



Hertfordshire FA



U14 Boys Challenge Cup Final 2023
Ware FC Academy v Cheshunt Youth

Sunday 21st May 2023 10:30am
The County Ground, Letchworth Garden City



Welcome to The County Ground



Our fifteenth County Cup Final of 2023

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

Our congratulations go to the players and management of both Ware FC Academy and Cheshunt 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

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Competition History



This is the 49th Final of the Hertfordshire FA
U14 Boys Challenge Cup

The Under 14 Challenge Cup was introduced in 1971/72 alongside an Under 12 competition, reflecting the growth of the youth game. Prior to this there had been the Under 18 Cup which had begun in 1930/31 and an Under 16 Cup since 1945/46.

The inaugural winners were Holywell Boys with their only success in this competition, setting something of a pattern for the future. Indeed so few clubs have been able to secure victory more than once that there have been no less than 39 different winners in 48 years.

It is St Albans City Youth who have been most successful in bucking this trend, getting their name on the trophy four times between 1982 and 2006. Of today's finalists Cheshunt will be looking to add a third victory, having previously won in 2003 and 2014, while Ware will be looking for their second win having lifted the trophy in 2018.

Today's match will be 35 minutes each way, with kicks from the penalty mark if necessary. Teams are permitted roll-on/roll-off substitutes.

Recent Finals

The COVID pandemic caused the 2019/20 season to be cut short, with winning semi-finalists Bishops Stortford and Cheshunt declared to have shared the competition. The U14 Boys Challenge Cup was not run in the subsequent two seasons.

2010/11	Broadhall Youth	3 - 1	Kings Langley Youth
2011/12	Buntingford Cougars Youth	2 - 1	Welwyn Pegasus
2012/13	Wormley Rovers Youth	4 - 1	Hemel Aces
2013/14	Cheshunt Youth	2 - 1	Broxbourne Borough Youth
2014/15	Bishops Stortford Youth	4 - 0	Goffs Oak Youth
2015/16	Hoddesdon Town Youth	2 - 1	St Albans City Youth
2016/17	Hertford Town	2 - 1	Son Sports
2017/18	Ware	4 - 0	Chars United
2018/19	Oaklands Wolves	3 - 1	Cheshunt Youth

Club Profile

Ware FC Academy



New facilities have helped historic club build its pathway for development

Ware FC – originally called Ware Town and known locally as The Blues – was established in 1892 and is based at Wodson Park on the edge of town. The club moved there from its previous Buryfield ground in 1995, with the 3G pitch being installed in 2018. The capacity of the ground is 3,300 and the first team play in the Southern League Central Division.

The performance of the first team in recent seasons along with the benefits of year-round football on the 3G pitch is inspiring all those who play for the club. This facility also helps with attracting players and we draw from a wide area locally which has supported our growth. This year we are proud to have 39 teams in operation from U7 upwards.

This includes the U13-U18 who play in the Eastern Junior Alliance League. With several boys from the EJA setup now regulars with the club's first team, we have a clear pathway for young talent to progress all the way to senior football. This is the 11th season the club have played in the league, with all six teams competing strongly across all competitions.



League Season

Eastern Junior Alliance U14 Brown Division

As at 15/05/2023

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Buckhurst Hill	18	16	0	2	93	14	79	48
2	Ware FC Academy	18	15	1	2	84	12	72	46
3	Aveley Youth	17	12	0	5	64	24	40	36
4	Ryan Youth	17	9	2	6	47	24	23	29
5	BSC FC Youth	18	9	0	9	44	30	14	27
6	Wingate & Finchley	17	8	2	7	58	39	19	26
7	Enfield Borough Youth	17	6	2	9	57	64	-7	20
8	Barkingside	13	4	0	9	28	62	-34	12
9	Frenford	18	2	1	15	31	101	-70	7

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

At the time of writing we are on course to finish either first or second in the league and are in this Cup Final. Whatever the outcome in these competitions, this season can certainly be seen as a success and a step in the right direction for this team.

Having only managed at senior level before this season the transition to youth level has certainly been interesting, albeit very enjoyable. We started our pre-season training as early as June last year and it was during these first few intense, incredibly tough sessions that myself and Liam got to see not just the quality of the players but also the fantastic personalities and determination of all of the boys.

They bonded almost immediately and their respect for each other has grown week by week as the season has progressed. We have asked the players to make many changes to their lifestyle (diet for example) and how they have tackled and responded to this has been nothing short of incredible. Hopefully these sacrifices will lead to the boys not just being successful in football but away from it aswell.

I would like to wish Cheshunt FC all the best in this final and hopefully both teams can serve up a very enjoyable match. On behalf of myself and Liam, I would like to thank the players for all of their hard work, dedication and commitment throughout the season. Finally, a big thank you to all of the parents for the support you have given both the team and myself and Liam as coaches, it really is appreciated. Enjoy the match.

Meet the Players

Ware FC Academy

Tells us about your squad....



George Barker

Previously on the books of Spurs and Stevenage, George has always been a technically gifted player who enjoys assisting goals just as much as scoring them. He can play anywhere along the frontline or midfield, and is even a very capable goalkeeper.

Lewis Bates

Lewis started his football journey playing for HTYFC from the age of 4. This is his second season now for Ware FC. Lewis stands out as a very conscientious player who always strives to do well. Outside of playing he enjoys golf and supports Spurs.

Freddie Bolden

Freddie plays as a defensive midfielder. He is a great team player who will support in both defence and attacking situations. His commitment to the team is always 100%. Freddie is really looking forward to the County Cup Final and is ready to run through walls!

Reggie Boulton

Reggie started his football journey at five years old with Ware Youth FC. He then moved on to Paringdon FC for nine sides of football playing in the ECHO League. He spent one season with Paringdon before moving to Ware FC where he has been for the past three seasons.

Jamie Bourne

Jamie is an attacking midfielder that can play all over the pitch. Great play maker and reads the game well. Dedicated on and off the pitch and willing to put in the hard work needed to achieve his goals.



Giorgio Giliberti

This is Giorgio's second season at Ware FC. A disciplined, gritty footballer, Giorgio loves to sit in front of the defenders, break down possession and win back any ball in midfield. If Gennaro Gattuso played for Ware, his name would be Giorgio Giliberti

Jack Howard

Jack joined Ware FC having previously played for Wormley Rovers FC since he was six years old. Playing in a different position this year, Jack's contributed 14 goals and double digit assists. He's enjoying the new challenge and looking forward to playing in the County Cup Final.

Charlie Nicastro

Charlie has played left and right back this season but is also comfortable in midfield. He is not the biggest player in the team but will always give his best in training and on match day. Always willing to learn and takes instructions on board.

Ekene Onwordi

Ekene started his football at Whitewebbs Eagles and joined Ware FC in 2020. He is a prolific striker and a terrific winger. Ekene enjoys his football and has bonded with his team mates well. Winning this cup would be a remarkable achievement for Ekene and the team as a whole.

Alfie Poulton

Alfie joined Ware after leaving Stevenage three years ago. He always wanted to be a keeper and has improved year after year. Very vocal and commanding, with great distribution and a good shot stopper. Outside of football Alfie enjoys spending time with his friends and playing PS5.

Adam Wilkinson

Adam is in his fourth season with Ware FC having moved over from Ware Youth FC. Generally operating as a striker or winger, Adam works hard to maintain possession and push forward whilst looking to give opportunities to his team mates.

Carl Cowdery

This is Carl's first season at Ware. Since arriving he has shown moments of his quality as a squad player. Carl is a technical, attack minded player who was fortunate to play for three years as an academy player at Ipswich Town. There is no doubting his potential and ability.

Oliver Lacey

This will be his first full season at EJA level and he has adapted well. He is a versatile defender having played in most positions throughout the season. Committed, hard working and still improving as a player under the coaching staff.

Robert McDonald

Bobby joined us this season and was proud to be chosen as captain for the team. A solid centre back who loves football, whether playing himself, watching West Ham United or playing FIFA with pals. After a brilliant season, is excited to prove himself in the cup final today.

Dawid Niedzwiecki

This is Dawid's first season at Ware, and he has adapted well, improving every aspect of his football performance during these sessions. Additionally, he has changed his lifestyle and attitude towards football.

George Wood

George plays from the heart and always has his emotions fully on show. This season he has played across the back line, and has had a great season with his pace, tackling and moving up the pitch with the ball.





Ware FC Academy

Currently 2nd in the Eastern Junior Alliance U14 Brown Division
As at 15/05/2023

League Form

Games Won	15
Games Drawn	1
Games Lost	2
Goals Scored	84
Goals Conceded	12

Leading Scorers

24	Ekene Onwordi
15	Jamie Bourne
11	Jack Howard
11	Adam Wilkinson
9	George Barker

Route to the Final

R1		BYE	
R2		BYE	
R3	Ware FC Academy	3 - 0	Stevenage Boro Juniors Jaguars
R4	Tring Tornados	0 - 9	Ware FC Academy
QF	Ware FC Academy	1 - 0	Stevenage Boro Juniors Titans
SF	LGCE Youth	2 - 5	Ware FC Academy



Cheshunt Youth

Currently 1st in the Eastern Junior Alliance U14 Black Division
As at 15/05/2023

League Form

Games Won	14
Games Drawn	1
Games Lost	3
Goals Scored	41
Goals Conceded	14

Leading Scorers

14	Kasper Biaca
8	Loucas Savvas
7	Alfie Horn
7	Jordan Yakubu
6	Umut Kiran

Route to the Final

R1		BYE	
R2	Welwyn Garden City	0 - 6	Cheshunt Youth
R3	Cheshunt Youth	1 - 0	Berkhamsted Raiders Youth
R4	Cheshunt Youth	4 - 0	Hemel Hempstead Rovers Youth
QF	Broxbourne Borough Youth	0 - 7	Cheshunt Youth
SF	AC Finchley Youth	1 - 4	Cheshunt Youth

Meet the Players

Cheshunt Youth

Tells us about your squad....

Anthony Haralambous

Anthony is our Number 1. He is a great shot stopper with good distribution from his hands and feet. He has pulled off some outstanding saves this season and is well respected by all his team mates.

Michael Morris

Michael has been with the team since the very start at 4 years old. Strong in the tackle and great at breaking up the play, he's good in the air and enjoys competing hard to win back the ball.

Henry Davison

A team player with high energy up and down the wing, he makes great runs and is strong in the tackle. Henry has made the left back position his own and has good positional awareness to stop attacks.

Jay Howell

A good passer of the ball who breaks up play well, adding balance to the midfield. Always works hard for the team, you can hear him on the pitch organising and is good at encouraging others.

Alfie Horn

Alfie is great on the ball, linking play to the midfield and Has scored some great goals this season. Can play in various positions to support the team and enjoys getting forward to assist with goals.



Loucas Savvas

Loucas is a technical passer of the ball and has strong dribbling skills, who is always looking to get the team on the attack and has scored some great goals including a perfect hat trick this season.

Joe Hutchinson

Joe is a tough tackling ball winner with an eye for a pass who has also been with the team since he was 4. Always works hard and is not shy to get a shot off assisting and netting a couple of goals this season.

Andrew Kromidias

Always looking to get the team moving forward with his neat ball work and cross field passes. Andrew is also especially good at pressing the ball with his high energy and excellent fitness levels.

Kasper Biaca

Kasper is always looking to get forward and score goals using his pace and power to beat opposition players. Kasper is effective in a variety of attacking positions and always wants the ball.



Jordan Yakubu

Jordan is very versatile and has strong ball carrying skills. Works hard for his team and always puts in 100% effort to get the team on the front foot. Jordan is commanding in the back line and organises well.

Cameron Lothian

Strong in the air and in his tackles, he is great at breaking up the play and also gets forward to assist the attack. Is composed on the ball and brings it out of defence to midfield to start attacking situations.

Umut Kiran

Umut is always positive in play and looks to create chances with his strong left foot. He has great ball carrying skills and is always looking to hit balls into the oppositions box to create or score a goal.

Gianluca Moliterno

Gianluca is technically good on the ball he is always looking to create and find the opportunity to score a goal. Gianluca can play anywhere in attack and always gives his all for the team.

Jesse Jeff Okoh

Jesse is strong on the ball and is great at bringing the ball out from defence to create attacks. Jesse has developed into a strong defender and is versatile enough to play anywhere across the back line

Harry Dagger

Harry is good at covering the ground in both attacking and defensive situations. Good on the ball and always looking to create goals. Has been used in a variety of positions which has benefited the team.

THE GAME IS ALWAYS ON

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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 U14 Black Division

As at 15/05/2023

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Cheshunt Youth	18	14	1	3	41	14	27	43
2 Northwood Youth	18	11	3	4	50	20	30	36
3 Cockfosters Youth	20	10	3	7	38	34	4	33
4 Shefford Saints	19	9	4	6	31	31	0	31
5 London Lions	20	8	4	8	41	46	-5	28
6 LGCE Youth	18	7	3	8	33	29	4	24
7 Edgware & Kingsbury	16	6	5	5	40	29	11	23
8 Wingate & Finchley	18	6	3	9	30	45	-15	21
9 Welwyn Garden City	20	6	0	14	41	70	-29	18
10 Baldock Town	18	5	2	11	26	48	-22	17
11 Colney Heath Youth	17	4	2	11	32	37	-5	14

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

Cheshunt Under 14s have enjoyed the season playing in the EJA Black Division. The players have developed well and they should all be proud of their achievements this season competing against good quality team's week in week out.

There have been many tough games that the players have had to overcome throughout the season and they have all shown great versatility and resilience to reach this stage. The players have been committed throughout the season attending training twice a week in all weathers, competing with each other for a starting place on a Sunday.

The County Cup journey has been enjoyable for the players coming up against unbeaten teams from different leagues to challenge themselves. This is the first time for many of the boys playing in a County Cup final and us coaches are extremely proud of them all. I feel privileged to be part of the boys football journey and wish all the players the best of luck.

Guest of Honour

Frank van der Wens

Long serving Match Official and County Cup Referee Appointments Officer



My playing career in the Netherlands was unfortunately cut short by a cruciate ligament injury at the age of 19, leaving me to find other ways to remain involved in the game which led to me becoming a referee. I have since been involved as a match official for over thirty years, mainly as a youth referee in Middlesex.

After to moving to Hertfordshire in recent years, I started on the promotion scheme and have begun to rise through the ranks, becoming a Level 5 and officiating on the Spartan South Midlands League at Step 6 of the National Pyramid last season.

More recently I became more involved in the administration side of the game, and earlier this season was asked to help appoint officials to Youth Boys County Cup matches in Hertfordshire, which has been a very rewarding voluntary role. I would like to wish both teams the best of luck and offer my congratulations to all of today's officials.

We are delighted to welcome Frank 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

Matthew Rendall (Referee)

I started refereeing when I was 14 and have really enjoyed being involved in all types of games. I recently got promoted and I'm looking forward to this being my first County Cup Final.

John Robertson (Assistant)

It's an honour to have been appointed to this final and I wish both teams and my fellow officials the best of luck. Looking forward to what should be an interesting contest and a memorable day for all.

Romeo Rojas (Assistant)

I come from a football family with my brother being an Arsenal U18 and Colombia player. I decided to take a different route as an official and would say it's the best choice I have made to date!

Jean Mbisa (Fourth Official)

I qualified in 2019 and this year I joined the promotion scheme attaining Level 6 in February. I am now on the Level 5 scheme. This has been a great experience and I would highly recommend it to anyone.

This legend.

The mainstay in the middle.

Centre of the park.

But all over the pitch.

And without them - the game wouldn't exist.

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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

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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

Won by Harpenden Town

Sunday 7th May 2:30pm
U18 Boys Cup

Won by Cheshunt

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



Alfie Poulton
Reggie Boulton
Lewis Bates
George Wood
Oliver Lacey
Robert McDonald
Jamie Bourne
Jack Howard
Adam Wilkinson
George Barker
Carl Cowdery
Giorgio Giliberti
Ekene Onwordi
Freddie Bolden
Charlie Nicastro
David Niedzwiecki

Anthony Haralambous
Michael Morris
Henry Davison
Jay Howell
Alfie Horn
Loucas Savvas
Joe Hutchinson
Andrew Kromidias
Kasper Biaca
Jordan Yakubu
Cameron Lothian
Umut Kiran
Gianluca Moliterno
Jesse Jeff Okoh
Harry Dagger

Manager: John Barker
Assistant: Liam Ridley
Colours: Blue and White Shirts,
Blue Shorts, Blue Socks

Manager: Danny Howell
Assistants: David Jones, Richard Dagger
Colours: Amber Shirts, Black Shorts,
Amber and Black Socks

Referee:
Matthew Rendall

Assistants:
John Robertson, Romeo Rojas

Fourth Official:
Jean Mbisa