



SOUTH HANTS & DORSET FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CUP COMPETITIONS



FORMATION (26th April 1884)

The Association was formed following a meeting held at Laing's Hotel, Wimborne. Various names were discussed. It was agreed that the Association would embrace a radius of 40 miles from Wimborne within the two counties. A committee was also formed.

Inaugural Season - 1884/85

SENIOR CUP

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

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).

Round 1

06/12/1884; Dean Park Ground

BOURNEMOUTH ROVERS	5
Portland	1

22/11/1884; Recreation Ground

BLANDFORD	3
Fordingbridge Turks	2

03/12/1884; Carvers - (A) = abandoned
Replay: 13/12/1884; Wimborne Cricket Gd*

RINGWOOD HORNETS	2(A); 2
Wimborne	2(A), 1

Semi-Final

Scheduled for 24/01/1885

BOURNEMOUTH ROVERS	W-O
Blandford	scr

RINGWOOD HORNETS	Bye
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Final

Played on 28/02/1885
At Eastbrook Ground,
Wimborne (neutral venue)

BOURNEMOUTH ROVERS	1
Ringwood Hornets	0

THE SENIOR CUP FINAL TEAMS

Bournemouth Rovers	Ringwood Hornets
<i>Goal:</i> J Joy	<i>Goal:</i> Chilcott
<i>Backs:</i> A Radcliffe P H Milne	<i>Backs:</i> F A Johns (Capt) White
<i>Half Backs:</i> J A Nethercoate (Capt) W Davies	<i>Half Backs:</i> F G Gaterell A H Kingsbury
<i>Forwards:</i> F S Hamilton E G Williams and Hubert Heron (right)	<i>Forwards:</i> Mansbridge and Hayter (right) Hill and Bartlett (left)
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.
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ROUND 1 NOTES

The midweek tie between Ringwood Hornets and Wimborne produced a disagreement between the umpires and the referee when Ringwood thought they had scored a third goal. It went beyond time and became dark and both teams left the field, the captains agreeing to let the Association Committee decide. The referee's decision was agreed and a replay at Wimborne ordered.

SEMI-FINAL NOTES

No semi-final match was played as only three teams progressed from the previous round. The one scheduled match saw Blandford scratch (scr) as their committee found the dates set to be 'inconvenient' meaning Bournemouth Rovers received a 'walk-over' (W-O) into the final round.

*GROUND NOTE

It seems likely that the Wimborne Cricket Club and the Eastbrook Ground were the same venue, albeit unconfirmed.



SOUTH HANTS & DORSET FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CUP COMPETITIONS



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)

Round 1

BOURNEMOUTH ARABS	Bye
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08/11/1884; Rush Corner

Bournemouth Premier	3
BOURNEMOUTH EAST	4

22/11/1884; Rush Corner

Bournemouth Rovers Res	0
MELCOMBE REGIS SCHOOL	2

Semi-Final

24/01/1885; Rush Corner

BOURNEMOUTH ARABS	1
Bournemouth East	0

MELCOMBE REGIS SCHOOL	Bye
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Final

Played on 21/02/1885
At Eastbrook Ground,
Wimborne (neutral venue)

BOURNEMOUTH ARABS	1
Melcombe Regis School	0

THE JUNIOR CUP FINAL TEAMS

Bournemouth Arabs	Melcombe Regis School
<i>Goal:</i> Dolamore	<i>Goal:</i> Druitt
<i>Backs:</i> F Hankinson Duchesne	<i>Backs:</i> S E Symes W R Falkner
<i>Half Backs:</i> E C Duchesne (Capt.) Jennings	<i>Half Backs:</i> H E Carruthers W Stares
<i>Forwards:</i> Lonnen (right wing) and Evans	<i>Forwards:</i> E G Laing (Capt.) (right wing) and A E Laing
Clamp (left wing) and Suddards	J W Hutton (left wing) and W G Carruthers
Rolls (centre) and Phayre	A W Dennis (centre) and W Parsons

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

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.

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.
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