



# Intermediate Cup Final 2023 Hemel Hempstead Rovers v Lemsford

Wednesday 15th March 2023 7:45pm The County Ground, Letchworth Garden City



# Welcome to The County Ground



#### Our first County Cup Final of 2023

Good evening and a warm welcome to The County Ground, home of Hertfordshire FA for today's Intermediate Cup Final.

Our congratulations go to the players and management of both Hemel Hempstead Rovers and Lemsford on reaching the final, we wish you the very best of luck for the match. We also want to acknowledge both club's volunteers, whose hard work behind the scenes gives these players the opportunity to be part of the game.

Congratulations also to the Match Officials on your appointment to this game, you thoroughly deserve it and we hope you are able to enjoy the occasion.

While you are here be sure to make the most of the facilities, including our licensed cafe serving hot and cold drinks, food and snacks which is next to the main stand. Should you have a query our staff will be happy to help you.

Our goal is to create a friendly and welcoming environment for all and therefore ask that you show your appreciation during and after the game in a positive manner.

Tony Butler, Chair, Competitions Committee



Congratulations to all involved in today's final, whatever the result you should take great pride in the achievement of reaching this stage

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#### **Hertfordshire FA Competitions Committee**

Chair Secretary

**Committee Members and Representatives** 

Tony Butler Paddy Donovan

Steve Trulock, Gary Holllingsworth, Peter Waller, Ken Coniam, Graham Phillips, Graham Martin, Richard Dowden



# **Competition History**



# This is the 80th Final of the Hertfordshire FA Intermediate Cup

The Hertfordshire FA Intermediate Cup was introduced in the 1937-38 season and had been contested continuously since then, barring a three year period during the Second World War, until the COVID pandemic forced another three year gap without a final.

The inaugural winners were Rickmansworth Town who defeated Hatfield United 4-2. The post war years were largely dominated by two clubs, with both St. Albans City Reserves and Hitchin Town Reserves picking up the trophy eight times each before the end of the 1960s, making them jointly the most successful sides in the competition.

More recently it is Bishop's Stortford Swifts who have had the most success, notching seven wins between 1993 and 2012, with six of those since the turn of the century. Oxhey Jets Reserves were won the last final to be played, beating Royston Town Reserves 2-0.

This is a first appearance in the final of this competition for Lemsford as they look to secure a first senior County Cup victory in their history. Hemel Hempstead Rovers have made three previous appearances in the final of this competition, winning it twice.

The competition currently involves the reserve and development sides of Senior Clubs and those at Step 8 of the football pyramid. Today's match will be 45 minutes each way, with kicks from the penalty mark if necessary.

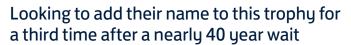
#### **Recent Finals**

The COVID pandemic caused the 2019 season to be cut short, with winning semi-finalists Oxhey and Wheathampstead Wanderers declared to have shared the competition. The Intermediate Cup was not run in the subsequent two seasons before returning this year.

2012/13	Bedmond Sports	4-1	Kings Langley Reserves
2013/14	Enfield Town U21	1-0	Oxhey Jets Reserves
2014/15	Sun Sports Reserves	3-2	St Margaretsbury Reserves
2015/16	London Colney Reserves	1-1 (2-1)	Bedmond Sports
2016/17	AFC Oaklands	3-1	Cheshunt Reserves
2017/18	Hertford Town Development	4-0	Hadley Reserves
2018/19	Oxhey Jets Reserves	2-0	Rouston Town Reserves

### **Club Profile**

### **Hemel Hempstead Rovers**





The club began in 1934 and initially played in the West Herts League which at the time was considered one of the better standards of football. After the Second World War the club played in the Great Western Combination League and during that period Rovers did manage to win the Hertfordshire FA Intermediate Cup in 1953. In that same year, the club moved to its present Reith Fields ground.

After a narrow defeat losing 1-0 to Pirton in the 1978 final, the club went on to pick up the Intermediate Cup for a second time in 1984. Soon after the club made a return to the West Herts League, marking the start of a sustained period of success which included winning the Hertfordshire FA Junior Cup in 1999 and again 2009 as well as being runners up in that competition in both 2013 and 2015.

After recently moving back to the Herts Senior County League the team was successful last year in winning Division 3 and is in the hunt for promotion again.



# **League Season**

#### **Herts Senior County League, Division 2**

As at 10/03/2023

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Hemel Hempstead Rovers	11	11	0	0	62	9	53	33
2	Westmill	11	10	1	0	44	9	35	31
3	Hinton & Finchley U23	17	9	1	7	47	50	-3	28
4	Letchworth GC Eagles U23	13	7	4	2	45	18	27	25
5	Little Heath Saturday	13	7	3	3	36	24	12	24
6	<b>Bushey Rangers Saturday</b>	12	8	0	4	35	23	12	24
7	Broxbourne Badgers	14	7	2	5	39	25	14	23
8	Chesham United Generals	16	6	1	9	49	49	0	19
9	Sandridge Rovers Reserves	12	5	2	5	25	36	-11	17
10	Oxhey	15	4	2	9	28	45	-17	14
11	Hatfield Athletic	15	3	3	9	25	47	-22	12
12	<b>Chipperfield Corinthians Res</b>	12	2	2	8	14	57	-43	8
13	Wormley Rovers Reserves	16	2	1	13	24	62	-38	7
14	<b>Cuffley Seniors Reserves</b>	11	2	0	9	20	39	-19	6

#### Give us your analysis of the season so far...

Having made a strong start to the season we were unfortunate to sustain a very bad injury to an excellent young member of the team, and the rest of the players have since made and extra effort to cover for the loss which has galvanised the squad.

With our continuing good run this season has seen more players have join the team to help keep the momentum going. We have a nucleus of seven or eight regular players and in addition to that plenty of personnel waiting to get some game time. Overall we now have a squad of around twenty players that can all easily slot in when needed.

Our unbeaten run now stands at 16 games out of 16 and we hope to keep this going and not only secure promotion in the league but the Intermediate Cup as reward. Playing a strong higher Division side will give us a good sense of the opposition we will face next season. It should be an exciting game and we look forward to the challenge.

# Meet the Players Hemel Hempstead Rovers



#### Tell us about your squad....

#### **Tom Calverly**

Moved from the Reserves to the First team and what an addition he has been. Big, tall and strong with some great distribution, a massive part of why we have conceded so few goals over the last couple of years.

#### **Lewis Swindells**

Lewis has been with the club for a few seasons now and has become established as an important part of the team. Big and strong, he's a right back who has presence and is good with both feet.

#### **Callum Jones**

Big Cal can be relied on to be up for every single game and leads the team in the number of appearances. Captain and leader on the pitch who also chips in with a few goals over the course of a season.

#### **Dean Roper**

One of the oldest members of the team and also the Club Secretary. Not the most refined of players but still a regular. Is great in the air and loves a tackle.

#### **Luke Hewitt**

Strong left back who has the ability to play in any position. Been with the club since he was 15 and his position in the team has nothing to do with being the manager's son. Loves a holiday so unfortunately hasn't featured as much this year.

#### **Tom Read**

Great midfielder who loves to get stuck in, can play with both feet and is great at set plays. Steady as they come you could even say he's boring, but has barely missed a game in the last few seasons.

#### **Ryan Ferguson**

Second season with the team, covers every blade of grass on the pitch and has a great engine. Top player when he's fully focused on the game at hand.

#### **Rhys Stonebank**

Fantastic with the ball and has a work rate to go with it, only downside is he's not the fastest. Some would say paint drys quicker than he runs, but pops up with quite a few goals each season.

#### **Scott Bullock**

Only turns up when Watford don't have a home game, but what an addition to the squad when he's around. Spends more time falling over than standing up but still scores a decent number of goals for us.

#### **Charlie Rance**

Was second top goal scorer in the County League last season which is something of a surprise since he never scores inside the 6 yard box. A tall centre forward who has the ability to play in any number of positions, except those needing pace.

#### **Drew MacFarlane**

Joined this season and has been a useful addition, playing in a number of games for us. Versatile enough to play in a few positions just none of them very well.

#### **Tom Dean**

Skilful player who has two excellent feet and can play pretty much anywhere on the pitch. Has the ability to deliver some fantastic balls from set plays. All he needs to do now is learn how to run.

#### **Ben Porter**

Oldest in the team, once played a decent level not that anyone can remember that far back. Can play in a number of positions and is a great addition to the squad.

#### **Oliver Buckley**

Will be surprised if is here at the final as just rocks up when he wants. A great striker who if he actually turned up every week would score a lot more goals.

#### **John Edey**

The team's resident copper which may explain the doughnut around his waist these days. Has had a great season so far. A small strong winger who can score the odd goal when he isn't trying to lob the keeper for no good reason.

#### **Ellis North**

Would it be fair to say linesman is his best position? Probably not but almost certainly his most common this season. Has stepped up from the Reserves this year and has had some great performances. Scored his fair share of goals as well.

#### **Ryan Sewell**

A new addition to the first team and has been excellent for us when playing. Strong and great on the ball, he's natural at left back but unfortunately for him a certain manager's son is in his spot.





# **Hemel Hempstead Rovers**

**Currently 1st in Herts Senior County League, Division 2**As at 10/03/23

### **League Form**

Games Won 11
Games Drawn 0
Games Lost 0
Goals Scored 62
Goals Conceded 9

### **Leading Scorers**

17 Charlie Rance8 Rhys Stonebank5 Callum Jones4 Ellis North

Tom Dean

# F C LEMSFORD F.C.

### Lemsford

Currently 2nd in Herts Senior County League, Division 1
As at 10/03/23

#### **League Form**

Games Won 13
Games Drawn 1
Games Lost 5
Goals Scored 42
Goals Conceded 24

### **Leading Scorers**

Dan HarperRobbie SteedmanAlex JonesAlex Holland

Taylor Williams

#### **Route to the Final**

R1	Old Parmiterians	0 - 9	Hemel Hempstead Rovers
R2	Hatfield United	2 - 3	Hemel Hempstead Rovers
QF	Little Heath	0 - 3	Hemel Hempstead Rovers
SF	Hemel Hempstead Rovers	4 - 0	L7 FC

#### **Route to the Final**

R1		BYE	
R2	Broxbourne Badgers	1-2	Lemsford
QF	Harpenden Town Dev	A - W	Lemsford
SF	Westmill	2 - 2	Lemsford
		(5-6) Pen	S

# Meet the Players Lemsford



#### Tells us about your squad....

#### **Joseph Byrne**

Gentle giant who is a superb shot-stopper but who'd struggle to catch a cold. Joe's biggest issue is staying out late the night before a game. Is convinced management believe him when he says he hasn't.

#### **Jimmy Davies**

Tough to say if he's the smallest member of the squad but definitely in contention. Plays a similar role to Trippier but is not as quick, or mobile, or fit. In fact, the only similarity is he's right rooted, sort of.

#### **Jack Hurd**

The squad's ultimate utility man, playing left and right back, centre back and even left wing. He also possesses go-go gadget legs which has helped us out of trouble on more than one occasion this year.

#### **Jason Harvey**

Old timer with the experience and class yearned for by others. The player who has racked up the most late fines this year having not made the meet time once. At least he's consistent, much like his play.

#### **Jack Corbert**

Highly versatile. He's a true 'Jack of All Trades' who can play anywhere on the pitch. One of the squad's youngest members, is liable to be distracted by other interests outside of football.

#### **Will Powell**

A player who is strong and quick but sadly can't pass 5 yards. He thinks he's a left winger, but we think he's better with the flag in his hand. Will has unfortunately missed around half the season.

#### **Alex Jones**

Lemsford's Bobby Moore brings calmness and composure with his ability. Offers a wealth of experience and has been a solid presence at the back all season, just a shame he turns like a barge.

#### **Billy Sherwood**

Fearless and a great motivator within the team. Loves a tackle but never stays on his feet. Is keen to express his views in a calm and decisive manner. Never questions instructions and listens to advice given.

#### **Robbie Steedman**

Robbie is a leader on and off the pitch and offers a massive aerial threat in both defence and attack. Never one to moan and has been known to head home early after games for some reason.

#### **Adam Saul**

Duracell Bunny who just keeps going and going and covers every blade of grass in the course of a match. Only manages to get to games and training because the gaffer gives him a lift.

#### **George Williamson**

Known as being exceptionally good with the flag in his hand. He's not very quick and he's not great on the ball but he's a trier and everyone loves a trier.

#### **Dan Dunne**

Our very own Mr Reliable he is possibly the most popular bloke in Lemsford and not bad at football either. The quiet one of the squad he gets his fair share of goals.

#### **Johan Pedrono**

Chic milieu de terrain francais. Been kissed by fire and has similar traits to Scholes. Is strong in a tackle and has the ability to pick a pass. Often turns into trouble with a cheeky Cruyff or two.

#### **Taylor Williams**

He may be small but has incredible speed. In fact his only real talent may be running fast but at least he's always first to help with the nets.

#### **Luke Radley**

Twinkle Toes who very rarely does the right thing and can always be found turning back into trouble. Does get on the score sheet, when he turns up.

#### **Dan Harper**

Harps is a player who loves a corner and has the ability to scores goals for fun. He can kick the ball really hard and is also TikTok famous.

#### **Ennis Daly**

Known as The Postman as he never fails to deliver. Strong, quick and skilful, he spends every second he's not playing in the gym. Always first on the team sheet regardless of how many games he's missed.

#### **Luke Radley**

Great attitude and never gives in. Tough in a challenge and has bags of energy. It's just a shame his little lad has a better first touch than he does... and is taller.



# Club Profile Lemsford

# L O C LEMSFORD F.C.

# A club with a long history but a focus on the future with investment in youth

Lemsford Football Club was founded in 1906 making it one of the oldest clubs in the county. The club's original colours of amber and black stripes are still used today in all teams. The club believes in giving an opportunity to everyone who wants to play football, are willing to work hard, to learn, develop and play fair, all with enjoyment and discipline and are proud to have achieved England Football Accredited status.

Lemsford was predominately a Sunday side until 1999 when our two senior adult teams joined the Mid Herts League and have since progressed to the Herts Senior County League. Within our club, we currently have youth teams from mini soccer at U6 right through to U17 as well as two senior adult teams. Our youth system has been hugely successful over the years, which include two U16's County Cup winners in 1991 and 2019 and it's this youth system that has helped the club grow substantially.

The senior's trophy cabinet had perhaps gathered some dust in years gone by, but recently with some hard work and friendship, we have started to build teams that can compete for silverware. The senior first team secured promotion by winning the HSCL Division 2 title in the 2021/22 season as well as picking up the Greg Cup. Let's hope we can continue to add to that impressive feat with a first ever County Cup trophy for the senior team today!



# **League Season**

#### Herts Senior County League, Division 1

As at 10/03/2023

		P	w	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Apsley Argyle	21	14	2	5	62	31	31	44
2	Lemsford	19	13	1	5	42	24	18	40
3	Baldock Town Reserves	20	13	0	7	65	40	25	39
4	<b>London Lions Development</b>	20	10	6	4	39	22	17	36
5	<b>Bovingdon Reserves</b>	18	10	5	3	47	21	26	35
6	Hatfield United	19	8	6	5	41	27	14	30
7	L7 FC	14	9	2	3	44	25	19	29
8	Harpenden Town Development	18	8	5	5	41	22	19	29
9	Waltham Cross FC	15	5	5	5	24	25	-1	20
10	Old Parmiterians	21	5	4	12	43	55	-12	19
11	Welwyn Garden City FC U21	18	6	1	11	28	45	-17	19
12	Hertford Heath Development	17	4	6	7	23	41	-18	18
13	Evergreen FC	20	3	6	11	25	48	-23	15
14	Knebworth	19	2	4	13	19	42	-23	10
15	Edgware & Kingsbury Reserves	19	1	3	15	13	88	-75	5

#### Give us your analysis of the season so far...

What a season it has been! We thought last year's campaign would be a hard one to top, with us securing the double. but here we are in a County Cup final, and hunting another promotion which if gained would see the club reach its highest ever league position.

What makes this special is the fact the vast majority of the players that finished last season started with us for this one. This is a sure sign of the true dedication, hard work and team spirit that we have fostered over recent years and which means that as a club we are now achieving standards that previously we didn't think were possible.

A massive thanks to all involved from Chairman, coaches, players, and those that support us week after week, as without all of you this wouldn't be possible.

# **Guest of Honour**Paul Mallett

#### **Board Member and FA Representative**



Paul enjoyed a moderately successful playing career with Morseborg Warner and Wilbury Wanderers in the North Herts League before turning his attentions to refereeing in 1981, eventually retiring at the end of the 2008 season. During this time he was also a Referee Tutor for fifteen years and additionally the County Referee Training Officer for five years.

Paul served 10 years as Treasurer of the Herts Senior County League, stepping down in 2008. He was elected a member of the Council of the Hertfordshire FA in 2000, serving on various Committees and also as Child Protection & Drug Awareness Officer until the appointment of a full-time Designated Safeguarding Officer.

He was elected in 2009 as a Director on the Hertfordshire FA Board, becoming Chair of the Association in 2012 for a term of three years, and currently holds the role of the Board Safeguarding Champion. In 2017 he was elected to be the Hertfordshire Representative on The Football Association Council, serving on both the Leagues and Youth Committees, together with being the Vice Chair of the Grassroots Discipline Committee.

# **Today's Match Officials**

#### **Benjamin Compton (Referee)**

I have been a referee for 7 years now, having started at the age of 14. My greatest achievement as a referee is officiating at St George's Park for an England youth game. From the first game I too I've always dreamed of giving it a shot at making it to the Premier League.

#### **Benjamin Twitchings (Assistant)**

It is an honour to be selected for a County Cup final. I'm proud to have achieved promotion this season on top the one I received last season. I'm thoroughly enjoying my refereeing journey and look forward to pushing it as far as possible.

#### **Richard Smith (Assistant)**

I first refereed in the late 80s, but focused for a long time playing and running teams in London. After qualifying as an official again in 2021 I hope to be promoted to Level 6 this year. I am also the Secretary, for the Hertford and District Football League.





# THE GAME IS ALWAYS ON

# **MATCHDAY**



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If you have any unwanted kit, shirts, shorts, and boots please donate them to KitAid, a charity that sends kit to Africa, India, Eastern Europe and other developing countries.

Hertfordshire FA is delighted to partner KitAid. KitAid is a charity doing extraordinary work, you only have to see the faces of the people receiving the donated kit to know the impact they, along with their partner charities are having. We often forget how lucky we are in this country and Hertfordshire FA encourage all of our clubs to donate any old or unwanted kit and equipment to KitAid so that it can be reused by people around the world.

We welcome donations of adult and children's kit.

### Thank you for your support!

If you would like to know more about KitAid log on to www.kitaid.net or www.kitaid.blogspot.com

Registered Charity No. 113968

# Hertfordshire FA County Cup Finals 2023



Join us for more exciting action as our competitions reach their climax

#### Wednesday 15th March 7:45pm Intermediate Cup

Hemel Hempstead Rovers v Lemsford

#### Wednesday 22 March 7:45pm Senior Centenary Trophy

Ware Sports v Belstone

### Saturday 25 March 2:30pm U18 Girls Cup

Watford Ladies Youth v Harvesters

#### Wednesday 29 March 7:45pm\* Senior Challenge Cup

Hitchin Town v Berkhamsted FC

#### Friday 7 April 2:30pm Junior Cup

Elizabeth Allen Old Bous v Sun Sports Rovers

#### Sunday 16 April 2:30pm Sunday Intermediate Cup

Brookmans Park v Little Heath

#### Sunday 23 April 10:30am U15 Boys Cup

Baldock Town v Colney Heath Youth

#### Sunday 23 April 2:30pm Women's Cup

Stevenage Women v Royston Town Women

#### Saturday 29 April 10:30am U16 Girls Cup

Watford FC CSE Trust v Knebworth Youth

#### Sunday 30 April 2:30pm Sunday Junior Cup

FC Emperors Head v Glenn Sports

# Sunday 7th May 10:30am U16 Boys Cup

Finalists to be confirmed

#### Sunday 7th May 2:30pm U18 Boys Cup

Finalists to be confirmed

### Saturday 20 May 10:30am U14 Girls Cup

Finalists to be confirmed

#### Saturday 20 May 2:30pm U15 Girls Cup

Finalists to be confirmed

#### Sunday 21 May 10:30am U14 Boys Cup

Ware FC Academy v Cheshunt Youth

#### Sunday 21 May 3:00pm Sunday Senior Cup

Finalists to be confirmed

<sup>\*</sup> All finals to be played at The County Ground, Letchworth with the exception of the Senior Challenge Cup which is being held at Cheshunt







Tom Calverly

Lewis Swindells

Callum Jones

Dean Roper

Luke Hewitt

Tom Read

Ryan Ferguson

Rhys Stonebank

Scott Bullock

Charlie Rance

Tom Dean

John Edey

Ellis North

Ben Porter

Ryan Sewell

Drew MacFarlane

Oliver Buckley

Joseph Byrne

Jimmy Davis

Jack Hurd

Jason Harvey

**Jack Corbert** 

Will Powell

Alex Jones

Billy Sherwood

Robert Steedman

Adam Saul

George Williamson

Dan Dunne

Johan Pedrono

Taylor Williams

Daniel Harper

Luke Radley

Ennis Dalu

Tom Cox

**Manager:** Marc Hewitt

**Assistant:** Andrew Fitzgerald

**Colours:** Red Shirt, Black

Shorts, Black Socks

Manager: Danny Pickett

Steve Braine, Sam McDouall

**Colours:** Amber and Black Shirt, Black

Shorts, Black Socks

**Referee:** Assistants: Fourth Official:
Benjamin Compton Richard Smith, Benjamin Twitchings Benjamin Lester