



Leicestershire Senior Cup 1896-97

Winner: Coalville Town
Runner-Up: Hinckley Town
No. of entries: 11

Leicester Fosse Reserves [Holders] were eliminated in the semi-finals by eventual cup winners – Coalville Albion.

The Barwell correspondent for the Hinckley Free Press was so excited after the Swifts drew with Hinckley Town in the semi-finals that he wrote the following "little effusion":

Play up, my little Swifts,
 With your colours red and blue,
 And show the Hinckley tin-hats
 What Barwell lads can do;
 For the boast of what they will do,
 When they meet you for the Cup
 But they haven't yet got through you,
 And we shall not chuck you up!

For Hinckley are no "bottle"-
 Although they are paid men;#
 We drew with them, last Sat'day,
 And can do so again;
 So now, my lads, keep steady,
 And strive with might and will, And give Hinckley tin-hatters
 A very nasty pill!
Hinckley Free Press – 19 March 1897

Round 1

#	Date	Home			Away	
1	17.10.1896	Coalville Albion	3 (2)	0 (0)	Shepshed Town	Park-road Ground, Coalville.
2	17.10.1896	Earl Shilton Town	1	0	Whitwick Town	
3	17.10.1896	Loughborough Athletic McBride AN Other	2	0	Coalville Town	Athletic Grounds, Loughborough.

Leicester Fosse Reserves, Hugglescote Robin Hood, Barwell Swifts, Ibstock Albion and Hinckley Town, byes.

Round 2

	Date	Home			Away	
4	21.11.1896	Barwell Swifts Herbert Bennett (2) AN Others	5 (4)	1 (1)	Earl Shilton Town Armson	
5	21.11.1896	Coalville Albion	1	0	Ibstock Albion	Park-road Ground, Coalville. 1,000 spectators.
6	21.11.1896	Hinckley Town	2	1	Hugglescote Robin Hood	
7	21.11.1896	Loughborough Athletic	1 (0)	3 (2)	Leicester Fosse Reserves [Holders]	Athletic Grounds, Loughborough.

Semi-Finals

	Date	Home			Away	
8	11.3.1897	Coalville Albion	2	2	Leicester Fosse Reserves	At Earl Shilton. 2,000 spectators.

9	11.3.1897	Hinckley Town	0	0	Barwell Swifts	Waggon and Horses Ground, Coalville.
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Semi-Final Replays

	Date	Home			Away	
10	27.3.1897	Barwell Swifts	0 (0)	3 (0)	Hinckley Town Pollard Griffiths (2)	At Earl Shilton.
11	27.3.1897	Leicester Fosse Reserves	0 (0)	2 (2)	Coalville Albion Gourley Jeffcoat	At Hugglescote.

Final

	Date	Home			Away	
12	3.4.1897	Coalville Albion Jeffcoat	1	0	Hinckley Town	At Earl Shilton. "Enormous number of spectators."

Match Reports

#1 COALVILLE ALBION v SHEPSHED

On the Park-road ground before a good gate. Albion played down hill and fast play ensued on both sides. Albion scored from a good kick and soon after added number two. Half-time Albion two; Shepshed, none. Still pressing, Albion quickly scored again, and then had several frequent shots. Shepshed had a clear shot at goal, but it went wide. Even play continued to the close, and a good game resulted.

ALBION, three goals;

SHPEPSHED, none.

Leicester Daily Post - 19 October 1896

#2 EARL SHILTON TOWN v WHITWICK TOWN

At Earl Shilton. Whitwick won the toss, kicked off with the wind and pressed. Then Shilton had a turn, and scored twenty minutes after the kick off. Shilton continued to press, but could not score. The ball travelled from end to end, but neither side could get the ball through. The game continued very slow up to the finish, ending:

EARL SHILTON, one goal;

WHITWICK, none.

Leicester Daily Post - 19 October 1896

LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP

#3 LOUGHBOROUGH ATHLETIC v COALVILLE TOWN

These teams met on the Athletic ground, Loughborough before a good crowd, including a large contingent from Coalville. The visitors kicked off from the entrance end, and for several minutes attacked strongly. Forcing a corner, they kept the home backs hard at it, but the goal was eventually cleared and a corner followed at the other end. After this play was in midfield for some time, Coalville making several strong rushes, which were well repulsed. A tough struggle on the Loughborough right ended in a slight advantage to the homesters, but the ball was quickly brought back, and a corner obtained. Even play followed, and the Coalville left broke away, and got well up. Smith put in a sharp shot, which Foulds did well in stopping. Loughborough assumed the aggressive and troubled the visitors' backs considerably. Working well forward the ball was centred from the right, and E. York lost a splendid chance through missing his kick. Directly afterwards Ricken saved, and the ball travelled up the field but speedily returned, and a corner followed, without result. Play was gain transferred to the home ground for some time, and then just before the interval, McBride gained possession, and made a fine run up the centre of the field. Picken ran out, but McBride easily passed him and scored. Half-time:

LOUGHBOROUGH, one goal;

COALVILLE, none.

offside and the second decision of that kind was loudly criticised by the crowd. From a good kick Loughborough threatened, and Picken had to save and then Hervey sent a shot just over the bar. Picken then nearly let through a good shot from McBride, and at the other end Foulds cleared a dangerous shot from the Coalville right. Nothing more was done on either side and the game ended:

LOUGHBOROUGH ATHLETIC , two goals;
COALVILLE TOWN, none

Leicester Daily Post - 19 October 1896

#4 BARWELL SWIFTS v EARL SHILTON

At Barwell. Barwell kicked off, and scored in five minutes by Bennett. Even play followed, Bennett kicking over for Barwell. After good play by Herbert and Bennett, xxxley scored. Herbert put through for Barwell, who had all the game, and again netted the ball. Half-time: Barwell, four goals; Shilton, none. Even play ruled in the second half, Armson scored for Shilton and Bennett for Barwell. Result:

BARWELL, five goals;
SHILTON, one goal.

Leicester Daily Post - 21 November 1896

#5 COALVILLE ALBION v IBSTOCK ALBION

Played at Parkroad ground before 1,000 spectators. Ibstock played down hill, and fast play ensued. Coalville pressed, and soon scored an offside goal. The Ibstock right then ran down and forced a corner, but the backs 'relieved. Smith broke away, and gave a good centre, but Brearley's kick just missed the goal. Coalville shortly afterwards forced a corner, but nothing resulted. Ibstock ran down and had a shot at goal, but Underwood saved. Coalville soon transferred play and had two good shots at goal, but the custodian cleared in good style. Half-time: no score.

Resuming, Ibstock had the best of the opening exchanges, but Albion ran down, and Jeffcoat had a good shot, the goalkeeper conceding a fruitless corner. A further corner, however, was more successful, Smith putting into goal in splendid style. Ibstock got down, and from a scrimmage kicked through, but were ruled offside. No further scoring took place, and a fast game resulted:

COALVILLE, one;
IBSTOCK, none.

Leicester Daily Post - 23 November 1896

#6 HINCKLEY TOWN v HUGGLESCOTE ROBIN HOOD

Played at Hinckley in the presence of a large number of spectators. Hinckley scored just before half-time through the bad judgement of one of the Hugglescote players. Another was added soon after half-time, and then Hugglescote scored easily. The game was fast and exciting. Carter did well in goal for the visitors, and Hitchcock played marvellous for Hinckley. Beadsworth, Knight and Pollard put in good work for the home team. Result:

HINCKLEY, two;
HUGGLESCOTE, one.

Leicester Daily Post - 23 November 1896

LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP

THIRD ROUND

#7 FOSSE RESERVES v LOIGHBOROUGH RESERVES

Played on the Athletic Ground, Loughborough, before a good crowd. Loughborough started from the Moorlane goal, and were not long in getting down, Howes having to run out to clear. Play then worked back, and Foulds saved. A free took the ball into the Fosse end, and a sharp scrimmage ensued close in, Thompson clearing. Fosse were making some headway after this, but two "frees" stopped their progress, and the ball sent just outside. Returning without delay, Fosse made a strong attack from the left, and Whitehead, missing, let in Bishop, who got well towards the goal, crossing smartly past Bailey. Before the latter could get the ball, Harris, with a hot shot scored for the visitors. Give-and-take play followed for a few minutes, and then McDonald shot over the Loughborough bar. A "free" to Fosse gave them considerable advantage, and Foulds had to handle. "Hands" for Loughborough was followed up, and Howes only just saved. Roulstone broke away on the right and forced a corner, the kick from which was well placed, and after a good deal of headwork, the ball went behind. Play went on in the centre for a short time, and then the

Fosse forwards got away in a body and completely overpowered the home backs, McDonald having no difficulty in scoring the second point for his side. From the kick-off Howes had to run out to clear and the ball was quickly returned to the home end, where it went out. The home right obtained possession, and centred well, Blackett putting a stinging shot right into goal. This, however, went straight for Howes, who placed it over the bar for a corner from which nothing came. Quickly getting away, Fosse attacked, and Foulds made a smart save, but carried his "capture" too far. No advantage accrued from the penalty kick, and half-time came with the score:

FOSSE RESERVES, two goals;
LOUGHBOROUGH RESERVES, none

After restarting the game was void of any play and interest till a bad foul by one of the visitors gave Loughborough a free, but the same thing happened the other way about directly after. A dangerous rush by the Fossils nearly gave them another goal, but Foulds defended well, and kept them out. A "free" from a foul gave Loughborough a good position, but Howes saved. Play was next in midfield, neither side having any real advantage. Gradually forcing their way down, Fosse kept the home backs busy, and then Bishop ran in, and scored. Loughborough played up a bit after this, and Roulstone put in some good work. Hands against the visitors gave the home team some chance, but the ball went over. After more general play, Loughborough were again near scoring from a straight shot by Ford, but Howes stopped this very smartly for a corner. A "free" followed close in, but the homesters could not get through the Fosse defence. Off-side spoiled an attack, but Loughborough were now having the best of the game, pressing continuously. Two corners were obtained, and then a scrimmage before the Fosse goal ended in E York scoring the first and only goal for Loughborough within a few minutes off time, the result being:

FOSSE RESERVES, three goals;
LOUGHBOROUGH Reserves, one goal.

Teams:

Fosse: Howes, goal; Thompon and Bailey, backs; Bevan, Wood and Worthington, half-backs; Harris, Jones, McDonald, Gamble and Bishop, forwards.

Loughborough: Foulds, goal; Whitehead and Baily, backs; Hardy, Brewill and Coltan, half-backs; Roulstone, Ford, Blackett, E York and W York, forwards.

Referee, Mr. J E Carpenter (Leicestershire Association).

Leicester Daily Post - 23 November 1893

LEICESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP

SEMI-FINAL

#8 COALVILLE ALBION v FOSSE RESERVES

On the Wagon and Horse ground, Coalville, before upwards of two thousand spectators. Fosse soon forced a fruitless corner, play then going to midfield. Albion pressed, Thraves having to clear. Half-time, no score. Resuming, Fosse scored two minutes from the start, the Albion quickly equalising. Each side then scored in turn, a good game resulting in

A DRAW two goals each

Leicester Daily Post - 15 March 1897

#9 HINCKLEY v BARWELL

Played at Earl Shilton, before 2,000 spectators. Great interested was centred in the result. Hinckley pressed for the first few minutes. Each end was visited in turn. The second half was very even and neither side could score. Play was not brilliant but Cobby and Lucas played remarkably well for Barwell.

Result

A DRAW - no score

Leicester Daily Post - 15 March 1897

LEICESTERSHIRE

SEMI-FINAL

#10 BARWELL v HINCKLEY

A fortnight ago these teams made a draw for the semi-final, and the match was replayed at Earl Shilton, in the presence of an enormous number of spectators. Hinckley lost the toss, and had to kick uphill, and against a strong wind. The sphere travelled first to one goal and then the other, both teams playing a

desperate game. When the whistle blew for half-time Barwell were pressing hotly near the Hinckley goal, but without result. Half-time

No Score

Barwell Swifts had not even a look in during the second half. Pollard scored for Hinckley two minutes after resuming play. The ball was kept most of the time in close proximity to the Barwell goal and Griffiths scored twice splendidly. Result:

HINCKLEY, three;

BARWELL, none.

Leicester Daily Post - 29 March 1897

#11 FOSSE RESERVES v COALVILLE ALBION

At Hugglescote. Fosse started against the wind, Thompson relieving. The Albions were doing most of the pressing, and Gourley scored after a few minutes play. The Albions still did all the pressing. Fosse making occasional breaks, but were never dangerous. Just before half-time Gourley scored an offside goal, and from the free Jeffcoat scored a legitimate one, Half-time score:

ALBIONS, two goals

FOSSE RESERVES, none

In the second half the Reserves were the first to press, several shots going wide. Bishop at length struck the bar with a good one, McDonald meeting the return and scoring a beauty. The Albion were hard pressed, and did not hesitate to kick-out at every opportunity. Towards the finish the Albions xxxx and a stoppage owing to an accident occurred. Nothing further was scored, the Albion kicking out. Fosse were pressing at the finish. Result:

COALVILLE, two goals;

FOSSE, one goal.

Leicester Daily Post - 29 March 1897

LEICESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION SENIOR CUP FINAL

#12 HINCKLEY TOWN v COALVILLE ALBION

As two of the county clubs were left in the final of the Association Cup more than usual interest was taken in the meeting of Hinckley Town and Coalville Albion at Earl Shilton on Saturday. Coalville have met and beaten Shepshed, Ibstock and the holders (Fosse Reserves), whilst Hinckley have knocked out Hugglescote and Barwell.

An enormous number of spectators were present. The teams were Hinckley Town and Coalville Albion and great excitement prevailed throughout. Coalville won the toss, and kicked off with a strong wind in their favour, which gave Coalville a great advantage. Both teams played a desperate game, but Jeffcoate scored for Coalville a quarter of an hour after play begun. Half-time score,

COALVILLE, one goal,

HINCKLEY, none.

On resuming some extraordinary play was witnessed on the part of Coalville. They instantly commenced the same tactics as last Saturday and the Fosse, by kicking out every few minutes and their play was of a bustling order throughout. Hinckley had hard lines in not scoring twice and the result came,

COALVILLE, one goal;

HINCKLEY none

Teams

Hinckley Town - Charlton, goals; Taylor and Dxxx, backs; Carter, Baxter and Orril, half-backs; Hitchcock, Cutler, Pollard, Griffiths and Knight, forwards.

Coalville Albion: Underwood, goal; neon and Ridgard, backs; King, Bradshaw and Morre, half-backs;

Gourley, Blockley, Jeffcoat, Bellars and Dickin, forwards.

Referee: Mr J.E. carpenter (Leicester)

Linesmen. Messrs. Shaw (Barrow) and Bailey (Westhouse).

Leicester Daily Post - 15 April 1897