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2003/04, 2004/05

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1994/95, 1995/96, 1998/99,

1999/2000, 2000/01, 2001/02

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Tameside Association for the Blind International Challenge Cup Winners 1996

COMPETITIONS ENTERED THIS SEASON

McBookie.com East Super League Emirates Scottish Junior Cup North/Tayside Cup John Walker East of Scotland Cup

TAYPORT FC - TRIPLE SCOTTISH CUP WINNERS

12 May 1996 2-0 (aet) v Camelon

at Fir Park, Motherwell

F. Mann G. Buist

G. Paterson M. Spalding

K. Nicolson

S. Wilkie G. Miller (A. Ramsay) S. Stewart

S. Ross (B. Gray)
D. Reilly

D. Reilly G. Maher (J. Henry)

Scorer – S. Ross (2) Att. 4,652 1 June 2003 1-0 (aet) v Linlithgow Rose at Firhill, Glasgow

F. Fitzpatrick

R. Gunnion G. Paterson

R. Morris J. Ward

S. Peters J. Mitchell S. Stewart (D. Scott)

B. Craik (A. Ramsay)
B. McNaughton
G. Dailly (D. Evans)

Scorer - Craik Att. 4,613 29 May 2005 2-0 v Lochee United

at Tannadice

F. Fitzpatrick R. Morris

G. Paterson (L. Young) J. Ward

D. Wernyss

S. Peters
B. McNaughton

S. Stewart R. Henderson (A. Ramsay) G. Middleton (R. Hunter)

Scorers – Middleton, Henderson Att. 6.868

Awards 2012/13

Player of the Year (presented 1991 by Messrs Oswald, Redpath & Stewart) – Simon Murray
Players Player of the Year (presented 1991 in memory of Rev. G.S. Ayre) – Simon Muray
Fans' Favourite – Simon Muray

Young Player of the Year (presented 2011 by Bella Carmichael in memory of her late husband Dite Carmichael) — Simon Murray
Travel Club Player of the Year (presented by the Travel Club in memory of the late Davie Ayre) — Simon Murray
Morris Couper award for Goal of the Season (presented 1993 by the family of Morris Couper) — Stefan Elvin v Dundee Violet

Top Scorer Award (Presented by Andrew Robertson) - Simon Murray (27) Our Front Cover picture shows Tayport players celebrating promotion to Super League at Penicuik last season.

(image by Ron Nicoll)

TODAY'S TEAMS LOCHEE HARP **TAYPORT** from from lain ROSS **Darren BROWN Danny TURNER** 2 Dale HART a/k **Barry DONACHIE** 4 Liam McHUGH 5 **Paul THOMSON Martin FLYNN** 6 John TONNER **Paul ALLAN** 7 Kris ROLLO **Rvan McKILLEN** 8 Steven McPHEE **Michael GORMLEY** 9 **Matthew ADAM Brad MILLER** 10 **Nik MANN Craig PATTERSON** 11 **Jake MAIR Dominic BLAIR** 12 **Ryan SUTTIE** Sam McDONALD 13 **Ross GRANT** Frank MULLEN 14 **Connor GRAY** Steve WILLIAMSON 15 **Grant LAWSON** Jon McBRIDE 16 **Connaire CONNELLY** Steve FOTHERINGHAM 18 Robert BOYD 19 Alistair SMITH 21 **Ruaridh DONALDSON** 22 **Kenny McCULLEY**

Referee: Stuart Stevenson (Dundee)
Assistant Referee: Keith Smith
Assistant Referee: Sherad Mehta

EAST of SCOTLAND CUP R1 TAYPORT



V LOCHEE HARP SATURDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2013 KICK-OFF 2.30 pm

PORT PROG VOL. 23 No.2-2013/14

TODAYS CAME TOTAL SCHEHAR

NEXT FIXTURE

McBookie

SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER McBookie.com SUPER LEAGUE

TAYPORT v NEWTONGRANGE STAR at The Canniepairt

KICK OFF 2.30pm



EAST OF SCOTLAND CUP

1st round Today's ties

Blackburn United v Kirkcaldy YM **Tayport v Lochee Harp** Oakley United v St Andrews United Forfar Albion v Dundee North End Dundee Violet v Kirriemuir Thistle Camelon Juniors v Steelend Victoria Dunbar United v Dundee East Craigie Downfield v Broughty Athletic Stoneyburn Juniors v Livingston United Arniston Rangers v Lochore Welfare Bonnyrigg Rose Ath. v Haddington Athletic Kinnoull v Kelty Hearts Whitburn Juniors v Harthill Royal Newburgh v Edinburgh United Luncarty v Fauldhouse United

Thornton Hibs v Falkirk JFC West Calder United v Carnoustie Panmure Penicuik Athletic v Dundonald Bluebell Jeanfield Swifts v Arbroath Victoria Glenrothes v Brechin Victoria Blairgowrie v Crossgates Primrose Rosyth v Montrose Roselea Forfar West End v Sauchie Juniors Armadale Thistle v Dalkeith Thistle Tranent Juniors v Newtongrange Star Bo'ness United v Pumpherston Juniors Hill Of Beath Hawthorn v Lochee United

Bathqate Thistle v Scone Thistle

Lochgelly Albert v Coupar Angus

The East of Scotland Cup is one of the oldest football competitions in the country with a history stretching back to 1896 but it's only since 2005 that clubs from the Tayside area have been participating... and it's the one cup which has never graced the Canniepairt trophy cabi-

There's a full East of Scotland Cup card today apart from the Linlithgow v Ballingry Rovers tie which has been held over as Rose are playing in the first round of the William Hill Scottish Cup.

Top tie looks to be the all Super League meeting of Hill of Beath and Lochee United at Keir's Park. Forfar West End host Super League Sauchie and will be sensing the possibility of an upset as will Oakley who await a visit from St Andrews United.

Longest trips of the day are reserved for Montrose Roselea and East Craigie who travel to Rosyth and Dunbar respectively. There's a Dundee derby at Downfield where in-form Broughty Athletic are the visitors. Kennoway Star Hearts v Broxburn Athletic It's a big day at Treaton Park where newcomers Kennoway Star Hearts play Super League opponents for the first time in a competitive fixture when Broxburn Athletic are their guests.

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Today's Game

EAST of SCOTLAND CUP 1st ROUND TAYPORT v LOCHEE HARP

LOCHEE HARP The Season To Date



McBookie.com League North Division games

Scone Thistle 2-2 Harp

Harp 1-1 North End

Harp 0-1 Lochore Welfare

Downfield 5-1 Harp

Newburgh 1-3 Harp

Harp 0-2 East Craigie

We wish a warm welcome to the players, supporters and management of Lochee Harp who are looking in at the Canniepairt for a competitive fixture for only the second time in eight years. For a long spell, indeed, stretching back to last century, the teams have been in different divisions and therefore have had to rely on cup ties to renew their acquaintances.

This is one such cup tie and a measure of how potentially tricky the tie will be, one need only recall the pre-season friendly between the sides which Tayport edged 3-1, the margin of victory being down to an own goal and a penalty kick.

On Harp's last visit across the Tay, up river at Newburgh a couple of weeks ago, the Beechwood club shocked their previously unbeaten opponents by posting a 3-1 win to notch their first win of the season, thanks to goals from Sam McDonald, Brad Miller and a 25 yard cracker from Jon McBride. By earlier taking a point off North End, one of the North Division pacesetters, Harp once again demonstrated, on their day, they can match the best.

Inconsistency is an oft trotted out word when describing a team's form but the Harp management duo of Barry Britton and Cammy McRae could be excused for so describing their team's failing in that respect when they followed up their fine win at East Shore Park. with a disappointing home defeat from East Craigie.

Tayport's results have been more consistent but unfortunately, they have been consistently poor with only a solitary draw away back in the first week of the season punctuating a string of Super League defeats.

Manager John McGlashan feels, however, that his team have not been out of things in most of these matches and is confident that a change in fortune is overdue.

Tayport have lost the services of key midfielder Stefan Elvin and Stefan's presence was missed in the 3-1 loss at Carnoustie last week.

Robert Boyd is serving the second of a two match ban today following his ordering off v Camelon, a decision which would have surely been overturned had Vince Lunny seen a Sportscene re-run of the incident!

Tayport will have to avoid conceding the type of calamitous double blunder which led to the crucial second Gowfers'goal last week. Eliminate these, take the chances at the other end and fortunes are bound to change.

THE MANAGER WRITES





I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to Barry Britton and all of the players, committee and supporters of Lochee Harp, as they visit the Canniepairt for a second game in a matter of months. We saw enough during the first encounter in pre-season to know that today's match will be tough. We'll need to be at the top of our game to progress to the next round of the cup. Like us, Harp have a youthful team and I'm sure they'll make an impact in their own league this year.

This cup tie maybe comes at the right time for us, as the first six Super League fixtures have been extremely demanding. They have, however, also been enjoyable. Some people may think that taking one point from six matches would be anything but enjoyable, but if you don't enjoy playing football, it's pointless taking part. We have very much taken part in every game this season, without getting the rub of the green. I firmly believe that the breaks do even out over the course of a season. For example, last year, we lost a last minute goal down at Bathgate and, a few months later, we scored a last minute winner to beat Ballingry.

Nobody is underestimating the challenge that lies ahead, but we'll be telling the players to enjoy every minute they play. Once the match is over, you can't get it back. Managers often say to players, before what they see as big games, to have no regrets when they come back into the dressing room. That's a philosophy which we'll be very much adopting from now on, starting today.

There are going to be ups and downs throughout the campaign, but whatever happens during the remainder of the season, I know that the supporters, committee and coaching staff will continue to be

steadfast in their desire to bring success to the club. On top of that, I know how lucky I have been to have such a brilliant group of players to work with. With everyone's backing, I remain convinced that they will develop into the very best that this region has to offer.

John McGlashan
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John

TAYPORT FO Y LOCHEE HARP—THE ALL TIME CUP RESULTS

Although this is the first time the teams have faced each other in the East of Scotland Cup, and have never met in the Scottish Junior Cup, this will be the 19th cup tie between Tayport and Harp. The sides first met on cup business in 1991 and what a stirring encounter it was.

The occasion was an Intersport Shield 2nd round tie at Beechwood Park which ended 5-4 in 'Port's favour following extra time after the teams had shared four goals in 90 minutes.

We don't have a record of the Harp line-up but there were some legendary figures in the visitors' team which was Ian Christie. Frankie Dolan, Grant Paterson, Sean Wilkie, Andy Sommerville, Jimmy Hunter, Billy Coventry, Grant Cushnie, Kevin Thoms, Dave Reilly and Gary Lamont. George Malone and Mel Irons appeared as substitutes.

Reilly, Lamont, Sommerville, Thoms and Irons were the Tayport marksmen and the attendance was an estimate 85.

1990/91	Harp	4	v	5	Tayport	Intersport Shield
1991/92	Harp	0	v	5	Tayport	Whyte & Mackay (Currie) Cup
1992/93	Harp	1	v	5	Tayport	Cream of the Barley Trophy
1992/93	Tayport	1	v	0	Harp	Whyte & Mackay (Currie) Cup
1993/94	Tayport	2	v	0	Harp	Whyte & Mackay (Currie) Cup
1993/94	Tayport	2	v	0	Harp	Intersport Shield
1995/96	Tayport	3	v	0	Harp	North End Challenge Cup
1996/97	Tayport	3	v	1	Harp	Taycars Cup
1999/00	Harp	1	v	5	Tayport	D J Laing Cup
2000/01	Harp	1	v	5	Tayport	Findlay & Co Cup
2000/01	Tayport	3	v	0	Harp	D J Laing Cup
2002/03	Harp	0	v	4	Tayport	North End Challenge Cup semi
2005/06	Tayport	4	v	0	Harp	Findlay & Co Cup
2005/06	Harp	3	v	1	Tayport	Currie Cup
2006/07	Harp	2	v	3	Tayport	Challenge Cup Final
2007/08	Harp	0	v	2	Tayport	Currie Cup
2009/10	Tayport	3	v	0	Harp	League Cup
2010/11	Harp	0	v	5	Tayport	League Cup

DUNMORE REPORTS

Results have certainly not gone Tayport's way of late, but the Canniepairt outfit were unfortunate not to collect a point when Camelon came to town, a fortnight ago. Port opened the scoring, with Stefan Elvin fittingly notching the goal, in what was his final appearance before leaving the club to embark on his new career. Kris Rollo was the instigator, forcing his way into the box and enabling Elvin to crack home from around ten yards out.

Camelon soon began to apply pressure and Marty Wright notched an equaliser, before Colin Allison had a goal chalked off. To compound matters, Robert Boyd was most unfortunate to be shown a straight red card, for what appeared to be an attempt to connect with the ball.

Down to ten men, Tayport performed admirably in the second half, but were caught out by a late sucker-punch, when the Mariners stole the points in injury-time, courtesy of a Craig Young counter.

Last weekend, at Laing Park, there was another Super League defeat, as hosts Carnoustie Panmure ran out 3-1 winners. Kevin Milne, who had a very brief loan spell at the Canniepairt, smashed home the opener on the half hour.

The Gowfers added a second early in the second half. Possession was lost in a dangerous area and Milne raced into the box, only to be felled by Iain Ross. Kevin Webster confidently converted the resultant penalty kick.

To Tayport's credit, they quickly reduced the deficit, when Nik Mann turned and knocked the ball past Neal Ferrie, after Steven McPhee had delivered a corner. McPhee then missed a chance to equalise, from a tight angle, but that proved to be the visitors' last real opportunity.

Ryan Suttie was dismissed shortly afterwards, for a second caution, and Carnoustie's Graham Dailly sealed his team's win in the closing stages of the contest.

Let's hope Tayport can record a first win of the season this afternoon, in the East of Scotland Cup. Support the 'Port



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Date	Opposition	com	res	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	sub 1	sub 2	sub 3	Att
			L1-3		McCulley*	Boyd*	C.Gray	Thomson 1	Tonner*	Connelly *	McPhee	Mair	R.Grant	G.Lawson	Robertson(3)	Elvin (4)	Suttie (7)	188
13-Aug	ST ANDREWS	SL	D1-1	Ross	R Donaldson		Gray	Thomson	Tonner	Elvin	McPhee 1	Mair	Grant	Lawson	Adam (9)	McCulley (3)	Rollo (3)	200
17-Aug	ARMADALE	SL	L0-2	Ross		McCulley	Gray	Donachie*	Tonner	Elvin	McPhee	Suttie	Rollo	Lawson	Adam (9)	Mann (4)	Mair (8)	131
		SL	L0-3	Ross		Boyd*	Gray	Donachie*	Tonner	Grant	McPhee*	Mair	Rollo	Lawson	Adam (9)	Mann (7)	Elvin (4)	303
31-Aug	CAMELON	SL	L1-2	Ross	McCulley*	Boyd %	Gray	Thomson	Tonner	Elvin 1	McPhee*	Mann	Rollo	Suttie	Mair (9)	Connelly(11)	Adam (4)	147
07-Sep	Carnoustie	SL	L1-3	Ross*	Donaldson	McCulley	Donachie*	Thomson	Tonner	Lawson	McPhee*	Mann1	Rollo	Suttie**	Connelly (10)	Grant (4)	Adam (3)	192
14-Sep	LOCHEE HARP	EoS																
21-Sep	N'GRANGE	SL																
28-Sep	Kinnoull	SC																
05-Oct																		
12-Oct	Ballingry Rovs	SL																
19-Oct	BO'NESS UTD	SL																
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It's a Big Day For The Minnows

The 'big' Scottish Cup, the William Hill sponsored version, kicks off today with the first round ties and 36 non-league clubs not so much dreaming of Hampden Park in May but more thinking of a few cushy ties and then a big pay and media attention with a draw at Celtic Park or Ibrox.

Four Junior teams are in action. Auchinleck Talbot will be favourites away to Girvan who finished half way up the Ayrshire District Junior League last season. Linlithgow Rose await a visit from the Highland League's Nairn County and will fancy their chances of progression against a visiting team who haven't set the heather on fire as yet this season.

An interesting tie for Culter, away to Highland League Lossiemouth. The home side have yet to record a league victory this season while Culter are unbeaten, although they did exit the GA Cup on penalties last week to Deveronside at Banff. The North Junior Champions look a reasonable bet to cause an upset.

Today's William Hill Scottish Cup 1st Round ties

Edinburgh University v Spartans Threave Rovers v Rothes Golspie Sutherland v Edinburgh City Huntly v Preston Athletic Coldstream v Wick Academy Girvan v Auchinleck Talbot Selkirk v Turriff United Fort William v Newton Stewart Forres Mechanics v Keith Fraserburgh v Civil Service Strollers Gala Fairydean Rovers v Glasgow University Wigtown and Bladnoch v Buckie Thistle Brora Rangers v Vale of Leithen Deveronvale v Clachnacuddin Inverurie Loco Works v Burntisland Shipyard Hawick Royal Albert v St. Cuthbert Wanderers Lossiemouth v Culter Linlithgow Rose v Nairn County

THE BEECHE KISS

The Beeche Kiss was the title of the Lochee Harp Fanzine from the early 1990s. Reproduced is a page from that Harp Fanzine which in turn had been reproduced from the classic Scottish Football Fanzine of the era, *The Absolute Game* (T.A.G.). The author penned a regular article for T.A.G providing a humorous slant to the Scottish game

The incriminating T.A.G. article reproduced without their kind permission. Sue us if you want everyone else is.

to select a game to watch. This year I searched for one in which it seemed improbably that both teams would finish the match with a full complement of players on the pitch. Spoilt for choice as ever then, I decided on Lochee Harp v Dalkeith Thistle. It looked to have everything - Tayside and East Region, Dundee v Edinburgh, Minnows v well, Minnows, Unfortunately Harp had two players out, one suspended for 8 months, the other for 10. As described in T.A.G. 30 the City of Dundee is replete with Junior grounds. Even the exotic suburb of Lochee has two. Indeed I was briefly tempted by Lochee United v Scone and called in at the ground. Ten



Lochee Harp — pioneers of the surrealist movement in Junior Football?

minutes before kick off there were 3 people inside, so I stuck to plan A and headed for Beechwood Park.

Appropriately fronted by a boxing club, Beechwood Park has survived waves of vandalism, as the patchwork quilt tarparlin clubhouse roof testifies. There is a sturdy perimeter wall, covered terracing behind one goal, a couple of advertising hoardings with the inscriptions entirely washed away, and some rusting, long since disused floodlight pylons which swayed unnervingly in the wind. Harp produced a worthy programme for the occasion with a wonderful Dali-esque drawing on the cover. No less creative was the "Beeche Kiss" fanzine inside. The club is principally tun by 3 men called Kelly and play in green and white

hoops. A nursery team for Rangers they are

Harp lumbered out, looking for all the world as though they were seeking sponsorship from the lager of the same name. As the game itself wore on there was a disturbing lack of yellow cards. The home side missed an early penalty to the delight of the busload of fans from Dalkeith, but half time arrived without goals or bookings. Long before the whistle blew most of the crowd were queuing for pies in the club house, gazing wistfully at pictures of successful Harp sides from 1905. The ambition of the present team was limited to securing a dr. w, thus guaranteeing an enormous piss-up at the replay. The uncannily accurate programme notes suggested this was inevitable and sure enough the game ended 2 - 2. A case for Bruno Glanvilla? Lochee Harp's travels in the Scottish Cup are legendary - one year at Cumnock their fans desperate for drink and selflessly prepared to risk their lives to get it, left in a taxi at half time for the nearest

Al least the second half proved more eventful and, at long last, produced a rash of yellow cards. I asked a friendly Committee Member if the 80 or so shivering souls represented their average gate. He waved airily towards a few elderly gents (all called Kelly I believe) and indicated that they were the average crowd. He also related a tale of how he had corne on as substitute two weeks ago, due to a shortage of players, followed playfully at every turn by his loyal and enthusiastic dog.

A few minutes from the end of a remarkably good natured Cup tie there was a scuffle on the touchline involving the visiting manager and the Harp centre forward, a huge man who looked like a refugee from Murrayfield. As the final whistle blew the dog owning occasional substitute asked me if I was "staying for the fight?" Sure enough the big Number 9 led a deputation of players over the perimeter wall and started, brawling with the visiting fans. The referee, a very small man, sheepishly slunk off ahead, pretending that he was completely unaware of the mayhem behind him. Feeling that my choice of match had been vindicated after all, it was time to repair to the surreal surroundings of the Planet Bar, Lochee, and contemplate the replay

Duncan Mackay







FROM THE ARCHIVES

86 & 88 Years Ago

EVENING TELEGRAPH AND POST THURSDAY 7 JULY 1927

In 2013 the powers that be in the East Region won't let us play in the Fife & Lothians' Cup because we weren't in Fife (?!) but 86 years ago it appears the opposite was the case...they wouldn't let us play in Dundee because we were in Fife as a Reader's Letter in the 1927 Tele from that era complained

What Our Readers Think (7 July 1927)

- Death to Tayport Football

To the Sports Editor of Telegraph and Post

A sad blow has been dealt to Junior Football in Tayport by the expulsion of clubs outside Dundee from entry into the Junior Leagues. Tayport who have for long now had at least one team in the Dundee and District League, will be without a Junior team, as it is very improbable that the expense of travelling to meet teams in the Fife Junior League can be met. Last season the local Violet did exceedingly well in the second division, occupying the third place, and this year had hopes of betterment, but alas! It is not to be. It has seemed for years past that the "head lads" of the Dundee League have wished to get Tayport "locked" out, and now that they have accomplished the fact they will be satisfied, but perhaps through time, if sportsmanship is still left in some of them, a District League will again be formed and outside clubs will get a chance.

There is no doubt that Junior Football has a big following in Tayport and some Dundee clubs were always willing to come across when they knew that the half gate drawings left them on the credit side –

I am, &c., Commoner

EVENING TELEGRAPH AND POST FRIDAY 20 MARCH 1925

And from the Tele of 88 years ago, a press report on the Football club concert -

Eskimo takes part in Tayport Concert. Tayport Violet Football Club held a successful concert in the Temperance Hall, Tayport last night in aid of funds for the club. Councillor R.A.Hardie presided over a large gathering. The following contributed to the programme:- Misses Cumming, May Johnstone, Nan Tough and C.Mather and Mrs P Harley (songs and recitals). Misses Moir, Malcolm, Milne & Sprout (dances) and Messrs Craig, C.Lyon, Heggie and Anderson (songs and instrumental music); and Mr R,Ingram (violinist). Noweybek, the Eskimo presently residing in Tayport, delighted the audience with Eskimo songs and selections on the melodeon.



Tayport v Downfield in FROM THE PHOTO ARCHIVE
1992. The hedge has grown just a little in the past two decades!

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Harp could be back at Canniepairt

If Tayport can win at home to Coupar Angus in the preliminary round the GA Engineering Cup Inter Regional Cup, then they will host Lochee Harp in the 1st round proper.

McBookie.com SUPER LEAGUE

Home

Away

F A GD



Poss

Round 2 draw (North Region)

Linlithgow Rose

Camelon Juniors

Bonnyrigg Rose

Newtongrange Star

Musselburgh Athletic

Carnoustie Panmure

Hill of Beath Hawthorn

Broxburn Athletic

Lochee United

Sauchie Juniors

Armadale Thistle

Ballingry Rovers

Kelty Hearts

Tayport

St Andrews United

Boness United

New Elgin v Dyce Juniors Cruden Bay v Parkvale Ellon United v Maud Islavale v Burghead Thistle Deveronside v Fraserburgh United or Longside Banchory St Ternan v Banks o' Dee East End v Hermes Nairn St Ninian v Bridge of Don Thistle

The North Region 1st round results were Buckie 0-0 New Elgin (2-3 pens); Buchanhaven 1-2 Dyce:Forres 2-3 Parkvale; Ellon 2-1 Stonehaven; Portgordon 3-6 Maud; Newmachar 1-3 Islavale; Whitehills 2-5 Burghead; Deveronside 3-3 Culter (4-2 pens); Colony Park 0-0 Banchory (1-4 pens): Sunnybank 0-6 Banks o'Dee: East End 1-0 Dufftown; Hermes 7-4 Inverness City; Fochabers 2-2 Nairn St Ninian (2-4 pens); Lewis United 3-4 Bridge of Don Thistle

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SNIFFING AROUND WITH THE SNOUT

The SJFA was in the news for all the wrong reasons following the draw for the Scottish Junior Cup, which incidentally, gave Tayport a trip to Perth and a meeting with Kinnoull at Tulloch Park on 28 September. In making the draw, the Scottish Junior FA high heid yins only drew 28 ties instead of 32. The mistake was drawn to their attention and later the same afternoon another eight balls were pulled from the bag to complete the draw.

Tayport lad and former' Port star from the Premier Championship winning side of 2010, Mark Whatley, has been turning it on for Spartans in the new Lowland League. Spartans are one of the title favourites and Mark finally got off the goal last week with his first goal of the season in a 2-0 win over Whitehill Welfare. The press described Mark as putting in a "tremendous individual performance in the centre of the park". Said Mark, "I've had quite a few misses the first couple of games of the season, so personally it's good to get the goal but it's also a big win for us..". Commenting on the new Lowland League, Mark said "The quality of the games so far has been a lot higher than last season so it's much better to play in"

The EBAC Northern League based in the North East of England, where we have made several preseason tours, received an English FA 'Gold Award' for their 'Secret Shopper' initiative. A panel of 18 'Secret Shoppers' visit grounds unannounced during the season and assess clubs for offensive language, technical area discipline and spectator behaviour. The team which tops the table gets £1,000, the second £800 and the third gets £700. In addition, the club which tops the Fair Play League, ie receives fewest cautions, receives £2,500.

'The Law is an Ass' is a phrase commonly used to describe the application of the law which is contrary to common sense. That could well be applied to the SFA's Articles of Association No. 26 which states "A club official, team official, or other member of team staff, player, referee or other person under the jurisdiction of the Scottish FA shall not bet in any way on a football match. Any such club or person found guilty...shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and shall be liable to a fine, suspension or expulsion...". A legal source says "That is what the rule says and that is what it means". What it does mean, of course, is that any person involved in any way in any football, professional or amateur would be guilty, just as Rangers' Ian Black was (a £7,500 fine and 10 game ban (7 suspended) this week. So any person playing, managing or on the committee of a Junior, Saturday amateur or Sunday amateur is guilty if they so much as have a fixed odds flutter on, any football match, whether it be Southend United v Accrington Stanley or a World Cup Final between Germany and Brazil. Go into any pub after any match on a Saturday and you can hardly move for players and committee checking their fixed odds coupons. Oh, yes, and who sponsors the Scottish Cup? William Hill. Who sponsors the East Region's Leagues? McBookie. What percentage of the punters who bet on Junior Football are affiliated in some way to Junior clubs. A pretty large percentage, one would guess.

This week's Super Six jackpot prize is a bumper £5,000

We're aware the Programme's 'Player/management sponsor' feature isn't quite there yet. Bear with us. We're still working on it

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