



Leicester Thursday League 1897-98

Leicester Thursday League 1897-98

Nr	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Rovers	9	7	0	2	39	12	14
2	Victoria*	8	6	0	2	33	15	10
3	Market Harborough	9	4	1	4	31	20	9
4	Banks	8	4	1	3	19	11	9
5	Wanderers	10	3	0	7	22	35	6
6	Casuals	8	2	0	7	7	56	2

Market Harborough Advertiser and Midland Mail - 22 February 1898

Two points deducted for playing an ineligible man.

Winner: Thursday Rovers

Runner-Up: ?

Little is known about this competition apart from that given here.

Results and Match Details

Date	Home			Away	Details
4.11.1897	Victoria	1	0	Banks	Victoria Park, Leicester.
4.11.1897	Rovers	5	0	Wanderers	Victoria Park, Leicester.
18.11.1897	Knighton Casuals	0	8	Thursday Rovers	
18.11.1897	Thursday Wanderers	2	1	Market Harborough	At Belgrave.
30.12.1897	Market Harborough Thursday AN Other J Wood Warner "Mac" (2)	5 (2)	0 (0)	Leicester Victoria	Fair number of spectators. Harborough played in red and white. Game commenced at 3.30pm due to the late arrival of the visitors. The referee stopped the game after a few mins and ordered Wes, who appeared in white (the same colour as Victoria players) don the Harborough colours.
6.1.1898	Leicester Banks	6 (4)	1 (1)	Market Harborough Thursday	At Leicester. Harborough scored after 5 mins.
20.1.1898	Rovers	2 (1)	1 (0)	Banks	Victoria Park, Leicester. Large crowd.
20.1.1898	Leicester Victoria	5	2	Market Harborough Thursday	Victoria Park, Leicester. Victoria scored 2 penalties
3.2.1898	Market Harborough Thursday	1 (1)	1 (0)	Leicester Banks	Wretched weather
17.2.1898	Knighton Casuals	0	11	Thursday Wanderers	
17.2.1898	Market Harborough Thursday	1 (0)	5 (2)	Leicester Rovers	Barber's Meadow, Market Harborough.
17.2.1898	Thursday Excelsior	3	3	Banks	
25.2.1898	Leicester Thursday Rovers	1	0	Market Harborough Thursday	Played on the Fosse ground before the Loughborough v Fosse
20.4.1898	Champions [Rovers] AN Others Bertenshaw	4 (1)	1 (0)	Rest of the League Grindley	Fosse Ground, Leicester. Gate of a "very limited dimension." The "scratch team collapsed" in the second half.

Other "Thursday" Match Results & Details

Date	Home			Away	Details
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18.11.1897	Leicester Banks	1	5	Northampton Thursday	Victoria Park, Leicester.
18.11.1897	Thursday Victoria	4	2	Excelsior	Victoria Park, Leicester.
13.1.1898	Market Harborough Thursday	5 (3)	0 (0)	Glen Parva	Barber's Meadow, Market Harborough.
20.1.1898	Thursday Wanderers	1	0	Kettering Thursday	
24.2.1898	Thursday Rovers	1	0	Harborough Thursday	Played at walnut-street prior to the Fosse v Loughborough game.
24.3.1898	Leicester Thursday Rovers	2 (0)	2 (0)	Nottingham Thursday Rovers	

Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.

FOOTBALL.

ASSOCIATION.

THURSDAY LEAGUE.

THURSDAY WANDERERS v. MARKET HARBOURGH.

At Belgrave. A hard game. Roberts and Watkinson scored for the winners. Result:—
THURSDAY WANDERERS, two goals;
MARKET HARBOURGH, one goal.

THURSDAY ROVERS v. KNIGHTON CASUALS.

At Knighton. The Rovers held the advantage throughout, and won by
ROVERS, eight goals;
CASUALS, none.

LEICESTER BANKS v. NORTHAMPTON THURSDAY.

On the Victoria Park. The home team were again moderately represented, and suffered defeat by the following score:
NORTHAMPTON, five goals;
BANKS, one.

THURSDAY VICTORIA v. EXCELSIOR.

On the Victoria Park. Result:
VICTORIA, four goals;
EXCELSIOR, two goals.

Leicester Daily Post - 19 November 1897

**HARBOROUGH THURSDAY v. LEICESTER
VICTORIA.**

This match was looked upon generally as the stiffest league contest the Thursday team would have to go through, and in anticipation of a close game a fair number of spectators assembled. The services of several first eleven players were requisitioned, the team turning out as follows: Goal, E. Plowman; backs, Mumford and West; half-backs, S. Healey, J. Smith, and Wilford; forwards, J. Wood (captain), Bromley, McDermott, Dimblebee and Warner. It was nearly half-past three before play commenced, the visitors arriving late, and their team included C. J. Wood, who played as centre-forward. The home team kicked up the slope, and before the game had been in progress many minutes the referee stopped play and ordered West, who appeared in white (the same as the visitors), to don the Harborough colours. A foul against Healey enabled Harborough to attack, and Mac tried a shot, but sent past. The Vics travelled down after this, but through bad passing on the right the ball was again sent by the goal. A run down the left wing by J. Wood, finished by a good centre, resulted in a corner being forced on the right. The flag kick was taken by Healey, who placed it well in goal. A shot from Dimblebee was hardly cleared, and Warner standing close in easily put the ball through. Another corner for the homesters on the right was headed past by J. Wood. The Vics then managed a sharp run towards their opponents' goal, but shot over the bar; and the home outside left obtaining possession from the goal-kick, put in a good individual run, ending with a shot which forced the goal-keeper to handle, and Bromley tried hard to head through, but sent over. Leicester returned to the attack, and their outside left put in a good cross shot, which struck one of the uprights. They kept up the attack for a time, C. Wood missing from a favourable position. A foul against Bromley gave the homesters relief, and another corner was the result, the ball was sent over. One of the best features of the match followed, Plowman effecting a very good

save for his side. Leicester, by good combination, had given their centre a good opportunity for shooting, which he was not slow to take advantage of, but Plowman reached the ball in time to put it round the post for a corner. A second goal was the result of good passing work on their left and centre, J. Wood registering a second point with a capital shot, an appeal for offside being disallowed. The whistle blew directly after with the score:

Harborough	2 goals
Leicester	0 ..

The second half opened with a run by Leicester, but passing too far forward Plowman easily kicked away, and the home right getting down, Warner put in a very good dropping shot, which the goal-keeper fisted to Mac, who promptly notched another goal for the red and whites. The game was stopped shortly after for injuries to C. J. Wood, and after playing a short time he left the field. The home team had matters pretty well their own way hereabouts, and Warner put the finishing touch to a shot from Bromley, Mac soon after shooting No. 5. It was now too dark to follow the game, and play was stopped ten minutes short of time, with the result

Harborough	5 goals
Leicester	0 ..

REMARKS.

The score is rather misleading, as regards the relative merits of the team. The first half was evenly and well contested, although the home defence seemed capable of dealing with the pressure brought to bear on them by a very fair set of forwards. There were weak spots now and again, but on the whole the back department was stronger than that of the visitors, Johnson Smith, Wilford and West deserving special mention. The home forwards combined well, considering how it was formed, the left wing being the pick, whilst as will be seen by the score the right wing put in a lot of useful work.

NOTTS. THURSDAY ROVERS.

On Thursday we journeyed to Leicester to play the Leicester Thursday League champions. The weather was dead against accurate football and greatly marred the enjoyment of the game. Notts. Rovers, losing the toss, were set to face a strong wind and heavy storms, yet still managed to hold their own. Half-time came with the score 0—0. On resuming, Notts., with the benefit of the wind, soon made things warm for the Leicester Rovers, and after about 15 minutes' play Maar scored a grand goal for Notts. Shortly after this the Leicester Rovers started pressing, and the Notts. goalkeeper, clearing, kicked quite in front of his goal mouth. The Leicester men had no trouble in making the score level. Mid-field play followed. When Maar broke away and looked like scoring he was badly fouled. A penalty kick was entrusted to Shelton, who made no mistake, and Notts. were two up. Not long after this a misunderstanding arose between the last-mentioned player and the goalkeeper, which let the Leicester forwards in, who succeeded in equalising, and so the game ended in a draw of two goals each. For the Notts. Rovers' forwards Maar played a great game, the half-backs being all good, Taylor and Manton showing to advantage. The backs and goalkeeper all played well. The Notts. Rovers team was as follows:— T. Barnett, goal; Barwick and Shelton, backs; Manton, Taylor, and Allen, half-backs; Maar, Osborne, Bailey, Waters, and Mills, forwards.

FOOTBALL.

ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTERSHIRE THURSDAY LEAGUE.

CHAMPIONS v. REST.

The Fosse Ground was the scene yesterday afternoon of a match between the Thursday Rovers, as champions of the Thursday League, and a team selected from the other clubs in the League, but the gate was of very limited dimensions. The first half of the game was fairly even, but the class of play was straggling, the efforts of the scratch team being unfinished, and their combination ragged. Bailey and Barnes defended so well for the Rovers that the goalkeeper had nothing to do, but on the other hand a smart cross shot from the left beat the "best" custodian, after about 35 minutes' play, and at the interval the Rovers were leading. With the second half came a collapse of the mixed side, and the Rovers' attack showed considerable improvement. Early on Coulson shot well, and though the goalkeeper stopped the ball, it rebounded off the Fosse player into the net. Coulson was conspicuous in the ensuing play, but his shooting was unlucky. The third point came as the result of a beautiful shot from Bertenshaw, on the right wing, and then Barnes, who had shifted to centre half, made another move to inside left, and from that position put on the fourth, getting the ball as the result of some endeavours by the opposing backs to prevent a corner being given, and shooting through from close in. Pulling themselves together, the Rest went along the field, and Bailey being rather weak in getting away a centre from the right, Grindley forced the leather through. The Rovers were clearly the better team, and won by the following comfortable margin:

THURSDAY ROVERS, four goals ;
REST OF LEAGUE, one.

Leicester Daily Post - 22 April 1898

LEICESTERSHIRE THURSDAY LEAGUE

CHAMPIONS v REST

The Fosse Ground was the scene on Thursday afternoon of a match between the Thursday rovers, as champions of the Thursday League, and a team selected from other clubs in the League. The following were the teams: Rovers: Deacon, gal; Barnes and Bailey, backs; Cufflin, Wall and Greem, half-backs; Swift, Jones, Colson, Wood and Bent, forwards. Rest of League: J Wood (Market Harborough), Cassell (Victoria), Grindley (Casuals), Joyles (Victoria) and Andrews (Banks), forwards; Charters (Banks), Smith (Wanderers), and Edson (Victoria), half-backs; King (Victoria), backs; J Bradley Smith (Banks), goal. The Rovers were clearly the better team and won by four goals to one.

Market Harborough Advertiser and Midland Mail - 6 April 1898

Additional Information

FOOTBALL.

LEICESTERSHIRE THURSDAY LEAGUE.

A meeting of the League was held at the Victoria Coffee House on Tuesday evening, the following being present: Messrs. A. E. Pywell (chairman), C. G. Whyman, C. Wells, E. T. Hughes, W. Elliott, and the hon. secretary, Mr. P. Clarke. The Leicestershire Senior Football League rules, as adopted by the League at the last meeting, were altered where necessary, and several new rules added.

Leicester Daily Mercury - 13 October 1897

LEICESTERSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

The Emergency Committee met on Monday evening. Messrs. A. Lovell, A. E. Marson and J. E. Carpenter. The drawn game between Hemington v. Harrow Excelsior, was ordered to be replayed to a conclusion on the Athletic Grounds, Loughborough, on Saturday, March 19. Mr. E. A. Marson referee; linesmen, Messrs. G. H. Geeson and F. L. Jinks.

A special committee of the above association met at the Victoria Coffee House on Tuesday to hear disputes between the Leicester Thursday Clubs. The following rulings were given:— Leicester Thursday Rovers were fined 5s., and censured for the manner in which their fixture with the Leicester Banks F.C. was treated. Leicester Thursday Victoria F.C. reported the Thursday Rovers F.C. for playing Dolman, alleged to be a member of the first-named club, and in arrear with subscriptions. The committee ruled that Dolman was a member of the Thursday Victoria F.C. for season 1896-97, and had not resigned. He was also ruled to be a member of the Thursday Rovers F.C. for 1897-98 season. Dolman was suspended until he is clear on the books of the Thursday Victoria F.C., and censured and cautioned for his treatment of both clubs. Thursday Rovers F.C. were ruled not to have been guilty of any misconduct in the matter. The report of the Thursday Rovers against the Thursday Victoria for approaching Payne was again adjourned owing to that player's absence. He was suspended until he appears before the committee to give evidence. †

Market Harborough Advertiser and Midland Mail - 15 March 1898