paulton Rovers
Brislington	vs	Sidmouth Town
Buckland Athletic	vs	Wellington
Clevedon Town	vs	Ivybridge Town
Helston Athletic	vs	Barnstaple Town
Nailsea & Tickenham	vs	St Blazey
Newquay	vs	Bradford Town
Street	vs	Saltash United
Torpoint Athletic	vs	Oldland Abbotonians

First Division

AEK Boco	vs	Keynsham Town
Almondsbury	vs	Longwell Green Sports
Calne Town	vs	Avonmouth
Devizes Town	vs	Cheddar
Mendip Broadwalk	vs	Odd Down
Radstock Town	vs	Bitton
Sturminster Newton	vs	Bristol Telephones
Warminster Town	vs	Cadbury Heath
Wells City	vs	Shirehampton
Welton Rovers	vs	Hengrove Athletic

In the second episode of the season, Ian and Tom reflect on the opening round of fixtures, with interviews from new Helston manager, Dan Bua, and also Radstock Town boss, Ian Lanning.

There is also a conversation between Ian and the Western League's Finance Director, and former Premier League match official, Dave Brammer, who shares a few footballing anecdotes, before touching on the benefits of the league's sponsorship deal with Jewson.



