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# HAMPSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SENIOR CUP Season X - 1896/97

## HOLDERS: ROYAL ARTILLERY (PORTSMOUTH)

Club changes since the previous competition  
New HSC entrants in this season are:

1st Manchester Regiment, 4th King's Rifle Corps and also 2nd Gordon Highlanders, who came with a strong reputation, having been the 1891/92 Irish F.A. Cup winners. Ryde (formed in 1888) evolved from a rugby team.

Not competing in this season having taken part in 1895/96 were:

Portsmouth F.A. (an original entrant - team now disbanded). Christchurch and Freemantle (both would return later) the latter having joined the Second Division of the Southern League, and the military teams of 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers, 1st Seaforth Highlanders and the 1st Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

Note:

(1) Interestingly, the 15th Company, Royal Artillery appeared to be a different section, previously from Fareham but now shown from neighbouring Gosport. (2) As the Portsmouth F.A. team were no longer playing, only three teams - Banister Court, Bournemouth and Royal Engineers (Aldershot) - remained as the original entrants still participating in the competition.

### FIRST ROUND

Hampshire Independent: Match date: 07/11/1896 at Cowes, a good attendance. Thompson scored for Cowes who took full advantage of a free kick. Play was of a rough character, not usually seen at the ground. Whyte increased the Cowes lead whilst Finn netted for the Artillerymen. The score was unchanged in the second half. The referee was a well-known Southampton footballer, E.C. Jarvis.

COWES	2
15th Company, Royal Artillery (Gosport)	1

### SECOND ROUND

Hampshire Independent: Match date: 07/11/1896 at 'Railway Ground' (Dutton Lane), Eastleigh in typical November weather, with about 150 spectators. The visitors defended the works end in the first half and went behind early as Bastock scored who then added a second goal. Woodhouse netted a third with a 'daisy cutter'. Fading light meant the customary interval was not taken. Bastock shot Eastleigh's fourth goal. He appeared to add a fifth goal as following his shot both 'ball and custodian were netted together!' Woodhouse netted goals six and seven and, it seemed, Bastock added thier eighth.

EASTLEIGH	8
Banister Court (Southampton)	0

First match: 28/11/1896 at Cowes; Replay: 19/12/1896 also at Cowes

COWES	3*	3
Eastleigh	2*	1

Hampshire Independent. In the first match Cowes were not ready to play by the 2.15pm start time, the game began at 2.28. Eastleigh protested and the HFA decreed that it was a breach of their rules. The replay, which started on time, saw Cowes progress. Deans opened the scoring with a 'beauty' for Cowes but Sharpe levelled. Baker scored a second for Cowes. The Cowes captain Frank Moore added a third goal in the second half and was later accidentally brought down by the Eastleigh linesman, apparently!

Hampshire Independent: Ryde scratched the tie but ironically the teams met in a friendly match on the same day and also at Ryde! It was an academic exercise but, for the record, the Artillerymen won the friendly game by 3-2.

Ryde	scr
ROYAL ARTILLERY (PORTSMOUTH)	W-0

28/11/1896; United Services (Mens) Ground, Portsmouth

ROYAL ARTILLERY (PORTSMOUTH)	1
2nd East Lancashire Regiment (Aldershot)	0

Aldershot News: The Lilywhites were drawn first but gave up home advantage to the Portsmouth Gunners. They tried to reverse it back after St. Mary's had scratched their tie at Aldershot but were not permitted to do so. The only goal came after half-an-hour's play when Harms took a free kick which struck East Lancs' Tobin and passed into goal. Despite a great second half effort by the Regiment they could not turn pressure into goals.

Aldershot News: Match date 07/11/1896. At Queen's Parade, Aldershot. A recent League meeting between the teams had finished 3-3. For some time 'severe seige raged around the Manchester goal' but the Lilywhites failed to score. Booth scored the only goal in the first half for the Lancs men. Bryce added a second goal, whilst Gelder scored for the Manchester's. It was a well merited win for the Lilywhites.

2ND EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT (Aldershot)	3
1st Manchester Regiment (Aldershot)	1

Aldershot News: Match date 02/11/1886. At the Royal Engineers enclosure. Dewey (saved) came close for the REs whilst Kane (who scored the five goals in the previous meeting between the teams) shaved the post. Kane opened the Highlanders account. Two further Highlanders goals came before half-time. The Sappers pelted the Highlanders goal but Murray added a fourth goal and before time a fifth was added. Not all goal scorers were identified in the report.

Royal Engineers (Aldershot)	0
2ND GORDON HIGHLANDERS (ALDERSHOT)	5

2ND GORDON HIGHLANDERS (Aldershot)	W-0
Southampton St. Mary's Res	scr

Ironically and similar to the first round game when Ryde scratched to the Royal Artillery (Portsmouth), these two teams met in a friendly game at the County Ground, Southampton on the scheduled date. The Hampshire Independent reported that St. Mary's won what 'might be termed as an amusing game' by 2-0.

Hampshire Independent. Match date 07/11/1896 at Dean Park, Bournemouth. Spellacy and Hayter scored first half goals for the 'Saints'. Bournemouth had distinctly the best of matters in the second half and Ledger headed the Bournemouth goal 'amidst tremendous applause'. Saints defended well with Legg splendid.

Bournemouth	1
SOUTHAMPTON ST. MARY'S RES	2

Aldershot News: Match date 07/11/1896 at Army Service Corps Ground, Aldershot in front of a large gathering. Play did not reach the usual standard. Brevis put the Rifles ahead with a hard drive. Howard equalised for the Corps. Corporal Paul saved well in goal for the King's. Allen scored the 'winning point' from an Armour centre. Allen was later ordered off along with Jones of the King's following a tussle on the ground, dampening the ardour of the game.

ARMY SERVICE CORPS (Aldershot)	2
4th King's Royal Rifle Corps (Aldershot)	1

ARMY SERVICE CORPS (Aldershot)	
BYE	

### SEMI-FINAL

06/02/1897; County Ground, Southampton (neutral)

COWES	1
Royal Artillery (Portsmouth)	0

Hampshire Independent: Rain fell throughout this match and the ground was heavy and in a sodden condition. Both teams were in the pink of condition. The crowd numbered under a thousand. The first half was terrifically fast, the ball travelling from end to end with extraordinary rapidity. Cowes' Teddy Baker was carried off having been bowled over and they had to play some of the second half with ten players. After a grand bit of play by McCrindle and Gibson the ball went out to Moore, who shot a grand goal, amidst terrific cheers for the 'plucky ten'. Baker later returned to the field. Amidst loud cries of "Time", "Keep 'em out Cowes" and "Play up Royals" the game was very exciting as the Gunners made strenuous efforts to equalise. It was to no purpose, however, and when the final solo went Cowes were the victors.

### FINAL

The first match: Isle of Wight County Press: The military team were the better side in the first half and took the lead through an A. Watson shot from close range. Cowes attacked in the second half but were repulsed time after time by the military defence. The Islanders hopes had practically vanished and the cup and medals were on display and a piper was present in preparation to swell the Highlanders song of victory. However, Frank Moore shattered their hopes by equalising with a remarkably clever shot with barely a minute to play.

First match: Saturday 06/03/1897; Replay: Saturday 27/03/1897 Both played at County Ground, Southampton (neutral)

COWES	1, 2*
2nd Gordon Highlanders (Aldershot)	1, 1*

The replay: Isle of Wight County Press: Cowes went ahead when goalkeeper Watson fumbled a Moore cross and Teddy Baker scored. The Gordon's levelled just before the half-time whistle through a penalty kick for hands, well netted by Kane, amidst a tremendous outburst of applause by the killed spectators. Both goals had narrow escapes in the second half but extra time was needed. Moore scored with one of his splendid long high shots which left Watson with no chance. The soldiers strenuously tried to make a draw of it but could not penetrate the Cowes defence. The cup and medals were presented by Mr. Ellaby, president of the Hampshire F.A. A welcome telegram was eventually received at Cowes and on arrival there were grand celebrations that continued into the night. It was the first time the trophy had been won by a team from the Isle of Wight.

#### THE CUP FINAL LINE-UPS Both Matches

**Cowes**  
Hammett  
Nesbitt  
Ward  
Thomson  
McCrindle  
Jolliffe  
W. Baker  
E. Baker  
Deans  
Samuels  
Moore (Capt.)

#### 2nd Gordon Highlanders

H. Watson  
Nelson  
Muir  
Dunn  
Kane (Capt.)  
Perry  
Murray  
Bennie  
Hall  
A. Watson  
Taylor

**Referee**  
Mr Nat Whittaker  
(Referees' Association)

**Linesmen**  
Names not traced

#### NOTES:

W-O and scr = 'walk-over' and 'scratched'

\* after extra time

◊ Replay ordered

#### SEASONAL TRIVIA - 1896/97

The tenth holding of the Hampshire Senior Cup was the first time the final had gone to a replay and also extra time being necessary ... This was the first season of the Hampshire League and Cowes completed the 'double' as, after winning the cup, they had a bit to do but also became the first county league winners ... Southampton St. Mary's won the Southern League First Division championship and changed their name to Southampton F.C. in the summer of 1897. the club also forming a limited company ... Also in the Southern League, Freemantle reached the Second Division play-offs but were disqualified ... The 2nd East Lancashire Regiment reached the second round (last 16) of the F.A. Amateur Cup competition ... The collapse of the Old Weymouth Bank heavily affected the Hants F.A. finances and some clubs arranged friendly games at the end of the season to assist.

#### OTHER HAMPSHIRE F.A. COMPETITION WINNERS - SEASON 1896/97

**JUNIOR CUP FINAL:** 2ND SCOTTISH RIFLES (PARKHURST) 3-0 NAVAL DEPOT (PORTSMOUTH)  
Played on Saturday 13/03/1897 at United Services (Mens) Ground, Portsmouth.

**MINOR CUP FINAL:** SOUTHAMPTON CLIFTON 4-1 SHIRLEY ST. JAMES  
Played on Saturday 03/04/1897 at County Ground, Southampton.