



Bedfordshire Football League **September 2008 Newsletter**



With the new season now well underway we welcome you to our second Newsletter of the season, the season in essence really never seems to end has after the final whistle was blown at last seasons Britannia Cup on May7th, the management committee then had the task of formatting the Divisions for this season ahead of the Annual General Meeting in June,

At that meeting we welcomed new clubs/sides in the shape of Bedford Park Rangers, Dunton Reserves, Leighton United and Three Tuns Galacticos all of which were admitted into Division Three alongside the now revamped Westoning Recreation Club Reserves who pulled out of our league during the later months of the old season, alas before a ball was kicked Bedford Park Rangers gave their notice of withdrawal.

Three other clubs also made named changes, Bedford Salvation Army becoming Bedford Sports Athletic, Reddings Wood becoming Kempston Hammers Sports and AFC Shillington, now this season playing under the name of Meppershall AFC.

At the same meeting the league bid a partial farewell to Management Committee Member, George Kyriacos who stepped down from his duties on the MC due to his pending move to Cyprus during the winter months but George will until then and also upon his return still continue his referee duties with us.

For the remainder of the committee it was to turn out to be a more than usual busier summer in setting up the new season after The Football Association nominated our league as the only Step Seven League in The National System to take part in the Charter Standard League Pilot Programme which incorporates their Respect Campaign.

To this extend the League held three roadshows with a our Premier Division clubs during the month of August and the programme is now beginning to kick into action and will also now be rolled out to our lower division clubs during the coming few months.

On the subject of The Football Association, they under the guidance of The Bedfordshire Football Association are now starting to look at the Step Seven Football Pyramid System and have duly invited all clubs who have a side playing at this level or below to a meeting in early November at Bedfordshire FA headquarters with view to the formation of a Bedfordshire County League for season 2009-10, however invites have not been issued to current Bedfordshire Football League clubs as the proposed new league is expected to be formed around the existing Bedfordshire Football League and thus giving those clubs automatic entry.

For the new 2008-09 season our Premier Division has been renamed The Premier Division Supported By Sportsform to reflect that companies continued support of our league and will urge you all to visit their website at www.sportsform.co.uk

With the new season now underway I'm sure many of you have already noticed the changes we are making in promoting our league to the footballing public, our main weapon to get across the message of The Bedfordshire Football League comes via our website www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk which seemingly is becoming ever popular August 2007 saw the site take just under 3500 hits but just twelve months later in August 2008 the hit count read 23639.

For those of you who have not yet made a visit, our news section is being updated almost on a daily basis whilst all the days results and updated league tables should be on site within ninety minutes of the final whistle being blown plus new for this season in the News Section is a Saturday Evening Headliner Report available from 6.30pm onwards which is followed up on Sunday at around midday by our Weekly Report covering a review of all the days previous games plus a preview of the week ahead.

Another new feature to the site is our Photo Gallery which already has some 250plus images to view.

For those of you without access to the website, our results are still appearing each Sunday in The Beds On Sunday (alas it is now not delivered to some towns and villages outside Bedford) plus the two non-league papers also print our Premier Division results with a updated league table.

Later in the week our new style coverage takes place in The Biggleswade Chronicle which gives the greater emphasis on our sides from The East Beds side of our league while The Times and Citizen coverage which alas we cannot obtain to the same level as appearing in The Chronicle is centred around the Bedford based sides.

Also new for this season is a small coverage by The Comet but this I'm afraid only covers the sides to the Far East of our league, which total just seven in number.

Premier Division Supported By Sportsform Round-Up To Date

With the new season now four weekends old the shape of the league table is beginning to unfold in perhaps a manner many people expected it to do, perhaps the surprise is that only just two clubs **Blunham** and **Meltis Corinthians** still hold 100% records for the season both having won their three outings to hold down second and third spots in the standings behind **Campton** who head the table a point clear but having played a game more, they themselves the only other top flight club still unbeaten this season having lost their perfect record on the opening day of the campaign when held to a 3-3 home draw by **Oakley Sports**.

The remainder of the top half of the table perhaps includes just one minor surprise in the form of **AFC Kempston Town** who have despite losing several of their first team squad from last season have started the season in fine style under new manager Lee Moon with wins over **Bedford SA** and more noteworthy **Caldecote** losing just once at **Blunham**.

Most folks dark horses for the season **Renhold United** are living up to that expectation sitting in fifth place having only been defeated by **Campton**, whilst both **Ickwell & Old Warden** plus **Dunton** owe their top half placing to still holding down 100% away records whilst at the same time both being nil points from six at home.

If we have a surprise club in the bottom half then it must be last seasons runners-up **Oakley Sports** who have won just one of their opening four games, whilst both **Henlow** and **Riseley Sports** positions are a shade false having played a game less than six of the teams above them.

Just like the top end of the table, the bottom end is also taking shape with both **Bedford SA** and **Sharnbrook** yet to put a point on the board after four outings, **Sharnbrook** however are receiving some rave notices from their opposition so far and it will be no surprise to see them climb the table in the coming month or two.

Apart from the bottom two, the only other club not yet to win are **Sandy** who have just a home draw with **Riseley Sports** on the opening day of the campaign to show from their four games.

2008-2009 Season

Bedfordshire Football League

Premier Division supported by Sportsform

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Campton	4	3	1	0	18	6	10
2	Blunham	3	3	0	0	14	5	9
3	Meltis Corinthians	3	3	0	0	9	1	9
4	Caldecote	4	2	1	1	14	6	7
5	Renhold United	4	2	1	1	9	5	7
6	Ickwell & Old Warden	4	2	0	2	14	10	6
7	AFC Kempston Town	3	2	0	1	10	7	6
8	Dunton	4	2	0	2	7	9	6
9	Oakley Sports	4	1	2	1	10	9	5
10	Henlow	3	1	1	1	6	6	4
11	Riseley Sports	3	1	1	1	6	8	4
12	Wilshamstead	3	1	0	2	7	9	3
13	Sandy	4	0	1	3	5	14	1
14	Sharnbrook	4	0	0	4	5	15	0
15	Bedford SA	4	0	0	4	2	26	0

Division One Round-Up To Date

A study of the early Division One Table shows we have just one club left with a 100% record for the season in the shape of leaders **Flitwick Town** who have skipped three points clear of second place **Meltis Albion** whose lone defeat came by the odd goal in five with the leaders on the opening day of the season.

Three other clubs apart from **Flitwick Town** still remain unbeaten, third place **AFC Kempston Town Reserves**, sixth place **Marston Social** and eighth place **Elstow Abbey**.

Joining these clubs in the top half of the standings are **Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves**, **Campton Reserves** and **Westoning Recreation Club** all of whom have been beaten just the once.

Down at the bottom of the table are **Kempston Hammers Sports** who are the only side yet to collect a point but in fairness they have only played just the twice whilst surprisingly just above them in the table and only having all collected just one point are **Sandy Reserves**, **Woburn** and **Caldecote Reserves**.

2008-2009 Season
Bedfordshire Football League
Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Flitwick Town	4	4	0	0	9	4	12
2 Meltis Albion	4	3	0	1	26	4	9
3 AFC Kempston Town Reserves	4	2	2	0	12	5	8
4 Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves	4	2	1	1	5	5	7
5 Campton Reserves	4	2	1	1	10	11	7
6 Marston Social	4	1	3	0	13	8	6
7 Westoning Recreation Club	3	2	0	1	11	6	6
8 Elstow Abbey 06	3	1	2	0	7	6	5
9 Royal Oak Kempston	4	1	1	2	5	5	4
10 Stevington	4	1	1	2	10	14	4
11 Kempston	3	1	0	2	5	7	3
12 Caldecote Reserves	3	0	1	2	4	8	1
13 Woburn	4	0	1	3	9	18	1
14 Sandy Reserves	4	0	1	3	6	29	1
15 Kempston Hammers Sports	2	0	0	2	3	5	0

Division Two Round-Up To Date

Of all the Division tables at this stage of the season, the Division Two table is certainly not one we should read too much into at the moment as we have four sides that have played four games already this campaign whilst two others have had just one outing.

This still however only leaves us with five unbeaten sides, three of them in the top four of the table whilst the other two are in the bottom five just once again empathizing the opening comments.

Never less the table is headed by **Blunham Reserves** who are still unbeaten after four outings and three points clear of **Clifton** who have suffered just one defeat in their four outings and you would fancy both of these sides to stick around the promotion race all season.

The other four unbeaten sides being **Meppershall Jurassic** and **Great Barford** from three outings, **Saffron** from two outings, and **Kings AFC** from their lone outing.

If you had to choose a side that had perhaps started the campaign worse than expected then that vote would go to **Marston Shelton Rovers** with just one win and one draw from their four games especially if you look back at their previous two seasons campaigns when on both occasions they have put together early season unbeaten runs to head the league standings.

2008-2009 Season
Bedfordshire Football League
Division Two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Blunham Reserves	4	3	1	0	17	7	10
2 Clifton	4	2	1	1	7	7	7
3 Meppershall Jurassic	3	1	2	0	11	6	5
4 Great Barford	3	1	2	0	10	5	5
5 Blue Chip	3	1	1	1	12	4	4
6 Meltis Corinthians Reserves	4	1	1	2	8	10	4
7 Marston Shelton Rovers	4	1	1	2	9	19	4
8 Potton Wanderers	2	1	0	1	7	4	3
9 Mulberry Bush	3	1	0	2	12	13	3
10 Oakley Sports Reserves	2	1	0	1	5	6	3
11 Saffron	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
12 Kings AFC	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
13 Marabese Ceramics	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
14 Lidlington United Sports	2	0	1	1	3	11	1
15 Woburn Reserves	1	0	0	1	1	9	0

Division Three Round-Up

If the table in Division Two has a cloudy look, the picture in Division Three is already despite the season being just a month old very much easier to read, at the top of the table we have **Marsh Leys**, **Westoning Recreation Club Reserves** and league newcomers **Leighton United**, all of whom you would expect to stay in the promotion race during the entire season and perhaps be joined by the Divisions only other undefeated sides still left, **Three Tuns Galacticos** and **Riseley Sports Reserves**.

If there is another side that might yet come to join in the promotion race then perhaps that could come in the shape of either **Renhold Village** who having been relegated from Division Two have now found their true level and with some decent results on the board could grow in confidence and enjoy a fruitful season or perhaps **Meppershall AFC** who are a side always likely to score goals and with so many youngsters in their ranks will not be lacking in fitness.

These comments I'm sure will be music to the ears of the likes of **Dunton Reserves**, **Wilshamstead Reserves**, **Flitwick Town Reserves** and **Caldecote A** whom for certain will not see themselves as bottom half of the table material.

So that would leave us to believe the wooden spoon race is going to be fought out between **Sandy A, Stewartby Village** and **Kempston Athletic** with perhaps **Athletic** the favourites having already lost to the other two already this season.

2008-2009 Season
Bedfordshire Football League
Division Three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Marsh Leys	4	3	0	1	21	13	9
2 Westoning Recreation Club Reserves	4	2	1	1	12	10	7
3 Leighton United	3	2	0	1	10	4	6
4 Renhold Village	3	2	0	1	15	10	6
5 Three Tuns Galacticos	4	1	3	0	9	8	6
6 Dunton Reserves	4	1	2	1	10	13	5
7 Riseley Sports Reserves	2	1	1	0	10	3	4
8 Meppershall AFC	2	1	0	1	9	5	3
9 Caldecote 'A'	2	1	0	1	6	6	3
10 Sandy 'A'	2	1	0	1	4	10	3
11 Stewartby Village	4	1	0	3	11	18	3
12 Wilshamstead Reserves	3	0	2	1	7	10	2
13 Flitwick Town Reserves	3	0	2	1	4	8	2
14 Kempston Athletic	4	0	1	3	7	17	1