



MIDWEEK UPDATE

Season 2011/12 No 33 -- 5th May 2012

ALL THE ACTION

By Peter Butcher – Ryman League Communications Administrator



Premier

HORNCHURCH will be at home to Lowestoft in Monday's Ryman Premier play-off final and that seems a fitting climax to the season. The clubs finished the season in second and third place respectively, both with 83 points.

Lowestoft scraped through their home semi-final against Wealdstone on Wednesday.

Dean Sinclair's penalty in the fifth minute of added time produced a 2-1 victory over a Wealdstone side by then reduced to nine men.

Chris Henderson had given the Trawlerboys a 21st-minute lead but Wealdstone gradually gained the upper hand and it was no surprise when Scott Fitzgerald levelled the scores in the 63rd minute.

Stones might have been the favourites at that stage but they proceeded to shoot themselves in both feet, losing Chris O'Leary to a second yellow card and, shortly afterwards, Sean Cronin to a straight red.

It looked as if they would hang on to force extra time, though the odds would have been stacked against them, but Lowestoft have become notorious for scoring late winners and they did it again.

It was more comfortable for Hornchurch as they beat Bury 3-1 with an outstanding second-half performance.

Bury started brightly and John Sands went close with a header. But Urchins soon had the upper hand. The lively Lewis Smith was twice denied by excellent saves by Marcus Garnham and then fired a shot against the bar.

The visitors almost grabbed the lead three minutes after the interval when Sam Reed's shot was turned on to a post by home keeper Joe Woolley.

He then collected the corner that followed and launched a punt downfield which bounced over Garnham.

Bury scrambled the ball out for a corner which was half-cleared to Smith on the left of the penalty area and he drilled in a low shot to give Urchins the lead.

It was 2-0 five minutes later, Smith this time the provider with a low cross which was turned in by Martin Tuohy for his 31st goal of the season.

Bury pulled one back in the 64th minute with the goal of the night, a long-range drive by Billy Clark which screamed into the top corner of the net.

Hornchurch regained their two-goal lead eight minutes later as Tuohy broke on the right and crossed low for Carl Rook.

Garnham half-stopped his shot at point-blank range but the ball bounced into the net.

Urchins never looked in danger of letting the game slip and it took a goalline clearance to deny Tuohy his second of the night.



North

LEISTON are the champions after thrashing Potters Bar 6-0 in their delayed final match of the season on Tuesday.

The visitors were always likely to be on a hiding to nothing after the prolonged wait to play the match, which was postponed on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Danny Smy eased Leiston's nerves with an eighth-minute goal but the hosts had to wait until the last minute of the first half before Joe Jefford made it 2-0.

Any hopes of a comeback by the Scholars were quashed when Leon Ottley-Gooch hit an eight-minute hat-trick around the hour mark, and Jefford added the sixth in the 77th minute.

But Leiston were not able to score a seventh goal which would have been their 100th in the league.

The other important delayed game took place on Wednesday and Ware were relegated, along with Great Wakering, despite beating Waltham Forest 2-0 at Wodson Park.

When the match finally got under way after several postponements, Forest had managed to raise only nine players, hugely improving Ware's chances of achieving the three-goal win they needed to survive.

Elliot King put Ware ahead after only eight minutes and it seemed as if their task would be something of a formality.

Far from it. It was still only 1-0 well into the second half, when a red card for Ricci Crace cost Ware half their numerical advantage.

Not for long: Forest then had Valentine Lawrence sent off and it was 10-8.

Forest keeper Aaron Omand saved a Jordan Gill penalty and although Ware eventually got a second goal through Lewis Taylor, by then it was the fifth minute of added time and it was too late.

They did climb above Wakering to finish 21st, level on points with Ilford, but with goal difference also equal Ilford survive because they scored seven more goals.

The final Ryman League game of the season was played on Thursday and Chatham enjoyed it, winning 4-0 at Redbridge.

Lee Hales opened the scoring with a 19th-minute penalty and Garry Tilley made it 2-0 five minutes before half-time.

Joe Fuller added the third in the 77th minute before Lloyd Blackman wrapped it up with the 4,107th and last goal of the Ryman League campaign.

The first play-off semi-final was also played on Thursday and Enfield Town shook off the disappointment of missing out on the title two days earlier.

They beat Grays 3-1 in a shoot-out after the visitors had fought back from 2-0 down to force extra time.

Town were given the perfect start when a fumble by Grays keeper Tony Tucker allowed Adam Wallace to plant the ball into the empty net with just 38 seconds on the clock.

They were on top for long periods after that and doubled their lead with a thumping header from man of the match Mark Kirby four minutes after the break.

Grays looked a beaten side but were given a lifeline in the 79th minute with a contentious

penalty after a challenge on Joao Carlos. Harry Agombar made no mistake from the spot.

Then, in the 88th minute, Grays were awarded a corner when everyone was expecting a goal-kick and Junior Baker headed the equaliser.

Extra time was almost all Grays, with the hosts now down to ten effective men: having used all their substitutes, an injury to full-back Jordan Mackie left him to be a hobbling passenger at centre-forward.

But Grays missed their chances to win it. There was, however, another cruel blow for the hosts when their other full-back, Danny Barber, was shown a second yellow card for taking too long over a throw-in, even though there was not enough time left for either side to have mounted an attack. Under play-off rules he will be suspended for the final.

So to penalties, and after three successful kicks Noel Imber denied Agombar to give Enfield the edge. When Kenny Beaney fired Grays' next kick against the bar they were in trouble at 3-1 down.

Tucker gave them a lifeline by denying Walid Matata but, in a final irony, Imber clinched victory by saving from Joe Sweeney, who had come off the bench in the 118th minute so he could take part in the shoot-out.

Enfield will be at home in Sunday's final against the winners of the game between Tilbury and Needham Market, which is due to be played at Tilbury tonight (Friday).



BOGNOR are through to the play-off final after an amazing 4-4 draw with Godalming at Nyewood Lane on Tuesday. One save by Craig Stoner earned them a 5-3 victory in the penalty shoot-out and they will host Dulwich in Sunday's final.

The hosts took the lead through Ashley Robinson in the 33rd minute and also hit the woodwork twice before Scott Harris levelled the scores in the 64th minute.

When Brett Cooper put G's ahead in the 73rd minute it looked as if Rocks were heading for a home semi-final defeat for the second successive season.

Within three minutes, however, they were in front again as Terry Dodd ran through to equalise and Robinson converted a cross from Steve Harper to make it 3-2.

Godalming saved themselves two minutes into added time, when Adam Foulser volleyed home, and they went ahead in the seventh minute of extra time with a deflected shot by Warren Harris.

Five minutes later, however, Harris was sent off for handling on the line and Robinson completed his hat-trick from the penalty spot.

Despite their one-man advantage Bognor were unable to create any more clear chances and the tie went to a shoot-out.

The first five kicks were converted but Stoner then saved from Ben Andrews and further successful kicks for the home side by Dan Beck and Ben Johnson clinched a 5-3 victory.

Rocks now have the chance to avenge last season's 3-1 semi-final defeat by Dulwich after the south London club edged out Folkestone 2-1 in Tuesday's other contest.

They took the lead on the half-hour when Folkestone keeper Jack Delo failed to hold a fierce free-kick from Kevin James and Ray Powell was on the spot to snap up the rebound.

Apart from a short spell in the second half when Phil Wilson made a good save from a Liam Dickson shot and a superb one from Frankie Chappell's header, Dulwich looked in control.

They doubled their lead on 81 minutes when Frankie Sawyer's devastating low cross provided Powell with a far-post tap-in.

Stuart King found the corner of the net with a low shot to reduce the arrears in the 85th minute but Dulwich held out to book their place in the final.

Results

Tuesday, 1 May 2012



North

Leiston	6-0	Potters Bar Town	455
Smy 8, Jefford 44, 77, Ottley-Gooch 57, 60, 65			



South Play-Off Semi-Finals

Bognor Regis Town	4-4 AET	Godalming Town	866
Robinson 33, 76, 103, Dodd 75			
S Harris 64, Cooper 73, Foulser 90+2, W Harris 97			

Bognor Regis Town win 5-3 on penalties

Dulwich Hamlet	2-1	Folkestone Invicta	632
Powell 29, 81			
King 85			

Wednesday, 2 May 2012



Premier Play-Off Semi-Finals

AFC Hornchurch	3-1	Bury Town	646
Smith 48, Tuohy 53, Rook 71			
Lowestoft Town	2-1	Wealdstone	1158
Henderson 21, Sinclair 90+5 (pen)			
Fitzgerald 63			



North

Ware	2-0	Waltham Forest	91
King 8, L Taylor 90+5			

Thursday, 3 May 2012



North

Redbridge	0-4	Chatham Town	45
Hales 19 (pen), Tilley 40, Fuller 77, Blackman 81			



North Play-Off Semi-Final

Enfield Town	2-2 AET	Grays Athletic	627
Wallace 1, Kirby 49			
Agombar 79 (pen), Baker 88			

Enfield Town win 3-1 on penalties

Ryman football league	FINAL TABLES
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	Home						Away						Pts	GD
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
RYMAN PREMIER														
Billericay Town	42	13	6	2	44	21	11	7	3	38	17	85	44	
AFC Hornchurch	42	11	4	6	29	13	15	0	6	39	22	82	33	
Lowestoft Town	42	14	5	2	41	23	11	2	8	39	30	82	27	
Wealdstone	42	12	6	3	40	21	8	9	4	36	18	75	37	
Bury Town	42	12	6	3	42	21	10	3	8	43	34	75	30	
Lewes	42	12	6	3	34	23	9	4	8	21	24	73	8	
Hendon	42	9	7	5	32	26	12	2	7	37	18	72	25	
Canvey Island	42	10	1	10	34	29	12	4	5	32	26	71	11	
Cray Wanderers	42	9	4	8	33	31	11	4	6	41	24	68	19	
East Thurrock United	42	10	3	8	33	26	8	5	8	37	39	62	5	
Kingstonian	42	9	3	9	29	34	9	4	8	29	30	61	-6	
Metropolitan Police	42	11	2	8	33	18	7	4	10	30	28	60	17	
Wingate & Finchley	42	9	4	8	35	44	7	7	7	28	35	59	-16	
Concord Rangers	42	7	6	8	39	34	9	3	9	33	32	57	6	
Margate	42	9	3	9	37	29	6	6	9	29	36	54	1	
Carshalton Athletic	42	7	3	11	22	26	7	7	7	26	29	52	-7	
Harrow Borough	42	7	5	9	28	35	6	3	12	25	35	47	-17	
Hastings United	42	6	5	10	21	24	7	3	11	22	37	47	-18	
Leatherhead	42	6	3	12	21	33	5	5	11	25	29	41	-16	
Aveley	42	2	6	13	20	49	3	6	12	21	39	27	-47	
Tooting & Mitcham United	42	3	4	14	23	58	4	2	15	24	58	27	-69	
Horsham*	42	1	2	18	18	57	2	4	15	20	48	14	-67	
RYMAN NORTH														
Leiston	42	15	5	1	55	18	13	2	6	44	23	91	58	
Enfield Town	42	15	4	2	53	23	12	5	4	43	23	90	50	
Tilbury	42	13	6	2	42	24	10	5	6	40	38	80	20	
Needham Market	42	14	1	6	63	27	9	7	5	41	29	77	48	
Grays Athletic***	42	11	4	6	37	23	13	4	4	43	24	77	33	
Redbridge	42	10	6	5	41	34	11	4	6	39	25	73	21	
Harlow Town	42	11	6	4	38	22	10	2	9	32	27	71	21	
AFC Sudbury	42	9	5	7	30	28	11	4	6	35	29	69	8	
Brentwood Town	42	9	3	9	34	23	9	5	7	24	19	62	16	
Thamesmead Town	42	8	2	11	41	42	9	5	7	27	29	58	-3	
Maldon & Tiptree	42	9	3	9	32	31	7	7	7	30	35	58	-4	
Potters Bar Town	42	9	6	6	37	36	7	3	11	30	40	57	-9	
Romford	42	9	7	5	31	31	6	5	10	33	42	57	-9	
Waltham Abbey	42	7	5	9	40	39	8	5	8	39	37	55	3	
Chatham Town	42	10	3	8	36	31	6	3	12	18	32	54	-9	
Heybridge Swifts	42	7	3	11	24	31	8	4	9	35	33	52	-5	
Waltham Forest	42	7	3	11	34	48	5	4	12	25	47	43	-36	
Cheshunt	42	6	5	10	20	43	3	7	11	22	40	39	-41	
Soham Town Rangers	42	6	5	10	27	39	1	8	12	28	54	34	-38	
Ilford	42	5	4	12	24	36	3	2	16	23	49	30	-38	
Ware	42	5	3	13	17	31	3	3	15	23	47	30	-38	
Great Wakering Rovers	42	3	8	10	22	35	3	3	15	21	56	29	-48	
RYMAN SOUTH														
Whitehawk***	40	15	4	1	43	12	14	2	4	39	14	90	56	
Bognor Regis Town	40	15	5	0	57	15	11	5	4	48	23	88	67	
Dulwich Hamlet	40	14	4	2	38	11	12	4	4	35	15	86	47	
Folkestone Invicta	40	12	4	4	46	25	11	3	6	36	28	76	29	
Godalming Town	40	11	3	6	41	25	11	4	5	36	28	73	24	
Maidstone United	40	12	3	5	34	20	8	4	8	34	30	67	18	
Worthing	40	12	5	3	44	15	6	5	9	25	30	64	24	
Hythe Town	40	10	4	6	40	26	7	4	9	22	36	59	0	
Merstham	40	11	4	5	33	32	6	4	10	30	37	59	-6	
Chipstead	40	9	4	7	29	23	7	4	9	30	34	56	2	
Ramsgate	40	10	3	7	32	34	6	4	10	29	39	55	-12	
Walton & Hersham	40	7	3	10	33	29	7	5	8	21	23	50	2	
Corinthian-Casuals	40	5	7	8	30	35	7	5	8	19	28	48	-14	
Eastbourne Town	40	6	5	9	22	26	5	8	7	27	37	46	-14	
Walton Casuals	40	8	2	10	30	35	4	4	12	21	39	42	-23	
Crawley Down	40	7	3	10	41	40	5	2	13	24	41	41	-16	
Faversham Town	40	5	4	11	22	32	5	6	9	21	35	40	-24	
Whitstable Town	40	6	3	11	23	35	6	1	13	23	52	40	-41	
Sittingbourne	40	3	8	9	16	25	3	4	13	20	50	30	-39	
Burgess Hill Town***	40	5	4	11	24	44	4	2	14	15	46	30	-51	
Whyteleafe	40	3	4	13	19	35	3	6	11	19	32	28	-29	

*One point deducted for fielding an ineligible player. ***Three points deducted for fielding an ineligible player.

C – champions; PO-guaranteed play-off place (at least); R-relegated.

Friday, May 4th, 2012



North Play-Off Semi-Final

Tilbury

v. Needham Market

Sunday, May 6th, 2012



North Play-Off Final

Enfield Town

v. Tilbury or Needham Market



South Play-Off Final

Bognor Regis Town

v. Dulwich Hamlet

Monday, May 7th, 2012



Premier Play-Off Final

AFC Hornchurch

v. Lowestoft Town

