

The FINAL



EASTBOURNE TOWN vs. EASTBOURNE UNITED ASSOCIATION

**SUSSEX UNDER-23s CHALLENGE CUP FINAL
WEDNESDAY 15 MAY 2024 | KICK-OFF: 7:30PM**

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



SimonRoe

P H O T O G R A P H Y

Official Photographer to the Sussex County FA



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The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Sussex County FA.

SAFEGUARDING IS OUR TOP PRIORITY IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS HERE TODAY PLEASE REPORT THEM TO OUR SAFETY OFFICER / DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD.



WELCOME

Welcome to the Sussex County FA Headquarters for today's Sussex Under-23s Challenge Cup Final between Eastbourne Town and Eastbourne United Association.

Should the score be level after ninety minutes, the result will be decided by kicks from the penalty mark.

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to our match officials, and we congratulate each of them for their appointment to this game.

The trophy and individual mementos will be presented to the players and officials on the field of play following the conclusion of the match.

Please make use of the facilities, the licensed bar and servery will be open throughout for hot food, drinks and other refreshments.

Finally for those of you that embrace social media you can keep up to date with all the latest news from the Sussex County FA by following on Facebook, X, Instagram, YouTube, TikTok and LinkedIn.

Enjoy the match and have a safe journey home.

Thura

Thura KT Win

Chair of the Sussex County FA



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ROUTE TO THE FINAL



SUSSEX UNDER-23s CHALLENGE CUP

* Received a bye in previous round

FIRST ROUND

SALTDEAN UNITED	1	0	SELSEY
MONTPELIER VILLA	0	1	EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN
SHOREHAM	0	2	MILE OAK
ROFFEY	W	L	CROWBOROUGH ATHLETIC

FERRING	1	6	EASTBOURNE UNITED ASS.
WORTHING UNITED	1 ⁽⁴⁾	1 ⁽⁵⁾	PEACEHAVEN & TELS.
OAKWOOD	1	5	PAGHAM

SECOND ROUND

*BROADBRIDGE HEATH	4 ⁽³⁾	4 ⁽⁴⁾	SALTDEAN UNITED
EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN	7	0	*CHICHESTER CITY
*STORRINGTON COMM.	2	5	MILE OAK
*EASTBOURNE TOWN	1	0	*HORSHAM YMCA

*STEYNING TOWN COMM.	2	5	*NEWHAVEN
*HASSOCKS	0	4	*BEXHILL UNITED
EASTBOURNE UNITED ASS.	5	3	ROFFEY
PAGHAM	3 ⁽⁴⁾	3 ⁽⁵⁾	PEACEHAVEN & TELS.

QUARTER-FINAL

BROADBRIDGE HEATH	1 ⁽⁴⁾	1 ⁽⁵⁾	EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN
MILE OAK	3	4	EASTBOURNE TOWN

NEWHAVEN	5 ⁽⁴⁾	5 ⁽⁵⁾	BEXHILL UNITED
EASTBOURNE UNITED ASS.	4	0	PAGHAM

SEMI-FINAL

EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN	L	W	EASTBOURNE TOWN
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BEXHILL UNITED	0	1	EASTBOURNE UNITED ASS.
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ENOUGH IS ENOUGH



LOVE FOOTBALL. PROTECT THE GAME

EASTBOURNE TOWN



Pre-Match Preview: Shaun Lee

Eastbourne Town manager Shaun Lee said it would “mean everything” to win the Sussex Under-23s Challenge Cup ahead of the final against Eastbourne United Association at Culver Road.

“This is the cup I wanted to win, because I think at Under-23s level, this is the best competition you can win, so for me personally it means everything.”

En route to the final Town managed an impressive victory against holders Horsham YMCA in the second round, and an unbelievable 4-3 victory over Mile Oak in the quarter-finals, where they came from 3-0 down.

Lee was quick to point out that for his side it has taken “a lot of dedication” to reach the final, and that individual work by the players has been key to their success.

“I normally get the players to just go out and do their own bits over the weekend, just to make sure they’re keeping fit. So, it’s self-motivation, I always say to the players, the hard work gets rewarded, so those extra bits, they do reward you, and we’ve got to a cup final,” said Lee.

“I don’t think any of them have been in a County Cup Final before, so we’ll go in enjoying it, enjoying the occasion, and just play our game, and take the game to them,” he continued.

On whether the derby gives the game an extra edge, Lee said: “It can do, but I think that can be a distraction sometimes, so I think we’ve just got to play it like a cup final, regardless of who it is.

“I think we just play our game, if we play our game on the night I believe we can beat them.”

Lee said there is plenty of potential in his squad, and cited forward Tyler Pearson, who has 11 goals in 17 appearances this season, as a major threat.

On the importance of cup victory to the players, Lee said: “While you’re young, while you’re in the Under-23s, you’re always on the hunt to make memories and pick up a medal.

“I think they want this more than anything, I think this is the competition they want, because I think it’ll mean the world to them as well.”

PLAYER PROFILES



Shay Hollobone • GK

Joined from Eastbourne Borough at the start of the season, the captain, who shows unbelievable leadership.



Ralf Burke • CB

Progressed from the Under-18s, solid centre back and loves a tackle. He has a bright future ahead of him.



Tom Cherryman • CB

A solid defender who has a lot of experience at this level. An older head with great leadership.



Lee Connolly • CB

A very physical defender, not many get past him, very good in the air and also loves a tackle.



Kye Crowhurst • CM

This lad is a pleasure to coach, he gets around the pitch with ease and is a very physical player, a player who did progress into first team this season.



Thierno Diallo • CM

'T' is one of the strongest players to play for me, very composed on the ball and never stops running.



Jensen Davies • CB, LB

Can play multiple positions on the pitch and do a great job. Jensen is having a great finish to the season.



Ronnie Galt • CM

Ronnie came back to the club after gaining experience with Seaford first team, very composed player and has an eye for a pass.



Anthony Gilly • CM

'Gilly' is a very talented player, bundles of experience at this level, he is one to look out for in the future.



Ethan Howard • RB, LB

My second season coaching Ethan, a very quick full back who does a great job whichever side he plays.



Harry Hughes • CAM, ST

Another player with a wealth of experience at first team, a spot on attitude and a player for the younger players to look up to.



Matty Myall • LW, LB

Captain of the Under-18s who has been a massive addition to this squad. Quick, strong and a spot on attitude.



Harry Murphy • CB

Joined us late this season, every game he has played he has impressed, a solid centre back.



Dom Parish • LB

Left sided player, who has impressed whenever he has played for us, a long throw specialist.



Tyler Pearson • ST

Ex-Eastbourne Borough striker, has an eye for goal, all round solid striker with a wealth of experience.



Fletcher Sheppard • CM

Another player to progress from the Under-18s, a great attitude and never puts a foot wrong.



Macca Stiles • RB

A player who has a wealth of experience at this level, a dangerous player on set pieces. Another player to progress in to the first team this season.



Noah Titterton-Manos • ST

A late addition from the Under-18s, a rapid striker, very hard working and never looks out of place.



Sonny Walsh • ST

With us from the start of the season and has progressed with the first team this season. Quick and a great finisher.



Mykee Worman • CAM

Is a very busy midfielder who has a great engine. Another great season for Mykee.



Tyrice Whiteoak • CB

Ty is a solid out an out centre back who loves to score.

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EASTBOURNE UNITED ASSN.



Pre-Match Preview: Bailo Camara

Eastbourne United boss Bailo Camara said the derby gives his players “extra motivation” ahead of the final.

“They know players from [the opposition] team, some of them probably go to college together or they’ve played together before, so all this gives them extra motivation,” said Camara.

United have already been crowned champions of the Under-23s Southern Combination Football League East and finished 13 points above Town in fifth.

Their only league defeat came in a 3-1 home defeat on the first day of the season against Newhaven, and they have since won 11 and drawn four since.

“I think that was a big turning point for the boys because I didn’t think they did believe that they could go and reach such a high potential.

“So, I think it was just a case of installing that belief in the boys that we could go on and have an amazing season and I think they just bought into it, and then they’ve been performing ever since.”

Camara said the approach going into the final will be the same as every game they’ve played this season, which included a 3-2 victory over Town last September.

“It doesn’t matter whether it was for the Under-23s Challenge Cup or for league games, we just go with that winning mentality, try to play our football, and do everything we’ve done since September to go and win the game,” said Camara.

It’s been a smoother route to the final for United, who have scored a combined 15 goals in their four games, which included a 6-1 victory over Ferring in the first round.

And they edged a 1-0 away victory at Bexhill United to reach the final. In the semi-final, Camara said: “It was a tight game, they were expecting us to come in and then get hold of the game and so yeah, it was tough, but the boys still did the job.

“They were patient the way they played, and they knew if they got quality chances eventually they would go and win the game, so they just needed to remain calm.”

Camara had plenty of praise for his team, who have also won the Under-23s Southern Combination Challenge Cup.

“Everyone has had an amazing season; they’ve been really consistent but obviously they’re always standout players.

“For me my standout player this season has been Ed Ratcliffe. Overall, we’ve got a really good squad, with great solidity and really great balance.”

He cited Tyler Pearson as the main threat from Town: “They’ve got a little bit of experience, one of their centre forwards [Tyler Pearson] used to play under me for AFC Uckfield Town years ago so I know him really well, he’s a really good player. So, I think he will be their main threat.”

On the emotion going into the game, Camara said: “My squad is really young, so I think it will be more feelings of excitement than actually nerves to be honest.

“It would be amazing especially with such a young squad and with it being such a long season, I think it will be just amazing to have the boys achieve such a big win against their local rivals!”

PLAYER PROFILES



Mackay Msezanes • GK

Very confident goalkeeper that has been at the club for 2 seasons and always showed being really committed, hard working player and very coachable young man.



Jordan Pittam • CF

First season at the club, started the season really well, scoring goals and creating goals, very quick and tricky player with the ball.



Tyano Wilson • CF

Young player that had his debut a couple months ago, always showed an eye for goal, by scoring 6 goals in his last 8 appearances.



Ashley Crabb • RW

Ashley first season at the club, another winger very tricky with the ball and creative.



Kobe Agbude • CH

Young centre half that started the season well, but due to college matches couldn't commit to the season, but came back towards the end of season to make us even stronger.



Jake Prodger • MD

Very versatile midfielder, can play and can break the play, strong in the air.



Titas Zogla • RW

Tricky winger and creative player, but he is another player who came back to strengthen our squad.



Ed Ratcliffe • CM

One talented young player, that was regular at first team choice.



Alex Dadgostar • LB

Alex's second season at the club, very reliable defender.



Tyreek Nengoma • MD

All round midfielder, can play and can break the play, strong physically.

**Alfie Gander • CM**

Young midfielder that had his debut a couple months ago and been a very reliable player in the squad.

**Charlie Yeates • CH**

One of the captains of the team, charlie has been one of the main players this season.

**Baran Kartel • RW**

Another young player who had his debut a couple months ago, very creative player and good on the ball.

**Jordon Funnell • CH**

Captain of the team, second season at the club, leader, vocal and very dominant.

**Josh Gould • CF**

Very creative forward that joined the club halfway through the season, josh got a lot of experience and an amazing left foot.

**Anthony Storey • MD**

Very experienced midfielder, that helps the young players on the pitch.

**Max Thompson • CF**

Prolific centre forward, well known in the county football, adds experience and goals to the squad.

**Matthew Barbosa • RB**

Very strong and reliable player, that can play in various positions.

**Harvey Mapstone • MD**

Versatile player, can play in defence or midfield, good on the ball and very strong in the air.

**Alfie Headland • CH**

Very reliable defender, that has been at the club for years, loads of experience and very good player.

**Mardy Ovenden • CM**

Another young player that made his debut recently, very tidy on the ball and very mobile.

**Mason Creese • CM**

Returning to the squad after being away due to work commitment, Mason been a regular player for the first team, very talented and creative player.

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SUSSEX UNDER-23s CHALLENGE CUP

2018	HORSHAM YMCA	2021	COMPETITON CURTAILED	2024	
2019	NEWHAVEN	2022	HASTINGS UNITED		
2020	LANGNEY WANDERERS	2023	HORSHAM YMCA		

DONATE UNWANTED FOOTBALL KIT

Do you have any old or unwanted
football kit and/or equipment?

With the football season drawing to a close, many clubs may take the opportunity in the off-season to purchase a new kit. Players may also buy new boots, shin pads or goalkeeper gloves.

But spare a thought for that old football kit or pair of boots, what happens to those items now?

The Sussex County FA, together with charity partners Sussex to Africa, is encouraging all clubs and players to donate any of their unwanted football kit or equipment, so that it can be put to good use and bring joy to communities in Africa.

What football kit and equipment can be donated:

- Shirts
- Shorts
- Socks
- Tracksuits
- Boots
- Goalkeeper Gloves
- Shin Pads
- Footballs
- Trainers
- Training Equipment

All donations should be clean and kept together in a plastic bag, bin bag or box. Donations of both adult and children's kit and equipment is welcome.

How to donate:

- Drop into the Sussex County FA Headquarters in Lancing
- Contact the Sussex County FA who can arrange local collection

Sussex to Africa started in 2007 and is a non-profit organisation, aiming to bring hope and joy to communities in Africa through well coordinated sports programmes. It is a collaborative network of people and organisations designed to link Sussex to all things African.

The main objective of **Sussex to Africa** is to introduce and encourage street children and orphans to sport at the community level and to offer the children a chance to play a sport they appreciate the most.



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EASTBOURNE TOWN

YELLOW - BLUE - BLUE

Manager Shaun Lee



EASTBOURNE UNITED ASSOCIATION

WHITE - WHITE - WHITE

Manager Bailo Camara

Shay **HOLLOBONE** (GK)

Ralf **BURKE**

Tom **CHERRYMAN**

Lee **CONNOLLY**

Kye **CROWHURST**

Jenson **DAVIES**

Thierno **DIALLO**

Ronnie **GALT**

Anthony **GILL**

Ethan **HOWARD**

Harry **HUGHES**

Harry **MURPHY**

Matthew **MYALL**

Dom **PARISH**

Tyler **PEARSON**

Fletcher **SHEPPARD**

Mackenzie **STILES**

Noah **TITTERTON-MANOS**

Sonny **WALSH**

Mykee **WORMAN**

Tyriece **WHITEOAK**

Mackay **MSEZANES** (GK)

Kobe **AGBUDE**

Matthew **BARBOSA**

Ash **CRABB**

Mason **CREESE**

Alex **DADGOSTAR**

Jordon **FUNNELL**

Alfie **GANDER**

Josh **GOULD**

Alfie **HEADLAND**

Baran **KARTAL**

Harvey **MAPSTONE**

Tyreek **NENGOMA**

Mardy **OVENDEN**

Jordan **PITTAM**

Jake **PRODGER**

Ed **RATCLIFFE**

Anthony **STOREY**

Max **THOMPSON**

Tyano **WILSON**

Charlie **YEATES**

Titus **ZOGLA**

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