

Bedfordshire County **Football League**



Season 2010-11

News Bulletin Number 2



Just seven days to the big kick off, The Bedfordshire County Football League season kicks off this coming weekend and is quickly followed by a series of midweek games on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. Where will your team be playing?

Preview for the opening week fixtures .

The 2010-11 Bedfordshire County Football League season gets underway this coming Saturday followed by fixtures on the following Tuesday (just one) and Wednesday evenings.

For reigning Premier Division supported by Sportsform champions Blunham, its a home Moggerhanger Playing Fields local derby encounter with Dunton, whilst last seasons runners-up Ickwell & Old Warden now find cricket commitments means their scheduled home clash with newly promoted Flitwick Town on The Green, will now be played later in the season. The same comment applying to Biggleswade United Reserves Second Meadow clash with Shefford Town & Campton, with United now out of the FA Cup, the venue is required for a South Midlands League fixture.

The top game of the day however could well come at The Carlsberg Stadium, where Southill Alexander who are expected to make a serious challenge for the league title this season entertain eight times league champions Caldecote.

Joining The Bedfordshire County Football League ranks this season are Arlesey Town Reserves who make the journey to Hillgrounds to face AFC Kempston Town. Also getting their first taste of Premier Division supported by Sportsform action are last seasons Division One silver medallists Leighton United, who will be in home Stanbridge Road action against Wilshamstead.

Of the other two top flight fixtures, their is local derby action for Oakley Sports when they host Sharnbrook at their Playing Field headquarters whilst the sixth and final day fixture sees Woburn making their way to Renhold Playing Fields to face hosts Renhold United now back under the managent of Buzz Leason.

Action in The Premier Division supported by Sportsform the moves on to Wednesday evening when all eight games could well be termed as "local derbies", the passion

perhaps being at it's highest pitch on The Green where Ickwell & Old Warden host Caldecote.

For Southill Alexander it's another tough home assignment with a visit from Blunham, whilst over at Rectory Road Shefford Town & Campton start their seasons campaign with a visit from Arlesey Town Reserves.

Meantime at Horseshoes Close, Dunton will be in home action against Biggleswade United Reserves, whilst after it's new facelift football returns to Jubilee Playing Fields when hosts Wilshamstead entertain Flitwick Town.

Elsewhere, its another home game for Oakley Sports when paid a visit by AFC Kempston Town, whilst just down the road at Lodge Road, Sharnbrook will be paid a visit by Renhold United.

The eighth and final game coming at Crawley Road where Woburn take on Leighton United. All these midweek games kicking off at 6.30pm apart from Southill Alexander where the kick off is 7.45pm.

The Division One season will kick off with a programme of just four games, three of which see the trio of newly promoted teams in home action. Last seasons Division Two champions Potton Wanderers hosting AFC Kempston Town Reserves at Mill Lane, whilst last seasons Division Two runners-up Bedford Hatters entertain FC Meppershall at Miller Road.

The trio of promoted teams being made up by Brache Sparta Community Reserves who receive a visit from Meltis Albion at their Foxdell Recreation Ground headquarters.

The final game in this section comes at Hillgrounds, the venue where Bedford Sports Athletic host Ian Hammett's Sandy due to their normal Cople Playing Fields headquarters being required for cricket commitments.

Sandy will then be back in action in the lone Division One game of Tuesday evening when they travel again, this time to The Green to face Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves, kick off 6.30pm.

On Wednesday evening the Division One action comprises of three games all kicking off at 6.30pm. At Moggerhanger Playing Fields, Blunham Reserves commence their league season with a visit from local rivals Henlow, whilst at Miller Road, Meltis Albion will be back in action against Marston Rovers Rovers. Making the opposite journey will be fellow Miller Road ground sharers Bedford Hatters, who hit the road to Marston Playing Fields for a meeting with Marston Social.

Division Two action at the weekend gets underway with a programme of five games. For relegated Stevington, it's a trip on the road to face Richard Wheatley's Great Barford at their Playing Field Headquarters. Whilst last seasons Division Three champions Queens Park Crescents commence their new campaign with a visit to Rectory Road and a meeting with Shefford Town & Campton Reserves.

However, the other of the promoted clubs Stopsley Park have the luxury of a home start when they host Clifton at The Luton Regional Sports Centre. While league newcomers Bromham United face a tough start with a home encounter against Arlesey Social Galacticos.

The fifth and final game coming at The Bedford Hockey Centre between hosts Harpur FC and Elstow Abbey.

Action then moves onto Wednesday evening and a full programme of eight games all kicking off at 6.30pm.

For Harpur FC and Stopsley Park, it's again home encounters. Harpur hosting Great Barford whilst Stopsley Park receives a visit from league newcomers Lea Sports PSG.

Both Stevington and Bromham United are back in action when they meet each other at Stevington Playing Fields and Arlesey Social Galacticos hit the road for a second time as they make the short journey to Whiston Crescent to face Clifton in local derby action. Also hitting the road for a second time are Elstow Abbey who journey to Groveside to take on Marabese Ceramics.

Derby action also comes at Greenfield Road where Westoning Recreation Club entertain Lidlington United Sports, whilst at Cutler Hammer, Kempston Hammers Sports host Shefford Town & Campton Reserves and Mowsbury Park is the venue for Queens Park Crescents home encounter with Kings AFC.

For Division Three teams it's a weekend programme of five games. For league newcomers Pavenham that means an home Hillgrounds meeting with Wilshamstead Reserves, while fellow league newcomers Co-Op Sports make the journey to Horseshoes Close to face Dunton Reserves.

For all of the newly promoted teams it's trips on the road to start their campaigns. Last seasons Division Four champions Sharnbrook Reserves on the way to Hilgrounds to face relegated Royal Oak Kempston, whilst runners-up Sundon Park Rangers will be heading for Harvey Close and a meeting with Caldecote A.

For the third of the quartet of promoted sides M& DH Oakley, its the short trip to Gold Street to face Riseley Sports.

Action then moves on to Wednesday evening and a series of five games all kicking off at 6.30pm.

Caldecote A are again in home Harvey Close action, this time against Dunton Reserves, whilst Riseley Sports also have the luxury of a second home game at Gold Street, this time against Pavenham.

It's local derby action at Solway Road, where Co-Op Sports take on Sundon Park Rangers and there will also be a local derby feel about the Renhold Playing Fields clash between Renhold Village and visitors Sharnbrook Reserves.

The fifth and final game being at Crawley Road, where Cranfield United Reserves will commence their season with a visit from M & DH Oakley.

In Division Four the weekend programme is one of six games, five of which involve league newcomers. At Hillgrounds one of the expected title challengers AFC Turvey, start life back in The Bedfordshire County Football League with a visit to play Bedford Park Rangers.

Elsewhere, Whiston Crescent is the venue for Clifton Reserves home encounter with newcomers Lea Sports PSG Reserves, while both Goldington at Bedford Road Recreation Ground against Sandy Reserves and Goldington Hammers at Stewartby Way against Stewartby Village also start life on the road.

Bucking the trend of newcomers on the road are Potton Town who host Thurleigh at their adopted Sandy Sunderland Road Playing Fields venue. Whilst the sixth and final fixture comes at Hinksley Recreation Ground between hosts Dinamo Flitwick and Eastcotts.

There are no scheduled Division Four fixtures planned for the following midweek.

Travellers Tales by Brian Buck

Last season we brought for the first time to our weekly news bulletin the famous Travellers Tales from legendary local Ground Hopper Brian Buck when he dipped into watching our clubs in action. They proved to go down so well, that several people have already requested they are again included this season. This we will do and start with his pre-season visit to watch Marston Social and the Woburn v Bromham United encounter.

24. (9,774) (2,952) Wednesday 28th July 2010. MK City Colts 3 Marston Social 4 (Friendly Match) att 25 approx. This fixture came from Ashley Dean, a player for Marston Social and who works with the leagues Press & Media secretary Peter Francis. Apparently he made the excuse to leave the office early to pick up his team captain James Armstong who is also a presenter on Sky TV's 'Gone Fishing' or a programme of a similar title. Only James knowing the "plaice" where The City Colts played! We thought that Marston would be playing a youth side but it turned out that this particular MK City Colts side were actually a mens team and they have joined the North Bucks League this season. The first four minutes of the game commenced without the, although to be fair I think that the one who did turn up was a replacement. At the start, in light rain, it seemed that MK City Colts might be totally out of their depth as Marston scored twice within the first 12 minutes and at this point looked set to get a hatful. But on 20 minutes they pulled a goal back and now growing in confidence they equalised, from the spot after a barge off the ball. Now they played some attractive football and on 34 minutes they actually took the lead. On 39 minutes Marston contrived to miss a completely open goal. The second half was more even and on 63 minutes the equaliser did come, from the spot after a trip. Mr Dean, who had said to Mr Francis before the match that if he did something stupid or outstanding then he might get a mention here, escaped the sarcasm of the pen by slotting the ball home, thereby proving that he can get a ball into the net as well as his captain can

fish!. Then on 71 minutes his side grabbed the winner. All in all this was a good game to watch, despite the home manager blaming the defeat on himself for making too many changes. But it was played in a good spirit and I wish both sides all the best this year.

28. (9,778) Saturday 31st July 2010. Woburn 0 Bromham United 1 (Friendly Match) (2pm kick off) att 20approx. After the previous match it was just a 15 minute drive to our next match, if you went direct that is. But, egged on by my passengers, we chose to drive to the game by an erratic route, via just about every pub we could find that satisfied their requirements. This wasn't many, because most of them were either closed down, didn't serve real ale or if they did then they ran out of it by the time we arrived. So the driver remained very sober! In fact by the time we arrived at our second game, some ten minutes before the scheduled kick off time he wished that he wasn't! There were problems! It seemed initially that we might not witness a game at all. Just the home team were warming up. However we were told that Bromham were present and so they were and they were ready to kick off on time. However the appointed ref, from Biggleswade was nowhere to be seen and eventually the game started without him, some 13 minutes late, making it rather tight for our last game of the day, a 4.30pm kick off at Stony Stratford Town. So the home manager reffed the game instead, but had to borrow a coin from Peter Francis for the toss up! The first half passed without incident. Woburn were generally the better side, but Bromham came into it more as the half progressed. Then came the Woburn half time team talk, which should really be put on You Tube. The ref, now switching back to manager had to field complaints that he was biased and then one of the Woburn players, who he had known for years, kept trying to make a point and repeatedly interrupted the team talk. The other players stayed silent, not backing the player up. Ultimately this turned out to be something of a shambles as the manager desperately tried to instill some team harmony. Despite the intervention of the said player, it has to be said that on the field in the second half he willingly did play with and for the team. On 69 minutes the 'ref' had a problem with the opposition and offered them the whistle, but it was declined. Then on 80 minutes, just as it was seemingly likely that we wouldn't see a goal, Bromham scored. Five minutes later the Woburn keeper got injured and was replaced. Some generous injury time was added at the end, but we were already well away from the pitch by now, ready to make a quick getaway to our last game of the day.

Pre- Season friendly results and fixtures round-up

Monday 9th August

Sandy 0 Baldock Town Reserves 4

Tuesday 10th August

Caldecote 0 Langford Reserves 2

Dunton 3 Ickwell & Old Warden 1

Marston Shelton Rovers 4 Westoning Recreation Club 4

Sandy Reserves 2 Shefford Town & Campton A 1

Stopsley Park 2 Caddington 3

Wednesday 11th August

Arlesey Town Reserves 2 Oakley Sports 3

Bedford Hatters 5 Goldington FC 2
Bromham United 1 Wilshamstead Reserves 5
Clifton 1 Great Barford 3
Kings AFC 1 AFC Kempston Town Reserves 0
Woburn 7 Willen 1

Thursday 12th August

Cranfield United Reserves 0 Marston Social 2
M & DH Oakley 5 Clapham Sunday 2
Sandy Reserves 0 Marabese Ceramics 4
Stewartby Village 0 Potton Town 1

Saturday 14th August

Bromham United 2 Marston Shelton Rovers 2
Caldecote 3 Henlow 0
Co-Op Sports 7 Dinamo Flitwick 3
Dunton 3 Lidlington United Sports 1
Kempston Hammers Sports 1 Southill Alexander 3
M & DH Oakley 1 AFC Kempston Town Reserves 1
Royal Oak Kempston 1 Eastcotts 1
Lea Sports PSG 2 Luton Old Boys 1
Renhold Village 5 Bedford Park Rangers 2
Sandy 2 Marabese Ceramics 1 (East Beds Junior Charity Cup)
Shefford Town & Campton 0 Letchworth & Baldock 3
Stewartby Village 1 Kempston Athletic 1
Stopsley Park 0 St Joseph 2

Monday 16th August

Sandy 4 Embankment 1

Tuesday 17th August

Caldecote 2 Caldecote Young Boys 4
Dunton 2 Langford Reserves 2
Kents Athletic 3 Marston Social 2
Marston Shelton Rovers 1 Ampthill Town Reserves 1
Redbridge FC 5 Southill Alexander 0
Sandy Reserves 1 Wilshamstead Reserves 4
Wootton Village 0 Sharnbrook Reserves 9

Wednesday 18th August

AFC Turvey 3 Riseley Sports 2
Arlesey Town Reserves 2 Dunstable 3
Biggleswade United Reserves 0 Knebworth 4
Blunham 1 Bedford Hatters 2
Caldecote Reserves 3 Great Barford 2
Clifton Reserves 0 Pavenham 6
Oakley Sports 3 Goldington FC 4
Renhold Village 3 Elstow Abbey 4
Shefford Town & Campton Reserves 3 Letchworth GC Eagles 0
Westoning Recreation Club 6 Westoning Recreation Club Reserves 6

Woburn 0 Flitwick Town 4

Thursday 19th August

Blunham Reserves 1 Dunton Reserves 0
Sandy Reserves 0 Henlow 2

Saturday 21st August

AFC Kempston Town 6 Kempston Hammers 0
AFC Turvey 3 M & DH Oakley 1
Caldecote Reserves v Paxton **Cancelled**
Co-Op Sports 4 Bromham United 0
Clifton Reserves 0 Potton Town 1
Cottered 7 Caldecote A 0
Dunton 4 Luton Old Boys 0
Flitwick Town Reserves 9 Dinamo Flitwick 3
Kings AFC 3 Stewarty Village 1
Sandy 1 Southill Alexander 4
Shefford Town & Campton 5 Offley 1
Westoning Recreation Club Reserves 1 Pavenham 3
Woburn 1 Marston Shelton Rovers 2
Wootton Village 0 Royal Oak Kempston 2

Monday 23rd August

Ickwell & Old Warden v Sandy (Biggleswade Knock Out Cup) Kick Off 6.30pm
Woburn v Lidlington United Sports 6.30pm

Tuesday 24th August

Oakley Sports v M & DH Oakley 6.30pm
Sandy Reserves v Harpur FC 6.30pm
Stewartby Village v Wilshamstead Reserves 6.30pm
Wootton Village v Embankment FC 6.30pm

Wednesday 25th August

Biggleswade United Reserves v Harpenden Rovers Reserves Kick Off 7.45pm
Caldecote Reserves v Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves 6pm (East Beds Junior Charity Cup)
Kings AFC v Bedford Park Rangers 6.30pm
Renhold Village v Marabese Ceramics 6.30pm

Saturday 28th August

Luton Old Boys v Shefford Town & Campton