

# **Maldon & Tiptree Football Club**

## **Club History 2010 - 2024**



In 2009, Ed Garty became the owner of Maldon Town taking over from Michael Kirkham whilst still in charge of Tiptree United. Alan Brockhouse was installed as Maldon Town's new Chairman. Following the takeover, Colin Wallington returned for a second spell as manager of Maldon Town, leaving his post at Tiptree United. Colin previously managed Maldon Town between 2003 and 2007 during which he achieved promotion in the 2005-06 season via the play-off final. Having left Maldon in 2007, Colin went on to manage Tiptree United where he achieved promotion winning the Eastern Counties Division One title in the 2007-08 season.

Until the conclusion of the 2009/10 season both Maldon Town & Tiptree United played their home games at Park Drive, under a ground share arrangement. During the summer of 2010, Maldon Town & Tiptree United amalgamated to form, Maldon & Tiptree Football Club, under the ownership of Ed Garty. Following the amalgamation, Tiptree United withdrew from the Essex Senior League, with the Clubs last ever fixture being a 3-1 defeat against Enfield 1893 on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Maldon & Tiptree took the place of Maldon Town in the Isthmian Division One North.

Following the retirement of Colin Wallington, Assistant Manager Brad King and Glen Knight were appointed as the Clubs Joint-Managers. With the pair being new to management, the new Club witnessed wholesale changes with only a handful of players remaining from both former Clubs squads.

The 2010-11 campaign saw the new Club remain in or around the play-off positions for the majority of the season finishing in 8<sup>th</sup> place. Despite a high turnover of players, a high standard of football was maintained and it was a disappointing end to the season with the Club falling away in the latter stages of the season with suspensions and injuries eventually taking their toll to leave the club frustratingly short of the play-off positions.

The following season proved not be as successful and in November 2011, King and Knight were relieved of their duties. Ex-Charlton professional Mike Flanagan was appointed as Caretaker Manager and remained until the end of the season steering the club to a respectful mid-table finish with a win percentage of 49.12%.

At the beginning of the 2012-13 campaign, ex-Stansted & Redbridge manager Terry Spillane was appointed as Manager with Mike Flanagan departing the Club. Ex-Tiptree United manager, Jody Brown was brought to the Club to assist Terry. After a fantastic and unbeaten start to the season, the Club found themselves at the top of the table, however, an incredible run by eventual Champions Grays Athletic meant Maldon & Tiptree had to settle for a place in the play-offs. Disappointment came in the play-off final letting a two goal lead slip to draw with Thamesmead Town, who went on to win on penalties.

Following a poor start to the 2014-15 season the Club parted ways with Spillane and Chairman, Ed Garty, took over as Caretaker Manager for three games. In September 2014 Alan Kimble was appointed as Manager and it was a difficult season finishing the season in 19<sup>th</sup> place.

During the 2014-15 season a competition was run with supporters voting for a Club nickname. The Jammers was the clear winner with over 50% of the vote.

Following the completion of the 2014-15 season, the Club formed a relationship with Colchester Utd and ex Ipswich Town midfielder David Wright was appointed as 1st Team Manager. In December 2015 Wright was appointed Assistant Manager at Colchester Utd and Liam Bailey took

charge of the team on a temporary basis managing a single match against Tilbury.

In 2016, ex-Leiston Manager, Steve Ball was appointed Manager and steered the club to a respectable 7<sup>th</sup> place just missing out on the play-offs. As the season ended Ball was appointed as Assistant Manager at Colchester Utd and ex-Manchester City midfielder Kevin Horlock was brought in to replace him. For the majority of the season, the Jammers sat at the top of the table before slipping to finish in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Horlock's side managed to reach the play-off final, where they lost 1-0 to Thurrock. The following season was not quite as successful with the team finishing just outside the play-off places in 7<sup>th</sup> place.

After managing 112 games, Kevin Horlock departed in the closed season and was replaced by ex-Colchester defender, Wayne Brown for the 2018-19 season. In Brown's first season, the Jammers finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place and reached the play-off final, where they agonisingly lost on penalties against local rivals, Heybridge Swifts.

The 2019-20 season was one to remember for the Club. The Club had an incredible run in the Emirates FA Cup. Having reached the First Round proper of the competition, Maldon & Tiptree traveled to League Two side, Leyton Orient, joined by over 600 fans. Goals from Danny Parish and a superb solo goal from Jorome Slew saw victory for the Jammers earning then a home fixture against Football League side Newport County in the Second Round proper. The match was televised live on national television and attracted a record home attendance at Park Drive of 1,876 seeing the Jammers only beaten by the League Two side with a goal in stoppage time.

Following the excitement of the cup run, Maldon & Tiptree were also riding high in the league, finding themselves top of the Isthmian Division One North, 13 points clear with four games in hand, when disaster struck. With the Coronavirus pandemic, the league competition was formally abandoned on 26 March 2020, with all results from the season being expunged, and no promotion or relegation taking place, the Club were denied a chance of promotion.

Following the disappointing end to the 2019-20 season, Wayne Brown remained in charge of the Club and looked to build another competitive squad following a number of the previous season's squad securing transfers to Clubs higher up the football pyramid.

In October 2020 owner and Chairman, Ed Garty stood down from his position, after a challenging ten years at the helm. After a period of uncertainty for the Club, General Manager, Ron Dangerfield was confirmed as the new Chairman, with Richard Cowling taking ownership of the Club.

Just like the previous season, the 2020-21 season was terminated with promotion and relegation denied for all the team competing in the Isthmian Division One North. However, prior to the termination of the season, the Jammers reached the Emirates FA Cup First Round proper for the second successive season, this time losing to Morecambe 1-0 in front of the television cameras and achieved their longest ever run in the Buildbase FA Trophy before losing to Gloucester City. The Jammers were only able to play the five league games, finishing in third place before the season was curtailed.

Midway through the 2021-22 season, Brown was appointed as interim Head Coach at Colchester Utd and his former assistant, Paul Abrahams, took over as interim Manager. Abrahams steered the Jammers within touching distance of the play-offs, however three defeats in the final three matches saw the team finish in 9<sup>th</sup> place.

At the end of the season, Ron Dangerfield announced his departure as Chairman and left the club to join Charlton Athletic as Club Secretary. Jerry Carter replaced Dangerfield as Chairman, coming from Braintree Town. Roger Stapleton was appointed as the Club's vice-Chairman.

In May 2022, Wayne Brown departed on a permanent basis and was appointed as Head Coach at Colchester Utd, having managed 141 games and a win percentage of 68% and arguably the Club's most successful Manager to date. After a positive spell as interim Manager, Paul Abrahams was appointed Manager on a permanent basis.

A difficult start to the 2022-23 season saw Paul Abrahams departing and Liam Bailey again stepped up as interim-Manager. Adam Flint came in as Mmanager bringing James Robinson as his assistant. Flint and his coaching team managed to steady the ship and earn some positive results in what turned out to be an short tenure of only 9 matches.

Daniel Barber was named as new Chairman in December 2022 replacing Jerry Carter and shortly afterwards Peter Taylor was appointed as team Manager.

Peter Taylor departed the Club in August 2023 and Liam Bailey was appointed on a permanent basis as his replacement with Rui Costa joining shortly afterwards as his assistant.

Former Enfield FC manager, Jamie Cureton, replaced Rui as Liam Bailey's assistant in October, 2023. Having made over 1000 competitive appearances Jamie has put on a Jammers shirt coming on from the substitutes bench.