



North Leicestershire League 1896-97

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	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Hemington United	5	3	2	0	15	6	8
2	Castle Donington	4	1	3	0	6	4	5
3	Quorn Havelock	5	2	1	2	16	5	5
4	Sileby Rangers	4	2	0	2	10	10	4
5	Barrow Rising Star	1	1	0	0	5	2	2
6	Kegworth St John's	5	1	0	4	4	25	2
7	Ellistown Wanderers	2	0	0	2	1	7	0

Last table found – results up to and including 31 December 1896.

Winner: Not known

Runner-Up: Not known

The second North Leicestershire League competition commenced with just seven teams.

Each club had to pay a one guineas deposit to the League at the start of the season.

Woodhouse Rovers left the League at the end of 1895-6 season to join the new Loughborough & District League.

Both Loughborough Corinthians and Mountsorrel Castle declined invitations to join the North Leicestershire League.

Syston Rangers resigned from the League just before the season started.

Two months into the season it was ruled that no player who had taken part in any other League competition could play in the North Leicestershire League. This decision made several Hemington United ineligible.

The referee after the Castle Donington v Hemington League fixture in late November wrote the following in a post card: Mr W P Woolley - *A thought has just struck me with regard to Saturday's game, and the fact that from start to finish I never had to pull a single man up for infringement of the offside – a most remarkable thing is it not? I was highly delighted at the splendid manner in which both teams conducted themselves, and considering the rivalry that exists, it reflects very great credit upon them. I enjoyed the game thoroughly, which was one of the most pleasant I have officiated in, a feeling which I think was reciprocated by all concerned. I am immensely pleased to record such a tribute on this and heartily congratulate the Castle Donington and Hemington clubs on the fact. This is a powerful rebuke to them small-minded poison-tongued nobodies, who, if they could, would lead the public to think that football is all bad temper and sharp practice.*

Ellistown did not finish the season. All the remaining clubs resigned, and the League Committee unanimously agreed to wind up and return deposits with a proportionate share of the balance (£1 4s 8d) to the clubs who finished the season.

Results Grid

North Leicestershire League 1896-97	Barrow Rising Star	Castle Donington	Ellistown	Hemington	Kegworth	Quorn Havelock	Sileby Rangers
Barrow Rising Star			2-0		1-0		5-1
Castle Donington				2-2	1-0	0-0	6-0
Ellistown Wanderers		1-1		1-4		4-3	3-2
Hemington United	1-1		3-0				
Kegworth St John's						0-6	3-1
Quorn Havelock		1-3	6-2	W	8-0		1-2
Sileby Rangers	2-5				5-1	5-1	

Not all results appear to have been reported. The results grid above is further complicated by both the fact that the home teams were not always identified in newspaper reports and that matches had to be replayed due to games being terminated earlier due to poor light.

Match Results and Details

Date	Home			Away	Match Details
12.9.1896	Kegworth St John's	0 (0)	6 (1)	Quorn Havelock Coupe Mounteney Thornton (2) Dalby (2)	Poor gate Kick off delayed to 4.10 pm.
19.9.1896	Hemington United	3	0	Ellistown Wanderers	
19.9.1896	Quorn Havelock	1	3	Castle Donington	
26.9.1896	Castle Donington	0	0	Quorn Havelock	Station-road Ground. Quorn did not arrive until 3.30 pm.
3.10.1896	Sileby Rangers	5	1	Kegworth St John's	A very one-sided game.
17.10.1896	Barrow Rising Star	P	P	Hemington United	Match postponed.
17.10.1896	Sileby Rangers			Ellistown Wanderers	
24.10.1896	Castle Donington	A 0	A 1	Hemington United	Abandoned due to heavy rain, Replayed November 28, Hemington to have half the gate.
24.10.1896	Ellistown Wanderers W Watts S Watts (3)	4 (2)	3 (2)	Quorn Havelock	Nash's ground, Ellistown. Quorn were a player short and played two reserves. Game only been in progress a few minutes when Adcock (Quorn) was badly kicked and had to leave the field of play .
24.10.1896	Sileby Rangers	2	5	Barrow Rising Star	400-500 spectators Rangers regular ground was flooded. Replacement field also in bad condition.
31.10.1896	Ellistown Wanderers	1	4	Hemington United	
7.11.1896	Kegworth St John's			Ellistown Wanderers	
7.11.1896	Quorn Havelock Wesley	1	2	Sileby Rangers AN Others	Dreadful weather. Players struggled to stay upright.
21.11.1896	Ellistown Wanderers AN Other	1	1	Castle Donington Parker	Game stopped 12 minutes before time.

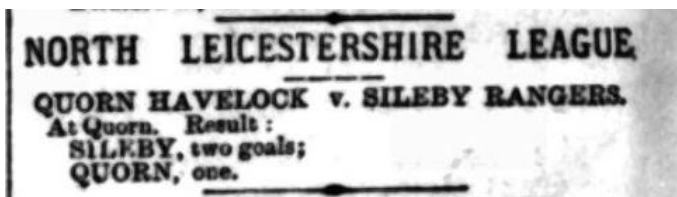
					The Dons forgot to pick up Mr Pegg, the referee on the way to the ground, and had to wait a considerable time before the game could kick-off.
21.11.1896	Hemington United			Sileby Rangers	
28.11.1896	Barrow Rising Star	2	0	Ellistown Wanderers	
28.11.1896	Castle Donington Parker OG (Newton)	2	2	Hemington United AN Others	Station-road (replayed fixture) Record League gate. Replayed game. Hemmington had half the gate money.
28.11.1896	Quorn			Kegworth	
5.12.1896	Kegworth St John's	3	1	Sileby Rangers	Kegworth's first league win of the season - an unexpected result.
12.12.1896	Castle Donington	8	0	Kegworth St John's	Smallest gate the season. Game kicked off late . Game stopped with 15 mins to play due to darkness.
12.12.1896	Quorn Havelock Thornton AN Other	A 2	A 1	Barrow Rising Star Pym	Miserable weather, rain falling all the time. Poor attendance. Abandoned after 55 mins.
19.12.1897	Ellistown			Sileby	
19.12.1897	Kegworth			Barrow	
25.12.1897	Quorn Havelock Thornton (4) Oram Poulton Wesley (2)	8	0	Kegworth	Fair gate. Kegworth had several "strange faces in their team."
26.12.1896	Hemington United AN Other	1	1	Castle Donington Spalton	Very large gate. Dons skipper (Archer) wired on the morning of the game that due to illness he would not be able to play.
2.1.1897	Castle Donington			Barrow Rising Star	Station-road Ground, Castle Donington.
2.1.1897	Kegworth St John's			Hemington United	
2.1.1897	Sileby Rangers			Quorn Havelock	
16.1.1897	Barrow Rising Star			Kegworth St John's	
16.1.1897	Castle Donington Poxon AN Others	6	0	Sileby Rangers	Large attendance. The Dons went three points clear at the top of the League.
16.1.1897	Quorn Havelock	W		Hemington United	Quorn won. Score not known.
23.1.1897	Kegworth St John's			Castle Donington	
30.1.1897	Castle Donington			Ellistown Wanderers	
30.1.1897	Sileby Rangers			Hemington United	
6.2.1897	Ellistown Wanderers	3	2	Sileby Rangers	Sileby played a man short.
20.2.1897	Ellistown Wanderers 'Cracky' Watts AN Other	4	3	Quorn Havelock Pailton AN Other	
13.3.1897	Barrow Rising Star	5	1	Sileby Rangers	Burton Chronicle states this match was played at Barrow; Leicester Daily Post states it was played at Sileby.
13.3.1897	Ellistown Wanderers			Kegworth St John's	
20.3.1897	Sileby Rangers	5	1	Quorn Havelock	
27 .3.1897	Castle Donington	1	0	Kegworth	
27 .3.1897	Quorn Havelock	6	2	Ellistown Wanderers	
3.4.1897	Barrow Rising Star			Hemington United	
10.4.1897	Barrow Rising Star			Kegworth St John's	
17.4.1897	Kegworth St John's			Barrow Rising Star	

Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.



Leicester Daily Post - 28 September 1896



Leicester Daily Post - 9 November 1896



Burton Chronicle - 18 March 1897

Additional Information

NORTH LEICESTERSHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

At the Greyhound Hotel, Loughborough, on Thursday evening, a meeting of the North Leicestershire Football League was held. Mr. G. J. Lee, of Ellistown, chairman, presided, and the others present were Messrs. A. Gee (Hemington), J. A. Utting (Kerworth, hon. sec.), W. Thornton, and J. Fryer.—The Secretary announced that he had invited the Loughborough Corinthians to join the league, and also Mountsorrel, but both clubs had declined. With respect to Syston, he had received a letter from Mr. Gandy stating that owing to his having been away on a six weeks' holiday he had been unable to write before respecting their withdrawal from the league. It was useless, however, for Mr. Utting to say that he did not know they had left the league, as he reported them to the Leicestershire Association. "Please forward," the letter added, "our deposit, or we shall report you to the association." To that letter Mr. Utting said he replied inviting Syston to report the matter to the association. Continuing, he said that since the last season closed he had had no communication whatever from Syston till he received the one he had just read. He had sent them a notice of every league meeting. He did hear that they were going to join the Leicester and District League, and that caused him to write to the association and object to their joining that league. As he had never heard from Syston or the association on that point he thought that it must be another club that was thinking of joining. He thought Syston ought not to have the deposit.—The Chairman said there was no rule requiring a club to give notice of withdrawal, but it was generally understood. Syston ought to have said they wished to withdraw, the same as the other clubs had done. Failing that notice, he thought the league were entitled to retain the fee. Considering the trouble they had put Mr. Utting to, Syston had not written in a courteous way. They, however, could not deal with the matter, and he suggested that Mr. Utting should write to the association stating the facts of the case from its commencement.—The Secretary thought the best plan would be to let the matter rest till Syston reported them to the association.

—Mr. Gee: Hear, hear.—Ultimately, it was decided that the league retain the guinea deposited by Syston, and Mr. Utting represent them at the association, this decision being come to on the motion of Mr. Fryer, seconded by Mr. Gee.—The Secretary raised the question of the fee of the league to the association, and it was resolved to ask the association to take into consideration the financial position of the league, and see if they could not reduce the amount of the subscription from a guinea.—The Secretary reported a little difficulty with Hathern. That club's deposit had not been paid for last year, and when he wrote to Mr. Hunt about it he got a reply that Mr. Thompson had sent the guinea; but afterwards he saw Mr. Hunt, and the latter stated that it had not been paid. A letter was received by him (Mr. Utting) from Mr. Thompson saying how sorry he was he had not sent the money, but he did not like to send so much by post, and he would bring it on the following Saturday. (Laughter.) Hathern not having paid the deposit, instead of their being entitled to 15s. 10d., as they had asked for, the league wanted 4s. 8d. from them.—The Chairman said he did not see why the league should suffer because of Mr. Thompson's negligence. That gentleman was responsible as secretary of the club, and the only thing that the league could do was to report the matter to the association. They did not want to do anything to retard any club, but they must consider their own position.—On the motion of Mr. Thornton, seconded by Mr. Fryer, it was agreed to report to the association.—The referees for the September and October matches were then appointed as follows:—

Sept. 5.—Hemington v. Kettering, J. H. Lambert.
 Sept. 12.—Kegworth v. Quorn, J. H. Lambert.
 Sept. 19.—Hemington v. Ellistown, W. P. Woolley.

Sept. 19.—Quorn v. Castle Donington, J. James.
 Sept. 26.—Castle Donington v. Quorn, G. Beale.
 Oct. 3.—Sileby v. Kegworth, H. Gamble.
 Oct. 17.—Sileby v. Ellistown, J. W. Bailey.
 Oct. 17.—Barrow v. Hemington, J. S. West.
 Oct. 24.—Ellistown v. Quorn, J. W. Bailey.
 Oct. 24.—Sileby v. Barrow, G. Beale.
 Oct. 24.—Castle Donington v. Hemington, W. P. Woolley.
 Oct. 31.—Ellistown v. Hemington, G. Beale.

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**NORTH LEICESTERSHIRE FOOTBALL
LEAGUE.**

Mr. Lee presided over the annual meeting of this League, at the Grey Hound Hotel, Loughborough, on Friday evening.—The Secretary reported that Ellistown did not finish the season, and the claim standing against them for non-fulfilment by Sileby was considered, 12s. 6d. being eventually allowed. Hemington also claimed from Sileby, they being allowed 5s.—The financial statement, which showed a balance of £1 4s. 8d., was adopted.—The League only commenced with seven clubs. Ellistown having withdrawn, and other clubs resigned, it was unanimously agreed to wind up and return the deposits with a proportionate share of the balance to the clubs who finished this season.—On the proposition of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Utting for his services to the League. Some discussion took place as to the desirability of forming a charity association in the Kegworth district for next season, but nothing definite was agreed upon.

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Leicester Chronicle - 31 July 1897