

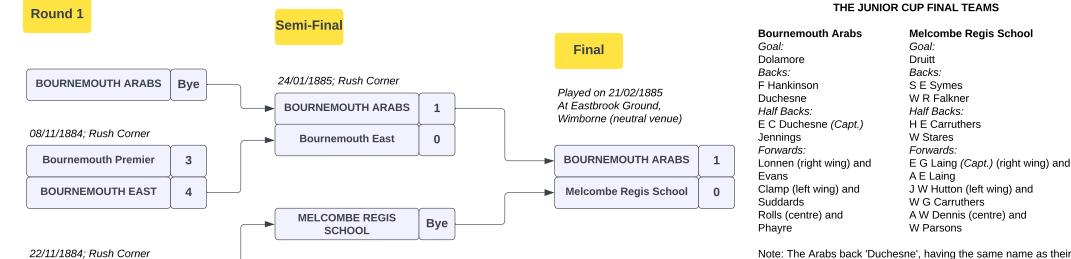
JUST THE TWO The Senior and Junior Cups were the only competitions administered by the South Hants & Dorset FA in this inaugural season This was also the case in

the two seasons that followed.

Inaugural Season - 1884/85

JUNIOR CUP

(The home club is shown first, unless otherwise stated)



Note: The Arabs back 'Duchesne', having the same name as their

F.A. CHALLENGE CUP PIONEERS

The Bournemouth Rovers club became one of only 100 teams to enter the English FA Cup in this season. They were breaking new ground for the area by doing so. They were drawn away to the Old Westminsters club in Round 1 and lost 6-0 at the Kennington Oval. The match was refereed by Mr C W Alcock, the secretary of the FA. To indicate the tough draw handed to the Rovers, the OWs reached the last eight of the competition and were defeated by the cup finalists Queen's Park (Glasgow).

THE SENIOR CUP FINAL TEAMS

Bournemouth Rovers Goal: J Joy Backs: A Radcliffe P H Milne Half Backs: J A Nethercoate (Capt) W Davies F S Hamilton Forwards: E G Williams and Hubert Heron (right) F Powell and		Ringwood Hornets Goal: Chilcott Backs: F A Johns (Capt) White Half Backs: F G Gaterell A H Kingsbury Forwards: Mansbridge and Hayter (right) Hill and Bartlett (left) W Kingsbury and
W H R Campbell (left) W Pickford (centre)		W Kingsbury and Feltham (centres)
Umpires:	W S Traill (Blandford) S E Wallingford (Wimborne)	
Referee:	J W Martin (hon sec, Berks & Bucks)	
Goalscorer:	W Pickford in the second half	

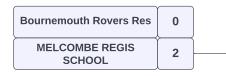
MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

(1) Although Bournemouth Rovers won the cup they didn't actually receive it on the day as it was still in the manufacturing stage! The medals were awarded at the club's annual dinner in April 1885 but the cup had still not arrived at that time!

(2) The South Hants & Dorset FA played two inter-county friendly games during the season and South Hants won both. The combined association played their first representative match late in the season winning 2-0 away to the Wiltshire FA (at Salisbury).

(3) The two finalists are still playing today - Rovers via mergers as Bournemouth FC (Poppies) and Hornets as Ringwood Town. Fordingbridge Turks, Blandford (also via a merger) and Wimborne also still play. The Portland club is not the current Portland United version. Formation dates are on the next page. Compiled June 2023 E&OE





ROUND 1 NOTES As there was an entry of only five teams into this competition, only two matches were necessary. The first ever SH&DFA cup tie took place when Bournemouth Premier built up a three goal lead at half-time which was reversed by East within half an hour of the second half. In the second game, two first half goals by Melcombe Regis School gave them the verdict over the Bournemouth Rovers second team.

SEMI-FINAL NOTES

As there were only three remaining teams, the School were drawn a bye through to the final. Rush Corner proved to be a popular venue for this competition, and it was the Arabs ground. They faced East and, in a game of 'unnecessary roughness' the only goal was scored in the second half when the Arabs had the 'hill in their favour'. A protest regarding the eligibility of an Arabs player was lodged but not upheld by the Association.

captain, was not given an initial, although the match report in the Bournemouth Guardian 28/02/1885 referred to 'Duchesne jun'.

The names of the referee and umpires were not traced.

Goalscorer: A first half own goal due to a miskick.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

(1) This inaugural Junior Cup competition was dominated by Bournemouth area clubs as football had hardly caught on much in Hampshire west of Ringwood although there were a few teams in existence.

(2) This was the first cup to be won and presented. It was a handsomely engraved silver cup of chaste design and was valued at seven guineas. It was given as a gift by the president of the Association.

(3) The formation dates of the ten clubs entering the two cup competitions were: Blandford - 1st October 1882; Bournemouth Arabs - January 1883; Bournemouth East - September 1883; Bournemouth Premier - 1880; Bournemouth Rovers (who had entered a team in both competitions) - 1875; Fordingbridge Turks - 1868; Melcombe Regis School (who had recently changed from the Rugby to Association game) - 1884; Portland - 1877; Ringwood Hornets - 1879 and Wimborne - 1878. Compiled June 2023. E&OE