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WEB WWW.EUFC.CO.UK EMAIL INFO@EUFC.CO.UK PHONE 01474 533796 HOME FRIENDLY 3 | EBBSFLEET UNITED v GILLINGHAM Pre-season | Tuesday July 22 2025











The visitors

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# Answers on page 34 | easers

- Two Fleet managers this century have played for Gillingham. Who are they?
- 2 Which famous Premier League and FA Cup winner and EFL manager spent his early years at Gillingham and played two pre-season games for the Fleet in the 1970s?
- 3 Jephte Tanga scored two of Fleet's goals against Gills in last season's Kent Senior Cup. Who scored the other?
- 4 Gillingham played one Football League game here at Stonebridge Road in 1961. Which former National League and now Championship club did they face?
- **5** Which non-league club adopted their women's team from what was Gillingham's women's side in 2023?
- 6 Jake Hessenthaler and Max Ehmer are new ex-Gills in the Fleet side but which four ex-Gills were released by us?
- **7** Which Irish international did the Fleet sign from Gillingham in 1980 and who then became manager at Priestfield in the Nineties?
- 8 Fleet lost 1-0 at Priestfield in last season's Kent Senior Cup Final to Welling. Which other Kent club beat us at the same venue by the same score in the 1991 final?



#### IISITORS' BUIDE

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#### NHAT THEY'UE HON

Second Division play-offs 1999/2000 Division Four/League Two 1963/64, 2012/13 Division Four/League Two promotions 1973/74, 1995/96, 2008/09 Southern League 1946/47, 1948/49 Southern League Lup 1946/47 Kent League 1945/46 Kent Senior Cup 1946. 1948

#### UHAT THEY LOOK LIKE

The off way HOME for

Gareth Ainsworth took the helm towards the end of what was a disappointing season in League Two for the Gills, but the former Wycombe boss didn't taste defeat in any of his nine

The visitors' retained list was somewhat larger than anticipated and it makes for quite a large squad to choose from for the Gills boss this evening.

league games since.

They come here having kicked off the summer with a 1-0 win at Dover and a 0-0 draw at home to Reading. Most recently, it was another Priestfield friendly, this time against Luton Town which ended in a 2-0 win for the relegated former

Premier League and Championship side.

Some of the new blood wearing blue this season includes former Wales international Sam Vokes (out injured tonight) who is joined by up and coming young striker Seb Palmer-Houlden who has had a lot of senior experience for a player still only 21.

The Gills open their League
Two campaign in less than two
weeks and have only one more
friendly – at Dartford – after
tonight's game so Ainsworth
may have in mind the side
he will look to field when
the season kicks off. For Josh
Wright, he has a little more
time and a few more games
before that decision.

# MCHARGE Gareth Ainsworth



Appointed in March this year, Ainsworth made more than 650 appearances during his playing career as a midfielder for the likes of Preston, Lincoln City, Port Vale, QPR and Wycombe. He progressed into management with the latter club and guided the Chairboys from League Two to the Championship in a nine-year stay. He subsequently managed QPR and Shrewsbury Town and departed Shropshire to take the helm at Priestfield in the spring, going unbeaten in his nine games in charge to the end of last season.



#### PRE-MATCH FORM: LAST FIVE GAMES

EBBSFLEET UNITE	<b>—</b>			GILLINGHAM —			
LEYTON ORIENT	JUL 19st	Н	L 1-4	LUTON TOWN	JUL 19th	Н	L 0-2
WEST HAM UTD	JUL 15th	Н	W 2-0	READING	JUL 12th	Н	D 0-0
AVELEY	JUL 12th	Α	D 0-0	DOVER ATHLETIC	JUL 8th	Α	W 1-0
PUNJAB UNITED	JUL 8th	Α	L 3-4	PORT VALE	MAY 3rd	Α	W 1-0
OLDHAM ATHLETIC	MAY 5th	Α	L 0-2	SWINDON TOWN	APR 26th	Н	D 1-1

### OUR LAST MEETING



Fleet 3-1 Gillingham October 8, 2024

The Fleet had to come from behind after the visitors found themselves with an early lead on 8 minutes when a floated free-kick into the area was met by Alex Giles. The defender's initial shot clipped the post but he was there to slot home from the rebound. The leveller arrived for Greg Cundle shortly before half-time. Wes Fonguck drove towards the byline from the left and drilled a ball into the area for Cundle to get on and bury a shot from close range. Three changes for the second period saw Jephte Tanga make an instant impact that swung the game the Fleet's way. Nine minutes passed before he made a run into the box and was brought down by Harry Webster. Tanga stepped up himself to take the spot kick that proved too much for the Gills keeper to keep out. Eight minutes later the third goal arrived and it was Tanga once again. Picking up the ball up on the right flank, he sprinted beyond the Gills back line and made no mistake in keeping his shot low and out of Holtam's reach to find the corner.

EUFC: Berry, Wakely (Domi 46), Olagunju, Omole, Anthony, Ondo (Dallison), Lawson, Tanner, Fonguck (Tanga 46), Randall (Manktelow 46), Cundle. Subs not used: Firth GFC: Holtam, Gale, Giles, Dobbs (Heasman

65), Webster, Walker, Skipper, Bayliss (Clark 74), Waldock, Sargent (White 82), Bridle. Subs not used: Sullivan, Orpwood

Attendance: 410

#### H2OG **ANDREWS**

#### **FORWARD**

#### Signed from

Birmingham City, Feb. 2024 Played for Rochdale, Accrington Stanley, Doncaster

Fact Solihull-born striker who played 45 times in the EFL on loan from Birmingham City before his move to Priestfield last year.



#### CRUZ BESZANT

#### **MIDFIELDER** Signed from

Gillingham Academy Fact Youth player who joined the U18s at the beginning of last season, he has been gaining experience alongside the first-team during this pre-season.



#### HARRY BRIDLE

#### **FORWARD**

Signed from Gillingham Academy Played for Sheppey,

Whitehawk

Fact Gills youth player who last season gained experence with Sheppey United and scored a hat-trick on loan at Whitehawk. He played here in the KSC.



#### MAK **CLARK**

#### DEFENDER

Signed from

Stevenage, July 2023 Played for Rochdale, Fleetwood Town, Vitesse, Cambridge United, Hull City

Fact Former England youth international who signed a new one-year contract with the Gills this summer



#### ETHAN COLEMAN

#### MIDFIELDER

#### Signed from

Leyton Orient, January 2023 Played for Bromley, King's Lynn Town, Brackley Town Fact Gillingham paid a fee to

take the 25-year-old Reading native from his loan spell at Bromley on a permanent deal to Priestfield.



# BRADLEY DACK

#### MIDFIELDER

Signed from

Sunderland, August 2024 Played for Blackburn Rovers, Ramsgate, Braintree Town

Fact Second spell at the club after a five-year stay from 2012-17. He has won promotion from both Leagues One and Two and was Gills player of the year.



#### SAM GALE

#### DEFENDER

Signed from

Gillingham Academy Played for Chelmsford City, Hastings United, Sheppey Utd Fact Won the club's young player of the year award last season having spent the previous two campaigns on loan in non-league.



#### JOE GBODE

#### FORWARD

Signed from

Gillingham Academy Played for Aveley, Maidstone, Hastings United, Margate gained senior experience in

Fact Another graduate to have non-league, the forward made his breakthrough last season, playing 34 times in League 2.



# TAITE Holtam

Sianed from Gillingham Academy Played for Ashford United, Phoenix Sports, Herne Bay Fact The 20-year-old made his



# REMEAO HUTTON

#### DEFENDER Sianed from

Swindon Town, January 2024 Played for Barrow, Stevenage, Yeovil Town, Hednesford Town Fact Previously scored at the Kuflink for Yeovil Town in 2019. He spent four years in Birmingham City's youth ranks

but didn't play a senior game.



#### HELSON KHUMBENI

#### MIDFIELDER

Sianed from

Bolton W, January 2025 Played for Accrington Stanley, Morecambe, AFC Fylde Fact The Malawi-born midfielder is a product of Norwich City's academy and moved to Bolton in 2022. He

cost the Gills a fee in January.



## **ARMANI**

#### MIDFIELDER

Sianed from

AFC Wimbledon, May 2024 Played for Forest Green, Torquay United, Woking, Oxford United, Southampton (youth) Fact Won promotion from the NLS with Woking in 2019

and has played more than 250 games in his career to date.



#### MICHAEL LUXTON

#### MIDFIELDER Sianed from

this pre-season.

Gillingham Academy Fact Current youth player who has been gaining experience alongside the first-team during



#### CONOR MOSTERSON

#### DEFENDER

Sianed from QPR, July 2023

Played for Cambridge United, Swindon Town, Liverpool

Fact Gills' player of the year in 2023/24 who featured in a couple of Liverpool first-team squads as a youngster. He is an ex-Eire youth international.



#### ROBBIE MCKENZIE

#### MIDFIELDER

Signed from Hull City, August 2020

Played for Hull City Fact After 26 appearances in the Championship, the defensive midfielder switched to League One with the Gills and has since made more than 150 appearances.



#### GLENN MORRIS

#### GOOLKEEPER

Sianed from

stay from 2014-16.

Crawley Town, January 2023 Played for Aldershot Town, Southend United, Leyton Orient Fact Experienced keeper aged 41 in his third spell with the Gills having joined again after a loan spell in 2022/23 and a first



#### ELLIOTT Neuitt

#### **FORWARD**

**Signed from** Crewe Alexandra, May 2024

**Played for** Tranmere Rovers, City of Liverpool

**Fact** Had five years in nonleague football in the northwest before attending college. He has scored 50 goals across 220 appearances since.



#### JACK Nolan

#### MIDFIELDER Signed from

Accrington Stanley, June 2024

Played for Walsall
Fact Ex-England youth
international winger aged 24
who cost the Gills a fee last
summer after three seasons
with Accrington.



#### SHAD OGIE

#### DEFENDER

Signed from

Leyton Orient, July 2023 **Played for** Aldershot Town,
Dover Athletic, Bishop's Stort. **Fact** Played against the Fleet 1

Fact Played against the Fleet for Orient in the FA Cup in 2021. A quick, aggressive player, he was another to cost the Gills a fee on signing in 2023.



# SEB PALMER—HOULDEN

#### Signed from

Signea iroin

Bristol City, June 2025

\*\*Played for\*\* Dundee, Newport, Yeovil Town, Chippenham Town

\*Fact\*\* New arrival who enjoyed

Fact New arrival who enjoyed a season-long loan in the SPL last season and before that was Newport County's Young Player of the Year.



#### AARON Rowe

#### MIDFIELDER

Signed from

Huddersfield Town, June 2024 **Played for** Crewe Alexandra, Stockport County, Bromley **Fact** A former teammate

of Fleet's Bellagambi and Olagunju at Huddersfield, the wide operator has 70-plus EFL appearances behind him.



#### STANLEY SKIPPER

#### MIDFIELDER

**Signed from**Gillingham Academy

**Played for** Ashford United, Bowers & Pitsea

Fact The nephew of Frank Lampard, he played here in the Kent Senior Cup last season. He is a former Academy player of the year.





Midfielder signed from Swindon Town in June 2023. The Kent-born veteran of several international tournaments with Wales, for whom he has 33 caps, has also played for Cardiff City, Charlton Athletic, Sunderland, MK Dons, Ipswich Town and Crystal Palace. He has two promotions with Charlton and Palace to his name.



#### ANDY SMITH

#### DEFENDER

#### Signed from

Hull City, June 2025

**Played for** Cheltenham Town, Grimsby Town

Fact Signed permanently last month having ended last season with the Gills on loan. He won the National League play-offs with Grimsby.



#### DAMIEN THEODORE

#### **FORWARD**

Signed from

Burgess Hill, February 2025 Played for AFC Varndenians Fact Exciting wide player who was a product of Burgess Hill Town's youth team and was signed for the Gills Academy side in February.



#### JAKE Turner

#### GOALKEEPER

Signed from

Newcastle United, June 2022 Played for Dagenham, Colchester, Morecambe, Darlington, Stalybridge Celtic Fact Played against us for Dagenham on loan in April. He has England caps at U18



#### SAM UOKES

#### **FORWARD**

Signed from

Wycombe W., June 2025 **Played for** Stoke City, Burnley, Wolves, Bournemouth **Fact** With 64 caps for Wales,

the new signing has bags of Premier League and Championship experience. Has played 650+ games.



#### HARRY WALDOCK

and U19 levels.

#### MIDFIELDER

Signed from

Gillingham Academy

Played for Ashford United Fact Central midfielder from the youth ranks who played here in the Kent Senior Cup last season. He ended 2024/25 on loan with Ashford in the Isthmian League.



#### HARRY Webster

#### DEFENDER

Signed from

Gillingham Academy

Played for Chatham Town

Fact An 18-year-old who
impressed in last year's preseason. He played here against
the Fleet in the Kent Senior Cup
last season and turned out 15
times for Chatham on loan.



#### EUAN Williams

#### MIDFIELDER

Signed from

Charlton Athletic, August 2024 Played for Charlton (youth)
Fact A Bexley-born Northern
Ireland U21 international. He
is a skilful, high-energy and
industrious midfield player who
can play in the No.10 role.



#### MARCUS Wyllie

#### FORWARD

Signed from

Chesham United.

Enfield Town, July 2024

Played for Dagenham & Red., Risborough Rangers

Fact Cyprus-born forward who played youth football on the island before moving to Enoland and starting out with



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# COMBINED XI



THE FLEET | THE GILLS



#### It's never difficult to find enough players for a mutual Fleet-Gills side from the many who have played for both clubs

#### **GOALKEEPER**

#### TOM HADLER

Shared No.1 duties here with Jordan Holmes in 2020/21 before moving to Maidstone where he won this division and later Ramsgate. He came through the Gills' youth ranks but made only a few senior appearances.

#### **DEFENDERS**

#### MATT FISH

A right-back who excelled for Dover before playing 75 times for Gillingham from 2011–15. Jamie Day brought him to the Fleet in 2015 and he played 58 games but sustained an injury towards the end of the 2015/16 campaign.

#### ADRIAN PENNOCK

The current Dartford boss was a key Gills figure as a player from 1996-2003. His brief spell after injury in the Fleet ranks was crucial to our survival in the Conference in 2003. He later managed the Gills in 2017.

#### DAVE GALVIN

Fleet player manager for 14 months 1980-82, he had been signed from Wimbledon for our first season in the Alliance Premier. Before the Dons, he turned out 250 times for the Gills from 1969-77. ELIOT MARTIN

Part of our Ryman title-winning team in 2001/02, the full-back had made 60 Football League appearances for the Gills from 1991-95 and was a key part of Margate's rise through the Nineties.

#### **MIDFIELDERS**

#### CLINT EASTON

Larger-than-life promotion-winner with the Fleet in 2010/11, having made 57 appearances in two years. A midfielder or defender, he played for Watford, Norwich City, Wycombe and for the Gills in 2006/07.

#### LUKE ROONEY

Signed by Jamie Day for the Fleet in 2015, he only played six times in the final month of the season. He had started out with Gillingham, staying from 2007–12 as well as Swindon and he later moved into management.

#### RASHID YUSSUFF

Played eight games and scored once for the Fleet in April 2009 on loan from Charlton. His next club was Gillingham for seven games of the following season before he established himself at AFC Wimbledon. Later played in Malta, Poland and Iceland.

#### JIMMY BOSWELL

Wing half who played almost 500 games for the Gills from 1946–58, helping them from the Kent League to Football League. He joined the Fleet for a season in 1958/59, playing 24 times as we finished runners-up.

#### **FORWARDS**

#### STEFAN PAYNE

Much-travelled striker who did well here in a short spell in 2013, having played for Gillingham from 2010-12. He was last at Punjab United.

#### JAMES PINNOCK

Came through the Gills youth setup to appear eight times for the first-team from 1996-2000. He spent two years with the Fleet from 2003-05, playing 74 times and scoring 12 times. He moved on to Welling, Margate and Maidstone. Can still be spotted locally at parkruns on a Saturday morning!



© Ed Miller / EUFC

KUFLINK STADIUM FRIENDLY





APPIAH 45'

CONNOLLY 7', CLARE 19', CARTER 81', JAIYESIMI 82'

Fleet starting XI: Cousins, Coker, Ehmer, Fielding, Passley (Moncur 46), Chapman, Hessenthaler, Edser, Barnes, Cosgrave, Appiah EUFC 60 minutes: Bellagambi, Seaman, Olagunju, Ehmer (Uma 75), Nelson, Kennedy, Peake, Moncur, Manktelow, Coley, Samuel





Summer storms couldn't stop this game from going ahead as a strong Leyton Orient side – who scored 15 goals on their travels already this pre-season – added two late efforts to give this scoreline more daylight than Fleet's efforts deserved. In torrential rain for the opening half, Orient's first chance of the match was also their opening goal. A looping ball from the back picked out Aaron Connolly. He took the ball around Mark Cousins despite a hint of offside and although pushed wide, he still had the space to pick a spot with the ball bouncing over the head of Jamie Fielding who had made a diving attempt to head clear off the line.

The visitors doubled their advantage when Tyreeq Bakinson dropped a ball over the back line, again with shouts for offside from the red shirts, and Sean Clare was able to get on the end of it and fire over Cousins for 2-0. In the final minute before half-time, Cosgrave received a ball from the right and turned in front of his marker to find Kwesi Appiah arriving in the box and his shot went in off the post.

Orient added two late goals in the second-half, although Fleet had two or three chances to equalise before the League One side eventually wrapped up the victory.







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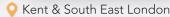
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NOVEMBER



HOME Tue 25 Nov



**AWAY** Sat 29 Nov



HOME Sat 6 Dec



FA TROPHY R3 **TBC** Sat 13 Dec



CHELMSFORD CITY **AWAY** Sat 20 Dec



HOME Fri 26 Dec



Tue 30 Dec

















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Tue 27 Jan

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Sat 31 Jan

**AWAY** Sat 7 Feb

FEBRUARY -













MARCH



MARCH



**AWAY** Sat 14 Mar



HOME Sat 21 Mar



HOME Sat 28 Mar





HOME Mon 6 Apr



**AWAY** Sat 11 Apr



HOME Sat 18 Apr

APRIL



#### OTHER KEY DATES

Sat 11 Oct Emirates FA Cup Q4 Sat Nov 1 Emirates FA Cup R1 Sat Dec 6 Emirates FA Cup R2 Sat Jan 10 Isuzu FA Trophy R4 Sat Jan 31 Isuzu FA Trophy R5

Sat Feb 28 Isuzu FA Trophy QF Sat Mar 28 Isuzu FA Trophy SF Sat/Sun May 9/10 Promotion Finals Sat May 17 Isuzu FA Trophy Final









# WHEN THE GILLS COME TO TOWN

You're sure to see either a familar face or a future one in a Fleet-Gills friendly



#### **GILLINGHAM'S VISITS to**

the Fleet for pre-season are not as regular as you might think in recent times. Indeed it's seven years since a Gills side last played here in a summer friendly, a 2-0 win for the Fleet that was memorable for a wonder goal by Ebou Adams, now captaining Derby County in the Championship.

The player he beat to the ball that day with a sublime







overhead kick was none other than Luke O'Neill and the goalkeeper who never stood a chance was Tom Hadler – both future Fleet players. Also in the Gills squad that day was Ben Chapman (who was also on the wrong end of a result against the Fleet in the FA Youth Cup four years earlier).

Former Gills Danny Kedwell, Jack Payne and Myles Weston also lined up against their old side that day.

It begs the question as you watch along this afternoon, especially with Chapman, Josh Wright, Max Ehmer and Jake Hessenthaler in our ranks, could you be watching more future Fleet players turning out for the opposition?

It's certainly been a factor of previous friendlies – and here's a few of them...

#### 2014 EUFC 1-0 GILLS

Charlie Sheringham grabbed the only goal of the game against a Gills side featuring future Fleet players Kedwell, Joe Martin, Jermaine McGlashan, Cody McDonald, Antonio German and Jake Hessenthaler.

Two more Gills players that day – goalkeeper Glen Morris and midfielder Bradley Dack – could play today 11 years on,



having moved away and returned to Priestfield in the intervening period.

#### 2013 EUFC 2-0 GILLS

This was only a Gillingham XI featuring a largely youthful side including a 19-year-old earning his first professional contract - Jake Hessenthaler. The Fleet also included a former Gillingham face, namely our new signing from Dover, Dean Rance. This was one of the first matches at Stonebridge Road following the KEH Sports takeover.

#### 2012 EUFC 2-3 GILLS

The Gills' last win at Stonebridge Road, the visitors included Kedwell (who scored a brace), Martin, Jack Payne (who signed here in 2017) and Matt Fish, who would go on to sign for us in 2015. The Fleet lineup included ex-Gill Craig Stone.

#### 2011 EUFC 1-0 GILLS

Dennis Oli and goalkeeper Daren Hawkes turned out for the Gills, Hawkes returning

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only months after becoming a Fleet hero for standing in as an emergency loan player for Preston Edwards in the play-offs. Oli had played for us previously in a brief loan spell in 2004. Also in the Gills squad were Rance, Martin and Stefan Payne.

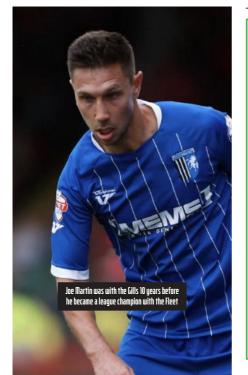
#### 2010 EUFC 1-2 GILLS

Goalkeeper Lance Cronin made his return to Stonebridge Road for the first time as a Gillingham player in a visiting lineup that also included Stefan Payne, one-time player of the year Mark Bentley and ex-loanee John Nutter. On the Fleet side, ex-Gills Craig Stone, Clint Easton and Ashley Carew continued the crossover tradition of this game.













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#### Off the back of the Club World Cup in America, we look at a previously troubled setup on that continent

Football has had a rocky history in North America. Despite some initial success in the 1920s and a boost in popularity from exceptional European teams who were paid to tour there, it has been difficult for the world's most popular sport to gain a foothold in a land where native sports - American 'football', ice hockey and baseball - reign supreme. That has not prevented ambitious people from trying to grow the game though, and with the growth of the MLS and the recent formation of the Canadian Soccer League, maybe they have finally found a

way to make their game sustainable. A word that was disastrously untrue of the Canadian Professional Soccer League of 1983.

In some ways, it's easy to see why Canada's football authorities saw 1983 as the ideal time to start a league. The 1982 World Cup had brought new fans to the game, and the North American Soccer League (a forerunner to the MLS) was entering its fifth season, apparently showing that the game could indeed survive and thrive in North America. There were Canadian

teams in the NASL: the Calgary Boomers, the Edmonton Drillers and the Vancouver Whitecaps, who had European stars like Alan Ball and Ruud Krol playing for them, along with exciting youngsters Bruce Grobbelaar and Peter Beardsley. But Canadian fans struggled to travel the distance to see their team play in San Jose, Los Angeles or Houston, and those long journeys caused significant financial distress. The CPSL would apparently solve that problem, bringing football north of the border in the first fully national competition.

Unfortunately, and seemingly a surprise to the Canadian Soccer Association, Canada itself is the size of a continent. even when you exclude the United States. In an effort to keeps costs low, the CSA required only a \$50,000 fee for owners to enter a team into the new competition (vastly reduced from the NASL requirement), and budget caps were introduced. Each squad was limited to just 16 players, with a maximum of five internationals. The league ran with FIFA's rules. unlike the NASL which had attempted to generate more interest with American-style rules that they thought made for a better spectacle. Despite this, attendances remained low throughout the competition.

The original plan had been to hold the league in two groups - an eastern and a western conference - with finals between each group's champions. But initially only five teams were interested in joining the league; Edmonton Eagles, Hamilton Steelers, Mississauga Croatia, Toronto Nationals and FC Inter-Montreal. A sixth team from Kitchener pulled out, but were replaced before the season started by the Calgary Mustangs. The league was reformatted into one, single, nationwide group.

In the weeks before the season started, the owner of the NASL's Montreal Manic announced that he was going to turn his team into

Team Canada, presumably as a means to head off the threat posed by the CPSL. This was an unexpected blow, and the Canadian Soccer Association turned its attention to this new Team Canada, allowing the CPSL to flounder before it had even begun. Regardless, the season kicked off. It was a disaster.

On 21st May, the first game of the new league saw the Toronto Nationals play FC Inter-Montreal in front of just 3,000 supporters. Weeks later, ignoring his league commitments, the Toronto owner entered his team into a friendly tournament with Marseille, Udinese and Avellino. The Europeans also played Hamilton and Mississauga on their tour of the country, disrupting the CPSL.

Despite these revenues, on 20th June, less than a month after the start of the new season, Toronto folded. Montreal did the same on the very same day. A month into the first ever season, the CPSL had

lost a third
of its clubs.
Within
weeks, with
just four
teams, it
was decided
to cancel the
season and advance

directly to the playoffs, which had a four-team format anyway. Edmonton Eagles won the final game 2-0, and took the first and only Canadian title back to Edmonton.

The league announced its closing the very next day. The successful NASL, meanwhile, would last only one more season, folding in 1984.

Peter Beardsley playing for

Vancouver Whitecaps

It has been 40 years since that experiment, and North American football is still struggling to find its feet. While the MLS seems finally to have stabilised, helped by the arrival of Beckham, Zlatan and Messi, the new Canadian league is much younger, having been founded only in 2019. Of the finalists from the CPSL, the new Edmonton franchise folded in 2022, but Hamilton (now Forge, not Steelers) have won four of the five Canadian Premier League titles.

It's not as flashy as its southern counterpart, it's not as rich as its European rivals, but maybe, this time, Canadian football can survive.

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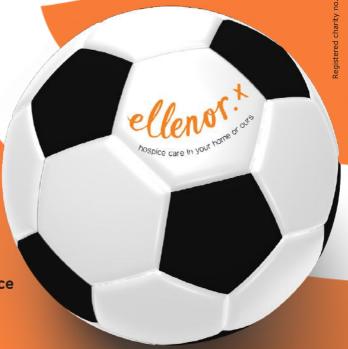
# SUPPORTING THE GREATER GOAL





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		ISON STA							П	-TE	E
	DATE	OPPONENTS	SCOR	E VENUE, ATTENDANCE	REFEREE	SQUAD					
	SAT 10	GATESHEAD	1-5	International Stadium / 1,242	M.McQuillan	Cousins	O'Neill 📒	Page 📒	Cordner =	John 📙	Wright
<u>ا</u>	SAT 17	BARNET	1-2	Kuflink Stadium / 1,636	S.Copeland	Cousins	O'Neill	Page	Cordner 🛮	Phillips	Wright
AUGUST	TUE 20	YEOUIL TOWN	2-3	Huish Park / 3,295	G.Rollason	Cousins	O'Neill	Page 😛	Dallison _	John	Wright
B	SAT 24	WOKING	0-3	Kuflink Stadium / 1,575	A.Farmer	Cousins	O'Neill	Page	Cordner	Dallison	Domi
4	MON 26	BRAINTREE TOWN	0-0	Cressing Road / 1,313	L.Impey	Cousins	Phillips	Page	Cordner	Dallison	Wright
м	SAT 31	FC HALIFAX TOWN	0-1	Kuflink Stadium / 1,379	S.Morland	Cousins	Phillips	Page	Cordner 🗌	Dallison 🗌	Wright
Œ	SAT 07	ALTRINCHAM	0-4	Moss Lane / 2,074	J.Westgate	Cousins	Phillips	Page	Cordner	Dallison	Wright
	TUE 10	ALDERSHOT TOWN	0-0	Kuflink Stadium / 1,175	F.Hallam	Cousins	O'Neill	Page 📙	Olagunju	Dallison	Domi
SEPTEMBER	SAT 14	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	1-0	Kuflink Stadium / 1,424	0.Mackey	Cousins	Chapman	Page	Olagunju	Dallison	Wright
ᆸ	SAT 21	SUTTON UNITED	2-3	Gander Green Lane / 3,131	R.Eley	Cousins	Chapman	Page	Olagunju	Dallison	Wright
	TUE 24	MAIDENHEAD UNITED	1-2	York Road / 1,006	E.Swallow	Cousins	Chapman	Domi	Olagunju 📕	Dallison _	Wright 🌣
	SAT 28	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	1-2	Kuflink Stadium / 1,589	A.Farmer	Cousins	John	Page	Olagunju	Dallison	Wright
	TUE 01	WEST BROM U21 HC	2-2	Kuffink Stadium / 213 (5-4 on PENS)	A.Byrne	Berry	Phillips	Anthony	Olagunju	Chapman	Lawson
æ	SAT 05	ROCHDALE	2-2	Kuffink Stadium / 1,452	W.Cartmel	Cousins	Kane	Cundle	John	Dallison	Wright
OCTOBER	TUE 08	GILUNGHAM KSG R2	3-1	Kuflink Stadium / 410	N.Dunn	Berry	Wakely	Omole	Olagunju	Anthony Dallison	Ondo Weight
ē	SAT 12	MAIDSTONE UTD / FAC 40 York City	0·3 0·4	Gallagher Stadium / 2,910 LNER Community Stadium / 5,716	F.Hallam J.Bancroft	Cousins Cousins	Kane	Sougre	John John	Stewart	Wright Wright
딜	SAT 19 Tue 22	FOREST GREEN ROUERS	1-3	The New Lawn / 1,311	W.Davis	Cousins	Stewart	Souare _	John	Dallison	Wright
-	SAT 26	WEALDSTONE	2-2	Kuflink Stadium / 1,498	R.Martin	Cousins	Stewart	Souare	Domi	Dallison	Wright
	TUE 29	TOTTENHAM U21 HIG	11	Kuffink Stadium / 865 (4-5 on PENS)	E.Swallow	Berry	Wakely	Cordner	Domi 🗌	Dallison	Lawson
	SAT 09	TAMWORTH	11	The Lamb Ground / 1,141	B.Wyatt	Cousins	Kane	Chapman	Cordner _	Stewart	Wright
NOV'BER	SAT 16	SOUHULL MOORS	0-6	Kuflink Stadium / 1664	P.Johnson	Cousins	Kane	Chapman	Cordner	Stewart	Wright
I≊I	WED 27	EASTLEIGH	0-1	Kuflink Stadium / 1,023	A.Farmer	Cousins	O'Neill	Chapman 📙	Cordner	Stewart	Wright
	SAT 30	BOSTON UNITED	0.0	Kuflink Stadium / 1,563	B.Atkinson	Cousins	O'Neill	Chapman	Wakely	Stewart	Wright
œ	SAT 07	SUTTON UNITED / FAT R3	3-3	Gander Green Lane / 955 (2-4 on PENS)	G.Rhodes	Norman	Stewart	Souare	Cordner -	John	Kane 🚓
쌞	TUE 10	AFC FYLDE	0-2	Mill Farm / 963	P.Cooper	Berry	Stewart	Souare _	Cordner	Davies	Wright
Σ	SAT 14	BARNET	1-4	The Hive / 1,583	O.Mackey	Cousins	Dallison	Souare	Cordner	John	Kane
DECEMBER	SAT 21	GATESHEAD	1-4	Kuflink Stadium / 1,275	A.Humphries	Cousins	O'Neill	Page	Cordner 🙉	Dallison 🗌	Domi
	THU 26	SOUTHEND UNITED	0-4	Roots Hall / 8,423	A.Dale	Cousins	O'Neill	Page	Cordner	Dallison	Kane
П	WED 01	DAGENHAM & RED.	0-2	Kuflink Stadium / 1,395	K.Dowle	Cousins	O'Neill	Kane	Cordner	Olagunju	Domi
_	TUE 07	WEST HAM U21 NC	1-2	Kuflink Stadium / 508	J.Oldham	Goddard	Chapman	Kane	Dallison	Olagunju	Davies
IANUARY	SAT 11	BOSTON UNITED	2-2	Jakemans Stadium / 1,909	C.Walchester	Cousins	O'Neill	Kane	Dallison	Olagunju	Domi _
	TUE 14	YEOUIL TOWN	11	Kuflink Stadium / 1,125	R. MassEllis	Cousins	Chapman	Kane	Dallison	Olagunju 📕	Cordner
I	SAT 18	WOKING	11	Kingfield / 2,048	R.Martin	Cousins	O'Neill	Chapman	Dallison _	Stewart	Domi _
ורו	TUE 21	NOTTM FOREST U21 NLC	1:1	Kuflink Stadium / 215 (2-1 on PENS)	S.Parkinson	Firth	Domi	Lankshear	Wakely	Olagunju 📙	Manktelow
ш	SAT 25	BRAINTREE TOWN	0-1	Kuflink Stadium / 1,385	D.Baines	Cousins	O'Neill	Stewart	Dallison	Olagunju 📙	Chapman
_	SAT 01	FC HALIFAX TOWN	0-2	The Shay / 1,465	S.Morland	Cousins	O'Neill	Stewart	Dallison	Olagunju	Lankshear
EBRUARY	SAT 08	ROCHDALE	0-0	Crown Oil Arena / 2,134	W.Cartmel	Cousins	Passley	Stewart	Dallison	Olagunju	Lankshear
<b>₩</b>	WED 12	BROMLEY KSC QUARTER FINAL	1:1	Kuflink Stadium / 244 (4-2 on PENS)	J.Williams	Firth	Chapman	Stewart	Manktelow	Ky. Thomas	Carr
<u></u>	SAT 15	YORK CITY	0-2	Kuflink Stadium / 1,745	A.Dale	Covolan	Passley 🗌	Stewart	Dallison	Olagunju 📙	Lankshear
	TUE 18	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	0-0	Kuflink Stadium / 1,057	A.Farmer	Cousins	Passley	Stewart	Dallison 🗌	Olagunju	Lankshear
Н		WEALDSTONE	2-4	Grosvenor Vale / 1,401	D. Baines	Cousins	Passiey	Stewart	Dallison	Olagunju	Lankshear
		TAMWORTH	2-3	Kuflink Stadium / 1,322	C.Walchester		Passley -	Stewart	Dallison	Domi	Lankshear
ェ		EASTLEIGH	0-2 1-9	Silverlake Stadium / 2,090	S.Mulhall A.Jackson	Cousins	Passley Lankshear	Stewart	Dallison Dallison	Chapman Chapman	Lankshear
MARCH	SAT 08	SOLIHULL MOORS	1.0	ARMCO Arena / 848 Kuflink Stadium / 1,215	A.Jackson I.Searle	Cousins	O'Neill	Page	Chapman	Olagunju	Chapman Lankshear 💮 🚱
Į Į	SAT 15 Tue 18	AFC FYLDE TONBRIDGE KSC SEMI FINAL	1-0 1-0	Kuflink Stadium / 1,215 Kuflink Stadium / 501	B.McDonald	Goddard	Manktelow	Page Anthony &	Cordner	Olagunju Olagunju 📙	Ky. Thomas
	-	ALDERSHOT TOWN	3-3	EBB Stadium / 2,685	W.Davis	Cousins	O'Neill	Mankfelow	Passley	Olagunju _	Chapman
		ALTRINCHAM	2-2	Kuflink Stadium / 1,173	N.Smith	Cousins	O'Neill	Manktelow	Stewart	Olagunju 🛞	Chapman
		WELLING UNITED KSG FINAL	0:1	Priestfield Stadium / 1,132	J.Dann-Pye	Goddard	O'Neill	Cordner	Olagunju -	Chapman -	Aoraha
	SAT 05	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	2-3	Prestige Group Stadium / 4,156	J.Mulligan	Cousins	O'Neill	Manktelow @		Chapman	Aoraha
뤁	SAT 12	SUTTON UNITED	4-1	Kuflink Stadium / 1,295	D.Brown	Cousins	O'Neill	Manktelow	Olagunju 🐵	Chapman	Passley
⋖				Chigurell Construction Ct. (1717	A Quolob			Manktolow		Chanman	Pussicy

FRI 18 DAGENHAM & RED.

MON 21 SOUTHEND UNITED

MON 05 OLDHAM ATHLETIC

MAIDENHEAD UNITED

SAT 26

0-4 Kuflink Stadium / 3,125

0-2 Kuffink Stadium / 1,312

0-2 Boundary Park / 7,493

0-1 Chigwell Construction St. / 1,747

A.Queich

P.Johnson

R.Aspinall

A.Humphries

Cousins

Cousins

Cousins

Goddard

O'Neill

O'Neill

Lankshear

Lankshear

Manktelow

Lankshear

Lankshear

Olagunju

Olagunju

Olagunju

Olagunju 📉

Chapman

Chapman

Chapman

Chapman 📙

Passley

Aoraha

Bolger

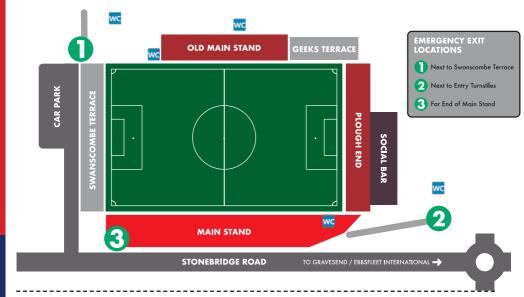
Manktelow

KEY
Yellow Card
Red Card

First Sub Fourth Sub Second Sub Fifth Sub Third Sub HOME FIXTURES IN RED AWAY FIXTURES IN BLUE

■ Red Card Inira Sub					
					SUBSTITUTES
Kellermann -	Chapman	Edser	Samuel	Poleon 🗭	Thomas, Dallison, Fonguck, Phillips, Tanner   Cundle, Berry
Kellermann	Chapman	Domi	Samuel _	Thomas -	Poleon @P, Edser, Fonguck, Tanner, John   Cundle, Berry
Kellermann	Chapman	Fonguck	Tanner	Thomas	Samuel Q. Poleon, Edser, Domi . Cundle I Cordner, Berry
Kellermann	Chapman 🗌	Edser	Samuel	Poleon	Wright, Tanga, Tanner, Cundle   Fonguck, Phillips, Berry
Kellermann -	Fonguck	Cundle	Tanga	Samuel	Poleon, Edser, Domi I O'Neill, Chapman, Tanner, Berry
Kellermann 📗	Fonguck	Cundle	Dallison	Poleon	Edser, Ondo, Domi, Chapman, Tanner I O'Neill, Berry
Randall	Chapman	Edser	Bingham _	Poleon	Domi, Fonguck, Kellermann, Thomas, O'Neill I Olagunju, Berry
Kellermann	Chapman	Edser	Bingham	Poleon	Fonguck, Randall, Tanner, Cordner   Cundle, Tanga, Berry
Fonguck	Domi 📙	Edser	Randall	Bingham 🏵	Cundle, Tanga, John I Cordner, Phillips, Tanner, Berry
Fonguck	Domi 😳	Tanner	Randall	Bingham	Poleon Q. Lawson, John, Tanga I Cundle, Ondo, Berry
Fonguck	Lawson	Tanner	Bingham	Poleon	Cundle, Randall I Page, John, Tanga, Anthony, Berry
Fonguck	Chapman	Lawson	Domi	Poleon ®P	Cundle, Tanner, Tanga, Randall I Ondo, Phillips, Berry
Domi 🚱	Ondo 🛞	Tanner 📘	Randali	Tanga	Cundle, Kane, Thomas, Wright, Dallison I John, Firth
Domi	Chapman	Tanner	Tanga	Poleon	Lawson, Bingham (P. Randall, Wakely I Olagunju, Anthony, Berry
Fonguck	Lawson	Tanner	Randali	Cundle 🛞	Tanga (P. Manktelow, Domi, Dallison   Firth
Kellermann	Chapman	Tanner	Tanga	Bingham	Stewart, Fonguck, Thomas, Lawson   Cundle, Olagunju, Berry
Kellermann	Fonguck	Tanner	Domi	Thomas	Cosgrave, Bingham , Poleon, Lawson, Chapman I Wakely, Berry
Kellermann	Chapman	Tanner	Cosgrave	Poleon	Cundle, Fonguck ↔ , Domi, Thomas I Bingham, Wakely, Berry
Chapman	Fonguck	Bingham 🛮	Cosgrave 🛞	Poleon	Thomas 🚯 Tanner, Tanga, Lawson I John, Wakely, Berry
Kellermann 🗌	Chapman 🛞 📙	Tanner 📙	Thomas	Poleon	Fonguck, Tanga, Olagunju, Manktelow, John, Cundle   Firth
Kellermann	Domi	Edser	Cosgrave 🌣	Thomas	Tanner, Wakely I Bingham, Fonguck, Poleon, Souaré, Berry
Kellermann	Tanga	Edser	Cosgrave	Thomas	Davies ■, Fonguck, Tanner, Wakely I John, Dallison, Berry
Domi	Tanga	Edser	Cosgrave	Bingham	Dallison, Kane, Poleon, Manktelow I Fonguck, Wakely, Berry
Kane	Tanga	Edser	Cosgrave 🗌	Bingham 📙	Souare, Manktelow, Domi., Poleon, Fonguck   Dallison, Berry
Domi	Manktelow	Edser	Cosgrave 🌣	Bingham	Harriott ♠, Dallison   Wright, Tanga, Firth
Aoraha	Harriott	Edser _	Cosgrave	Thomas	Manktelow, Tanga, Ky. Thomas, Domi, Bingham I Wakely, Berry
Aoraha	Davies	Edser 📙	Harriott 📉	Thomas	Poleon 🗭, Cosgrave, Domi, Bingham, Manktelow I Tanga, Berry
Aoraha	Davies	Tanner	Bingham	Poleon	Souare, Cosgrave, Mankfelow, Thomas, Tanga I Anthony, Berry
Aoraha <mark>-</mark>	Harriott	Edser	Cosgrave	Poleon	Souare, Manktelow, Thomas, Tanga, Domi I Tanner, Berry
Edser	Davies	Bingham	Cosgrave	Poleon	Tanga, Manktelow, Aoraha, Thomas I Chapman, Tanner, Berry
Aoraha	Moncur	Bingham	Samuel	Poleon	Domi, Odokonyero John, Mankfelow, Wakely I Anthony, Firth
Edser	Moncur 🌣	Harriott	Cosgrave 🐽	Thomas	Aoraha, Samuel, Bingham, Mankfelow I Odokonyero, Stewart, Goddard
Aoraha 🗌	Moncur	Edser	Cosgrave 🟵	Thomas	Davies, Stewart, Samuel, Manktelow, Bingham   Odokonyero, Goddard
Aoraha	Moncur 🌣	Edser _	Cosgrave	Thomas	Samuel, Manktelow   Bingham, Odokonyero, Carr, Lankshear, Goddard
Aoraha	Tanga	Bingham	Samuel	Odokonyero	Stewart, Tanner, Chapman, Moncur, Thomas @I Edser, Cousins
Aoraha	Moncur	Edser 📙	Cosgrave	Thomas 📙	Lankshear, Manktelow, Tanga, Samuel I Carr, Odokonyero, Firth
Aoraha	Moncur	Edser	Samuel	Thomas	Domi, Odokonyero, Tanga□, Manktelow I John, Carr, Firth
Bolger	Moncur	Edser	Domi	Cosgrave	Chapman, Thomas, Manktelow I Bingham, Samuel, Aoraha, Firth
Aoraha	Tanga	Bingham	Samuel	Odokonyero	Olagunju, Domi, Thomas, Cosgrave⊕ I Bolger
Bolger	Moncur	Edser 📙	Domi	Cosgrave	Chapman, Thomas, Manktelow, Samuel, Bingham I Aoraha, Firth
Bolger	Moncur	Edser	Bingham	Thomas	Domi, Cosgrave, Chapman   Samuel, Manktelow, Aoraha, Covolan
Bolger	Moncur	Edser	Domi	Cosgrave	Chapman ■, Carr, Samuel, Thomas, Mankfelow I Bingham, Firth
Bolger	Moncur	Edser	Samuel	Cosgrave	Harriott, Thomas, Manktelow, Chapman, Bingham I Page, Carr
Bolger	Moncur	Edser	Domi	Samuel	Thomas, Page , Cosgrave, Carr, Bingham   Manktelow, Harriott
Bolger	Moncur	Edser	Cosgrave	Samuel	Thomas 🌣 P 🖪 , Aoraha, Domi, Manktelow, Bingham I Stewart, Firth
Bolger	Aoraha	Moncur	Domi	Cosgrave	Passley, Bingham, Thomas, Mankfelow I Poleon, Carr, Firth
Carr	Aoraha 🗌	Bingham	Poleon	Thomas	Edser, Chapman, Domi, Cosgrave I O'Neill
Bolger	Moncur 🗭	Edser	Domi 🌣	Cosgrave O	Anthony T. Thomas, Poleon Carr I Bingham, Aoraha, Goddard
Bolger	Moncur	Edser	Domi	Cosgrave 🛞	Cundle, Bingham, Poleon, Curr I Anthony, Aoraha, Goddard
Carr	Moncur	Cundle	Bingham	Poleon	Manktelow, Domi, Bolger, Cosgrave, Anthony
Carr	Bolger	Edser	Moncur	Cosgrave 😘	Hurrioff, Pussley   Wright, Anthony, Goddard
Carr ®	Bolger	Edser	Moncur	Cosgrave 👀	Aoraha, Harriott I Poleon, Aoraha, Goddard
Carr	Bolger	Edser	Moncur	Cosgrave	Poleon, Aoruho, Horriott I Tanga, Anthony, Goddard
Carr	Bolger	Edser	Moncur	Cosgrave	Poleon, Harrioff   Wright, Tanga, Anthony, Goddard
Carr	Edser	Moncur	Poleon	Cosgrave	Tanga, Harriott, Manktelow I Wright, Anthony, Aoraha, Goddard
Carr	Bolger	Edser -	Moncur	Cosgrave	Poleon   Wright, Tanga, Ky. Thomas, Anthony, Cousins

# THE KUFLINK STADIUM EMERGENCY EXITS





# TONIGHT'S REFEREE : AJI AJIBOLA

Erith-based Kent FA official Mr Ajibola was most recently in charge of the Fleet for our 1-1 draw at Woking in 2023/24 and before that in the Kent Senior Cup penalties win at Bromley in 2022. He also stood in as a late replacement here at the Kuflink Stadium for the 3-2 derby defeat to Maidstone during lockdown, in November 2020. He is on various bodies in his role as referee including as CEO and co-founder of BAMREF, National Games Communities Representative on the FA Council, as well as with the PGMOL and KCFA. As well as National League games, he has also refereed in the Premier League 2 and served as fourth official in the EFL and Emirates FA Cup.

#### Quiz answers from page 3

- 1. Andy Ford and Josh Wright; 2. Steve Bruce; 3. Greg Cundle; 4. Wrexham; 5. Chatham Town;
- 6. Luke O'Neill, Greg Cundle, Lewis Page and Callum Harriott; 7. Damian Richardson; 8. Dover Athletic



#### SATURDAY JULY 26 - HOME KING'S LYNN TOWN - 2.00PM

It's been more than five years since the Linnets last came here (then it was an FA Trophy tie), during which time they've been in the National League and currently National North, where they reached the play-offs last season. As such, it should be a good measure of the kind of test facing the Fleet with the league season just a fortnight away. Under new management this summer, King's Lynn have introduced new players including former Bromley striker Adam Marriott. They recently drew 1-1 with a Peterborough XI.



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MAIIAVEN	ooon walom
1	MARK COUSINS
2	CHARLIE SEAMAN
3	BEN COKER
4	JAKE HESSENTHALER
5	MAX EHMER
6	TOM DALLISON
7	JOSH PASSLEY
<u></u>	TOBY EDSER
9	AARON COSGRAVE
10	KWESI APPIAH
<u> </u>	GEORGE MONCUR
12	RONNY NELSON
13	GIO BELLAGAMBI
14	DOMINIC SAMUEL
<u>15</u>	JAMIE FIELDING
<u>16</u>	FRANKLIN DOMI
<u>17</u>	LENNON PEAKE
<u>18</u>	GENE KENNEDY
19	FINLAY BARNES
20	MAKK MANKTELOW
21	JOSH COLEY
22	BEN CHAPMAN

# OFFICIALS

23 24

REFEREE AJI AJIBOLA

DAN DOYLE | JORDAN RANT FOURTH OFFICIAL BEN MCDONALD

**ELIJAH ANTHONY** 

MUSTAPHA OLAGUNJU

**ASSISTANTS** 



US



IANAGER	MARK ROBSOI

**JOSH ANDREWS** MAH CLARK **ETHAN COLEMAN BRADLEY DACK** SAM GALE JOE GBODE

#### TAITE HOLTAM

REMEAO HUTTON **HELSON KHUMBENI ARMANI LITTLE** CONOR MOSTERSON **ROBBIE MCKENZIE** 

#### **GLENN MORRIS**

**ELLIOTT NEVITT JACK NOLAN SHAD OGIE** SEB PALMER-HOULDEN **AARON ROWE STANLEY SKIPPER ANDY SMITH** 

#### UNDER 18s

**CRUZ BESZANT** HARRY BRIDLE **BEN CLARK LOGAN DOBBS** MICHAEL LUXTON HARRY WALDOCK

#### DAMIEN THEODORE

JAKE TURNER **SAM UOKES** HARRY WEBSTER **EUAN WILLIAMS JOHNY WILLIAMS** MARCUS WYLLIE

