



# Nuneaton Minor Cup 1896-97

**Winners:** Nuneaton Town Reserves  
**Runners-Up:** Wolvey United  
**No. of entries:** 18

The Minor Cup was open to clubs whose members live within a seven mile radius of Nuneaton.

Leicestershire were represented by Barwell Swifts and Hinckley Granville.

The surprise of Round 1 was that Barwell beat Bulkington. The committee of the losing club protested and the objection against one of the Barwell men, on the ground of ineligibility, was allowed. In the return match, Barwell again won by the same score. It took two replays to decide the Chapel End v Nuneaton Rovers tie, the later finally winning on 12 December. Stockingford successfully appealed against one of the Attleborough men being in eligible and in the replay the "men in green" won by 5 goals to on. Arbury Road Albion sent in a protest against Bedworth ground, but this was not entertained.

The semi-finals took place in February. On the first Saturday of the month, Longford Forest lost heavily to Nuneaton Town Reserves, whereupon they protested against the result standing, on the ground that Higham was ineligible. The hospital committee decided against them. the second semi-final at Nuneaton, the following week when Wolvey defeated he Nuneaton overs

## Round 1

	Home			Away	Match Details
21.11.1896	Attleborough	5	0	Stockingford Reserves	
21.11.1896	Baddelsey Stags	1	5	Atherstone True Blues	
21.11.1896	Bedworth Town Allen G Twigger (2) Cryer Coleman AN Others	7 (3)	1 (0)	Stockingford Albion Day	
21.11.1896	Bulkington	1	2	Barwell Swifts Reserves	The surprise of the round. The committee of the losing club protested and he objection against one of the Barwell men on the ground of ineligibility was allowed- the game was ordered to be played
21.11.1896	Chapel End Victoria	2	2	Nuneaton Rovers	
21.11.1896	Hinckley Granville	1	2	Longford Forest	

Nuneaton Town Reserves, Atherstone Town Reserves, Foleshill, Nuneaton Town Reserves, St Paul's, Wolvey

## Round 1 replay

	Home			Away	Match Details
?	Barwell Swifts Reserves	2	1	Bulkington	
?	Nuneaton Rovers	D	D	Chapel End Victoria	
?	Stockingford	1	5	Attleborough	

## Round 1 2<sup>nd</sup> replay

	Home			Away	Match Details
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12.12.1896	Chapel End Victoria	1	0	Nuneaton Rovers	
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### Round 2

	Home			Away	Match Details
?	Atherstone Town Reserves	5	0	Bedworth Town	
?	Nuneaton Rovers	4	0	Foleshill St Paul's	
?	Nuneaton Town Reserves	6	1	Nuneaton Albions	
?	Wolvey United	2	0	Barwell Swifts Reserves	

Atherstone True Blues, Attleborough and Longford Forest, byes.

### Round 3

	Home			Away	Match Details
?	Longford Forest	3	0	Attleborough	
?	Nuneaton Town Reserves	4	1	Atherstone True Blues	

Nuneaton Rovers, bye.

### Semi-Finals

	Home			Away	Match Details
6.2.1897	Longford Forest	1	4	Nuneaton Town Reserves	At Stockingford. Longford "lost heavily"
13.2.1897	Wolvey	4	1	Nuneaton Rovers	Coton Road, Nuneaton. Fair number of spectators.

### Final

	Home			Away	Match Details
3.4.1897	Nuneaton Town	1	1	Wolvey United	Coton Road, Nuneaton. 500 spectators.

### Final Reply

	Home			Away	Match Details
10.4.1897	Nuneaton Town Reserves	6 (4)	1 (1)	Wolvey United	Coton Road, Nuneaton. 1,000 spectators. Councillor Horton presented the cup to the winning team.

Semi-finals, final and replayed final produced gate receipts of over £25.

### Match Reports

On the Coton Road Ground, Nuneaton, on Saturday, a fair number of spectators assembled to see the semi-final for the Nuneaton Cottage Hospital Minor Cup, Wolvey United and Nuneaton Rovers being the opposing teams. Much had been said, prior to the match, as to the prowess which the Rovers were likely to exhibit, and they had been considerably cracked up as a rising team, who would be likely to give a good beating to Wolvey ; but, as soon as play started, everybody could see that weight would tell for the visitors, and that it would be as much as the Rovers could do to hold their own, for their opponents pressed from the start, taking every advantage of the sun and the wind being in the faces of the Rovers. As a result, Lines scored for Wolvey, within three minutes of the start, and Hardy added another about a quarter of an hour later. Half-an-hour from the start the Rovers scored a goal, through Stringer, who looked clearly "off side," but the referee allowed it, and the score stood 2-1 when the whistle sounded for half-time. The Wolvey men showed, on the whole, very fair combination, it being, at times, really capital. In addition to this, they had a great advantage in the position of the sun and wind. On the other hand, the Rovers showed an utter lack of combination, and disappointed everybody (bar their opponents, perhaps!). The men were all over the field, instead of keeping in their places, and it was almost an impossibility to tell who was who. They seemed, in most instances, to kick the leather at random, and, nine times out of ten, they would land it beautifully at the feet of their opponents. The relieving feature in their play was the able defence shown by the backs, I. Jacques acquitting himself in a manner that thoroughly deserves praise. Had all the Rovers done as well, in proportion, the result would have been far different. On the change of ends, even, they failed to do much better, although there were several exciting incidents, the most interesting being when Wolvey made a spirited rush up the field, which ended in a good shot, by F. Moore, resulting in a goal ; and this was ultimately followed by another one by Brandrick. The Rovers failed to score again, and thus at the close of the game the score stood—Wolvey United 4, Nuneaton Rovers 1.

*Nuneaton Chronicle - Friday 26 February 1897*

## NUNEATON COTTAGE HOSPITAL MINOR FOOTBALL CUP.

Over 500 people assembled on the Coton Road ground, on Saturday afternoon, to witness the final for the Nuneaton Cottage Hospital Minor Cup, the contesting teams being Nuneaton Town Reserves and Wolvey; and the spectators evidently included many strong partizans of each club. The team placed on the field for the "Nicks" Reserves was constituted as follows: Goal, Whitmore; backs, Cope and Higham; half-backs, Hackett, Watkins, and Newcombe; forwards, Axon, Atkins, Savage, Wright and Hammond. The Wolvey team was made up thus—Goal, Burchell; backs, Lines and F. Coape-Arnold; half-backs, Coape-Arnold, Burchell and Coape-Arnold; forwards, Lines, Hanbury, Moore, Brandrick and Moore. Mr. C. Garratt, of Hinckley, was the referee. The play started fast, and both teams shewed that they meant to leave no effort untried to secure the victory, and, as a result, the spectators were treated to an exceedingly tough fight, which was, however, almost wholly devoid of any striking features. There was a bitterly cold wind blowing dead across the field, and this, undoubtedly, had a very considerable effect on the play. Attacks at each citadel were frequent, and the play veered from end to end, both sides showing a stubborn defence, and the

sticks being so protected that, by half-time, nothing was scored. Immediately after the restart, however, Nuneaton made a rush, and Hammond 'popped in a beauty for them, the spectators applauding the effort lustily. This seemed to put new life into the homesters, whilst, at the same time, it had the effect of making the Wolveys more resolute in their defence, and more persistent, when opportunity occurred, in their attack. For some time, matters settled down to a steady and even contest, until, at last, Wolvey got well up to the mouth of the home goal, and a shot was sent which was smartly handled by the custodian, but it was caught on the rebound, and returned, into the net, in a style that was very commendable. This put the two teams on an equal footing once more, and desperate attempts were made to secure the mastery, but without avail, and, ultimately, the whistle sounded on a draw, 1-1; and Mr. Councillor T. Horton, who was present in readiness to present the trophy to the victors, was debarred of that pleasure, and the cup was taken back to await a further trial of strength, on the part of the two teams.

## NUNEATON CHARITY CUP.

REPLAYED FINAL.

WOLVEY v. NUNEATON TOWN RESERVES.

The replayed final between these teams took place on the Coton Road ground, Nuneaton. Nuneaton scored six times and Wolvey once. At the conclusion of the match Councillor T. Horton presented the cup to Mr. Cope (the captain of the winners).

*Hinckley Times - 17 April 1897*

### Additional Information

## Nuneaton Cottage Hospital CHARITY CUPS ASSOCIATION.

SEASON 1896—7.

*The Executive are this Season offering TWO CUPS*  
N.C.H. JUNIOR ASSOCIATION CUP.—Open to clubs within a Fourteen mile radius of Nuneaton.

N.C.H. MINOR ASSOCIATION CUP.—Open to clubs whose members reside within a Seven miles radius of Nuneaton.

Entry Forms, Rules and Particulars Free by Post on application to  
J. T. BROWNE, (Hon. Sec.) Nuneaton.

*Midland Counties Tribune - 5 September 1896*

## NUNEATON COTTAGE HOSPITAL MINOR FOOTBALL CUP.

TO-MORROW'S FINAL AT NUNEATON.

On the ground of the Nuneaton Town Association Football Club, to-morrow afternoon, the final for the minor cup offered by the Nuneaton Cottage Hospital Football committee is to be decided. The contestants are the second eleven of the Nuneaton Town Club v. Wolvey United, and a good and close game may reasonably be anticipated. The kick-off is to be made at 3.30, and Referee C. Garratt will marshal the teams. The whole of the proceeds are to be devoted to the Nuneaton Cottage Hospital, and we hope that this deserving object will be materially benefitted as a result of the first year of the minor cup competition. The history of the competition may prove interesting at this stage, and we, therefore, make no apology for appending the following particulars:—

The objects of the committee in establishing this second football competition was to encourage minor football clubs to take an interest in the Hospital; and, secondly, to provide a competition for those clubs which are below the status of the elevens who enter for the Hospital Junior Cup. That the object of the committee was achieved, was shown in the fact that seventeen entries were received in the first season of the competition. These were Nuneaton Town Reserves, Nuneaton Rovers, Arbury Road Albions, Stockingford Reserves, Attleborough, Chapel End Victoria, Bedworth Town, Bulkington, Wolvey United, Baddesley Stags, Atherstone True Blues, Barwell Swifts Reserves, Hinckley Granville Reserves, Longford Forest, Atherstone Town Reserves, and Foleshill St. Paul's. The first round (in which five teams secured byes) resulted:—

- Atherstone True Blues 5, Baddesley Stags 1.
- Barwell Swifts Reserves 2, Bulkington 1.
- Nuneaton Rovers 2, Chapel End Victoria 2.
- Bedworth 7, Arbury Road Albions 1.
- Longford Forest 2, Hinckley Granville Reserves 1.
- Attleborough 5, Stockingford Reserves 0.

The surprise of this round was that Barwell beat Bulkington. The committee of the losing club protested, and the objection against one of the Barwell men, on the ground of the ineligibility, was allowed. In the return match, Barwell again won, the score being the same. The Chapel End v. Nuneaton Rovers match was twice replayed, the latter finally winning on December 12, by a single point. Stockingford successfully appealed against one of the Attleborough men being ineligible, and in the replay the "men of the green" won by 5 goals to 1. Arbury Road Albions sent in a protest against the Bedworth ground, but this was not entertained.

The second round resulted in this wise:—

- Nuneaton Rovers 4, Foleshill St. Paul's 0.
  - Wolvey United 2, Barwell Swifts Reserves 0.
  - Nuneaton Town Reserves 6, Nuneaton Albions 1.
  - Atherstone Town Reserves 5, Bedworth Town 0.
- In this stage of the competition byes were secured by Atherstone True Blues, Longford Forest, and Attleborough.

Nuneaton Rovers drew a bye in the third round, and the matches in this stage resulted:—

- Longford Forest 3, Attleborough 0.
- Nuneaton Town Reserves 4, Atherstone True Blues 1.

Wolvey United 3, Atherstone Town Reserves 2.

A protest against certain players in the Nuneaton Town Reserves team was lodged by the True Blues, but it was unsustainable.

The semi-finals took place in Feb. On the 6th, at Stockingford, Longford Forest lost heavily to Nuneaton Town Reserves, whereupon they protested against the result standing, on the ground that Higham was ineligible. The hospital committee, however, decided against them. The other semi-final tie took place at Nuneaton, on February 13th, when Wolvey defeated the Nuneaton Rovers.