



OFFICIAL MATCH DAY PROGRAMME OF BARKING FOOTBALL CLUB

BLUE THRU AND THRU



SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN FC

SATURDAY MARCH 15TH 2025
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE
KICK OFF 3PM



EDITOR'S CORNER

Barking V Sawbridgeworth Town

Good afternoon everyone, and welcome to Lawtech Stadium for this Essex Senior League tie against Sawbridgeworth Town!

Our good form continued last Saturday but we were forced to work for it against bottom side FC Clacton, eventually running out 5-3 winners. Our goals came from Sam Shaban (2), Juwon Akintunde (2) and Caleb Dennis. A full report can be found on page 4. Today's programme also contains information about previous fixtures against Sawbo, including the reverse victory earlier in the season, in near monsoon conditions.



We would also like to wish all fans and players of Sawbridgeworth Town as well as the officials and any neutrals a safe journey home from Lawtech Stadium today.

Come on you Blues!

Penned by programme editor Trevor Gilbert

Disclaimer: Please note any opinion, statement or views expressed in this programme are those of the various contributors and are not necessarily endorsed by Barking Football Club.

LAWTECH STADIUM GROUND RULES

All persons entering Lawtech Stadium on match days are only admitted subject to these rules and regulations. The club reserves the right to eject from the ground, and prosecute if thought appropriate; any person who within the club's premises is considered by the club to be in breach of the following:

- 1: Entering the ground by any means other than through the proper turnstiles or gates.
- 2: Entering the field of play before, during or after the game.
- 3: Using obscene or abusive language or persistent swearing likely to cause offence.
- 4: Using terms of abuse, racial or otherwise, likely to offend.
- 5: Being drunk or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- 6: Making vulgar or obscene gestures.
- 7: Carrying any offensive object or throwing any article onto the field of play.
- 8: No glass bottles, drinking glasses or other such article or object to be permitted.
- 9: Sitting on the perimeter fence is not permitted. All vehicles are parked at the owner's/ driver's risk.
- 10: Spectators are not permitted to bring or play with Footballs in the stadium

CLUB HONOURS

Barking FC are steeped in history and below are our major honours, for a full list please visit www.barking-fc.co.uk

Isthmian League - Champions	1978/79
Essex Senior League - Champions	2016/17
Athenian League - Champions	1934/35
London League Premier - Champions	1920/21
London League Division One - Champions	1909-10
FA Non-League Team of the Year	1978/79
FA Cup - Second Round Proper	1978/79, 1979/80, 1981/82, 1983/84
FA Amateur Cup - Runners Up	1926/27
FA Trophy best - Second Round	1979/80
FA Vase Best - Fifth Round (Last 16)	1996/97
London Senior Cup - Winners	1911/12, 1920/21, 1926/27, 1978/79
Essex Senior Cup – Winners	1893/94, 1895/96, 1919/20, 1945/46, 1962/63, 1969/70, 1989/90
East Anglian Cup - Winners	1937/38, 1953/54 (Shared)
Essex Thameside Trophy – Winners	1952/53 (Shared), 1956/57, 1958/59, 1996/97
Gordon Brasted Trophy - Winners	2014/15
Errington Challenge Cup – Winners	2022/23
Dylon Shield Winners	1979/80
Essex Senior League Reserve Division – Champions	2011/12

The club has also been Champions in the following competitions:

Essex Elizabethan Trophy, Essex Intermediate Cup, East Anglian Cup, South Essex League, Leyton & District League, London Charity Cup/ Eastern Floodlight Cup, Essex Floodlight Cup, Mithras Cup and the Premier Midweek league.



BARKING FC 5-3 FC CLACTON

Saturday 8 March 2025 – Essex Senior League – Report by Trevor Gilbert

Barking secured another three points to keep up their good form but they were made to fight for it by bottom side FC Clacton. Two early goals for Sam Shaban set Barking on their way before Clacton turned it round to take the lead, but in the end Barking's quality shone through thanks to goals from Juwon Akintunde and Caleb Dennis.



It looked to be clear sailing for the Blues after five minutes: firstly with two minutes on the clock **Sam Shaban** nodding home from close range from Fahad Nyanja's long throw which had been nodded into the six yard box by Clacton defender Josh Obanleowo. **Sam Shaban** doubled his tally moments later - Clacton failed to deal with a long ball from Dan Purdue with Shaban capitalising to slide the ball home.

Barking however took their foot off the gas and were made to pay, they were warned with a shot over the bar after 15 minutes but Clacton halved the deficit after 28 minutes, a cross from the right wing was just past Scott Doe and it was met by Luwa Luwabelwa who poked the ball home.

Clacton smacked the bar after 40 minutes, with Barking hoping for the half time whistle to regroup but they couldn't hold on, this time a long ball finding Emmanuel Ikwuegbu who did well to hold off Lorenzo Saponara before shooting home on the half volley.

Barking's struggles were not over however, three minutes into the second half a long free kick into the box was handled in the air by Caleb Dennis, possibly as a result of a shove, with a penalty the result. Dan Purdue couldn't save Barking for a sixth time this season, as Tyler Kemp rifled the ball into the roof of the net.

The goal finally got Barking back into life, and they should have had an equaliser after 55 minutes when a low cross by Juwon Akintunde was missed by Shaban with the goal at his mercy but it found the impressive Fionn Murphy at the far post – but he was denied by Michael Bett who did well to get across his goal to deny Murphy with the aid of the post. Barking did have their equaliser five minutes later, Dennis' lofted ball into the box caused problems with Clacton unable to clear before it eventually fell to **Juwon Akintunde** who squeezed his shot home under Bett.

Three substitutions were made at this point, with not only personnel changes but positional changes, with Caleb Dennis switching from the right wing to the left wing. This change paid dividends immediately – Tyrese Sibanda setting **Caleb Dennis** down the left wing, he drove into the box before cutting inside and finding the corner of the net with the aid of a small deflection.

Shaban should have had his hattrick after 65 minutes, a pinpoint cross by Akilijo Balliu found him on the edge of the six-yard box but he nodded the ball wide when trying to find the corner of the net. Barking were not punished for the missed chance as they regained control of the game and they made the points safe after 82 minutes – again Clacton failed to deal with an aerial ball down the pitch – Sibanda again turned provider as he set **Juwon Akintunde** through on goal who shot low and hard past Bett for Barking's fifth.

To Barking's relief they saw out the rest of the game with little problem, with Dennis going close again during stoppage time as Barking made it five wins out of the previous six matches, scoring 20 goals in the process.



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12TH MAN SCHEME

Barking FC are delighted to announce that their 12th man scheme is officially **OPEN**, meaning that fans will be able to contribute to the club financially, with the money ringfenced for the first team playing budget. Importantly, these funds will not be used to replace money that is already in the budget, all monies raised will be an **addition** to our current budget.

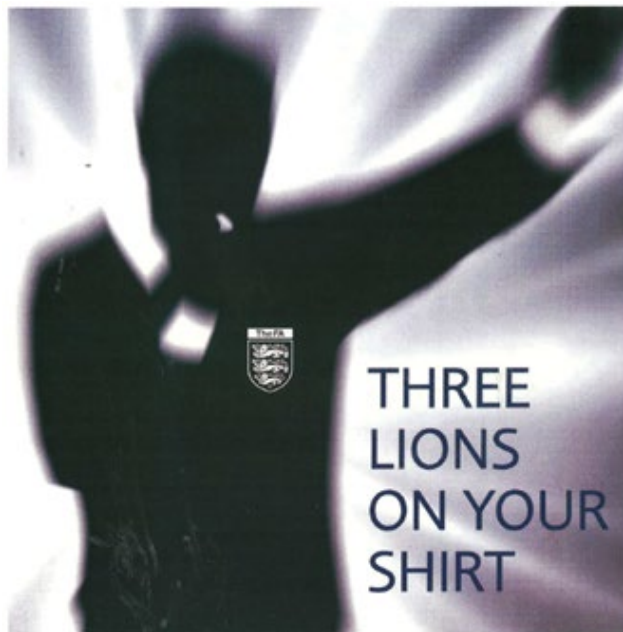
There are a few ways you can contribute:

1) Online Banking – use your online account to set up a monthly standing order. Here are all the details you need:

Name: Barking FC 12th Man
Account Sort Code: 30-93-23
Account Number: 26420160

2) You can also set up a standing order by going into the local branch of your chosen bank. You may be able to set it up solely using the details above, but we would recommend filling out a standing order form and taking that into your branch. The form can be collected on a matchday or found online on the club website.

3) By Post – Some banks also accept postal standing orders – please visit our website and contact your bank for more information.



Due to the ongoing interest in football we are looking for more referees. Should you be interested in getting involved and would like more information, we would like to hear from you.

More details can be found on www.londonfa.com

Contact: Adrian Shorter (London FA)

Tel: 020 7610 8375 to request an Information Pack

Email: adrian.shorter@londonfa.com



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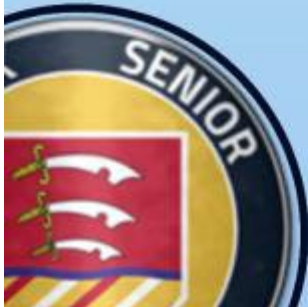
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MATCH CENTRE

DATE	OPPONENTS	COMP	SCORE	ATT	GOAL SCORERS
27 Jul 24	FC Clacton	ESL	3-0	146	Akintunde (pen), M. McDonald, John
30 Jul 24	Stanway Rovers	ESL	1-1	102	Bademosi
03 Aug 24	Tring Athletic	FACEPR	1-1	196	Edwards
06 Aug 24	Tring Athletic	FACEPR R	1-0	108	Own Goal
10 Aug 24	Takeley	ESL	1-3	82	M. McDonald
17 Aug 24	Redbridge	FAC PR	1-0	133	Akintunde
24 Aug 24	FC Baresi	FAV1QR	4-0	73	B. McDonald (x2), Akintunde (x2)
31 Aug 24	St Neots Town	FAC 1Q	2-2	338	Akintunde, Own Goal
3 Sept 24	St Neots Town	FAC 1Q R	3-2 (AET)	93	Bademosi, Stacey, Johnson
6 Sep 24	West Essex	ESL	1-0	83	Edwards
14 Sept 24	Gorleston	FAC 2Q	2-2	148	M. McDonald, Akintunde
17 Sept 24	Gorleston	FAC 2Q R	0-1	132	
21 Sept 24	Takeley	FAV 2Q	0-3	73	
24 Sept 24	West Essex	ECC PR	1-2	53	Byrne-Hewitt
28 Sep 24	Benfleet	ESL	5-2	49	M. McDonald, Akintunde, Bademosi, Anderson, Shaban
02 Oct 24	White Ensign	ESC 1R	3-3 (5-3 pens)		Wade, Shaban, Kreka
05 Oct 24	Little Oakley	ESL	2-1	64	Cobblah, Lukyamuzi
08 Oct 24	Buckhurst Hill	ESC 2R	0-1	58	
12 Oct 24	Halstead Town	ESL	5-2	229	Shaban x3, Anderson, Akintunde
19 Oct 24	FC Clacton	PBMT 1R	3-4	37	Bademosi, Akintunde (pen), Shaban
22 Oct 24	Ilford	ESL	2-2	54	Bademosi, Martin
25 Oct 24	Buckhurst Hill	ESL	2-4	86	Akintunde, Jackson
02 Nov 24	Stansted	ESL	1-0	102	Shaban
05 Nov 24	Frenford	ESL	0-2	63	
09 Nov 24	Saffron Walden Town	ESL	3-1	72	Mabassa, Akintunde x2
16 Nov 24	Great Wakering Rovers	ESL	2-0	135	Ahern, Akintunde
20 Nov 24	Ilford	ESL	2-2	92	Shaban, Akintunde
23 Nov 24	Sawbridgeworth Town	ESL	2-0	50	Shaban, Akintunde
26 Nov 24	Haringey Borough	LSC 2R	3-0	87	Martin, Shaban x2
30 Nov 24	Hullbridge Sports	ESL	1-0	54	Ngoo
10 Dec 24	White Ensign	ESL	3-2	52	Maragh, Akintunde, Shaban
20 Dec 24	Woodford Town	ESL	1-2	74	Akintunde
28 Dec 24	Romford	ESL	3-1	117	Lawson, Shaban, Martin
04 Jan 25	White Ensign	ESL	0-2	77	
07 Jan 25	Frenford	ESL	3-1	72	Djinadou, Dennis, Nyanja (pen)
14 Jan 25	AFC Croydon Athletic	LSC 3R	3-3 (6-5 pens)	81	Akintunde x2, Nyanja
18 Jan 25	Athletic Newham	ESL	1-0	61	Akintunde
25 Jan 25	Little Oakley	ESL	1-1	81	Nyanja
01 Feb 25	Halstead Town	ESL	4-3	56	Edwards, Martin x2, Sibanda
08 Feb 25	Saffron Walden Town	ESL	1-2	195	Shaban (pen)
11 Feb 25	Takeley	ESL	2-1	64	Shaban x2
15 Feb 25	Buckhurst Hill	ESL	1-2	72	Edwards
22 Feb 25	Stanway Rovers	ESL	3-1	127	Nalbant x2, Edwards
25 Feb 25	Erith Town	LSC QR	3-1	64	Emenike, Attrill, Edwards
01 Mar 25	Hullbridge Sports	ESL	4-1	142	Akintunde x2, Edwards, Martin
04 Mar 25	Benfleet	ESL	5-0	112	Shaban x3, Akintunde, Nyanja
08 Mar 25	FC Clacton	ESL	5-3	84	Shaban x2, Akintunde x2, Dennis
15 Mar 25	Sawbridgeworth Town	ESL			
21 Mar 25	West Essex	ESL			
29 Mar 25	Athletic Newham	ESL			
05 Apr 25	Stansted	ESL			
11 Apr 25	Romford	ESL			
19 Apr 25	Great Wakering Rovers	ESL			
26 Apr 25	Woodford Town	ESL			

SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN 0-2 BARKING

Saturday 23 November 2024 – Essex Senior League – Report by Trevor Gilbert

It was another battling performance in awful wet conditions for Barking but this time they were rewarded for their efforts with a 2-0 win over Sawbridgeworth Town thanks to goals from Sam Shaban and Juwon Akintunde.



Barking looked better in the early stages and it looked like the scoreline might have been even heavier when after eight minutes **Sam Shaban** collected the ball from a long throw about 25 yards from goal with plenty of time and he duly punished the opposition, his thunderous effort dipping off home keeper William Kiers

who had been caught off his line and smacking the net.

It was nearly 2-0 minutes later as Akintunde played Jaiden Putman through on goal but his effort was saved by Kiers. Sawbridgeworth nearly contributed to their own downfall after 27 minutes as Teddy Stacey's low cross was swiped at by a defender in the six-yard box and the ball flew onto the crossbar and bounced away from danger. The Yellows kept their pressure up for the rest of the first half with only more chance of note for Akilijo Balliu with ten minutes of the first half remaining as Putman's deflected cross was punched to the edge of the box to Balliu but his low effort was just wide of the goal.

Much like Ilford on Wednesday, Barking scored at the start of both the first and second halves and again It was Sam Shaban in the first half and Juwon Akintunde in the second, this time Izzy Bademosi found Shaban at the penalty spot with a low cross but he scuffed his effort to the feet of **Juwon Akintunde** who managed to just get enough on the ball to squeeze it past Kiers in goal.

There were some shouts for offside and after discussing the decision with the assistant, the referee was unmoved by the protests and awarded the goal. Barking kept up the pressure with the direct football necessary in the conditions and thwarted any Sawbridgeworth attacks with ease. Akintunde went close again after 57 minutes as he broke the defensive line and attempted to beat Kiers at his near post from a narrow angle but Kiers was equal to palm it away. Kiers was forced into more impressive action after 75 minutes. Shaban was fouled on the edge of the box and dusted himself down to take the free kick, his powerful effort attempted to beat the keeper at his near post but he did well to get back across and palm the ball away from immediate danger. Shaban nearly got a second in more fortuitous circumstances with five minutes remaining, Balliu found Fahad Nyanja with a clever ball in the left wing of the box and his curling effort beat Kiers but was blocked by a poked Sawbridgeworth's defender foot which hit Shaban before looping over the bar. There was still time for one more chance of note as Barking attempted to capitalise on a poor clearance by Kiers, Putman squared the ball unselfishly to substitute Deivi Kreka who attempted to lift the ball over Keirs but he made up for his mistake by acrobatically scooping the ball past the post. The most important thing for Barking however will be the three points and the clean sheet in the wind and rain as they look to continue their playoff push.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN

Formed in 1897 by members of Sawbridgeworth Cricket Club, Sawbridgeworth Town Football Club played their first friendly match on Pishiobury Park, a large tract of common land to the south of the Town. At the turn of the century, they joined the East Herts league and later relocated to Great Hyde Hall. At this time, they were playing in the Stortford League and had their headquarters in the White Lion Hotel in the centre of town. Just after the first world war they moved to their next ground - a field next to the Hand & Crown Public House. This venue became very popular at the time and staged many local cup finals.

They moved to their present ground in 1930. At the time the facility was known as Cambridge Road but following construction of a housing estate and provision of a new entrance it was rechristened Crofters End. Following the second World War Sawbridgeworth Town FC joined the Spartan League for their first taste of senior football, however this proved not to be successful and they re-joined the Stortford League.

With the building of a new clubhouse in 1975, the club reapplied for Senior status and joined the Essex Senior League. After a few years and steady improvements to the ground, floodlights were erected which enabled the Robins to participate in further cup competitions and evening games.

More recently, the club has expanded to encompass a thriving junior set up, catering for the towns' youth from an U7s side right up to the under 11's as well as a competitive Ladies section. These units compliment the clubs Senior Side and Reserves and all compete under the umbrella title of Sawbridgeworth Town Football Club.

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PHOTO REVIEW: BARKING FC 5-3 FC CLACTON

Saturday 8 March 2025 – Essex Senior League – Photos by Terry Gilbert



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HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

Our last meetings with **Sawbridgeworth Town** compiled by Terry Gilbert

November 23rd 2024 - Essex Senior League

Sawbridgeworth Town 0

Barking 2 (Sam Shaban, Juwon Akintunde)

April 24th 2023 – Essex Senior League

Sawbridgeworth Town 2

Barking 2 (Lauric Diakiesse, Sam Shaban)

October 28th 2022 – Essex Senior League

Barking 1 (Ahmed Abdulla)

Sawbridgeworth Town 0

July 13th 2017 - Friendly Match

Sawbridgeworth Town 1

Barking 6 (Arian Retkoceri 3, Jay Knight, Taylor Tombides, Ernest Okoh)

March 21st 2017 – Essex Senior League Cup Quarter Final

Sawbridgeworth Town 3

Barking 1 (Stephen Butterworth)

December 10th 2016 – Essex Senior League

Sawbridgeworth Town 1

Barking 3 (Steve Willis, James Peagram 2)

ON THIS DAY

A selection of Barking games from this day in the past by Terry Gilbert

March 15th 2023 – Essex Senior League

Enfield 3

Barking 3 (Ahmed Abdulla 2 (1 Pen), Ergis Kastrati)

March 15th 2017 – Essex Senior League

Wadham Lodge 2

Barking 4 (Joe Pearman, Paul Oshin, John Bricknell, James Peagram)

March 15th 2011 – Essex Senior League

Barking 2 (Joe Turner, Craig Greenwood)

Stansted 2

March 15th 2007 – Essex Thameside Trophy Quarter Final

Barking 1 (Bradey Woodards)

Billericay Town 2

March 15th 1997 – Isthmian League Division 2

Barking 1 (Paul Rogan)

Metropolitan Police 0

March 15th 1988 – Isthmian League Premier Division

Bromley 5

Barking 1 (Paul Wilson)

March 15th 1973 – Premier Midweek Floodlit League

Barking 2 (S. Spinks, Steve Snell)

Hornchurch 1

ENFIELD FC 3-3 BARKING FC

Wednesday 15 March 2023 – Essex Senior League – Report by Terry Gilbert

On a wet Wednesday evening in Bishops Stortford Barking nearly upset the Essex Senior League championship appletart by going two goals ahead with twenty minutes left. Despite having ten men for all of the second half, Enfield showed why they are the league leaders by scoring twice in two minutes to claim a point.

With both Jack Folan (injured) and Tim Ogunrinde (unavailable) absent we fielded two new signings: Lewis Watson who has been with Hashtag United this season who started and Dan Brock lately of Walthamstow FC on the bench.

After just five minutes George Okoye blocks a clearance from home keeper Jarvis Monk but the ball flashes wide, just a minute later Kyrell Palmer drives forward and sets up a good interchange between Luke Hirst and Ahmed Abdulla and the latter is in prime position to fire home past Monk for the opening goal. Lewis Watson proves on several occasions his aerial prowess and Enfield demonstrate why they are table toppers by putting pressure on the visitors mainly via the wings but fail to provide too much threat to the Barking goal. Our second new face Dan Brock replaces the injured Ronaldo Kapica on 21 and three minutes later nearly provides an immediate impact as he wins ball just outside the box and finds Hirst whose shot is blocked by the legs of Monk.

Barking then had a short period of accruing some free kicks but they all came to nought as the visitors tried to make headway in the attacking third in the last third of the first 45 minutes. Brock on 36 is quick to pounce on a loose ball back to Monk but again the Enfield keeper blocks with his legs and it is Brock again four minutes when he just misses Hirst's low cross that flies across the six-yard box. Things take a turn for the worse for Enfield as Alex Warman is dismissed when he is shown a second yellow for a foul on Brock. Barking manages to make it to half time without being holed below the waterline but definitely need a goal or two more after the restart.

The yellow shirted Blues start the second half on the front foot to try to press home the man advantage but eventually the period of pressure subsides and Enfield take up the reins. Their pressure finally pays off on the hour as Aaron Greene rides his luck with his run into the area and he goes onto fire the ball past Harvey Simson for the equaliser. Three minutes Solomon Ofori puts a dangerous ball into our box but thankfully nobody is in a position to finish - however, in the next minute the pendulum swings back Barking's way as Hirst strives to get to the ball and ends up with him being fouled just inside the box by Monk. Ahmed Abdulla powerfully converted the spot kick for his and Barking's second of the game. On 66 there is a golden chance for a third when Hirst is through and after executing a clever turn to take out a defender he squares the ball to Okoye who has an open goal but the pass is short and the chance is lost. With 70 elapsed Barking do have a third when an Abdulla free kick is deflected back towards goal by a home defender and Hirst's full-length header is turned behind by Monk – the resulting Eljay Worrell corner the ball seems goalward bound, but Ergis Kastrati gets the final touch for his first senior Barking goal and makes the score 3-1. Now Enfield really have nothing left to lose and the momentum once again swings back in favour of the home side: on 78 Barking are not able to clear their lines properly and Louie Johnson thunderbolts the ball home for 3-2, a minute later and without really being able to digest what has just happened The E's are level as lightning strikes again down our right hand side, after one escape the ball is recycled back and Olly Miles is on hand to equalise. Incredibly enough that was the end of the scoring although there were a couple of chances of note: four minutes from time Enfield sub Samrai Gebrai unleashes a shot which Simson goes full length to save and in the third minute of added time Abdulla and Hirst link up to set Okoye free but Monk blocks his shot and gathers in the rebound.

We are back at the Lawtech Stadium on Saturday as Buckhurst Hill are the visitors and despite beating them in the Errington Challenge cup we will no doubt be looking to gain a degree of revenge for the 4-0 league defeat last November



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Barking Football Club

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Website: www.barking-fc.co.uk

E-Mail: secretary@barking-fc.co.uk



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Dave Blewitt

Life Vice Presidents

Eddie McClusky, John Wilson, Derek Pedder, John Harrison

Club Chairman: Rob O'Brien

Vice Chairman: Mick O'Shea

Club Secretary, Match Day Secretary & Treasurer: Keith Whittington

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Match Day Programme Editor & Press Officer: Trevor Gilbert

Archivist (written and printed archives): Derek Pedder

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Clubhouse Hospitality: Debbie O'Brien & Mark Harris

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Ground Maintenance: Fred Ilott

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Club Safety Officer: John Hockley

Equality & Diversity Officer: Anna Russell

Matchday and Social Media Content Creator: Harry Bamotra

Matchday and Social Media Content Creator: Reece Lammin

First Team Manager: Craig Edwards

Physiotherapist: Chanelle Callison

Under 23s Manager: Mel Ramsay

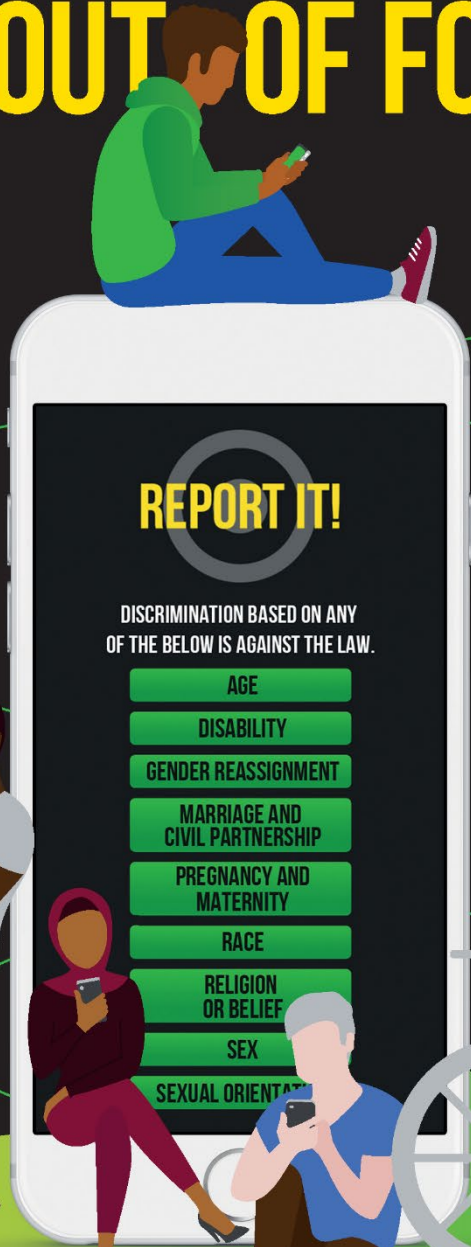
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**Essex Senior League
Saturday 15 March 2025
Kick Off 3:00pm**

**Barking FC**

Dan Purdue

Charlie Thomson

Caleb Dennis

Sam Edwards

Pat Ahern

Scott Doe

Teddy Stacey

Fahad Nyanja

Tony Martin

Sam Shaban

Juwon Akintunde

Alfie Attrill

Tyrese Sibanda

Fionn Murphy

Lorenzo Saponara

Akilijo Balliu

Craig Edwards (Manager)

Paul Callender (Performance
Analyst/Coach)

Chanelle Callison (Physiotherapist)

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Sawbridgeworth Town

Jimmy Parker

Owen Braddick

Lemachi Nwanne-Skeete

Stephen Smith

Myles Weekes

Michael Toner

Austen Garrod

George Lusardi

Elijah Grant

Luke Ellis

Elijah Mambombe

Jeremy Ebelebe

Isaac Stevens

Costi Varsoi

Joshua Kaikai

Daniel Sayer

Ben Taylor (Joint Manager)

Shane Bambridge (Joint Manager)



David Moreno-Rojas

Jack Mumford
Adrian Vernica

**NEXT UP AT LAWTECH STADIUM
SATURDAY 5 APRIL 2025 3PM
STANSTED
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE**