

WATERS

The official programme of Virginia Water FC



The Emirates FA Cup

Extra Preliminary Round

VWFC VS SOUTH PARK REIGATE

Saturday 8th August 2026

Alwyns Lane, kick off 3pm



**Emirates
FA CUP**

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 VENUE:

Chertsey Town Football Club
Alwyns Lane
Chertsey
KT16 9DW

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

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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- All Senior teams Warm up tops, your name and logo on back or chest - £2000

YOUTH SECTION SPONSORSHIP | 300 PLAYERS

- Youth Team Kit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - £500
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- 2m x 600cm Banner pitch side at the Timbers - £500
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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

JONES THE VOICE

Good afternoon and welcome to Alwyns Lane for today's Emirates FA Cup tie against South Park Reigate FC. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the players, management, officials and supporters of South Park and hope you enjoy your visit.

The FA Cup always brings an extra sense of excitement. It offers clubs like ours the opportunity to test ourselves against opponents from higher levels and from further afield, which is what makes the competition so special.

Today's visitors compete in the Isthmian League Southeast Division at Step 4 and begin their competitive season this afternoon. Although they play at a higher level, South Park are no strangers to us, having crossed paths with The Waters on numerous occasions through the Combined Counties and Surrey leagues during their impressive rise through the pyramid.

Following an encouraging performance on Tuesday night, I'm hopeful we can carry that momentum into today's game. We know the challenge ahead, but I'm sure the players will be ready to give everything and make life difficult for our visitors.

Thank you, as always, to our volunteers, sponsors and supporters for your continued backing.

Enjoy the game and let's get behind the team.

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OUR HISTORY

Founded in the 1919–1920 season, Virginia Water Football Club proudly celebrated its centenary in 2020, marking 100 years of grassroots football excellence. The club's early years were supported by the Crown during the reigns of King Edward VIII and King George VI, who generously gifted the club its current ground—a legacy that still inspires today. Initially competing in the Woking & District League, the club transitioned to the Surrey Intermediate League and later the Spartan League. A landmark moment came in 1969, when the clubhouse at The Timbers was officially opened by Sir Stanley Rouse, CBE, then President of FIFA. Named in honour of founder Harry Timbers, the club was promoted to the Combined Counties League in 1970 and qualified for the FA Vase. The 1980s brought challenges, including relegation to the Surrey South Eastern Combination Intermediate League, but resilience prevailed. In the 1990/91 season, Waters lifted the Surrey Intermediate Cup and earned promotion to the Surrey Premier League and back to the Combined Counties League, though ground grading issues limited their stay.

The mid-90s were a golden era, with three consecutive Surrey County Premier Cup wins in 1995, 1996, and 1997—the latter part of a remarkable League and League Cup Treble. The club joined the Surrey Senior League in 2000, and after a brief stint, returned to the Surrey Intermediate League (Western), experiencing both relegation and immediate promotion. In 2010, Waters earned promotion to the Surrey Elite League, and despite cup successes, further promotion remained elusive. The appointment of Ceri Jones as manager in the 2015–16 season marked a turning point for the club, culminating in a strong fourth-place finish. He was joined by Richard Banks as Head Coach, who both led the team to back-to-back promotions—first into the Hellenic League Division One, then into the Premier Division—capping off the 2016–17 season with an impressive cup double.

After consolidating in the Hellenic Premier, the club moved to the Combined Counties Premier League (North) due to a National League System restructure. At the end of the 2021–22 season, Ceri Jones became Director of Football, appointing Adam and Jake Bessent as successors. The 2022/23 season saw the club reach the Senior County Cup Final and achieve its highest-ever league finish of 7th place. Early in the 2023/24 season, the Bessents stepped down, and Adam Sams was promoted to First Team Manager, assisted by Ben Warren. Together, they led the club to another 7th place finish and a Combined Counties Premier League Cup Final appearance, finishing as runners-up. For the 2024/25 season, the First Team entered a Ground Share Arrangement at Slough Town, finishing 9th in the league and reaching the First Qualifying Round of the FA Cup, where they were narrowly defeated by Isthmian Premier Division Champions, Horsham FC.

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 was delighted to welcome Paul McCarthy and Ryan Parsons as the new management team, supported by Dave Atkins and Ben Warren. Their impact was immediate, leading a remarkable turnaround from the relegation zone with a nine-game unbeaten run, securing a credible 10th place finish for the 2025–26 season.

Due to changes in FA regulations regarding ground sharing, the club has made the decision to leave Slough Town FC. For the 2026–27 season, Virginia Water FC will groundshare at Chertsey Town FC, bringing the club back into the Runnymede Borough area and closer to its roots in Virginia Water. With the move to Chertsey, the club has also been laterally moved by the FA into the Combined Counties League South, where it looks forward to competing in a new and challenging environment for the 2026–27 season. Off the pitch, the club continues to grow. Planning approval is being sought for a new ground development back in Virginia Water, while the Youth Section is thriving, with 27 teams (20 boys and 7 girls) and over 300 players. On Saturdays, the club offers three joiner classes—Wildcats (girls), Squads (teenage girls), and Football Fanatics (boys)—welcoming 50 new players to begin their football journey.



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RFI FENCING

TODAY'S OPPONENTS

SOUTH PARK REIGATE FOOTBALL CLUB | HISTORY OF THE CLUB



South Park Football Club was formed in 1897 and immediately became founder members of the Redhill & District Football League along with other local clubs Godstone, Meadvale and Reigate Priory Reserves. The club remain members of the league today. Although the facilities were basic the early matches were played in the original sports field which was in upper South Park between Crescent Road and Church Road. In 1925 under the direction of Canon Gregory from the local church, the football club together with the village cricket club formed the South Park Sports Association with the aim of the Association to provide sport and sporting facilities for the people of South Park. Within a few years it was realised that this new concept would be better served by an improvement in facilities and playing conditions. Fortunately for both club's

suitable land existed in Whitehall Lane, the clubs current home and with the co-operation of the public spirited landowner, Harold Swannack, four acres of ground were purchased there. Always strapped for cash in these early years, the money was raised for the field largely by public subscription, which included door to door collections. In order to preserve the land as a permanent sports ground, great foresight was exercised in vesting the land and subsequent purchases of further lots of two acres and four acres making ten acres in all in the National Playing Fields Association, now known as Fields in trust. The land became known as the 'King Georges Field' from 1935. The changing rooms were located on the far side of the field from Whitehall Lane at the bottom of the number two football pitch. Although the facilities were an improvement on their previous home they remained basic. The football club flourished in the years leading to the Second Great War but obviously declined during and immediately after it. A handful of stewards rallied to the cause however and quickly resurrected its fortunes. One legacy of the hostilities, the air raid shelter, became the focus of attention when it became clear that further improvements were needed to the facilities if sporting aspirations were to be advanced. Thus it was that a shower room and toilet block and a modest clubhouse were attached to this building. Funding for this was achieved through the tireless efforts of the 'Friends of South Park Sports Association' organisation. Despite these commendable efforts, the Association lived for many years on a hand to mouth basis with the management all too frequently having to put their hands into their own pockets to ensure its survival. During this period the playing side of the football club flourished with numerous honours won in the local leagues and cups together with appearances in County Cup finals. The club were also honoured in the fact that a number of players progressed to senior football with clubs such as Redhill and Eastbourne Town in the fifties and sixties, the heyday of non league football.

The seventies and eighties brought further improvements to the changing facilities and clubroom and the purchase of the land that is now our main pitch were made. In the early seventies the football club started the junior's section. Over the years the number of teams has increased on a regular basis and today we have boy's teams from under eight's through to under sixteen's. In 1997 the football club celebrated its Centenary year, the highlight of which was a celebratory dinner held at Reigate Manor Hotel at which over 150 people attended. Many players both past and present attended along with guests from The Football Association and Surrey County Football Association. The club was presented with its own unique framed certificate from the Football Association to mark this occasion. The club was once again celebrating in 1998 when Geof Thatcher was awarded a Gold Medal by the Football Association to commemorate over 50 years service to football, the whole period with our club dating back to the war years when the club only played friendly matches as their was no competitive football during the war. 2001 saw Reigate Town Football Club move to South Park and the club became known as South Park & Reigate Town Football Club. In 2002 the club saw the formation of the first girl's team to play under the clubs name and we now have four girl's teams. The following the year saw the introduction of the youth team who are currently playing in the Southern Youth Floodlight League. The youth team played their home matches at Merstham Football Club from 2003–2007 as at the time we did not have floodlights.



For the 2003/04 season the club reverted back to its original name of South Park Football Club. In February 2004 the club became only the fifth in Surrey to be awarded the status of 'FA Charter Standard Community Club'. In 2006 the first team were promoted to the Combined Counties Football League and as our new changing facilities were being built played their home matches at Cranleigh. In their first season in the Combined Counties League the team finished in seventh place in the league. 2007 saw the completion of our new changing rooms and the erection of floodlights around our main pitch. This ensured that our first and youth teams could now play their home matches in South Park. The 2008/09 season saw another landmark in the history of the club when we hosted Shoreham in our first ever FA Vase game. The 2009/10 season saw the club finish in their highest position (6th) since joining the Combined Counties League. The club has continued to progress and in August 2010 our stand will be erected which will give us the ground grading required for the first team to gain promotion. The 2010/11 season will see the club participate in the FA Cup for the time with an away tie against Greenwich Borough in the extra preliminary round. This game was covered by ITV Sport to start their Road to Wembley coverage as were our subsequent ties against Horsham YMCA and Cray Wanderers. The first team won the Surrey Premier Cup Final and the Lemon Recordings Division One Challenge Cup in addition to being promoted to the Premier Division of the Cherry Red Records Combined Counties League. The 2011/12 saw South Park finish in eighth position in their first season in the Combined Counties League Premier Division. A good run in the FA Carlsberg Vase saw us reach the Fourth Round where we were beaten by Whitley Bay, the Vase winners for the previous three seasons. Playing in the Surrey Senior Cup for the first time Park beat Ryman Premier League Kingstonian and Leatherhead before finally being knocked out in the quarter finals by Conference South Sutton Utd. Season 2012/13 saw the club reach the 4th Qualifying Round of the FA Cup with Budweiser where we played Metropolitan Police in front of a club record attendance of 643. The team finished the season in 4th place in the league and reached the league cup final. The 2013/14 season saw South Park win the Combined Counties League Premier Division and in doing so gain promotion to the Isthmian League Division One South. Our first season at step four saw us finish in a creditable 14th position. Each season has seen us improve on the previous season's league position with an 8th place finish in 2016/17. The 2016/17 season also saw us reach the 2nd Round of the FA Trophy where we drawn away to Tranmere Rovers. South Park finished the 2017/18 season in 13th place in the league. They also reached the semi finals of the Surrey Senior Cup for the first time. Malcolm Porter announced that he would be stepping down as manager due to business commitments at the end of the 2017/18 season. Mick Sullivan was appointed as manager however after a poor start to the season the club accepted his resignation in mid October. Jay Lovett was appointed manager and took charge of his first game at the beginning of November. Park went into the final game of the season needing to match Molesey's result to retain their step 4 status. Park gained a 3-2 victory to secure their Step 4 status. The Sparks made a solid start to the 2019/20 season however manager Jay Lovett resigned at the beginning of November to take up a similar position at Burgess Hill. Martin Dynan was appointed as Manager in mid November. He guided Park to the ¼ finals of the Surrey Senior Cup and maintained their mid table position before the season was abruptly halted due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The 2020/21 season curtailed after 8 games due to the pandemic. The 2021/22 season saw Park sitting in mid table in late January when Martin Dynan resigned. The club acted swiftly and appointed Redhill Manager Harrison Williams. Harrison and his management team settled in quickly and Park finished in 9th place in the league. Ahead of the 2022/23 season the club name was amended to South Park (Reigate) FC. Harrison Williams resigned at the end of November 2022. Assistant Manager Tom Cope was appointed manager and the side matched the previous years finish of 9th place in the league with a higher points total. The 2023/24 season saw Park finish in 9th place in the league for the third successive season however notable firsts were achieved in two Cup competitions. In the FA Trophy we reached the 3rd round for the first time narrowly losing 1-0 away to National League North Hereford. Our run to the 3rd round included victories against step 3 sides Hashtag Utd and Bognor Regis Town. To round off the season we won the Surrey Senior Cup for the first time in our history defeating Farnham Town 1-0 in the final. After such a good previous season, 2024-25 was a disappointing campaign for the most part with many of the players moving on. Tom Cope moved into the role of Youth Section Chairman and Rob Kember, formerly of Chipstead became our Manager. A strong close to the season saw us high up in the form table and pull clear of relegation. The 2025/26 season saw the Sparks finish in 10th place in the league. For the 2026/27 season the club have been laterally moved to the Isthmian League South East Division. It must also be noted that without the tireless efforts of the late Fred Dearmun, Geoff Thatcher, Ray Wilson and Geoff Arnold to name but a few, the club would not be in the position it is today.

FROM THE GAFFER

Good afternoon everyone. Welcome back to Alwyns Lane for our 3rd home game in a row against South Park (Reigate) in The Emirates FA Cup. We hope their fans, players and committee enjoy the visit.



Tuesday night was chalk and cheese compared to Saturday. The movement on the ball and off the ball was very pleasing to watch and the boys showed what they are capable of.

As we all know, the FA cup is important for non-league clubs and today is going to be a tough test against a proven Step 4 side. However, if we perform like we showed on Tuesday night, then I'm sure we will be able to compete and provide an entertaining game, and hopefully make it through to the next round.

As always, enjoy the game and I will be in the bar afterwards if you want a chat.

Macca



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Emirates FA CUP

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- FAC Balham v Metropolitan Police
- FAC Bognor Regis Town v Abbey Rangers
- FAC Crawley Down Gatwick v Sheerwater
- FAC Epsom & Ewell v Chipstead
- FAC Faversham Town v Corinthian-Casuals
- FAC Fleet Town v Melksham Town
- FAC Godalming Town v Tunbridge Wells
- FAC Laverstock & Ford v Eversley & California
- FAC Petts Wood & Holmesdale v Tooting & Mitcham United
- FAC Redhill v Ashford United
- FAC Rusthall v Knaphill
- FAC Sutton Common Rovers v Phoenix Sports
- FAC Tadley Calleva v Bemerton Heath Harlequins
- FAC **Virginia Water** v South Park
- FAC Yateley United v Alton
- FAC Wick v Camberley Town

TOP SCORERS

1 - **Stuart Mortimer, Danyaal Iqbal, Luke Appleton, Alex Harden, Turnell Sinclair**

THE TEAMS

VIRGINIA WATER FC

Maroon Shirts | Maroon Shorts & Socks | GK: Orange

Manager: Paul McCarthy | **Asst. Manager:** Paul Mills

Coaches: Dave Atkins, Adam Sams, Ben Warren | **Physio:** Elisha Timms

Squad:

Luke Appleton | Jack Beadle | Samuel Balogun | Ryan Blake | Kai Boylan | James Darvill | Jamie Di Giuseppe | Lewis Flatman | James Goodey | Alex Harden | Ash Hitchinson | Danyaal Iqbal | Matthew Jones | Harry Kidd | Harrison Marquez | Paul McCarthy | James McLeod | Connor McShane | Jack Mills | Stuart Mortimer | Billy Murphy | Albie Nolan-French | Aston Nunn | Jake Rangecroft | Jibril Shamarke | Jack Simmons | Turnell Sinclair | Ellis-Jay Skeete



SOUTH PARK REIGATE FC

Blue Shirts | Blue Shorts & Socks | GK: Grey & Black

Manager: Rob Kember | **Asst. Manager:** Rob Smith

Coaches: Dean Sammut, Matt Dilger, Julian Schwarzer | **Physio:** Laura Fallana

Squad:

Danny Bracken | Jerry O'Sullivan | Jack Tucker | Cerny Ando | Jensen Grant | Hayden Gale | Dan Moody | Ted Sullivan | Tom Jackson | Craig McGee | George Vincent | Alex Body | Brad Wilson | Darnell Goather-Braithwaite | Adam Morley | Nick Inwugwu | Tyrese Briscoe | Tom Smith | Maks Kuruc | Josh Curlew | Balwin Kaluya



MATCH OFFICIALS:

Referee: James Sedley

Assistant Referees: Joe Clark, Marcus Ferrira-Lay