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# HAMPSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SENIOR CUP Season XXI - 1907/08

**HOLDERS:**  
2ND GRENADIER GUARDS (ALDRESHOT) and SOUTHAMPTON RESERVES (JOINT)

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

As usual, there many military movements. From Tidworth the **Royal Scots Greys** was the official title of the 2nd (Royal North British) Dragoon Guards. Aldershot introduced **2nd Royal Irish Rifles**, **2nd West Yorkshire Regiment** and **R.A.M.C.** (affectionately known as the 'Medics') who were going to have a long association with the competition. The Rifles incidentally had a good reputation having won the Dublin Garrison League in 1904 and 1905 and the Irish Army Cup in 1905 and 1906. From Portsmouth, **United Services Officers** entered. There were two new civilian teams. First, **Bitterne Guild**, whose origins may go back as far as 1896 when football was first reported as being played in the area. Bitterne then had its own Parish Council and didn't become part of the Southampton area until 1920. Second, **Boscombe** who are thought to have originated in 1899, when the Boscombe St John's club (formed from a church organisation in 1890) reformed on a wider basis. They were Junior Cup winners in 1906 and joined the two established cup entrants within the Bournemouth area in this season.

Not competing in this season having taken part in 1906/07 were:

The joint-holders of the cup 2nd Grenadier Guards (probably due to relocation) and also from the Aldershot military - 1st Royal Welsh Fusiliers and the Royal Engineers (who will make another return later). The Royal Naval Barracks didn't take part and East Southsea, who'd entered for the previous four seasons, are not traced from here, and possibly folded.

Note:

The **South Farnborough** club appear to have added the suffix 'Athletic' to their name. Some acronyms are used and are explained as follows: 'Regt' means Regiment (applicable to first round games where the box sizes are smaller). Cup finalists 'R.M.L.I.' means Royal Marine Light Infantry and semi-finalists 'R.A.M.C.' stands for Royal Army Medical Corps. Also, **Portsmouth** continued to enter their 'B' side who played in the Portsmouth League.

## FIRST ROUND

Civilian cup debutants have mixed outcomes as Boscombe win whilst the Guild score three but concede nine.

## SECOND ROUND

Two 7-1 scores as Boscombe bow out to seasoned campaigners whilst the R.A.M.C. win their replay decisively.

## THIRD ROUND

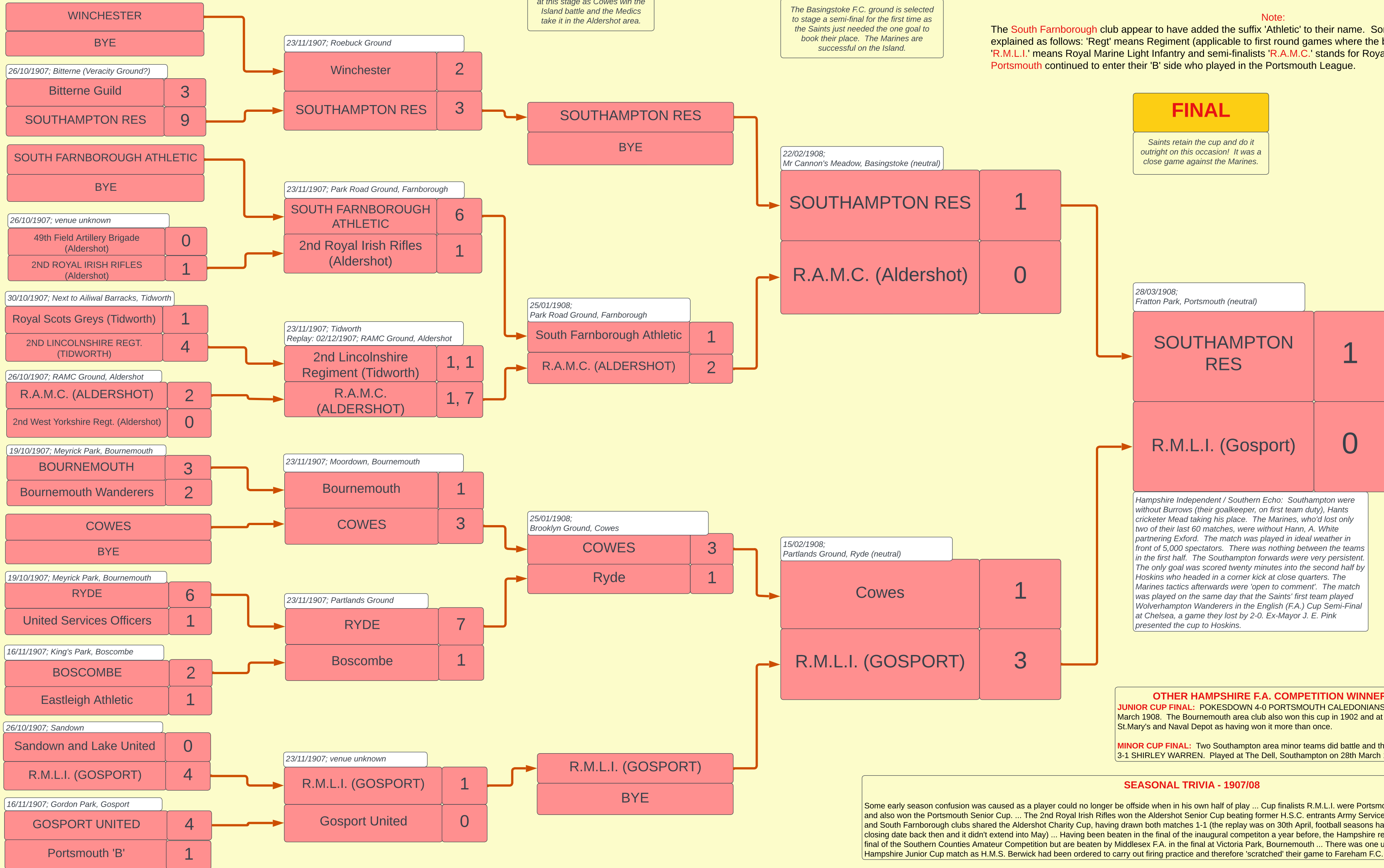
Just two matches are necessary at this stage as Cowes win the Island battle and the Medics take it in the Aldershot area.

## SEMI-FINAL

The Basingstoke F.C. ground is selected to stage a semi-final for the first time as the Saints just needed the one goal to book their place. The Marines are successful on the Island.

## FINAL

Saints retain the cup and do it outright on this occasion! It was a close game against the Marines.



**THE CUP FINAL LINE-UPS**

**Southampton Res**

- Mead
- Dyer
- Smith
- Toomer
- Jacques
- Jopp
- Bell
- Hoskins
- Prince
- Beare
- Blake

**R.M.L.I. (Gosport)**

- Turner
- Wilkinson
- Hirst
- Dow
- Yates
- Wiseman
- Exford
- A. White
- E. White
- Jack
- Hayward

**Referee**  
Not stated

**Linesmen**  
Not stated

**OTHER HAMPSHIRE F.A. COMPETITION WINNERS - SEASON 1907/08**

**JUNIOR CUP FINAL:** POKESDOWN 4-0 PORTSMOUTH CALEDONIANS at The Dell, Southampton on 7th March 1908. The Bournemouth area club also won this cup in 1902 and at this point shared with Southampton St.Mary's and Naval Depot as having won it more than once.

**MINOR CUP FINAL:** Two Southampton area minor teams did battle and the result was PEAR TREE GREEN 3-1 SHIRLEY WARREN. Played at The Dell, Southampton on 28th March 1908.

**SEASONAL TRIVIA - 1907/08**

Some early season confusion was caused as a player could no longer be offside when in his own half of play ... Cup finalists R.M.L.I. were Portsmouth League Division 1 champions and also won the Portsmouth Senior Cup. ... The 2nd Royal Irish Rifles won the Aldershot Senior Cup beating former H.S.C. entrants Army Service Corps in the final ... The R.A.M.C. and South Farnborough clubs shared the Aldershot Charity Cup, having drawn both matches 1-1 (the replay was on 30th April, football seasons had both a rigidly followed starting and closing date back then and it didn't extend into May) ... Having been beaten in the final of the inaugural competition a year before, the Hampshire representative team again reach the final of the Southern Counties Amateur Competition but are beaten by Middlesex F.A. in the final at Victoria Park, Bournemouth ... There was one unusual occurrence in a first round Hampshire Junior Cup match as H.M.S. Berwick had been ordered to carry out firing practice and therefore 'scratched' their game to Fareham F.C.!