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# HAMPSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SENIOR CUP Season XI - 1897/98

**HOLDERS:  
COWES**

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

2nd Scottish Rifles (Parkhurst) who were the Hampshire Junior Cup holders [and relocated to Aldershot in November 1897], Freemantle who didn't take part in the previous season. The 1st King's Own Scottish Borderers' team were formed in Meerut, India in 1885 and had previously been located in Plymouth and York. They had a good record in the Aldershot Military League in the previous two seasons. Other Aldershot teams were Medical Staff Corps (who'd applied to play in the Junior Cup but were considered to be too strong), 2nd Devon Regiment and, in their final year at the camp, 1st South Staffordshire Regiment.

Not competing in this season having taken part in 1896/97 were:

The 1896 winners Royal Artillery (Portsmouth) took Freemantle's Southern League place and had a full fixture list with Hampshire League and Army Cup matches too. Military withdrawals from the Aldershot area - 2nd East Lancashire Regiment; 1st Manchester Regiment; 4th King's Royal Rifles and three times winners Royal Engineers, who appeared to be taking a 'one season break' and in doing so were missing a HSC entry for the first time.

Note:

Southampton St Mary's became Southampton and now played their home games at the County Ground in this season whilst they found a new permanent location. See also note beneath the 'Final' panel for more information.

## FIRST ROUND

One of cup's biggest shock results to date occurs on the Island

06/11/1897; Dean Park, Bournemouth

Bournemouth	0
EASTLEIGH	4

Eastleigh Weekly News: Around 600 spectators lined the ropes and the few who journeyed from the railway town watched their team win convincingly. Woodhouse and Knox netted first half goals. Woodhouse added a third and McDonald completed the scoring.

BANISTER COURT (Southampton)

BYE	
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The Scholars have taken part in every season of this competition so far and had drawn a bye at this stage for the fourth time.

06/11/1897; Freemantle

FREEMANTLE	3
Southampton Res	0

Bournemouth Guardian: Freemantle got the better of the first half exchanges but Saints' keeper Bickell called upon several times and kept the score to 0-0. Wilson scored two penalties for the 'Magpies' and Edwards added another as Freemantle won what was described as a 'regrettably rough game'.

06/11/1897; Ryde

RYDE	4
15th Company, Royal Artillery	0

Note: it wasn't traced whether the 15th Company were from Gosport or Fareham in this season, as both regions had previously played in the competition. The Gosport area had been represented in 1896/97. Isle of Wight County Press: Ryde provided some much needed gratification for their supporters by romping home in this game against an opponent who were a shadow of their former selves. Clyde Purnell scored two goals for Ryde with Douglas Saunders and Maidment also scoring.

No date or venue details traced

2ND GORDON HIGHLANDERS (Aldershot)	1
King's Own Scottish Borderers' (Aldershot)	0

06/11/1897; Cowes

COWES	2
2ND SCOTTISH RIFLES (Parkhurst)	3

Isle of Wight County Press: A greater surprise could hardly have been heard of in Hampshire circles as the county Junior Cup holders knocked out the Senior Cup winners at the first stage. Whyte scored early for Cowes but Lynch quickly levelled for the Rifles and added a second in the first half. Spellacy scored an equalising goal twenty minutes into the second half but Lieutenant Green netted near to the end of the game.

No date or venue details traced

2ND DEVON REIGMENT (Aldershot)	4
Medical Staff Corps (Aldershot)	1

ARMY SERVICE CORPS (Aldershot)	W-O
1st South Staffordshire Regiment (Aldershot)	SCR

## SECOND ROUND

Scholars thrashed at Eastleigh whilst start time issues cause a replay at Freemantle.

27/11/1897; Dutton Lane Ground, Eastleigh

EASTLEIGH	10
Banister Court (Southampton)	1

Banister Court were drawn first but reversed the tie. Eastleigh Weekly News: To call this a match was bordering on the ridiculous. Many paying their 'tanner' [= 6d or 2 and one-half pence] left disappointed. Adams 4, Woodhouse 4, McDonald and Jackson netted, whilst Ellaby scored for Court, making it 4-1 (also the half-time score). The young visitors exhibited pluck but were totally outclassed.

27/11/1897; Freemantle; Replay: 29/01/1898; Freemantle

FREEMANTLE	2	2
Ryde	1	1

Isle of Wight County Press: The home side kept Ryde waiting to start the first game and a precedent had been previously set leading to a protest lodged. Freemantle won with a debated penalty. It finished in poor light. Replay ordered: Judge scored early for Ryde, Boyes levelled in the first half. Ironically, the ref made a mistake and blew for half-time after 35 minutes and, realising his error, called the players back out! Lowman scored the second half winning goal for the Magpies.

27/11/1897; Aldershot

2ND GORDON HIGHLANDERS (Aldershot)	3
2nd Scottish Rifles (Aldershot) NB: formerly Parkhurst	2

Isle of Wight County Press: The Rifles had moved to Aldershot between the first and second rounds and now featured in the Aldershot Division of the draw. After a hard and exciting game the 'Gay Gordons', who were last season's finalists, edged into the semi-final stage.

No date or venue details traced

2nd Devon Regiment (Aldershot)	1
ARMY SERVICE CORPS (Aldershot)	2

## SEMI-FINAL

The civilian semi goes to a replay as the tie between the Aldershot army teams goes to Portsmouth!!

05/02/1898; Replay: 21/02/1898; both at County Ground, Southampton (neutral)

EASTLEIGH	3*	3
Freemantle	3*	1

Eastleigh Weekly News: The first game: Small scored for the Magpies but goals from Bastock and Sharpe put the works ahead at half-time. An Edwards goal levelled it in the second half and the same player gave the Magpies the lead in the first half of extra time. It took a last-gasp Edwards stike to secure a replay for the works. Replay: Woodhouse and Bastock put the works into a 2-0 first half lead. Adams placed his side three-up with Edwards later netting for the Magpies.

16/02/1898; United Services (Officers') Ground, Portsmouth (neutral)

2ND GORDON HIGHLANDERS (Aldershot)	3
ARMY SERVICE CORPS (Aldershot)	0

Aldershot News: The two teams travelled on the morning train to Portsmouth and the Gordons were received by the Royal Artillery, Portsmouth club and the Army Service Corps were accompanied with their colleagues at Colewort Barracks. Buist shot a fine goal in the first half and Hall scored twice in the second. In a game high in standard, the A.S.C. started well but could not maintain it as the Gordons coolly took the upper hand to eventually win comfortably.

## FINAL

The 'Gay Gordons' reach their second successive HSC final but are again unsuccessful. The County Ground, Southampton had staged all eleven finals (plus one replay) held so far, but this final would be its last. It continued as Hampshire County Cricket Club's HQ until they relocated in 2000. The site in Northlands Road is now a housing area.

05/03/1898; County Ground, Southampton (neutral)

EASTLEIGH	2
2nd Gordon Highlanders (Aldershot)	0

Aldershot News: On the ground where Southampton had recently met Bolton Wanderers in the last eight of the English (F.A.) Cup, a 2,000 limit was put on the attendance and 600 Gordons had travelled by train from Farnborough. The Gordons, anxious to avenge last season's final defeat, started highly strung whilst the civilians played with cool cup tie dash. Cook passed to Woodhouse who scored Eastleigh's first goal, the Gordons claiming an infringement which was not given. The Gordons hit back and had a chance to level when Bennie was tripped by Dexter for a penalty. Sherman stood out of his goal on the six-yard mark and well the view of Kane's aim and the shot flew over the bar and out of the ground. Woodhouse headed Eastleigh's second goal.

Eastleigh Weekly News: Mr Arnold Tebbutt (Chairman of H.F.A.) presented the cup to the Eastleigh captain Mr. Archie Bastock. Later, 2500 people lined Eastleigh station to greet the team. Coloured lights, lusty cheers and a band playing produced scenes that had never before been presented to Eastleigh.

**THE CUP FINAL LINE-UPS**

<b>Eastleigh</b>
Sherman
Moorhouse
Dexter
Lawless
Bastock (Capt.)
Brocklehurst
Knox
Cook
Woodhouse
Adams
Sharp
<b>2nd Gordon Highlanders</b>
Crumley
Nelson
Dunn
Clark
Kane (Capt.)
Perry
Bennie
Buist
Hall
A. Watson
Taylor
<b>Referee</b>
Mr. C.D. Crisp (Ryde)
<b>Linesmen</b>
Messrs. Plomer and White

## OTHER HAMPSHIRE F.A. COMPETITION WINNERS - SEASON 1897/98

**JUNIOR CUP FINAL:** SANDOWN BAY 2-1 CHANDLER'S FORD  
Played on Saturday 12/03/1898 at Partlands Ground, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

**MINOR CUP FINAL:** PORTSMOUTH CALEDONIANS 2-1 SHIRLEY ST. JAMES  
Played on Saturday 19/03/1898 at County Ground, Southampton. The Shirley St James' first side (now playing in the Junior Cup competition) were the beaten finalists in the previous season.

## SEASONAL TRIVIA - 1897/98

Southampton reach the semi-final of the English (F.A.) Cup for the first time, but lose a replay to eventual cup winners Nottingham Forest .... The Saints also win the Southern League championship for the second consecutive season ... Royal Artillery (Portsmouth) win the Division 2 title and then win their 'Test Match' group to join Southampton in Division 1 ... Eastleigh win the second season of the Hampshire League to repeat a league and cup double which was previously achieved by Cowes ... The Gordon Highlanders won the prestigious Army F.A. Cup, the first time an Aldershot Regiment had won the trophy and beat the Royal Artillery (Portsmouth) in the final at the Army Athletic Ground, Aldershot both having beaten regiments based in Ireland at the semi-final stage. The twice finalists Gordons were not going to get another chance to win the HSC though.

## NOTES:

W-O and scr = 'walk-over' and 'scratched'  
\* after extra time  
◇ replay ordered