

Bedfordshire County

Football League



Full Time Report

Season 2012-13



Premier Division Supported by Sportsform

Once again for the third consecutive season all of the 16 runners who set out in September 2012 failed to make it across the May 2013 finishing line. The casualty this season being Blunham double title winning champions in seasons 2009-10 and 2010-11 who pulled the plug on their campaign at the end of October after suffering a 14-1 away defeat at Caldecote just eight games into the season during which time just four points had been gained to leave them three places off the bottom of the league table.

However, come May 2013 the champagne corks were popping at Harvey Close to celebrate the winning of a ninth record breaking top flight title by Caldecote who thus surpassed the eight titles won by Queens Athletic between seasons 1973-74 and 1983-84. In fact Caldecote's titles have all arrived in the last 16 seasons since their maiden win in season 1996-97.

Their season was once again built around their solid home form at Harvey Close where just seven points were dropped all season. Just Wilshamstead in late February leaving with the full three points plus Marston Shelton Rovers and Renhold United earning draws. On the road, they suffered just three defeats. In their opening game at Renhold United, in the closing game at Arlesey Town Reserves plus at Shefford Town & Campton in early February as they recorded 10 away wins from their 14 outings. Wilshamstead in mid-April being the only other venue they failed to collect the maximum points when drawing 2-2.

Cup success however was to elude them. Making semi-final exits in both The Bedfordshire Senior Trophy against Bedford FC and in The Biggleswade Knock-Out Cup at Stotfold Reserves, whilst Britannia Cup action saw them go out in the opening round at Shefford Town & Campton.

Taking the silver medals and second spot were Oakley Sports M&DH, an improvement of three places from their 2011-12 finish. The Sportsmen finishing just three points behind Caldecote to whom they lost twice during the campaign; 4-0 on home soil and 4-2 at Harvey Close. In fact Caldecote were the only club to beat them on home soil all season with just Wilshamstead and Shefford Town & Campton earning draws at their Playing Field base. So if the double defeats against Caldecote didn't cost them the league title then it must be contributed to their away defeats at AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College, Shefford Town & Campton and Marston Shelton Rovers.

However, consolation was on hand with them retaining the Britannia Cup with a 2-1 victory in the final over AFC Biggleswade.

In third spot were Renhold United, an improvement of one place from their 2011-12 finish. United in the end being nine points behind Caldecote and they will look back to their form between mid-November and early March during which time just three wins were gathered

from eight outings as being the telling point for them failing to become serious title challengers.

Like Caldecote they departed from the Bedfordshire FA Senior Trophy at the semi-final stage away at Potton United, whilst a surprise home exit in the first round of the Britannia Cup was made at the hands of Bedford Sports Athletic.

For Arlesey Town Reserves, it was mission accomplished with a fourth place finish to now qualify for an application to the Football Association for promotion to level six football next season. Town who finished seventh the previous season having a very topsy turvy campaign after opening the season unbeaten in their first eight outings to look likely championship contenders. However, they did end the season on a six game unbeaten home run including a 4-1 last game victory over Caldecote which ensured the championship title would not be settled until the last day of the season.

Premier Division supported by Sportsform Final League Table Season 2012-13														
POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME			AWAY			OVERALL			GD	PTS	
			W	D	L	F	A		W	D	L	F	A	
1	Caldecote	28	11	2	1	41	17	10	1	3	4	62	5	66
2	Oakley Sports M&DH	28	11	2	1	48	18	9	1	4	4	47	32	63
3	Renhold United	28	10	1	3	46	23	8	2	4	3	27	18	57
4	Arlesey Town Reserves	28	7	3	4	32	21	8	0	6	3	12	5	48
5	Marston Shelton Rovers	28	8	2	4	26	23	5	3	6	2	29	13	44
6	Ickwell & Old Warden	28	6	2	6	37	25	7	2	5	4	24	13	43
7	Shefford Town & Campton	28	7	2	5	47	25	5	4	5	3	0	22	42
8	Wilshamstead	28	4	4	6	33	34	8	1	5	4	2	37	41
9	Bedford Hatters	28	9	1	4	42	25	6	1	7	1	4	31	41*
	AFC Kempston													
10	Town & Bedford College	28	6	1	7	26	27	6	3	5	2	0	22	40
11	Lidlington United Sports	28	5	3	6	25	26	4	1	9	2	2	48	31
12	Flitwick Town	28	4	2	8	21	26	4	4	6	1	8	25	30
13	AFC Biggleswade	28	4	1	9	28	35	3	2	9	1	6	39	24
14	Sharnbrook	28	3	0	11	21	44	4	0	10	2	4	40	21
15	Bedford SA	28	0	1	13	11	62	1	2	11	1	8	58	0*

* adjustment made

It was a very creditable fifth place finish for newly promoted Marston Shelton Rovers. Just four clubs Arlesey Town Reserves, Caldecote, Ickwell & Old Warden plus Renhold United beating them on home soil. Whilst notable away wins were achieved at Wilshamstead, Shefford Town & Campton and Renhold United plus four of the six points gained from their local derby clashes with Lidlington United Sports.

Making up the top six were last seasons division one champions Ickwell & Old Warden. Their championship hopes fading between the end of November and early February with just two

points gained from their five league outings and by the end of the season they were 23 points adrift mainly due to being beaten in their last six outings.

Disappointment also came in the final of the Biggleswade Knock Cup with a penalty shoot-out defeat against Stotfold Reserves.

Down in seventh place were last seasons champions Shefford Town & Campton, their defence of their title all but over by the turn of the new year and the halfway stage of the season having suffered seven defeats in their opening 14 games. However, their closing 14 games saw them defeated just three times at home against Renhold United and away at Arlesey Town Reserves and Caldecote to suggest they will once again be a force to reckon with next season.

Dropping two places from their sixth place of season 2011-12 to finish eighth were Wilshamstead. Early doors, they looked more likely to be relegation candidates with just one win from their first 10 outings until recovery was made with just three defeats at home against Lidlington United Sports and away at Marston Shelton Rovers and Renhold United coming in their closing 18 games.

In ninth spot down six places from their third spot finish in season 2011-12 were Bedford Hatters. A deduction of six points for failing to fulfil their fixtures at AFC Biggleswade in early March, which was won 1-0 seven days later and away at Wilshamstead in early May, which due to insufficient time was never replayed perhaps costing them a top five finish.

The Hatters highlight of the season being a 9-2 opening day home win over Wilshamstead against a low of an 8-0 defeat at Ickwell & Old Warden in early April just seven days after they had made a semi-final exit at AFC Biggleswade in the Britannia Cup. But recovery was made with their closing eight outings seeing them gain seven wins and be defeated at just Arlesey Town Reserves.

Repeating their tenth place finish of season 2011-12 were AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College. Alas this will go down as an disappointment after they spent the majority of the season in the top six of the league table before their closing 10 games of the campaign brought them just two wins, away at Lidlington United Sports and at home over Renhold United.

Another club to tail off in the second half of the season were newly promoted Lidlington United Sports in eleventh spot. All begun well enough, especially at their Hurst Grove base where AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College became the first club to win at on the last day of March. Alas for them the next six visitors apart from Shefford Town & Campton who only drew also took away the full three points to scupper United's hopes of a top six finish.

One place down in twelfth spot from their eleventh place finish in season 2011-12 were Flitwick Town. Town starting the season off poorly with just one victory from their opening six outings before fears that they might have a relegation fight on their hands were first dismissed with an unbeaten six game run only to return with five defeats in their next six starts before they gathered 11 points in the closing month of the season which saw them keep clear on the drop zone area.

In thirteenth spot were league newcomers AFC Biggleswade. The Waders having a torrid start to their campaign losing nine of their opening 10 games until a run of five wins from their next six outings gave them hope that they could finish out of the bottom two. Their hopes coming to fruition to see them stay three points clear of Sharnbrook and the dreaded drop zone despite only achieving one more win at Ickwell & Old Warden in their closing 12 games.

Their seasons highlight being the making of The Britannia Cup Final where they were narrowly defeated 2-1 by Oakley Sports M&DH.

Just one place off the bottom of the table were the aforementioned Sharnbrook who the previous season had finished ninth. Their plight not helped by recording just three home wins all season at Lodge Road against Lidlington United Sports, Bedford Sports Athletic and Marston Shelton Rovers. Their hopes of finishing out of the bottom two were briefly raised with a 2-0 win at AFC Biggleswade on April 27th before being dashed with defeats in their last three outings of the season.

Taking up the wooden spoon position were Bedford Sports Athletic last season division one runners-up. However, despite winning just one game all season at Flitwick Town they quite rightly gained many friends and admiration for the way they persevered to the seasons end to set a real example to those clubs who just pack up at the drop of a hat. Well done Athletic, for me you are the Bedfordshire County Football League club of the season.

Division One

The 14 team Division One constitution was quickly down to 13 teams after newly promoted AFC Turvey withdrew from the league prior to the season commencing and then down to just a dozen following the shock withdrawal of Lea Sports PSG just 10 games into the campaign. However, the slight consolation for the remaining sides was unlike in the other four divisions after the bad weather arrived in mid-winter they were still all able to complete their league programme of games without having to resort to a glut of midweek fixtures come British Summer time.

After just one seasons absence, Leighton United returned to the league to lift the league crown by just three points after a seasons long ding-dong battle with Shillington. Their double over The Shills during the campaign in effect winning them the title. United also had the distinction of remaining unbeaten on the road all season with points just dropped with draws at Luton Boys and Pavenham. In fact both those clubs also came away with points from Stanbridge Road, Pavenham in a second stalemate and Luton Boys with all three. A feat that was only equalled by Elstow Abbey's 5-3 win in mid-October as United dropped just seven home points all season to run out worthy champions.

United's only setback of the season being their semi-final defeat at Henlow in The Centenary Cup.

For runners-up Shillington there were just three defeats all season. The aforementioned double by Leighton United over them and a 3-0 loss at Brickhill Tigers in early April who then held The Shills to a 1-1 home draw just 11 days later which in effect ended their championship hopes in this their first season.

Shillington like Leighton United made a shock exit from The Centenary Cup at Kings AFC but had the consolation of lifting the East Beds Charity Cup with a final win over Division Three Clifton.

Third spot was to go to newly promoted Pavenham. They started the season with a 10 game unbeaten run to become potential title contenders before a spell of seven games which yielded them just one victory saw their championship hopes quickly evaporate until recovery was made with four victories from their last five outings.

Like the top two clubs they also failed to shine in the Centenary Cup losing in the opening round at home to Elstow Abbey.

Fourth place was to be taken up by Luton Boys, an improvement of six places from their 2011-12 finish. Their season in many ways being the opposite of Pavenhams as their opening 10 games saw them lose seven times including all of their five trips away from their Chaul End Lane base before recovery was made mainly by chalking up an unbeaten run in their next six away outings but by picking up just four points from their last four home outings they failed by a margin of five points to overhaul Pavenham for third spot.

In fifth spot were newly promoted Shefford Town & Campton Reserves, their season dampened by their away record which saw them win just four times on the road. However, they finished the campaign strongly only losing at home to Shillington and away at Leighton United in their last 12 outings.

<u>Division One Final League Table Season 2012-13</u>													
POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME			AWAY			OVERALL			GD	PTS
			W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	
1	Leighton United	22	8	1	2	44	21	9	2	0	40	14	54
2	Shillington	22	9	1	1	31	11	7	2	2	27	14	51
3	Pavenham	22	7	2	2	36	15	5	2	4	25	19	40
4	Luton Boys	22	7	1	3	31	22	4	2	5	22	25	36
5	Shefford Town & Campton Reserves	22	5	4	2	29	25	4	1	6	21	27	32
6	Elstow Abbey	22	4	3	4	26	23	5	1	5	30	33	31
7	Sandy	22	5	2	4	20	19	4	2	5	18	22	31
8	Caldecote Reserves	22	5	3	3	22	14	3	3	5	19	21	30
9	Henlow	22	6	1	4	27	18	3	1	7	20	35	29
10	Brickhill Tigers	22	4	1	6	32	26	2	4	5	24	31	23
11	Kings AFC	22	1	2	8	16	39	1	2	8	16	45	10
12	AFC Kempston Tn & Bedford Coll Reserves	22	0	2	9	12	36	1	1	9	7	40	6

Making up the top six were last seasons Division Two champions Elstow Abbey. Having lost five of their opening eight games, a change of management at The Warren brought about a much better second half of the season with just two defeats from their closing 10 league outings. Yet the season was to conclude on a slight with defeat at the hands of Henlow in the final of The Centenary Cup.

Just goal difference behind The Abbey in seventh spot were last seasons sixth place Sandy. The surprise of their campaign being the fact they won just five times at what in the past has become fortress Bedford Road. Like The Abbey they finished the season strongly on a five game unbeaten run.

Also dropping one place this campaign were Caldecote Reserves from seventh to eighth. Harvey Close becoming their fortress where only Leighton United, Pavenham and Sandy visited to return home with all three points but the disappointment for them was the yield of just three away wins all season. Plus a semi-final exit in Centenary Cup to Elstow Abbey.

Repeating their ninth placing of season 2011-12 were Henlow. However, their season will best be remembered by them lifting The Centenary Cup with a penalty shoot-out win over Elstow Abbey after showing Leighton United the exit door at the semi-final stage.

In tenth spot were Brickhill Tigers, dropping five places from their 2011-12 finish under their previous name of FC Meppershall. Their season starting ok with three home wins from their first four outings until the next seven outings brought about just one more victory, that 3-0 victory over Shillington which in many ways scuppered The Shills title hopes. Their away form being no better, just two wins. In their opening game at Henlow and then not again until their closing game at AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves.

Taking up the first of the relegation spots are Kings AFC who escaped the drop last term by just one place. Their season bringing about just two wins, at home over Shefford Town & Campton Reserves and away at AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves. Their brightest smile of the season coming with a 4-0 home win over Shillington in The Centenary Cup before they lost to Leighton United in the next round.

Bottom spot belonging to AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves, their lone victory coming at Kings AFC in early March in a season which saw them net just 19 goals.

Division Two

Just 12 months after being promoted from third spot in division three Goldington find themselves crowned division two champions in a season which saw as many as nine of the 14 sides at some stage of the campaign get involved in one of the tightest promotion races for many a season.

Goldington always right there in the mix after starting off with an unbeaten run of 10 games before Stopsley Park handed out to them their first defeat of the season when winning in Mowsbury Park 5-2 on November 24th. This turning out to be their only home defeat of the campaign, whilst just two reversals were suffered on the road. At Bromham United at the turn of the year and at Westoning on the last day of the season after the league title had been won.

Alas cup success was to elude them with first round defeats coming in the Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup at Queens Park Crescents and in the Jubilee Cup at Oakley Sports M&DH Reserves.

Just one point behind them in second spot were 2011-12 season tenth place finishers Marabese Ceramics. The Tilermens run for the title in effect being lost with two defeats inside a space of four days in early April. First going down to only their third home defeat of the season to Queens Park Crescents then losing for just the third time on the road at Woburn Athletic.

However, consolation was on hand with the lifting of the Jubilee Cup with a 2-1 final victory over Oakley Sports M&DH Reserves.

Taking the bronze medal position were last seasons division three runners-up Eastcotts AFC. This looking most unlikely after their opening six games brought about just two wins. However, right there in the promotion mix they got by going undefeated in their next 10 starts before on March 28th Marabese Ceramics won 2-1 at their Weston Park base and right there they stayed with seven wins and a draw from their closing nine games only spoilt by a home defeat in their penultimate game against Bromham United which was in turn to lose them the seasons silver medals.

In fourth spot, one place above their 2011-12 season finish were Sundon Park Rangers. Having suffered just five defeats at home to Eastcotts AFC and Marabese Ceramics plus away at Woburn Athletic, Westoning and Cranfield United Reserves in their opening 20 games Rangers saw their title hopes blown away with four defeats in a space of 17 days during April to leave them 10 points short of Goldington at the seasons end who were responsible for inflicting two of those defeats upon them.

Another club jumping one place from their sixth place 2011-12 season finish into fifth were Bromham United. United enduring a strange season, on the road they lost their two opening encounters at Sundon Park Rangers and Goldington before going undefeated for the remainder of the season, yet their hopes of a serious promotion push were dented with just five home wins being recorded all season.

United's season best being remembered for lifting the Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup with a 3-1 final win over Woburn Athletic.

In sixth place were the said Woburn Athletic, having at the clubs request been relegated from the premier division under their previous banner of just plain Woburn. Athletic became another club who enjoyed life more on the road with defeats at just Stopsley Park, Sundon Park Rangers, Goldington and Marabese Ceramics compared to gaining just five home wins all season of which three came on the bounce right at the start of the season.

Up two places from their ninth place 2011-12 season finish into seventh place were Queens Park Crescents. Their season seeing them at one stage sit on the bottom of the league standings after gaining just two wins from their opening 14 games before recovery was made to climb the league table by being defeated at just Potton United Reserves and Sundon Park Rangers in their closing 12 games.

Taking up the eighth spot were Oakley Sports M&DH Reserves, a jump of four places from their twelfth place finish of season 2011-12 under their old M&DH Oakley banner. However, their league season might have been all so much better had they not fallen behind with their fixtures due to their involvement in the Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup where they went out at the semi-final stage to eventual winners Bromham United and progress into the final of the leagues Jubilee Cup where they were beaten by Marabese Ceramics which resulted in them having to play 13 league games in the closing five weeks of the season.

For last seasons division three champions Cranfield United Reserves it was a ninth place finish. United with their solid home form which saw them undefeated at Crawley Road until Marabese Ceramics won there in early April looking potential promotion candidates until the season ended with just one victory from their closing 12 games to slide them well down the standings.

Making up the top ten were league newcomers St Joseph Reserves. Their season being rather topsy turvy, after opening their campaign with wins over Marabese Ceramics at home and away at Stopsley Park they then only twice more won another two games on the bounce and in fact ended the season by losing 10 of their last 12 outings.

In eleventh spot were newly relegated Westoning. All started well enough for the boys from Greenfield Road with four wins and a draw from their opening five home games to keep their head out of the drop zone after their five away outings in this same period brought the reward of just a single point at Bromham United. However, a run of 11 straight defeats dropped them to the bottom of the league table before safety was gained via four wins from their last five outings.

Having finished last season in eleventh spot, Stopsley Park dropped a place to finish twelfth this time around. The Park with a last game win at Oakley Sports M&DH Reserves to go alongside four points from their previous three away games climbing out of the drop zone at the very last minute. All this seeming unlikely after their previous six games had brought about six defeats.

In thirteenth place to finish second from bottom of the table were Potton United Reserves. Their campaign not helped due to scheduling of the United Counties League fixtures for their first team seeing them have to wait until February 9th to play just their third home game of the season. United at that stage having played all but two of their away fixtures for the season at which wins had been achieved at only Bromham United and Queens Park Crescents.

Bottom spot going to Meltis Albion who will now suffer a second consecutive relegation. Albion begun the season well enough, but by mid-December when they were in the middle of a 10 game losing run they suddenly found themselves in the drop zone and despite winning three

and drawing once in their last seven outings they fell four points short of escaping the drop come the seasons end.

Division Two Final League Table Season 2012-13

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME			AWAY			OVERALL			GD	PTS	
			W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F			A
1	Goldington	26	9	3	1	34	14	8	3	2	39	25	17	63
2	Marabese Ceramics	26	8	2	3	37	31	10	0	3	25	17	18	62
3	Eastcotts AFC	26	8	2	3	23	18	8	3	2	23	14	16	53
4	Sundon Park Rangers Saturday	26	9	0	4	40	23	6	2	5	27	20	15	67
5	Bromham United	26	5	3	5	33	24	8	3	2	29	19	13	62
6	Woburn Athletic	26	5	4	4	35	33	7	2	4	37	30	12	72
7	Queens Park Crescents	26	5	3	5	25	21	6	3	4	34	30	11	59
8	Oakley Sports M&DH Reserves	26	6	1	6	30	26	4	2	7	33	39	10	63
9	Cranfield United Reserves	26	5	3	5	25	21	4	1	8	29	40	9	54
10	St Josephs Saturday Reserves	26	4	0	9	29	33	5	0	8	29	33	9	17
11	Westoning	26	6	1	6	35	32	2	1	10	24	44	8	16
12	Stopsley Park	26	4	0	9	28	38	3	2	8	27	40	7	17
13	Potton United Reserves	26	4	2	7	26	28	2	2	9	23	41	6	16
14	Meltis Albion	26	3	1	9	28	51	3	1	9	14	36	6	18

Divison Three

The division three title race was to go right down to the wire and the last weekend of the season with as many as six sides still in with a chance of lifting the crown going into the last month of the season. In fact when Potton Town finished their season on April 13th they sat on top of the league table only to eventually finish in sixth spot some eight points behind champions Westoning Reserves. All this coming after Marsh Leys had folded in early February whilst sitting on top of the league table and looking favourites to lift the league title.

For the boys from Greenfield Road despite their annual problems with their playing surface, the title was in fact won on just goal difference mainly due to them stringing together a 10 game winning run starting in early March which was only ended by a victory by Great Barford in their last outing to take the title race to the last weekend of the season and give Great Barford hopes that they could still lift the seasons silver medals.

In fact that turned out to be false hope after last day action saw Renhold United Reserves win 2-1 at Clifton to claim the silver medals, two points ahead of Great Barford and just goal difference shy of Westoning Reserves. United's hopes of lifting the title always going to be a difficult task after they won just one of their five opening games of the season.

However, consolation was to go their way with the lifting of the Watson Shield with a 3-1 final victory over Clifton.

Thus Great Barford who had been relegated from division two the previous season had to settle for the bronze medal finishing position. Defeats at Potton Town, Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves, Wilshamstead Reserves and Renhold United Reserves in a five week period at the death of the season putting paid to their championship hopes.

Just three points behind Great Barford in fourth spot were Clifton who like Great Barford had been relegated from division two at the end of season 2011-12. Such was the closeness of the title race that had Clifton beaten Renhold United Reserves on the last day of the season then they would have collected the silver medals and United would have finished fourth.

Clifton also suffered the fate of losing two cup finals. The aforementioned Watson Shield to Renhold United Reserves and The East Beds Charity Cup at the hands of division one Shillington.

Having finished seventh last term, Riseley Sports progressed this season up into fifth place just seven points off the top of the table. Just three defeats in the opening half of the season putting them right there in the championship mix until a run of five away games between early February and mid-April brought them just one victory to scupper their chances.

For Potton Town it was an improvement into sixth spot from their ninth place finish in season 2011-12. A position that could have been all so much better had they not ended the season by winning just one of their five outings.

Dropping two places into seventh spot this term were Stevington. However, I'm sure they feared that would be a lot worse after gaining just two wins from their opening 11 encounters before being beaten just four more times all season.

There was a repeat eighth place finish for Wilshamstead Reserves, the boys from Jubilee Playing Fields having an up and down campaign. Beaten just once in their opening seven games, they won just one of the next eight before winning three of the next four and then winning just once in their last five outings.

In ninth spot were newly promoted Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves. Their season starting off fine with six wins from their opening 12 games, until a run of eight games saw them win just the once to take them down into the lower regions of the league table until recovery was made with two wins and a draw from their last three home outings.

Having been relegated from a premier division campaign last season at the clubs request Dunton could only take up tenth spot. All started well enough with six wins from their opening nine games until their next eight outings saw them only collect three points with a victory at Bedford Park Rangers. However, hopes were raised with an away win at Kempston Hammers Sports and a home victory over Bedford Park Rangers before the season ended with five straight defeats.

There was last day drama for Kempston Hammers Sports who in winning 4-1 at Dunton repeated their eleventh place finish of last season to climb out of the relegation zone. Apart from also winning at Royal Oak Kempston and Bedford Park Rangers, their only two home wins of the season came over Wilshamstead Reserves and Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves.

Taking up the first of the drop zone positions to repeat their twelfth place finish of last term were Royal Oak Kempston who have now confirmed the club is to be dissolved. Oak's home campaign bringing just one success over Stevington at the start of December, whilst their high point came with four away wins on the bounce at the turn of the New Year at Bedford Park Rangers, Westoning Reserves, Dunton and Wilshamstead Reserves.

Bottom spot going to last seasons division four champions Bedford Park Rangers. Their season seeing them win just the once in their second game of the season at Royal Oak

Kempston and like Bedford Sports Athletic in the top flight they are to be applauded for sticking to their task and reaching the end of the season by fulfilling all their games.

Division Three Final League Table Season 2012-13

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME	AWAY	OVERALL	GDPTS
			WDL F A	WDL F A	WDL F A	
1	Westoning Reserves	24	7 2 3 36 24 8	3 1 3 9 18 15 5	4 7 5 4 2 3 3	50
2	Renhold United Reserves	24	8 2 2 26 15 8	0 4 4 0 34 16 2	6 6 6 4 9 17	50
3	Great Barford	24	10 0 2 36 20 6	0 6 3 3 32 16 0	8 6 9 5 2 17	48
4	Clifton	24	6 2 4 26 17 8	1 3 3 6 20 14 3	7 6 2 3 7 25	45
5	Riseley Sports	24	7 2 3 33 18 6	2 4 2 3 20 13 4	7 5 6 3 8 18	43
6	Potton Town	24	7 2 3 44 30 6	1 5 2 3 19 13 3	8 6 7 4 9 18	42
7	Stevington	24	7 3 2 42 20 3	3 6 3 0 36 10 6	8 7 2 5 6 16	36
8	Wilshamstead Reserves	24	5 1 6 34 25 4	3 5 2 8 36 9	4 1 1 6 2 6 1 1	31
9	Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves	24	6 1 5 27 22 3	1 8 2 4 36 9	2 1 3 5 1 5 8 -7	29
10	Dunton	24	5 2 5 17 18 4	0 8 1 7 28 9	2 1 3 3 4 4 6 -12	29
11	Kempston Hammers Sports	24	2 3 7 21 39 3	2 7 1 7 35 5	5 1 4 3 8 7 4 -36	20
12	Royal Oak Kempston	24	1 0 1 1 16 36 4	2 6 1 0 21 5	2 1 7 2 6 5 7 -31	17
13	Bedford Park Rangers	24	0 1 1 1 16 55 1	3 8 1 9 39 1	4 1 9 3 5 9 4 -59	7

Division Four

The 2012-13 season championship was to go to a Bedford Panthers side who the previous season had only finished just four places off the bottom of the table. Panthers finishing the season some 10 points clear of their only serious rivals for the crown, Elstow Abbey Reserves. In doing so they netted 115 goals, some 29 greater than the second top goal scorers Elstow Abbey Reserves and an amazing 49 more than the third club Kempston Athletic. Their campaign seeing them defeated just twice, at home against Sandy Reserves and away at Marston Shelton Rovers. The downside of the season being their first round exits from both The Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup and Watson Shield.

In their first season Elstow Abbey Reserves claimed the silver medals but their margin in late season was reduced to one of only goal difference. Abbey's success being centered around their solid home form at The Warren where they were beaten just the twice by Bedford Panthers and Kempston Athletic. Whilst the real challenge to the Panthers for the league title faltered mid-winter when a series of five away games between November and February saw them fail to win a game. Like the Panthers, they also made first round exits from both of the Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup and Watson Shield competitions.

The third spot going to Kempston Athletic, an improvement of eight places from their eleventh place finish in season 2011-12. Athletic starting the season off poorly with just one victory from their opening five games only then to see them lose just twice more all season, away at

Bedford Panthers and at home against Kempston Con Club Sports. Like the two sides above them they also made a first round exit from The Watson Shield.

Repeating their fourth place finish of season 2011-12 were Clifton Reserves. Again built around a solid home season, with just Bedford Panthers and Caldecote A beating them on home soil and them ending the campaign with six home wins on the bounce. Cup success also evaded them with first round exits from both The Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup and Watson Shield.

Division Four Final League Table Season 2012-13																				
POS	TEAM	PLAYED	HOME			AWAY			OVERALL			GDPTS								
			W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
1	Bedford Panthers	24	11	0	1	68	12	8	3	1	47	17	19	3	2	11	5	29	86	60
2	Elstow Abbey Reserves	24	10	0	2	51	14	6	2	4	35	20	16	2	6	8	6	34	52	50
3	Kempston Athletic	24	8	2	2	38	26	7	3	2	28	13	15	5	4	6	6	39	27	50
4	Clifton Reserves	24	8	2	2	28	20	6	2	4	27	33	14	4	6	5	5	53	2	46
5	Marston Shelton Rovers Reserves	24	9	0	3	40	21	5	0	7	24	26	14	0	10	6	4	47	17	42
6	Kempston Con Club Sports	24	8	0	4	25	19	5	0	7	40	38	13	0	11	6	5	78		39
7	Dinamo Flitwick	24	7	2	3	36	36	2	2	8	22	46	9	4	11	5	8	82	-24	31
8	Flitwick Town Reserves	24	6	3	3	28	19	3	0	9	18	37	9	3	12	4	6	56	-10	30
9	Caldecote A	24	4	1	7	27	39	4	0	8	24	57	8	1	15	5	1	96	-45	25
10	Sandy Reserves	24	5	2	5	26	26	2	0	10	18	34	7	2	15	4	4	60	-16	23
11	Shefford Town & Campton A	24	3	1	8	21	33	3	2	7	19	34	6	3	15	4	0	67	-27	21
12	Dunton Reserves	24	2	3	7	19	31	2	2	8	10	38	4	5	15	2	9	69	-40	17
13	Wootton Village	24	3	2	7	23	36	1	2	9	20	37	4	4	16	4	3	73	-30	16

Enjoying a first season with the league, Marston Shelton Rovers Reserves claimed fifth spot. Following an opening day home defeat against Flitwick Town Reserves, the Rovers were to chalk up 10 home wins on the bounce before Kempston Athletic lowered their colours in their final home game of the season. Their season also notable by the fact that they were one of only two sides not to draw a league game. Alas, like the four sides above them in the league table they also made a first round Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup exit.

Making up the top six to repeat their sixth place finish of season 2011-12 under their previous name of Stewartby Village were Kempston Con Club Sports. After a bright start to the season the period between late October and late March saw them lose eight of their 10 league outings before ending the season with seven victories from their last nine games. They alongside Marston Shelton Rovers Reserves being the only other side not to draw a league game all season.

In seventh slot, some six places higher than their 2011-12 finish were Dinamo Flitwick. A season that saw them win just once on the road at Flitwick Town Reserves, whilst at home they were defeated just the twice by Bedford Panthers and Elstow Abbey Reserves.

Taking up eighth place were newly relegated Flitwick Town Reserves. Like the Dinamo it was their away form that let them down. Following an opening day win at Dunton Reserves they were to lose their next nine away outings before success came in their final outing at Marston

Shelton Rovers Reserves. Their home form being solid with notable draws being achieved against all of the top three sides.

Down two places from season 2011-12 into ninth place were Caldecote A. The boys from Harvey Close failing to win any of their opening seven home games plus on October 6th they suffered an 18-0 away defeat at Elstow Abbey Reserves, the heaviest defeat in the league all season. So it will come as no surprise to see them conceding the most division four goals of the season, some 96 in total.

In tenth place, two slots down from their 2011-12 finish were Sandy Reserves. All accounted for by their poor away form which saw them lose 10 of their 12 outings. However, their highlight of the season did indeed come on the road on December 1st when sitting on the bottom of the table they won at top of the table Bedford Panthers.

Just three places off the bottom spot in eleventh place, a drop of one from their 2011-12 campaign were Shefford Town & Campton A. Their season seeing them score just 40 goals the second lowest of the season to only Dunton Reserves. However, of their 24 outings they scored in all but their two games at Elstow Abbey Reserves and Marston Shelton Reserves.

Having been relegated from Division Three last term Dunton Reserves took up the second from bottom position. All of this seemed unlikely with a haul of 14 points from their opening 10 games until their last 14 outings saw them collect just another three points from three home draws.

The wooded spoon spot going to Wootton Village some four places lower than their ninth place finish of season 2011-12. Again it was their away form that let them down with no wins from their closing 10 games. However, The Village will see the highlight of their season being an early season Bedfordshire FA Junior Cup victory at Elstow Abbey Reserves.