



Leicestershire Senior Cup 1891-92

Winner: Hugglescote Robin Hood

Runner-Up: Leicester Fosse Rovers

No. of entries: 4

Just four clubs entered the 1891-2 Leicestershire Senior Cup competition – Hugglescote Robin Hood, Leicester Fosse Rovers, Melton Town and South Wigston.

Hugglescote protested after their semi-final clash against three of the Melton players – Slawson, Plant and Richardson – on the ground that they had assisted Melton Swifts in the Junior Cup. After due deliberation Leicestershire Football Association decided they were ineligible to play for the Town in the Senior Cup and that the match should be replayed at Hugglescote.

It took three attempts to settle the final between Leicester Fosse Rovers and Hugglescote Robin Hood. The first match at the Holywell Ground in Hinckley, was a draw. Hugglescote were ordered to replay the tie at Leicester, but refused to do so. After being fined by the Association for this course of action, both clubs agreed to meet once again at Hinckley, where Hugglescote won 3-1.

Semi-Finals

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
1	13.2.1892	Leicester Fosse Rovers Buswell Lisle (2) Vickers Gardner	6 (1)	3 (3)	South Wigston Smith AN Others	At Hugglescote.
2	12.3.1892	Hugglescote Robin Hood	0	0	Melton Town	

Semi-Final- Replay

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
3	19.3.1892	Hugglescote Robin Hood	3 (2)	1 (0)	Melton Town	Holywell Ground, Hinckley. 1,000 spectators.

Final

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
4	9.4.1892	Hugglescote Robin Hood	0	0	Leicester Fosse Rovers	Holywell ground, Hinckley. Attendance: 1,000.

Final Replay

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
5	30.4.1892	Hugglescote Robin Hood	P	P	Leicester Fosse Rovers	Belgrave Road Grounds, Leicester Hugglescote failed to turn up.

Final 2nd Replay

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
6	?4.1892	Leicester Fosse Rovers	P	P	Hugglescote Robin Hood	Holywell ground, Hinckley. Robin Hood did not turn up.

Final 3rd Replay

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
7	30.4.1892	Hugglescote Robin Hood Cross (2) AN Other	3 (1)	1 (1)	Leicester Fosse Rovers Buswell	Holywell ground, Hinckley. Good crowd, including a large contingent from Hugglescote.

Match Reports

#1 SEMI-FINAL

FOSSE ROVERS v SOUTH WIGSTON

At Hugglescote. Wigston pressed, but shot on, and Buswell ran through the Wigston backs and scored. The strong wind assisted Wigston, and Smith equalised. Wigston put in two goals from corners. Wigston three goals, Rovers, one. In the second half the Rovers pressed strongly and drew level. Lisle put in a beauty from a corner, and headed another from a free kick. Vickers shot, and Gardner rushed the ball through. Final score:

ROVERS, six goals;

WIGSTON, three.

Leicester Daily Post - 15 February 1892

#2 HUGGLESCOTE ROBIN HOOD v MELTON

The match between Melton Town and Hugglescote Robin Hood, in the semi-final of the Leicestershire Association Challenge Cup, last Saturday, produced considerable excitement in Melton, the supporters of the latter club, of course, heartily wishing their team might find their way into the final stage. The fight took place on the Fosse ground, at Leicester, and, as anticipated in these notes last week, the Meltonians had quite a strong following. The exact composition of the Town team was in doubt almost up to the last minute, as that sterling back, Walter Clarke, who had been down with the complaint most fashionable just now, felt he would not be able to stand the strain of a match so soon after his recovery. Littlewood declined to fill the vacancy which this would have occasioned, and so the committee were in a quandary, and an almost entire re-arrangement of the team had practically been agreed upon. Pressure was brought to bear on Clarke, however, who at last yielded, those who witnessed his play on Saturday could not help feeling that Melton would have fared badly minus his able services.

Both sides were pretty confident of success, Hugglescote perhaps "more so," though on what ground they based this it is difficult to imagine, as they have never been able to beat the "Porkopolitans" yet. They certainly had the advantage in size and weight, and although they had the wind against them in the first half, they were the principal aggressors. The chances of Melton at half-time, with no goals registered, were, therefore, not very rosy, especially as a blinding snowstorm swept into their faces at the commencement of the second three-quarters. To the surprise of all, however, they played as well in the second half as they had done badly in the first, that is, the forwards did, for all through the defence was of the highest order, and, although they failed to lower the colours of the "Robin Hood," the latter were also unable to put on a point, and the match therefore ended in a draw.

The heroes of the day on the Melton side were Clarke, Richardson, Hanbury, and Ratcliffe, who each kicked and tackled superbly, the two formerly especially being conspicuous. Hazlewood, in goal, while having several shots to stop, never had any very dangerous ones and kept his charge intact. Brewin at centre half-back was only just recovering from the influenza, and was, therefore, unable to do himself justice. Of the forwards, Lee and Plant did good work, but Smith was too well watched to show to advantage. The front rank showed the best play of the second half, and had hard lines in not scoring on more than one occasion during this period of the game.

Grantham Journal - 19 March 1892

#3 LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP

RE-PLAYED TIE

HUGGLESCOTE v MELTON TOWN

Before a thousand spectators at Holywell Ground Hinckley. Hugglescote kicked in the first half with the wind against them, and had the best of the game, having at half-time scored two goals to Melton nil. Directly after recommencing Melton scored their first and only goal. Hugglescote put on another directly after, but in the last half-hour, no further score was made. Result:

HUGGLESCOTE, three goals;

MELTON, one goal

Leicester Daily Post - 21 March 1892

#4 ASSOCIATION

LEICESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE CUP

FINAL

LEICESTER FOSSE v HUGGLESCOTE

Played on Holy Well Ground, Hinckley before about a thousand people. The Fosse won the toss, and Hugglescote kicked off against the wind. The Fosse obtained a corner within a couple of minutes from the start and then Hugglescote had a turn quickly obtaining two corners and Harris saving four or five times. The Fosse pressed play in mid field, and then the Fosse made xxx near shots in the Hugglescote corner. The Fosse had the best of the game up to this point, although no goals were scored. On resuming at 4.10 the game continued fast to the finish. The Fosse made several splendid runs, but somehow failed to score. Walker's goalkeeping for Hugglescote was brilliant. Five minutes before time Hugglescote made their best attempt and nearly succeeded in scoring, but Harris fisted out. The Fosse had the best of the game throughout, but time was called with the result:

A DRAW, no score

Leicester Daily Post - 11 April 1892

#6 ASSOCIATION

LEICESTERSHIRE CHALLENGE CUP

FINAL

FOSSE ROVERS v HUGGLESCOTE ROBIN HOOD

The final match in the contest for the possession of the Leicestershire Challenge Cup was decided at the Holywell Ground, Hinckley, the above teams being called together to settle the question of supremacy for the third time. The first match was a draw, and Hugglescote were ordered to replay the tie at Leicester, but refused to do so, and after being fined by the Association for the course they had taken, it was decided to meet once more at Hinckley. Both teams were representative, and as the weather was beautifully fine a goodly crowd assembled, including a large contingent from Hugglescote.

Hugglescote started against the slope, sun, and wind, but chiefly by good work on the part of the Fosse left wing, the villagers were put on the defensive, and Walker saved, just afterwards a warm melee was seen in front of the Hugglescote goal, and Walker had again to throw out, whilst another shot struck the uprights. A brief visit to the other end was followed by a third attack on the Hugglescote goal. Walker saved again at the expense of a corner, and in attempting to clear one of the Hugglescote men deliberately fisted the ball. The free kick went just over the bar. Then Hugglescote went up the hill, and attacked hotly, but twice Harris saved grandly and eventually kicked out. Further relief was forthcoming from a free for hands. The Fosse right went down, and Buswell easily put the ball through, when Walker ran far out to save, leaving his charge unattended. Keeping up the pressure, Walker fisted out a shot from Vickers without difficulty. A couple of corners fell to the Fosse, both from fine saves by Walker, while the Hugglescote custodian had to throw out a long shot from Taylor. Going up to the other end, Davis headed a dangerous shot away, but the Fosse was soon down again and the Hugglescote backs were kept busy. West put in a rattling shot, and the same player sent a corner kick behind. The play preceded in very vigorous style, and a fine fast game was forthcoming. A foul was given against Hugglescote in the centre, but notwithstanding this they got up, and exciting times were seen in front of the Fosse goal. Paris and his confreres proved themselves resourceful, and successfully repelled some hot shots. But the Hugglescote right went away, and, centring finely, Cross rushed the ball through before Harris could recover himself, the score thus being equalised. Inspired by their success against the adverse elements, Hugglescote worked pluckily, and on more than one occasion gave the Fosse backs some trouble, but on the other hand the Fossils' forwards put in some good work, and nearly scored above once. This is how the game went on until half time, which arrived with the sheet showing:

ONE GOAL each.

The hopes of the Hugglescote portion of the crowd rose considerably as the second half commenced with their pets playing with the wind and slope in their favour. The villagers pressed at the onset, but Rowson and Davis work very safe, and successfully negated a couple of shots. A couple of corners accrued, but were safely got away, and another soon afterwards was the outcome up a mis-kick by Vickers. The attack continued but with slight intermission throughout the rest of the game and play consequently admits of very little description indeed. Harris played finely in goal and was a splendidly seconded by the back division. The whole Hugglescote shooting was generally of a not very accurate description, the wind helping to carry many kicks wide of the mark. Matters proceeded in this way for some time, and the game continued rather quiet, but the monotony was relieved by spirited dashes to the top of the ground by the Fosse forwards, and Walker had on two or three occasions to exercise his saving capabilities. After a spell of play in midfield, in which the

Fosse seemed to be more at home, the Hugglescote forwards bore down, and from a corner the ball was rushed through by Cross, Glover having previously sent in a shot, though he was palpably offside, the point being disallowed. Afterwards Hugglescote did pretty much as they liked, and adding another point, the final was:

ROBIN HOOD, three goals;
FOSSE ROVERS, one

Hugglescote: - A. Walker, goal; C. Eyles and G. Marriott, backs; T. Wells, D. Moore and H. Kendrick, half backs; S. Gent, H. Cross, J. Pool, Glover and J. Marriott, forwards.

Fosse Rovers:- W. H. Harris, goal; W. Davis, S. Rowson, backs; W. Johnson, A. Cornell, A. Vickers, half backs; A. West, H. Taylor (left), W. Buswell (centre), H. Webb and C. Lisle (right), forwards.

Leicester Daily Post - 2 May 1892