

# COMMON KNOWLEDGE

ISSUE #11

Season 23/24



Merry Christmas  
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



Sat 23rd December 2023 | 3:00PM KICK OFF

Pitching In | Isthmian Football League | South Central Division  
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# INSIDE TODAY...

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**Welfare Officer** - Darren Salmon

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**1st Team Manager** - Sam Morgan  
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**Kit & Equipment Manager** - Tony Williams  
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### Photographs courtesy of:

Gary Brigden Photography

Match Graphics courtesy of **Football Web Pages**

## OUR HONOURS

### LEAGUE HONOURS

**Combined Counties League Premier Division:**  
Runners-up: 2018–19  
**Combined Counties League Division One:**  
Champions 2009–10; Runners-up: 2012–13

### CUP HONOURS

**Combined Counties League Cherry Red Records Premier Challenge Cup:**  
Winners: 2018–19  
**Combined Counties League Division One Cup:**  
Runners-up: 2008–09  
**Middlesex County League Premier Division Cup:** Runners-up: 2007–08  
**Southern Combination Challenge Cup:**  
Winners: 2016–17; Runners up: 2018–19  
**Surrey Premier Cup:**  
Runners-up: 2009–10

## OUR SOCIALS

 [info@suttoncommonrovers.com](mailto:info@suttoncommonrovers.com)  
 [www.suttoncommonrovers.com](http://www.suttoncommonrovers.com)  
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**Sutton Common Rovers Football Club are an unincorporated members club run by volunteers. Club officials & management committee are elected annually at the clubs AGM.**

# GAME DAY



**Sutton Common Rovers F.C**



Vs



**Badshot Lea F.C**

The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly, any form of discriminatory abuse whether it by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association.” (The FA 0800 085 0508 / Kick it Out 020 7253 0162). The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of the community.



# WELCOME, SALUT, HOWDY, WILLKOMEN

5

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the Whyteleafe Sports Arena for today's Isthmian South Central league fixture.

We would like to welcome today's opponent Badshot Lea FC. We hope their players officials and supporters have a pleasant short stay with us this afternoon.

We would also like to welcome today's match officials, referee Mr Teddy Osborn and his assistants Mr Joseph Gray and Mr Alphie Ibrahim, we hope they also enjoy their stay with us this afternoon.

Today is our last home game of 2023, a year which has seen the lads come through a difficult second season at Step 4, and undergo a management change. Hopefully 2024 will prove more successful.

Today's opponents have made a steady start to life at Step 4, and sit in 7th spot in the table, and are poised to mount a play off charge.

We have already met once this season, down at Westfield Lane, when the two sides clashed in the Second Qualifying Round of the FA Trophy. Badshot got off to a great start and led after a couple of minutes, and although we pulled one back we trailed 2-1 at the break, and an early goal in the second half made it 3-1. We kept battling but couldn't get level, and slumped to a 5-3 defeat, our goals from Isy Nzelo, Conan Torpey and Max Oldham.

Our last home game, the not to be forgotten "missing socks" fixture saw us slump to a 3-1 defeat against Thatcham Town. Despite the delayed kick off, and upheaval to their preparations, it was the visitors who settled quickly, scored early on and that left us chasing the game and we never looked like getting back into it.

Following that, the lads ended a three game losing streak when holding league leaders Chertsey Town to a 0-0 draw at Alwyns Lane. Considering our form going in to the game and the fact that Chertsey had a 100% home record, this was a tremendous effort, and showed exactly what the boys can do.

In the Surrey Senior Cup, the one remaining cup competition we are in, we have been handed one of the toughest draws, as we host Chertsey Town at a date still to be confirmed.

On the playing front, Sam has made some tweaks to his squad, with defender Rylan John and midfielder Courtney Swaby both moving on. We thank them both for their service.

After the delights of the win over unbeaten Cray Valley PM in the Isthmian Youth league, the wheels have come off our U18's title challenge a bit. Rather than pressing home the advantage, they have gone down to a narrow 3-2 home defeat against Corinthian, and then followed that by picking up a 1-1 draw at lowly Chat-ham Town, to put the ball firmly back in the Cray court.

Enough from me, enjoy the game and have safe trips home.

**PS: Don't forget to scan the QR codes within the programme for more information.**

**Briggers**

# TODAY'S OPPONENTS

## BADSHOT LEA FC



**FORMED: 1904**

**NICKNAME: The Baggies**

The club was established in 1904, although they only played friendly matches until affiliating with the Surrey County Football Association in 1907. They subsequently played in local leagues before joining the Surrey Intermediate League, winning Division One in 1936–37 and again in 1937–38. They won the division again in 1985–86,[3] earning promotion to the Surrey Premier League. However, they were relegated back to the Surrey Intermediate League the following season after finishing second bottom of the division.

Badshot Lea won the league's Challenge Cup in 1987–88 and the Invitation Cup in 1989–90. They were relegated to Division Two, but won the division in 1992–93. They won the Challenge Cup for a second time in 2000–01. In 2003 they moved up to Division One East of the Hellenic League. They won the Supplementary Cup in 2005–06, and after finishing third in 2006–07 they were promoted to the Premier Division. However, after one season in the Hellenic League's top division, they were transferred to the Premier Division of the Combined Counties League, swapping leagues with AFC Wallingford. Their first season in the Combined Counties League also saw them enter the FA Vase for the first time.

The following season saw Badshot Lea make their debut in the FA Cup, eventually losing 10–0 to Ashford Town (Middlesex) in the second qualifying round. In 2010–11 they won the Aldershot & District Senior Cup, beating Fleet Town on penalties in the final after a 3–3 draw. After finishing in the bottom three of the Premier Division in 2016–17 the club were relegated to Division One.

However, they finished third in Division One the following season and were promoted back to the Premier Division. When the Premier Division was split in two in 2021, the club were placed in the Premier Division South. They were runners-up in the division in 2022–23, earning promotion to the South Central Division of the Isthmian League as one of the highest ranked runners-up across the step five divisions. The season also saw them win the Aldershot Senior Cup, beating Westfield F.C. 2–0 in the final.

### Ground

The club played at the Badshot Lea Recreation Ground until 2007, when they were forced to leave due to it failing ground grading regulations. They then spent several years groundsharing, playing home matches at Cherrywood Road in Farnborough, Godalming Town's Weycourt and Ash United's Shawfield Stadium. The club moved to Camberley Town's Krooner Park for the 2017–18 season, during which the club started redeveloping Westfield Lane in Wrecclesham, the former home ground of Farnham Rugby Club, which had relocated to Monkton Lane. Ahead of the 2019–20 season, Badshot Lea moved into Westfield Lane, playing the inaugural match at the ground against neighbours Aldershot Town in a friendly on 6 July.



# TODAY'S OPPONENTS



## Honours

Hellenic League  
Supplementary Cup winners 2005–06  
Surrey Intermediate League  
Division One champions 1936–37, 1937–38, 1985–86  
Division Two champions 1992–93  
Challenge Cup winners 1987–88, 2000–01  
Invitation Cup winners 1989–90  
Surrey Junior Cup Winners 1937–38  
Aldershot & District Senior Cup  
Winners 2010–11, 2022–23  
Kenny Warner Memorial Shield  
Winners 2003–04, 2004–05  
Runwick Charity Cup  
Winners 1937–38, 1986–87, 1988–89

## Records

Highest league position: 6th in the Combined Counties Premier Division, 2010–11  
Best FA Cup performance: Third qualifying round, 2012–13  
Best FA Vase performance: Third round, 2009–10



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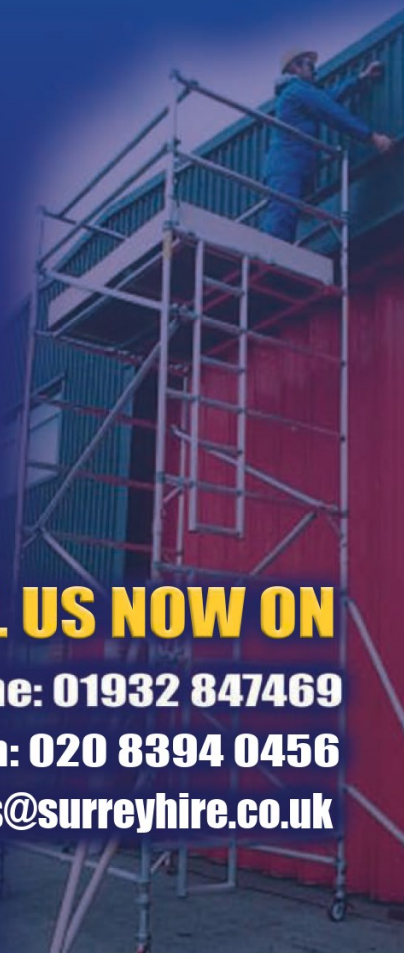
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# MATCH REPORT

## ▼ CHERTSEY TOWN

The Curfews have only lost once this season, away to Raynes Park Vale, and have won all their home game to date, sitting on top of the table. If the banter in the clubhouse before the game is anything to go by, the electronic scoreboard would struggle to keep up with Chertsey's goal count. We shall see.

In front of the largest attendance this season for Rovers, upwards of 650, the visitors kick the game off to a bristling start. In the first minute, Ashley Sheppard chests out a long throw from Ben Holden to Aaron Jenkins on the edge of the Chertsey box. As Jenkins cues up his shot, he is taken out by Gianluca Botti, about 20yds from goal. The free kick is whipped in by Antonio Simeone, but a yard over the bar.

At almost the exact same position, but at the other end, Sheppard gives away free-kick just outside the penalty area. A nicely rehearsed kick by Wayne Ridgley and Conor Lee, sees Lee's shot go low to the Oshane Brown's left, but a strong hand turns it round the post. Brown is called into action a minute or two later, when another free kick from Lee, out wide on the right but from an acute angle, is driven hard and low, but held well by the Rovers' keeper.























On 8mins, good combination work from Holden, Jenkins and Lindell Stewart gives Nabeel Ghannam a great opportunity in front of goal. Slipping past his defender, Ghannam's strike is on target, but too easy for Nicholas Jupp. Both sides now looking for openings in equal measure, but good defensive play from the Rovers back line, quashing any threat that Chertsey have.

A through ball from Ghannam finds Max Oldham wide on the right. Cutting inside, he's brought down for a free-kick. Ghannam takes, but his good delivery is headed out by the Chertsey centre back. On the follow-up, another clumsy challenge on Oldham awards Rovers yet another free-kick. This time, Ghannam floats over Bertie Lloyd, but his challenge on the keeper was considered unfair by the Referee.

After a terrific stop by Brown, Oldham has space to break, playing a great through ball for Jenkins to run on to. The flag went up for offside, which was clear and obvious, but Jenkins put it in the net anyway. No harm in that.

Rovers kept up the pressure as and when the opportunities arose. Sheppard, with is back to goal, feeding out to Ghannam, trying to work an opening, out then to Jenkins, couldn't get his shot away, Chertsey pinned back in their 18yd box, then on to Oldham, again no way through, but a great spell of play from the Rovers' front men.

With Stewart and Holden on our right pressing Scott Rees, we win a throw. Holden goes long to the edge of the box, Ghannam's ambitious overhead kick was worth the try but blocked, the appeal for a handball by a Chertsey defender not given.

	Oshane Brown	
	Tariq Straker	
	Daryl Coleman	
	Antonio Simeone	
	Bertie Lloyd	
	Maxwell Oldham	
	Nabeel Ghannam	
	Lindell Stewart	
	Aaron Jenkins	
	Ben Holden	
	Ashley Sheppard	
	Matthew Feeney-Hill	
	Isy Nzelo	
	Noah Africa	
	Charlie Martin	
	Louie Erotokritos Staussi	



Just before half time, a clash between Lee and Holden, gives Chertsey a free-kick on their left and Holden needing treatment. The last action of the game and Lloyd heads the free-kick away. Both sides go into the break having had their fair share of chances, but a lot to feel positive about for Rovers.

11

The second half started with much the same pace as the first. Now playing up the gentle slope at Alwyns Lane, Ghannam gets round the Chertsey wing back and wins a throw-in on the left deep in their half. Holden's throw is headed away, but Coleman chips the loose ball toward Simeone, but just too high to get a decent header away.

A moments indecision in the middle of the park lets Oliver McCoy in with a chance to run at the Rovers defence. His ball out wide to the right finds Mason Welch-Turner, whose cross is headed away by Simeone. Again Welch-Turner steers the ball back into the danger zone, but Ghannam intercepts passing back to Holden, who smashes it clear.

In the 52nd minute, a mis-timed tackle from behind on Jenkins gives Rees a yellow card, and Rovers a free-kick 25yds out. Ghannam's shot hits the wall, Coleman firing the rebound over the bar. 3mins on and a great ball from Oldham finds Jenkins with plenty of space. The pass down the line for Stewart to run onto was perfect, but the shot skimmed across the face of the goal.

Chertsey's best chance of the game came just before their substitutions. A great deep cross from Wayne Ridgley on the left found McCoy with a golden opportunity. With Brown scrambling across goal, McCoy couldn't get a toe on it and the chance went begging. On 57mins Louis Degand replaces McCoy.

Just after the hour, Rovers make their first substitution, Matthew Feeney-Hill replacing Stewart. The impact was immediate with Feeney-Hill passing through to Jenkins, who should really have returned the favour, but chose to shoot, his effort sailing over the bar. Ghannam then sets up Oldham who burns into the box on the right, takes the ball inside and gets a cracking shot away, but Jupp gets down to it.

From Jupp's distribution Sam Omperon springs the offside trap, his cross blocked by a combination of Simeone and Sheppard. From their corner, Ghannam heads clear setting Oldham off on a run. Passing outside to Feeney-Hill, again his cross just eludes Jenkins. With the game getting close to the end – this could still go either way, but Rovers have had more chances.

After the Ref had added 6mins injury time, Ghannam is dispossessed by Omperon, who charges into the Rovers 18yd box. A great tackle from Coleman is greeted with a penalty appeal, but is waved away. Lloyd then clears the loose ball but is impeded winning a free-kick. Simeone takes quickly, far out to the right finding Feeney-Hill in space. Bringing it down with a great touch, his shot beats the keeper but just skims past the outside of the left post. If there was a chance for a winner, that was it.

In the final minute, a Chertsey free kick is awarded just outside the Rovers penalty area. Looking back to our last game here in the 96th minute, it couldn't happen again could it? Thankfully not – last kick of the game was driven over the bar.

While the Chertsey squad must have felt they had dropped 2 points in this encounter (but still leaving the pitch to rapturous applause) Rovers can be content that this was a point won, with a great performance, and having terminated Chertsey's run of home league wins. Should Chertsey feel hard done by? No, I don't think so. Rovers matched them play for play, and were worthy of a point. Oh, and incidentally, even though it was goalless, it was a great game to watch, with good football on display from both sides.



# INSIDE MORGAN'S MIND

Afternoon all

Our final home game before Christmas, so I'll start by wishing a Happy Christmas to all!

We come off the back of a hard fought point in our last match, this against at the time league leaders. The squad showed a togetherness that got us an important result and while Chertsey had most of the possession statistically we had more & better opportunities.

We are realistic however and matches don't get easier. Today we host high flying Badshot Lea who when we last played shared 8 goals. We lost our discipline during that game which ultimately cost us so we'll be out today looking to put things right!

Enjoy the game, Morgs



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			P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
	1	Raynes Park Vale	16	13	1	2	35	14	+21	40
	2	Chertsey Town (-1)	16	12	3	1	38	12	+26	38
	3	Southall	17	11	3	3	42	19	+23	36
	4	Leatherhead	17	11	3	3	28	11	+17	36
	5	Marlow	14	11	1	2	41	16	+25	34
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed #ccc;"/>										
	6	Uxbridge	17	9	1	7	35	25	+10	28
	7	Badshot Lea	15	9	1	5	28	23	+5	28
	8	Hanworth Villa	17	7	6	4	34	27	+7	27
	9	Thatcham Town	17	8	2	7	27	25	+2	26
	10	Hartley Wintney	15	8	1	6	32	24	+8	25
	11	Westfield	16	7	4	5	27	25	+2	25
	12	South Park (Reigate)	16	7	3	6	28	23	+5	24
	13	Ascot United	17	6	1	10	24	26	-2	19
	14	Sutton Common Rovers	18	5	3	10	28	37	-9	18
	15	Chipstead	17	5	2	10	27	38	-11	17
	16	Northwood	16	5	1	10	25	29	-4	16
	17	Ashford Town (Middx)	16	4	4	8	17	21	-4	16
	18	Corinthian-Casuals	18	3	3	12	15	49	-34	12
	19	Metropolitan Police	16	2	5	9	18	34	-16	11
	20	Guernsey	18	2	4	12	19	37	-18	10
	21	Binfield	17	0	4	13	13	66	-53	4

# LATEST LEAGUE RESULTS



## Tuesday 18th December

Northwood P-P Metropolitan Police

## Saturday 16th December

Chertsey Town 0-0 Sutton Common Rovers

Leatherhead 1-1 Hanworth Villa

Marlow 2-2 South Park (Reigate)

Metropolitan Police 2-5 Ascot United

Northwood 2-1 Guernsey

Raynes Park Vale 4-0 Binfield

Southall 2-0 Hartley Wintney

Thatcham Town 3-0 Chipstead

Uxbridge 5-0 Corinthian-Casuals

Westfield 0-0 Ashford Town (Middx)

## Tuesday 12th December

South Park (Reigate) 4-1 Ascot United

## Saturday 9th December

Ascot United 1-0 Northwood

Corinthian-Casuals 1-1 Westfield

Sutton Common Rovers 1-3 Thatcham Town



# TODAY'S FIXTURES

Ascot United v Chertsey Town

Binfield v Guernsey

Corinthian-Casuals v Ashford Town (Middx)

Hanworth Villa v Chipstead

Hartley Wintney v Raynes Park Vale

South Park (Reigate) v Northwood

Southall v Uxbridge

Thatcham Town v Metropolitan Police

Westfield v Marlow

# CAREER RECORDS

	SEASON RECORD					CAREER RECORDS		
	Apps	Subs	Goals	YC	RC	Apps	Goals	Goals
Bertie LLOYD	24	0	1	1	0	61	3	3
Nabeel GHANNAM	22	2	9	2	0	38	12	12
James DILLON	22	0	0	4	0	48	0	0
Antonio SIMEONE	20	0	4	6	0	25	4	4
Courtney SWABY	19	0	3	4	1	52	3	3
Aaron JENKINS	17	7	8	1	0	24	8	8
Ben HOLDEN	17	4	0	7	1	21	0	0
Matt TANTON	13	0	0	4	0	186	6	6
Max OLDHAM	12	7	2	2	0	27	4	4
Danny DIVINE *	11	1	1	2	0	31	2	2
Charlie MARTIN	10	8	5	2	0	18	5	5
Isy NZELO	10	5	1	2	0	15	1	1
Daryl COLEMAN	10	1	1	4	0	11	0	0
Jordan WILSON	9	2	0	3	0	11	0	0
Gabriel ODUNAIKE *	8	3	2	1	0	19	2	2
Conan TORPEY	8	2	2	4	1	25	10	10
Matt FEENEY-HILL	6	5	1	0	0	11	1	1
Ashley SHEPPARD	6	5	1	0	0	11	1	1
Tariq STRAKER	6	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
Rylan JOHN	4	0	0	1	0	4	0	0
Lindell STEWART	3	2	0	0	0	5	0	0
Anthony OGBANUFE	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	0
Oshane BROWN	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Siao BLACKWOOD *	1	6	0	1	0	27	0	0
Noah AFRICA	1	5	0	0	0	6	0	0
Mack REILLY *	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	0
Harrison ABU	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0



# FIRST TEAM RESULTS



DATE	COMP	H/A	OPPONENTS	H/T	F/T	SCORER(S)	ATT		
<b>2023</b>									
<b>5th Aug</b>	<b>FAC EP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BURGESS HILL TOWN</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Martin</b>	<b>84</b>	
8th Aug	FAC EP Rep	H	Burgess Hill Town	0	1	1	Jenkins	264	
12th Aug	ILSC	A	Met Police	0	0	4	Jenkins, Divine, Simeone, Ghannam	115	
<b>26th AUG</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>UXBRIDGE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Jenkins</b>	<b>83</b>	
28th Aug	ILSC	A	Marlow	0	2	1	Jenkins	179	
<b>2nd Sep</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>GUERNSEY</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Ghannam, Sheppard</b>	<b>72</b>
9th Sep	FAT1stQ	A	Merstham	0	0	3	0 Swaby, Simeone, Odunaike	116	
16th Sep	ILSC	A	Corinthian Casuals	2	0	5	0 Simeone, Odunaike, Ghannam, Martin (p), Swaby	183	
23rd Sep	FAT2ndQ	A	Badshot Lea	1	2	3	5 Nzelo, Torpey Oldham	91	
30th Sep	ILSC	A	Ascot Utd	0	1	1	1 Torpey	136	
<b>4th Oct</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>LEATHERHEAD</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>136</b>	
<b>7th Oct</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>SOUTHALL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Ghannam</b>	<b>81</b>
10th Oct	ILSC	A	South Park (Reigate)	0	0	1	2 OG	90	
<b>14th Oct</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>WESTFIELD</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>91</b>	
24th Oct	SCCC	A	Horley Town	2	1	2	3 Ghannam 2	78	
<b>28th Oct</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>HARTLEY WINTNEY</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Jenkins</b>	<b>71</b>
11th Nov	ILSC	A	Ashford Town (Middx)	1	0	1	1 Simeone	68	
<b>18th Nov</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BINFIELD</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Lloyd, Ghannam, Feeney-Hill, Jenkins</b>	<b>77</b>
21st Nov	SSC	A	Ashford Town (Middx)	1	0	3	0 Swaby, Ghannam, Jenkins	56	
25th Nov	ILSC	A	Chipstead	1	1	3	2 Martin 3	125	
28th Nov	ILSC	A	Northwood	1	3	1	5 Ghannam	105	
<b>2nd Dec</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>HANWORTH VILLA</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Jenkins</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>9th Dec</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>THATCHAM TOWN</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Oldham</b>	<b>81</b>
16th Dec	ILSC	A	Chertsey Town	0	0	0	0	648	
<b>23rd Dec</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BADSHOT LEA</b>						
26th Dec	ILSC	A	Raynes Park Vale						
30th Dec	ILSC	A	Guernsey						
<b>2024</b>									
<b>3rd Jan</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>MARLOW</b>						
6th Jan	ILSC	A	Leatherhead						
<b>13th Jan</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>CORINTHIAN CASUALS</b>						
20th Jan	ILSC	A	Southall						
<b>27th Jan</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>ASCOT UTD</b>						
<b>31st Jan</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>SOUTH PARK (REIGATE)</b>						
3rd Feb	ILSC	A	Westfield						
17th Feb	ILSC	A	Hartley Wintney						
<b>24th Feb</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>NORTHWOOD</b>						
2nd Mar	ILSC	A	Binfield						
<b>9th Mar</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX)</b>						
16th Mar	ILSC	A	Hanworth Villa						
<b>23rd Mar</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>CHIPSTEAD</b>						
30th Mar	ILSC	A	Uxbridge						
<b>1st Apr</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>RAYNES PARK VALE</b>						
<b>6th Apr</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>MET POLICE</b>						
13th Apr	ILSC	A	Badshot Lea						
<b>20th Apr</b>	<b>ILSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>CHERTSEY TOWN</b>						
27th Apr	ILSC	A	Thatcham Town						
<b>TBC</b>	<b>SSC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>CHERTSEY TOWN</b>						

# **SOUTH CENTRAL REVIEW**

## **VALE BACK AT THE SUMMIT**

**Curfews can't find a way past Rovers, Southall up to third, Tanners and Marlow held, Yellas and Uxbridge hit five whilst Kingfishers and Woods win**

Leaders Chertsey Town knew that with only goal difference between them and Raynes Park Vale- and third place Leatherhead only two points further back- they couldn't afford to slip up as Sutton Common Rovers came to call. The Curfews had won their previous NINE matches and hit Corinthian-Casuals for six last time out, but they couldn't manage even a goal this time around. Neither could Rovers, but they'll be much happier with that - and with their point on the road. Town are down to second.

Second place Raynes Park Vale were hoping to go back to the top, but knew that unless Chertsey Town suffered a slip up they'd need to enormously improve their goal difference to take over. That said, they would undoubtedly have noticed that their visitors, bottom side Binfield, had already conceded sixty two goals this season- and it was sixty three after only six minutes, Jordan Gallagher with his fourteenth of the season. Vale went two goals up three minutes before the break, Callum Hope doubling their advantage, and it was certainly three points confirmed when Gallagher added a third before the hour. Brad Sweeney added a fourth with nineteen minutes left, and Chertsey's draw saw Vale take over at the top.

Third place Leatherhead looked to have a tough match as last season's Play Off Finalists Hanworth Villa made the trip to Fetcham Grove, and it looked even tougher when the Villains went ahead on fourteen minutes, Kyen Nicholas with his eleventh of the season. Three minutes before the break the Tanners levelled, Trevan Robinson giving the green hordes something to shout about, but that was the last concerted shouting from the fans of either side, a point each the outcome.

Fourth place Marlow started the day four points behind the leaders with two games in hand, and had won their last eight league matches- but they didn't have a good start against South Park Reigate at Oak Tree Road, the Sparks, who scored four in midweek, going ahead after just seven minutes with Jamarie Brissett's fifth of the season. The Sparks were two up seven minutes later, Sam King converting from the spot, but the hosts then awoke and Dawid Rogalski pulled a goal back five minutes before half time, his penalty his twenty first goal of the season. Could the Sparks hold on? Nearly. Right at the end Khalid Simmo delighted the home fans with an equaliser, and two-two was the final score.

Fifth place Southall have dropped from first to fifth after two narrow defeats, and hoped to get back to winning ways as they welcomed Hartley Wintney. Those two defeats followed a long, long unbeaten run, whilst their visitors were in decent form too, four unbeaten. The All went ahead midway through the first half, Anthony O'Connor with his eighth of the season, and they doubled their advantage just after the hour, Ryan Hope making it two. That was how it finished, Southall up to third.

Uxbridge started the weekend in ninth spot, and hoped to close the gap on the top five as they welcomed Corinthian-Casuals to Honeycroft. The hosts have been the very example of inconsistency, with four wins and five defeats from their previous nine matches, but they did come from behind to defeat Chipstead last time out and new signing Dan Williams opened the scoring just after the quarter hour mark. Eight minutes before the break Lewis Cole made it two-nil, and a moment after the restart George Moore made it three. It was soon four, Rhys Murrell- Williamson with that one, and with nineteen minutes left Mahlondo Martin added a fifth as his side climbed to sixth.

Westfield welcomed Ashford Town to Woking Park. The hosts picked up their first draw in ten matches last time out, and they must have started a habit as they did it again, neither side managing a goal.



Thatcham Town played host to Chipstead. The Kingfishers started the day in twelfth place but had lost only one of their previous seven, whilst the travelling Chips were on their worst run of the season, and took six consecutive defeats with them to Berkshire, so it wasn't too much of a surprise when Town broke the deadlock on fifty three minutes, Curtis Angel with the goal. Muhamadou Ceesay quickly made it two-nil, and right at the end David Nyarko added a third, the Kingfishers up to ninth.

Met Police, a point above the bottom two at kick off, welcomed the side five points and four places ahead of them, Ascot United. Met won for the first time in ten matches last time out- although last time out had been three weeks previously, against South Park Reigate. The travelling Yellas also had recent experience of the Sparks, in their case far more recent, as they lost four-one in Reigate in midweek. Their last two wins had been followed by immediate defeat- but they could also say that their last two defeats had been followed by immediate wins, so they hoped that pattern would continue, and they started superbly. Brendan Matthew is having a fabulous campaign for United, and within a minute he'd added his twentieth of the season to put his side ahead. The boys in blue levelled on the quarter hour, Laurence Ernest making it one-one, but just before the half hour Matthew did it again, making it two-one, and seven minutes before half time new signing Morgan Taylor made it three-one.

Harry Grant surely made the points safe when adding a fourth on fifty two minutes, although Met then hit back, Charlie Brown bringing it back to four-two. Two minutes from time Taylor got the fifth, and the Yellas climbed to thirteenth.

Northwood must wonder whether their success of 22-23 was something of a dream, as 23-24 had so far been mostly nightmares- but perhaps the Woods had finally stopped eating cheese before going to bed, as they awoke to defeat Guernsey at the Skyline Stadium. After a goalless first half Northwood went ahead on fifty five minutes, Reece Cameron with the goal, but the ever reliable Matt Loaring quickly levelled for the Green Lions. It was next goal wins, and it went to the hosts, Kofi Anokye-Boadi scoring with nineteen minutes left to secure three points for his side and lift them to sixteenth.

**REPORT IT. KICK IT OUT OF FOOTBALL.**

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# THE UNTOLD GAME

## Charlton's Ballon d'Or Disaster

Allan Simonsen was undeniably a great footballer. The Dane was European Footballer of the Year in 1977, beating out the likes of Kevin Keegan and Johan Cruyff to the award. He played for Barcelona, had been their top goalscorer and found the winning goal in the Cup Winners Cup final, securing a much needed European trophy for the Catalan side. But when they paid a world record fee for Diego Maradona in 1982, it threw his position into doubt. Spanish football at the time allowed only two European players on the pitch at the time. The Argentine would obviously start, and when it became clear that Bernd Schuster would as well, Simonsen took his leave of the club for new pastures. Nobody could have expected those pastures to be... Charlton Athletic.



Simonsen had offers from across Europe, but the front runners turned out to be Barcelona's hated rivals Real Madrid, and Tottenham Hotspur. Given the tensions between the two Spanish sides, North London seemed the most likely prospect for the Dane, where Spurs had just achieved their highest finish in a decade and were looking at pushing beyond the fourth place they had found themselves in the previous season. But then Simonsen threw a spanner into those plans, stating that he would enjoy a more relaxed footballing environment, something that White Hart Lane didn't really offer. Struggling at the wrong end of the Second Division, Charlton owner Mark Hulyer took his chance, blowing both Tottenham and Real Madrid out of the water with a £325,000 bid. Barcelona accepted on one condition: all of the money was paid up front. They didn't trust in Mark Hulyer's vision any more than anyone else.

The Valley at that time could take 75,000, but hadn't seen even 40,000 for 35 years. Charlton averaged 7000 fans for their home games, but Hulyer wasn't content to sit at that level. The colossal bid for Simonsen, with high salary (by Second Division standards) and no bank to help finance the deal, was a gamble, but the interest he would generate, and the success he would bring, would boost attendances so considerably that he would soon repay the money on the pitch. It was an idea with sadly predictable consequences.

Initially, Hulyer was right, to an extent. 4000 fans turned up for the reserve game where Simonsen would first kick a ball in a Charlton shirt, and more than 10,000 saw him play his first game for the first team, a gate increase of 50%. And Simonsen, European Footballer of the Year only five years earlier, took to his new team with ease. That first game ended in defeat against Middlesbrough, but Charlton fans saw their star signing score his first goal, and create chance after chance for his teammates.

Having dropped from the pinnacle of European Football to the Second Division, the Dane's first 16 games for the club saw a slight upturn in fortunes for Charlton. He scored nine goals, providing more for his teammates, and usually won man of the match; not a huge surprise for a player deemed a peer of Johan Cruyff.

But it was also a frustrating experience for Simonsen. His new teammates were not up to his speed, and incisive through balls, inch-perfect crosses, and magical moments were wasted by teammates who were always behind him. He couldn't do it alone, as evidenced by a 7-1 drubbing against Burnley.

Simonsen did have bright moments, the most notable against Chelsea following that Burnley game. Charlton took a two goal lead in the first half, but let it slip before the hour. Simonsen took charge of the game after that, gliding around the pitch as though he were still a Barcelona player, beating Chelsea defenders that, like most in the Second Division, were far below his level, and scoring two goals, creating another, for a 5-2 win. He had also doubled the attendance at Charlton, to a peak of 13000, but it wasn't enough. Just five months after signing him, the south London galactico was causing financial problems. Hulyer was looking to sell.

Offloading a Ballon d'Or winner was a simpler, but much less profitable, prospect for Charlton than it had been for Barcelona. Fearing this exact situation, Simonsen's agent had put a release clause into the contract he had signed. When Hulyer approached him to explain that they couldn't afford his wages, the agent triggered the clause and Simonsen left the club in January of 1983. He went back to his homeland, and joined his childhood club VB to see out his relaxed career. Things for Charlton were not so cosy.

Facing the massive financial losses of the Simonsen experiment, Charlton were soon also given an even bigger tax bill of more than £400,000. The club finished that season five places lower than they had the previous, and facing bankruptcy. The club was placed into administration and forced to leave The Valley altogether, to share Selhurst Park with Crystal Palace.

So the signing of Allan Simonsen did have the huge impact on Charlton that Hulyer had claimed, just not the one he had hoped for.

**Enjoy the game.**

**Martyn Green, *The Untold Game* (Find more at [TheUntoldGame.co.uk](http://TheUntoldGame.co.uk) and on social media, @TheUntoldGame)**



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## CONSTANTINE & Co JEWELLERS

AJ's shown he could be a real force in pre-season but has also notched up some vital goals early on the season. He had a very impressive season at Lingfield putting up 17+ goals before joining an impressive Colliers Wood side.



## A&J Building Services

It would be hard for you not to have come across Simmo in the non-league world with an impressive record on promotions and titles he knows how to get the job done. Not sure if he tries to be Cannavaro or Steve Bruce but he is Mr reliable at the back.



## SPONSOR AVAILABLE

Ashley Joins from Corinthian & before that he was at Sheppy. Ash who plays anywhere in the middle of the park can do it all and we are all looking forward to the performances he has put in over the last few seasons.



## Jean Stenson

Ben who may end up taking the mantle of having a Holden in an SCR squad is a familiar face to some who joins us also from Haywards Heath is a young talented player who has shown his versatility during pre-season playing across the back and in midfield is one to watch for sure.



## TBA

Bertie had a lot of interest during last season and in the summer but stayed with us and we are delighted. The human giraffe and gentle giant that's Bertie, is one of only a small few that played all last season. Bertie puts it all on the line and was instrumental in our survival. One of the first names on the sheet!



## Destiny Performance

[www.destiny-performance.co.uk](http://www.destiny-performance.co.uk)



Charlie, the oldest 18 year old on the planet. Charlie is someone who has been around what feels like forever but has only been in senior football for last 2-3 years and has always known where the back of the net is. Certainly one to watch out for.



## Steve Casserley

Co'nan our CF and certainly a barbarian, the expression run through brick walls couldn't be wasted on Conan, but with all his bravery he still knows how to put the ball in the onion bag and was last years top scorer having only joined us in January. From Dorking Wanderers

A truly great lad with a big future



## HCS BAKERY

'General' Swaby , small in stature but a giant on the field. Courtney has really matured in his time at the club and certainly a character that's loved at the club. His ability on the ball has no ceiling. If you blink he is gone.



## VACANT

Anthony Ogbunufe  
Info coming spon



## SPONSOR AVAILABLE

Rooney's everyone's favourite uncle. He joins us with real pedigree and has fitted straight into the squad straight away. His experience is shining through with the players really leaning on him when needed.





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**VACANT**

Rylan John  
Info coming soon

**UKPRECLEARANCE.COM**

Louie, last years clubman due in the main to his amazing attitude joined us from Crawley youth and has come in and shown his quality along with patience, He is a young keeper with a bright future



**UKPRECLEARANCE.COM**

James is an experienced keeper with higher level app's under his belt. He's been fantastic for the club since coming in and was vital in our survival last year. Off the field he has shown leadership skills that have helped shape a great changing room

**FullypaidLDN**

Max, who is one of the senior squad members, is a player with real quality and maturity. Max is also part of the Half Turn platform helping those involved with Mental Health which is something to look out for.



**VACANT**

Harrison Abu  
Info coming soon

**SPONSOR AVAILABLE**

We are sure 'Nabs' has a chance to be seen up the leagues. He frustrates opposition with his quick feet and at times you will see a moment of magic. Still a very young player with loads to learn but a big future ahead of him too.



**SPONSOR AVAILABLE**

Jordan ex K's and Merstham player who joins us with plenty of experience. We had a chance to add him to the squad joining us from Merstham who showed he has the fight and desire to play a big role in our season.

**TBA**

Noah our not so secret weapon. Since joining in the summer from Cobham Noah showed throughout pre season some serious potential. A very young talent who we feel is one who'll blossom this year so watch this space...



**VACANT**

Lindell Stewart  
Info coming soon

**VACANT**

Tariq Straker  
Info coming soon



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COMING  
SOON

**VACANT**

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COMING  
SOON

Tom is another former Royal Russell / SCR u18 player of couple of seasons ago. Tom also assisted coaching of last years U18s before showing real maturity during pre season and pushing himself into this years squad. "It's not unusual" to see him across the backline winning his duels.



**LAMICK**  
Floor Machines  
PLUS  
Mick & Val

The skipper and one of the longest serving players in the squad. "Tants" when he isn't on holiday is a tireless fullback who has stepped up into his role and responsibilities. Sam was very pleased to retain him after Tants was considering retiring last summer...

**VACANT**

VACANT



COMING  
SOON



**ZUZU FARRIS-DOWD**  
Burnout Retail Design Ltd

Isty's certainly the light in the changing room, a face that has been around the circuit a while and knows a few in the changing room already. He is another consistent performing full back on both flanks with bundles of energy

**HARD HITZ**  
[www.hardhitz.co.uk](http://www.hardhitz.co.uk)

Sam, the first person in the seat for 29 years after Darren stepped into a new position (no Pressure). Sam was part of the staff that helped guide the team to safety last year and is hoping to build on from that this season.



COMING  
SOON

**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Matty a former Royal Russell / SCR u18 player who stood out last season breaking into the 23s regularly. He has rightfully earned a spot in the squad with an impressive pre season and campaign last season. Currently on loan and finds himself already top scorer in the southern combination league.

**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Reece joins Sam's staff as assistant manager. He has proven to be a calming influence in the dugout during Sam's sabbatical. Reece was previously at Raynes Park Vale and Tooting Bec



COMING  
SOON

**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Aaron centre mid of centre back was last year's u23 captain. He has stepped up during the summer and hasn't looked out of place. He has also joined Forest Row to help his development into senior football

**LMJ Coaching Ltd**  
[lmj-coaching.class4kids.co.uk](http://lmj-coaching.class4kids.co.uk)

Liam who is part of the foundations at SCR stays for another season. Liam's passion for the club and relationship with the squad doesn't go unnoticed whilst also playing a part at Chelseas foundation academies.





# Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Isthmian League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

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Please visit  
[Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk](http://Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk)  
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LEAGUE



# **A BRIEF HISTORY OF:**

## **SUTTON COMMON ROVERS**

**FORMED: 1978**

**NICKNAME:**  
**THE COMMONERS**

### **JUST A S..T SUNDAY SIDE**

Ah, the cry from the Eastbourne Town fans back in the day as they romped to a 2-0 lead in the Vase, before we struck back to win 3-2.

Well, truth be told that's where it all started back in 1978, when INRAD FC took to the field, the club being founded by current Chairman Alan Salmon. Not long after Centre 21 came about following a sponsorship deal with a local youth centre.

Once players left having reached 21, a new name came about: Sutton Common Rovers FC, which quickly abbreviated to SCR followed by whichever public house sponsored the team.

Seasons followed in the Leatherhead & District, Mitcham & District, and Croydon & District Sunday league, with varying degrees of success before Darren Salmon took the plunge and moved the team into Saturday football.

### **SATURDAY SUCCESS**

The 2004/5 season saw that Saturday move. After a couple of seasons in the Surrey South East Combination and the Middlesex County League we took our place in the Combined Counties League for the 2008/09 season.

Darren made the bold statement that he wanted to be an Isthmian side within five seasons. Well, it took a bit longer but we eventually got there.

Our time in the CCL was full of ups and downs. Missing out on promotion in our opening season on goal difference, by 1 goal (as it turned out a missed penalty against Dorking in our penultimate game was key as it meant they had a 1 goal better goal difference than us).

Promotion followed the next season, and two seasons in the Premier culminated with relegation back to Division 1 in 2011/12. We bounced back up immediately, but then spent three seasons struggling in the Premier division before a change in fortunes in 2016/17 saw a mid-table finish.

It was all upwards after that, missing out on promotion with 3rd and 2nd finishes by one place in consecutive seasons. However, we finished top on PPG after two abandoned seasons to finally move to the Isthmian League.



## IT'S A FAMILY THING

As said, chairman Alan Salmon founded the side back in 1978, and his boys, Darren and Justin, both played for the club once they were old enough.

Darren progressed to First Team manager, while we were still a Sunday side, something he continued to the end of the 22/23 season (c29 years)

Justin has since been co-manager of the First team with Darren and reserve team manager, all alongside managing the Sunday sides. He is now the club secretary.

We were also ahead of the game in terms of getting ladies involved in the club. Alan's daughter Tracy joined the fun when the SCR Colts were formed and quickly established herself behind the tea bar counter.

For good measure her other half Mark became youth secretary, a role that he held until the start of this season.

Throw into that that all Alan's grandchildren (Sam: #forever7, forever missed; Tyler, Reece and Blake, and Ethan) all played for the club, with Blake and Reece now involved on matchdays. As you see, we are truly a family club.



## CUP GLORY (ish)

We have a proud cup-fighting tradition, often getting the better of higher ranked sides.

It's not all been glory though as we suffered heartbreak twice in finals, losing 1-0 to Staines Lammas in the CCL Division 1 final in the 2008/09 season, and the following year we lost to Sutton Utd Reserves in the Surrey Premier Cup Final, 8-7 on penalties after a 1-1 draw.

The 2016/17 season saw the club secure it's first Saturday trophy with a 4-1 win over Camberley Town in the Southern Combination Challenge Cup.

Semi final defeats followed the next season in the Southern Combination Cup and the EL Records Premier Challenge Cup, which saw a heartbreaking 97th minute goal against Worcester Park to lose 3-2.

In 2018/19 we reached two cup finals, with defeat after extra time against Walton Casuals 4-2 in the Southern Combination Cup. The club finally secured the EL Records Premier Challenge Cup. An 84th minute strike by Matt Farrell securing a 1-0 win over CB Hounslow Utd.

There has been some success in the FA Vase, with the 5th Round reached in the 2019/20 season, but it ended in disappointment away at Western League Bitton AFC when we lost 2-1.

The FA Cup has been hit and miss with exits in the Extra-Preliminary Round before the 2021/22 season saw us reach the 2nd Qualifying Round for the first time.

Sat 23rd Dec 2023 | 3:00pm | Pitching In, Isthmian Football League

Venue: Church Road Stadium, Whyteleafe, Surrey. CR3 0AR

### SUTTON COMMON ROVERS F.C

### BADSHOT LEA F.C

Colours: ALL YELLOW / MINT GREEN

Colours: CLARET & BLUE

JAMES DILLON (GK)	
LOUIE EROTKRITOS (GK)	
OSHANE BROWN (GK)	
AARON JENKINS	
ANTONIO SIMEONE (VC)	
ASHLEY SHEPPARD	
BEN HOLDEN	
BERTIE LLOYD	
CHARLIE MARTIN	
CONAN TORPEY	
DARYL COLEMAN	
ISY NZELO	
LINDELL STEWART	
MATTY FEENEY-HILL	
MATT TANTON (C)	
MAX OLDHAM	
NABEEL GHANNAM	
NOAH AFRICA	
TARIQ STRAKER	

MAC CHISHOLM (GK)	
ADAM NEW	
ANTHONY MENDY	
ANUR CEESAY	
BABACK DEGHANI	
CALLUM WILTSHIRE	
CAMERON ROHART-BROWN	
FREDDIE ROBBINS	
GEORGE HEDLEY	
HARVEY GRIFFITHS	
IKER NOGUERA-LEON	
JOSHUA KEEYA	
KAI ALLSOPP	
KANE FITZGERALD	
KOJO KYEI	
LAMIN CEESAY	
MASSIMO GIAMATTEI	
NICK MEDCRAFT	
REECE ROBINS	
ROCK MOSES	
RYLEE WRIGHT	
STEVEN SYLIA	
TANE CAUBO	



Manager: *Sam Morgan*  
 Assistant Manager: *Reece Turner*  
 Head Coach: *Liam Joyce*  
 Technical Analystist : *Andrew Martin*  
 Physio: *Liz Raji*  
 Kit Manager: *Geoff Moxey*

Manager: *Gavin Smith*  
 Assistant Manager: *Daniel Bailey*  
 Head Coach: *Victor Ocansey*

## Meet Today's Match Officials:

Referee Mr Teddy Osborn

Asst #2 Mr Joseph Gray

Asst #1 Mr Alphie Ibrahim

NEXT UP: Raynes Park Vale AWAY Tue 26th December | 3pm KO

Plus Guernsey AWAY Sat 30th December | 1:30pm KO