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2023-2024 Official Match Day Programme

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TAYPORT v COUPAR ANGUS
MIDLANDS LEAGUE
SATURDAY 30th MARCH 2024

Vol 33
No 13

KICK OFF 2.30pm

£2

TAYPORT FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2023-2024

Club founded 1947 as Amateurs and 1990 as Juniors

Affiliated to the Scottish Football Association and the Scottish Junior FA

Members of the Midlands Football League in Tier 6 of the Scottish Football Pyramid

The Canniepairt, Shanwell Road, Tayport, Fife DD6 9DX
Colours: Red /white Change: Black /black

Honours

Scottish Junior Cup Winners: 1996, 2003, 2005
Runners-up: 1993, 1997, 2004

East Super League Champions: 2003, 2006.
Runners-up: 2004, 2005.
East Region Premier League Champions 2010

10 Tayside JFA Championships 1990 -2022
11 Regional Cups 1992 - 2015
21 Local Cups 1991 - 2008

Club Management

Chairman: David Baikie - davidbaikie@hotmail.com
Vice-Chairman: John Anderson
Secretary: John Morris - johnmorris37@btinternet.com
Treasurer: George Knight

Committee:
Brian Balfour Ian Ness Calum Ness
Graeme McBeth Paul Berg Mick Roberts

Team Management

Manager: Daryl McKenzie
Asst. Manager: Gary Balfour
Player/Coach: Gary Robertson
Goalkeeping Coach: Darren McKenzie
Physio: Elyse Ross

Media: Olivia O'Donnell



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EDITORIAL

VAR continues to dominate post match headlines on all our TV screens but still there are mistakes and arguments. Many caused by what might be described as grey areas.

What is not a grey area, however, is when the taking of a free kick is delayed by either kicking the ball away after the whistle's gone, however cleverly, or standing in front of the ball. It's black and white, clearly obvious. There can be no argument. The players know the laws. A yellow card issued for a first infringement should send out the message to all, another card and the player is off.

Referees shouldn't require a second thought, such an infringement can hardly be more obvious. A referee's failure to penalise such infringements time and time again condones what is often clearly part of a team's game plan.

NEXT WEEK'S MATCH

**Tayport v Broughty Athletic
League
Canniepairt
Kick - off 2.30pm**

Opinions expressed in this programme are not necessarily those of Tayport FC

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THE CHAIRMAN...

Coupar Angus provide our opposition for today's league encounter and I'd like to welcome both their players and officials to the Canniepairt. May I also welcome our supporters.

Last week I announced that the manager and club had parted company. There was absolutely no doubt that Daryl worked exceptionally hard for the club. Unfortunately from the committee & fans point of view we saw little progress where it matters, on the pitch.



We're delighted that former Montrose and Lochee United manager George Shields has agreed to take up the role as manager of Tayport FC. George comes with great experience in our game and he will be assisted by former Dundee & Patrick Thistle player Ray (Jinky) Farningham who worked with George at Lochee United. I'm also delighted that Gary Balfour has decided to accept the offer from George to stay with the club. Gary will provide continuity with the playing staff and will add great value to the management team.

The reality is a club with our history, size and stature should be competing for honours every year and hopefully our new management team, given time, can realise that. It's never easy to change a manager but as a committee we felt it to be the right time to make the change. It gives the new manager the remaining couple of months of this season to assess the squad. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome George & Jinky to the club and wish them well going forward.

Last week's encounter with Kirrie Thistle ended with a 1-0 defeat. It was always going to be a difficult afternoon and that turned out to be the case. Coupar Angus are most definitely an improving side under Barry Britton so this afternoon's game certainly won't be an easy task. Hopefully our players can show a positive reaction and gain a victory. Enjoy the game.

Support the Port

Davie



Tayport
from

TODAY'S TEAMS

Coupar
Angus
from



g/k	Darryl BURNS
g/k	Dylan ROSE
	Callum PETRIE
	Marc VAN DER KUHL
	Jamie HUME
	Greg McCOLM
	Ian PLENDERLEITH
	Ethan SAMSON
	Mackenzie WILLIAMSON
	Innes BARBOUR
	Aiden McKELVIE
	Nicholas FLETCHER
	Ewan WHITE
	Max REID
	Jamie GILL
	Ryan SMITH
	Kieren CRIGHTON
	Gary ROBERTSON



Saturday
30th March
2024
Kick-off
2.30 pm

Referee:
Nathan
CRAWFORD

Assistant 1:
tba

Assistant 2:
tba

Port Prog
Vol. 33
No. 13

	Elliot SMITH
	Jacob KERRIGAN
	Sam OGILVIE
	Cole DEWAR
	James McDONALD
	Kyle BUIK
	Brodie CUSSICK
	David EMMETT
	Phil HAGEN
	Jamie ALLAN
	Aiden LOCKHART
	K HAMILTON
	Nairn GAFFNEY
	Ahmed KOLO
	Liam OLD
	Kyle PEACOCK
	Finlay TURNER
	Ben BRITTON
	Ryan DUNWOODIE
	Owen LUNAN
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Manager
George
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Manager
Barry
BRITTON



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THE RACE FOR THE TITLE

	to play	pts	max		to play	pts	max
Broughty Ath		91	103	Lochee Utd		80	101
	Tayport (a)				Lochee Harp (h)		
	Scone Thistle (a)				Letham (a)		
	Lochee Harp (a)				East Craigie (h)		
	Forfar United (a)				North End (a)		
					Downfield (a)		
					Carnoustie (a)		
					Forfar Utd (a)		
							

	to play	pts	max
North End	East Craigie (a)	68	104
	Scone (h)		
	Coupar Ang (a)		
	Lochee Utd (h)		
	Kirrie Thistle (a)		
	Tayport (h)		
	Forfar Utd (h)		
	Arbroath Vics (a)		
	Forfar WE (a)		
	St James (a)		
	Brechin Vics (h)		
	Forfar Utd (a)		

BLUEBELLS HOPES STILL ALIVE

Broughty Athletic 1 - 3 Lochee United

In a game which was a must win, on Wednesday evening under the Whitton Park lights, Lochee did just that.

A win for Broughty would have put them an almost unassailable position, but now Lochee, despite having a very tough seven games to go, are still alive.

However, Broughty will see a win at Canniepairt next Saturday, with only

three games to follow at Scone, Harp and Forfar Utd, pretty much sealing the title.

All at Tayport FC offer our sincere condolences to Tayport FC's Walking Football manager **Paul Berg** and family, on the recent death of his wife **Glynis**. RIP

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TODAY'S GAME

TAYPORT v COUPAR ANGUS

MIDLANDS CHAMPIONSHIP



A warm welcome to The Canniepairt for new boss George Shields and his assistant Ray Farningham for their first match in charge.

A warm welcome, too, to Coupar Angus for only their 4th visit to The Canniepairt in the last 33 years. The first two visits were cup ties way back, but in the last two seasons we've met twice here on league business. The record is P4 W4 F23 A2 in Tayport's favour.

This could be Coupar's best chance of doing something about that record. They'll be well aware that we've lost the road to goal with no goals scored in our last three outings. A quick glance at last season's match programme v Coupar has shown that little has changed. The programme noted that *"scoring goals at home has been manager McKenzie's headache... a conundrum the Tayport boss is desperately keen to solve"*.

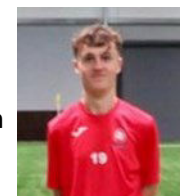
A third failure to score in successive matches, the first such sequence of scorelines since 2016, made it another miserable Saturday for the local faithful. They'll soon have forgotten how to cheer for a goal!

Changing that aspect of Tayport's play will George, Ray and Gary's first challenge.

We can't be kidded by Coupar's 6-0 thumping by Lochee United last weekend as Lochee, chasing the title, have given a few clubs a hammering this season. Prior to that result, Coupar had been enjoying their best run of the season.

After going 24 games to the turn of the year without a win to their name from the start of the season, manager Barry Britton overhauled his squad, with the accent on youth, and has dragged his team off the bottom of the league with 4 wins in their last 8 games.

Tayport will face their former 'keeper Elliot Smith (below) following his recent transfer to Foxhall Park but will not face Coupar's top scorer, Finlay Turner (above) who sits out a one match suspension.



Coupar will miss Ethan Forber, badly injured in Coupar's recent game at Scone Thistle which necessitated the abandonment of the match. We wish Ethan all the best for a speedy return to action.

FROM THE ARCHIVES....

In last Saturday's **Blether with Brown** article in the Evening Tele, there was a pic of **Kirkton H.S.'s Under 14 football team**. The sharp eyed would probably have noted that the team contained not one, but four youngsters who would later go on to play a significant role in Tayport FC's later successes. Three of the players, **Gus Malone, Phil Smith** and **'Micky' McPherson** were in the Tayport team which would lift the Midlands Championship in 1982. Phil would go on to play 197 games for Forfar Athletic while Gus, leaving Tayport for Brechin City, would go on to play exactly the same number of games for City and Cowdenbeath before returning to Tayport, by then a Junior club, after spells at St Josephs and Carnoustie Panmure. Such was Gus' success at the Blue Brazil, he is an inductee in their Hall of Fame.



Coach and mentor, **Eric Sinclair** leads the post match celebrations in the Tayport Arms. Others (l-r) **Ian Howe, Kenny Smith, Phil Smith** (hidden), **Drew Herd** and **Alan Gray** (hidden)

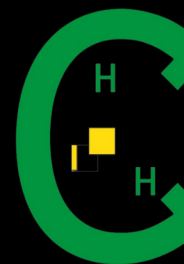


The fourth Kirkton HS U14 team member in that BwB photo was **Jimmy Hunter**, a star in the hugely Tayport FC Junior side during the early 90s.

Here's a picture of Jim some ten years later, receiving one of his many Man of the Match awards from the match sponsor's representative T.G. Henderson

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ARCHIVE PIC

Tayport AFC Midlands AFA Champions 1982



The Tayport line-up before the final game of the 1981/82 season on Monday 24th May Things were tight at the top but they could afford a narrow defeat and still win the title. Well, that's what happened! A 0-1 defeat on The Canniepairt on a Monday evening by Dundee YMCA.

Back:- Dundee FC's Eric Sinclair (coach), Micky McPherson, Bobby Wilson, Gus Malone, Angus Charity, Phil Smith, Jim Downie, Ronnie Stewart, Alan Hart (Capt., injured). Front:- Rab Downie, Colin Gray, Jim Bissett, Kevin Murphy, Kenny Smith, Allan Harte, Ian Howe, Drew Herd (manager)

MIDLANDS LEAGUE	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Broughty Athletic	34	30	1	3	135	32	103	91
Lochee United	31	25	5	1	134	23	111	80
Dundee North End	26	22	2	2	81	21	60	68
Kirriemuir Thistle	30	17	3	9	59	59	0	54
Montrose Roselea	33	16	5	12	69	58	11	53
East Craigie	28	15	5	8	72	37	35	50
Downfield	23	16	0	7	74	34	40	48
Carnoustie Panmure	26	15	3	8	72	42	30	48
Tayport	27	12	6	9	50	38	12	42
Letham	30	11	6	13	52	69	-17	39
St. James	27	12	1	14	57	67	-10	37
Dundee Violet	26	10	3	13	35	41	-6	33
Blairstown	33	9	5	19	52	101	-49	32
Scone Thistle	25	8	4	13	41	61	-20	28
Lochee Harp	32	9	3	20	45	87	-42	28
Brechin Victoria	31	7	4	20	28	66	-38	25
Arbroath Victoria	29	6	6	17	42	90	-48	24
Forfar West End	28	5	4	19	29	74	-45	19
Coupar Angus	30	4	4	22	46	104	-58	16
Forfar United	28	3	2	23	41	110	-69	11

Match Report 23rd March 2024 Tayport 0-1 Kirrie Thistle

Midlands Championship

Kirrie stretched their lead over Tayport in the table with the only goal of the game after 17 minutes with a Stewart Russell header following a corner.

Darryl Burns was the busier keeper with Tayport failing to threaten his opposite number for most of the match.

Tayport did have a chance early in the second period. Nicholas Fletcher's determination created himself half a chance but his shot under pressure came off the bar and over.

It could have been game over when Kirrie were awarded a penalty with 20 minutes left only to be denied by Darryl's super save from the spot. Substitutions had freshened things up for Tayport and it looked like they had salvaged a draw in the dying minutes when Mac Williamson crashed home Jamie Gill's left wing cross at the near post only to be denied by the linesman's flag.

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THE MANAGER'S VIEW

Firstly I would just like to thank Tayport Football Club for the opportunity to manage one of the most successful junior football clubs in the East Region.

Today sees me take charge of the club for the first time against Coupar Angus JFC and I wish their coaching staff and committee all the very best for the remainder of the season.

Myself, my coaching staff, backroom staff and all the players are now fully focused and committed on winning as many games as we possibly can until the end of the season and start moving up the league, finishing our league campaign as high as we possibly can. I have only one week to try and strengthen the squad but I will keep you all informed of any potential new signings.

I was in attendance last Saturday against

Kirriemuir Thistle JFC and my thoughts on that game were that there was not much of a difference between the teams and ultimately it looked like the team that scored first would take all three points which in the end happened. My aim now is to play good attacking football and win games that will make the supporters of Tayport FC come back and enjoy their day.

Finally, I would like to say that myself as a player, coach, or manager visiting the Canniepairt, I would always try to raise my game or my team's game, so now as the Tayport manager, that will be the message to my players. Teams visiting us will up their game so we will have to be prepared for that, and make sure that we turn the Canniepairt into the place it once was.

George

George Shields and Farningham are well known in local football circles. George was at Montrose FC from 2012 to 2015, first as assistant manager before taking over as manager and later in Junior football as manager of our Midlands rivals Lochee United.

Ray or Jinky as he's maybe better known, has enjoyed a lifetime of football. 20

years and 541 games as a player with Forfar Athletic, Motherwell, Dunfermline, Partick Thistle and Dundee FC before turning to coaching and was assistant manager at Dens Park to John Brown, Barry Smith, Paul Hartley, Jocky Scott, Jim Duffy and Ivano Bonetti



Call for investigation into the collapse of Rosyth FC

(The latest headline on the demise of Rosyth FC)

Earlier this month we read in the Press that Rosyth FC, formerly Rosyth Recreation FC, a Junior club established in 1992 and in common with all Fife's Junior clubs - apart from Tayport - now members of the East of Scotland League, had withdrawn from the League and folded after losing their ground.

Rosyth had a longtime lease agreement with Fife Council for their Recreation Park ground on Admiralty Road, Rosyth but in 2018 were asked to leave the ground as the Council wished to sell the land on which it was planned to build a Lidl supermarket.

As part of the deal the Developers, McTaggart & Mickel were to provide a 'like for-like replacement pitch and facilities'. The plan was for Rosyth to relocate to this proposed new home at the Fleet Grounds, Rosyth. This, however, was later ruled out when the Fife Council decided to build the new Inverkeithing High School on the Fleet Grounds site.

When the Lidl supermarket plan fell through, Rosyth FC was expected to take advantage of an offer to play at the new Pitreavie Enterprises Ltd's Sports and Soccer Centre (PESSC) in nearby Dunfermline but PESSC said that offer "was purely contingent on there being a sizeable investment from Lidl" which of course would now not be forthcoming. Rosyth said the offer would then be no longer financially sustainable, and that no club at this level could realistically afford the terms of the revised offer. Said Rosyth chairman Russell Craig, "The behaviour of Fife Council throughout this whole situation has been unbelievable and for anyone to suggest they tried their best to support the football club is not true"

Rosyth are probably not the first club to have moved out of their ground on the promise of a new ground being built for them and then being disappointed with what's been built, if anything. Maybe the moral of this saga is not to move until your new ground has been built. An investigation? Aye, right!



SEASON 2023 –2024 ■ League ■ Scottish Cup ■ Junior Cup ■ Quest

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 * Own Goal