



Hertfordshire FA



Under 18 Boys Challenge Cup Final 2023
Cheshunt Youth v Hemel Hempstead Town Youth

Sunday 7th May 2023 2:30pm
The County Ground, Letchworth Garden City



Welcome to The County Ground



Our twelfth County Cup Final of 2023

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to The County Ground, home of Hertfordshire FA for today's Under 18 Boys Challenge Cup Final.

Our congratulations go to the players and management of both Cheshunt Youth and Hemel Hempstead Town Youth on reaching the final. We wish you the very best of luck for the match and hope you have a memorable day.

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*** ”

Hertfordshire FA Competitions Committee

Chair

Tony Butler

Secretary

Paddy Donovan

Committee Members and Representatives

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

WE'RE BACKING PLAY SAFE



Do you know how to help keep
your child safe in football?

[TheFA.com/PlaySafe](https://www.thefa.com/PlaySafe)



In partnership with
NSPCC

Supported by



Competition History

This is the 87th Final of the Hertfordshire FA
Under 18 Boys Challenge Cup



The Under 18 Challenge Cup was originally administered by the Hertfordshire Minor FA, which was a separate organisation before later becoming the Hertfordshire County Youth FA and then merging with Hertfordshire FA in 1998.

Having first been played in 1931, today's match will be the 87th final of this competition, with several years lost during the war when the competition was suspended, another in 1983 when the final was not played and then two further years due to the pandemic.

While six different clubs have recorded back to back wins in this competition down the years, few have ever established any significant periods of dominance. The exception being Letchworth Boys Club, who won four of the first eight finals played.

Cheshunt lifted the trophy three times in five years just after the Second World War and will be looking to add a fourth win today. Hemel Hempstead Town are seeking their second win, having previously secured the cup in 2005. However, the most successful club in this competition is Carlton, with a total of five wins spread between 1948 and 1975.

Today's match will be 45 minutes each way, with kicks from the penalty mark if necessary.

Recent Finals

The COVID pandemic caused the 2019/20 season to be cut short, with that season's competition being declared void. The Under 18 Boys Cup was not run in the subsequent season before returning last year.

2012/13	Codicote Youth	4-2	Royston Town Youth
2013/14	Comet Sports Club (Dolphins)	2-1	Croxley Youth
2014/15	Comet Sports Club (Dolphins)	5-1	Codicote Youth
2015/16	Broxbourne Borough Youth	2-1	Kings Langley Youth
2016/17	Ware Academy	1-0	St Albans City Youth
2017/18	Potters Bar Youth	3-0	Cheshunt Youth
2018/19	Garston Boys	3-3 (4-1)P	Hitchin Town
2021/22	London Lions	5-1	Berkhamsted Raiders Youth

Club Profile

Cheshunt Youth

Providing a pathway from youth football into the adult game

Cheshunt FC were founded in 1946, consisting of a first team at senior level and a reserve team. They also run a very successful juniors Under 18 and minors at Under 16. During the 1950s these teams disappeared for reasons that are since lost to time.

In July 1966 Cheshunt Youth were founded, a completely different entity to the main Cheshunt Football Club, playing in yellow shirts and royal blue shorts and socks. This youth club went from strength to strength and added age groups along the way, with teams winning various leagues and cups across the seasons.

In the early 1970s Cheshunt FC invited Cheshunt Youth FC to be amalgamated with the senior club and in doing so Cheshunt FC became one of the largest clubs in Non-League football. In the years that have followed the club have been extremely successful at all age groups, winning Leagues, Cups and County Cups.

The club now runs teams from Under 6 to Under 18. During this time the club has produced a number of players that have gone onto play professional football, Ian Dowie, Paul Marquis, Rueben Agboola, Tommy Fletcher and Jack Midson to name a few.



League Season

Eastern Junior Alliance, U18 Yellow Division

As at 03/05/2023

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Cheshunt Youth	16	10	2	4	59	30	29	32
2	Ware FC Academy	16	9	4	3	60	33	27	31
3	London Lions	16	9	2	5	44	34	10	29
4	Cockfosters Youth	16	8	3	5	38	27	11	27
5	Enfield Borough Youth	16	7	5	4	46	29	17	26
6	Harlow Town Youth	15	6	2	7	31	34	-3	20
7	Edgware & Kingsbury FC	15	5	3	7	41	45	-4	18
8	Barking	16	3	1	12	27	70	-43	10
9	Buckhurst Hill	16	2	2	12	25	69	-44	8

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

We started pre-season in late July in preparation for our first year representing Cheshunt in the FA Youth Cup. Our squad consisting of first year U18s who were cherishing the challenge of a long and tough season ahead. Our first game was in August against Enfield Town with the boys putting in a strong performance and winning 2-0. We continued in the tournament before finally losing a close contest to Aveley in the third round qualifying.

With the start of the season being postponed due to the death of the Queen, our first league game wasn't then until late September. We started with a home tie against Ware, last year's County Cup winners, which ended in a close fought 3-3 draw. We then went on a solid run putting us in a strong position in the league, ready for the start of our County Cup campaign showing our quality in the early rounds. A loss to Edgware and Kingsbury in the league was followed by our strongest period of the season winning seven consecutive games.

The quarter final was the toughest game of the cup run, requiring us to come back from 1-0 down with 15 minutes to go. In the semi-final game against Berkhamsted Raiders we hit our form to reach a County Cup final for the second year running and the fourth time in six seasons. Having concluded our league season winning our division and narrowly missing out in our League Cup semi-final against Ware, we are hoping that we can put on a strong performance in the final and end our great season on high. Come on your Ambers!

Meet the Players

Cheshunt Youth

Tells us about your squad....

James Mather

A permanent fixture this season, he has been immense for us throughout. Always a calming influence at the back, his assured performances have been the foundation of our strong run in both league and cup.

Louis Beaven

An outstanding wide player who can open up defences. Joined us at the start of the season, he has a sweet left foot and eye for goal. Injury has kept him out for a couple of months so is just getting back to full form.

Louie Quinn-Harrison

Another confident player on either flank, has scored some excellent goals this season. Been with the team since the U12. Loves his football and continues to impress every week giving 100%.

Reef Cole

An all-round performer who has been with the club since U10. A calming influence on the team who remains composed in the toughest situations. Is a better player when he is under pressure.

Mohammad Kakay

A very strong and tall lad who has been in and out with injuries, but since coming back we have seen the very best of him. Rarely loses an aerial challenge and his long throw game is the best in the league.



Charlie Lika

A clever and tactical player in defence or midfield who has been ever present. Has a great skill set and is the most technical player we have in the team. Beautiful player to watch when the game is flowing.

Kieron Phillip

With us since the start of the season, a fast wide player who can open up defences. Has a great attitude and has improved as the season has gone on and will be looking to play senior football next year.

Nicholas Basoa

Been with us a few years now and also plays for Canning Town's senior side on Saturdays which has seen him improve greatly. A strong reliable defender who can go up front when required.

Anwar Moutawafiq

Our captain and one of the longest serving players in the team, having been with us since U10. A strong defender who loves a tackle and has had opportunities representing Academy and County sides.

Jesse Friend

Has been in impressive form all season and has made the England Schoolboys squad. A fantastic athlete with an eye for goal who is ready to really progress with his football and one to watch for the future.

Riley Warmerdam

Another who has been with the team since U10. Always full of running and loves a tackle. Has a real fire in his belly but has matured over the season and become a key player in the team and squad.

Ediz Ibrahim

Joined us at U13 and is another player who is full of running. Has come back from a serious leg break this season and to be playing with the confidence that he has shown, just tells you the temperament of this player. Back stronger than ever.

Zakariya Shabir

New to us this season, Zak is a determined defender with plenty of strength. Great communication skills and a real leader which shows on the pitch. A great addition to the team with a bright future in football.

Charles Trezise-Bruce

Joined at the start of this season from Ryan FC. A skilful attacking player with a box of tricks. Currently our top goalscorer this season and we're hoping that continues with some more goals in the final.

Reagan Murphy

Another boy that has joined us this season, Reagan is a talented midfielder who can also play in defence and pick out a quality pass. Always working on his game and looking to improve where he can.

Harry Cain

Has been with the team since U14. An extremely fast forward with an eye for goal, who is physically strong and keeps working on his trade as a centre forward.

Exauce Kifwasima

Joined the team this season, an extremely talented boy and one to watch. He has scored some really good goals this season and is very skilful. Will be looking to play senior football next year.

Sidney Martin

Been with us for 4 out of the last 5 seasons, with a spell with Cockfosters and Enfield Borough, but now back where he belongs. A strong player in the spine of the team, with the ability to unlock any defence and score crucial goals.

Tobeya Ikeyina

Another player that has joined us this season who is a strong in defence or midfield and who always gives 100%. Great ability to win the ball back and get the team going, putting in some real key performances over the season.

Aston Watson-Weaver

Joined the team from Bowers and Pitsea and is a wonderful player with the ball at his feet. Has had trials for academy clubs and will be pushing very hard to play a high level of football in years to come.





Cheshunt Youth

Currently 1st in Eastern Junior Alliance, U18 Yellow Division

As at 03/05/2023

League Form

Games Won	10
Games Drawn	2
Games Lost	4
Goals Scored	59
Goals Conceded	30

Leading Scorers

14	Charles Trezise-Bruse
8	Jesse Friend
7	Anwar Moutawafiq
6	Harry Cain
4	Tobeya Ikeyina



Hemel Hempstead Town Youth

Currently 3rd in Eastern Junior Alliance, U18 Blue Division

As at 03/05/2023

League Form

Games Won	10
Games Drawn	0
Games Lost	4
Goals Scored	48
Goals Conceded	25

Leading Scorers

18	George Still
15	Bradley Smith
14	Joe Caffery
9	Louis Hemmings
6	Alex Strazza

Route to the Final

R1		BYE	
R2	Waltham Cross Youth	AW	Cheshunt Youth
R3	Welwyn Pegasus Youth	0 - 9	Cheshunt Youth
R4	Berkhamsted FC Youth	0 - 6	Cheshunt Youth
QF	Cheshunt Youth	3 - 1	Evergreen Youth
SF	Cheshunt Youth	5 - 1	Berkhamsted Raiders Youth

Route to the Final

R1		BYE	
R2	Welwyn Garden City Youth	1 - 4	Hemel Hempstead Town Youth
R3	Hemel Hempstead Town Youth	7 - 2	Everett Rovers Youth
R4	Ware FC Academy U18	1 - 1 (4 - 5)P	Hemel Hempstead Town Youth
QF	Hemel Hempstead Town Youth	6 - 1	London Lions
SF	Hemel Hempstead Town Youth	3 - 0	Ware FC Academy U17

Meet the Players

Hemel Hempstead Town Youth

Tells us about your squad....



James Taylor

An exceptional goalkeeper and superb communicator, has gone from strength to strength in his second season with us. His great form was recently recognised with a call up for the England Schoolboys squad.

Dan Gee

An exceptional shot stopper with fantastic distribution. His season highlight was a Man of the Match performance in the Quarter Final of this competition at Ware, with a superb save in the shoot-out.

Dan Purvis

Highly versatile and competitive defender who joined us last season from Harpenden Colts and has since become a regular in the team. Scored an eleven minute hat trick of penalties in a cup game last season.

Alex Strazza

Has been a leader on and off the pitch for six seasons. A superb ball playing defender who's equally comfortable in the centre or at full back. Now at Hartpury College excelling in their football programme.

Gabriel Urhoma

Gabriel is a superb central defender, blessed with outstanding pace, strength and technical ability. He has now been with our squad for five seasons and was called up for the Hertfordshire Schools FA squad.

Zak Davies

One of the boys who's been with us from the start, has established himself as an exceptional full back. Has an excellent engine with the ability to pick a long pass and deliver excellent service into the box from either foot.

Sam Leggett

Sam plays as a box-to-box midfielder, he loves a tackle and has regularly popped up with important goals which are often exceptional strikes from outside the box. An excellent athlete, has also played as a centre back and full back this season.

Anthony Carr

Anthony joined Hemel EJA at the beginning of this season and has been a revelation. He is a tenacious defender who is technically very gifted and who has been a core member of the highly successful Bedfordshire Schools FA squad.



Felix Harris

Felix joined three seasons ago, evolving from a defensive midfielder to a ball playing centre back who reads the game superbly. A great competitor who has led the team to several key victories.

Brad Smith

A hugely talented player who can operate anywhere in midfield or in the front three. A member of the county schools squad, his performances this year have resulted in making his debut for the Hemel first team.

Joe Warren

Another of the squad to be selected for the county schools team, Joe is a combative midfielder. Loves a tackle and to dominate the centre of the park but has the quality to open up defences with his passing game.

Joe Caffery

Joe has been an outstanding player for us this season and has led the line with his unselfish style of play. A tremendous athlete who has weighed in with his fair share of key goals during this season.

George Still

One of the most talented players in the EJA, George can transform any game with his silky skills in and around the box. Superb player to watch when in full flow, George has scored some beautiful goals for us.

Jack Jenkins

Another who was also part of the Schools FA squad in recent years. A technically superb player who is capable of playing off either flank or as a centre forward. A pleasure to have around the squad.



Noah Harvey

Noah has worked tremendously hard to become one of the most versatile players in the squad. With exceptional fitness levels, he's become a key member of the midfield, but is equally happy playing as a 10, where his link up play is superb.

Louis Hemmings

Technically outstanding with superb vision, whether picking a forward pass or in his set piece delivery. He is a midfielder capable of playing multiple positions, who has also developed the excellent habit of making late runs into the box to score vital goals.

Archie Hobbs

One of the original members of the squad who has been with the team since we formed back in 2014. He has developed into a superb midfielder who prides himself on his exceptional fitness. Archie has been quite simply outstanding this season.

Victor Nicolas

Vic has been with the squad now for coming up to six years. He is a very capable defender who can slot in easily in either full back position, and is equally comfortable to play in a holding role in midfield. A great player to have in the squad.

Club Profile

Hemel Hempstead Town Youth

Serving their local community by offering football for all in a safe and fun environment

Started with just a handful of teams in 1990 by founder Chris Brooks, Hemel Hempstead Town Youth FC are now one of the largest clubs in West Hertfordshire and is a volunteer-run charity dedicated to serve the local community in Hemel.

We provide a friendly, safe and fun environment for young people across Dacorum to play football. We encourage the highest standards of behaviour amongst our players, parents and coaches to maintain the great reputation that has been established over the years.

Each year we work hard to ensure our club retains the status of a 3 Star England Football Accredited Club, providing assurance to the children, their parents and our partners around our commitment to standards of welfare and safeguarding across the different pathways.

This year over 660 boys and girls across 53 teams have pulled on the red shirts of Hemel Hempstead Town Youth. We are very proud of our club, grateful to all our volunteer coaches and managers and to those who kindly support through donations and sponsorship.



League Season

Eastern Junior Alliance, U18 Blue Division

As at 03/05/2023

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Ware FC Academy	14	11	2	1	48	11	37	35
2	Enfield Borough Youth	14	10	1	3	32	14	18	31
3	Hemel Hempstead Town Youth	14	10	0	4	48	25	23	30
4	Newport Pagnell Town	13	9	2	2	42	20	22	29
5	Berkhamsted FC Youth	13	3	1	9	15	35	-20	10
6	Harpenden Town	13	3	1	9	24	23	1	10
7	Royston Town	14	3	0	11	24	66	-42	9
8	Cambridge City Youth	13	1	1	11	9	48	-39	4

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

A very solid second season from the boys, building on our first season where we ended as the 2022/2023 EJA Challenge Cup winners following six rounds against teams spread across the East of England which culminated in a 4-1 win over Newmarket Town in the final.

League form this season has been excellent, with the boys pushing eventual champions Ware all the way to the final weekend of the season. We went as far as the semi-final of the league cup and were unfortunate to lose 2-1 in a very close match with Heybridge Swifts. However, it is in the County Cup where the boys have really excelled.

After moving past Welwyn Pegasus and Everett Rovers in the early rounds, we then faced a hugely difficult trip to Ware, where after being 1-0 down for the majority of the game we equalised in the 94th minute and then went on to win on penalties.

The semi-final was a much simpler affair with a magnificent footballing display to defeat Ware, who were EJA Champions of Champions from last season by a score of 3-0. Our boys play an attractive brand of football and as a first year U18 side we expect to be even stronger next season and challenging on all fronts in league and cup competitions.

RAISING STANDARDS

When you are accredited, you're not just part of it, you're the beating heart of it



ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Guest of Honour Tony Butler

Director of Hertfordshire FA and Chair of the Competitions Committee



After a less than distinguished football playing history in the Stevenage Sunday League with the White Horse FC, Tony began a 26 year refereeing career before moving into refereeing observing, currently operating on the Spartan South Midlands League.

Both of his daughters played locally and he began attending the Royston Crow League meetings on behalf of their club, before being 'persuaded' to become the League's Referee Secretary. Many years later and he is now the League's Vice Chairman.

Tony joined Hertfordshire FA in 2018 as the Royston Crow League representative and was later appointed to the Competitions Committee and Finance Committee, where he now acts as Chair of both, before being elected to the Board acting as Finance Director.

Tony has been married to Carol for nearly 30 years and owns a small accountancy practice in Stevenage. He has recently been appointed as consultant head of finance to the National League and is a keen Chelsea fan, but says he doesn't want to talk about that this season.

We are delighted to welcome Tony to today's final where he will meet the teams before the game and also present the medals at the end of the match.

Today's Match Officials

Andrew Debois (Referee)

This will be the third County final I have been involved in and each has been a great privilege. I have been refereeing for fifteen seasons and am currently a Level 5 Senior County referee.

Antonio Fonseca (Assistant)

I'm originally from Portugal and support both Sporting Lisbon and also Arsenal. I currently referee in the Herts Senior County League and recently gained promotion to Level 5.

Frank Van Der Wens (Assistant)

It is always a proud moment to be involved in a County Cup Final and I am looking forward to a great game. As well as refereeing myself I am also involved as an Appointments Officer.

Stephen Hill (Fourth Official)

I've been refereeing for nearly 18 years and had the privilege of officiating on many County Cup games. They are always great occasions and I would like wish the teams, coaches and all involved the best of luck.



This legend.
The mainstay in the middle.
Centre of the park.
But all over the pitch.

And without them - the game wouldn't exist.

Respect The Ref.

ENGLAND FOOTBALL
RESPECT
Nationwide
Building society with mutual respect

What is SADA?

The SADA Domestic Abuse Service, which is a service for everyone, aims to signpost and support people experiencing domestic abuse



A domestic abuse liaison worker will signpost you to support to help with a number of areas:

- Fitting security features to your home
- Help with referral to other agencies
- Housing/tenancy support
- Support for access to legal advice
- Practical support for you and family members
- Emotional support
- Debt and benefit advice
- Friday morning virtual drop in support service



Contact details

Domestic Abuse Service
Community Safety Team
Daneshill House
Danestrete
Stevenage

 01438 242666

 SADA@stevenage.gov.uk



In an emergency always call the Police on 999
To report a non-emergency call 101



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

Won by Hemel Hempstead Rovers

Wednesday 22 March 7:45pm Senior Centenary Trophy

Won by Ware Sports

Saturday 25 March 2:30pm U18 Girls Cup

Won by Watford Ladies Youth

Wednesday 29 March 7:45pm* Senior Challenge Cup

Won by Berkhamsted

Friday 7 April 2:30pm Junior Cup

Won by Sun Sports Rovers

Sunday 16 April 2:30pm Sunday Intermediate Cup

Won by Brookmans Park

Sunday 23 April 10:30am U15 Boys Cup

Won by Baldock Town

Sunday 23 April 2:30pm Women's Cup

Won by Stevenage FC Women

Saturday 29 April 10:30am U16 Girls Cup

Won by Watford FC CSE Trust

Sunday 30 April 2:30pm Sunday Junior Cup

Won by FC Emperors Head

Sunday 7th May 10:30am U16 Boys Cup

Ware FC Academy v Harpenden Town

Sunday 7th May 2:30pm U18 Boys Cup

Cheshunt v Hemel Hempstead Town

Saturday 20 May 10:30am U14 Girls Cup

Watford Ladies Youth v Bedwell Rangers

Saturday 20 May 2:30pm U15 Girls Cup

Watford Ladies Youth v Hitchin Belles Youth

Sunday 21 May 10:30am U14 Boys Cup

Ware FC Academy v Cheshunt Youth

Sunday 21 May 3:00pm Sunday Senior Cup

Borehamwood Rovers v St Josephs South Oxhey

* All finals to be played at The County Ground, Letchworth with the exception of the Senior Challenge Cup which is being held at Theobalds Lane, Cheshunt



V



James Mather
Louis Beaven
Louie Quinn-Harrison
Reef Cole
Mohammad Kakay
Charlie Lika
Kieron Phillip
Nicholas Basoa
Anwar Moutawafiq
Jesse Friend
Riley Warmerdam
Ediz Ibrahim
Zakariya Shabir
Charles Trezise-Bruce
Harry Cain
Exauce Kifwasima
Reagan Murphy
Sidney Martin
Tobeya Ikeyina
Aston Watson-Weaver

Manager: Mohamed Moutawafiq
Assistant: Andrew Warmerdam
Colours: Amber Shirts, Black Shorts,
Amber and Black Socks

James Taylor
Dan Gee
Dan Purvis
Alex Strazza
Gabriel Urhoma
Zak Davies
Sam Leggett
Anthony Carr
Felix Harris
Louis Hemmings
Brad Smith
Noah Harvey
Joe Warren
Joe Caffery
George Still
Archie Hobbs
Jack Jenkins
Victor Nicolas

Manager: Jon Davies
Assistant: David Hobbs
Colours: Red Shirt, Red Shorts,
Red Socks

Referee:
Andrew Debois

Assistants:
Antonio Fonseca , Frank Van Der Wens

Fourth Official:
Stephen Hill