



Wellingborough Charity Challenge Cup 1894-95

Winners: Leicester Fosse
Runners-up: Finedon
No. of entries: 10

Ten entries were received, but the Wellingborough Football Challenge Cup Committee decided to limit the number to 8 teams – four from Northamptonshire (Finedon, Kettering and Northampton), three from Leicestershire (Fosse, Hinckley Town, and Leicester YMCA) and one from Lincolnshire (Grantham Rovers).

The Leicestershire sides were kept apart in both draws.

YMCA easily overcame Kettering in the first round and lost to Finedon in the semi-finals.

Leicester Fosse Rovers slaughtered Finedon Rovers 8-1 to win the Cup in front of 3,000 spectators at Wellingborough Town's ground, after beating Wellingborough (6-0) and Grantham Rovers (4-0). The Fosse scored 18 goals in their three cup ties, conceding just 1.

Round 1

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
1	5.1.1895	Finedon	12	0/1	Northampton	Tower Field, Finedon. Small attendance. Northampton fielded just 8 men- the others having missed their train.
2	?	Grantham Rovers	W		Hinckley Town	
3	15.12.1894	Kettering	1	2	Leicester YMCA	North Park, Kettering. Kettering scored 5 mins from time.
4	25.12.1894	Leicester Fosse	6	0	Wellingborough	

Semi-Finals

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
5	16.3.1895	Grantham Rovers [Holders]	0	4	Leicester Fosse	At Wellingborough. Fine crowd, c.2,000 spectators. Fosse fielded a mixed team, the reserves assisted by several first team players. Grantham had their best team available – except that both first and second goalkeepers were incapacitated, so that a novice had to be pressed into service between the posts.
6	2.3.1895	Leicester YMCA	0	2	Finedon	At Wellingborough. 1,000 spectators.

Final

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
7	17.4.1895	Leicester Fosse Skea Miller Sterling AN Others	8 (3)	1 (0)	Finedon Garfield	At Wellingborough. 3,000 spectators. Mr Roston-Bourke (London Referees' Association) was the referee. Mr H Dalley presented the Cup to the Fosse.

Match Reports

#1WELLINGBOROUGH CUP

FINEDON v NORHAMPTON TOWN

These teams decided their cup tie on the Town Field, Finedon, on Saturday, before a small attendance. The weather was wretched and the ground in a very slippery condition. The Northampton captain had the services of but 8 men, the others having missed their train. After a one-sided game, Northampton suffered defeat by 12 goals to one, although they played a plucky game throughout.

Northampton Mercury - 11 January 1895

#2?

#3 LEICESTER YMCA v KETTERING

At Kettering. The Young Men kicked off with the wind in their favour, and they made good use of it. Leicester played an excellent combined game, and scored twice. Half-time: YMCA, two goals; Kettering, none. Kettering, with the wind, pressed, but Leicester played a grand defensive game. Kettering scored five minutes before time. Both teams played desperately, and Picken shaped up brilliantly.

Result:

YMCA, two goals;

KETTERING, one.

Leicester Daily Post - 17 December 1894

#4 LEICESTER FOSSE ROVERS v WELLINGBOROUGH TOWN - A Wellingborough Cup tie, played at Leicester yesterday. The Rovers were by far the stronger team, and had the best of the game throughout. Wellingborough missed several opportunities of scoring. In the first half Millican scored three times and Narraway once for the Fosse. The visitors improved slightly during the concluding part, and had hard lines, but Priestman and Millican put on the goals for the Fosse. Result: - Leicester Fosse Rovers, six goals, Kettering, nothing.

Sporting Life - 26 December 1894

#5 GRANTHAM ROVERS (Holders) v LEICESTER FOSSE

The above teams met at Wellingborough on Monday, in the second semi-final of the above cup. There were over 2,000 spectators present when Grantham kicked off with the wind and sun against them. The game ended: Fosse, four; Rovers, nil.

Northampton Mercury - 22 March 1895

#6 LEICESTER YMCA v FINEDON

This match took place on Saturday on the Town Ground, Wellingborough before over 1,000 spectators. Two notable absentees from the Finedon ranks were A. G. Henfrey and F. Moore, whilst YMCA had to play a reserve back in place of McAlpin, who took Brown's place at half-back. Result: Finedon, two goals; Leicester YMCA, nil.

Northampton Mercury - 8 March 1894

#7 WELLINGBOROUGH CHARITY CUP

FINAL TIE

LEICESTER FOSSE ROVERS v FINEDON

Played at Wellingborough yesterday (Wednesday) before 3,000 spectators, Fosse Rovers winning eight to one. Skea, Miller and Sterling put through before the interval and the Fosse rovers early added two more goals in the second half. Garfield then obtained Finedon's only point, after which the Leicester men increased their total to eight. Mr H. Dalley afterwards presented the cup to the winners, Mr Roston-Bourke (London Referees' Association) was the referee.

Sporting Life - 18 April 1895