

Suffolk Premier Cup Final

Wednesday, May 8th 2019



v



at Portman Road,
Ipswich Town FC

Official Souvenir Programme £1.00

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Respect

Respect Code of Conduct

Spectators

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game

This club is supporting The FA's **Respect** programme to ensure football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment.

Play your part and observe The FA's **Respect Code of Conduct** for spectators

I will:

- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Always Respect the match officials' decisions
- Remain outside the field of play and within the Designated Spectators' Area (where provided)
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to Respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may be:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents

In addition:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club

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

Welcome



Good evening ladies and gentlemen, and a warm welcome to the final of the KBB NEFF Suffolk Premier Cup here at Ipswich Town FC.

Thank you to all our colleagues at Ipswich Town for their hard work, time and commitment in staging tonight's showpiece final to another Suffolk football season.

This competition has been played since 1958-59 and the road to this year's final has been as exciting as ever. Reaching this final crowns successful seasons for the two teams. Leiston, who compete in the Evo-Stik League South Premier Division Central, will be appearing in their third final in four seasons. Felixstowe & Walton United, who have enjoyed an excellent first season in Bostik League North, will be playing in their first final since 2014. My congratulations go out to both teams for reaching this final, and best wishes for the game.

Please remember there is a third team involved in tonight's match. Our team of officials have been appointed as a result of their performances throughout the season and deserve to be involved in this stage of the competition as much as the two playing teams.

The game is sure to be tense and competitive and could be decided by the smallest of margins. Whilst we're unlikely to all agree with every decision the officials make, please rest assured that decisions will be made with the best of intentions. Therefore I trust you as spectators, players and team officials will join the match officials in adhering to RESPECT Codes of Conduct at all times; a Spectators' Code of Conduct is included within this programme and Codes of Conduct applying to all match participants are displayed in the respective changing rooms.

If the scores are level at the end of normal time, we go straight to a penalty shoot-out. So please do save any fingernails just in case!

Football should be the best experience For All. Please cheer, congratulate and encourage as much as possible in a respectful manner for all involved. Let the game begin...

#AThrivingLocalGame

Richard Neal
Chief Executive Officer
Suffolk Football Association

The KBB Centre and NEFF are very proud to sponsor the local county cup finals.

Both companies fully support Youth football and sporting initiatives and are absolutely delighted to be involved.

The Suffolk FA were looking for cup sponsors and the chance to have a top brand manufacturer in NEFF willing to help support The KBB Centre's links with Suffolk FA was an opportunity not to be missed. The KBB Centre are a 5 Star MasterPartner for NEFF and we have a lot of innovative things happening with them this year, both with showroom changes and new NEFF products.

We are particularly excited about NEFF's main event of their 2019 calendar, which is the launch of NEFF's 'Home Connect' which will be available on display in our showroom in June.

We'd like to wish all the teams who have made it this far the very best of luck!

Roger Peck (left) & Patrick Peck (right), Directors of The KBB Centre





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Cup Competitions Manager



I once worked with a northern lad who supported Everton. I used to ask him the Everton result every time they lost and then on one occasion I tried to wind him up by saying 'Never mind, it's only a game'. His reply was instant. 'Aye, but it's a passionate game'. How right he was.

Tonight's final sees the culmination of hard work, skill, determination, some luck and plenty of passion, but that's just the two teams playing on the pitch. For me, I cannot organise the Suffolk FA County Cups without a team with no less passion, but no-one sees them and without them occasions like tonight would not take place.

My squad consists of the referee co-ordinators Ian Smillie, Graham Apperley, Ian Atkins, Mel Stickland and Alan Dale. Darryn Marsh, Bruce Badcock and Richard Neal are alongside myself when the tough, and not always popular, decisions have to be made, and Ruth Ward makes sure the administration for the finals is fully in control.

Then there are the County Representatives attending each semi final and final making sure the County standards are met and a special thanks to all host clubs who have so readily agreed to host County matches.

I would also like to make a special mention of David Mayes of the Thurlow Nunn League whose help is always valued throughout the rounds in identifying available venues causing the least amount of disruption for our partner leagues. Radio Suffolk has seen the coverage of our live semi-final draws on the Non-League hour of their Thursday Night Sports Social programme reach bigger audiences thanks to the enthusiasm of Graeme Mac and David Mann and, of course, our own Nick Garnham whose passion for the County Cup competitions is truly admirable.

My own football career never reached great heights. I played in a Primary Cup Semi-Final but didn't make the final squad but one of my team-mates looked back at his time in local football when our club celebrated an anniversary and wrote the most sincere and heart warming sentiments about this wonderful game that we play in our most beautiful County. He wrote: "Without the enthusiasm of the people that run our club, it is unlikely that we would be here tonight. From a personal point of view I would have missed out on some of the happiest and proudest moments of my life, moments that I have shared with people that have become my closest friends. Who said football was only a game? It's far more important than that."

Adrian Moye
County Cup Competitions Manager
Suffolk FA

Previous Finals

1958-59 Bury Town 2 - 1 Long Melford
1959-60 Bury Town 3 - 1 Sudbury Town (after 0-0 draw)
1960-61 Bury Town 5 - 3 Long Melford
1961-62 Bury Town 4 - 2 Lowestoft Town (after 1-1 draw)
1962-63 Stowmarket 2 - 0 Lowestoft Town
1963-64 Bury Town 3 - 0 Lowestoft Town (after 2-2 draw)
1964-65 Bury Town 4 - 1 Lowestoft Town
1965-66 Bury Town 2 - 1 Haverhill Rovers
1966-67 Lowestoft Town 3 - 0 Stowmarket
1967-68 Ipswich Town 4 - 1 Bury Town
1968-69 Ipswich Town 5 - 0 Lowestoft Town
1969-70 Ipswich Town 6 - 1 Sudbury Town
1970-71 Bury Town 1 - 0 Sudbury Town (after 0-0 draw)
1971-72 Lowestoft Town 3 - 1 Bury Town
1972-73 Sudbury Town 4 - 0 Bury Town
1973-74 Sudbury Town 5 - 4 Lowestoft Town (on aggregate)
1974-75 Lowestoft Town 3 - 2 Newmarket Town (on aggregate)
1975-76 Sudbury Town 3 - 1 Lowestoft Town (on aggregate)
1976-77 Stowmarket 5 - 4 Sudbury Town (on aggregate)
1977-78 Bury Town 5 - 1 Lowestoft Town (on aggregate)
1978-79 Lowestoft Town 5 - 2 Sudbury Town (on aggregate)
1979-80 Lowestoft Town 2 - 0 Sudbury Town (on aggregate)
1980-81 Sudbury Town 6 - 3 Felixstowe Town (on aggregate)
1981-82 Sudbury Town 2 - 1 Bury Town
1982-83 Sudbury Town 3 - 1 Lowestoft Town (aet)
1983-84 Brantham Athletic 2 - 0 Lowestoft Town
1984-85 Sudbury Town 3 - 1 Lowestoft Town
1985-86 Stowmarket Town 1 - 0 Lowestoft Town
1986-87 Sudbury Town 2 - 1 Felixstowe Town

1987-88 Sudbury Town 3 - 1 Newmarket Town
1988-89 Sudbury Town 3 - 1 Bury Town
1989-90 Sudbury Town 4 - 2 Bury Town
1990-91 Stowmarket Town 3 - 2 Haverhill Rovers
1991-92 Sudbury Town 1 - 0 Stowmarket Town
1992-93 Sudbury Town 2 - 1 Brantham Athletic
1993-94 Newmarket Town 2 - 1 Sudbury Town
1994-95 Newmarket Town 1 - 0 Felixstowe Town (after 1-1 draw)
1995-96 Bury Town 0 - 0 Woodbridge Town (5-4 on pens)
1996-97 Newmarket Town 1 - 0 Stowmarket Town (after 0-0 draw)
1997-98 Sudbury Wanderers 5 - 2 Lowestoft Town (after 0-0 draw)
1998-99 Newmarket Town 1 - 0 Sudbury Town (aet)
1999-00 Lowestoft Town 1 - 0 Mildenhall Town
2000-01 Lowestoft Town 4 - 3 AFC Sudbury
2001-02 AFC Sudbury 3 - 1 Felixstowe & Walton United
2002-03 AFC Sudbury 1 - 0 Mildenhall Town
2003-04 AFC Sudbury 4 - 0 Bury Town 95
2004-05 Lowestoft Town 4 - 3 Bury Town
2005-06 Lowestoft Town 3 - 2 Leiston (aet)
2006-07 Ipswich Town 8 - 0 Leiston
2007-08 Needham Market 0 - 0 Leiston (5-4 on pens)
2008-09 Lowestoft Town 3 - 2 Needham Market
2009-10 Ipswich Town 4 - 1 Needham Market
2010-11 Bury Town 2 - 0 Needham Market
2011-12 Lowestoft Town 4 - 2 Bury Town
2012-13 Bury Town 2 - 0 Lowestoft Town
2013-14 Bury Town 4 - 1 Felixstowe & Walton United
2014-15 Lowestoft Town 2 - 1 Whitton United
2015-16 Lowestoft Town 3 - 1 Leiston
2016-17 Needham Market 3 - 2 Lowestoft Town
2017-18 Leiston 3 - 0 Bury Town

Competition History / Route to the Final

First played in the 1958-59 season. The Suffolk Premier Cup was launched to enable clubs with 'professional' players to play their full team as these players were not allowed to play in the Suffolk Senior Cup at that time. Not everyone was in favour of the competition and the County Chairman at the time felt it necessary to say "... an appeal is made to all concerned to give the competition a fair chance and do their utmost to make it work smoothly."

The first winners were Bury Town who went on to win the cup in seven out of its first eight seasons. The unluckiest team at this time was Lowestoft Town who lost four finals in a row, twice after replays.

From 1974 to 1981 the final was played over two legs. During this period Lowestoft Town and Sudbury Town played in six finals each, four times against each other with honours even between them.

In 1982 the final reverted to a one-off match (unless a replay was required) with Sudbury Town winning nine times in 12 seasons and Lowestoft Town repeating four consecutive defeats.

The biggest win was in 2007 when Ipswich Town Reserves beat Leiston 8-0. The most goals in a final was nine which occurred three times during the two-leg final days.

The last replay was in 1998 when Sudbury Wanderers had their only win, by 5-2 after a 0-0 draw.

The last win in extra time was 2015 when Lowestoft Town won 2-1.

The last win following a penalty shoot-out was in 2008 when Needham Market achieved their first ever Premier Cup win, winning by 5-4 following a 0-0 draw after extra time.

Most wins (17) have been by teams from Sudbury with AFC Sudbury winning three times, with pre-amalgamation Sudbury Wanderers winning once and Sudbury Town 13 times. However with 13 wins apiece both Bury Town and Lowestoft Town only need one more to, arguably, claim the record.

To confirm the dominance of these three clubs, together with their 43 wins they have also lost the final 34 times between them giving a total of 77 final appearances. All other teams have only managed 43 final appearances between them.

First round: Long Melford 1 Felixstowe & Walton United 8, Leiston –bye.

Second round: Felixstowe & Walton United 5 Woodbridge Town 1, Leiston 6 Haverhill Rovers 1.

Quarter-Finals: Felixstowe & Walton Utd 3 Hadleigh United 2, Leiston 1 Lowestoft Town 1 – Leiston won 3-2 on pens.

Semi-Finals: Leiston 2 Ipswich Town 1, Felixstowe & Walton United 3 Stowmarket Town 0.



Leiston players have their photograph taken with the cup following their 3-0 victory over Bury Town in last year's final at Portman Road.



Felixstowe & Walton United goalkeeper Danny Crump punches clear during their 4-1 loss to Bury Town in the 2014 final at AFC Sudbury.

Felixstowe & Walton Utd

Jack Ainsley – Midfielder. Jack of all trades, can play anywhere, the team's top goalscorer and penalty taker. Previously a professional at Ipswich Town, Jack has returned home to play for his local club alongside his brother after leaving Leiston.

Stuart Ainsley – Defender/Midfielder. Stuart joined the club for his second spell in the summer of 2014 from Lowestoft Town after their promotion to the Football Conference. A former Youth player at Ipswich Town, Stuart has a sweet left foot and a great work ethic.

Rhys Barber – Defender. Named club captain in the summer of 2015, Rhys is a vastly experienced, natural left-sided player, accomplished defender and good with the ball. Previous clubs include Bury Town and Needham Market.

Henry Barley – Left Midfielder. An Ipswich Town scholar currently on loan to the club. Henry has bags of pace, great feet and has already made a massive impact, making possibly the most complete debut against Soham in February.

Joe Bloomfield – Midfielder. Joe re-joined the club this season and is Felixstowe born and bred. During his time at Youth level with Ipswich Town he played alongside now England goalkeeper Nick Pope. Joe is a versatile player with a great engine and competitive streak.

Ethan Clarke – Defender. Ethan re-joined Felixstowe in the 2017-18 season having previously left to join Stowmarket. The former Whitton United player is strong in the tackle and is arguably one of the best attacking left-backs in Suffolk.

Dan Davis – Defender. With over 260 appearances for the club 'Denzil' is a powerful centre back with a no-nonsense approach. He is great in the air, a strong tackler and a very popular member of the squad; winning all three senior player awards last season.

Joe Francis – Midfielder/Striker. Joe joined from Leiston in the 2017-18 season as a marquee signing. His goals proved a major factor in the club gaining promotion to Step 4 football. On his day a complete match winner with a wand of a left foot. He is retiring after tonight's match.

Rhys Henry – Midfielder. Rhys signed from Maldon & Tiptree during the 2018-19 pre-season. He is a local Ipswich lad who has also played at Needham Market, Leiston and AFC Sudbury. An intelligent footballer who also scores important goals.

Liam Hillyard – Striker. Liam re-joined Felixstowe from Achilles this season having been involved in the club's historic FA Cup run in 2016-17, famously scoring the winning goal against Conference South side South Bishop's Stortford.

Josh Kerridge – Defender. Josh joined the club from AFC Sudbury three seasons ago and has this season been converted from a midfielder to centre back. He's comfortable on the ball, strong in the air and even chipping in with his share of the goals.

Jordy Matthews – Midfielder. Jordy is a one-club man and a manager's dream. Equally happy in midfield or in the No.10 role. He always gives 110 per cent and somehow covers every blade of grass. With his fair share of goals and tackles, he is a great all-round player.

Charlie McCarthy – Goalkeeper. Charlie shone from a very young age at Felixstowe, before being snapped up by Ipswich Town aged seven. Released by Ipswich this season, he joined AFC Sudbury, before returning to his boyhood club.

Felixstowe & Walton Utd

Darren Mills – Striker. Darren joined the club from Coggleshall in October last year having previously played for Bury and Leiston. He has brought experience and tenacity to the team, not giving a back line any rest.

Rory Porter – Midfielder. Rory is a Felixstowe lad who has established himself in the first-team squad this season. With a great centre of gravity, Rory is an exciting young talent to watch when on the ball.

Miles Powell – Striker. ‘Milo’ spent the 2014-15 season with Whitton United, returning to the Seaside where he learnt his trade. He has developed into one of the most prolific goalscorers the club has ever had.

Jack Spurling – Goalkeeper. Jack joined the Seaside this season. He made his first team debut at 16 for Woodbridge Town, and has also played for Ipswich Wanderers, Brantham Athletic and Leiston. Jack is a tremendous shot stopper with a physical presence.

Jamal Wiggins – Midfielder. He joined the Seaside from the SIL in 2015-16. ‘Jamma’ is technically a very talented footballer, comfortable on the ball and has established himself as an integral part of the squad.



Felixstowe & Walton Utd. Back row (left to right): Craig Studd (Kitman), Ethan Clarke, Darren Mills, Miles Powell, Jamal Wiggins, Josh Kerridge, Jack Spurling, Charlie McCarthy, Dan Davis, Liam Hillyard, Stuart Ainsley, Joe Francis, Gary Hammond (Goalkeeping Coach).

Front row: Rhys Henry, Jordy Matthews, Henry Barley, Stuart Stevenson (First Team Coach), Danny Bloomfield (Assistant Manager), Andy Wilding (Chairman), Ian Watson (First Team Manager), Pat Alexander (Physio), Rhys Barber, Jack Ainsley, Callum Bennett.

The Teams

Wednesday, May 8th 2019 @ Portman Road

Penalties

If the match is still level after full-time, the winner shall be determined by penalty kicks.

Felixstowe & Walton United

Red & White Striped Shirts, Red Shorts & Socks

Leiston

Blue Shirts, Blue Shorts, Blue Socks

Referee

Callum Walchester

Assistant Referees

George Byrne
Bradley Mingay

Fourth Official

Jordan Sandwell

Referee Support Officer

Kevin Morton



Felixstowe & Walton

Jack Spurling
Charlie McCarthy
Joe Bloomfield
Dan Davis
Josh Kerridge
Rhys Barber
Ethan Clarke
Stuart Ainsley
Jack Ainsley
Jamal Wiggins
Joe Francis
Jordy Matthews
Henry Barley
Rhys Henry
Miles Powell
Darren Mills
Liam Hillyard
Rory Porter

Manager: Ian Watson
Assistant Manager: Danny Bloomfield



Leiston

Marcus Garnham
Joe Potter
Kyle Hammond
Seb Dunbar
Noel Aitkens
Joe Jefford
Tom Bullard
Harry Knights
George Keys
Byron Lawrence
Dominic Docherty
Matt Rutterford
Patrick Brothers
Robert Eagle
Harrison Bacon
Matt Blake
Christy Finch
Will Davies

Manager: Stuart Boardley
Assistant Manager: David Head

Tonight's Match Officials

Refereeing tonight's Premier Cup Final is Callum Walchester from Lowestoft. Callum combines refereeing on Contributory Leagues with operating as an assistant referee on the English Football League (EFL). After qualifying in 2007, he has received a number of prestigious appointments, including as an assistant referee in the 2017 FA Youth Cup Final, 2017 National League Play-off Final at Wembley and the FA Cup Fourth Round fixture between Millwall and Rochdale last season.

Assisting Callum is fellow EFL assistant referee George Byrne, who won last year's National FA Grassroots Match Official of the Year award and also officiates on the Contributory Leagues as a referee.

On the opposite touchline is 25-year old Bradley Mingay who took up refereeing ten years ago after suffering too many injuries as a player. Brad now referees as part of the East Anglian Referees Pool, taking charge of matches on the Thurlow Nunn Division One League.

The fourth official tonight is Jordan Sandwell who, after spending two seasons as a Supply League Referee, was promoted to referee on the Contributory Leagues in 2017.

Supporting the team in the role of Referee Support Officer is Kelvin Morton, who has officiated in the finals of The FA Cup, FA Trophy and FA Vase and continues to operate as an observer for the Professional Game Match Officials (PGMO) and as a member of the Suffolk FA Referee Advisory Panel.



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Leiston

Noel Aitkens – Midfielder. 22-year-old Noel joined from Bury Town in the summer, having spent four years at Ram Meadow. A stylish performer with an eye for a tackle and a strong shot, he has proved himself more than capable at the higher level.

Harrison Bacon - Midfielder. Harrison joined the club from Woodbridge Town in the summer and has netted several times for the Reserves this season. Harrison made his first-team debut at home to St Neots Town in January 2019.

Charlie Beckwith – Goalkeeper. Charlie played regularly for the reserves last season, and also starred for Suffolk U18s and Leiston U18s in a season in which he appeared over 70 times for different teams! Recently on loan at Thurlow Nunn Premier Division side Great Yarmouth Town.

Matt Blake – Striker. Matt arrived from Norwich United, having scored 177 goals in all competitions in five seasons and helping Norwich United to two Eastern Counties Premier Division titles. Scored 42 goals in his first season at Leiston, winning the Isthmian Premier League Golden Boot in the process.

Patrick Brothers – Midfielder. The club's longest-serving player, having joined in October 2010. Patrick has made 300 league appearances for the club. A hard-running and dependable all-rounder who can play anywhere across the midfield.

Tom Bullard – Defender. Tom played for 10 years at Bury Town, joining Leiston in the summer of 2014. A no-nonsense centre half who chips in with important goals each season. The team captain who leads by example. Led the side to the Suffolk Premier Cup last season, which he has also won with Bury Town.

Will Davies – Striker. Will joined Leiston in the summer, having played for Coplestonians in the SIL. During the first three months of the season he scored 19 goals in 19 appearances for the reserves in the Thurlow Nunn League Division One. Made his first-team debut recently, and scored his first senior goal against Hitchin Town.

Dominic Docherty – Midfielder. Dominic signed from Lowestoft Town in the summer of 2017, after returning from studying in the USA in February of that year. A strong, athletic player who also scores goals.

Seb Dunbar – Defender. Seb played in Leiston's first season in the Ryman Premier League, returning to the club at the end of the 2014-15 season after a spell at Bury Town. Seb was voted in the 2017-18 Bostik Premier Division Team of the Year. He produced some memorable displays which also saw him collect the Manager's Player of The Year award.

Robert Eagle – Midfielder. Born in Leiston, Robert was with Norwich City as a youngster and made 10 Football League appearances for the Canaries in 2006-07. He subsequently played for Inverness Caledonian Thistle and Grimsby, making over 50 appearances for the latter. Now in his third spell at Leiston, Robert has also made over 100 appearances for Lowestoft as well as playing for AFC Sudbury.

Christy Finch – Striker. With 17 goals, Christy was Leiston's joint highest scorer last campaign. He was also Leiston's leading scorer in the 2015-16 season. Christy lists Lowestoft and Wroxham as former clubs. He made his 150th club appearance this season.

Marcus Garnham – Goalkeeper. Marcus joined Leiston from AFC Sudbury. He started his career at Woodbridge Town, and played for Bury Town for a number of years before switching to Lowestoft Town where he played National League football. Earned Goalkeeper of the Year award in Ryman League Division One North when at Sudbury.

Kyle Hammond – Defender. Kyle joined from Maldon & Tiptree in the Summer of 2017 where he was named in the Ryman Division One North Team of the Year. A former Academy player at Portman Road, Kyle returned from injury to help Leiston secure their place in last season's Ryman League Premier Division play-offs and has recently extended his contract for the next two seasons.

Leiston

Joe Jefford – Defender. Joe joined in the Summer of 2011 and in the last four seasons he has formed an excellent partnership with Tom Bullard. Hardly ever misses a match. He is now fourth in the all-time appearances since Leiston joined the Jewson League (Step 6) in 2001. Won the Players' Player of the Year award last season. Recently made his 400th appearance in all competitions for the club.

George Keys – Defender. George joined from Brightlingsea Regent in November, making his Blues debut away at Bedworth United in December. Previously played at Colchester United and Maldon & Tiptree. Was Young Player of the Year at Brightlingsea last season.

Harry Knights - Harry joined Leiston in the summer of 2017 from Woodbridge Town. He made a big impact with impressive performances in the reserves last season, and was rewarded with a contract. Still only 19, Harry has recently signed a two-year extension on his contract.

Joe Potter – Goalkeeper. Joe joined Leiston in February 2019 from Felixstowe & Walton United. Just 19 years old, he is highly rated and great things are expected of him in the future.

Matt Rutterford - Midfielder. Matt joined Leiston in 2017, and was outstanding for the reserves last season, but under the previous management found first-team opportunities limited. He has established himself as a regular under the new management team.



Leiston. Back row (left to right): Trevor Harrison (Kit Manager), Stuart Boardley (Manager), Will Davies, Matt Blake, Joe Jefford, Tom Bullard, Marcus Garnham, Christy Finch, Jake Reed (now Lowestoft Town), Patrick Brothers, Harry Knights, David Head (Assistant Manager).

Front row: Ashley Nicholls, Byron Lawrence, Matt Rutterford, Robert Eagle, Kyle Hammond, Seb Dunbar, George Keys.

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Forthcoming Final Fixtures

TONIGHT'S final is the second of six Suffolk FA County Cup Finals to be hosted at the home of Ipswich Town FC this season.

Details for the remaining four finals at Portman Road, which will all kick-off at 7.30pm, are as follows, with the first-named team having the home changing room.

Thursday, May 9th

KBB NEFF Suffolk Boys' Under-18 Midweek Cup Final: AFC Sudbury U18 (red) v Walsham-le-Willows U18 (yellow). Adults £5, concessions £3, children £1.

Friday, May 10th

CNet Training Suffolk Senior Cup Final: Achilles (red & black) v Cornard United (blue). Adults £8, concessions £4, children £1.

Monday, May 13th

KBB NEFF Suffolk Primary Cup Final: AFC Sudbury A (red) v Old Newton United Res (yellow). Adults £5, concessions £3, children £1.

Tuesday, May 14th

KBB NEFF Suffolk Junior Cup Final: Bildeston Rangers (blue & white) v Bacton Utd '89 (red & green). Adults £6, concessions £3, children £1.



AFC Kesgrave celebrate after defeating Trimley Red Devils 3-2 to win last season's Suffolk Junior Cup Final at Portman Road

For All Awards

19

GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL WARDS



The FA and McDonald's Grassroots Football awards are back!

Suffolk FA will be celebrating those people, clubs and leagues who make a positive difference across their communities. This is your chance to celebrate work that goes into the grassroots.

Nominations are now open until May 10th 2019. Anyone can make a nomination. Individuals should be nominated by someone else (not themselves), while anyone can nominate their own club and/or league.

The awards are split into 10 categories:

- Grassroots Coach of the Year
- Grassroots Supporter of the Year
- Grounds Team of the Year
- Grassroots Club of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Rising Star of the Year
- We Only Do Positive Respect
- Grassroots Project of the Year
- Grassroots Match Official of the Year
- Grassroots League of the Year

Suffolk referee George Byrne not only won the county award last year, but went on to win the national award.

To make a nomination go to the home page on the Suffolk FA website: www.suffolkfa.com

Stay in the Game



Play on!

£750 grants available now to support men's clubs
Claim yours by 6 June 2019



The Football Association has re-launched its adult male retention-focused funding scheme to support men's 11-a-side community football teams in Suffolk.

The newly-titled Stay in the Game scheme will offer existing clubs the opportunity to apply for grants of £750 to help cover the various associated costs of running a football team.

Last year, under the name Retain the Game, the scheme helped to support the retention of 2,336 adult male teams across the country, supporting an estimated 55,000 community footballers.

Clubs who benefited from the grants last year were able to use the funding for match-day and training facility hire, first-aid training and new equipment, whilst also subsidising match-day fees for members of their respective squads.

This year, the grants will once again be available to adult male teams in the under-18 to Under-21 category, open-age adult sides and veterans' teams.

Grassroots clubs that meet the following criteria will be eligible to apply:

- Clubs that operate with two or more adult male teams – Under-18s, Under-19s, Under-21s, Under-23s, open age and vets.
- Clubs that hold the FA's Charter Standard Award (Adult, Youth, Development or Community).

- Adult clubs that commit to becoming FA Adult Charter Standard within season 2019/20.

- Clubs that have the support of their County Football Association.

Please note that clubs who benefited from successful Retain the Game applications last season will not be eligible to apply to this funding window of Stay in the Game.

Jodie Allard, Football Development Manager at Suffolk FA, added: "Managing finances can be a challenge for adult clubs and so we are really pleased to see the return of this new look funding scheme this season.

"The Stay in the Game scheme is a great incentive for clubs to recognise and reward those with more than one adult team and support them to continue providing opportunities for local people to enjoy the game here in Suffolk.

"We would encourage any adult clubs who fall within the eligibility criteria to take advantage of this opportunity to secure additional financial support."

The application window for Stay in the Game is now open and closes at 5pm on Thursday, June 6th 2019.

Clubs seeking more information on the programme should either contact Jodie Allard at Suffolk FA via Jodie.Allard@Suffolkfa.com or visit the Football Foundation website.

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Grassroots Festival 2019



SUFFOLK FA have pulled off a coup with England legend Kelly Smith agreeing to attend this year's KBB Suffolk FA Grassroots Festival.

Smith, England's all-time leading scorer with 46 goals, is to visit the two-day festival at Whitton United FC on Saturday, May 18th. The festival will continue on the Sunday.

The former striker, who was England's first professional female footballer, won 117 caps in an illustrious career and played in six major tournaments, including representing Great Britain at the 2012 London Olympics.

Smith, who won five FA Cups, scoring six times in those five finals, said: "I'm really looking forward to visiting the KBB Suffolk FA Grassroots Festival.

"Grassroots football and tournaments like these are so important to the development of the players and the future prosperity of the game, so I am pleased to be able to attend."

Suffolk FA Mini Soccer & Youth Football Development Officer James Morley, who is co-organising the festival, said: "We are really pleased to have Kelly Smith attending this year's KBB Grassroots Festival.

"Our festival will be themed around the FIFA Women's World Cup which is taking place in France and to have Kelly in attendance provides a great opportunity for all the young girls to meet someone who has played and achieved everything at the highest level.

"This season is tracking to be the biggest festival we have ever organised, with more teams being able to attend than ever before and new festivals including walking football and disability football.

"Having Kelly in attendance as well is going to help us create the biggest and best festival by far. We now can't until May for the festival to be here."

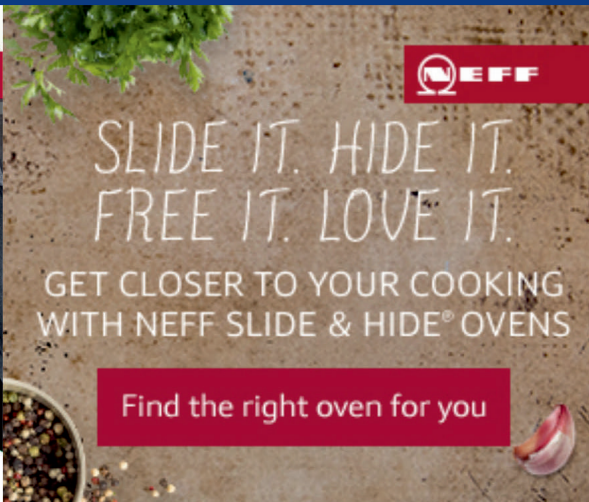
Roger Peck, a director of festival sponsors KBB, said: "Kelly Smith's presence at this year's festival is testament to the hard work and dedication that has gone into the festival over the years.

"The fact that the popularity and the exposure that the festival gets is now encouraging big names like Kelly to get involved makes us very proud."

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