JEWSON WESTERN LEAGUE 2025/26

BULLETIN #41

Latest Round-ups:

League Action: With top spot on the line, Torpoint endured a night of heartbreak on Tuesday, falling to a 4-1 defeat at home to Wellington, and handing Barnstaple the Premier Division title. Having toppled Paulton Rovers in their penultimate fixture, Torpoint had put themselves in pole position to end the season atop the table, but they had to settle for a spot in the playoffs after being outplayed by their visitors. After Oscar Albano had curled home to hand Welly a shock 14th minute lead, it then quickly became 2-0 when Josh Baker flicked his header into the back of the net. Another goal on the stroke of half-time, courtesy of a James de Selincourt spot kick, all-but confirmed it would not be Torpoint's night. The Cornish side had a near-perfect home record heading into the contest, having won 15 of 16 and drawn one of their league fixtures at The Mill, but with over 600 fans in attendance, they continued to be outplayed by Wellington who found themselves four goals to the good after an hour when Baker scored his second of the contest. A Gary Hird goal at least gave the home fans something to cheer, but Torpoint will be tasked with regrouping and bouncing back in their upcoming playoff fixture. The opponent for Torpoint will be Sidmouth Town, and they warmed up for the semi-final by beating Helston 1-0. Following an even contest, it was Louis Spalding's well-taken goal eight minutes from time which propelled Sidmouth to victory, giving them their fourth win on the bounce. Elsewhere that evening, Oldland Abbotonians ended their tough season on a high note, beating Street 3-0 thanks to two goals from Ben Bament and a late strike from Jalyn Johnson.



Saturday afternoon then saw the official end to the Premier Division season, with two ties completing the league schedule. There was an away win for St Blazey at Brislington, with first half goals from Charlie Hambly and Tyler Elliott putting the Cornish side out of sight. The other match was an entertaining derby affair, with Street winning by four goals to two at Shepton Mallet. The Cobblers made an unbelievable start to the game, going in front after five or six seconds, with Kyle Strange striking the ball into the back of the home net following a ball forward straight from the opening kickoff. Josh Searle then doubled the visitors advantage in the 11th minute, with a Finn King-Smith penalty late in the first half putting Street three goals to the good. Mallet didn't back down, and managed to get back into the contest thanks to a couple of quickfire goals midway through the second half, but it was Street who ended their season on a high with Preston Hopwood's 25-yard screamer wrapping things up in the closing stages.

First Division Playoffs: Tuesday evening saw two hard-fought semi-finals, with none of the four sides able to find the back of the net during 180 minutes of action. Despite the games involving many of the best forward players in the division, it was the defences who won the battle, meaning penalties would be required to decide the two finalists. In the end, it was both home teams who prevailed, with Sturminster Newton winning 5-4 on spot kicks in their clash with Bristol Telephones. Having lost 3-1 to the same opponent just three days earlier in their final league outing, the Cherries bounced back to book a spot in the final, with keeper Theo Crane making a splendid save during the shootout to end the Phones hopes. It was Wells City who came through the other semi-final, winning 4-2 in their penalty shootout after a goalless draw with Avonmouth. Both sides had headed into the playoffs on the back of some excellent form in the league, but it was Wells who ended up progressing after holding their nerves from 12 yards.

Saturday then saw the battle for promotion, with Sturminster coming out on top following a thrilling final which was also decided on penalties. After the goalless draws in midweek, the first goal of these playoffs finally came four minutes after half-time in the final, when Jake Horsey fired Wells in front. That piled the pressure on the home team, but they responded excellently, forcing an own-goal to make it 1-1, before Ash Clarke's glancing header then put them ahead after 80 minutes. With the game in stoppage time, it looked like United had done enough, but Wells' Ollie Bryant had other ideas, drawing the sides level and sending the game to their second shootouts of the week. Having each had to go through the nerves of a shootout just four days earlier, it was Wells who made the first error, failing with their first penalty. The next six penalties were all successful, but Sturminster then missed their fourth, with sudden death required once it reached 4-4. A miss apiece was followed by a pair of hits, which meant that after Wells' eighth penalty was unsuccessful, Sturminster had the chance to win it, and this time they did, securing promotion at the end of a long campaign, and a long afternoon of drama at Barnett's Field.

Premier Division Playoffs: Fifth beat second in a semi-final stunner on Saturday afternoon, with two second half goals leading Sidmouth to victory at Torpoint. Having endured late season heartbreak earlier in the week, Torpoint were unable to rebound and were denied a spot in the final by their visitors from Devon. A Nathan Cooper header five minutes into the second half gave Sidmouth the lead, with Zack Williams then going from assist-maker to goalscorer, slotting home from inside the area to make it 2-0 after 69 minutes. Torpoint's attack was blunted for the entirety of the match, putting Sidmouth 90 minutes away from promotion. Hosting next weekend's final will be Paulton Rovers, after the third-placed finishers beat long-time league leaders Clevedon 3-1. A fortunate opening goal for the hosts saw a hopeful effort from Max Williams' after 19 minutes bounce over the visiting keeper who seemed to be in two minds. Clevedon then hit back on the half-hour, with Jacob Sloggett cutting in from the left before shooting through a crowd of bodies and into the back of the home net. Despite missing out on promotion in their final game of the campaign, Paulton's playoff performance indicates they are desperate to grab this second chance, with Brandon Bak scoring from the edge of the area to make it 2-1, before Will Osborne then curled home a beauty after the break to set up next Saturday's final at the Winterfield Stadium.

Podcast Episode 37

On the podcast this week, we congratulate **Barnstaple Town** boss, Ben Potter, who joins Ian to discuss their title winning campaign, while also looking ahead to the upcoming Les Phillips Cup final. From the First Division, **Radstock** manager, Ian Lanning, is also on the pod to talk about their season ending victory over Keynsham, which kept the Miners out of the dreaded bottom three.
https://www.westernleague.co.uk/news/podcast-episode-37-1



Leading Goalscorers*

Premier Division
Kitan Jaiyeoba (Paulton) – 27
Ryan Bush (Buckland) - 26
Sam Beresford (Clevedon) – 23
Jack Bray-Evans (Newquay) – 22
Josh Parry (Barnstaple) - 20
Curtis Damerell (Torpoint) - 18

First Division
Josh Pearce (Avonmouth) – 32
Liam McCracken (Bristol Telephones) – 28
Matt Brown (Longwell Green) - 22
Jake Brown (Wells) – 20
Harry Warwick (Wells) - 19
Jack Newman (Warminster) – 18

All Competitions
Josh Pearce (Avonmouth) - 35
Ryan Bush (Buckland) – 32
Liam McCracken (Bristol Telephones) – 28
Josh Parry (Barnstaple) - 27
Kitan Jaiyeoba (Paulton) - 27

Latest Results

Tuesday 21st April 2026

First Division Play-Off Semi Finals

Sturminster Newton 0-0 Bristol Telephones

(Sturminster win 5-4 on pens)

Wells City 0-0 Avonmouth

(Wells City win 4-2 on pens)

Premier Division

Oldland Abbotonians 3-0 Street

Sidmouth Town 1-0 Helston Athletic

Torpoint Athletic 1-4 Wellington

Saturday 25th April 2026

Premier Division Play-Off Semi-Finals

Paulton Rovers 3-1 Clevedon Town

Torpoint Athletic 0-2 Sidmouth Town

First Division Play-Off Final

Sturminster Newton 2-2 Wells City

(Sturminster win 6-5 on pens)

Premier Division

Brislington 0-2 St Blazey

Shepton Mallet 4-2 Street

Upcoming Fixtures

Saturday 2nd May 2026

Premier Division Play-Off Final

Paulton Rovers vs Sidmouth Town

Saturday 9th May 2026

Les Phillips Cup Final

Barnstaple Town vs Bradford Town

*(Please note, all goalscoring figures are provided by the FA Full Time website, and following the expulsions of St Austell and Nailsea, goals from those games have been removed and affected the scoring charts)

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League Tables

	PREMIER DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
C	Barnstaple Town	34	24	5	5	42	77
2	Torpoint Athletic	34	23	7	4	32	76
3	Paulton Rovers	34	23	6	5	53	75
4	Clevedon Town	34	24	4	6	43	70*
5	Sidmouth Town	34	19	5	10	16	62
6	Newquay	34	17	5	12	18	56
7	Buckland Athletic	34	15	10	9	19	55
8	Saltash United	34	13	6	15	-11	45
9	Bridgwater United	34	12	6	16	-10	42
10	Bradford Town	34	11	8	15	-8	41
11	Helston Athletic	34	12	4	18	-26	40
12	Street	34	10	9	15	-1	39
13	Ivybridge Town	34	11	6	17	-21	39
14	St Blazey	34	8	10	16	-21	34
15	Wellington	34	10	6	18	-15	33*
16	Shepton Mallet	34	7	8	19	-26	29
17	Brislington	34	5	6	23	-38	21
18	Oldland Abbotonians	34	4	5	25	-46	17
19	St Austell	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Nailsea & Tickenham	0	0	0	0	0	0

	FIRST DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
C	Devizes Town	38	26	8	4	66	86
PO	Sturminster Newton United	38	26	4	8	57	82
3	Wells City	38	25	4	9	61	79
4	Avonmouth	38	23	10	5	31	79
5	Bristol Telephones	38	22	8	8	28	74
6	Bitton	38	20	9	9	15	69
7	Mendip Broadwalk	38	17	9	12	6	60
8	Longwell Green Sports	38	16	5	17	-1	53
9	AEK Boco	38	14	8	16	7	50
10	Warminster Town	38	13	9	16	1	48
11	Almondsbury	38	13	8	17	-15	47
12	Odd Down	38	13	7	18	-12	46
13	Cadbury Heath	38	12	10	16	-24	46
14	Calne Town	38	12	8	18	-7	44
15	Shirehampton	38	12	8	18	-16	44
16	Welton Rovers	38	12	4	22	-19	40
17	Radstock Town	38	7	13	18	-30	33*
18	Keynsham Town	38	8	5	25	-45	29
19	Hengrove Athletic	38	6	9	23	-46	26*
20	Cheddar	38	5	10	23	-57	25