



NORFOLK HIRE
SENIOR CUP

SEMI-FINAL



Norwich City FC U21 vs Dereham Town FC

TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY | KO 7:45PM

VENUE: HARROD SPORT ARENA



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CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

As Chairman of the Norfolk County Football Association, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to Harrod Sport Arena for our 2025 Norfolk Hire Senior Cup Semi Finals. This evening is the first of our two Norfolk Hire Senior Cup Semi Finals, with tonight's victor facing either Wroxham FC or Mulbarton Wanderers FC. The winner of that tie will be decided tomorrow night.

The first of the two sides competing for a place in the final is this evening's home side, Norwich City FC U21s. They currently compete in the Premier League 2, which is the Premier League's U21 Division. Their opponents are Dereham Town FC, who compete at Step 5 of the Non-League System in the Thurlow Nunn League, Premier Division.

Norwich City FC U21s made their return to the Norfolk Hire Senior Cup last season after a seven-year absence. Norwich City FC's U21 side currently sit 20th out of twenty-six in the Premier League 2. They have won four, drawn two and lost six this season, leaving them on 14 points. Norwich City FC U21s entered the Norfolk Hire Senior Cup at the third-round stage, where they beat Sprowston FC, 2-0. They then drew Fakenham Town in the quarter-final, progressing with a 1-0 victory.

This evening's away side are Dereham Town FC, currently playing at Step 5. They currently sit 9th

out of twenty in the Thurlow Nunn League, Premier Division. They have won twelve, drawn eight and lost five this season, leaving them on 44 points. Dereham Town FC entered the competition in the second-round stage, with a comprehensive 5-0 win over Bradenham & Mattishall FC. A tighter game in the 3rd round against Yelverton FC saw them into the quarter finals with a 1-0 victory. A confident 3-0 win over Great Yarmouth Town FC sees them into tonight's fixture, arguably facing their toughest challenge to date.

The third team on show for tonight's spectacle will of course be the match officials. They, like the teams, have also earned the right to be here, and I would like to extend my congratulations to them on their selection. I wish them every success in what I hope will be a memorable occasion for all involved. Finally, a thank you to all our Board members and ex-members of Council who have offered their time this evening, together with the Norfolk FA staff for their hard work coming together to stage the Norfolk Hire Senior Cup Semi Final this evening.

*All information correct at time of writing.



Michael Banham
Norfolk County FA Chairman

THE NORFOLK HIRE SENIOR CUP

The Norfolk Senior Cup is the County's oldest Cup competition with a history that stretches all the way back to the 1881/82 season when Norfolk and Norwich became the inaugural winners as they beat Lynn Town by 3 goals to 1.

Despite that initial defeat Lynn Town became regular winners of the trophy in the early years, picking up the Cup on no fewer than five occasions: 1882/83, 1884/85, 1886/87, 1889/90, 1898/99. Another name to feature regularly on the Cup in those initial seasons was CEYMS, especially around the turn of the century when they captured a hat-trick of titles. King's Lynn went one better than that as they took the Cup back to the West of the County an amazing four seasons on the trot between 1954/55 and 1957/58, beating Gorleston, Gothic, Great Yarmouth and most impressively Norwich City in that time.

Norwich City did bounce back from that defeat, and in some style too as they took part in one of the competition's highest scoring Finals the following season, beating Gorleston 7-2. Nine goals were also scored in the 1972/73 Final, but this was much closer as Fakenham Town edged past Hoveton by a score of 5-4.

In recent seasons the competition has been dominated by Clubs that compete in the Eastern Counties League. Wroxham were the team to beat in the late 1990's and their name was engraved on the trophy in 1996/97, 1997/98 and 1999/00. Other recent winners include Diss Town, Gorleston, King's Lynn Reserves and Dereham Town.

The 2009-10 Final broke the trend of Eastern Counties winners though, as Mattishall of the Anglian Combination held Norwich United 1-1 at the end of extra time and then held their nerve on spot kicks to win 5-4, claiming a famous victory. Gorleston won the 2011/12 Final 2-0 against Thetford Town and then won the 2014 Final 1-0 against Wroxham.

Wroxham returned to Carrow Road in 2015 to beat fellow Ryman League side Dereham Town 3-2 after extra time. In 2016 Dereham Town secured their fourth Norfolk Senior Cup after beating Norwich United 2-0.

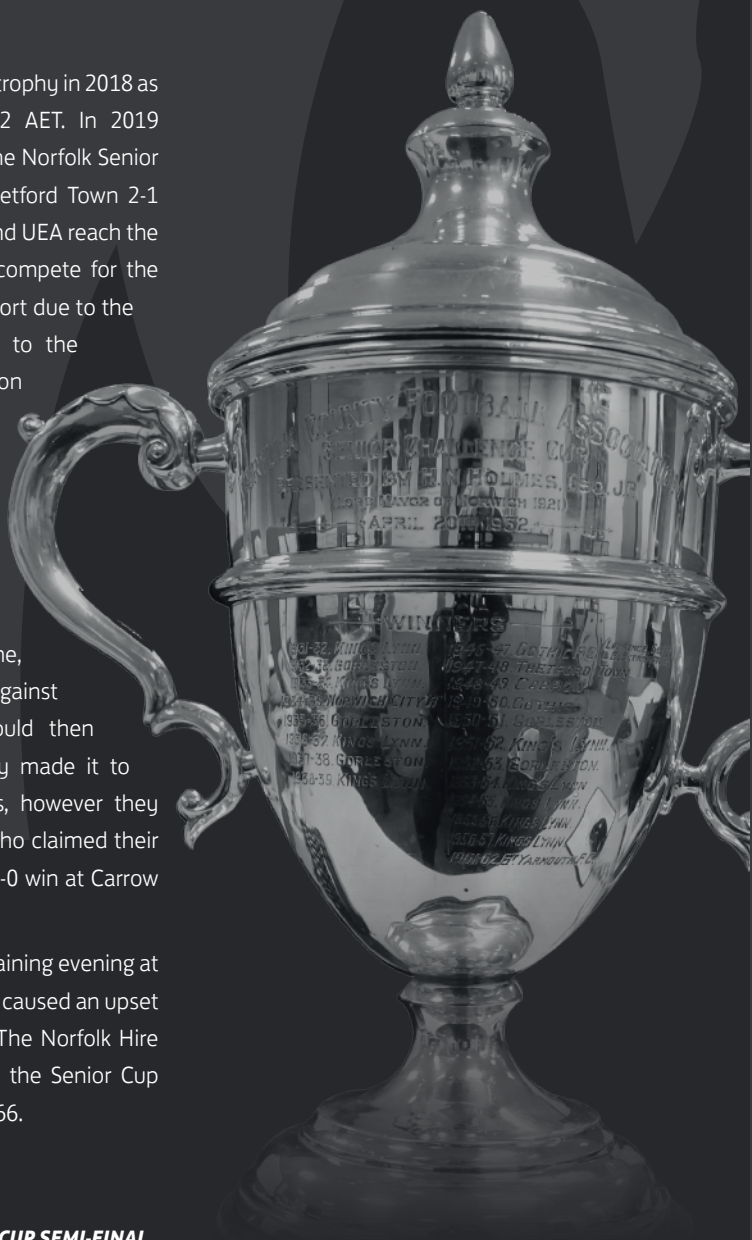
2017 saw King's Lynn Town beat Fakenham Town for their first Senior Cup triumph since 2009. Ryan Fryatt and a Michael Clunan penalty sealed the win.

THE NORFOLK HIRE SENIOR CUP

Norwich United finally lifted the trophy in 2018 as they beat Downham Town 4-2 AET. In 2019 Dereham Town were crowned the Norfolk Senior Cup Winners after the beat Thetford Town 2-1 AET. 2020 saw Dereham Town and UEA reach the Final, although did not get to compete for the trophy as the season was cut short due to the pandemic. 2021 saw a return to the Senior Cup Final, with Gorleston overcoming Mulbarton Wanderers 3-2 in a thrilling encounter.

Mulbarton would then bounce back from this defeat a year later, to face Dereham Town, competing at Step 4 at the time, and would claim a 2-1 victory against the odds. Dereham Town would then attempt the same feat as they made it to back-to-back Senior Cup Final's, however they would fall victim to Gorleston, who claimed their 2nd title in three years, with a 3-0 win at Carrow Road.

Last season's final saw an entertaining evening at Carrow Road as Downham Town caused an upset as they ran out 4-2 winners in The Norfolk Hire Senior Cup semi-final to secure the Senior Cup Trophy for the first time since 1966.



NORWICH CITY FC U21S

SQUAD INFORMATION

Sonny Rowland - Central Midfielder

Young player developing as a footballer. A player who loves to win.

Finlay Corke - Striker

Striker trying to score as many goals as possible and a Norwich fan.

Foden Northover - Central Attacking Midfield

Attacking player who tries to score as many goals as possible.

Zach Sclare - Centre back

Centre back who wants to keep clean sheets and help the team score goals.

Miles Bracking - Centre Midfield

Central midfielder who loves to get on the ball.

Hugo Valencia Gomez - Striker

Attacker willing to create and make things happen in possession. Hard working player.

Kingston Simbai - Full Back

Fullback that wants to stop attacks at all costs and likes to get on the ball and dribble.

Victor Madu - Midfielder

A central defender who wants to stop goals. Quick and strong. Has an aggressive style of play.

Jaiden Owen - Left Back

Defender who likes to attack and get forwards to create chances for the team.

Tyler Williams - Central Defensive Midfield

A player who likes to play on the front foot and create chances for his teammates.

Jack Ruddy - Goalkeeper

Demanding goalkeeper that likes to control his area.

Finlay Oligbo - Right Back

Forward thinking fullback who is a threat from set plays.

Oser Okpiabhele - Centre Back

Centre back who likes to get forward and score goals.

Ethan Binnie - Goalkeeper

Goalkeeper who makes big saves in key moments.

Alan Domeracki - Central Defensive Midfield

A ball playing creative midfielder who loves to take risks.

Damari Daley - Winger

A winger who likes to go 1v1, create, assist and score goals.

La'Sean Sealey - Attacker

Attacker that likes to dribble and attack 1v1 to score goals

Vatan Ozcan - Left back

Left back that loves to dribble and escape tight areas. Loves a 1v1.

Lloyd Ofori-Manteaw - Midfielder

A play who loves to tackle, pass and drive with the ball.

Theo Adelusi - Centre Back

Aspiring footballer that loves to defend.



NORWICH CITY FC U21S

SQUAD LIST

SQUAD

Goalkeepers

Jack **RUDDY**
Ethan **BINNIE**

Defenders

Jaiden **OWEN**
Finlay **OLIGBO**
Oser **OKPIABHELE**
Kingston **SIMBAI**
Victor **MADU**
Vatan **OZCAN**
Theo **ADELUSI**
ZACH **SCLARE**

Midfielders

Sonny **ROWLAND**
Foden **NORTHOVER**
Miles **BRACKING**
Alan **DOMERACKI**
Tyler **WILLIAMS**
Lloyd **OFORI-MANTEAW**

Forwards

Finlay **CORKE**
La'Sean **SEALEY**
Damari **DALEY**
Hugo **VALENCIA GOMEZ**

PLAYER TO WATCH

Alan **Domeracki**

New signing from Dundee United.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

U18 Coach **GREG CRANE**
U18 Coach **ADEM ATAY**
PDP GK Coach **DECLAN RUDD**
Head of Football **DEAN RASTRICK**
Development
Academy Manager **JOE SHULBERG**
Physio **ALEX ROLLINGS**
Physical Performance **KYLE WAREING**



NORFOLK HIRE
SENIOR CUP

DEREHAM TOWN FC

SQUAD INFORMATION

Ben Self - Goalkeeper

Impressive shot-stopping, composed presence, and pinpoint long-range distribution.

Harry Pitcher - Right Back

A fan favourite. Harry's work ethic is unquestionable.

Toby Oliver - Defender

Strength, composure, and ability to play multiple positions make him an invaluable asset.

Sam Watts - Defender

Thriving in the captaincy role, he's respected by many and feared by even more.

Grant Holt - Centre Back / Striker

Needs no introduction. Apparently scored a few goals.

Andrew Eastaugh - Centre Back / Striker

"The Governor" has adapted his game over the years, slotting in either at the back or up front.

Max Melanson - Midfielder

Joined midway through last season. Max has had an instant impact both on and off the pitch.

Mac Gee - Midfielder

Never-give-up attitude and fierce tackling make him a vital part of what we do here at Dereham.

Harvey Gilham - Midfielder

With his work ethic and that trademark smile, he's adored by many.

Bradley Spooner - Midfielder

Aka "The Starboy" or "The Chosen One"—sums up everything we love about him.

Jamie North - Left Midfield

One of the most technically gifted players in the squad.

Jordan Lake - Midfielder

Well-known for his fantastic head of hair and good looks, as he is for his playing ability.

Micheal Ellis - Midfielder

A fan favourite, and we're all looking forward to watching him light up the rest of the season.

Alex Brasero - Left Midfield

A versatile youngster, Alex has shown he's capable of making an impact in multiple positions.

Rhys Logan - Right Midfield

The most capped player in the squad, now back for his second stint at the club.

Charlie Clarke - Striker

Rising through the youth ranks at Dereham to become a regular first-team starter.

Ronnie Blois - Striker

A young, tenacious striker who can also play out wide.

Dylan Derbyshire - Right Midfield

Impressing at every turn with his natural ability to beat players 1v1.



DEREHAM TOWN FC

SQUAD LIST

SQUAD

Goalkeepers

Ben **SELF**

Defenders

Harry **PITCHER**

Toby **OLIVER**

Sam **WATTS**

Grant **HOLT**

Andrew **EASTAUGH**

Midfielders

Max **MELANSON**

Mac **GEE**

Harvey **GILHAM**

Bradley **SPOONER**

Jamie **NORTH**

Jordan **LAKE**

Michael **ELLIS**

Alex **BRASERO**

Rhys **LOGAN**

Dylan **DERBYSHIRE**

Forwards

Charlie **CLARKE**

Ronnie **BLOIS**

PLAYER TO WATCH

Ronnie **BLOIS**

Ronnie, another standout signing from Sheringham this season and has hit the ground running. A young, tenacious striker who can also play out wide, his eye for goal is impressive and has already proven invaluable. We know he has a bright future in football, and we're eagerly anticipating the great things he'll bring to the squad.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Manager **TOM PARKE**

Manager **PAUL COOK**

Physio **HANNAH ARTHURTON**



NORFOLK HIRE
SENIOR CUP

TAKE ON
THE WORLD

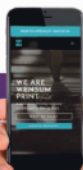
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REFEREE INFORMATION



REFEREE
Ricky Owen



ASSISTANT REFEREE
Louis Lofts



ASSISTANT REFEREE
Cameron Saunders



FOURTH OFFICIAL
Sam Gasson-Cox



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