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# TAYPORT FC



**2024-2025 Match Day Programme Vol.34**

PROGRAMME  
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Vol 34  
No 15

**TAYPORT v DOWNFIELD  
MIDLANDS CHAMPIONSHIP**

**PHASE 2 - GAME 5/9**

**SATURDAY 29th MARCH 2025**



£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  
Coaches: Gary Sutherland  
Paul Lunan  
Goalkeeping coach: Grant Clark  
Physio: Emma Gillespie

## PORT LOTTO

This week's (26 March) numbers were  
**5, 6, 9, 13**

There was no jackpot winner  
£50 Consolation prizewinner with three  
numbers **5, 6, 13, 23.**  
was Jennifer Ross

## Port Lotto



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**another line?**



## COMMENT

It's exactly 32 years ago this weekend when temporary stands were packed at the pavilion end of the Canniepairt and a record crowd of 2,187 gathered for the meeting of Tayport and today's opponents, Downfield.

The 1993 match programme described the game thus...

*This afternoon's game has been variously described as 'Battle of the Giants', Game of the Season' etc. Whatever way the game has been described, there is no doubt that this is the biggest football match ever staged in Tayport. The fact that it is a Scottish Junior Cup Quarter Final ensures it of that label*

### Cover photo

No time for a half time cuppa and pie for Paul Reilly whose efforts in looking after the Canniepairt pitch are to be admired

Programme photos courtesy of Fitba AM Photography (Matt Anderson)

## Next Match

Saturday 5th April

League Championship - Top Ten Game 6/9

Tayport v Lochee United

## The Following Week

Saturday 12th April

League Championship - Top Ten Game 7/9

Tayport v Letham

Opinions expressed in this programme are not necessarily those

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1991 winner Liz McColgan who presented the prizes at TFC's annual Fun Run

## THE CHAIRMAN...

This afternoon we entertain Dundee Downfield in an important league encounter and I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome both their players and officials to the Canniepairt.

Last weekend saw us return from Carnoustie with a point. Was it two points lost? Of course it was! Yes, two points dropped, but I suppose there were a number of reasons as to why. Our start wasn't the best. But that was probably down to not having a game for two weeks while our opponents had started on the back of a good 3-0 cup victory at North Premier League's Maud the week before. We also started the game without 3 suspended players who would more than likely have been in the starting line-up. Already one down, we gave away a needless penalty and then we lost goalkeeper Fraser Burnett who had to be replaced with an outfield player in the form of Jamie Gill. But we did brilliantly to pull it back to 2-2 by half time. My thought on our second half performance was one of apprehension. I felt we had one eye on protecting Jamie as the last line of defence which perhaps hindered us going for a victory.

There was a claim that following the league split there was an imbalance in a number of clubs' home and away games left to play, and therefore the Midlands League was contravening its own rules and regulations, viz. this season's new rule which stated *inter alia*, "...top ten and bottom ten will then play each other once (nine games) giving a total of 28 league games (14 Home & 14 Away)"

A vote was then taken as to whether the Midlands JFA should declare the season null & void or whether the league should continue. From our own perspective, we felt that there was a rule breach and to ignore that would be wrong but the majority of clubs disagreed. We had no other agenda and genuinely voted for what we considered was the right thing. Otherwise, we would have voted with the majority. The decision is made and we move on.

With 5 league games remaining, our season looked like being over before the end of April, a first in my time in football, but fortunately we now have a new league cup competition which will give us a minimum of 4 extra games.

Today we have an opportunity to maintain the gap between us and our opponents. It will be a difficult task against a good side. We lost out by the odd goal in our previous game with Downfield and if I recall, we missed a great opportunity to go 2-0 up only to lose two late goals. Once again, we will have to start the game without key players but we can't dwell on that, we need to turn in a performance. Enjoy the Game

*Davie Baikie*



Tayport  
from

## TODAY'S TEAMS

Downfield  
from



1	Fraser BURNETT
22	Lewis MILLAR
2	Ross MILNE
3	Ben SIEVWRIGHT
4	Kieren CRIGHTON
5	Greg McCOLM
6	Jamie HUME
7	Sam SIMPSON
8	Ethan SIMPSON
9	Scott McCOMISKIE
10	Daniel JOHNSTON
11	Jamie GILL
12	Jamie CROWE
14	James SIMPSON
15	Stefan ELVIN
16	Ryan SMITH
17	Andy BALLANTINE
18	Kyle McMULKIN
19	Nick MANN
21	Jamie TIMMONS



Midlands  
Championship  
2nd Phase  
Game 5/9

Saturday  
29th March  
2025

Kick-off  
2.30pm

Referee:  
Jordan  
KINNON

Assistant 1:  
Shaun  
TELFORD

Assistant 2:  
Shaunlee  
OGILVIE

Port Prog  
Vol. 34  
No. 15

gk	Fergus ROBERTSON
gk	Gary THAIN
	Tomi ARIMORO
	Dominic BLAIR
	Gary BREEN
check	Ross BROWNE
	Jay COCHRANE
board	Ryan DIGNAN
	Mitchell HAY
at	Gary HEARN
	Jimmy HENDERSON
gate	Blaire KYLE
	Michael McARTHUR
for	Liam McARTNEY
	Owen McCABE
Nos.	Kyle McCLEMENTS
	Liam McPAKE
	Luke OWENS
	Kayne TOSH
	Kyler VAN DER TOORN



**Manager**  
George  
SHIELDS



**Management**  
Dave BEVERIDGE  
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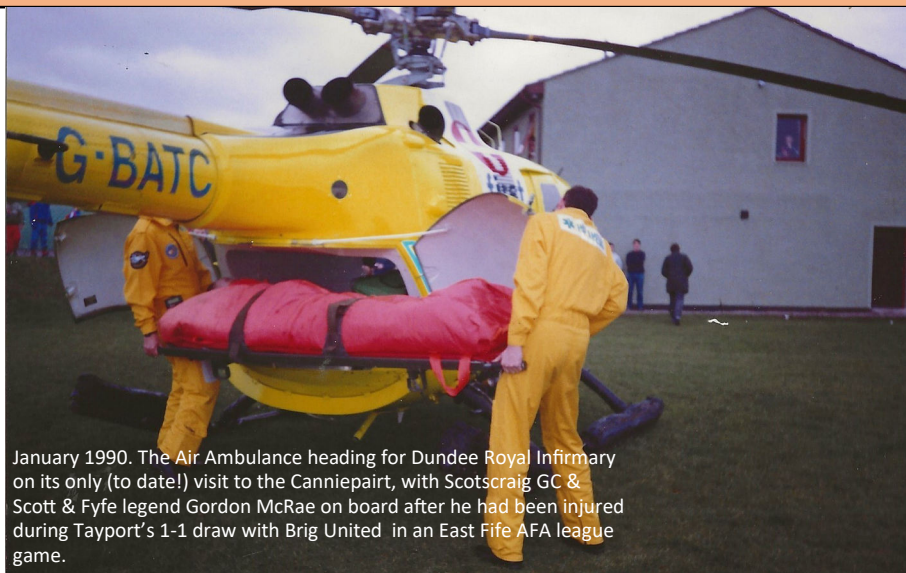
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## 1982 FROM THE ARCHIVES 1990



January 1990. The Air Ambulance heading for Dundee Royal Infirmary on its only (to date!) visit to the Canniepairt, with Scotsraig GC & Scott & Fyfe legend Gordon McRae on board after he had been injured during Tayport's 1-1 draw with Brig United in an East Fife AFA league game.



**Monday 24 May 1982** and Tayport players and others celebrate the club's Midlands AFA Championship title win on goal difference following a 0-1 defeat (yes, that's correct!) by Dundee YMCA. Pulling the pints in the Tayport Arms are a couple of Tayport originals, Rab Moore and Brian Gilmour. Other faces are Ian Howe, Doug Paterson, Ken Smith and Rod McCafferty. Tayport's team that evening was Gus Charity; Phil Smith, Micky McPherson, Bobby Wilson, Ron Stewart, Gus Malone, Jim Downie, Ian Howe, Ken Smith, Allan Harte, Kev Murphy, Colin Gray and Jim Bissett.



## TODAY'S GAME TAYPORT v DOWNFIELD MIDLANDS CHAMPIONSHIP PHASE TWO GAME 5/9



Downfield arrive at Canniepairt this afternoon with a pretty impressive record. They are still unbeaten in cup-ties (their Scottish Cup exit was on penalties) and have suffered only four league defeats, all but one of these by a single goal. Unfortunately three of these defeats were by Lochee United, Broughty Athletic and North End and these losses have effectively ended any designs on a title challenge.

The Spiders have lost only three league games away from home to date, and have certainly shown they know the road to goal, failing to score only once and netting an average of over three goals per game. These goals have come from all over, no fewer than eight different players hitting the target since the turn of the year. And that's without the contribution of Liam McArtney who netted 21 goals before Christmas.

Liam was briefly wearing Tayport colours towards the end of season 2019/20 when he netted six goals in five games, including a hat-trick in our 5-2 win over North End in the final game before the two season Covid shut-down.



Downfield expect to have new signing Ryan Dignan (pictured) in action today. The veteran striker who signed for Downfield earlier this week, spent the past three seasons as part of the successful St Andrews United team in the East of Scotland League, playing 160 games and scoring 45 goals.

Tayport will also have a new face in the squad today having signed keeper Lewis Millar on loan from Dundee Violet following the injury sustained by Fraser Burnett at Carnoustie last week. We'll still be without Messrs McColm and McComiskie, both suspended, but Jamie Crowe returns.

With two more home matches after today, there is extra incentive to pick up the points this afternoon and pave the way for a grandstand end to the season which could bring a top three finish. Of course Downfield will be thinking along exactly the same lines, so a keenly contested match is in prospect.

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

Attendances at our Walking Football sessions have been excellent over the last few weeks. On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 28 players attended training at the Regional Performance Centre (RPC) in Caird Park, Dundee.

The players let us know by Thursday evening if they are to be attending the next day. This allows Frank Feechan time to use his "formula" to divide those attending into 4 balanced teams, because trying to do this at the RPC would take forever! Each team is allocated a set of either red, yellow, blue or white bibs, and plays 3 x 20 minute games. This is the format if we get 20+ number of players but it's just 2 teams if fewer attend.

We have entered a couple of competitions, so practise is necessary! Next Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, both our league teams are back in action at the RPC. The **Championship team** will be playing matches against Hibernian, Dunfermline and Dundee and the **Conference team** will be playing matches against Letham, Forfar and Fort William.

On Sunday May 25<sup>th</sup>, we have entered the Dunfermline Dynamos UKMC Trophy tournament which is a 10 team event to be played at the Pitreavie Soccer Centre. On Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>, for the first time, we have entered an over 60s team in the Walking Football Scottish Cup which is being played at Glasgow Green Football Centre. Hopefully we may enter other events as they are announced.

Now the weather has improved and once our new goals arrive, we hope to return to the Canniepairt for our Spring/Summer training.

*Paul*

## John Reilly Memorial Trophy continues to be dominated by Tayside's clubs

This competition for Tayside and North Region clubs was inaugurated in 1988/89 since when it has been dominated by Tayside clubs. It has been known by the sponsor's name, first the Zamoyski Challenge Cup then Concept Group Cup, North End Centenary Cup, Dugout Cup, GA Engineering Cup, Signature Signs Cup and from 2019, the Quest Precision Engineering Cup which became the John Reilly Memorial Trophy this season.

**Downfield** reached the final in its first three seasons, losing in 88/89 to Deveronside but winning in 1990 & 1991. Since then, only one other North club - Sunnyside - has got its name on the trophy. With eight wins, the most recent in 2015, **Tayport** has dominated the winners' list.

With a home tie v Ellon United in the quarter final, the Spiders will be looking to end a 34 years wait to once again get their name on the trophy. The other ties, all scheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> May, are Carnoustie Panmure v Forfar WE; Dyce v East Craigie; and Broughty Athletic v Lochee United.

## THE MIDLANDS **TOP 10** LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	P
1	Dundee North End	23	21	1	1	94	15	79	64
2	Broughty Athletic	23	20	2	1	94	18	76	62
3	Lochee United	23	20	0	3	76	15	61	60
4	Tayport	23	17	3	3	66	22	44	54
5	Downfield	22	17	1	4	70	22	48	52
6	Carnoustie Panmure	23	11	3	9	54	45	9	36
7	East Craigie	23	11	1	11	43	47	-4	34
8	Letham	22	9	4	9	45	48	-3	31
9	Kirrie Thistle	23	9	2	12	33	47	-14	29
10	Lochee Harp	23	8	3	12	32	55	-23	27

### Last week's results

Broughty Athletic 2-1 Downfield  
Carnoustie 2-2 Tayport  
Kirrie Thistle 1-2 Lochee United  
Letham 0-4 North End  
Lochee Harp 0-1 East Craigie

### Today's fixtures

Broughty Athletic v Letham  
Carnoustie v East Craigie  
North End v Lochee United  
Kirrie Thistle v Lochee Harp  
Tayport v Downfield

	Current Form - Top 10	P	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pts
1	BROUGHTY ATHLETIC	6	5	1	0	18	5	13	16
2	NORTH END	6	5	1	0	15	3	12	16
3	LOCHEE UNITED	6	5	0	1	12	4	8	15
4	TAYPORT	6	3	2	1	11	8	3	11
5	DOWNFIELD	6	3	1	2	10	6	4	10
6	EAST CRAIGIE	6	2	0	4	13	16	-3	6
7	LOCHEE HARP	6	1	1	4	7	14	-7	4
8	CARNOUSTIE PANMURE	6	1	1	4	9	17	-8	4
9	KIRRIE THISTLE	6	0	1	5	4	18	-14	1
10	LETHAM	6	0	1	5	5	20	-15	1

With the championship half way to its conclusion, the above table records the most recent - six games - league form of the top ten clubs when **playing against each other** during the first phase and those playing in phase 2 since the split



## Match Reports

### Midland Championship Phase 2 Game 3/9

8 March 2025 at Canniepairt

Tayport 2-1 Lochee Harp

As the bookies expected, Tayport picked up the points but it wasn't easy against a Harp team whose hopes were galvanised by an early goal and which dug in to make things difficult for the locals. Tayport would finish the match with nine men but ironically they actually looked more dangerous during this period.

Harp keeper Ewan Dallas was in early action, twice denying Tayport the opening goal but it was at the other end the ball first found the net on the ten minute mark. Former 'Port player Marc Van Der Kyhl setting up the chance for Guy Fisher to fire home a low drive from 23 yards past an unsighted Fraser Burnett.

Tayport were soon level when the latest in a series of corner kicks was knocked back into the area where top scorer Ethan Samson found the net with a header.

A senseless red card on the hour mark saw Tayport lose McComiskie, but ten minutes later his side went ahead when Kieren Crighton netted a goal of the season contender with a volley from the edge of the box. A second yellow card for McColm late on might have given Harp some hope but the points looked well secured by then.

### Midland Championship Phase 2 Game 4/9

22 March 2025 at Laing Park, Carnoustie

Carnoustie Panmure 2-2 Tayport

Before the game a draw would be considered two points dropped by Tayport against a Gowfers team which hadn't picked up a point from their five most recent league outings. Indeed, in scoring two goals here, they doubled their goal tally for their previous four league games.

Tayport's disappointing disciplinary record had deprived them of three regular starters and they were rocked back on their heels when Yule set up debutant Connor McFarlane to open the home side's account on 17 minutes. No doubt galvanised by their excellent cup win at Maud last week, Carnoustie increased their lead in 37 minutes when McFarlane netted a second from the spot after Jamie Hume had been penalised.

Tayport suffered a blow when they lost keeper Fraser Burnett to injury and on came striker Jamie Gill to make an unexpected debut between the sticks. At this stage Carnoustie might have thought the points were in the bag but Tayport had other ideas and two goals in the dying moments of the half brought them level. In 44 minutes Ethan Samson grabbed the leveller and two minutes into added time Nick Mann added a second.

Both teams hit the woodwork in a second half notable for stand in keeper Jamie Gill's clean sheet.



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**This season's top marksmen**

Ethan Samson	15
Scott McComiskie	8
Sam Simpson	8
Jamie Crowe	8
Nik Mann	6
Kieren Crighton	6
Kyle McMulkin	6
Jamie Gill	5

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## PORT TRIVIA PROG

With the Junior game fast fading into obscurity and Junior Internationals probably a thing of the past, we take look at how Tayside clubs have contributed to these 448 international matches over the past 136 years. From 1889 to date our local clubs provided a mere 88 of the 2,530 players who were awarded caps. Violet (18), Lochee Harp (14), North End (12), Tayport (12) & Lochee United (12) were the main recipients with another 11 Midlands League clubs collecting 24 capped players between them



Today will be the 62nd meeting of Tayport and Downfield. In the seasons between 2007 and 2016, the clubs played each other on only 3 occasions. In the 61 meetings to date it's Tayport 42, Spiders 8 and 11 draws

Only four points separate the Midlands League's top three clubs and realistically, it will be one of those three, North End, Broughty Athletic or Lochee United which will lift the title. In the remaining fixtures there are three games which could be considered six pointers. Today, where Lochee have to win at North End, next week when Broughty also have to win at North End and depending on these results, on 12th April when Broughty travel to Thomson Park. Of course, depending on these results, both Tayport and Downfield could have a say. **Tayport v Lochee Utd** next week, **Lochee Utd v Downfield** on 19th April and **Broughty v Tayport** on the last day of the league season, the 26th April.



### DIAMOND CLUB



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No. 53 Danny Oswald; No. 56 T.R.  
Morris; No.43 Isobel Paterson;  
No.73 Alan Bryson; No.86 Anne  
Baikie; No. 50 Robt Bryson.



## It's That Time Again!! Tayport Car Boot Sale



### Summer Season

Starts tomorrow  
at The Canniepairt



## THE MANAGER'S MUSINGS



We welcome everyone to The Canniepairt today to see us take on Downfield for the second time this season in our fifth game after the ten-team split.

After drawing our away fixture last week at Carnoustie Panmure we will now try to finish as high up the league table as possible. This would put us in good stead for the final cup competition of the season. We're in a group with North End, Carnoustie Panmure, Kirriemuir Thistle and Letham. The group winners and runners up go on to contest the semi-finals against the winners and runners up of other group which comprises Lochee United, Lochee Harp, Broughty, Downfield and East Craigie.

Everyone at Tayport Football Club would like to wish the management, coaching staff, committee and supporters of Downfield JFC all the very best for the remainder of the season and a safe journey home to Dundee.

Our corresponding game at Downfield earlier this season ended in a 2-1 defeat with us losing a late goal after leading for much of the game. The game today will be a very difficult encounter for us as Downfield have shown that they can compete with the top teams in both our Region and further afield, finishing fourth in the League last season, and earlier this year, only losing out on penalty kicks to Scottish Junior Cup semi-finalists Drumchapel United, so we will have to be at our very best today to take anything from the game.

On the playing side we have Jamie Crowe returning to today's squad after his one game suspension but Greg McColm and Scott Mc Comiskie each still have to serve one more game. Ryan Smith is still sidelined with a groin injury and the injury to goalkeeper Fraser Burnett in last week's game could also see him ruled out of the game today. He was diagnosed with a sprained knee which may take 10 to 14 days to heal.

Our stand-in goalkeeper last week was our attacking midfielder Jamie Gill who did not let his teammates or the coaching staff down with a second half man of the match display. It takes a very brave man to stand up and put a playing reputation on the line when they never have before played between the sticks in their career.

I would like to thank Andy Ballantine, who has now played for me for over 20 years with various clubs, for turning out at short notice down at Carnoustie last week. I am hopeful that I can persuade Andy to join our squad until the end of the season but with his commitment to running the London marathon this year it may not be possible.

Once again, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support we have had this season and hope this continues until the last ball is kicked.

*George*

[illegible]

SEASON 2024 – 2025   ■ League   ■ Scottish Cup   ■ Junior Cup   ■ Quest

[illegible]

 East of Scotland Cup
  Yellow Card
  Red Card
 \* Own Goal