

HANTS AND DORSET FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION  
Cup Competitions  
Season 1886/87 - The Last as a Joint Association



SENIOR CUP  
(Holders - Royal Scots Fusiliers)

FIRST ROUND

16/10/1886; Dean Park

BOURNEMOUTH ROVERS	2
Ringwood Hornets	1

09/10/1886; Reversed to Woolston

Portsmouth Sunflower	1
WOOLSTON WORKS	6

27/11/1886; Winchester  
Replay: 18/12/1886; Eastbrook, Wimborne

Winchester	2*, 1
WIMBORNE	2*, 3

26/11/1886; Andover

Andover	2
BLANDFORD	3

PORTSMOUTH FA	Bye
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SECOND ROUND

18/12/1886; Bournemouth

Bournemouth Rovers	0
WOOLSTON WORKS	5

WIMBORNE	Bye
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15/12/1886; Blandford

Blandford	2
PORTSMOUTH FA	3

SEMI-FINAL

WOOLSTON WORKS	Bye
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29/01/1887; Eastbrook, Wimborne  
(Venue agreed with Portsmouth FA club)

WIMBORNE	3
Portsmouth FA	1

FINAL

Saturday 5th March 1887; at Bar End Grounds, Winchester

WOOLSTON WORKS	1
Wimborne	0

NOTES:

\* after extra time

HANTS AND DORSET FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION  
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JUNIOR CUP (Holders - Bournemouth East)

FIRST ROUND

20/11/1886; Rush Corner

BOURNEMOUTH ARABS	6
Western Chronicle	0

20/11/1886; Malmesbury Park;  
Replay: 04/12/1886; Hamworthy

Bournemouth East	2, 0
POOLE ROVERS	2, 3

CHRISTCHURCH	Bye
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27/11/1886; Southampton

COWES	3
Wareham	0

Bournemouth Rovers Res	scr
BOURNEMOUTH PREMIER	W-O

20/11/1886; Eastbrook; Replay:  
27/11/1886; Poole Zingari, Hamworthy

Wimborne Res	0, 1
POOLE HORNETS	0, 2

First game drawn - no details traced;  
Replay: Possibly 04/12/1886; Hamworthy

BRANKSOME RAMBLERS	U/K, 2
Poole Zingari	U/K, 0

SECOND ROUND

BOURNEMOUTH ARABS	Bye
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18/12/1886; Hamworthy

POOLE ROVERS	2
Christchurch	0

18/12/1886; Reversed to Rush Corner  
(Coves unable to find a ground in Southampton)

COWES	3
Bournemouth Premier	1

11/12/1886; venue unknown  
Replay: 18/12/1886; venue unknown

POOLE HORNETS	1, 1
Branksome Ramblers	1, 0

SEMI-FINAL

Bournemouth Arabs	①, 2, 2
POOLE ROVERS	②, 2, 3

22/01/1887; The Elms, Parkstone (protest by Arabs on the partiality of the Poole umpire and their goalkeeper being interfered with by spectators. The protest was lost by a narrow majority)  
Replay and Second Replay: unknown date, venue and home/away status

22/01/1887; County Ground, Southampton

COWES	4
Poole Hornets	1

FINAL

Saturday 26/03/1887; at Wareham (Coves refused to play extra time)  
Replay: Saturday 02/04/1887; at County Ground, Southampton

POOLE ROVERS	0, 2
Coves	0, 0

NOTES:

W-O and scr = walk-over and scratched.  
① and score within, denotes protest lodged and a replay ordered as explained in the accompanying white box

NOTES - SENIOR CUP

The Senior Cup entries had increased by one overall. The holders Royal Scots Fusiliers (Portland) were unable to defend their trophy having departed from the area. They were based at Tidworth in 1905 and competed in the Hampshire Senior Cup in that (1905/06) season. The Portland club also didn't enter in this season

There were three new entrants, as follows:

**Winchester FC** - had been formed as Winchester Swallows FC in 1891, although in the more present day the club, now Winchester City, are shown as having been founded in 1884 but that team folded in 1893.

The Southsea based **Portsmouth Sunflower** (often with an 's' added to the end of their title) appear to have sprung into existence in 1884 and arose from the Pares family, the club name emanating from a private magazine produced by family members. The edition apparently had subscribers and correspondents in Egypt, Norway, America and India. The club initially had cricket connections but a 'soccer' side was formed for the Christmas vacation when the team was usually at its strongest and was represented by a group of school or university friends. The club gradually faded and appear to have folded by 1889.

NOTES - SENIOR CUP

The third new entry was a most significant one as **Woolston Works** was formed by Scotsmen who had made a significant effect to football interest in the Southampton area. The opening of Woolston Shipyards turned the (then) town into a passionate football area, often talked about much further afield. No one took too much notice when the club submitted their entry into the competition although sinister rumours of their formation were abundant at the close of the previous season.

**First Round Summary:** The Winchester debut in the cup saw them take the highly-fancied Wimborne to a replay before going out. The Sunflowers reversed their game to Woolston and were hammered (some publications claimed the score to be 7-1 and not six, so the result is unretain) whilst down in the Evergreen Valley, the Rovers gave the Hornets their quietus for this season. Blandford, perhaps surprisingly, visited Andover on a Friday and returned to Dorset the victors. The Portsmouth side moved into the Second Round without playing.

**Second Round Summary:** Only five teams left now and the local soccer world took notice as Woolston Works won comfortably at 1885 cup winners Bournemouth Rovers. A midweek trip for Portsmouth FA saw them win in Dorset.

NOTES - SENIOR CUP

**Semi-Final Summary:** As both Wimborne and Portsmouth FA had received byes in previous rounds it was known that those two clubs would play in the semi-final with Woolston Works being the team to get the 'golden ticket' straight through to the final stage. Portsmouth FA agreed to go to play the tie at the Wimborne ground and were defeated to set-up a Wimborne vs Woolston Works final.

**Final - Match Summary:** The venue was set for the County Ground, Southampton but the Wimborne club objected (presumably due its close proximity to their opponents) and the committee agreed to play at Winchester instead. This was one of two cup finals the Works were involved in as they'd also made it to the last stage of the very first holding of the Portsmouth District Association Cup (now Portsmouth Senior Cup). Wimborne were basically a Dorset area county XI and were distinctly the strongest team in the H&DFA.

The Works won the game due to a firm first half shot by McKechnie. About ten minutes from the end Wimborne's Nicholson, in going for a tackle, suffered a broken leg, and was removed to the County Hospital. It was a complete accident. The players seemed disinclined to continue the game but the referee ordered it to go on but both sides had lost their spirit up to the final whistle with Woolston Works winning by the only goal.

SENIOR CUP FINAL TEAMS

**Woolston Works**  
Higgins - goal; Howarth and McKay (captain) - backs; Morton, Forter and Oliver - half-backs; Kesson and Ramsey - right wing; Robertson and McKechnie - left wing; Moir - centre-forward.

**Wimborne**  
Wallingford - goal; R.J. and H.J. Swymour - backs; J.R. Stewart, Farquharson (captain), and Duchesne - half-backs; Pottle and Budden - right wing; J. Nicholson and D.C. Stewart - left-wing; Fort - Centre forward

**Umpires**  
Mr. A. Tebbutt (Winchester)  
Mr. W. Hankinson (Bournemouth)

**Referee**  
Mr. M.P. Betts for the English Association  
The cup was presented to Mr. McKay by the ex-Mayor of Winchester, Mr J.B. Little.

**FOOT(BALL) NOTE**  
The Works were unable to make it a cup 'double' as the Portsmouth FA club defeated them 1-0 in the Portsmouth Cup competition.



NOTES - JUNIOR CUP

Entries into the competition had increased to thirteen in this season and, although this site doesn't generally cover teams from the Dorset area it is noted that Poole was much more prominent in this campaign. In fact, winners Poole Rovers and semi-finalists Poole Hornets were to merge in 1890 to form Poole FC (the Poole Town of today).

Coves became the first team from the Isle of Wight to enter the competition but their home ties had to be played on the mainland due to difficulties to clubs with travelling. The Wareham club, having lost to Coves in the first round, claimed the Islanders should have entered the senior competition. Coves was unable to source a ground in Southampton for their second round game and reversed it to Rush Corner, Bournemouth.

Following their semi-final defeat, the Arabs made a successful protest but Poole Rovers went through at the third time of asking.

In the final, a 0-0 draw at Wareham meant a replay was needed but Poole Rovers defeated Coves 2-0 in the replay at Southampton a week later. It was the first time the Junior Cup was held by a Dorset-based team (remembering the county boundaries in those times were different than they are today).

Compiled August 2023. E.&O.E.

THE TERMINATION OF THE HANTS & DORSET FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

There were great difficulties of communication between the extreme parts of the two counties. Meetings were usually held at Wimborne or Bournemouth which proved to be of great inconvenience to the clubs in North and East Hampshire. There might also have been a loss of control due to the possibility of associations being formed in Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. A general meeting was held at the Spartan Club, Southampton, on 20th April 1887 to dissolve the union which was carried by a large majority. The Dorset delegates swiftly moved to another room and decided to form the Dorset F.A. and it is claimed they are the older of the two new county F.A.s by about ten minutes! The Hampshire F.A. agreed that Dorset F.A., being the weaker of the new bodies, should have the Senior Cup and any balance of funds.