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## 2024-2025 Official Match Day Programme



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### TAYPORT v BLAIRGOWRIE

### MIDLANDS LEAGUE

### SATURDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2024



Vol 34  
No 3

£2

## TAYPORT FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2024-2025

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  
Assistant manager: Barry Smith  
Coach: Gary Sutherland  
Goalkeeping coach: Grant Clark  
Physio: Emma Gillespie  
Media: Lachlan Harrison

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THIS WEEK



## EDITORIAL

Out of the Scottish Gas Scottish Cup, a precarious journey to Aberdeen in the Scottish Junior Cup next Saturday and most recently successive league defeats which have seen us slump to within a point of second half season 'relegation'. It's been a disappointing few weeks after some pleasing early season performances so hopefully no need to panic.

### Cover Pic

The sun shines bright over Canniepairt last Saturday during the Scottish Gas Scottish Cup tie v North End. (pic courtesy of Matt Anderson)

### Forthcoming Matches

Saturday 21st September

Scottish Junior Cup  
Away v Sunnybank  
Heatheryfold Park, Aberdeen  
2.30pm

Saturday 28th September

Midlands League  
Away v Lochee Harp  
New Beechwood Park, 2.30pm

### Next Home Match

Saturday 5th October

Midlands League  
Tayport v Dundee Violet  
Canniepairt 2.30pm



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

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## THE CHAIRMAN...

A warm welcome to the players and officials of Blairgowrie our opponents for this afternoon's Midlands League game.

Last weekend we travelled to Downfield for our 5th league match of this term. If I recall our last visit to Downfield Park ended in a 4-1 defeat. On this occasion it still ended in defeat but there certainly wasn't the gap that existed a year or so ago. Starting the game without four players who would more than likely have started, didn't help our cause and this, of course, had a big impact on the manager's options. In my opinion our former player Stephen McPhee was a huge influence in their narrow success last week, but in defeat I still see improvement.

In our Scottish Cup 2nd Round Preliminary tie the previous week, the outcome was very much the same, beaten but the gap is closing. In both games poor individual decision making has cost us. I can assure our fans that our manager has been working round the clock, attempting to bring players in and I've no doubt is very frustrated that we've been unsuccessful to date. The important fact is, we will never stop working to improve our squad.

### Next Saturday

If any fans wish to travel to Aberdeen for next Saturday's Scottish Junior Cup tie against Sunnybank, there are a number of seats on the team bus, so if you would like to travel, contact any committee member asap.

Today's visitors Blairgowrie arrive at the Canniepairt for the second time this season in the space of a month or so. I was on holiday for our first encounter but, by all accounts we never had it all our own way but ran out 2-0 victors. Today is another day and to succeed we have to approach it with the right mentality, do so then we can achieve the 3 points on offer.

*Davie Baikie*



Tayport  
from

## TODAY'S TEAMS

Blairgowrie  
from



1	Darryl BURNS
22	Fraser BURNETT
2	Callum PETRIE
3	Gary ROBERTSON
4	Kieran CRICHTON
5	James THOMSON
6	Jamie HUME
7	Sam SIMPSON
8	Ethan SAMSON
9	Scott McCOMISKIE
10	Ian PLENDERLEITH
11	Jamie GILL
12	Jamie CROWE
15	Greg McCOLM
16	Ryan SMITH
17	Aiden McKELVIE
18	Kyle McMULKIN
19	Lewis STRACEY



Saturday  
14th September  
2024  
Kick-off  
2.30 pm

Referee:  
Nathan  
CRAWFORD

Assistant 1:  
Ross  
ALEXANDER

Assistant 2:  
Matthew  
RACE

Port Prog  
Vol. 34  
No. 3

g/k	Andrew SMITH
g/k	Jamie ADAMS
	Cameron McMANUS
	Nairn LOWE
	Ryan BEEDIE
	Rhys FRASER
	Charlie LOFTUS
	Gary AXWORTHY
	Craig McLELLAN
	Stuart HEENAN
	Harry WATSON
	Callum MORGAN
	Lukas GASOWSKI
	Corey DAVIE
	Elliot WILLIAMSON
	Lewis GEMINE
	James DUNCAN
	Robbie WATSON
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George  
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## FROM THE ARCHIVES

**JUNIORS ... Action from the Concept Group Trophy**

# Sunnybank see red as Tayport run riot

SORRY Sunnybank had two sent off as they were linked 3-1 by Dundee's Tayport in the final of the Concept Group Trophy.

by Sean Wallace at Keith Park

Sunnybank ..... 1  
Tayport ..... 3

Sunnybank created the first clear opening in four minutes when a poor clearance from keeper Fitzpatrick landed directly in front of Reppien.

He sent a low-driven shot towards the far post which the recovering keeper did well to block.

Tayport took the lead in the 21st minute, when Riches was beaten to the ball by Ward in 21 minutes. His downward header was directed goalwards by CRAIK from six yards out.

Morland was helpless to clear the effort, as his attempted clearance rattled off the underside of the bar.

A freak goal pulled Sunnybank level when a long fluffed ball upfield from MORLAND was completely misjudged by keeper Fitzpatrick in 25 minutes.

Greig was following up in the box and attempted to head goalwards, but the ball looped over the mid-fielder before taking a wild bounce on the penalty spot and passing high over the belated keeper.

Brilliant individual skill from Douglas nearly gave Bank the lead in 25 minutes when he picked up a

short pass from Trapp in midfield before delicately lifting the ball over defender Peters and then sending a vicious 18-yard strike down over the bar. (Half-time: 1-1)

Keeper Riches bravely punched clear to deny Craik a free header, eight yards out, as he attempted to connect with an inswinging cross delivered by Stewart in 42 minutes.

Picking up a short pass, deep in midfield, the unmarked Stewart attempted a speculative long-range effort from 35 yards but his hopeful shot passed high over the bar.

Tayport's aerial threat eventually paid dividends in 64 minutes when CRAIK raced in front of Morland to direct Stewart's cross-field ball past the on-rushing Riches with a powerful header from 12 yards.

A fiercely competitive match threatened to boil over when Sunnybank's Laird was harshly red-carded for retaliation in 61 minutes.

Sunnybank replaced Morland with McDonald in 72 minutes, while Tayport swapped Evans for Kenneth soon after.

# Bank out to cash in against Tayport

by Sean Wallace

SUNNYBANK are out for revenge tomorrow when they face the daunting trip south to Tayport in the NCR Inter Regional Cup second round.

The two sides clashed earlier this year in a fiery match when Tayport ran out 5-1 winners in the Inter Regional final at Keith Park.

Although the defeat still rankles with Bank manager Tommy Forbes, he insists it will have no bearing on tomorrow's game.

"We had a bit of a disaster last time we met," said Tommy.

"Although Tayport deserved the win the result flattered them."

"At 2-1 we were competing well until Graeme Laird got sent off

will play a patient game." Sunnybank could not have drawn a tougher tie than the 1966 OVD Scottish cup winners.

Since stepping up to the juniors in the early 1990's, Tayport have won an astonishing 52 trophies in only 12 years.

"They are a massive team but we will go down there confident after our performance against Formartine United."

However, experienced Forbes is set to play a cautious game against one of the most feared teams in Scotland.

"If you go down to Tayport and play naively, they will definitely punish you," said Tommy.

"They have won their last two games 7-0 and 5-1 so we

Scottish Junior Cup next week but...

in May 2002, left, and below, in November 2002



## On the road next week

Tayport travel to Heatheryfold Park, Aberdeen next Saturday to meet Sunnybank in the 2nd round of the Scottish Junior Cup. The clubs have met on 5 previous occasions, never in the Scottish Junior Cup though, always in the Tayside/North Region Cup, between 1996 and 2016. Tayport won all these ties. Sunnybank are presently mid table in the North Region's Premier League

## Midlands Clubs in the Scottish next week

Letham are already through to round 3 following their splendid 2-1 win over East of Scotland Premier Division's Dunipace last Saturday. Brechin Vics are out, beaten 0-1 at Armadale the previous week.

On paper Coupar Angus look to have a tough task at home against Cup holders Darvel. However they can take heart from the fact this is not the Darvel of last season as the Ayrshire club is currently firmly anchored at the foot of the WoSFL Premier Division.

On paper, three of the Midlands League clubs most favoured by the bookies to do well in the competition, Lochee United, Broughty Athletic and North End all look sure certs for the next round. Lochee United are at home to WoSFL third tier side Lanark United while Broughty travel west to meet Bellshill Athletic of the same division. For North End, it should be a walk in the park against Whitehills FC at Banff, the side holding up the entire North Region at the moment. Mind you, that's probably what Auchinleck though when they ran out against Whitehills' neighbours Lossiemouth United last week!



## TODAY'S GAME TAYPORT v BLAIRGOWRIE MIDLANDS LEAGUE



We welcome the Berrypickers to play a league match at Canniepairt for only the seventh time in 35 years. Although we were in the same Association for many seasons during these decades, we plied our trade in different divisions. As well as the six league games during this period there have been four cup ties here, the most recent being our 2-0 win in the East of Scotland Cup last month.

That defeat was Blair's biggest defeat of the season to date, their other two, by Montrose and unbeaten Letham, were both by the odd goal. Manager Marco Notarangelo has tightened up a defence which was one of the leakiest in the division last season when they lost exactly 3 goals per game.

It should also be noted that, the cup tie at Tayport excepted, the Davie Park club have scored in every game they've played this season. Unbeaten in their last three league games, a win today would see Blair leapfrog Tayport in the table.

Indeed, looking at today's fixture card that at the end of the afternoon, depending on how results go, we have a situation whereby a win for Tayport could propel us to 5th top spot and a defeat could see us plummet to 13th

The visitors' main goal threat comes from Stuart Heenan, signed from Brechin City, who has netted 5 goals in his last three games. Nairn Lowe has netted twice during this period, most recently at Arbroath Vics last week.

One of the reasons for Blair's improved form this season is the form of the veteran midfielder Gary Axworthy who returned to the club this season. Gary, who is another goal threat with 3 to his credit this season, could be struggling to start today, having been taken off injured at Arbroath.

Tayport missed striker Scott McComiskie last week and will also be looking for Ethan Samson (pictured) to recapture his scoring touch. After netting in each of our first four games, Ethan has been fired blanks in the four games since.

With a Scottish Cup tie in Aberdeen next week, Tayport will be anxious to return to their winning ways. For their tie Blairgowrie travel to Blantyre Vics, currently pointless in the WoSFL first division.



TODAY'S  
MATCH BALL  
IS SPONSORED  
BY



TOM BRADLEY  
CAIRNEYHILL

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

The last 4 Fridays have seen our Friday morning sessions played at The Can-niepairt, and have been played in warm, and mostly sunny conditions. Our record of not having to cancel a session due to poor weather, has extended to just over a year now, but as autumn approaches, we will have to, at some stage, start training indoors at the Regional Performance Centre, in Dundee.

Not a hardship, but if you asked the guys where would you rather train, on the wonderful grass pitch at Tayport, or the 4G pitches at the RPC, it would probably be a 50-50 split ! The criticism some of them for playing on any grass pitch, is the difference in how the ball bounces from area to area of the pitch, whereas on synthetic 4G you know the ball will bounce and move exactly the same wherever you play, indoors or outdoors. This is visible when you watch any level of football either live or on television. On the opposite side of the coin, slipping over on a grass pitch is not likely to cause too much of an injury, whereas on a synthetic pitch, players can get nasty burn marks on their legs from falling over and scraping them. But, at the end of the day, the main difference is when it rains cats and dogs, you don't get wet playing inside at the RPC !

We have our final set of league games on Sunday October 27th at the RPC. Tom Malone [brother of George, Tayport's early 90s star], our team manager, is finalising our 2 squads, so we can give all involved plenty of notice to keep that day free. Our biggest shortcoming this season is not having enough quality players available on the day. We had the Euros, summer holidays and injuries to contend with, so we are keeping everything crossed that we have the best 16 players available in October.

Unfortunately we can't win anything this season, but our pride dictates that we finish the year well, and prove to the other clubs that Tayport can produce not just 1 but 2 sides capable of going for their respective league titles next year.

We were the first club to enter 2 sides last year, and Arbroath followed our lead in entering 2 teams this year, and have found it difficult to say the least. I have already committed Tayport on entering both teams again next year, in the over 50s league, despite 90% of our players being over 60! We looked at entering an over 60s league team, but they play their games on a Friday in Edinburgh, and not enough of the guys were willing to commit to getting involved, especially as it would mean them missing our Friday sessions, and that's what they really enjoy, meeting up, training and having a great laugh and discussion afterwards in the Gas Chamber over tea and coffee etc. about everything football !

As the saying goes " it's the taking part, not the winning, that's important "

if you perhaps think Walking Football is worth trying, contact me on **0783-535555**

MIDLANDS LEAGUE	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Broughty Athletic	6	6	0	0	27	2	25	18
Lochee United	5	5	0	0	18	3	15	15
Dundee North End	5	4	0	1	25	2	23	12
Downfield	6	4	0	2	13	8	5	12
Letham	5	4	0	1	10	7	3	12
Kirriemuir Thistle	6	4	0	2	9	6	3	12
East Craigie	6	4	0	2	7	6	1	12
Carnoustie Panmure	6	3	2	1	14	11	3	11
<b>Tayport</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>
Montrose Roselea	6	3	0	3	12	9	3	9
<b>Blairgowrie</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>
Arbroath Victoria	6	2	1	3	11	13	-2	7
Dundee Violet	6	2	1	3	6	8	-2	7
Coupar Angus	6	2	0	4	9	10	-1	6
Lochee Harp	5	2	0	3	7	16	-9	6
St. James	6	1	2	3	7	14	-7	5
Brechin Victoria	5	1	0	4	3	10	-7	3
Forfar United	6	1	0	5	6	24	-18	3
Scone Thistle	5	0	0	5	6	18	-12	0
Forfar West End	6	0	0	6	2	29	-27	0

## Match Report

### Midlands League - Saturday 7th September 2024 - Downfield 2 v 1 Tayport

A third defeat on the bounce for us and we've probably no complaints. Downfield made the early running only to be rocked back on their heels in 14 minutes when Kyle McMulkin was brought down in the box and **Jamie Crowe** slotted home the penalty kick.

Tayport's lead was always looking vulnerable and so it transpired in 62 minutes when former Tayport player Gary Breen found himself free at the back post to convert a low ball from the right. Tayport had a great chance to regain their lead when Jamie Gill found himself clean through but he couldn't beat ex-Port keeper Gary Thain.

Downfield remained in the ascendancy and took the lead in 83 minutes when Van der Toorn beat Darryl Burns with a shot from the edge of the box. Tayport were seeing more of the ball in the closing minutes and it looked like they had levelled 3 minutes into added time when Kieran Crichton netted with a header only to see the linesman flagging for offside.

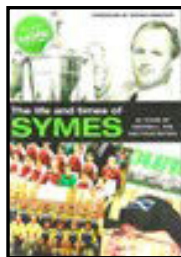


## 45 years ago ARCHIVE PICTURE October 1979



Arrowed is **Ian 'Tubby' Dorward**, Tayport FC Alliance XI's assistant manager in 1979. Sadly Newportian Ian, a kenspeckle figure in the hostelries of Tayport and Newport in recent years, passed away on 23 August at his home in Melville Court, Tayport. Ian had a lifetime interest in football generally and an involvement in Taybridgehead football for many years, particularly in the 1970s and 1980s. For the record, that season the Tayport FC XI had their equal best ever league season, finishing 3rd in Alliance League 1. Pictured above are from back left, Ross Macmillan (manager), Jimmy McCafferty, Sandy Hamilton, Andrew Johnstone, Gary Cockburn, Alan Gray, Gordon Emslie and Tubby. Others, from left, are Neil Downie, Ian McAlindon, Rab Hanlon, Ian Brown, Derek White, Roddy McCafferty, Alan Paterson, Colin Gray and Cammy Milroy.

Tubby even gets a mention in Chris Symes' autobiography, the *Life & Times of Chris Symes* in which Chris recalls, amongst his many tales of his life in football, his days on Tayside with Arbroath FC and later running the Waterstone Crook Sports Centre. More on Chris' book in next prog.



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**Gary is sole survivor**

**Gary Axworthy** (right) is the sole survivor of either squad from Blair's sole league success at Canniepairt to date, **1-0** in an East Region Premier League match in **2009**.

Blair had started that season well, but ended up relegated while Tayport took the title by a point thanks to a last day win at Forfar West End.

Ross Graham, of Graham Pest Control, was Blair's manager that season, whilst Willie Garner, now on the Board at Aberdeen FC, held the Tayport managerial reins..



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## PORT TRIVIA PROG

When Tayport joined the Scottish Junior FA in 1990, 16 Fife based clubs entered in the Scottish Junior Cup that season. This season there were two - Tayport and Inverkeithing Hillhead Swifts. Swifts went out at the first hurdle on 31 August, leaving Tayport as Fife's only survivors.

At North End the other week, the referee was on his own and following a disputed offside decision, a Tayport wag was heard shouting '£3.50 for a pie but the League Champions canny afford linesmen!'

Shock of the century (21st century, that is) last Saturday when Auchinleck Talbot went out of the Scottish Junior Cup, beaten 3-2 at home by Lossiemouth United, a team currently playing in the 2nd tier of the North Region Junior FA.

There was a time when all Scottish Junior Cup ties would be scheduled to be played on the same day but no longer, it appears. All 20 Midlands clubs featured in the 2nd round draw. Pretty neat, one would think, all playing in the cup, so no disruption to a league card. But, no. Last week Letham played Dunipace with the result Dundee Violet were left without a game. And the previous week Brechin Vics played at Armadale. That worked out well as another three Midlands clubs had 'big' Scottish Cup ties. The bulk of the ties are due next Saturday but Scone are down to play at Camelon in their tie next Wednesday. So, at the moment three Midlands team are without a scheduled league game next Saturday. Even if two play each other in a re-scheduled fixture, one club will be without a game. So, who is calling the shots here? Are Scone happy about playing at 8pm in Falkirk? Will their share of the gate receipts be less than they might be on a Saturday?



### DIAMOND CLUB



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Tom Bradley; Brian Smith;  
Margaret Mulligan; Suzanne  
Sneddon



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NEXT SUNDAY  
(Sunday 22nd September)  
at  
The Canniepairt



## THE MANAGER'S MUSINGS



Welcome to The Canniepairt today which sees us take on Blairgowrie FC for the second time this season. The first game resulted in a 2-0 win in the East of Scotland Cup, a game which was closer than the scoreline suggests.

Everyone at Tayport Football Club wishes the coaching staff and committee of Blairgowrie JFC all the very best for the remainder of the season.

I am very disappointed with our last three results, two in the league and our Senior Scottish Cup game, We had previously gone five games undefeated at home in the league and cup, but unfortunately we have now been beaten by the current league champions twice and Downfield FC very narrowly in our last league outing.

Firstly, our main objective this season is to improve on last year's league position, try get to the later stages of the cup competitions and hopefully win some silverware. We know that this can only be achieved with hard work and commitment from all staff and players.

We are hopeful that we can add another few new faces in the coming weeks to strengthen our squad and add extra competition for places which will see us build a stronger squad in order that we can compete in the top half of the league after the split.

Illness and injuries robbed us of four players for last week's game at Downfield but we are strengthened today with the return of three of them, hopefully you will all enjoy today's game, and we can keep our 100% league record at The Canniepairt intact.

*George*

[illegible]**SEASON 2024 –2025**

Figure 1

## League

Scottish Cup

## Junior Cup

[illegible]

**McComiskie** gave Adam no chance with a rocket of a shot from 15 yards.

35 minutes gone and North End had regained their lead. Tayport were down to ten men, with **Calum Petrie** waiting to get back on the field after treatment when Ferguson took advantage of the temporary defensive void to fire his side ahead. Ironically Ferguson, a Tayport player during the latter part of last campaign, chose to sign up at North End Park during the close season.

North End's significant lead in the first half corner count was an indication of their superiority during this period but this was levelled out somewhat in the second half until the penalty in 75 minutes effectively ended Tayport's hopes of maybe salvaging a draw and forcing a penalty shoot out.

Tayport's frustrations at the referee's apparent failure to detect obvious gamesmanship, boiled over and the tie petered out with a number of cards issued, **Sam Simpson** receiving two, thus sitting out the last couple of minutes.



## East of Scotland Cup



**Red Card \* Own Goal**