

# Bedfordshire County Football League



Season 2009-10

## News Bulletin Number 1



Welcome to the first of this seasons league news bulletins, This season rather than produce a monthly newsletter, we shall be issuing a series of news bulletins on a more regular basis during the campaign in which we will attempt to keep you updated on all that is happening within the league.

### Tribute to John Allen

The leagues 2009 Annual General Meeting held on June 17<sup>th</sup> at Haynes Village Hall gave the league a collective opportunity to say farewell to Results Secretary John Allen who so sadly passed away during the 2008-09 season after a short illness. Following a period of silence in remembrance of John who had served on the leagues Management Committee since 1994, league Chairman, Peter Onion delivered a tribute to him at the conclusion of which he made a presentation of a silver rose bowl to his widow Veroncia.



**Mrs Allen receiving the Rose Bowl from Chairman, Peter Onion .**

## **Premier Division supported by Sportsform to go over to Match Day Suspension**

The league, for the first time ever in season 2009-10, will see its Premier Division supported by Sportsform players subject to discipline by a match day suspension scheme, whilst the previous days suspension scheme will remain in place for games played in the lower divisions.

To prepare clubs for this change, a presentation on the scheme was delivered by Mark Ives from the Football Association on Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup> in Haynes Village Hall.



**Mark Ives delivering his presentation to a captive audience .**

In an effort to assist with a smooth transformation the league have appointed for the first time ever its own Premier Division panel of referees and they, and only they, will referee all the 2009-10 season Premier Division supported by Sportsform games.

However these officials will not just have their duties confined to just Premier Division games and will find themselves from time to time called upon to take control of other games in the lower divisions, several of these referees were present at Mr Ives presentation plus further training sessions are being set up for them prior to the big kick off in late August.

## **Its All Systems Go for Season 2009-10**

The formation of divisions for season 2009-10 has now been made, The Premier Division supported by Sportsform, Division One and Division Two having 16 teams whilst Division Three and Four will have 12 teams, making a grand total of 72 teams, the top three Divisions will kick off on Saturday August 29th and the lower two Divisions on Saturday September 5th.

### **Premier Division supported by Sportsform.**

AFC Kempston Town, Biggleswade United Reserves, Blunham, Caldecote, Campton, Dunton, Ickwell & Old Warden, Meltis Corinthians, Oakley Sports, Renhold United, Riseley Sports, Sharnbrook, Southill Alexander, Westoning Recreation Club, Wilshamstead, Woburn.

### **Division One**

AFC Kempston Town Reserves, Bedford Sports Athletic, Blunham Reserves, Caldecote Reserves, Campton Reserves, FC Meppershall, Flitwick Town, Henlow, Ickwell & Old Warden Reserves, Kempston, Kempston Hammers Sports, Leighton United, Marston Social, Meltis Albion, Sandy, Stevington.

### **Division Two**

Arlesey Social Galacticos, Bedford Hatters, Brache Sparta Community Reserves, Clifton, Elstow Abbey, Harpur FC, Great Barford, Kempston Royals, Kings AFC, Luton Old Boys, Marabese Ceramics, Marston Shelton Rovers, Meltis Corinthians Reserves, Potton Wanderers, Shefford Town, Shillington.

### **Division Three**

Caldecote A, Dunton Reserves, Lidlington United Sports, Marsh Leys, Mulberry Bush, Queens Park Crescents, Renhold Village, Riseley Sports Reserves, Sandy Reserves, Stopsley Park, Westoning Recreation Club Reserves, Wilshamstead Reserves.

### **Division Four**

AFC Goldington, Bedford Park Rangers, Clifton Reserves, Dinamo Flitwick, Eastcotts, Flitwick Town Reserves, Kempston Athletic, M&DH Oakley, Sharnbrook Reserves, Stewartby Village, Sundon Park Rangers, Thurleigh,

League Cup wise, the Premier Division supported by Sportsform clubs will compete for The Britannia Cup: Division One teams for The Centenary Cup: Division Two teams for The Jubilee Cup whilst Division Three and Four teams will play in a revamped Watson Shield.

The 24 teams being drawn into eight groups of three, playing each other on a home and away basis with the top two teams in each group going forward into the last 16 which will then see the competition revert to straight knock-out terms.

## **Pre-Season Friendly Fixture List**

### **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

Cheshunt XI v Southill Alexander 12.00 Midday

### **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009**

London Colney v Southill Alexander 7.30pm

### **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

Basildon United v Southill Alexander 2.00pm

Campton v Buntingford Town 2.30pm

61FC Luton v AFC Kempston Town 2.30pm

### **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

Campton v AFC Dunstable 7.00pm

### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2009**

Campton v Bedford Town Reserves 2.30pm

Dunton v Baldock Cannon 1.00pm

Dunton Reserves v Baldock Cannon Reserves 3.45pm

Halstead Town v Southill Alexander 3.00pm

Sandy v Henlow 2.00pm

Stewartby Village v Kempston Athletic 2.30pm

### **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

Caldecote v Bedford Town Reserves 6.30pm

Sandy v Wilshamstead 6.30pm

### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

Ickwell & Old Warden v Stotfold Reserves 6.30pm

Olney Town v Campton 7.00pm

### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

Campton v Shefford Town 2.30pm

Stewartby Village v Kings AFC 2.30pm

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

Sandy v Inter Cople 11.00am

### **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

Biggleswade Town v Southill Alexander 7.30pm

### **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

Sandy v Baldock Town Letchworth 6.30pm  
Stotfold Reserves v Campton 7.00pm

### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

Campton v Langford Reserves 2.30pm  
Kings AFC v Kempston Hammers 2.30pm  
JP Trophy Semi-Finals at Sandy FC, 1.00pm

### **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

Campton v Clifton 7.00pm

### **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2009**

Kings AFC v Clapham Colts 2.30pm  
JP Trophy 3<sup>rd</sup> Place and Final at Sandy FC 1pm  
Stewartby Village v Eastcotts 2.30pm

Please watch [www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk](http://www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk) News section for any addition fixtures or amendments to those above.

### **New Men at the Helm**

Several Bedfordshire County Football League clubs will go into the new season with a new man occupying the managers seat.

At Premier Division supported by sportsform, Biggleswade United Reserves, the duties will fall in the hands of John Parker who will be assisted by Craig Stevens. In recent seasons both men have been part of the clubs very successful youth set up whilst they coupled these duties with playing themselves at Caldecote A.

This coming campaign, Blunham will be in the hands of Ivan Finch who takes over the hot seat from the departing Kevin Smith, whilst just down the road on The Green at Ickwell & Old Warden, Alan Turner Junior and Vinny Govoni take over from Alan Turner Senior who will still remain with the club in his capacity as Vice Chairman. This is Alan Junior's first crack at management whilst for Vinny it will be a second crack after his spell at Caldecote in season 2007-08.

Over at Rectory Road, Campton the new boss is Jim Burke who last season was in control at fellow Premier Division supported by Sportsform club Oakley Sports, who following his departure have installed Dennis Tracey as his replacement. Dennis will be assisted by Jamie Endersby.

In Division One, AFC Kempston Town Reserves will now be under the control of Paul Brown and Gary Ingerson. Whilst at Groveside, the man given the responsibility of lifting Henlow back into the Premier Division at the first time of asking is Greg Hall who takes over the hot seat from Steve Worboys who will still remain with the club.

Changes are also afoot at Division One side Sandy FC. Daniel Bailey is taking over the first team role having for the past two seasons been in control of the clubs A team whilst the reserve team who will play in Division Three, will be under the control of Graham Ward who will be assisted by a returning to the club David Lloyd.

Sandy FC. reserve team manager of 2008-09 Richard Wheatley has left the club to take over the managers seat at Division Two side Great Barford, following the summer departure of Scott Moses.

Meanwhile, Division Four club Stewartby Village have appointed Mike Griffin as their new manager.

### **League Hits the Airways**

In recent weeks the Bedfordshire County Football League has been hitting the radio airways. On Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup> Premier Division supported by Sportsform managers Neil Mapletoft from 2008-09 Champions Caldecote FC and Barry Morris from Dunton FC were guests in the Biggles FM studio going out live on their Sportstalk programme in discussion with presenter Martin Humberstone as they reviewed the 2008-09 season and their hopes for the season ahead, Just seven days later on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July, League Media and Press Secretary, Peter Francis joined Martin for a live phone-in during which the leagues plans and hopes for 2009-10 and beyond came under focus.

Biggles FM is a private run radio station that hits the air for two weeks during the summer whilst the Biggleswade Carnival is taking place then again during the month leading up to Christmas during which the leagues results/news have a regular spot inside their Sportstalk programme.

Saturday July 10<sup>th</sup> was however to see the league hit the national airways when Sally Fletcher the secretary of the newly formed Premier Division supported by Sportsform Southill Alexander was interviewed on Radio Five's TalkSport show by Bobby Gould and Andy Goldstein who then suggested perhaps The Sports Bar Show could sponsor the club and follow its progress throughout the season..Talks to this effect are now taking place, the outcome of which we will tell you about in our next bulletin.

[www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk](http://www.bedfordshirefootballleague.co.uk)

If you cannot wait until our next bulletin to catch up with the latest news from within and around the Bedfordshire County Football League then the above website is the place to visit where all the latest news is posted on a daily basis.