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HAMPSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SENIOR CUP Season XVIII - 1904/05

**HOLDERS:
RYDE F.C.**

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

Three Army service teams returned to the competition for the first time since 1899, namely Royal Engineers, 2nd Scots Guards (the '1st' competed before) and Army Service Corps, the latter being the Aldershot Senior Cup holders. They were joined by the 3rd Grenadier Guards (their 2nds having entered previously). Another rejoining entrant were the Portsmouth based Royal Naval Depôt, who were the Junior Cup holders and last entered the Senior Cup in 1900/01. The R.M.L.I. (Royal Marine Light Infantry) team was based at Forton, Gosport. Gosport United was formed due to a merger between Gosport Athletic and the local Sports Club. A move from Gosport Park to their own enclosed ground at Gordon Park enabled a 'gate' to be taken and sustain a senior civilian club in the district. The Isle of Wight added Sandown and Lake United (formed in 1902) to the competition who were not linked to the former Sandown Bay club. Another Portsmouth entrant was H.M.S. Excellent, from the United Services League, based at Whale Island.

Not competing in this season having taken part in 1904/05 were:
1st Scots Guards, 2nd Grenadier Guards, whilst R.G.A. (Portsmouth) will be back next season. South Farnborough would also return but another year later. As noted above there was a merger involving Gosport Athletic.

Note:
The Royal Naval Depôt were playing at their new ground of Pitt Street, a stadium that served various Royal Navy teams well until a move was made to the Burnaby Road ground in 1984.

FIRST ROUND

The cup holders need a replay but win it convincingly.

SECOND ROUND

One close and controversial outcome whilst the other games produced convincing results.

THIRD ROUND

Just one game to take the remaining teams to four and the Army Service Corps progressed.

SEMI-FINAL

To boost their funds the H.F.A. staged both semi-finals at the homes of the professional clubs and thanked the other semi-finalists for agreeing to do so.

FINAL

There were now SEVEN successive finals that included a combination of just three clubs, those shown below and Ryde. Portsmouth were appearing in the final for the third successive season. Taking into consideration the semi-final venues, it is 'likely' (but unconfirmed) that the ground was chosen by the toss of a coin.

05/11/1904; Roebuck Ground, Winchester

Winchester	0
SOUTHAMPTON RES	2

05/11/1904; Freemantle

Freemantle	1
BOURNEMOUTH	3

12/11/1904; Bournemouth; replay: 26/11/1904; Dutton Lane

Bournemouth Wanderers	2*, 2*
EASTLEIGH ATHLETIC	2*, 3*

05/11/1904; Aldershot

ARMY SERVICE CORPS (Aldershot)	2
3rd Grenadier Guards (Aldershot)	0

05/11/1904; Royal Engineers Ground, Aldershot

Royal Engineers (Aldershot)	0
2ND SCOTS GUARDS (Aldershot)	2

05/11/1904; Broadway Ground, Sandown

SANDOWN and LAKE UNITED	4
East Southsea	0

16/11/1904; Fratton Park, Portsmouth

PORTSMOUTH RES	2
R.M.L.I. (Gosport)	0

ROYAL NAVAL DEPÔT	W-O
H.M.S. Excellent	scr

05/11/1904; Gordon Park; replay: 19/11/1904; Partlands

Gosport United	4*, 1
RYDE	4*, 5

03/12/1904; The Dell, Southampton

SOUTHAMPTON RES	7
Bournemouth	1

Hampshire Independent: Bournemouth looked very smart as they took the field in their crimson shirts and caused amusement when followed by a small Irish terrier. On slippery ground, Locke 3 and Laidman 2 netted most of the Saints' goals.

EASTLEIGH ATHLETIC	BYE
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26/11/1904; Corps Recreation Ground, Aldershot

ARMY SERVICE CORPS (Aldershot)	4
2nd Scots Guards (Aldershot)	1

Aldershot News: The game took place in icy conditions with the pitch barely playable and didn't do justice to the ability of the players. The match proved to be a great attraction as the Corps retained their unbeaten record up to that point.

26/11/1904; Broadway Ground, Sandown

Sandown and Lake United	1
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PORTSMOUTH RES	6
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Isle of Wight County Press: Axford 2 and Ford had put Pompey into a commanding position by half-time. Platt 2 and Salter added second half goals, whilst Stay (penalty) scored for the home team.

26/11/1904; Pitt Street, Portsmouth

ROYAL NAVAL DEPÔT	1
Ryde	0

Isle of Wight County Press: In front of a large attendance it was settled by a late goal. The Depôt's Furlong fired a shot that came off the underside of the bar and Ryde goalkeeper Attrill held the ball as it bounced from the ground. The referee gave a goal despite protests and the cup holders were defeated.

SOUTHAMPTON RES	BYE
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21/01/1905; Dutton Lane Ground, Eastleigh

Eastleigh Athletic	2
ARMY SERVICE CORPS (Aldershot)	4

Aldershot News: Members of the Service Corps came to the railway town from different areas. Evans scored early and Darling saved an Eastleigh penalty. Brennan made it two but the home side got back to level at 2-2/ Evans put the Corps back in front and a further goal was netted later.

PORTSMOUTH RES	BYE
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ROYAL NAVAL DEPÔT	BYE
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18/02/1905; The Dell, Southampton

SOUTHAMPTON RES	1
Army Service Corps (Aldershot)	0

Aldershot News: The Corps felt they had distinctly hard lines in losing this match. The only goal came ten minutes into the second half with a claim of offside in the move that ended with Harry Turner (previously of the South Farnborough club) scoring. The Corps felt they'd scored a perfectly good equalising goal but London referee Mr. Nat Whittaker disallowed it and sent Fox from the field for allegedly kicking the Saints' goalkeeper Byrne. It looked like the Corps would level the scores in the last twenty minutes but in the end the professionals went through to the final.

18/03/1905; Fratton Park, Portsmouth

PORTSMOUTH RES	2
Royal Naval Depôt	0

Hampshire Independent and Hampshire Telegraph: Half of the Depôt team contained players who'd previously played for the reserves in the Junior Cup in this season (suggesting they were not up to their normal strength). It was a rough game with plenty of accidents. Portsmouth Res. had only ten men for most of the second half (this is most likely due to a player named Sadler who'd suffered with a broken collar bone in the match).

17/04/1905; The Dell, Southampton

SOUTHAMPTON RES	2
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Portsmouth Res	0
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Southern Echo/ Portsmouth Evening News: The weather was fine but the attendance was poor. Three of the players had appeared in an F.A. Cup final - Wood, Yorke (sic.) and Thompson - the latter having kept goal for Bury against the Saints in 1900. Portsmouth put out a weak side and Saints thoroughly deserved their win due to a goal in each half (Coham and H. Turner scoring). Byrne in the Saints goal had an 'idle time'. Overall it was a decidedly tame affair. The light got very bad by the close of the game. The cup was presented to Saints' captain Harry Wood by Dr. Russell Bencraft, J.P., President of the Southern League. This was Southampton's seventh Hampshire Senior Cup win.

THE CUP FINAL LINE-UPS
Southampton Res
 Byrne
 Benson
 Gordon
 Whiting
 Metcalf
 Haxton
 Hoskins
 Wood
 York (*)
 H.Turner
 Coham
 NB: (*) not Yorke

Portsmouth Res
 Thompson
 Goodwin
 Young
 Cook
 Halliday
 Gavin
 Ford
 Didymas
 Axford
 Salter
 Holden
 Referee Not stated
 Linesmen Not stated

OTHER HAMPSHIRE F.A. COMPETITION WINNERS - SEASON 1904/05
JUNIOR CUP FINAL: LOVATT'S SPORTS CLUB 3-2 WINCHESTER RES. Played at Mr. Cannon's Meadow, Basingstoke on 1st April 1905. Lovatt's (known as the 'Lillywhites') were a company who built the Tidworth Barracks. Their home matches were played at Ludgershall, a small town which is located just over the county border in Wiltshire. Over 1,000 spectators attended the final.

MINOR CUP FINAL: An all-Southampton area battle took place and needed two matches. Following a 2-2 drawn game, PEAR TREE ATHLETIC defeated ST. MARY'S SWIFTS 3-1, both matches taking place at the Dutton Lane Ground, Eastleigh. The replay took place on 22nd April 1905, a week following the initial meeting. A protest was subsequently made by the losing side regarding the age of one of the Pear Tree Athletic players but was dismissed (those appearing in Minor Cup games had to be under 19 years of age as at 1st October, in this instance 1905).

NOTES

* after extra time
 W-O and scr 'walk over' and scratched.

SEASONAL TRIVIA - 1904/05

The Royal Naval Depôt had a very successful season, winning the United Services League and Charity Cup. The Depôt were Hampshire League South Division champions, took the county shield and also won the 'Inter-Port Cup' ... Gosport United won the Portsmouth Senior Cup, needing a replay to beat R.M.L.I. ... the 2nd Scots Guards were beaten by a single goal in the Army F.A. Cup semi-final at Craven Cottage, Fulham ... it was farewell to a past winner as the lease was terminated on the Freemantle F.C. ground and they were forced to complete their season by playing on their opponents' grounds. The 1893 winners, and one-time great rivals to the Southampton club, considered professionalism in their late lamented Southern League days but had struggled in recent times and the once infamous 'Magpies' were no more.