

WATERS

The official programme of Virginia Water FC



VWFC vs Wokingham Town

Saturday 7th February 2026

Arbour Park, kick off 3pm

Cherry Red Records

Combined Counties Premier Division North



Club Info

Chairman: Dave McBride

chairman@vwfc.co.uk

Director of Football: Ceri Jones

director.football@vwfc.co.uk

Treasurer: Ceri Jones

treasurer@vwfc.co.uk

Secretary: Russell Croome

secretary@vwfc.co.uk



Club Address:

The Timbers
Crown Road
Virginia Water
Surrey
GU24 4HS

First Team Playing Address:

Arbour Park
Stoke Road
Slough
Berkshire
SL2 5AY

To enquire about advertising in the programme, or club sponsorship, please use the above contacts

Sponsorship Opportunities

Adult team sponsorship (30 players)

- 1st Team kit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - **£2000**
- All Senior teams Warm up tops, your name and logo on back or chest - **£2000**

Youth section sponsorship (>200 players)

- Youth Team Kit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - **£500**
- Youth Team Kit and Tracksuit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - **£900**
- Youth Section training jackets sponsorship (12 Teams every player will get a jacket with your company name on the back) - **£2000**

Pitch-side banners

- 2m x 600cm Banner pitch side at the Timbers - **£500**
- Web banners; your company logo on the Virginia Water FC website (1000 hits per month) - **£500**

Digital Matchday programme

- Quarter page advertisement £250 for a season
- Half Page advertisement £500 for a season
- Full Page advertisement £800 for a season

Please contact the club for more information:

director.football@vwfc.co.uk

chairman@vwfc.co.uk

Chairman's View

A very warm welcome to the players, staff, officials and supporters of Wokingham Town Football Club. Welcome to Arbour Park, I hope you enjoy our facilities.



Well, after 5 years of trying we have eventually received our new 25-year lease for the Timbers.

This is the first step in securing the future of the club; once we get the 1st team back playing in Virginia Water, the club can focus on improving the facilities and pushing the club forward.

The Timbers will work in conjunction with Egham Cricket Club to provide the number of pitches for the youth section to operate successfully.

Enjoy the game, up the Waters!!

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Our History

Founded in the 1919–1920 season, Virginia Water FC celebrated its centenary in 2020, marking 100 years of grassroots football. In its early days, the club received royal support from King Edward VIII and King George VI, who gifted the club its current ground—a legacy that continues to inspire.

Starting in the Woking & District League, the club progressed through the Surrey Intermediate and Spartan Leagues. A milestone came in 1969 when Sir Stanley Rouse, CBE, then FIFA President, opened the clubhouse at The Timbers, named in honour of founder Harry Timbers. Promotion to the Combined Counties League followed in 1970, along with qualification for the FA Vase. The 1980s brought challenges, including relegation, but the club bounced back in 1990/91, winning the Surrey Intermediate Cup and earning promotion. The mid-90s were a golden era, with three consecutive Surrey County Premier Cup wins and a League and League Cup Treble in 1997.

After stints in various Surrey leagues, the club joined the Surrey Elite League in 2010. Despite cup success, promotion remained elusive until the arrival of Ceri Jones in 2015–16, who guided the team to a fourth-place finish. Following Richard Banks being appointed as Head Coach together they led the club to back-to-back promotions into the Hellenic League Division One and then the Premier Division, capped by a cup double in 2016–17. Following consolidation in the Hellenic Premier, the club moved to the Combined Counties Premier League (North) due to league restructuring. In 2021–22, Ceri Jones became Director of Football, appointing Adam and Jake Bessent. Under their leadership, the club reached the Senior County Cup Final and achieved its highest-ever league finish of 7th place.

The 2023–24 season saw Adam Sams take over as First Team Manager, assisted by Ben Warren, leading the club to another 7th place finish and a League Cup Final appearance. In 2024–25, the team entered a ground share at Slough Town, finishing 9th and reaching the FA Cup First Qualifying Round, narrowly losing to Horsham FC.

At the end of July, Adam Sams stepped down, and Dan Bailey was promoted to Player Manager, supported by Ben Warren, Chris Ellis, and Dave Atkins. On 21 October, Dan Bailey and Chris Ellis stepped down from their roles. The club is now excited to welcome Paul McCarthy and Ryan Parsons as the new management team, supported by Dave Atkins and Ben Warren. Paul brings a wealth of non-league experience, having managed Ashford Town and worked with Chertsey Town, and is known for his strong leadership and success.

Off the pitch, Virginia Water FC continues to thrive. Plans are underway for a new ground development back in Virginia Water. The Youth Section is booming, with 27 teams (20 boys and 7 girls) and over 300 players. On Saturdays, the club runs three joiner classes—Wildcats, Squads, and Football Fanatics—welcoming 50 new players to begin their football journey.



Club Sponsors

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RFI FENCING

Today's opponents



Wokingham Town Football Club | History of the Club

Although a new name for many, this season marks the 150th season since Wokingham Town Football Club was formed, making it the fourth oldest club in Berkshire. In 1912, WTFC won Division One of the Ascot League alongside the Camberley Hospital Cup. In 1921, it switched to the Reading Temperance League, with the team winning the Division One Championship in 1925. That success brought a desire within the club to own its own ground. A fundraising initiative

was launched & in 1928, having raised £750, the purchase of the Finchampstead Road enclosure was completed.

In 1953, the final of the Berks & Bucks Intermediate Cup was reached, & the stage was set for entry into senior football. The club joined the Metropolitan League, & subsequently transferred to the Delphian League. The 1957/58 season saw a memorable FA Amateur Cup run. The club caused upset after upset from the early qualifying rounds to reach the quarter finals. In round three, WTFC produced its finest display, defeating West Auckland. After the match a complaint was made that Town had played an ineligible player. The FA ordered a replay, & a large crowd saw WTFC win 3-2. In the next round, due to the national publicity, a crowd of almost 10,000 saw WTFC lose 3-2 at Crook Town. That remains the largest crowd to ever watch a WTFC match. The 1969 season saw the club's first success in the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup. In 1981/82, WTFC won the Isthmian League Division, thereby gaining promotion to the Premier Division. Although only finishing in 17th position, that season marked another milestone for the club by reaching the first round proper of the FA Cup for the first & only time. A 1-1 draw against Cardiff City at Finchampstead Road was followed by a 3-0 defeat at Ninian Park in Wales. That same season also saw WTFC's second success in the Berks & Bucks Cup with a 2-0 win over Bracknell Town. The 1987/88 season was perhaps the most successful in the club's history. The semi-final of the League Cup was reached for the first time, & the Berks & Bucks Cup saw a narrow defeat in the final. However, the club reached the semi-final of the FA Trophy, being paired in two-legs against favourites Telford United. The two legs, which ended in a 3-0 defeat, saw a combined total of more than 6,000 spectators. After selling its Finchampstead Road ground, the club led a nomadic existence until 2004, when it returned to the town in with a merger with Emmbrook Sports to create Wokingham & Emmbrook FC. In our first season as WEFC, the club appointed Glenn Duggleby as manager we finished in 11th position in the Hellenic League 1 East. In the season 2005/06 the club appointed Tony Calvert, as 1st team player-manager, we finished 3rd.

The season 2006/07 started with the managerial partnership of Jez Lynch & Danny Humphries. In November 2007 the experienced Allied Counties manager, Wayne Wanklyn, was appointed. Wayne, a former pro player & former WTFC 1st team player-manager. During his tenure Wayne secured promotion to the Hellenic Premier Division & won the Reading Challenge Cup at the Madjeski Stadium in May beating Woodley Town. In 2010 Wayne stepped down as First Team Manager & the club again looked internally, promoting Roger Herridge to First Team Manager & Dan Bateman to Assistant Manager & enjoyed first season in the Hellenic Premier League finishing 11th. Season 2011/12 saw more young local players progress through the Allied Counties team into the first team & saw the clubs first matches in the FA Cup in over ten years. A successful season saw the Sumas finish tenth in the league, reach the q/f of the League Cup & win the Reading Challenge Cup at the

Madjeski Stadium in May. In Season 2012/13 the Sumas were able to go a step further on the previous season, because, as well as retaining the Reading Senior Cup beating Marlow United 2-1 in the final, the Satsumas finished in 8th. The 2013/14 season saw WEFC returning back home to Lowther Road, but having to drop down a division, playing in the Hellenic Division One East. Dan Bateman & Matt Eggleston took over the reigns as joint-managers, in a season that ended up with WEFC continuously climbing the table & ending up runners-up in the league. The Sumas also retained the Reading Senior Cup for the third season running, beating local rivals Finchampstead 5-0 at Madjeski Stadium in the final.

The 2014/15 season saw the Sumas determined to challenge for League honours & promotion from D1 to the Premier League. Again managed by Dan Bateman & Matt Eggleston this turned out to be the most successful season since forming WEFC, winning promotion as League Champions, also retaining the Reading Senior Cup with a victory over local rivals Binfield & also just missing out on the County Cup losing in the final to Reading YMCA . Based on the FA /Hellenic ground requirements the team moved into a ground share for the second half of the season with Henley Town but the 2015/16 season saw the demands of ground sharing take its toll as the team struggled to retain their League position & being relegated. For the 2016/17 season a management change saw Clive McNelly step up as first team manager. Playing out of Lowther Road, Emmbrook, unfortunately, the season did not pan out as expected with a number of player changes during the season, leaving the Sumas close to the bottom of Hellenic D1. In the 2017/18 season there were a number of changes within the senior section, with the thriving youth section taking over the running of the senior teams under the existing youth section committee. Steve Williams took over as Club Chairman, Bob Good, an ex-Wokingham player himself, Club Secretary & a full set of committee members involved in every aspect of running the club. The new committee appointed Dan Bateman as 1st team manager, The 2018/2019 season saw Dan Bateman look to youth into the team & whilst there was no silverware the team finished 6th & more importantly laid the foundations for the future as we look to challenge from our newly revamped home ground in Emmbrook .In addition to youth, there was also the welcome return of Matt Eggleston to First Team Management. 2019/2020 - Following the Local Council's approval of the planning application in July 2018, the Club were delighted to return to Wokingham with new facilities at Lowther Road that included floodlights, a 100 seater stand and associated works. That season also saw the reintroduction of an Allied Counties U18 team . Despite a great season, due to Covid the team who were pushing for a 3rd place finish had to see the season curtailed.

2020/2021- The season started with some great performances & results but was again curtailed . However this time with the team unbeaten & sitting at the top of the Hellenic East Step 6, have been promoted to Step 5 & the newly reorganised FA Structure , playing in the Combined Counties North . In addition as the season recommenced we also advanced to the Subsidiary Cup Final narrowly losing to Abingdon Town . We now look forward to this new challenge, albeit sadly seeking new management as joint managers Dan Bateman & Matt Eggleston stepped down during the summer . Their contribution has been immeasurable & we are pleased they will stay involved with the Club in the future . Whilst season23-24 was a momentous one for the club, who sat bottom of the league with 12 games remaining. Under the new management of Darren Purbrick & Matt Eggleston, the team won six of its final 10 games during the month of April to eventually secure a respectable 15th position. Continuing for season 24-25 Matt and Darren led the club to a 14th place finish. The club now boasts players from more than 64 teams representing Wokingham Town from the age of 7, including thriving girls & women's teams, U18 Allied team, Reserves & over-50s and 60s walking football teams.



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Foresters Arms



From the Dugout

Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to Arbour Park for this home game against Wokingham Town. We wish their club officials, management team and players a warm welcome.

Tuesday night in the cup was about giving people minutes that haven't really played recently. I still felt we had enough on the pitch to win the game, and on another day, if we take our chances, it would have been a comfortable night. As always though, going to penalties is a bit of a lottery and unfortunately, it just didn't go our way.

Today will be another tough league game and we'll have to be on top form to ensure that we get anything out of it.

As always, enjoy the game and I'll always be available in the bar after if anyone would like a chat.

Up the Waters!

Macca



Just For Fun

Can you guess the professional player from the clubs they have played for? Answer is on the last page!



Where are they now?

We catch up with some Waters' Alumni and ask them about their time at the club, and what they are up to now

Name: Josh Hill

Position: Right Back

Era(s) played at VW: 2009-2023 (ish)



In a nutshell, can you give a brief overview of your time at the club?

My time at the club was eventful. Started as a young buck, left and came back a few times, but ultimately had my best playing years with the club.



Who was your manager(s) at the club when you played?

Couple of spells in the Garfy era, Matty Edwards era, James King era and finally the Ceri/Banksy era.



Did you win anything here?

What did we win? Back-to-back league titles and the league and cup double. Step 7 to 5 in two seasons. Says it all. What a group of lads we had.



Who was your favourite/best teammate?

If you asked worst/least, it would be easier. Loads of class players - Guichy, Marshy, Ryan Curtis, Finn Evered to name a few. But my favourite player has got to be Buzza. Walked off the pitch for fun but my word when he was on fire, couldn't play him. Top lad too.



Did you score any memorable goals?

All memorable. My favourite is probably my free kick away at NPL.



Do you keep up to date with what Waters are doing nowadays?

Yes I keep up to date with results and league position, Payno keeps me up to date on the Instagram DMs - good work H. I don't get down to watch as much as I'd like as retirement on the golf course gets in the way.



Are you still involved in football in some capacity?

I still do some coaching within the youth section. Happy to still be involved with the club.

🏆 What was the standout memory for you during your time at Waters?

Standout moments are easy. Tooting Bec away, 0-1 away win and the league title. Plus, a last-minute bullet Lansdowne header in the cup final. Absolute carnage, remember it like it was yesterday.

A few more that stick out: The Garfy/Banksy white board at half time, the Pisani/Banksy row about whose fault it was for conceding a goal from a corner, trying to get Adam Mills in the shower or the Jonesy tantrum at Tuffley away. Honestly, the list could go on. Too many memories.



The League and Cup double season of 2016/17

🏆 If you could go back and change one thing when you played here, what would it be?

Not sure there is much I would change. I could say I would change leaving and coming back but then who knows, things may have worked out differently. If I had to choose one thing, though, it would be to never, ever listen to what Dave Atkins has to say about football.



The first of two back-to-back league wins and promotions

Competition Info

Recent Results

03/02/26

| | |
|-----|---|
| PDN | Ardley United P-P Hilltop |
| CC | Banbury United P-P Kidlington |
| PDN | British Airways P-P Harefield United |
| CC | Broadfields United 2-0 Hanwell Town FC |
| PDC | Reading City P-P Abbey Rangers |
| SCC | Virginia Water 2-2 Chessington & Hook United (pens 3-5) |

Fixtures Today

| | |
|-----|--|
| PDN | Abingdon United v North Greenford United |
| PDN | Amersham Town v Holyport |
| PDN | Ardley United v Windsor & Eton |
| PDN | British Airways v Reading City |
| PDN | Broadfields United v Kidlington |
| PDN | Edgware & Kingsbury v North Leigh |
| PDN | Harefield United v Burnham |
| PDN | Milton United v Wallingford & Crowmarsh |
| PDN | Virginia Water v Wokingham Town |

League Table

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | GD | PTS |
|-----|-------------------------|----|----|---|----|-----|------|
| 1 | Burnham | 28 | 17 | 6 | 5 | 27 | 57 |
| 2 | Wallingford & Crowmarsh | 28 | 15 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 50 |
| 3 | Broadfields United | 25 | 14 | 7 | 4 | 29 | 49 |
| 4 | Ashford Town (Middx) | 24 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 25 | 47 |
| 5 | Windsor & Eton | 20 | 12 | 7 | 1 | 25 | 43 |
| 6 | Ardley United | 22 | 13 | 3 | 6 | 19 | 42 |
| 7 | Kidlington | 24 | 11 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 41 |
| 8 | Hilltop | 32 | 12 | 4 | 16 | 4 | 40 |
| 9 | Milton United | 24 | 11 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 37 |
| 10 | North Greenford United | 22 | 11 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 36 |
| 11 | Virginia Water | 26 | 10 | 5 | 11 | 0 | 35 |
| 12 | Reading City | 19 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 16 | 34 |
| 13 | Wokingham Town | 23 | 9 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 32 |
| 14 | Abingdon United | 24 | 9 | 4 | 11 | -2 | 31 |
| 15 | Harefield United | 26 | 8 | 5 | 13 | -7 | 29 |
| 16 | British Airways | 21 | 7 | 4 | 10 | -6 | 22 * |
| 17 | Amersham Town | 24 | 5 | 5 | 14 | -29 | 20 |
| 18 | North Leigh | 24 | 5 | 3 | 16 | -23 | 18 |
| 19 | Holyport | 27 | 5 | 1 | 21 | -50 | 16 |
| 20 | Edgware & Kingsbury | 27 | 2 | 2 | 23 | -49 | 8 |

* adjustment made

Top Scorers

9 - Lewis Flatman

7 - Jojo Kinzonzi, Jack Mills

5 - Cal Hamiton

4 - Aiden Payne-James

The Teams

Virginia Water FC

Kit:

Maroon Shirts

Maroon Shorts & Socks

GK: Purple

Manager: Paul McCarthy

Asst. Manager: Ryan Parsons

Coaches: Dave Atkins, Ben Warren

Physio: Elisha Timms



Squad:

Freddie Babbage | Josh Baines | Ryan Blake | Emerson Butcher (gk) | Kai Boylan | Firas Chniba | Armani Church | Guy Davies | Aderi Dede | Jamie Di Giuseppe | Rayan Djouadj | Adam Dougui | Uriel Ekperuoh | Lewis Flatman | James Goodey | Cal Hamilton | Ash Hitchinson | Shay Honey (gk) | Shuaib Jalloh | Matthew Jones (gk) | Harry Kidd | Jehovany Kinzonzi | Conor Lee | Darnell Lemar | Jack Mills © | Billy Murphy | Kris Naicker | Albie Nolan-French | Aston Nunn | Jake Rangecroft | Jibril Sharmarke | Turnell Sinclair | Dominic Wall | Devonte Webster Swack | Ikpemwinoghena "Pemi" Yakubu



Wokingham Town FC

Kit:

Blue Shirts

Blue Shorts & Socks

GK: Grey

Manager: Matt Eggleston

Coaches: Jamie Shepard, Oscar Crowley, Luke Harris, Jack Mullan

Physios: Shai Bartenbach, Ewan Plank



Squad:

Alex Badshah | Archie Collier | Aaron Peprah | Cesar Vasquez | Connor Richardson | Dan Harris | Declan Joyce | Denis Haxhiu | Ed Port | Emilio Fantocchio (gk) | Jake Simpson (gk) | James Beauchamp | Joseph Allchurch | Josh Harris | Kyle Moorcroft | Money Mills-Chandler | Owen Clark | Reuben Shiel | Sam Green | Samuel Lynskey | Sean Moore (c) | Tom Jordan | Ty Moorcroft

Match Officials:

Referee: Chris Gustafsson

Assistant Referees: Brian Capel, Mark Branwhite