

Bedfordshire County **Football League**



Season 2025-26

News Bulletin Number 31



Final Seasons Review

Premier Division supported by Sportsform

The Premier Division supported by Sportsform title race was to go to the 28th and final round of fixtures before Caldecote claimed their 11th title on goal difference ahead of Cranfield United Reserves. The boys from Harvey Close lost just once all season away at Cranfield United Reserves in mid-October before embarking on a 16 game winning run which only came to an end in the last month of the season when held to home draws by Elstow Abbey and Cranfield United Reserves. They then went on to complete a league and cup double by coming from behind twice to lift the Britannia Cup with a 3-2 victory over Cranfield United Reserves who once again had to settle for the silver medals. United, like the champions, lost just one league game all season away at Harlington Juniors in late February following a 21 game unbeaten run of which all but draws away at AFC Oakley and at home to Biggleswade FC Reserves in the space of seven days in the opening month of the season were won.

Taking up third place be it some 13 points adrift of the top two were the 2024-25 season champions AFC Oakley. Apart from being beaten twice by Caldecote and once by Cranfield United Reserves they were to lose just once more at home to Marston Shelton Rovers in their final game of the season. Some 10 points behind them in fourth place were the newly promoted Stopsley United, their failure to win just one of their last seven outings perhaps costing them that third place finish.

Having collected the silver medals in season 2024-25 Marston Shelton Rovers were to place fifth this season just goal difference behind Stopsley United, but apart from the clubs above them only Queens Park Crescents twice and Wootton Blue Cross once managed to collect all three points from them. The top six being made up by Queens Park Crescents who slipped two places from a 2024-25 season fourth placing. Surprising enough they suffered more home defeats (5) and they did on the road (3)

For last season's Division One champions Harlington Juniors it was a very commendable seventh place finish, however the highlight of their season came away from the league with the winning of this season's Bedfordshire FA Senior Trophy emerging as the penalty shoot-out victors over South Midlands League Cranfield United. Having a disappointing season were last season's third placers Wootton Blue

Cross to this season take up the eighth spot. Their season fell apart mid-term when after winning at Biggleswade FC Reserves in the last week of November they then lost their next six games before winning at home against Riseley Sports in mid-March. Also seeing a collapse to their season were the eventual ninth place Elstow Abbey who failed to win any of their last 13 games to drop one place from their 2024-25 eighth place finish.

The top ten being made up by Totternhoe Reserves who had placed in ninth the previous season but if we write that Wootton Blue Cross and Elstow Abbey season's fell apart/ collapsed i find it difficult to come up with a word to explain why they failed to raise a side to play three of their last four games of the campaign.

Just five places from the bottom of the table in 11th spot, two places up from their 2024-25 finish were Biggleswade FC Reserves. FC who had started the season by failing to win until game number 10 ended the season much better by losing just four of their closing 10 games. This late form kept them one place above local rivals Biggleswade United Reserves who had finished seventh in season 2024-25. United won just five times all season, three of those importantly coming over the three clubs who finished below them in the final standings.

In that third from the bottom of the table, just a point in advance of the drop zone were last season's tenth placers Riseley Sports. Having won two of their opening three games both away from home they won just another three times all season and the final statistics show they suffered the most defeats of any club (22) and conceded the most goals (122) however it also shows them to have gained a point more than Flitwick Town who placed in that second from bottom of the table spot and three ahead of basement team Shefford Town & Campton Reserves.

Premier Division supported by Sportsform 2025-26 Season Final Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Caldecote First	28	24	3	1	115	27	88	75
2	Cranfield United Reserves	28	24	3	1	89	18	71	75
3	AFC Oakley First	28	19	5	4	105	54	51	62
4	Stopsley United First	28	16	4	8	77	48	29	52
5	Marston Shelton Rovers First	28	16	4	8	74	54	20	52
6	Queens Park Crescents First	28	15	4	9	67	51	16	49
7	Harlington Juniors First	28	13	6	9	65	56	9	45
8	Wootton Blue Cross First	28	13	4	11	67	52	15	43
9	Elstow Abbey First	28	8	5	15	58	83	-25	29
10	Totternhoe Reserves	28	8	5	15	43	74	-31	23 *
11	Biggleswade FC Reserves	28	6	6	16	49	89	-40	23 *
12	Biggleswade United Reserves	28	5	5	18	50	68	-18	17 *
13	Riseley Sports First	28	5	1	22	47	122	-75	15 *
14	Flitwick Town First	28	4	3	21	39	90	-51	14 *
15	Shefford Town & Campton Reserves	28	3	4	21	32	91	-59	12 *

Division One

The Division One season was to start with 15 teams but within six weeks we were down to just 13 teams following the withdrawal of Harlington Juniors Reserves and Ickwell & Old Warden. However following a disappointing 2024-25 season when under their old banner of Buffs FC they only finished seventh, the rebranded Baldock Victoria were to claim the league title some four points ahead of Thurleigh and then go on and claim a league and cup double in lifting the Centenary Cup with a penalty shoot-out final victory over Kempston United. The Victoria lost just twice all season away at Lea Sports PSG and Kempston United, however the league table shows them defeated three times, this third defeat being due to a breach of FA rules following their home victory over AFC Oakley Development. For Thurleigh having been promoted as Division Two North champions at the end of season 2024-25 it was a season where they were beaten just once at home all season by Baldock Victoria in mid-February and just three times on the road at Baldock Victoria, Lu Donz and Blunham.

Having their best ever season were third place FC Haynes having been promoted from fifth place Division Two North placing in season 2024-25. Surprisingly of their seven defeats during the season, five of those came on home soil. Just a point behind them in fourth place were another of the newly promoted clubs Blunham whose quest for a top three finish fell away when losing four of their closing eight games of which three came on home soil.

Taking up fifth place were last season's third placed Kempston United. All of their seven defeats in the season came before they ended the season with a 10 game unbeaten run which included eight victories, one of which was at home over Baldock Victoria to avenge their Centenary Cup final defeat. Whilst making up the top six were last season's Division Two South champions LU Donz, the collection of just 12 points on the road prevented them from finishing much higher.

Heading the bottom half of the table in seventh place, ten points behind the Donz were last season's sixth placers Clifton who after a good opening to the season gained the maximum three points on just three occasions come the turn of the New Year of which two came when their opposition failed to raise a side.

Having finished fourth in season 2024-25 it was a disappointing eighth place finish for Bedford Albion. Their season however finished on a high with the lifting of the Beds FA Intermediate Cup with a penalty shoot-out win over St Josephs (Saturday) whilst repeating their ninth place finish in season 2024-25 were AFC Oakley Development. Their downfall being their lack of goals, netting just 29 times in a season that saw them win just six times of which only two came on home soil.

In tenth spot were Lea Sports PSG the 2024-25 season Division Two runners-up, a placing that owed much to victories over the three sides that eventually finished below them in the table. These being headed by Bletchley Scot who having spent the best part of the season on bottom spot gained 10 points from their closing six games to lift themselves out of the drop zone.

In that second from the bottom spot were last season's Division Two North silver medallists Caldecote Reserves, their downfall coming with the collecting of just seven points from their closing 12 outings, just sufficient enough to keep them a point ahead of Wootton Blue Cross Reserves having finished in fifth place the previous season they will be only to please the season is over.

Division One 2025-26 Season Final Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Baldock Victoria	24	19	2	3	91	45	46	58 *
2	Thurleigh FC	24	17	3	4	83	40	43	54
3	FC Haynes First	24	14	3	7	54	37	17	45
4	Blunham Saturday	24	14	2	8	59	49	10	44
5	Kempston United First	24	13	4	7	60	44	16	43
6	LU Donz First	23	11	5	7	78	52	26	38
7	Clifton First	24	8	5	11	42	49	-7	28 *
8	Bedford Albion First	24	7	6	11	54	55	-1	27
9	AFC Oakley Development	24	6	5	13	29	51	-22	23
10	Lea Sports PSG Saturday First	24	8	1	15	44	70	-26	22 *
11	Bletchley Scot First	23	6	2	15	47	83	-36	20
12	Caldecote Reserves	24	6	2	16	35	68	-33	18 *
13	Wootton Blue Cross Reserves	24	6	0	18	44	77	-33	17 *

Division Two

The Division Two league title was to go the way of AFC Bedford United whose success was based on their fine home performance where they lost just once to second place Queens Park Crescents Reserves and dropped points in draws with Bedford SA, AFC Kempston Hammers and Green End Rovers. Their quest to complete a league and cup double was thwarted when beaten in the final of the Jubilee Cup by Kempston Athletic.

As mentioned the runners-up spot went to Queens Park Crescents Reserves who finished just the three points adrift of the champions to collect the silver medals, a colour that could well have been gold but for them breaching league rules which saw their 3-0 home victory over AFC Bedford United in their third game of the season amended to game awarded to AFC Bedford United and Queens Park Crescents Reserves deducted one penalty point by the league committee upon investigation.

In third spot having only placed ninth in Division Two South in season 2024-25 and having a much improved season were AFC Kempston Town Hammers. The Hammers also fell just short in both the season's cup competitions with Semi-Final exits in both the Beds FA Intermediate Cup and the league's Jubilee Cup.

Taking up the fourth spot were the returning to the league St Josephs (Saturday) who having reached the half-way stage of the season with just four victories to show from their opening 11 games where to enjoy a much better second half of the season in being beaten just the twice at home to Queens Park Crescents Reserves and

away at AFC Kempston Hammers. However, their highlight of the season was to see them make the final of the Beds FA Intermediate Cup before going down in a penalty shoot-out against Division One club Bedford Albion.

In fifth place having placed just sixth in Division Two South in season 2024-25 were Caddington Reserves who failed to nudge closer to the promotion spots by winning just four of their season's away encounters. Whilst in the dead middle sixth place having been relegated from Division One in season 2024-25 were Bedford SA who at least can claim to be the only side not to have been beaten by the champions AFC Bedford United having drawn both of their encounters.

Having finished seventh in Division Two North in season 2024-25 Wixham Wanderers who with just one defeat at Green End Rovers in their closing seven outings finished strongly to take up a likewise seventh placing this season. The Wanderers finishing two points ahead of last season's sixth place Division Two North club Green End Rovers who having won six of their opening eight games and drawing the other two fell away to win just three more games all season to place eighth, two of those three wins however came at home against champions AFC Bedford United and runners-up Queens Park Crescents Reserves.

Having been promoted as Division Three league champions at the end of the 2024-25 season Kempston Athletic will perhaps be disappointed with their ninth place finish having won just four home games all season, two of which came in their closing two games, yet their season finished on a real high with the lifting of the Jubilee Cup with a 4-1 victory over AFC Bedford United.

In tenth spot but a clear 16 points away from the drop zone were Flitwick Town Reserves. They collected just 26 points all season, seven coming from their opening three games and twelve from their closing five games leaving just seven points collected from the 14 games in between.

In the second from the bottom placing were Stotfold Junior who won just three times all season and netted the lowest amount of goals in 22 from their 22 outings leaving in bottom spot Westoning Reds who finally threw the towel in and withdrew from the league at the end of January.

Division Two 2025-26 Season Final Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	AFC Bedford United (Sat) First	22	13	6	3	72	41	31	45
2	Queens Park Crescents Reserves	22	14	3	5	42	30	12	42 *
3	AFC Kempston Town Hammers First	22	12	4	6	57	26	31	40
4	St Josephs (Sat)	22	12	2	8	50	42	8	38
5	Caddington Reserves	22	12	2	8	46	44	2	38
6	Bedford SA First	22	11	3	8	58	51	7	36
7	Wixams Wanderers First	22	9	4	9	52	55	-3	31
8	Green End Rovers First	22	9	2	11	53	53	0	29
9	Kempston Athletic First	22	9	2	11	31	39	-8	28 *
10	Flitwick Town Reserves	22	8	2	12	41	58	-17	26
11	Stotfold Junior First (Sat)	22	3	2	17	22	54	-32	10 *
12	Westoning Club Reds	22	3	2	17	31	62	-31	5 *

Division Three

Having finished sixth in season 2024-25 Dunstable Wanderers were to claim the league title this season by a huge margin of 13 points. They were to complete the campaign with a 100% away record suffering their only three defeats all on home soil the first of which didn't arrive until beaten by Everton Athletic in game number 13 of the season with the other two coming in the closing month of the season against Bedford Albion Development and Athletic FC. In winning the title they conceded the least amount of goals just 28 and only third place Stopsley United Reserves (85) scored more than them (77)

Having been relegated from Division Two North at the end of season 2024-25, Bedford Albion Development were to claim this season's silver medals. A slow start to the season saw them win just three of their opening seven games and then lose four of their closing seven games which prevented them getting closer to the Wanderers.

In third spot having been the 2024-25 season Division Four silver medallist were Stopsley United Reserves whose season was to end on a high with the lifting of this season's Watson Shield via a penalty shoot-out victory over Bedford Albion Development. Just goal difference behind United in fourth spot were last season's Division Four champions Ampthill Town Colts, whose home record of just five victories against eight on the road for certain cost them a higher placing.

Repeating their fifth place finish of last season were Athletic FC. be it six points behind the Colts, likewise it was their home form that let them down whilst on the road they lost just three times, in their opening game of the season at Wilsted and in their closing game of the season at Stopsley United Reserves plus in between at Bedford Albion Development in late October.

In season 2024-25 Everton Athletic took up the bottom spot in Division Three (relegation not possible with their reserves in Division Four membership) this season

they enjoyed a much better campaign to finish sixth along the way being one of only three sides to beat the champions Dunstable Wanderers.

Heading up the lower half of the table in seventh place were M&DH Clapham Sports following their relegation from Division Two North., a position that looked likely to be far better after they opened the season with just one defeat in their opening eight outings. Whilst just behind the Sports on goal difference repeating their eighth place finish in season 2024-25 were The 61 FC Luton Reserves, a run of eight straight defeats to open up 2026 preventing them making a challenge for a top six placing.

Down two places from seventh to ninth this season were Wilstead, perhaps disappointing in many ways but commendable in others in that suffering player availability problems they soldiered on and finished the season rather than throw in the towel and withdraw during the season unlike Caldecote A, Elstow Abbey Reserves and FC Polonia (Luton).

In tenth spot were league newcomers Lu Donz Development, one of three teams finishing on 22 points and with M&DH Clapham Sports and The 61 FC Luton Reserves gaining 23 points just one more victory would have placed them seventh.

The third team to finish on 22 points taking up that second from bottom of the table finish and repeating last season's placing were Flitwick Town A. Four of their seven victories came from their last five games. The basement position some 10 points adrift of the Town being taken by Turvey. Losing 17 of their 22 outings, scoring just 21 goals (the least of any) and conceding 64 goals (the second worst) summing up their torrid season.

Division Three 2025-26 Season Final Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Dunstable Wanderers First	22	19	0	3	77	27	50	57
2	Bedford Albion Development	22	14	2	6	55	35	20	44
3	Stopsley United Reserves	22	13	2	7	85	52	33	41
4	Amphill Town Colts	22	13	2	7	60	34	26	41
5	Atletic FC First	22	12	2	8	57	50	7	35 *
6	Everton Athletic FC First	22	8	3	11	49	56	-7	27
7	M&DH Clapham Sports First	22	6	6	10	37	45	-8	23 *
8	The 61 FC (Luton) Reserves	22	7	2	13	35	73	-38	23
9	Wilstead First	22	9	1	12	49	49	0	22 *
10	LU Donz Development	22	7	3	12	42	56	-14	22 *
11	Flitwick Town 'A'	22	7	1	14	33	59	-26	22
12	Turvey First	22	5	0	17	21	64	-43	12 *
13	Caldecote A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-6 *

Division Four

Having finished sixth in season 2024-25 Dunstable Town Cricket Club (DTCC FC) were to claim the 2025-26 league title by a margin of eight points. They suffered defeat on just two occasions, in their first game of the season away at Westoning Blues before barking on a 14 game winning run which only came to an end at Wootton Blue Cross A at the end of February before winning their last nine games.

Taking the runner-up spot were league newcomers Luton Phoenix who in netting 102 goals were one of only two teams to exceed the three figure mark, losing both of their outings to DTCC FC costing them the championship title, however revenge was taken over the champions by beating them in a penalty shoot-out to lift this season's Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup.

In third place being the other team to net more than a hundred goals (122) were league newcomers Cranfield United Development just three points behind the Phoenix but the haul of just three points from their games against the top two costing them a set of medals.(double defeat v DTCC FC and one win and one defeat against the Phoenix) telling the tale.

In fourth place were Westoning Blues (rebranded from 2024-25 EB Lions) who had also placed fourth in season 2024-25. Just six points from their six games against the top three finishers falling to see them push closer to a promotion placing. These four teams pulled well clear of fifth place AFC Kempston Town Hammers Reserves who enjoyed a much better season than their ninth placed Division Two South finish. thanks in the main to four wins and a draw from their closing seven games

Just a point behind the Hammers in sixth spot were league newcomers Flitwick Eagles Development, who having lost their opening three home games of the season were to lose just the twice more on home soil (or should that be 3G) against DTCC FC and Cranfield United Development but having won six of their opening eight away encounters they then closed the season by losing all five of their last five.

Nevertheless the Town were 12 points clear of seventh place Meltis Rangers who were relegated from Division Three at the end of season 2024-25, a placing that looked most unlikely at the start of March before they closed the season by winning six and drawing one of their last eight outings. In eighth spot repeating their 2024-25 finish were Catsbrook Wanderers, just two victories from their closing 11 outings seeing them fail to achieve a top six finish.

For last season's tenth place Everton Athletic Reserves it was a ninth place finish, their lack of goals (35) being the third lowest, but by some strange quirk of their nine victories, six of them came on the road, all of which kept them a point ahead of tenth place league newcomers Queens Park Crescents Development, who showed the reverse winning six times on home soil and just twice on the road in their eight victories.

For another league newcomer or to be correct the returning Leighton Woodside Athletic took up the eleventh place, a mid-season run of eight straight defeats and five defeats from their closing six games prevented them from a higher placing.

Nevertheless the Athletic finished five points clear of league newcomers Wootton Blue Cross A who spent most of the season in the bottom two until six wins and a draw from them closing eight games took them clear of the bottom two.

That second from bottom spot being occupied by last season's ninth place AFC Clophill, the divisions lowest scorers (27) leaving in the basement spot last season's seventh place M&DH Clapham Sports Reserves who won just twice all season at home to Leighton Woodside Athletic and AFC Clophill and in conceding the most goals (114) lost all of their 13 away league games.

Division Four 2025-26 Season Final Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Dunstable Town Cricket Club DTCC FC Satu	26	24	0	2	79	19	60	72
2	Luton Phoenix FC	26	21	1	4	102	36	66	64
3	Cranfield United Development	26	20	1	5	122	28	94	61
4	Westoning Club Blues	26	19	0	7	82	37	45	56 *
5	AFC Kempston Town Hammers Reserves	26	14	2	10	62	60	2	44
6	Flitwick Eagles Development	26	14	1	11	64	55	9	43
7	Meltis Rangers First	26	10	5	11	58	50	8	32 *
8	Catsbrook Wanderers First	26	9	5	12	38	54	-16	32
9	Everton Athletic FC Res	26	9	2	15	35	69	-34	28 *
10	Queens Park Crescents Development	26	8	5	13	41	73	-32	27 *
11	Leighton Woodside Athletic	26	6	1	19	55	99	-44	19
12	Wootton Blue Cross A	26	7	2	17	45	75	-30	14 *
13	AFC Clophill First	26	4	2	20	27	72	-45	11 *
14	M&DH Clapham Sports Reserves	26	2	3	21	31	114	-83	5 *