

West Norwich Wanderers FC vs Upper Cross FC

SUNDAY 30TH MARCH – KO 10.30AM VENUE: HARROD SPORT ARENA



CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

As Chairman of the Norfolk County Football Association, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to Harrod Sport Arena for the third Norfolk FA 2025 Cup Final as today we host the Wensum Print Sunday Junior Cup Final.

The first of the two sides competing for the trophy is this morning's home side, West Norwich Wanderers FC. They currently compete in the 99kits.com Norfolk Sunday League, topping Wensum Print Division Two. Their opponents are Upper Cross FC, who also compete in the same division sitting in fifth place in the table, having played one game less than West Norwich Wanderers. The two sides met in the league on 9th March with West Norwich Wanderers returning from Upper Cross with a tight 2-1 win so we could well be in for another close game this morning. Having received a bye in the First Round of the Wensum Print Sunday Junior Cup, West Norwich Wanderers journey to today's game began with a comprehensive 10-3 home victory against Sprowston. The Third Round saw them win by the same margin as they travelled to Horsford U18's and put seven past them without reply. Another away trip in the Quarter Finals followed as they met Sprowston Rangers and in a much closer game they emerged as 3-1 victors. The Semi-Finals saw a return to the seven goal wins as they swept aside Wensum Helles 7-0 to book a place in the final this morning.

Unlike their opponents, Upper Cross's Cup campaign began in the First Round and they nearly fell at that first hurdle as they just edged past Wensum Wanderers on penalties after a a 3-3 draw in normal time.

In contrast, their Second Round win was by an astonishing 29 goals as they beat Bulldogs U18's 29-0. Round Three brought a trip to the west of the County to face CSKA Emneth Reserves and Upper Cross would have been delighted to pick up a 2-1 win to progress to the Quarter Finals. Their reward for that win was a home tie against Newsman Celtic and this brought a comfortable 6-1 win to line up a Semi-Final trip to Swanton Morley U18's who gave their visitors a real battle with Upper Cross finally managing to prevail 2-1.

The third team on show for today's spectacle will of course be the match officials. They, like the teams have also earned the right to be here, and I would like to extend my congratulations to them on their selection. I wish them every success in what I hope will be a memorable occasion for all involved.

Finally, a thank you to all our Board, Ex-Council and Youth Council members who are present together with staff from HQ and our FDCs for their hard work coming together to stage our fourteen 2025 County Cup Finals. Also, a massive thank you to Wensum Print for their continued support in sponsoring our Sunday Junior Cup competition.

*information correct at time of writing.



Michael Banham Norfolk County FA Chairman







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THE WENSUM PRINT SUNDAY JUNIOR CUP FINAL

The Sunday Junior Cup is the newest of our Sunday morning competitions having first been competed for in 1974/75, when Anchor Reserves became the first name to be engraved on the original trophy thanks to a 3-0 win over Holt Youth Club OB.

As the Junior Sunday competition, the winners are often promoted to a more senior division without having the chance to defend their trophy, which might go some way to explain why the only Clubs to have won the Cup more than once are Gala Sports, Coach makers, Cranworth and most recently Bell Inn Reserves who were triumphant in 1997/98 and again in 1998/99.

Five of the Finals have gone to extra time and four of those five then needed penalties to decide the eventual winner. One such match saw both the competitions' highest ever aggregate score and the most number of penalties scored with the ball hitting the net no fewer than twenty-three times!

The two teams involved were Aylsham Feathers Old Boys and AFC Gorleston who were tied at 4-4 after extra time before Aylsham won 8-7 on penalties.

The trophy that the Clubs currently compete for was first used in 2007/08 when Splinters beat Newtown Golfers 2-0.

The 2014/15 season saw Under 19 teams enter the Cup for the first time. Harleston Town U19's made it to the Final before losing 2-0 to Labas.

Another U19's team reached the final in 2015/16; North Walsham Town, but again the senior side prevailed with SNS winning 4-0.

Drayton Dazzlers emerged victorious in 2016/17, with a convincing 4-1 win over Rockland United. Danny Shafiyan, Ben Hughes, Dillon Alexander & Owen Spooner all got in on the act for Drayton.

In 2017/18 Aylsham beat fellow Norwich & District Sunday League side Silver Fox 1-0, whilst in 2018/19, Silver Fox returned to the final to beat Watton United 2-3 AET. The 2019/20 Finalists comprised of Easton and Long Stratton but unfortunately the Covid pandemic meant that game never got played. The 2020/21 season saw the final return and served up an entertaining encounter between Long Stratton and F.C. Steamers, with Long Stratton emerging victorious on penalties 4-2, 3-3 after 90 minutes.

The 2021/22 season on the new Harrod Sport Arena pitch, it was Young Boys who claimed the trophy as they beat Jubilee by two goals to nil, whilst in 2022/23, Norman Wanderers were victorious as they beat Over Me 3-0.

Last season the final was an all U18's affair as two sides from the Norfolk Combined Youth League, Costessey Sports U18s and Martham U18s, faced each other here at the FDC towards the end of May and it was Costessey Sports who lifted the trophy with a narrow 2-1 victory.

WEST NORWICH WANDERERS FC SQUAD INFORMATION



Vice captain and heart of the defence, Luke loves a good slide tackle. Let's hope he remembers his shin pads!

Tim Anderson - Full Back

A swashbuckling full back, a new addition to the club who is quickly becoming a fan favourite.

Mehdi Bayasta - Forward

First season at the club, the ball sticks to his feet and he is very hard to get the ball off. He also provides the added addition of goals.

Kileon Bounden - Centre Back

A Norfolk born centre half who always has a solid performance. Kileon likes to move forward with the ball and was our winner of Goal of the Season last uear.

Haydn Byrne - Full Back

A very versatile full back who can play on either side, one of the original first team members.

George Douglass - Full Back/Winger

George is comfortable playing as a full back or on the wing. Unfortunately, injuries have held him backthis season.

Charlie Downing - Winger

"Chunk" has the ability to pop up with the crucial goal when needed, always has one eye on his stats!

Jude Duguay - Full Back

Another one of the originals, moved from full back winger to show us what his feet can do.

Ramsay Gashut - Striker

"Rambo" is a veteran striker that has scored goals on many levels. Also known as the GOAT by his teammates. Once scored 14 goals in a single match, or so legend has it!

Luke Middleton - Striker

Never afraid to take the shot on, Luke is the life and soul of the dressing room, club jester.

Oliver Nolan - Centre Back

Another solid ball playing defender who loves taking a free kick, no matter where it is on the pitch.

Dean Roddy - Midfield

Our very own 28 year old Irish wizard, now in his second season with the club. Dean is starting to produce more goals to his game.

Harvey Ruff - Striker

A good old fashioned striker who has unfortunately had an injury struck season. There's no doubt he'll come back even stronger.

Amer Shali - Left Wing

Another new addition to the club this season, a very respectful young man who has popped up with some vital goals.

Shay Smith - CDM

Last season's Player of the Season, Shay is very strong and passionate about football and likes to dominate in the middle of the park.

WEST NORWICH WANDERERS FC SQUAD INFORMATION

Henry Stoker - Goalkeeper

Last season Henry spent a long time out through injury. He is now starting to show us what a very good young keeper he really is.

Kai White - Full Back

Last season's most improved player, Kai is a young lad who is learning that little bit more in each game.

Tyler White - Winger

Lightning quick, blink and you'll miss him. Another one of our original players who is now adding assists to his mountain of goals.

Bradley Yates - Midfielder

Our club captain, quite simply Bradley is the heartbeat of the team.

Fin Yates - Midfield

A very level-headed midfielder who loves a good tackle, Fin is cool, calm and collected.



WEST NORWICH WANDERERS FC SQUAD LIST



PLAYER TO WATCH

Mehdi **BAYASTA**

Mehdi is our very own "Kurdish" Messi!

Goalkeepers

Henry **STOKER**

Defenders

Kai WHITE

Oliver NOLAN

George **DOUGLASS**

Haudn BYRNE

Kileon BOUNDEN

Tim **ANDERSON**

Luke ADAMS

Midfielders

Dean RODDY

Shay **SMITH**

Bradley YATES

Fin **YATES**

Forwards

Tyler WHITE

Amer SHALI

Harvey RUFF

Luke **MIDDLETON**

Ramsay GASHUT

Jude **DUGUAY**

Charlie **DOWNING**

Mehdi **BAYASTA**

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Manager **SIMON YATES**

Assistant Manager RYAN TOWNSEND

Chairman/Assistant Coach JUSTIN KNOTT

Vice Chairman LEWIS BOUNDEN

/Assistant Coach





UPPER CROSS FC SQUAD LIST

SQUAD

Goalkeepers

Dillon O'CONNOR

Defenders

Matthew FROSDICK

Jake **PURNELL**

Ben **GREEN**

Kyron **CUSHMAN**

Caleb WARNE

Frank **GUYTON**

Joshua HAGUE

Midfielders

Evan **PERRY**

Lewis CHAPMAN

Matthew **STOREY**

Kailum D'EATH

Will **GOULD**

James BROOKSBY

Forwards

Olly **BUXTON**

Harry HANWELL

Lucas BULL-ANTHONY

Harvey VINCENT

Fraser REEVES

PLAYER TO WATCH

Lewis CHAPMAN

Lewis has had a great season, and the statistics show this with him having 26 goal contributions in 18 games. He likes to get on the ball and create for his side with his creative style of play. Will make runs into the box when playing in midfield to help add another body into the box. Lewis supports the attackers and plays clever passes to create scoring opportunities for his teammates in the final third of the pitch. Lewis has the ability from a set piece to deliver a fantastic ball into the box for his teammates to attack in the box, and this has been something Upper Cross have capitalised on this season scoring multiple times from these situations. Lewis has also captained his side multiple times this season which has led the team to victories in multiple competitions this season against good sides.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Manager Kailum D'eath Assistant Manager Joshua Hague





UPPER CROSS FC SQUAD INFORMATION

Dillon O'Connor - Goalkeeper

A GK who was signed during the season and has helped bolster the defence since his arrival. He is a big communicator when on the pitch and helps. organise the clubs defensive shape.

Joshua Hague - Right Back

Josh is a solid defensive right back who enjoys 1v1 defending and has been consistent all season making 17 appearances scoring 2 goals.

Frank Guyton - Centre Back

A player who has been consistent all season providing defensive solidity and a big physical and aerial presence. While also being comfortable on the ball, Frank is a CB which suits the club's style of play.

Caleb Warne - Centre Back

A skilled centre back who offers a lot in possession and often starts attacks with line breaking passes. While dominating aerial battles with the opponent's attackers. He has proven a big addition to the club this season.

James Brooksby - Defensive Midfielder

James has played a big part in this season's cup run by providing some huge performances. Especially in the semi-final. He is a midfielder who breaks up play and starts attacks with his range of passing.

Will Gould - Centre Midfielder

Will has played a pivotal part in this season's success with his adaptability to play in both attacking and defensive roles within the midfield. Has an exceptional ability to carry the ball up the pitch and link midfield and attack.

Fraser Reeves - Left Winger

He has been the club's main source of goals this season and has been prolific all season. Scoring 19 goals in 17 games in the process, shows his finishing ability and is one of the most inform players in the league going into this final.

Kailum D'eath - Centre Midfield

Even though he is the manager he has also played a big part in the clubs attacking output this season with multiple games in the midfield as well as a handful of games off the right wing. Has a high pressing style of play causing multiple turnovers in possession.

Harvey Vincent - Striker

A striker who has been hit with injuries this season but has still been influential when playing and is the clubs 2nd top scorer. Is a quick physical striker who will try to get in behind but can also link up play well.

Lucas Bull-Anthony - Right Winger

A quick and strong player who has played a small part this season because of injury but played a big part in the club getting to the final with a very well taken goal in the semi-final.

Kyron Cushman - Left Back

A player who has had a fantastic second half of the season and played a big part of the 6-1 win in the quarter final with a strike from 30 yards into the top corner. Defensively solid but also offers a lot going forward.

Ben Green - Left Back

A very attacking full back who likes to get forward and overlap the winger to get balls in the box. Has also played further forward throughout the season due to his attacking mindset.

UPPER CROSS FC SQUAD INFORMATION

Matthew Storey - Defensive Midfielder

A key part to the side's midfield, Matthew is someone who breaks up play and distributes the ball well from the centre of the pitch. Often wins multiple fouls in the game with his playing style.

Lewis Chapman - Attacking Midfielder

A player who can unlock defences which has been seen with the league most assists this season. Likes to link play and carry the ball as well as looking to split defences with a through ball. Has also played in the backline at times due to his pace helping the team defend against teams who run in behind.

Jake Purnell - Right Back

A strong defender who has been one of the team's best players in the second half of the season with some great performances at right back and centre back. Often likes to drive forward and create and put crosses in the box.

Matthew Frosdick - Right Back

A player who has had some standout performances this season and has developed to become an attacking full back for the side this season. In the quarter final he was man of the match by having a great game defensively 1v1.

Evan Perry - Attacking Midfield

An exciting technical player who has been an attacking bright spark in the team this season by creating chances and scoring goals in this competition. Has the ability to keep the ball in tight areas.

Harry Hanwell - Right Winger

A powerful winger who has the ability to score plenty of goals especially from range with his powerful strike. Can also play down the middle and link play with midfielders.

Ollu Buxton - Striker

A real fan favourite of the club and is a fantastic person to have in the changing room. Offers a big physical presence when on the pitch and offers the side something different when needing to change approach.





REFEREE INFORMATION



REFEREE Troy TobiasAge: 30
Referee Level: 6



ASSISTANT REFEREE Lewis Church Age: 29 Referee Level: 7

Interesting Fact/Profession:

Currently works at Lotus Cars as rework operative ensuring the cars are finished to the standards the customer and the company expects.

Previous Cup Finals:

None



ASSISTANT REFEREE Chris BrownAge: 62
Referee Level: 7

Interesting Fact/Profession:

Retired Police Officer.

Previous Cup Finals:

Women's Cup (Assistant Referee), Veterans Cup (4th official) and Sunday Junior Cup (4th Official).

Interesting Fact/Profession:

Rides motorcycles in his spare time.

Previous Cup Finals::

U16's Girls Cup (Referee).



FOURTH OFFICIAL Ron BloomfieldAge: 49
Referee Level: 7

Interesting Fact/Profession:

Works in excavation safety.

Previous Cup Finals:

None.



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