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# TAYPORT FC

2023-2024 Official Match Day Programme

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**TAYPORT v BROUGHTY ATHLETIC**  
**MIDLANDS LEAGUE**  
**SATURDAY 6th APRIL 2024**

Vol 33  
No 14

**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: George Shields  
Asst. Manager: Ray Farningham  
Coach: Gary Surherland  
Goalkeeping Coach: Donald Ritchie  
Physio:

Media: Olivia O'Donnell



## EDITORIAL

League Tables. Why do we never see our league table published in the local press? We get some notes on a Monday, Friday and Saturday in our two papers. These basically give the reader the results and scorers but they never add a league table.

Those who follow the Junior game will get the league table detail on line, as they can the results and scorers. Junior League tables were a standard in these same local newspapers in the 19th century, never mind the 21st century so surely in 2024, with all their technology, they can find a wee bit of space to put in a table every week.

Those with an interest in football generally, or even a passing interest, would be immediately aware of a club's standing at a quick glance whilst thumbing through their newspaper. With three teams battling it out for the title this season and goal difference possibly a factor, such simple publicity would surely boost the interest in those three clubs' matches as the season draws to a close.

### NEXT WEEK'S MATCH

Tayport v Letham  
League  
Canniepairt  
Kick - off 2.30pm

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

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## THE CHAIRMAN...

Good afternoon to the Port support and a warm welcome to our visitors for today's league encounter Broughty Athletic.

Last week saw us gain a 3-0 victory over Coupar Angus. The first period produced no goals despite us dominating possession and like our fans, I was saying to myself here we go again, But, unlike the past four games we were much more potent after the break and created numerous scoring opportunities, scoring three and hitting the bar on another three occasions. There's no doubt in my mind that playing players in positions that are more suited to their ability, a more positive shape and the addition of Scott and Jayden to the front line made all the difference

Unfortunately, after agreeing to stay on at the club coach Gary Bal-four has decided that step down for reasons I'm not privy to at this stage. I'd like to thank Gary for his time with the club and hope he finds another position where he is happier. On a positive note, another Gary in the form of Sutherland has joined the coaching staff. Of course, you all know Gary but his return to the club now has a different path. I'd like to welcome Gary back and I'm sure his experience in the game will make a positive impact to the club.

This afternoon we face the league leaders and favourites for the title. To achieve that they more than likely need to win all three of their remaining games. Most definitely of the three fixtures we are their biggest hurdle. Stats. don't lie, they have been the best side in the division, so we have a huge task on our hands if we are to achieve success. Is it impossible? Absolutely not! If we can produce our very best then there is no doubt we have a chance. Enjoy the game.

Support the Port

*Davie*



Tayport  
from

## TODAY'S TEAMS

Broughty  
Athletic  
from



g/k	Darryl BURNS
	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
	Scott McCOMISKIE
	Jayden FERGUSON



Saturday  
6th April  
2024  
Kick-off  
2.30 pm

Referee:  
Jamie  
McCUNNIE

Assistant 1:  
John Hugh  
EDENS

Assistant 2:  
Mike  
CRICHTON

Port Prog  
Vol. 33  
No. 14

	Sean DIAMOND
	Fraser BURNETT
	Fraser Matthews
	Jack WILKIE
	Chris MUDIE
	Mark McDONALD
	Greig McNAUGHTON
	Adam BROWN
	Jamie REID
	Rory FAULKNER
	Lewis FRASER
	Darren WATSON
	Mitchell FINDLAY
	Ruari HENRY
	Derryn KESSON
	Stewart McCONNACHIE
	Ben SIVEWRIGHT
	Ryan HUNTER



Manager  
George  
SHIELDS



Manager  
Darren  
SCOTT



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## THE RACE FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

	to play	pts	max		to play	pts	max
<b>Broughty Ath</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>Lochee Utd</b>		<b>83</b>	<b>101</b>
today	Tayport (a)			today	Letham (a)		
13 April	Lochee Harp (a)			13 April	East Craigie (h)		
20 April	Forfar United (a)			17 April	North End (a)		
				20 April	Downfield (a)		
				24 April	Carnoustie (a)		
				1 May	Forfar Utd (a)		
							

	to play	pts	max
<b>North End</b>		<b>71</b>	<b>104</b>
today	Scone (h)		
13 April	Coupar Ang (a)		
17 April	Lochee Utd (h)		
20 April	Kirrie This (a)		
24 April	Tayport (h)		
27 April	Forfar Utd (h)		
1 May	Arbroath Vics (a)		
4 May	Forfar WE (a)		
	St James (a)		
	Brechin Vics (h)		
	Forfar Utd (a)		

Regardless of results, the race won't be over today. Nevertheless both Lochee and North End will see the light at the end of the tunnel glowing a bit brighter should Broughty lose this afternoon.



### Hearts on target for a Cup double

**Cupar Hearts**, the Scottish Amateur Cup holders, are on target to repeat that success after last weekend's 4-1 quarter final win at Greenock HSFPs Hearts will meet Steins Thistle, the club they defeated in last season's final, in the semi-final on Friday 26 April.



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## **TODAY'S GAME**

**TAYPORT v BROUGHTY ATHLETIC**

**MIDLANDS CHAMPIONSHIP**



A warm welcome to The Canniepairt for Darren Scott and his Broughty Athletic side which is seemingly poised to lift the club's first major honour in their 124 year history. Needless to say, Tayport will be doing their utmost to ensure that success is delayed.

Since the post Covid return to action and the establishment of the current structure three seasons ago, Broughty have had the better of the league meetings between the sides, winning 4 and losing 2 and have kept a clean sheet on their last two visits here.

In the corresponding game back in October Broughty twice had a 2 goal lead pegged back to 3-2 on the hour mark but two red cards in Tayport's ranks in the last ten minutes ended any chance of bringing a point back over the Tay.

Broughty's success this season can partly be put down to having a settled line-up and there will likely be few changes in the line-up we faced in October. Of the



few changes is the addition of Adam Brown (left), signed in December from East Craigie, one of three former Shipbuilders in the squad, others being Rory Faulkner and Chris Mudie (top) who is on loan from Brechin City. The other newcomer, Jack Wilkie (right) is also on loan, signed from Dundee FC in February. Lee is the son of former 'Dee and United

giant defender Lee.

Ryan Hunter, in a rare start last week at Scone Thistle, received the Man of the Match and it remains to be seen whether he gets a starting shirt today.



This is the fourth of Tayport's seven successive home games and one player who won't be starting for Tayport is Jamie Gill who is serving a one game suspension for collecting too many yellow cards.

George Shields' two debutants last week, Scott McComiskie and Jaden Ferguson, made a positive impacts and home fans will be hoping for more of the same today.



Make no mistake, though, this will be a real test against a side which has dropped only 11 out of 105 points this season.

Today's referee is Jamie McCunnie, the former Dundee United player and Scotland B cap. (and for a wee while, the Broughty Athletic manager). It's refreshing to see a former Senior player taking up the whistle. More ex-Pros should give that consideration. They'd maybe be better doing that than sitting pontificating in a TV studio !

## Dundee United to Northampton Town via Broughty Athletic.

Tayport's most recent league success v Broughty Athletic on the Can-  
niepairt was a 3-2 win in 2019. Broughty's No.9 that March after-  
noon was **Louis Appere**, at the time on loan from Dundee United.



Auchtermuchty born Appere, a youth prod-  
uct of Cupar based AM Soccer, was trans-  
ferred from United to Northampton Town in  
January 2022. He was a member of the side  
which won automatic promotion to League  
One last season and to date has scored 17  
goals in 100 appearance for the Cobblers.

### PAUL BERG of TAYPORT FC WALKING FOOTBALL CLUB REPORTS...

A good turn out at the Regional Per-  
formance Centre (RPC) at Caird Park  
a week past Friday where we had an  
attendance of 23 with 15 staying be-  
hind for refreshments.

We were due back at the RPC yester-  
day but hopefully we can get outside  
at The Canniepairt once the weather  
improves.

Those players involved in the Glas-  
gow Trophy on April 14th have been  
notified of arrangement with only  
details of what kit to wear to be de-  
termined.

The two squads for the league games

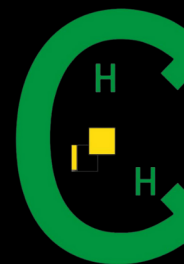
on April 21st will be se-  
lected from the available  
pool of players, a task for  
Tom with assistance  
from Alan & Bruce.

If anyone you know of who might be  
interested in coming along and hav-  
ing a game, please get in touch with  
me via email. [tfcwalkingfoot-  
ball@gmail.com](mailto:tfcwalkingfoot-<br/>ball@gmail.com) or 07831-535555.  
Remember, you can join us if you are  
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old!!



Paul

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MIDLANDS LEAGUE	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Broughty Athletic	35	31	1	3	138	32	106	94
Lochee United	32	26	5	1	136	23	113	83
Dundee North End	27	23	2	2	84	21	63	71
Kirriemuir Thistle	31	18	3	9	62	59	3	57
Montrose Roselea	34	16	5	13	71	63	8	53
East Craigie	29	15	5	9	72	40	32	50
Carnoustie Panmure	27	15	4	8	73	43	30	49
Downfield	23	16	0	7	74	34	40	48
Tayport	28	13	6	9	53	38	15	45
Letham	31	12	6	13	56	71	-15	42
St. James	28	13	1	14	62	69	-7	40
Dundee Violet	26	10	3	13	35	41	-6	33
Blairgowrie	33	9	5	19	52	101	-49	32
Scone Thistle	26	8	4	14	41	64	-24	28
Lochee Harp	33	9	3	21	45	89	-44	28
Brechin Victoria	31	7	4	20	28	66	-38	25
Arbroath Victoria	30	6	7	17	43	91	-48	25
Forfar West End	29	5	4	20	29	77	-48	19
Coupar Angus	31	4	4	23	46	107	-61	16
Forfar United	29	3	2	24	43	114	-71	11

### Match Report 23rd March 2024 Tayport 3-0 Coupar Angus

### Midlands Championship

After 338 barren minutes, Tayport finally scored a goal and it was new signing Scott McComiskie who made the breakthrough, giving his side the lead on the hour mark in what was a fairly one sided affair.

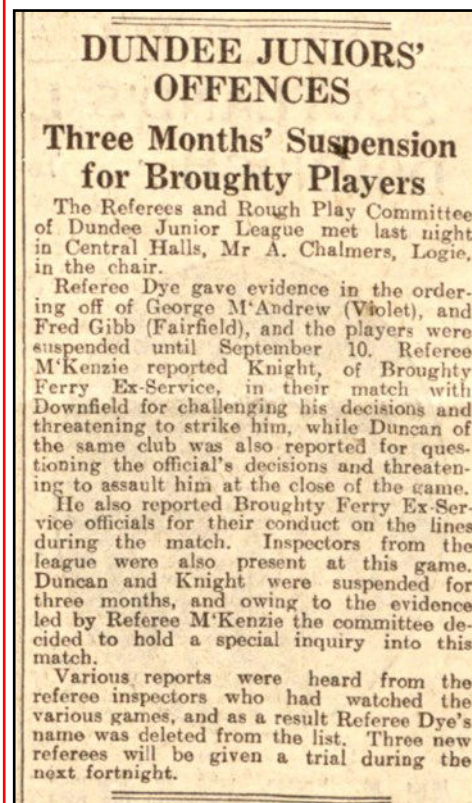
New manager George Shields introduced a couple of new strikers, McComiskie and Jayden Ferguson, from Lochee United and both provided some effervescence to Tayport's play.

The first half had been relatively uneventful, other than the loss of Ethan Samson with an ankle injury, to be replaced by Ryan Smith.

There was more fire in Tayport's play after the break and within a minute of the restart Jamie Gill had crashed a shot off the Coupar crossbar. That set a pattern and Tayport would hit the woodwork on two further occasions.

Five minutes after McComiskie's opener Smith settled any nerves with a neat header and McComiskie put the seal on a fine debut with the third goal in the last minute.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES....



The Broughty Athletic we know today was the former Broughty Ex-Service FC which made its Junior Football debut in 1920, playing in the City & District Junior League. In 1951 the Ex-Service decided it was time for a change of identity and the club became Broughty Athletic

### What's in a Name

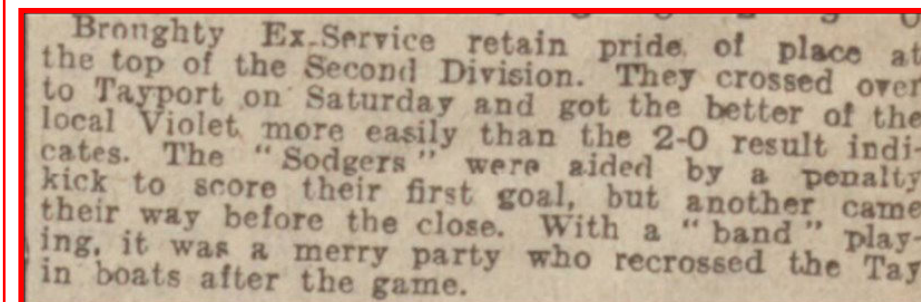
Last season Broughty Ex-Service finished third from the foot of the league. On Wednesday, under their new name of Broughty Athletic, they turned in a 7-0 win over Shamrock.

Occasion was the informal opening of the team's enclosed park. The formal ceremony will take place when the pavilion and terracing are completed.

### 1924-25 season

In days gone by, with a Ferry crossing between Tayport and Broughty, the communities were always close and travel to play each other would always be by said means. On the occasion reported below, an early season

defeat for Tayport Violet, Tayport's Junior team of the time, was from our neighbours across the water, *The Sodgers* of Broughty Ex-Service. The press comment suggests that Broughty may well have toasted their success, taking advantage of the hospitality afforded by the Bellrock Tavern and Freemasons Arms before getting back on board.





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## THE MANAGER'S VIEW



Today sees us take on the top of the table Broughty Athletic JFC and I wish their coaching staff and committee all the very best for the remainder of the season.

My first game in charge saw us take on a Coupar Angus team that was prepared to sit in and try to counter attack us. Fortunately we managed to break them down and thoroughly deserved our 3-0 win which could have been more convincing against a well organised Coupar team.



I said in last week's programme that I would keep everyone updated on players that were coming in to join us, Two players that I have added to our squad are Scott McComiskie (above) and Jaden Ferguson (top), both of whom have had previous experience in the senior game and were most recently

playing for Lochee United. Both are strikers with Scott bagging a brace on his first start on Saturday past. Jaden was denied his first goal by an outstanding save from the Coupar Angus goalkeeper Elliot Smith but his time will come I am sure. We also welcome back Gary Sutherland who has also joined my coaching staff and he will be a fantastic help to me whilst I settle into my new position.

Finally, I would like to thank Gary Balfour for his assistance when I accepted the job but unfortunately he has decided to leave the club. Midfielder Innes Barbour has been transferred to Coupar Angus JFC and Broughty Athletic have recalled their young goalkeeper Dylan Rose, Everyone at Tayport wishes them all the very best for the future.

*George*



## MAYBE IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE

Since the introduction of the Midlands League three seasons ago, pretty much the same clubs have finished in the bottom ten places and this season looks to be little different. Of course, there will always be the odd exception but it tells us is that the majority of those ten clubs will, nearly every season, finish in the bottom half of a 19, or this season, a 20 teams league.

Effectively, then, with the season starting in mid-July, by the start of September the majority of our twenty clubs, having already played a dozen games, are no longer in the title race. They've nothing to play for, invariably having made no significant progress in the Scottish Cup and Regional Quest Cup, and with no local cup competition – only a max 3 competitions in a season. In season 1990/91 there were two divisions in Tayside, a 14 team first division and a 12 team second division and these 26 teams were each competing in 10 different competitions. At the end of that season, 6 different clubs had at least one trophy to show off at their annual awards ceremony, 7 clubs if you count the other promoted club.

Is it not time for two divisions again? There are only 20 clubs at the moment, but perhaps some others might be tempted to join up if we had a more

competitive season. Although Luncarty have picked up a bit and Jeanfield are faring well, Kinnoull and Newburgh are stuck at the bottom of their respective divisions in the East of Scotland League and must be counting the cost of regular travel to the Lothians, never mind the frustration of getting caught up in traffic holdups.

A second division would at least see the ten or so clubs which perennially finish in the bottom half of our league having the incentive of a promotion challenge. There could be the introduction of play offs a la the SPFL. Interest for the majority of clubs would be maintained until the season's end. OK, fewer league games, but we could maybe return to a more civilised start of the season in August, dust down some couple local cups and also introduce a cup competition for Division Two clubs only.

If Broughty win the league, as they are likely to do, the season will effectively be over for all clubs apart from the two in the Quest Cup and we'll not even have reached the middle of April.

At Tayport we've missed seven match days through the weather this season and that problem is likely to be exacerbated by climate change so let's return to a busy competitive end of season where, historically, the Junior game came into its own. Just a thought.

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

 Yellow card       2 x Yellow Cards       Red Card      \* Own Goal