



## **Amersham Town Football Club Season 2025 – 2026**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Amersham Town v Holyport.  
CCFL Premier Division North**

**Kick off 2.00pm**



**Chairman: Paul Serkis**  
**Secretary: Bryan Fisher**  
**Manager: Jason Owens**

Welcome to the players, committee members and supporters of Holyport. This is a true six pointer, with Amersham Town requiring a victory to ensure that we remain in the Premier Division next season while Holyport need a draw to stay in the Prem. With Holyport enjoying a recent revival, three points will not be easy to come by.

It has, to say the least, been a strange season. We started off quite well taking ten points from our first seven games and included at the same tie a fine win away at Cinderford in the FA Cup. We continued to pick up points until mid-October: and then the wheels came off! From our win against Edgware & Kingsbury on 11<sup>th</sup> October we failed to record another until our victory against the same opponents on 31<sup>st</sup> March. Since then our form has improved so we do have more optimism going into this match.

Nevertheless, this has been a testing time for a young team. Great credit is therefore due to manager, Jason Owens, and coach, Alfier Sanger, for keeping morale high and continuing to encourage good football.

Whatever happens this afternoon, under Chairman Paul Serkis and with several new committee members, the club is now in a very good place. We therefore look forward to greeting everyone at the start of the new season.

Enjoy the game.

Mike Gahagan

**Next game at Spratleys Meadow: Look on our website for future fixtures.**

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**ENTRY: Adults £8, Senior Citizens £6, Children under 16 free**

## Amersham Town

1. Ben Clargo
2. Josh Quadry
3. Kevin Fernandes
4. Mark Webb
5. Dominic Jones
6. Ethan Sennett
7. Callum Coen
8. Naz Miah
9. Chris Martin-Thomas
10. Ronan Ishmaili
11. Shaun Aram
12. Riley Durkin
14. Josh Penemo
15. Archie Sykes
16. Matt Messer
17. Daniel Fogarasy
18. Kai Bartolo

Manager: Jason Owens  
Head Coach: Alfie Sanger  
Coach: Ben Clargo  
GK Coach Mark Bonnick.

Colours: Black & White

## Holyport

1. Will Cullum
2. Matteo Cedrola
3. Callum Childress
4. Andy Forisky
5. Dan Wilson
6. Matthew Ensby
7. Freddie Lewendon
8. Ramon Rose
9. Harry Laflin
10. Liam McVicar
11. Amari Dumont
- 12 Sam Thurston
14. Elijah Gayle
15. Jacob Turner
16. Lucas Surpanu
17. Manuel Kingsley-Nyinah
18. Zak Zaoui

Manager: Lee Ovens

Colours: Maroon & Green

**Referee:** Paul Sangster  
**Assn't Ref:** Brian Capel  
**Assn't Ref:** Edward Clifford

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponents</b>	<b>H/A</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Scorers</b>
29.7.25	North Greenford	A	1 - 1	Miah
2.8.25	Cinderford Town	A	1 - 0	Johnson. FA Cup: extra preliminary round
9.8.25	Wokingham Tn	H	3 - 0	Aram 2, Georgiou
16.8.25	Royal Wootton Bassett	A	1 - 3	Roman. FA Cup Preliminary Rnd
19.8.25	Holyport	A	1 - 2	Bartolo
23.8.25	Brook House	H	0 - 1	FA Vase
25.8.25	Harefield Utd	A	0 - 3	
30.8.25	Ardley Utd	H	2 - 0	Aram, Georgiou
3.9.25	Hilltop	A	2 - 4	Jones, Sennett
9.9.25	Holmer Green	H	2 - 3	Aram, Austin B&B SC
16.9.25	Windsor & Eton	A	2 - 4	Bartolo, Sykes. Chlg Cup
20.9.25	North Leigh	A	1 - 2	Johnson
27.9.25	Burnham	H	1 - 0	Johnson
4.10.25	British Airways	A	0 - 2	
11.10.25	Edgware & K'y	H	1 - 0	Aram
18.10.25	Milton Utd	A	2 - 3	Aram, Martin-Thomas
22.10.25	Kidlington	A	0 - 0	
25.10.25	Broadfields Utd	H	0 - 4	
1.11.25	Wallingford & C	A	0 - 0	
8.11.25	Wokingham Tn	A	1 - 6	Martin-Thomas
15.11.25	Abingdon Utd	A	0 - 2	
22.11.25	Harefield Utd	H	1 - 9	Bartolo
13.12.25	Virginia Water	H	0 - 2	
20.12.25	Ashford Town	A	1 - 3	Martin-Thomas
27.12.25	North Greenford	H	1 - 4	Martin-Thomas
10.1.26	Hilltop	H	2 - 2	Coen, Sykes
20.1.26	Windsor & Eton	H	0 - 0	
31.1.26	Burnham	A	1 - 3	Bartolo
21.2.26	Milton Utd	H	1 - 3	Miah
24.2.26	Everett Rovers	A	1 - 4	St Mary's Cup
28.2.26	Kidlington	H	0 - 2	
7.3.26.	Abingdon Utd	H	1 - 1	Aram
10.3.26	Wallingford & C	H	1 - 3	Bartolo
14.3.26	Windsor & Eton	A	0 - 3	

17.3.26	Ashford Tn Mdx	H	0 - 3	
21.3.26	North Leigh	H	0 - 3	
24.3.26	Ardley Utd	A	0 - 1	
28.3.26	Reading City	A	1 - 2	Kelly
31.3.26	Edgware & K'by	A	2 - 0	
4.4.26	Broadfields Utd	A	1 - 3	Kelly
6.4.26	Reading City	H	2 - 2	Bartolo 2
11.4.26	British Airways	H	1 - 1	Bartolo

## Cherry Red Records Combined Counties League: Premier Division North

As at Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

		<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>Pts</b>
1	Ashford Town (Mdx)	37	24	6	7	47	78
2	Broadfields United	37	21	9	7	35	72
3	Windsor & Eton	34	20	11	3	44	71
4	Burnham	37	21	8	8	33	71
5	Ardley United	36	21	6	9	37	69
6	Reading City	36	19	7	10	19	64
7	North Greenford Utd	35	19	7	9	13	64
8	Wallingford & Cm'sh	37	18	8	11	6	62
9	Kidlington	38	13	15	10	4	54
10	Virginia Water	37	14	9	14	-2	51
11	Abingdon United	37	13	9	15	-6	48
12	Milton United	37	14	6	17	-7	48
13	Wokingham Town	35	13	7	15	1	46
14	Hilltop	35	12	4	19	-8	40
15	British Airways	34	11	8	15	-9	38 *
16	Harefield United	36	9	8	19	-17	35
17	North Leigh	36	7	6	23	-33	27
18	Holyport	37	8	3	26	-57	27
19	Amersham Town	37	6	8	23	-46	26
20	Edgware & K'bury	38	6	3	29	-54	21

\*adjusted score

## **HOLYPORT FC: HISTORY**

Holyport Football Club was formed on 1st September 1897 in The George Pub in Holyport Village, with 20 members at a Shilling a piece to join. Initially they played in the Maidenhead and District League, their home ground was at Windsor Road, Bray. The club slowly progressed and joined the Hayes and Giles League where they played their home games at Braywick Park.

At the beginning of the 2002/2003, after three very successful seasons, Holyport were promoted to the Hellenic League Division 1 East. Two seasons later they moved to their current ground at Summerleaze Park in North Maidenhead. This move signaled the start of a new and exciting era for the club. Having secured the necessary planning permission, as well as funding from the Football Foundation, the new ground has been in a state continuous of improvement. In season 2007/8 the ground was fenced, floodlights installed and since then has seen further improvements to the changing facilities, hard standing on three sides of the ground, the erection of three spectator grandstands and a hospitality room. These changes are the culmination of several years of hard work and the club's Summerleaze Park ground now meets the F.A and League requirements for Holyport to continue to play at their current step five level of football. The club have also been awarded planning permission for a new tearbar and turnstile, this was awarded in March 2022 with the board in the process of obtaining grants to fund this project.

These continuous improvements, both of and off the pitch, have all contributed to progressing the Club's ambitions of playing in the F.A. Vase and the FA Cup which they achieved in 2008 and 2010 respectively. Additionally in 2009/10 season and 2010/11 season the club was jointly awarded the Hungerford Cup (shared with Shortwood United in 2009/10 and then Thame United 2010/11). The cup is awarded to the club who has shown the most development, both on and off the field, throughout the season.

2010/11 Season was a historic season for Holyport. In their first season with the club the new management team of Derek Sweetman, Kevin Carvell and Calvin Maye led the side to the UhlSPORT Hellenic 1 Division

East title, AM Print and Copy Floodlit Cup and The Bluefin Insurance

Challenge Cup. In 2009/10 Jamie Handscomb was also recognised by the League winning the Division Player of the Year award, the third time a Port player has won this trophy. Along with the Hungerford Cup, four cups in one season will probably be the club's most successful season for a good number of years to come. The 2011/12 Season saw Holyport finish a very respectable 13th in their debut season and also as Semi Finalists in The Berks and Bucks Senior Cup and League Supplementary Cup.

The 2012/13 brought yet more development for Holyport FC as they fielded their first ever Youth side in The Allied Counties League. 2014/15 saw Martin Kenealy step aside after 12 months in charge, The committee had a think about the future and decided to was best to step down to Division One East and promote Barry, Dan, Chris and John into the management setup. The side had a steady season in 2015/16 but 2016/17 was a struggle. 2017/18 saw Dan and Chris move on but ex Holyport player Matt Rolfe was appointed as Asst Manager and with this the team finished 5th in the league. Barry Rake resigned in the summer of 2018 and with this the club appointed Derek Sweetman as Manager for 2018/19 season with Rolfe, Ovens and Deverall assisting him. Along with this the side re-entered the FA Cup and announced a three year sponsorship deal with Anthony Mullan furniture. The 18/19 season produced a good FA Vase run and once again a 5th place in the league but securing more points than the previous season.

19/20 The side were placed in the top 3 before Covid-19 struck and our pleasing season was wiped out. After another Covid-19 struck season the club were finally awarded promotion to Step 5 on a PPG basis, but moving across to the newly formed Combined Counties North League. The club struggled at the start of the league campaign but after being written off by many achieved their Step 5 status via a superior goal difference on the final day.

During the summer of 2022 the club announced that Derek Sweetman would become an Ambassador for the club, this first in their history as recognition for his 336 games in charge and success whilst at the club. Sam Lock who had been the clubs Assistant Manager during the season

was promoted to manager for 2022/23 with a new management team alongside him.

The club also welcomed Holyport legends Lee Ovens and Daniel Rapley into the Reserves as joint managers along with Nick Philips as coach. The club also welcomed three junior sides to the club to improve their offering to the local community in their 125th Anniversary year.

The 125th season proved a successful season, the First Team secured their position in the league along with historic runs in the FA Cup and FA Vase great. With wins against Ascot United (FA Cup) who went on to win the FA Vase at Wembley. This saw a number of our younger players scouted and trial for the likes of QPR and Maidenhead United.

The Reserve Team has also had a very good season finishing 4<sup>th</sup> and gaining promotion to the TVPL This in itself is testament to the management and its players as this team was only put together at the start of the season. The Reserve Team also enjoyed a great cup run making it to the semi-final of the Reading Senior Cup only to lose 1-0 to Yateley Town who went unbeaten in the league above all season.

The U8 Junior side won the clubs first ever Junior Trophy, off the back of this the 2022/23 season sees six Junior sides now with the club and an over 50s mens side playing on Sundays. The club continues to grow in the community through the events of all the volunteers involved with the club. 2023/24 saw a further progression for the club with more Junior sides and the The Reserves moved into the Premier Division of the Thames Valley League and had a very strong season finishing 9<sup>th</sup>. The first team grew from strength to strength after a slow start. As the season drew to a close the side won 10 games in their last 14, securing a playoff place which was lost to playoff winners Rayners Lane. The side managed to create more history for the club with the highest ever finish – 5<sup>th</sup> place and a highest ever points total at Step 5 football with 61 points.

Last season saw Holyport finish a very respectable eight in the table.

## Jorge Gonzales: El Magico

It can be easy to convince ourselves that our sport is meritocratic. That the talent always rises to the top, and failing is proof that a player isn't good enough, or wasn't professional enough to get there. But we ignore the role that geographical luck can have on a player's career. George Best was lucky to be born in Britain, so spotted by one of the biggest clubs in the world. He was unlucky - in footballing terms - to be born in Northern Ireland, so he couldn't show his ability at international level. But what if he had been born in a country with no footballing heritage? One away from the spotlight, before widespread coverage, and without access to a giant to develop him? What if his name was Jorge Gonzalez?

*El Magico*, as he was known, was born in El Salvador, not a country known for its football. He made his debut for ANTEL in the top flight at just 17, and quickly earned himself a move to the bigger Independiente, and then once more FAS, where he won three league titles. But Gonzalez wasn't just part of a team. He was the team. He developed the kind of ability that, in Europe, would have made him one of the hottest talents in the world. And he developed the kind of discipline and lifestyle that would make Maradona blush. He was a superstar, and it wouldn't take long before he showed it.

Already a star of the national team, by 1982 he had led El Salvador to the brink of the World Cup. One game against a respectable Mexico was in their way, and for the first time *El Magico* would be in front of a significant television audience. He spent the evening trying flicks and tricks and generally being bulldozed by Mexican defenders who were aware of the danger he posed. But deep into the second period, he picked up the ball in his own half. He danced around one challenge, and then a second, and was off. Defenders chased him down, but couldn't get near him as he jinked past another. It would have been a goal of the century contender if it had been on a bigger stage and, crucially, if it had gone in. His shot from the edge of the box was saved, but too much to handle for the goalkeeper, as teammate Ever Hernandez scored the winner from the rebound.

The World Cup, at only 22, would be *El Magico's* zenith. El Salvador were hopeless, losing all three of the games. But he stood out once again. Like dropping Messi into the team from the Dog and Duck, and telling them to play Man City. They were hammered, but his quality was evident. Atletico Madrid and Cadiz made offers. He chose the latter, not because of their quality, but because of the freedom they would afford his lifestyle.

As prolific as he was on the pitch, Gonzalez was even more so off it. The king of Cadiz' nightlife, he would spend his nights in the clubs and his days rolling into training whenever he pleased. Still, his ability helped them into the top flight, but wasn't enough to keep them there. Once relegated, a Diego Maradona-inspired Barcelona came calling.

*El Magico* would never link up with the Argentine. In a story befitting his career, he blew his chance on a pre-season tour of America. When the rest of the squad evacuated the hotel for a fire alarm, he remained in his room with his date. When asked why, he replied that 'I never leave things half done.'

He returned to Cadiz, but a change of manager meant that it wasn't the place for him. He was loaned out to Valladolid, who tried to instill some discipline into him. It didn't work, and Cadiz brought him back. He was a hero, and his antics only fed into his legend.

The club hired a member of staff whose sole job was to wake Gonzalez up every morning, which just meant that he had an excuse to party harder. In one match against Atletico, he fell asleep standing up waiting for a corner to be delivered. In another against Barcelona, he had partied so hard he missed the first half. Still, he came on for the second, and scored two goals, setting up a third, and winning the match. Tests later showed that he played whilst still drunk.

By 1991, his legs were beginning to fail him, and he left his adopted home to head back to El Salvador. He saw out his playing days at FAS, in a haze of parties and alcohol.

It's very easy to point to *El Magico* as a cautionary tale of lost potential, and undoubtedly his career could have reached far greater heights. But, when Maradona was told by a Neapolitan journalist that he was better than

Pele, the Argentinian great replied that ‘there is a player even better than Pele and I. His name is Jorge Gonzalez.’ When the journalist asked who that was, he added ‘go and find out, ignorant man’. Which, I think, is pretty high praise indeed.

Enjoy the game.

**Martyn Green *The Untold Game***

**Find more at [TheUntoldGame.co.uk](http://TheUntoldGame.co.uk) or on social media @TheU**



**El Magico!**

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## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF AMERSHAM TOWN FC**

Amersham Town FC was formed in 1890. An inaugural meeting took place at the Crown public house, now a hotel, on 10 October 1890. The Chairman was a local headmaster who was very friendly with W. G. Grace and was, in fact, recommended by that great cricketer. Among the original rules were no bad language on the pitch, that no player should wear any nails, an annual subscription of 1/6d ( or 7.5p ) and an agreement that the club colours would be black and white.

The club originally played at Barn Meadow, down the road from the current ground. Amersham Town moved to Spratleys Meadow in 1920, thanks to the generosity of a local entrepreneur - a Mr Brazil - who founded the famous sausage and pie company bearing his name.

Amersham joined the Hellenic League in 1952 and then the Spartan League in 1972. The Clubhouse, a former school room, was erected in 1968 and extended to its current size in 1983. New floodlights were installed in 1977. In 1998 the Club secured a ninety nine year lease on Spratleys Meadow and built a new stand. In 2000, new pitches were provided across School Lane for the Youth Section.

In 2006/07 the club enjoyed a major refurbishment. The original changing rooms, which were commandeered in the war as an emergency mortuary in the event of an air raid on Amersham, were demolished and modern facilities constructed. The pitch, which had a slope of 11ft 4 inches from touchline to touchline, was levelled and now provides an excellent playing surface. In 2022 the clubhouse was comprehensively remodelled and modern floodlights installed for this season.. Amersham Town was granted Charter Standard Club status in 2013.

The club moved to the Cherry Red Combined Counties League in season 22/23 and was promoted to the Premier Division North for last season. The team is managed by Jason Owens and the club has developed close links with Kings Church FC, a well organised local club which runs more than twenty junior teams.

A hard copy or an on-line booklet recording the club's history, prepared for its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015, can be obtained by emailing Mike Gahagan on [michaelgahagan89@gmail.com](mailto:michaelgahagan89@gmail.com)