



Leicestershire Junior Challenge Cup 1891-92

Winner: Shepshed Town
Runner-Up: Hemington United
No. of entries: 20

No reports have been found of any of the Junior Cup draws. The combination of byes and multiple replayed games has made it difficult to work out the structure of the competition until the semi-final stage. The structure given below is based on available information.

Only 2 of the 10 Round 1 ties were settled by the 28 November deadline. Four ties required replays, with the remaining 4 ties had not been played.

According to one report it took 4 attempts to settle the Hinckley Town v Victor tie. Loughborough Swifts [Cup Holders] were eliminated in Round 2.

The semi-final tie between Shepshed and Hinckley at Coalville was remarkable. Shepshed scored 5 goals without one going over the goal line – for the simple reason that those who had marked out the ground had omitted them! The match was ordered by the Association to be replayed.

Shepshed beat Hemington 4-1 in the final played at Kegworth St Andrew's.

Round 1

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
1	31.10.1891	Croft	2	2	Anstey Town	At Croft.
2	14.11.1891	Gresley Rovers Reserves	1	1	Excelsior	
3	28.11.1891	Hathern Britannia	4 (4)	3 (3)	Loughborough Falcon	Poor attendance due to unfavourable weather. Rough and fast game. It appears that this game was ordered to be replayed – reason not known.
4	28.11.1891	Leicester Fosse Lisle	1 (1)	2 (0)	Shepshed Town Wanderers West Kidger	When the draw took place, the Fosse team had the choice of ground but were subsequently prevailed upon to fix the venue for the encounter at Shepshed. Keen rivalry between the clubs attracted a large attendance. Shepshed had won 5 out of the 6 opening games of the season, scoring 29 and conceding just 7. Game commenced at 2.40 pm.
5	28.11.1891	Loughborough Athletic Hibbins	1 (1)	1 (1)	Kegworth St Andrew's Parker	Athletic Ground, Loughborough.
6	28.11.1891	Loughborough Swifts Jackson James Simmons	3	0	Barrow	Tyler's Ground, Loughborough. Ground was in a sodden state – making it difficult to stand. Swifts had 2 goals disallowed.
7	14.11.1891	Melton Swifts Paddy Slawson (3)	3 (1)	2 (2)	Highfield Swifts Emmes AN Other	Ground had pools of standing water. Highfield scored after 5 mins. Their second – a rather questionable one – followed from the last f 3 corners.

						There was some rough play in the second half, but the referee made the offenders pay the penalty.
8	28.11.1891	Quorn Havelock	1	3	Hemington United ("The Reds")	At Quorn.
9	14.11.1891	Staynes & Smith's Wilkes (2) Perkins Dore	4	2	Belgrave St Michael's Loates AN Other	The Pasture, Leicester. Staynes hit the uprights twice and had a goal disallowed.
10	14.11.1891	Victor Lovell	1	1	Hinckley Town AN Other	Victor - "the blues and reds"

Round 1 Replays

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Notes
11	28.11.1891	Anstey Town	1	1	Croft	At Anstey.
12	28.11.1891	Excelsior	3	3	Gresley Rovers Reserves	
13	7.12.1891	Kegworth St Andrews Parker	1	2	Loughborough Athletic AN Others	Played on the grounds of the Loughborough Swifts. The field was in a very bad condition. Few spectators. Excitement between the players grew intense. One payer from each side was sent off for fighting. Kegworth lodged a protest against the non-registration of a Loughborough player which was sustained and the match was ordered to be replayed for aa third time.
14	28.11.1891	Victor	1	1	Hinckley Town	

Round 1 2nd Replays

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Notes
15	5.12.1891	Hinckley	3 (0)	3 (1)	Victor	At Hinckley. The Victor dressed in the train to save time, and an early start was made. Victor after scoring first came back from 3-1 down to clinch a draw.
16	19.12.1891	Croft	4	1	Anstey Town	Ansty went through to R2 - reason unknown
17	19.12.1891	Hinckley Town	1	0	Victor	At Hinckley. According to some reports this was the fourth replay; despite numerous searches no evidence has been found to collaborate this statement. Game commenced at 3 pm. The ground was exceedingly dangerous - "it says much for the fair and sportsmanlike play of both teams that no hurt of any serious nature took place."
18	19.12.1891	Kegworth St Andrew's	1	0	Loughborough Athletic	At Kegworth.
19	19.12.1891	Loughborough Falcon Hardy Wyatt Oldham	3	1	Hathern Britannia AN Other	

Round 2

#	Date	Home			Away	Match Notes
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20	2.1.1892	Hinckley Town Manton (2) Smith Spencer (2)	5	1	Anstey Town Draycott	Holywell Ground, Hinckley. Large number of spectators, Surprise outcome - Ansty were expected to win.
21	9.1.1892	Loughborough Swifts [Cup Holders]	1	5	Hemington United	At Kegworth. Cup holders - who missed a first half penalty were - defeated.
22	9.1.1892	Staynes & Smith's	A	A	Shepshed	The Pasture, Leicester. Ground was covered with snow. Play was stopped in the first half after the ball was kicked into the canal. Attempts to recover being futile, the game was restarted with the practice ball. Six minutes into the second half, " <i>the ball took another turn on the ice, and the referee growing disgusted with repeated stoppages blew his whistle for the matchbox be abandoned.</i> "
23	16.1.1892	Loughborough Falcon	0	0	Kegworth St Andrew's	
24	16.1.1892	Gresley Rovers Reserves	2	1	Melton Swifts	

Round 2 Replays

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Notes	
25	23.1.1892	Kegworth St Andrew's	3 (1)	1 (1)	Loughborough Falcons	At Kegworth.
26	23.1.1892	Shepshed	10 (6)	1 (0)	Staynes & Smith's	At Shepshed.

Round 3

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Notes	
27	13.2.1892	Hinckley Town Smith, og, Spencer	3 (3)	0 (0)	Gresley Rovers Reserves	This match should have been played Gresley considering difficulty in there no of getting their Hinckley club wisely offering the Gresley club good inducement to play Hinckley on Saturday last Consequently one of the largest number of spectators the ropes has ever Holy Well were well represented Hinckley played the same team that them honour previous two rounds.

Shepshed and Kegworth, byes

Semi-Finals

Date	Home	Away		Match Notes		
28	27.2.1892	Kegworth St Andrew's	0 (0)	6 (4)	Hemington United Whieldon AN Others	At Kegworth.
29	12.3.1892	Shepshed	6	0	Hinckley Town	Fox and Goose ground, Coalville. The ground was incorrectly marked-out . Hinckley's protest was dismissed

Hemington, bye

Semi-Final Replay

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Notes	
30	19.3.1892	Shepshed	6 (4)	0 (0)	Hinckley Town	At Kegworth (St Andrew's ground). Good number of spectators. A protest was lodged against the winners - but was dismissed at a meeting of the association.

Final

#	Date	Home	Away		Match Notes
31	26.3.1892	Shepshed Town Hewitt West Kidger (2)	4 (2)	1 (1)	Hemington United AN Other At Kegworth. 1,000-2,000 spectators. Hemington scored first after 20 mins. and within 5 mins Hewitt equalised amidst great enthusiasm. Kidger scored in the 50 min and 60 min.

Match Reports

#1 LEICESTERSHIRE JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP

FIRST ROUND

CROFT v ANSTY TOWN

This match was played at Croft, a well-contested game ending in a draw. Score:

CROFT, two goals;

ANSTY TOWN, two.

Leicester Daily Post - 2 November 1891

#2

#3 HATHERN v LOUGHBOROUGH FALCON

At Hathern. Score:-

HATHERN BRITANNIA, four goals;

LOUGHBOROUGH FALCON, three goals.

Leicester Daily Post - 30 November 1891

#4 SHEPSHED v LEICESTER FOSSE RESERVE

Few matches have attracted so much attention in local football circles during the last few years as the above, which was announced to take place at Shepshed. When the draw took place, the Fosse team had the choice of ground, but subsequently they were prevailed upon to fix the venue for the encounter at Shepshed; consequently, the past few days gave rise too much speculation as to the probable result. The natural interest in the game, and the keen rivalry between the clubs, together with the not unnatural desire to become holders of the coveted trophy, sufficed to attract a large attendance. The home team have not, during the present season suffered a reverse, the six matches played resulting in five wins and one draw, the number of goals to their credit being 29, against their opponents' seven only. Both clubs were well represented.

The Fosse won the toss and elected to play with the wind. Iliffe started the ball at 2.40. Shepshed soon pressed, and Bennett had an easy chance to score. Play continued fast and Lyle scored. Both goalkeepers had to save. At half time the Fosse led. In the second-half, with the wind in their favour, Shepshed had the best of the game throughout, Newbold only having to handle once. West soon equalised. Continuing to press, Kidger scored two minutes before time. Needham, Wortley, Iliffe, and Chamberlain played well.

Result:

SHEPSHED, two goals

FOSSE, one.

Leicester Daily Post - 30 November 1891

#5 LOUGHBOROUGH ATHLETIC v KEGWORTH ST ANDREW'S

Played on the Athletic ground, Loughborough. Kegworth won the toss, and Loughborough kicked off. Play was very even during the first half. Each side put the ball through, but in each case it was ruled off-side. In the second half the Loughborough men had the wind in their favour, and with this advantage they kept the game in the visitors' end for some time. Ultimately Kegworth broke away, and made a vigorous attack on the home team's goal, which was however, repulsed. After this, play several times shifted from one end of the field to the other. At last, Hibbins, for Loughborough kicked the first goal in the match. Loughborough

again attacked, and came near scoring. The Kegworth men now put on a spurt, took the ball in front of Loughborough's goal and in a few minutes Parker shot through. Kegworth again attacked and were having the best of it when time was called. Result:

LOUGHBOROUGH, one goal;

KEGWORTH, one goal.

Teams:- Loughborough Athletic: F. Warren, goal; W. Paget (captain) and A. Orringe, backs; W. Barker, E. Hayes, and E. Jarrom, half-backs; W. Mills and T. Walker (right wing), Preston (centre), R. Hibbins and W. Fisher (left wing), forwards. Kegworth: Wm. Cook, goal; J. Wallis and T. Osbourne, backs; W. Hopewell, W. Wood and E. Sutton, half-backs; Green and Elliott (right wing), Edward Pepper (centre), Parker and Barker (left wing), forwards.

Leicester Daily Post – 30 November 1891

#6 LOUGHBOROUGH SWIFTS v. BARROW

Played on Tyler's ground. The ground was in a very sodden state. Swifts (the holders of the cup) won the toss, and elected to kick with the wind, which was very strong. The home team soon pressed, and had a good chance, but the ball was shot too high. Simmons then had an opening, but the ball was kicked out, the state of the ground making it a difficult task to stand. Barrow plucked up, and a determined rush was ably stopped by Gorse. Still, they assumed the aggressive against the wind, and Ellis left the goal to meet Dawson on the left, who made a good run through. The backs gained possession, but did not clear, and but for Johnson's timely arrival the visitors would have scored. The Swifts now pressed, but failed to improve on two corners. Still, they kept near the goal, and Simmons put the ball through, but, the referee disallowed the goal. This was quickly followed by another, which was also disallowed. The home team put the ball between the posts again, and an appeal for off-side was sustained. Give-and-take play followed for a few minutes, when half-time was called, the game standing—Swifts; nil ; Barrow, nil. The Swifts now had to face a strong wind, but were more than equal to the task, and the Barrow supporters, who very much fancied the wind, found to their surprise that both wind and slippery ground made scoring a very difficult matter. After 20 minutes' play Jackson for the Swifts scored the first goal with a grand shot. Barrow tried hard to equalise, but Gorse and Woolley were too good for them. After continued pressing James sent the ball between the posts, adding the second goal for the Swifts. The "birds" took another flight, and Simmons receiving a nice pass from Armstrong smartly put the leather through, making the third goal for the Swifts. Nothing of any interest followed the game ending in a well-merited victory for the Swifts. Result:

SWIFTS, three goals;

BARROW, nil.

For the Swifts; Gorse and Johnson played exceedingly well, and Jackson deserves special mention, but considering the ground all played as well could be expected. For Barrow Dawson on the left wing and the right back deserve special credit. Swifts' team: E. Ellis, goal; R. Gorse and Woolley, backs; Jones, Bailey, Johnson, half-backs; James and Harper, left wing; Jackson and Simmons, right wing; Armstrong, centre. Referee, Mr. R. Gamble, Quorn.

Leicester Daily Post – 30 November 1891

#7 LEICESTERSHIRE JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP

FIRST ROUND

MELTON SWIFTS v LEICESTER HIGHFIELD SWIFT

The above-named teams met at Melton in the first round of the Leicestershire Junior Cup tie. The teams were: Melton Swifts – R Marshall, goal; C Barnes and J Richardson, backs; W Tyler, R Dunmore, and W Spiby, half-backs; W Slawson, centre; H Hand and J Wakerley, right wing; H Plant and R Mason, left wing; linesman, Mr R Warner. Highfield Swifts: A West, goal; H Wood, and J Harris, backs; H Tedds, A Freestone and J Turner, half backs; A Smith, centre; C Turner and T Brown, right wing; W Emmes and H Abbott, left wing; lineman, Mr F Tollington. Referee, Mr T S Ashmole. The north end of the ground was full of water pools, making kicking and goal-keeping very difficult. The visitors won the toss, and in five minutes after the start Emmes secured the ball and managed to score the first goal for his team. From the last of three corners which fell to their lot, a second goal – a rather questionable one – followed. The favourers of the home team manifested elongated countenances until Tyler put them in a good humour with a grand run along the right wing, where he nicely centred to Slawson, who put the leather through. At half-time the score was: Highfield Swifts two; Melton Swifts, one. On resuming play became very fast, with some roughness, but the referee made the offenders pay the penalty. It soon became clear that the Melton lads were once again showing

their staying powers, while their opponents appeared to slow down somewhat, though in the first half they were the fleetest lot. Soon they heard again from Paddy Slawson, when he equalised, and before the call of time this plucky little player and admirable centre did himself credit by securing the winning goal making the score:

MELTON SWIFTS – three goals;
HIGHFIELD SWIFT, two goals.

Leicester Daily Post – 16 November 1891

#8 QUORN HAVELOCK v HEMINGTON

At Quorn. Score:

HEMINGTON TOWN, three goals;
QUORN HAVELOCK, one.

Leicester Daily Post – 30 November 1891

#9 STAYNES AND SMITH v BELGRAVE ST MICHAEL'S

This cup tie was played on the Pasture. The game, after the kick-off, was of an even nature for some time, when Staynes and Smith got the best of it, but had hard lines in not scoring, the ball twice hitting the uprights. Belgrave broke away, and Loates scored, whilst a second goal was disallowed for off-side. St Michael's continued the attack, and scored again, but their opponents woke up, and after good forward play Wilkes put the ball through, this being the state of the game at half-time. In the second half Staynes and Smith pressed heavily, and with Wilkes, Perkins, and Dore each scoring, the final result was:-

STAYNES AND SMITH, four goals;
St MICHAEL'S, two goals.

Leicester Daily Post – 16 November 1891

#10 HINCKLEY TOWN v. VICTOR

Twice last season these clubs met in ordinary fixtures and the result each time was the same both ending is draws of one goal each. Strangely enough to the match under notice in the first round of the Junior Cup finished in exactly the same way. Hinckley could not come till a rather late train, which being behind time as well, caused the kick-off to be delayed till 3.15. Weston came off "heads" with the spin, and decided to play uphill with the wind. Spencer started, and the Town immediately made matters awkward, but their shooting was exceedingly erratic, besides which Bridger in goal was watchful and cool. The Victor however soon warmed to their work, the forwards, breaking out into some very nice passing form, and Smith at back helping considerably with some fine, well-judged kicks. In about 10 minutes the Leicester men "brought down the house" by scoring a good goal after some wonderfully neat play by Shaw and Skeffington, the latter passing well over to Lovell, who "got it home." The visitors opened their eyes at this, and again tried the shooting game, but invariably got "outers." In this attack their right wing was very conspicuous, Elsworth and Bassett also helping considerably with some grand play. Nothing further happened up to the interval, both teams making many mistakes, and proving the truth of the "cup and lip" adage, but the ground was fearfully heavy, that every excuse may be granted. The Victor were in "high feather" on crossing over one to nil, and brought off some brilliant work immediately on restarting. Lovell put in a fine bit of play carrying the leather right to the mouth of the goal, passing the goalkeeper, who ran out, but being robbed by Garrett just as it looked a certainty. Skeffington then made a nice shot, but Pratt lifted it over the bar; still the "blue and reds" kept up the pressure and all but scored from a splendid screw. Hinckley were implored by their friends to alter this, and they plucked up wonderfully, taking the play right into the Victor's goal, and keeping it there despite the hard work of Cooper, Weston and Alexander. Their wish was gratified soon, as from a rare "scramble" the ball was put through. The score being now level made matters very interesting, and both sides were loudly called upon to "play up"—an injunction hardly needed, considering how well they both were doing. Hinckley now did all they knew to lead, but Bridger was saving grandly, and with some 20 minutes to play the match was, after consultation, stopped, it being much too dark to continue. Both teams pleased their supporters, and it is nice to be able to add that the game was thoroughly gentlemanly and free from the least trouble. Hinckley have a good goalkeeper, a grand back in Garrett, and two smart men in Elworth and Bassett. Spencer was very useful, and Orton played a good plucky game. Of the Victor Smith has never been seen to better advantage, and they have a lot to thank Cooper and Bridger for. The much-improved form of the forwards also had much to do with the result. Hinckley: C. Pratt, goal; C. Garrett and J. Knight, hacks; J. Elsworth, H. Bassett, and W. Pilgrim (captain), half-

backs; W. Orton, P. Manten, T. Spencer, T. Smith, and A Suffolk, forwards. Victor W. R. Bridger, goal; W. Cooper and C. K. Smith, hacks; J. E. Costello, S. Alexander and T. , Weston (captain). halfbacks; W. Skeffington, G. Shaw, A. Lovell, W. C. Shenstone, and A. H. Shenstone, forwards. Linesmen, Mr. A. N. Other (Hinckley) and Mr. A. N. Barrowcliffe (Victor). Referee, Mr. W. Horner.
Leicester Daily Post - 30 November 1891

#11 ANSTY v CROFT

At Ansty. Score:

ANSTY, one goal;

CROFT, one goal.

Leicester Daily Post - 30 November 1891

#12 EXCELSIOR v GRESLEY

A fast game. Result:

EXCELSIOR, three goals;

GRESLEY, three goals

Leicester Daily Post - 30 November 1891

#13

LOUGHBOROUGH ROVERS v KEGWORTH ST. ANDREWS.

When these teams met on Saturday week at Loughborough, neither side could assert their superiority, the match ending in a draw of one goal each. The match was replayed on the grounds of the Loughborough Swifts. The field was in a very bad state for football. There were not many spectators and those present were chiefly supporters of the St. Andrew's team. The visitors were the heavier team and showed their superiority during the first half and completely outplayed their opponents. Parker scored by a fine shot. The game at half-time stood in favour of Kegworth by one goal to nil. On resuming, give-and-take play was the order for some time. Several runs down by the visitor were admirably stopped by Orange and Paget. Play was in front of the home goal, and a grand shot was well kicked out by Paget. Hayes did a good deal of the running in mid-field. J. Hopewell, for Kegworth, made a long shot, which went outside; Pepper also made a shot which went over. From a throw-in Parker, for Kegworth, shot over. The ball travelled from one end of the field to the other, each goal being visited in turn. The leather was very often out of play owing to the rather strong wind. From a good run and excellent passing the Rovers put the ball through by a smart shot, which the custodian failed to thwart. The home players now began to show a little more form, and kept the ball in their opponents' quarters. Long shots were exchanged, and a kick by one of the visitors' men put the ball through their

own goal. The excitement between the players grew intense, and one of each team had to leave the field for showing fight, the game ending in a victory for the home team. Result:—
 ROVERS, two goals;
 ST. ANDREW'S, one goal.
 The Loughborough Rovers' team was F. Warren, goal; A. Orange and J. W. Paget, backs; E. Jarrom, E. Hayes, and W. Barker, half-backs; A. Crippa, W. Mills, G. Preston, E. Hibbins, and W. Fisher, forwards. A protest has been lodged on account of the state of the ground.

Leicester Daily Post - 7 December 1891

#14 HINCKLEY TOWN v. VICTOR

Twice last season these clubs met in ordinary fixtures and the result each time was the same - both ending in draws of one goal each. Strangely enough to the match under notice in the first round of the Junior Cop finished in exactly the same way. Hinckley could not come till a rather late train, which being behind time as well, caused the kick-off to be delayed till 3.15. Weston came off "heads" with the spin, and decided to play uphill with the wind. Spencer started, and the Town immediately made matters awkward, but their shooting was exceedingly erratic, besides which Bridger in goal was watchful and cool. The Victor however soon warmed to their work, the forward, breaking out into some very nice passing form, and Smith at back helping considerably with some fine, well-judged kicks. In about 10 minutes the Leicester men "brought down the house" by scoring a good goal after some wonderfully neat play by Shaw and Skeffington, the latter passing well over to Lovell, who "got it home." The visitors opened their eyes at this, and again tried the shooting game, but invariably got "outers." In this attack their right wing was very conspicuous, Elsworth and Bassett also helping considerably with some grand play. Nothing further happened up to the interval,

both teams making many mistakes, and proving the truth of the "cup and lip" adage, but the ground was fearfully heavy, that every escape may be granted. The Victor were in "high feather" on crossing over one to nil. and brought off some brilliant work immediately on restarting. Lovell put in a fine bit of play, carrying the leather right to the mouth of the goal, passing the goalkeeper, who ran out, but being robbed by Garrett just as it looked a certainty. Skeffington then made a nice shot, but Pratt lifted it over the bar; still the "blue and reds" kept up the pressure and all but scored from a splendid screw. Hinckley were implored by their friends to alter this, and they plucked up wonderfully, taking the play right into the Victor's goal, and keeping it there despite the hard work of Cooper, Weston and Alexander. Their wish was gratified soon. as from a rare "scramble" the ball was put through. The score being now level made matters very interesting, and both sides were loudly called report to "play up"—an injunction hardly needed, considering how well they both were doing. Hinckley now did all they knew to lead, but Bridger was saving grandly, and with some 20 minutes to play the match was, after consultation, stopped, it being much too dark to continue. Both teams pleased their supporters, and it is nice to be able to add that the game was thoroughly gentlemanly and free from the least trouble. Hinckley have a good goalkeeper, a grand back in Garrett, and two smart men in Elsworth and Bassett. Spencer was very useful, and Orton played a good plucky game. Of the Victor Smith has never been seen to better advantage, and they have a lot to thank Cooper and Bridger for. The much improved form of the forwards also had much to do with the result. Hinckley: C. Pratt, goal; C. Garrett and J. Knight, backs; J. Elsworth. H. Bassett, and W. Pilgrim (captain), half-backs; W. Orton, P. Manton, T. Spencer, T. Smith, and A. Suffolk, forwards. Victor: W. R. Bridger, goal; W. Cooper and C. K. Smith, backs; J. E. Costello, G. Alexander, and T. Weston (captain), halfbacks; W. Skeffington, G. Shaw, A. Lovell. W. C. Shenstone, A. H. Shenstone, forwards. Linesmen, Mr. A. N. Other (Hinckley) and Mr. A. N. Barrowcliffe (Victor). Referee, Mr. W. Horner.

Leicester Daily Post – 30 November 1891

#15 LEICESTERSHIRE JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP

HINCKLEY TOWN v VICTOR

It would have been a bold man who predicted a fourth draw to take place between these two teams, and yet so it was, and after two hard matches this season the first round for the Challenge Cup has still to be decided between them. The two previous contests were ordinary club fixtures, and, very strangely, the score of Saturday was exactly the total of the three previous games, namely, three goals each. The Victor dressed in the rain to save time, and an early start was made on the Holy Well Ground, Hinckley, before a good number of onlookers, many of whom sported the injunction to "Play up Tin Hats!" Everything was nicely arranged, and Weston, losing the toss, had to play up-hill with a slight wind. Lovell started and Hinckley at once paid a visit to the enemy's quarters, forcing the game in the Victor lines for the first few minutes, but Bridger and Smith were "at home." The visitors quickly returned the compliment, Alexander being splendidly to the fore, this same player soon after calling forth praise for a grandly got goal, the ball just skimming under the bar. Hinckley resented this, and loud shouts, came from the sides to "wake up." Pratt not allowed to go to sleep, Arthur Shenstone from the left putting in some splendid centres, and Lovell should have scored from one, but Pratt beat him. Again a transformation, and the Victor goal was in danger, Orton, for the town, playing a dashing game and taking a lot of pulling-up. Hinckley, too, had hard lines, one splendid shot of theirs hitting the cross-bar and being got away. Half-time found the visitors leading by one goal. Hinckley did not mind this, and started the last half in fast style, their friends urging them on with approving shouts. The Victor were rushed off their feet despite the efforts of Cooper and Alexander. Then come the best bit of play during the match, Elsworth receiving and making a magnificent run. The visitors' back men could not stop him, and it ended in a well-deserved goal off the foot of Spencer. The spectators were loud in their cheers for the fine play. Still working at high pressure, they quickly got number two and three, Manton and Bassett being responsible, the last one being a very swift thing. Few were expecting the sudden change which took place, from this point to the whistle sounding the "blue and reds" had heaps the best of the game. Weston set his men a rare example. Will Shenstone put in some smart runs, and soon his side "nicked" another goal. Weston "banging" the ball into Pratt, who saved, but Skeffington's head was in the way, and he safely got the leather through. This was followed by a third from the right, Shaw, who had been playing extremely well, beating Pratt with a well-judged cross-shot. Only seven minutes were now left, and these were chiefly spent in the "City" lines, and time was called with the score as stated. Elsworth and Orton were a rare couple for Hinckley. Garrett made his presence felt, and Spencer set the forwards a good example. Alexander calls for first mention for the Victor; Shaw, Cooper, and Smith also being good; Bridger saved some "hot ones"; and Skeffington with the left wing worked well.

Teams: --Hinckley C. Pratt, goal C. Garrett and J. Knight, backs; J. Elsworth, H. Bassett, and W. Pilgrim (captain), half-backs; W. Orton, P. Manton, T. Spencer, T. Smith, and A. Suffolk, forwards. Victor: W.R. Bridger, goal; C. N. Smith and W. Cooper, backs; T Weston (captain), G. Alexander, and T. E. Costello, half-backs; G. Shaw, W. Skeffington, A. Lovell, W. C. Shenstone, and A. H. Shenstone. forwards. Linesmen, Meyers A N. Barrowcliffe (Victor) and T. Hatton (Hinckley). Referee, Mr. W. B. Horner.
Leicester Daily Post - 7 December 1891

#16 CROFT v ANSTY

The result of a game at Ansty was:-

CROFT, four goals;

ANSTY, one.

Leicester Daily Post - 21 December 1891

#17 HINCKLEY TOWN v LEICESTER VICTOR After five hard matches between these teams, a definite decision has at length been arrived at, Hinckley proving themselves victors, and emerging successfully through the first round of the Junior Cup. This was accomplished by the narrowest of margins, namely, one goal to nil, and is a still further proof of the evenness of both clubs. The present match was played at Hinckley, the visitors arriving in time for a start at three o'clock. A large number of friends put in an appearance, and the success of the Town was naturally very popular. The ground was exceedingly dangerous, and considering the hard and close game which was played it says much for the fair and sportsmanlike play of both teams that no hurt of any serious nature took place; in fact, Hinckley have all through their matches with the Victor this season shown a strong desire to "play the game." Weston won the toss, and chose to play uphill first, and Spencer started a wonderfully even game. The Victor played sleepily at the start, and it was only about ten minutes from the commencement that they were rudely awakened, when Spencer by a splendidly judged shot lowered the visitors' fortress. The Victor now settled into some very nice play; Pratt being given an opportunity of warming himself. There was some very nice play by him opponents, and a "sigh of relief" went up from the crowd as it was seen that A.H. Shenstone from a difficult chance shot over instead of through. Some grand work ensued. The Victor were showing the neatest and best "foot play," but Hinckley were "dead on," the long kicking and their backs did wonders in this respect; their kicking, especially that of Garrett, Pilgrim, and Bassett, was extremely clean and well-timed. It was hard to make headway with such fine defence, though Weston set his men a grand example of dashing play, and Cooper's tackling was a treat to witness. Bridger repelled all efforts to get by him again, and the whistle sounded one goal to none to Hinckley. A short interval was allowed, and Lovell restarted. The Victor made a pretty run, but Bassett' spoilt "their little game." Then it seemed certain that the visitors most score, as they penned Hinckley in for several minutes. Skeffington took a good shot which was well returned, and Hill tried his hand, but a well-meant effort was of no avail Manton fouling just in front of goal. A couple of corner kicks fell to the lot of Hinckley men, but the "stripes" were very watchful, and both Smith and Cooper didn't mean mere glory to the "tin hats" and play was again transferred to the other lines, one or two good chances being lost to the Victor by the passes of their forwards being "mulled." As time drew near the "blue and reds" put "all in," but Pratt kept his charge intact and loud cheers were given as "no side" was called and Hinckley knew that their champions were through. For Hinckley Garrett was A1, playing grandly, Knight was a good second, whilst Elsworth, Bassett, Spencer, Orton, with the Captain all deserve special praise for good, consistent form. For the Victor Weston was a captain well worthy of his post. He invariably plays well but last Saturday was even better than usual. Cooper too showed the finest tackling of either team, he robbed his man time after time. Bridger in goal, did his work in good style, but the Victor forward string was not nearly as accurate as usual.

Result

HINCKLEY TOWN, one goal;

VICTOR, nil.

Hinckley : C. Pratt. goal; C. Garrett and J. Knight, backs; J. Elsworth, H. Bassett, and W. Pilgrim (captain). halfbacks; W. Orton, P. Manton, T. Spencer, T. Smith, and A. Suffolk, forwards. Victor: W. R. Bridger, goal; W. Cooper and C. E. Smith, backs; G. Shaw, G. Alexander, and T. Weston (captain), half-backs ; A. H. Shenstone ' W. C. Shenstone, A. Lovell, H. Hill, and W. Skeffington, forwards. Linesmen, Mr. T. N. Hatfield (Hinckley) and Mr. A. N. Barrowcliffe (Victor). Referee, Mr. W. H. Horner.

Leicester Daily Post - 21 December 1891

#18 KEGWORTH ST ANDREW'S v LOUGHBOROUGH ROVERS

Played at Kegworth, and ended in a victory for the home team. Result:-

KEGWORTH, one goal;

LOUGHBOROUGH, none.

Leicester Daily Post – 21 December 1891

#19 LOUGHBOROUGH FALCON v HATHERN BRITANNIA

Played on the ground of the former, Hathern kicked off, and both sides battled in good earnest, but Loughborough displayed the greater skill. Hardy and Wyatt for the home team scored in the first half. In the second half the Hathern men made a gallant attack, and shot the ball through Oldham subsequently added another goal for Loughborough. Result:

LOUGHBOROUGH, three goals;

HATHERN, one.

Leicester Daily Post – 21 December 1891

#20 SECOND ROUND

HINCKLEY v ANSTY TOWN

This match was played on the Holy Well Ground, Hinckley, before a large number of spectators. Much interest is taken as Ansty had easily defeated Croft in the first round, whilst Hinckley only just managed to beat the Victor after three hard games. Ansty were expected to win, but Hinckley had matters all their own way in the second-half and completely penned their opponents. Draycott won the toss for Ansty, and Spencer started the ball for Hinckley towards the town end against a strong wind. The ball was quickly returned and Pratt stopped a good shot from Draycott. Knight was cheered for some fine defensive play, and Pilgrim put in some good work at half back. Smith and Suffolk took the ball up the field, and Spencer fell in shooting, but Palmer gave a corner, which was of no avail. The Hinckley players were now passing splendidly, each of the forwards having a turn with the ball, but the Ansty backs were playing a good game and their forward got away again. Garrett came to the rescue with a good kick. Hinckley now made tracks for the visitor's citadel and Manton scored from a good centre by Orton. Ansty played up better, and tried hard to equalise, but the Hinckley half-backs were playing splendidly. Ansty were not to be denied, and Spencer, centring in good style, enabled C Draycott to bring the score level with a splendid shot. After this Hinckley had hard lines in not scoring on several occasions. The whistle sounded for the interval with the score unaltered. On restarting, Hinckley put in some good style, and Smith gave the home team the lead by scoring a grand goal. Spencer and Manton soon scored Nos. 3 and 4, and Spencer soon after beat Palmer with a good screw shot. The whistle sounded leaving Hinckley winners by five goals to one. The Hinckley team played a much improved game. The forwards' passing and the half-backs' tackling were very good. The two backs helped each other well, but Pratt had very little to do. C. Draycott played well for Ansty. Hinckley team: C. Pratt, goal; C. Jarratt, J. Knight, backs; W. Pilgrim, H. Bassett, J. Elsworth,, half-backs; A Suffolk, T. Smith (left), W. Orton, P. Manton (right), T. Spencer (centre), forwards. Ansty: Goal, Palmer; backs, Admans, Creswell; half-backs, A. Wain, Smart, W. Wain; forwards, Hallow, C. Draycott (left), D. Spencer, J. Spencer (right), J. Draycott (centre). Linesmen, B. Bosworth, J. Henney; referee, Mr W. Horner, Leicester.

Leicester Daily Post – 4 January 1892

#21 LOUGHBOROUGH SWIFTS v HEMINGTON

DEFEAT OF THE HOLDERS

These clubs met at Kegworth, the game resulting in a decisive defeat of the Swifts the holders of the cup, by five goals to one. The visitors kicked off, but were repulsed, and the home team were quickly on the offensive, though nothing resulted owing to good goal-keeping; a penalty kick was also unprofitable. At half-time neither side had scored. On resuming, however, play was very fast, and the visitors were completely out played, goal after goal being added for the home team, whilst the Swifts only scored once. Result:

LOUGHBOROUGH SWIFTS, one goal;

HEMINGTON UNITED, five goals.

Leicester Daily Post -11 January 1892

#22 STAYNES AND SMITH'S v SHEPSHED

Played on the Pasture, with the ground covered with snow, and exceedingly hard. The game, so far as it was played, was of a very even character, the home team, perhaps having the best of matters, as they played

against the wind in the first half. Shepshed kicked off and immediately pressed, the ball being kicked out near the corner flag. From the throw-in they nearly scored, the leather going just outside the post. The home team then retaliated, and had the ball well in their opponent's quarters when play was stopped in consequence of the ball being kicked into the canal. The attempt to recover it being futile, the game was restarted with the practice ball, and the visitors' forwards immediately rushed the leather up the field and kicked over the line. From the kick out Staynes pressed, but Wortley relieved by a long kick, and for some time, the ball was taken up and down the field, till Shepshed obtained a corner. From this nothing resulted, but Cosgrove was twice called upon to save a long kick by Mills nearly going through. Staynes' then attacked, and from a free in front of goal for hands the ball was sent through, but the goal was not allowed. The local team again attacked, and Newbold was called upon to save. They, however, were playing a good combined game, and the ball was eventually sent through, though unfortunately touching a player's hand, the goal being disallowed. The most conspicuous feature was a good shot at goal by Wale and another by Ward both grazing the post. Shepshed obtained a corner, and West centred well, but nothing resulted. Shepshed opportunity a corner, West centre well, but nothing resulted. Shepshed pressed, and gave Staynes' backs a deal of trouble, but they maintained a sound defence. A double foul then ensued, and the referee "chucked" the ball up. The homesters immediately rushed the ball down the field, Newbold saving at a critical point. Shepshed obtained a "free" in front of the Staynes' posts, of which little advantage was taken. After a corner to Shepshed, play was transferred to the visitors' end, and the ball was sent over their posts. Half-time arrived without either side scoring. Restarting Staynes had the advantage of a strong wind, but Shepshed had the best of the opening exchanges. The visitors' goalkeeper, however, had to show his defensive abilities within a few minutes of the start, which was followed by a similar exploit by the home custodian. Play having continued six minutes in the second half, the ball took another turn on the ice, and the referee growing disgusted with repeated stoppages blew his whistle for the matchbox be abandoned. The result will now be left in the hands of the Association. For the visitors Rose and Wale were the most conspicuous players, and he backs and the goalkeeper did exceedingly good work for Staynes and Smith's Teams: Shepshed: Goal, J. Newbold; backs, Colson and Wortley; halves, Rose, Mills and A. Newbold; forwards, Iliffe and West (right), Wale and Hewitt (left), Needham (centre). Staynes and Smith's: Goal, J. Cosgrove; backs, S. Watts and W. Clarke; halves, Perkins, Bunn and J. Cosgrove; forwards, Tinsley and Measures (right), S. Perkins and Wilks (left), Daw (centre). Referee, Mr Weston (South Wigston).

Leicester Daily Post - 18 January 1892

#23 FOOTBALL - On Saturday the second round of the Leicestershire Cup Tie was played at Loughborough between Kegworth St Andrew's and the Loughborough Falcon, no goals being obtained on either side.

Leicester Chronicle - 23 January 1892

#24

#25 KEGWORTH ST ANDREW'S v LOUGHBOROUGH FALCON

When these teams met at Loughborough last week to decide their tie in the second round of the above competition the visitors did not send their full strength, and the game ended in a draw, no goals being scored. The match was replayed at Kegworth before a good number of spectators. Loughborough kicked off and forced the game for a few minutes. A bold rush to the other end by the "Reds" and the allowance of two corners availed them nothing, the visitors' goal-keeping saving in good style. Play for a time was very even, and just before the call of half-time the home team managed to obtain a goal. Half-time - Kegworth one, Falcons, one. After the interval the Saints pressed hard, and Osborne was very conspicuous for his good play. Stone, the visitor's goal-keeper, in handling the ball was forced over the goal line, thus adding the second point for the home team. The "Reds" continued to press, and quickly scored again; and the Falcon also scored, leaving the game a victory for the home team. Result:

ST ANDREW'S, three goals;
FALCON, one.

Leicester Daily Post - 25 January 1892

#26 SHEPSHED v STAYNES AND SMITH

This match, which was left drawn at Leicester on Saturday last, was ordered by the Leicestershire Association to be played on the Shepshed ground. The teams being apparently so evenly matched, the game caused much interest, and the result was watched with increasing concern by partisans of the clubs.

It is no secret that the supporters of the home team felt certain of victory, and their favourite would be in the third round of the cup. Some have even gone as far as to "spot" Shepshed as the final winners forgetting probably, that it is not safe to prophecy "till arter". There was a welcome change in the weather, being both milder and the ground clear of frost. The attendance was quite up to expectation Shepshed won the toss and Daw kicked off at 3.20. The home team had all the best of the game, and at half-time had scored six goals, Newbold did not handle once. In the second half, against the wind. Shepshed again had the best of the game, and added four more goals. From a free kick in front of goal, the visitors scored. Wale, Illiffe and West played excellently.

Result:

SHEPSHED, ten goals;

STAYNES AND SMITH, one.

Leicester Daily Post - 25 January 1892

#27 LEICESTERSHIRE JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP

HINCKLEY v GRESLEY RESERVES

This match in the third round of the Leicestershire Junior Cup tie was played on the Holywell Grounds at Hinkley. Hinkley playing with the wind and hill in their favour scored three goals up to half-time, a fourth being disallowed. In the second half neither side scored, but Hinkley had decidedly the best of the game.

Result:

HINCKLEY, three goals;

GRESLEY, nil.

Leicester Daily Post - 15 February 1892

#28 JUNIOR CUP

HEMINGTON UNITED v KEGWORTH ST ANDREW'S

Played at Kegworth. The home team started the ball, but were quickly forced back, and for about half an hour the "Reds" were seldom over the line. The visitors pressed hard, and Whieldon scored the first goal. A rush down by the home team ended in an attempt to score, but they could not realise anything, and the ball was immediately returned. The visitors continued to force the game, and added three more goals by half-time, when the game stood: United, four goals; St Andrew's, nil. In the second half the visitors added two more goals, and won easily. Result:

HEMINGTON, six goals;

KEGWORTH, none.

Leicester Daily Post - 29 February 1892

#29 LEICESTERSHIRE JUNIOR CUP.

SEMI-FINAL

SHEPSHED v. HINCKLEY TOWN — These teams met at Coalville a week last week last Saturday to decide which should meet Hemington United in the final on the 26th. Shepshed then won easily, but the Hinckley team lodging a protest, the association ordered that match to be re-played, the game taking place last Saturday on the St. Andrew's ground at Kegworth, before a large number of spectators, a good number of whom heralded from Hemington. The ground was in good condition, and very favourable for football. Shepshed started, and at once made tracks for the Hinckley goal, where a corner availed them nothing. Attacks at each goal were made in turn, but Shepshed getting the upper hand and the best of the exchanges soon opened their scoring account. At half-time the game stood: Shepshed, three goals; Hinckley, nil. Resuming, Shepshed continued pressing, and completely outplayed their opponents at every point, continually banging at the Hinckley fortress. Result Shepshed, six goals; Hinckley, nil.

Leicester Chronicle - 26 March 1893

#30 LEICESTERSHIRE JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP

SHEPSHED v HEMMINGTON

The final tie was played at Kegworth between Shepshed and Hemington. Play was very even for a start. Hemington scored first after 20 minutes' play, and within five minutes Hewitt equalised amidst enthusiasm. West added the second for the visitors, and at half-time the score was: Shepshed, two goals; Hemington, one. In the second half Kidger scored after five minutes' play, the same player scoring again 15 minutes later. Shepshed continued to have the best of the game, and the result was:

SHEPSHED, four goals;
HEMINGTON, one goal.

Leicester Daily Post - 28 March 1893

#31 FOOTBALL – The final tie for the Leicestershire Junior Challenge Cup was on Saturday played on neutral ground between the Shepshed and Hemington teams, at Kegworth. A large and enthusiastic number of spectators assembled to witness the play. Hemington scored just after 20 minutes play, and within five minutes Hewitt equalised matters amid enthusiastic cheers. West added the second for Shepshed, and at halftime the score was - Shepshed two goals - Hemington, one. In the second half Kidger soon scored, and after a few minutes play added another in favour of Shepshed, and the “reds” continued to have the best of the game till the close. The result was Shepshed four goals - Hemington one.

Leicester Journal - 1 April 1892