

PRE-SEASON #2 | FREE DIGITAL PROGRAMME

FLEET



REVIEW

TUESDAY, JULY 21st, 2026

AT 7.00PM

EBBSFLEET UNITED v
WEST HAM UNITED U21s

morrow





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REFEREE

JOE DANN-PYE

Promoted to Level 2 (National League South/North) in January 2025, the Maidstone referee took charge of the Fleet's 2025 Kent Senior Cup Final v Welling United. He qualified as a referee in 2013, reaching Level 4 in 2017 and Level 3 in 2022. Today's man in the middle took charge of 13 games in National South last season.



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COMPLETE RESULTS 2025/26

Date	Opposition	Score	Venue / Attendance	Referee	Starting Players					
AUGUST 2025										
Sat 9	Dagenham & Red.	2:0	Chigwell Cons. Stadium / 1,601	A.Merchant	Cousins	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Ehmer	Dallison
Sat 16	Chippenham Town	1:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,275	D.England	Cousins	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Ehmer	Dallison
Tue 19	Chelmsford City	1:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,636	S.Hughes	Cousins	Passley	Chapman	Olagunju	Ehmer	Dallison
Sat 23	Slough Town	0:2	Arbour Park / 796	J.Allsop	Cousins	Passley	Chapman	Olagunju	Fielding	Nelson
Mon 25	Bath City	1:1	Z.Cunningham / 1,395	Z.Cunningham	Cousins	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Ehmer	Dallison
Sat 30	Hampton & Richmond	2:3	Beveree Stadium / 736	C.Hathway	Cousins	Seaman	Chapman	Olagunju	Ehmer	Dallison
SEPTEMBER										
Tue 2	Hemel Hempstead T.	0:0	Vauxhall Road / 724	J.Crossley	Cousins	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Ehmer	Fielding
Sat 6	Hornchurch	1:1	Kufink Stadium / 1,566	C.Martland	Cousins	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Ehmer	Fielding
Sat 13	Ashford T. (Midx) FAC	5:0	Kufink Stadium / 574	F.Roque	Bellagambi	Passley	Coker	Nelson	Ehmer	Fielding
Sat 20	Torquay United	0:1	Plainmoor / 3,246	M.Norton	Cousins	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Ehmer	Nelson
Sat 27	Faversham Town FAC	2:1	Kufink Stadium / 874	T.Ellsmore	Bellagambi	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Dallison	Fielding
OCTOBER										
Sat 4	Eastbourne Borough	2:2	Kufink Stadium / 1,395	T.Breen	Cousins	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Ehmer	Dallison
Tue 7	Cray Valley (PM) KSC	4:1	Artic Stadium / 129	S.Finnigan	Bellagambi	Seaman	Manktelow	Nelson	Fielding	Kennedy
Sat 11	Soihull Moors FAC	2:0	Kufink Stadium / 849	C.Walchester	Bellagambi	Seaman	Dallison	Olagunju	Fielding	Kennedy
Sat 18	Dorking Wanderers	2:1	Kufink Stadium / 1,501	C.Fisk	Bellagambi	Seaman	Dallison	Olagunju	Fielding	Kennedy
Tue 21	Enfield Town	1:3	QE II Stadium / 736	W.Briers	Bellagambi	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Dallison
Sat 25	Salisbury	2:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,113	T.Sangowawa	Bellagambi	Seaman	Chapman	Olagunju	Nelson	Hessenthaler
NOVEMBER										
Sat 1	Grimsby Town FAC	1:3	Blundell Park / 3,392	J.O'Connor	Bellagambi	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Manktelow
Tue 4	Maidstone United	1:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,765	A.Merchant	Bellagambi	Seaman	Chapman	Olagunju	Nelson	Kennedy
Sat 8	AFC Totton	2:0	Testwood Stadium / 1,330	S.Swan	Bellagambi	Seaman	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Manktelow
Tue 11	VCD Athletic KSC	2:1	Oakwood / 112	H.Clark	Macaulay	Passley	Anthony	Chapman	Nelson	Manktelow
Sat 15	Sittingbourne FAT	5:1	Kufink Stadium / 1,047	J.Bloxham	Macaulay	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Kennedy
Tue 18	Weston-super-Mare	0:1	Optima Stadium / 795	H.Warner	Macaulay	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Kennedy
Sat 22	Chesham United	2:1	Kufink Stadium / 1,119	B.McDonald	Hall	Seaman	Passley	Olagunju	Nelson	Chapman
Tue 25	Horsham	1:2	Kufink Stadium / 1,044	T.Ellsmore	Hall	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Chapman
Sat 29	Farnborough	1:1	Cherrywood Road / 754	J.Allsop	Hall	Passley	Chapman	Olagunju	Dallison	Edser
DECEMBER										
Sat 6	Worthing	1:2	Kufink Stadium / 1,372	C.Hathway	Macaulay	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Dallison	Kennedy
Sat 13	Braintree T. FAT	3:1	Kufink Stadium / 572	J.Crossley	Hall	Passley	Nelson	Ehmer	Chapman	Kennedy
Sat 20	Chelmsford City	1:0	Melbourne Stadium / 1,557	H.Jones	Hall	Passley	Seaman	Olagunju	Dallison	Kennedy
Fri 26	Tonbridge Angels	1:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,695	M.Conn	Hall	Passley	Seaman	Olagunju	Nelson	Kennedy
Tue 30	Dover Athletic	2:1	Crabble / 813	A.Hursey	Hall	Passley	Seaman	Ehmer	Nelson	Hessenthaler
JANUARY 2026										
Sat 10	Forest Green Rov. FAT	0:2	Kufink Stadium / 887	R.Watkins	Macaulay	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Ehmer
Sat 17	Chippenham Town	4:1	Hardenhuish Park / 649	S.Duchene	Hall	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Kennedy
Tue 20	Maidstone United KSC	0:4	Gallagher Stadium / 503	A.Ajibola	Macaulay	Manktelow	Anthony	Ehmer	Nelson	Kennedy
Sat 24	Dagenham & Red.	1:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,540	J.Woolmer	Hall	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Kennedy
Tue 27	Maidstone United	0:3	Gallagher Stadium / 2,085	T.Breen	Hall	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Ehmer	Kennedy
Sat 31	Maidenhead United	3:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,089	S.Hughes	Hall	Passley	Chapman	Ehmer	Nelson	Kennedy
FEBRUARY										
Tue 3	Hemel Hempstead T.	2:2	Kufink Stadium / 895	J.Bloxham	Hall	Fielding	Coker	Ehmer	Nelson	Kennedy
Sat 7	Salisbury	1:1	Ray Mac Stadium / 860	T.Ellsmore	Hall	Passley	Coker	Ehmer	Nelson	Kennedy
Tue 10	Enfield Town	2:2	Kufink Stadium / 1,015	G.Parsons	Hall	Passley	Peake	Olagunju	Dallison	Kennedy
Sat 14	AFC Totton	4:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,215	R.Wharton	Hall	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Dallison	Chapman
Tue 17	Bath City	2:2	Tuerton Park / 745	S.Read	Hall	Chapman	Fielding	Olagunju	Dallison	Kennedy
Sat 21	Chesham United	1:4	The Meadow / 767	C.Fisk	Sandford	Passley	Peake	Olagunju	Dallison	Chapman
Tue 24	Horsham	1:1	Fusion Aviation Stadium / 846	W.Briers	Hall	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Nelson	Kennedy
Sat 28	Farnborough	2:2	Kufink Stadium / 1,197	B.Tomlinson	Hall	Passley	Peake	Ehmer	Nelson	Kennedy
MARCH										
Sat 7	Torquay United	3:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,467	K.Morgan	Hall	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Dallison	Chapman
Tue 10	Eastbourne Borough	3:1	Priory Lane / 791	D.Baines	Hall	Passley	Chapman	Olagunju	Nelson	Barnes
Sat 14	Dorking Wanderers	1:3	Meadowbank / 1,738	J.Woolmer	Hall	Passley	Coker	Olagunju	Dallison	Chapman
Tue 17	Maidenhead United	3:2	York Road / 821	J.Crossley	Hall	Passley	Chapman	Olagunju	Dallison	Kennedy
Sat 21	Weston-super-Mare	1:3	Kufink Stadium / 1,215	A.Merchant	Hall	Passley	Chapman	Olagunju	Dallison	Barnes
Sat 28	Slough Town	2:1	Kufink Stadium / 1,625	S.Hughes	Hall	Passley	Coker	Nelson	Dallison	Kennedy
APRIL										
Fri 3	Tonbridge Angels	2:1	Longmead Stadium / 1,597	S.Read	Hall	Passley	Coker	Nelson	Dallison	Kennedy
Mon 6	Dover Athletic	4:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,642	C.Hathway	Hall	Passley	Chapman	Nelson	Dallison	Kennedy
Sat 11	Hornchurch	0:1	Hornchurch Stadium / 1,220	T.Breen	Hall	Passley	Coker	Nelson	Dallison	Kennedy
Sat 18	Hampton & Rich.	4:0	Kufink Stadium / 1,686	K.Morgan	Hall	Passley	Coker	Nelson	Dallison	Kennedy
Sat 25	Worthing	0:2	Woodside Road / 4,002	J.Woolmer	Hall	Passley	Coker	Nelson	Dallison	Kennedy

Substitutes

Hessenthaler	Chapman	Moncur	Coley	Appiah	Kennedy	Cosgrave	Samuel	Passley, Fielding, Peake, Bellagambi		
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Moncur	Coley	Samuel	Edser	Cosgrave	Passley	Kennedy	Peake	Fielding, Bellagambi
Hessenthaler	Edser	Moncur	Coley	Appiah	Cosgrave	Kennedy	Samuel	Seaman, Fielding, Peake, Bellagambi		
Hessenthaler	Kennedy	Peake	Cosgrave	Samuel	Moncur	Coley	Barnes	Edser	Seaman	Emher, Bellagambi
Hessenthaler	Edser	Moncur	Coley	Cosgrave	Chapman	Barnes	Kennedy	Samuel	Peake	Fielding, Bellagambi
Hessenthaler	Edser	Moncur	Coley	Cosgrave	Kennedy	Samuel	Coker, Passley, Fielding, Barnes, Bellagambi			
Hessenthaler	Edser	Chapman	Coley	Cosgrave	Moncur	Kennedy	Dallison, Nelson, Peake, Barnes, Bellagambi			
Hessenthaler	Edser	Chapman	Coley	Cosgrave	Kennedy	Moncur	Dallison, Nelson, Peake, Barnes, Bellagambi			
Kennedy	Edser	Moncur	Peake	Cosgrave	Barnes	Chapman	Coley	Seaman	Hessenthaler, Olagunju, Cousins	
Kennedy	Edser	Peake	Coley	Cosgrave	Appiah	Passley	Chapman	Barnes	Manktelow	Fielding, Bellagambi
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Barnes	Appiah	Cosgrave	Seaman	Edser	Manktelow	Samuel	Moncur, Nelson, Cousins	
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Edser	Appiah	Cosgrave	Kennedy	Fielding	Barnes	Moncur, Peake, Coley, Bellagambi		
Barnes	Peake	Moncur	Coley	Samuel	Domi	Cosgrave	Edser, Olagunju, Cousins			
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Peake	Appiah	Cosgrave	Manktelow	Edser	Coley	Samuel	Moncur, Barnes, Cousins	
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Peake	Appiah	Cosgrave	Nelson	Edser	Moncur	Samuel	Barnes, Coley, Cousins	
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Edser	Appiah	Coley	Manktelow	Samuel	Peake	Moncur	Cosgrave	Barnes, Cousins
Barnes	Peake	Edser	Appiah	Samuel	Cosgrave	Kennedy	Coker	Manktelow	Moncur, Coley, Cousins	
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Kennedy	Coley	Cosgrave	Passley	Samuel	Domi	Peake	Barnes	Appiah, Anthony, Cousins
Hessenthaler	Peake	Barnes	Appiah	Samuel	Coley	Manktelow	Coker	Passley, Cosgrave, Domi, Cousins		
Hessenthaler	Kennedy	Barnes	Appiah	Coley	Macaulay	Moncur	Passley	Samuel	Cosgrave	Domi, Peake
Domi	Peake	Moncur	Samuel	Cosgrave	Kennedy	Coley	Seaman	Barnes	Coker	
Domi	Peake	Moncur	Samuel	Barnes	Cosgrave	Seaman	Edser	Coley	Hessenthaler	
Hessenthaler	Seaman	Barnes	Appiah	Coley	Edser	Cosgrave	Moncur	Peake	Dallison	Samuel, Hall
Hessenthaler	Peake	Barnes	Appiah	Cosgrave	Samuel	Edser	Coker	Coley	Dallison	Moncur, Macaulay
Hessenthaler	Seaman	Barnes	Appiah	Cosgrave	Edser	Moncur	Samuel	Coley	Peake	Dallison, Macaulay
Hessenthaler	Peake	Barnes	Samuel	Coley	Coker	Seaman	Appiah	Cosgrave, Moncur, Nelson, Macaulay		
Edser	Seaman	Chapman	Coley	Cosgrave	Appiah	Moncur	Samuel	Peake	Manktelow	Emher, Hall
Edser	Seaman	Peake	Moncur	Appiah	Manktelow	Coley	Dallison	Samuel	Coker, Cosgrave, Macaulay	
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Peake	Coley	Samuel	Manktelow	Cosgrave	Edser	Coker	Emher, Barnes, Macaulay	
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Peake	Coley	Samuel	Edser	Cosgrave	Manktelow	Coker	Emher, Barnes, Macaulay	
Edser	Chapman	Peake	Coley	Samuel	Coker	Kennedy	Cosgrave	Olagunju, Barnes, Manktelow, Macaulay		
Hessenthaler	Edser	Barnes	Coley	Samuel	Chapman	Kennedy	Appiah	Cosgrave	Manktelow	Peake, Hall
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Chapman	Samuel	Emher	Manktelow	Appiah	Peake	Cosgrave	Barnes, Macaulay
Fonguck	Moncur	Peake	Barnes	Cosgrave	Fielding	Appiah	Chapman	Olagunju	Seaman	
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Chapman	Samuel	Coley	Appiah	Cosgrave	Emher, Barnes, Manktelow, Macaulay		
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Seaman	Appiah	Samuel	Nelson	Coley	Edser	Barnes	Cosgrave, Manktelow, Macaulay	
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Coley	Samuel	Barnes	Manktelow	Cosgrave	Appiah	Coker, Fielding, Macaulay	
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Chapman	Samuel	Passley	Manktelow	Coley	Appiah	Cosgrave, Barnes, Sandford	
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Chapman	Samuel	Cosgrave	Coley	Appiah, Fielding, Barnes, Manktelow, Sandford			
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Barnes	Samuel	Chapman	Cosgrave	Nelson	Coley	Appiah	Manktelow, Sandford
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Barnes	Samuel	Emher	Cosgrave	Appiah	Kennedy	Coley	Peake, Sandford
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Barnes	Samuel	Passley	Coley	Emher, Cosgrave, Appiah, Peake, Sandford			
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Barnes	Samuel	Coley	Cosgrave	Appiah	Kennedy	Emher, Manktelow, Hall	
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Barnes	Samuel	Wyllie	Appiah	Chapman	Coley	Emher, Peake, Sandford	
Hessenthaler	Chapman	Seaman	Barnes	Appiah	Wyllie	Manktelow	Cosgrave	Coker	Coley	Dallison, Sandford
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Appiah	Samuel	Wyllie	Kennedy	Coley	Moncur, Peake, Barnes, Sandford		
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Appiah	Samuel	Fielding	Coley	Kennedy	Cosgrave	Peake, Wyllie, Sandford	
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Appiah	Samuel	Wyllie	Barnes	Cosgrave	Coley	Nelson, Kennedy, Sandford	
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Coley	Samuel	Appiah	Wyllie	Barnes	Cosgrave, Nelson, Peake, Sandford		
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Coley	Appiah	Coker	Kennedy	Samuel	Cosgrave	Wyllie	Peake, Sandford
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Chapman	Samuel	Wyllie	Barnes	Coley	Peake	Appiah	Cosgrave, Olagunju
Chapman	Edser	Seaman	Coley	Appiah	Samuel	Barnes	Cosgrave, Olagunju, Wyllie, Sandford			
Barnes	Edser	Seaman	Coley	Samuel	Coker	Appiah	Olagunju	Manktelow	Cosgrave	Wyllie, Sandford
Chapman	Edser	Seaman	Coley	Appiah	Samuel	Barnes	Olagunju	Cosgrave, Manktelow, Wyllie, Sandford		
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Barnes	Appiah	Coley	Samuel	Olagunju	Cosgrave	Peake	Wyllie, Sandford
Hessenthaler	Edser	Seaman	Chapman	Appiah	Samuel	Coley	Peake	Barnes	Olagunju	Cosgrave, Sandford



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JIMMY, JIMMY!

There are plenty of links between the Fleet and West Ham but perhaps none more well known than Jimmy Bullard's transfer



— IT WAS 1999 – the year we were all living in fear of Y2K (the “Millennium Bug”). Vengaboys and Ricky Martin were assaulting our ears in the pop charts; Tony Blair was prime minister; Prince Edward got married; Alex Ferguson had just been made a ‘Sir’; and The Matrix, The Sixth Sense, Austin Powers and the return of Star Wars were keeping us entertained.

But there was another entertainer as far as Fleet fans were concerned – 19-year-old Jimmy Bullard had quickly burst on to the Stonebridge Road scene and then, almost as quickly, burst off it when West Ham pounced to take him to (as then was) Upton Park.

Above:
Bullard stops to sign autographs on his return to Stonebridge Road in summer 1999.

© Photo:
EUFC/Ed Miller

Left:
Bullard wins player of the month in his first few weeks at the club



Bullard, who had played football for Kent Schools while growing up, got his break in senior football with Corinthian before a short spell on Dover's books. He went on to sign for Dartford in October 1997 and played most of that season in the Southern League Southern Division with the Darts, making 26 appearances in all (and he actually made his Dartford debut at Stonebridge Road when they played a home game here).

The tousle-haired young winger had come to the notice of Fleet boss Andy Ford who managed to lure him away from Dartford just before the commencement of the 1998/99 season, supplementing his income as a scaffolder with a few more quid than was on offer at Dartford (which wouldn't have been much more, given the Fleet's small playing budgets of the time).

Having missed most of pre-season due to his late arrival at the club, Bullard was thrust into the starting lineup somewhat sooner than Ford might have liked for the first game at home to St Albans City, playing in a team alongside the likes of Jimmy Jackson, Craig Wilkins, Steve Portway, Dave Powell and goalkeeper Darren Smith. In front of 568, Fleet lost 1-0 and Bullard



"showed some potential but flitted in and out of the game" according to the Kent Messenger!

Once in the side, Bullard was never out of it, playing all of the Fleet's next 30 matches in all competitions. He scored his first of seven goals against Harrow Borough – *"His goal demonstrated how the slight-looking youngster is more powerful than his frame suggests,"* said the local press. *"Collecting a diagonal pass from Dave Powell, his initial shot was blocked but he seized the ball back and lifted it over the keeper."*

Bullard's slight frame gave rise to the nickname "Skinny Boy" which included a badly out-of-tune song to the same refrain that soon could be heard emanating from the terraces. As early as October, West Ham were watching Bullard as he secured the Fleet's player of the month to enhance a growing reputation. Hammers coach Roger Cross witnessed Bullard score a stunner against Purfleet and two other unnamed Premier League clubs were also scouting the youngster.

Above:
Bullard in
action against
Aylesbury United
and Hampton,
two of 30 games
he played in a
familiar-looking
Fleet shirt!



"He has undoubted talent," said Fleet boss Ford. "He's exciting, he always catches the eye and it's probably just a question of when, not if, he moves up."

And that was pretty much how it went. Bullard helped the Fleet to a top six position in the Ryman League by Christmas but clubs were queuing up for him. Colchester United, QPR and non-league moneybags Rushden & Diamonds lined up bids but West Ham

were the big fish as far as the boy born in East Ham was concerned.

Bullard trained with the Hammers in January 1999, with manager Harry Redknapp impressed enough to lift him out of the reserves and into the first-team squad for a behind-closed-doors friendly against Bristol City.

Appropriately enough, Bullard's final game for the Fleet – like his debut –

Above:
Bullard played his last league game at Stonebridge Road v Aldershot, watched by 954. A few weeks later he was on the bench at Anfield, in front of 45,000



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came against St Albans City and he signed off his time in a red shirt with a 25-yard free-kick around the wall for a 2-0 win.

A dream move followed for Bullard in a bit of a whirlwind for the 20-year-old, with a down payment of £35,000 paid to the Fleet. The complete deal might have reached £185,000 had Bullard's West Ham career taken off, but the £35,000 funded much-needed ground improvements at Stonebridge Road. The very next week, Bullard was on the subs' bench at Anfield in a matchday squad with Joe Cole, Rio Ferdinand and Frank Lampard but didn't make it on to the pitch.

He might well have returned to the Fleet on loan to the end of the season but an FA rule prevented him playing for us and also in the West Ham reserves' Combination League, as was the plan, so that part of the deal was scuppered.

Bullard did reappear at Stonebridge Road in July 1999 as part of a pre-season friendly between the Hammers and the Fleet, which Ford's men won 1-0 thanks to a last-minute Paul Booth goal. With really only Bullard and Samassi Abou as bigger names in the West Ham squad, the former Fleet winger had three excellent chances in the first-half and even celebrated his third-minute strike only to see it bounce off the inside of the post while he was running off!

"In truth," said the press report, "Bullard, after a strong start, faded with the rest of his teammates. Maybe he did show the potential that attracted Hammers scouts in the first place but he reminded us, and himself, that he is far from the finished article."

That was an accurate enough conclusion and indeed the rest of Bullard's West Ham career could be



summed up in that sentence. The player himself said, *"I found it hard out there which was weird. The atmosphere and signing all the autographs didn't get to me but maybe the high expectations were niggling me. It's harder to stand out at a club like West Ham. I didn't really get a chance to say goodbye to Gravesend. I used to love coming here every week and I quite miss the place and the lads. It's a great place and I'll always look out for Gravesend's results."*

While Bullard never made the grade at West Ham and left in 2001 without making an appearance, he went on to establish himself at Peterborough United before moves to Wigan Athletic, Fulham, Hull City, Ipswich Town and briefly MK Dons to end his career. He made 350 appearances in the Premier League, Championship and League One, scoring just short of 50 goals, and he commanded almost £8m in transfer fees.

Not bad for the Skinny Boy scaffolder who was tempted to cross the great North Kent divide from Dartford to the Fleet more than a quarter of a century ago!



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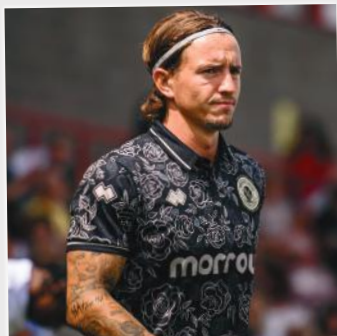
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**"Good luck to Ebbsfleet United,
c'mon The Fleet!"**

Match Review



BRENTWOOD TOWN

13 Seaden
3 Hudson
5 Cripps
8 Mardell (*Sach 46*)
17 Olukolu
18 Adams (*Berry 35*)
20 Steward
22 Hughes (*Linton 46*)
24 Gibbs
25 Harvest
26 Reid (*Read 46*)



EBBSFLEET UNITED

1 Buse (*Hall 61*)
5 Gbadebo
6 Vennings
7 Ogunleye
9 Oteh
11 Seaman
12 Nelson
16 Kennedy
17 Peake
18 Box
20 Manktelow

SUBS FROM 75 MINS

Passley, Vokins,
Hessenthaler, Edser,
Appiah, Samuel, Tizzard,
Barnes, Chapman, Walker.





0-3



Kennedy
Peake
Nelson

[Click here for full photo gallery](#)

BRENTWOOD CENTRE ARENA | 17th JULY 2026
PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY | ATT 243

MATCH REPORT

Photos: EUFC, Tom Harris

The Fleet sent three goals past last season's Isthmian play-off finalists as a trip to Brentwood yielded the second victory of pre-season.

Josh Wright split his two elevens across one 75-minute spell and a final quarter of an hour as the hosts began well with some powerful running and they carved out two or three chances in the first 20 minutes.

On his return to his former club, Daniel Ogunleye came ever so close to opening the scoring with a quarter of an hour gone but managed to scoop the ball over the bar via a deflection. Fleet went ahead after splitting the Brentwood defence and a pass landed for Lennon Peake out wide. He slipped the ball back inside for Gene Kennedy to convert for his second goal of pre-season. It was a similar story only two minutes later as the Fleet doubled the lead. This time the quick-moving attack came down the other flank where Maxx Manktelow found Peake lurking inside the box and he made no mistake. Olly Box might have added a third shortly before half-time, which would have been just reward for another busy performance, but he found his path to goal blocked by several bodies in blue and his shot cannoned off a leg.

The Fleet were swift to attack as the second-half began and had a succession of chances in rapid order. First, Harry Seaden denied Aramide Oteh after a quickly taken Fleet free-kick caught the Blues defence napping and Oteh again found the goalkeeper in the way after getting on the end of Kennedy's long ball forward. A mistake by Max Hudson was then pounced on by Charlie Seaman but his effort slipped the wrong side of the post.

The third goal did arrive on the hour mark from a Seaman corner that Ronny Nelson headed powerfully home at the near post and, with the result pretty much done and dusted, the final third of the game was a quieter affair.



Match Review



EBBSFLEET UNITED

- 1 Buse (*Hall 62*)
- 2 Passley
- 3 Vokins
- 4 Hessenthaler
- 7 Ogunleye (*Box 31*)
- 8 Edser
- 14 Samuel
- 15 Tizzard
- 19 Barnes
- 22 Chapman
- 25 Walker

SUBS FROM 75 MINUTES

Gbadebo, Vennings,
Oteh, Seaman, Nelson,
Kennedy, Peake,
Manktelow



TOTTENHAM U21

- 1 Archer
- 2 Feeney (*Moncur 67*)
- 3 Sowunmi (*Agyekum 80*)
- 4 Tingey (*Adediji 46*)
- 5 Dorrington (*Furnell-Gill 67*)
- 6 Tyrese Hall
- 7 Adewole (*Elliott-Parris 25*)
- 8 Ajayi (*Lehane 78*)
- 9 Scarlett (*Ramsey 46*)
- 10 Melia (*Russell-Denny 46*)
- 11 Irow (*McFadden 46*)

SUBS NOT USED

Maguire





Ogunleye 12
Box 32

2-1



Elliott-Parris 26

[Click here for full photo gallery](#)

MORROW STADIUM | 19th JULY 2026
PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY | ATT 894

MATCH REPORT

Photos: EUFC, Ed Miller/Rob Harbour

It may not be about the results, as Fleet boss Josh Wright is keen to point out, but when the results justify the performance and entertainment value, then anyone watching can't have helped but be impressed.

The Fleet were good value for their 2-1 win and the Spurs defence was stretched to its limits as early as 12 minutes when a ball forward fell into the path of Daniel Ogunleye. He strode on to it and with a measure of confidence in front of a home crowd for the first time, he struck it cleanly beyond goalkeeper Sam Archer for the opening goal.

The visitors were forced into a change on 25 minutes and substitute Reiss Elliott-Parris made an instant impact. He found space to work a shot that arrowed into the far right corner of Will Buse's goal, out of the reach of the diving Fleet keeper, for the equaliser.

Olly Box replaced the Fleet goalscorer on the half-hour and became the hosts' second scorer of the afternoon in no time at all. The Dartford signing was on to a Dom Samuel pass in a flash, squeezing past a defender before rounding the Spurs goalkeeper. He was pushed wide but kept his head to direct his shot to the far post from a tight angle, where it bounced in off the woodwork despite the attentions of Elisha Sowunmi.

Spurs came out in the second-half and applied more possession-based tactics but couldn't make a dent in the Fleet defence, with the black shirts putting in a strong shift from back to front.

With the introduction of fresh legs in the last 15 minutes, Fleet laid siege to the visitors' back line at times but somehow couldn't force a third goal. Maxx Manktelow, Aramide Oteh, Charlie Seaman, Gene Kennedy, Ronny Nelson, Box and James Vennings all saw shots saved, go wide or cannon off a limb as the goal led something of a charmed life.





morrow



2026-27 FIXTURES



August

Sat 08 - Slough Town
Arbour Park

**Sat 15 - Folkestone Invicta
Morrow Stadium**

Mon 17 - Chelmsford City
Melbourne Stadium

**Sat 22 - AFC Totton
Morrow Stadium**

Sat 29 - Farnborough
Cherrywood Road

**Mon 31 - Horsham
Morrow Stadium**

September

Sat 05 - Walton & Hershaw
Elmbridge Sports Hub

**Tue 08 - Hemel Hempstead Town
Morrow Stadium**

**Sat 12 - Salisbury
Morrow Stadium**

Sat 19 - Emirates FA Cup 2Q
tbc

Sat 26 - Tonbridge Angels
Longmead Stadium

Sat 03 - Emirates FA Cup 3Q
tbc

October

Sat 10 - Hampton & Richmond B.
Beveree Stadium

**Sat 17 - Weston-super-Mare
Morrow Stadium**

**Sat 24 - Maidenhead United
Morrow Stadium**

Tue 27 - Maidstone United
Gallagher Stadium

Sat 31 - Truro City
Truro City Stadium



November

Sat 07 - Chesham United
Morrow Stadium

Sat 14 - Isuzu FA Trophy R2
tbc

Sat 21 - Dorking Wanderers
Meadowbank

Tue 24 - Billericay Town
Morrow Stadium

Sat 28 - Farnham Town
The Memorial Ground

Sat 5 - Torquay United
Morrow Stadium

Tue 8 - Slough Town
Morrow Stadium

Sat 12 - Isuzu FA Trophy R3
tbc

Sat 19 - Folkestone Invicta
Cheriton Road

Sat 26 - Dagenham & Redbridge
Morrow Stadium

Mon 28 - Dover Athletic
Crabble

Sat 02 - Braintree Town
Cressing Road

Sat 09 - Hampton & Richmond B.
Morrow Stadium

Sat 16 - Tonbridge Angels
Morrow Stadium

Sat 23 - Salisbury
Raymond McEnhill Stadium

Tue 26 - Billericay Town
New Lodge

Sat 30 - Dorking Wanderers
Morrow Stadium

February

Sat 06 - Chesham United
The Meadow

Sat 13 - Truro City
Morrow Stadium

Tue 16 - Maidstone United
Morrow Stadium

Sat 20 - Maidenhead United
York Road

Tue 23 - Hemel Hempstead Town
Vauxhall Road

Sat 27 - Farnborough
Morrow Stadium

Sat 06 - AFC Totton
Testwood Stadium

Tue 09 - Chelmsford City
Morrow Stadium

Sat 13 - Walton & Hersham
Morrow Stadium

Sat 20 - Horsham
Fusion Aviation Stadium

Fri 26 - Dover Athletic
Morrow Stadium

Mon 29 - Dagenham & Redbridge
Victoria Road

Sat 03 - Braintree Town
Morrow Stadium

Sat 10 - Weston-super-Mare
Woodspring Stadium

Sat 17 - Torquay United
Plainmoor

Sat 24 - Farnham Town
Morrow Stadium

March

April

December

January

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EX-HAMMER TIME

Several players who appeared for last season's young Hammers have moved on. We look at where their career paths have taken them

— WEST HAM UNITED'S previous visit to the Fleet came at the mid-point of July last year when goals from Lennon Peake against his former club and Gene Kennedy set up a 2-0 victory for the hosts.

Some 19 West Ham players got a runout that day and 11 of those are still very much part of the Hammers' U21 setup. But what of some others and how has their progress fared this past 12 months?

Goalkeeper **Mason Terry** is perhaps one to watch, making a step up every

season since first appearing on loan for Concord Rangers in 2023/24. He followed that up with a year at Hornchurch and last season, after playing here for West Ham against the Fleet, he was off to the National League with Braintree Town. At each of those three clubs, he was voted player of the season and that form has seen him sign for another loan stay this campaign, in League Two with Port Vale.

Another to take a loan move is **Rayan Oyeade** who was a second-half substitute in our friendly last season.

Above:
Goalscorer
Lennon Peake
gets stuck in
against his old
club last July –
Rayan Oyeade,
tackling him
here, will play
for Southend
United this
season on loan



Left: goalkeeper
Mason Terry
bounced back
from this clash
of heads with
Ben Chapman
to play for
Braintree in the
National League.
He has just
moved to Port
Vale on loan



Left: Junior Robinson was originally on West Ham's released list in May but has returned to U21 duty this summer

The Greek U19 international makes the switch to the National League with Southend United for 2026/27.

Brazilian centre-back **Luizão** spent two years with the Hammers and started in our friendly last July. Now aged 24, it was clear he needed a move away to progress his career and after loan spells in Poland last season, he has returned to Brazil to play in their second tier with São Bernardo



Left: while Josh Coley has moved on from the Fleet, so too has Hammers centre-back Luizao, who is now back in his homeland with São Bernardo



Another player hailing from across the Irish Sea was Belfast-born wide player **Sean Moore** (left). After starring for Cliftonville from a young age

and winning a host of awards in Northern Ireland, he moved to West Ham three years ago. After 52 appearances and 10 goals for the young Hammers, the Republic of Ireland U21 moved to Shelbourne for an undisclosed fee, just 12 days after appearing here against the Fleet in pre-season.

Michael Forbes is a full Northern Ireland international but never quite made the step up to the Hammers first team. Another centre-back, he played on loan for Bristol Rovers and Northampton Town and has just joined Dundee United following his departure after six years in East London.

Tyron Akpata was a local lad from Dagenham who wore the captain's armband at almost every stage of his West Ham journey since joining the Academy at U15s. However, he was another of several Academy players released this summer.



A big hope for the future was **Daniel Rigge**, who West Ham signed aged 16 from Manchester City in 2022. After playing here against the Fleet and then impressing in the U18s and U21s, the versatile attacking midfielder was subject to interest from Tottenham, Arsenal and Manchester United but was another to find his name on the released list this summer.



You might not be seeing **Elisha Sowunmi** in a West Ham shirt this afternoon but you did see him a few days ago in a Spurs one. After playing against the Fleet in both the National League Cup and in last summer's friendly, the forward left after 10

years in East London for Tottenham for an undisclosed fee last January.

And although he didn't play against the Fleet last summer, an honourable mention to goalkeeper **Finlay Herrick** who was between the posts for the Hammers here in our 2024 friendly and our National League Cup tie.

After a spell on loan at Boreham Wood after that, the England youth international enjoyed a headline-grabbing first-team debut after replacing Hammers No.1 Alphonse Areola in the 120th minute of the FA Cup quarter-final against Leeds United in April. He saved Leeds' first penalty in the subsequent shootout and made something of a name for himself in the ensuing celebrations but was ultimately disappointed as the Yorkshire side prevailed on penalties and went through to the semi-finals.

Left: there were high hopes for Daniel Rigge but the ex-Manchester City youth was released this summer

Left: Elisha Sowunmi played for West Ham here last summer and for Spurs on Saturday

Below left: Fin Herrick sees the funny side of an attempted lob here two years ago and (below) celebrating his FA Cup quarter-final penalty save v Leeds



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TEAM AMERICA



When Bobby Moore and Pele lined up for “the USA”

— WORLD CUP HOSTS USA HAVE had a number of abortive attempts to secure the future of ‘soccer’ over the course of their history. In the aftermath of the First World War, there was an opportunity to capitalise on the fame of touring Hungarian, Austrian and English sides and grow the game organically, but these gains were squandered. Instead, the USA drew on its star power as a means to grow the game, most notably in the most recent period between the arrivals of David Beckham and Lionel Messi, offering the greatest talents in Europe a playground in which to finish their careers. But in the 1970s, with an admirable collection of talent across the league, some lamented the inability of putting all those players together. Until they did...

The North American Soccer League operated between 1968 and 1984,

almost immediately offering to big names the same as the MLS does now – money, fame and a brief place to showcase their talents one final time. George Best joined the league, along with Rodney Marsh. Italy international and Lazio legend Giorgio Chinaglia joined them. England World Cup winning captain and ex-Hammer Bobby Moore too. And, of course, the inimitable Pele. The United States was putting together a fantasy league, and what better way to cement the sport in the minds of the American public than with a fantasy team?

Marking the bicentenary of America’s independence, the United States Soccer Federation invited teams from Brazil, Italy and England to join an unofficial international tournament. To compete with them, New York Cosmos manager Ken Furphy was given the

Above:
Bobby Moore
and Pele line
up alongside
England’s
Gerry Francis
50 years ago

task of putting all of the NASL's talent together, at short notice. Only 13 of the 31 players called into the side were American, and of those only three were born in the nation. *'Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses'* reads the inscription on the Statue of Liberty, alluding to the proud melting-pot of America's history. That melting pot now formed Team America.

The team was not without controversy. Some voices found it embarrassing that the growth of the sport would rely on foreigners, and others thought that the national side could get experience from playing against these teams, rather than former superstars who, at best, would show the world that they could still play football. But Team USA had just lost 7-0 to Poland. The kind of defeat they might suffer at the hands of teams containing Zico or Dino Zoff or Kevin Keegan didn't bear thinking about. Instead, Pele and Chinaglia, they believed, would give them a fighting chance.

Best and Marsh withdrew before the first game, perhaps attempting to save their embarrassment, but officially because Furphy didn't guarantee them a place in all three games. Regardless, it weakened an already disorganised Team America that had no time to prepare. 33,000 fans watched the opener against Italy in the Kennedy Memorial Stadium in Washington, where Moore, Pele and Chinaglia would do their best, but ultimately lose to an Italy side who comfortably put four goals past them. For all the nostalgic talent of the squad, they couldn't compete with some of the world's best sides.

Brazil were up next, and unlike Chinaglia who had played against his home country, Pele refused to line up against his. For their part, Brazil understood the showpiece nature of the tournament, and took it easy on

their hosts. They kept the ball and – to find an analogy American fans might understand best – played like the Harlem Globetrotters, giving the spectators tricks and turns. Gil scored after half an hour and effectively ended the contest, adding another in the second half.

That meant that Team America went into their final game with no chance of winning their home tournament. England, unlike Brazil and Italy, did not award caps for the tournament and did not take the game especially seriously. Keegan fired Don Revie's side into a two-goal lead in the first-half, with a third added by Gerry Francis after half-time. But Team America did find a brief moment of glory, Pele and Chinaglia combining to set up Scotsman Stewart Scullion to get their only goal of the competition. Not that many were there to see it. In the 102,000-seater Philadelphia venue, just 16,000 were left enthused enough to attend. A final defeat drained what was left of their excitement. Brazil beat Italy in the final game, to win the tournament. A quarter of a century later, FIFA revoked the caps given out by those two teams, declaring the tournament unofficial.

The tournament died away in the public consciousness with a fizzle. A decade later, the NASL would do the same. Despite the brightness that superstars brought to it, there was no real benefit to the Team America experiment. Still, where else would you find Pele, Bobby Moore and George Best on the same team?

Below:
Bobby Moore
and Gerry
Francis emerge
at a Philadelphia
stadium only
15% full





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Games | 0
Goals | 0

2 | JOSH PASSLEY



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Games | 47 (+8)
Goals | 1

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Games | 31 (+10)
Goals | 1

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Goals | 4

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Goals | 0

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Games | 0
Goals | 0

7 | DANIEL OGUNLEYE



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Games | 0
Goals | 0

8 | TOBY EDSEER



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Games | 133 (+43)
Goals | 21

9 | ARAMIDE OTEH



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Games | 0
Goals | 0

10 | KWESI APPIAH



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Games | 25 (+20)
Goals | 14

11 | CHARLIE SEAMAN



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Savannah Cooper

Games | 46 (+6)
Goals | 8

12 | RONNY NELSON



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Brian Lucas

Games | 33 (+3)
Goals | 3

14 | DOMINIC SAMUEL



SPONSOR

Simon and Aimee Beagley

Games | 57 (+35)
Goals | 29

15 | WILL TIZZARD



SPONSOR

Sharon Oatley & Sharon Stockley

Games | 0
Goals | 0

16 | GENE KENNEDY



SPONSOR

Karen/Jason Humphris (Infinity Balloons Bexley)

Games | 33 (+17)
Goals | 1

17 | LENNON PEAKE



SPONSOR

David
Hooton

Games | 20 (+11)
Goals | 2

18 | OLLY BOX



SPONSOR

Duncan
Holt

Games | 0
Goals | 0

19 | FINLAY BARNES



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Alan and
Carole Hall

Games | 22 (+15)
Goals | 7

20 | MAXX MANKTELOW



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Games | 17 (+43)
Goals | 3

22 | BEN CHAPMAN



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Tracy
Down

Games | 192 (+44)
Goals | 20

24 | MATT HALL



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Swanston

Games | 29
Goals | 0

25 | HARVEY WALKER



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Games | 0
Goals | 0

GIO BELLAGAMBI



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Lucas

Games | 12
Goals | 0

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PRE-SEASON 2026/27

WEST HAM UNITED U21



RUSH GREEN STADIUM



WELCOMING THE HAMMERS

Hot on the heels of Spurs U21s on Saturday, this evening we welcome their divisional rivals West Ham United U21s for the sixth time between our two clubs over the past five years.

West Ham finished five places and five points below Tottenham in last season's Premier League 2, making it to the quarter-finals of the Elimination Play-Offs while also participating in the Premier League International Cup and reaching the National League Cup Final, where they lost on penalties at Boreham Wood. They also participated in the EFL (Vertu) Trophy, reaching the Round of 16 before exiting at AFC Wimbledon.

There have been a few changes since we met last summer, with a number of players stepping up to first-team squad duties including Ezra Mayers and goalkeeper Finn Herrick. To replace them, a couple of U18s ascend to the higher age group and a few signings, too, make up the numbers, with former Chelmsford City forward Jett Murphy coming out of the National League South. Striker Dan Cummings was considered one of the most exciting prospects in Scottish football while at Celtic and having suffered a pre-season injury after signing for West Ham last summer, he is now battling to get back to his best and could feature this evening. Strike partner Josh Landers played at Wembley for Boreham Wood on loan in the National League promotion final against Rochdale and several other players have non-league experience.

Mark Robson has also returned to his role as U21s Lead Coach, having spent the majority of last season on Nuno Espírito Santo's first-team coaching staff. Ahead of a visit to Colchester United and a training-camp week in Spain, the Hammers kicked-off their U21 pre-season with a visit to Canvey Island at the weekend, a game they won 2-1.

**LEAD COACH****MARK ROBSON**

Former West Ham, Tottenham and Charlton midfielder who coached at The Valley and then Gillingham and Peterborough United. He had a spell alongside Edgar Davids as Barnet head coach in 2012. Further jobs with England U17s and Norwich City followed before he became lead coach of the U23s (then U21s) at West Ham in 2021.

**FAST FACTS**

Best PL2 season:
Second, 2021/22 and 2023/24

Last PL2 season:
13th, 2025/26

FA Youth Cup last season:
Round 4 (lost to Everton)

Best FA Youth Cup season:
Winners (1963, 1981, 1999, 2023)

Ground: Rush Green
Stadium, Romford

**LAST FIVE GAMES**

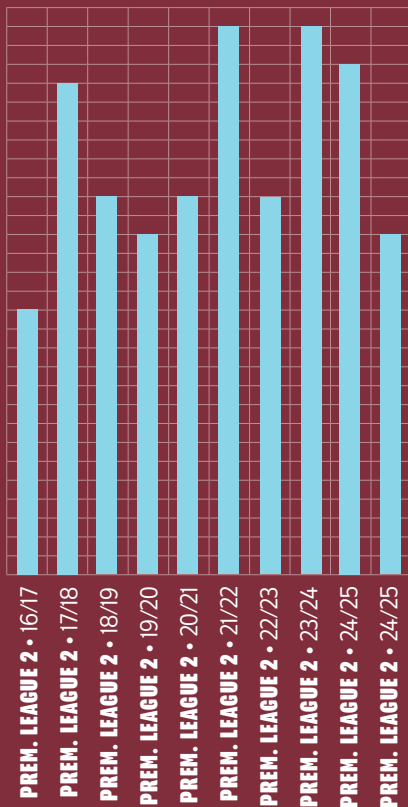
Canvey Island 1-2 West Ham
(Friendly, 18 July)

Brighton 3-0 West Ham U21
(Premier League2, 4 May)

Fulham 2-2 West Ham U21
(Premier League 2, 24 April)

Tottenham 3-2 West Ham U21
(Premier League 2, 4 April)

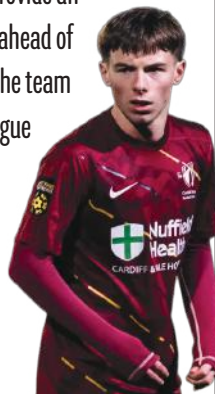
Blackburn 2-4 West Ham U21
(Premier League 2, 20 March)

TEN-YEAR RECORD | WEST HAM U21s**NEXT UP...**

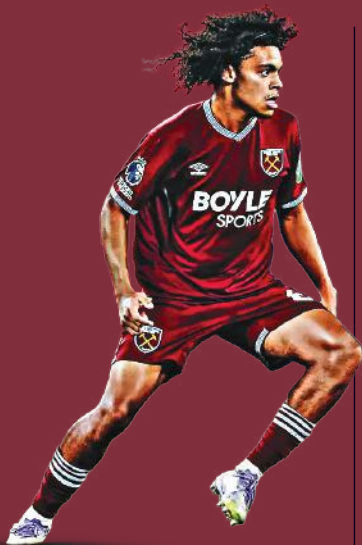
Cardiff Met (H)

24.07.26 / 1.00pm

A first ever meeting of the Fleet and Cardiff Met of the Cymru Premier – and the first pre-season here against a team from outside of England since the 1990s. The Archers also play National North side Brackley Town this pre-season as well – and it should provide an interesting challenge ahead of the season starting. The team finished 9th in the league last season, just missing out on the Welsh Championship play-offs.



THE ONES TO WATCH



PRESTON FEARON

SIGNED : Chelsea, October 2024
POSITION : Midfielder
D.O.B. : 18 May 2007 (aged 19)

Former U18s captain promoted to the U21s during 2024/25 while also helping the younger age group win the Premier League Cup in the same season. He joined the first team on their pre-season tour of the United States and made 37 U21 appearances last season. He also earned England U20 caps playing a year above his age group.

72

APPEARANCES

10

GOALS



ANDRE DIKE

SIGNED : Via scholarship, July 2025
POSITION : Forward
D.O.B. : 16 May 2008 (aged 18)

With excellent dribbling and finishing skills, the young player has also impressed on the international stage, having represented England at U16 and U17 level. The intelligent player scored on his U21 debut, enjoying a breakout season in his second year as a scholar, scoring a team-high 20 goals in all competitions.

59

APPEARANCES

19

GOALS



JETT MURPHY

SIGNED : Chelmsford City, June 2026
POSITION : Forward
D.O.B. : 13 April 2008 (aged 18)

Scouted by Colchester United at the age of 12 from his local side, he was with the U's for four years before joining Chelmsford and progressing through their youth ranks. He made his National League South debut in April 2025 and scored seven goals in 25 appearances – including against the Fleet – last season.

0

APPEARANCES

0

GOALS



FW

JOSH AJALA

Goalscorer here for the Hammers in the National League Cup in January 2025, the pacy and skilful striker spent his schoolboy career with Chelsea. He finished last season as top scorer with 13.



GK

LANRE AWESUGBO

A giant of a goalkeeper who commands his area with real presence, he signed his first professional contract in April 2025, the same year he debuted for England's U17s.



FW

MAJID BALOGUN

Signed from Manchester United in May, he returned to the Hammers having been a scholar previously. An exciting, quick wide player, he previously won the U18 Premier League Cup with West Ham.



DF

RYAN BATTRUM

An FA Youth Cup winner, the versatile defender or midfielder scored against Southend United while on loan with Braintree Town. He has played almost 60 times for the U21s.



MF

LEWIS BECKFORD

Having joined the club aged nine, the left-footed, close-control midfielder made the jump to the U21s last season and capped a standout campaign by signing his first pro contract in May.



DF

JOSH BRIGGS

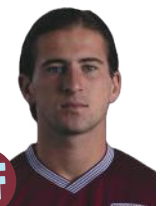
Signed from Linfield in 2022, the centre-back was an FA Youth Cup winner and is now in his third season at U21 level. The Belfast-born player is also a Northern Ireland youth international.



DF

CONNOR BROOKS

Recently elevated from the U18s to the U21 squad, he signed from Concord Rangers aged 17 last summer. With more than a season of senior Isthmian football behind him, he is well equipped for today.



MF

LUIS BROWN

Son of academy director Kenny, Luis joined from Arsenal in July 2024. He is an England youth international capable of operating in the centre or left of defence. Former Arsenal U18 skipper.



MF

GABRIEL CALISTE

A full Mauritius international, the versatile, athletic, technically-gifted player can operate in defence or midfield. He made 30 appearances last season, scoring twice.



DF

REGAN CLAYTON

A quick, committed full-back who loves to get forward, the 21-year-old has a lot of games behind him at U18 and U21 level, plus on two loan stays with Dagenham & Redbridge and Braintree Town.



FW

DAN CUMMINGS

Signed from Celtic last summer, the natural goalscorer had a goal-laden youth career in Scotland, making his senior debut in the Champions League against Aston Villa in January 2025.



DF

AIRIDAS GOLAMBECKIS

An elegant, ball-playing centre-back or midfielder, he has played for Lithuania U16s and for England at U18 and U19 level. Like Declan Rice, he has captained the Hammers U21s before turning 18.



**RILEY HARGAN**

An intelligent central midfielder, who possesses close control and a varied passing range, he has been at West Ham since the age of six and won the U18 Premier League Cup with the club.

MF

FINLAY HOOOPER

Promoted to the U21s towards the end of last season, the goalkeeper also earned his first international call-up with England U18s in March. He has been a Hammer since joining at U9 level.

GK

AARON KAMARA

A versatile player who can play across the back line as well as central midfield, Aaron joined from Southend at U14 level. He suffered an ACL injury to keep him out for much of last season.

MF

JOSH LANDERS

Joining from Hibernian in January 2025 after a successful trial period, he is an energetic striker who can hold up play but also run in behind. He ended last season on loan at Boreham Wood.

FW

CALLUM LEACOCK

Another player to move across the Irish Sea from Linfield, the centre-back or full-back is a Northern Ireland youth international from U16-U19 level. He previously captained the U18s.

DF

JETHRO MEDINE

A quick and tenacious right-back, the England U17 youth signed on professional terms in January 2025 and has racked up very consistent appearances at both U18 and U21 levels.

DF

JUNIOR ROBINSON

Born a stone's throw from the London Stadium in Bethnal Green, the full-back played in the SPL on loan with Livingston last season and has also featured for Sutton United and England U17s.

DF

JOE SCANLON

Highly technical and energetic U18 left-back with an excellent range of passing. He was already an U18 regular while still in the U16 age group and could break into the U21s this season.

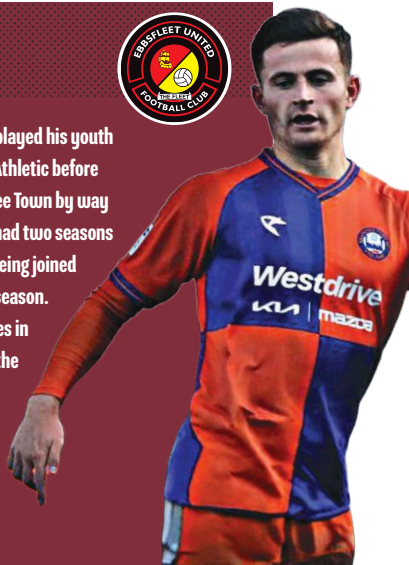
DF

REUNIONS

RYAN BATTRUM - JAMES VENNINGS

Fleet's new signing James Vennings played his youth football for Arsenal and Charlton Athletic before arriving at newly promoted Braintree Town by way of Aldershot and Bromley in 2024. He had two seasons with the Iron in the National League before being joined by West Ham U21 Battrum on loan at the club last season.

Battrum signed for Braintree in March, playing eight times in the National League alongside Vennings in a bid to avoid relegation to the NLS. Battrum's most memorable performance was probably the goal and assist he provided in Southend's narrow Good Friday win over Braintree in front of a 9,716 crowd - a game Vennings also played in. Two other players with Fleet connections were also in the Braintree side - John Akinde and Callum Harriott.



HOW SOON IS SLOUGH?

Are you counting down the days to the league opener at Slough Town?



Ronny Nelson battles with Slough's former player-manager Scott Davies in last August's meeting



— **THIS SEASON'S OPENING-DAY** fixture takes us to Arbour Park for the 18th meeting between the Fleet and the Rebels of Slough Town – and the fifth meeting early in a season.

In fact, back at the beginning of the 21st century, Slough were our first opponents then as well, played at Stonebridge Road on August 19th, 2000. That one didn't end particularly well, the Fleet losing 2-1 in front of a 468 crowd. And, of course, last season we went to Slough on the August Bank Holiday where the hosts inflicted our first defeat of the campaign. Both sides have eight wins each in our head-to-head clashes, with a single draw in the FA Cup the only time the spoils were shared.

Slough start the season with a new manager – former Hampton boss and ex-Dartford and Sutton goalkeeper Alan Julian taking over from player-manager Scott Davies who has moved on to Aldershot... and taken a few Slough players with him.

It will be a tough job for Julian to maintain at least the stability Davies provided over the past few seasons. One player who didn't follow Davies to Aldershot was, of course, Harvey Walker. He has been impressing Fleet fans so far with his exuberant displays down the left flank and will no doubt relish an immediate return to the club where he was named supporters' player of the year.

Slough's new signings (currently numbering 10) don't contain many recognisable names at this level.

Centre-back Josh Brooking is an ex-England international who played for Dorking Wanderers in their relegated National League season but the man to keep an eye on will be striker Godlove Oppong who scored 30 goals in 39 appearances helping Leighton Town win the Southern League Central Division.



Above: Harvey Walker's first competitive game for the Fleet could well be his return to former club Slough Town (below, with his player of the year award)

FLEET REVIEW
Editorial, design & layout Ed Miller • Photography Dave Plumb, Tom Harris, Ed Miller • Printing Footie Print / www.footieprint.co.uk

CLUB HONOURS

FA Trophy 2007/08 • Southern League 1957/58 • National League South 2022/23 • Ryman League Premier 2001/02 • Southern League, Southern Division 1974/75, 1993/94 • Southern League Cup 1977/78 • Southern League Championship Cup 1978/79 • National League South Promotion Final 2010/11, 2016/17 • Full Members Cup 2000/01 • Kent Senior Cup 1948/49, 1952/53, 1980/81, 1999/2000, 2000/01, 2001/02, 2007/08, 2013/14 • Kent Floodlight Cup 1963/70 • John Ullman Cup 1982/83



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THE FLEET HAMMERS



MANAGER Josh Wright



LEAD COACH Mark Robson

EBBSFLEET UNITED



Will Buse	1
Josh Passley	2
Jake Vokins	3
Jake Hessenthaler	4
Camron Gbadebo	5
James Vennings	6
Daniel Ogunleye	7
Toby Edser	8
Rem Oteh	9
Kwesi Appiah	10
Charlie Seaman	11
Ronny Nelson	12
Dominic Samuel	14
Will Tizzard	15
Gene Kennedy	16
Lennon Peake	17
Olly Box	18
Finlay Barnes	19
Maxx Manktelow	20
Ben Chapman	22
Matt Hall	24
Harvey Walker	25

Josh Ajala
 Lanre Awesu
 Majid Balogun
 Ryan Battrum
 Lewis Beckford
 Josh Briggs
 Connor Brooks
 Luis Brown
 Gabriel Caliste
 Regan Clayton
 Daniel Cummings
 Andre Dike
 Preston Fearon
 Airidas Golambeckis
 Riley Hargan
 Finlay Hooper
 Aaron Kamara
 Joel Kerr
 Josh Landers
 Callum Leacock
 Jethro Medine
 Jephthah Medine
 Harry Montague
 Jett Murphy
 Tyrone Omotoye
 Junior Robinson
 Joe Scanlon

WEST HAM UNITED



MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee JOE DANN-PYE

Assistants AARON CONN, STUART BUTLER • Fourth Official ALEX GORDON

ENTERPRISE NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH



2026/27 CAMPAIGN • PRE-SEASON

