

New Salamis

THE OFFICIAL 2023/2024 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



RESPECT

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v **Grays Athletic**



PARTNERS WITH
 ISTHMIAN
FOOTBALL
LEAGUE

Friday 9th February 2023, 7.45pm
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Isthmian League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

Please visit
Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk
to find out more



**TRIDENT
LEAGUES**
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ISTHMIAN
FOOTBALL
LEAGUE

NEW SALAMIS FC **MEMBERS CLUB**

CHAIRMAN: STATHI EFSTATHIOU
VICE CHAIRMAN: SOTIRIS LOUCA
TRASURER: ATHOS ARISTIDOU
CLUB SECRETARY: LYS DEMETRIOU
HEAD OF YOUTH: BAN DEMETRIOU
WEALTHARE OFFICER: MARIO SKOUROS



Our Sponsors

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MAGIC LIFE 



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HYDRA



FIRST TEAM

DIVISION TABLE 2023/24

		P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
	1 Lowestoft Town	23	17	2	4	63	27	+36	53
	2 Felixstowe & Walton Unit...	23	14	5	4	54	28	+26	47
	3 Bowers & Pitsea	23	14	3	6	44	31	+13	45
	4 Bury Town	23	13	5	5	59	35	+24	44
	5 Brentwood Town	23	13	5	5	43	22	+21	44
	6 Heybridge Swifts	23	12	5	6	38	29	+9	41
	7 Basildon United	22	12	3	7	45	33	+12	39
	8 Maldon & Tiptree	23	12	3	8	45	36	+9	39
	9 Walthamstow	22	10	6	6	35	33	+2	36
	10 Brightlingsea Regent	22	10	1	11	40	39	+1	31
	11 Gorleston	20	7	5	8	28	27	+1	26
	12 Witham Town	23	6	6	11	31	43	-12	24
	13 Wroxham	21	5	7	9	30	32	-2	22
	14 New Salamis	21	5	7	9	33	48	-15	22
	15 Redbridge	19	5	5	9	28	37	-9	20
	16 Grays Athletic	22	4	6	12	28	41	-13	18
	17 Enfield	22	5	3	14	24	53	-29	18
	18 Ipswich Wanderers	21	5	1	15	18	40	-22	16
	19 Stowmarket Town	24	0	4	20	25	77	-52	4

LAST UPDATED: FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT 12:36

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH FIXTURES

FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

New Salamis v Grays Athletic

SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

Brentwood Town v Stowmarket Town

Bury Town v Heybridge Swifts

Felixstowe & Walton v Walthamstow

Lowestoft Town v Enfield

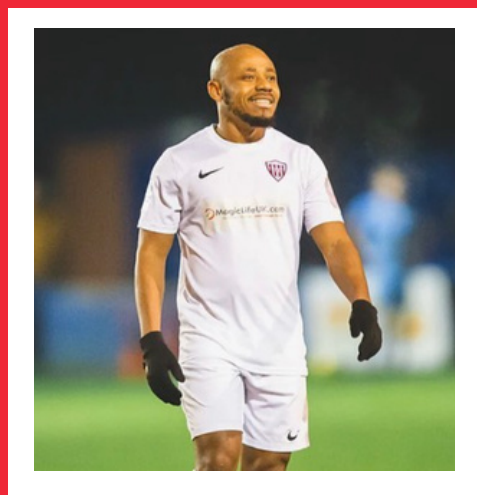
Maldon & Tiptree v Redbridge

Witham Town v Ipswich Wanderers

Wroxham v Basildon Utd

SUNDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

Bowers & Pitsea v Gorleston





The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association's statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination.

Any inappropriate conduct toward others, including but not limited to that based on an individual's sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national origin, age, marital or domestic-partnership status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities.

The Isthmian League and our Member Clubs are committed to promoting equity and equality by treating all people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of our communities.

With our focus on positivity, The Isthmian League aims to ensure that all our footballers are able to play in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment and all supporters can enjoy the game in surroundings free from discrimination and hate.

THE OPPOSITION

Grays Athletic

Although the formation of Grays Athletic is officially 1890, its origins can be traced back to 1888, when the Grays Amateur Athletic Club, which was primarily a cricket and athletic club, formed an association football branch. The modern club can be traced back to the Grays Juniors side formed in 1902, who in 1904 changed their name to Grays Athletic and who in 1906 took over the Grays Recreation Ground, the club's spiritual home for the next 104 years. Senior Status was granted in 1909, whilst in 1912 the club became a founding member of the Athenian League. Over the last hundred years, the club has experienced a roller-coaster ride. Plenty of highs, along with lows, which at times have threatened the clubs' existence.

During the 1920's the club experienced its first boom period, winning the London League three times (1922, 1927 and 1930), as well as two Essex Senior Cup triumphs (1921 and 1923), to add to their first in 1915. Towards the end of World War Two, the club experienced its next successful era, led by centre-forward, Harry Brand, who went on to become the club's record scorer with 269 goals scored between 1944 and 1952. Inspired by his goals, the Blues won the East Anglian Cup and another Essex Senior Cup in 1945. The club also won the inaugural, Corinthian League Championship, a league which as well as being founder members they were instrumental in forming.

The club re-joined the Athenian League in 1958, which gradually heralded a decline in fortunes. During the late 1960s and 1970s, the club was locked in a struggle with the trustees of the Recreation Ground to secure the venue's future. This was finally sorted in 1981 when club patron Ron Billings was persuaded to buy the ground by then club director Bryan Coker and Jeff and Fred Saxton who were the club's joint managers at the time. With the future of the ground secured the club was about to enter another period of success. Businessman Jim Myers, owner of the Boys from Rathbone Street retail chain, was persuaded to come aboard as the new chairman. He set a target of Isthmian Premier Division football, within five years (it would take six). The first step in getting there was achieved in 1983, when the club finished as runners-up in the Athenian League, earning promotion to Division Two of the Isthmian League. Just when it seemed the club's troubles had gone, disaster struck when the 400-seater wooden stand was burned to the ground after gracing the Rec for over sixty years. This led Mr Billings to undertake ground improvements, which included new changing rooms, an indoor ballcourt and bar development.

The 1984-85 season saw the Blues secure the Isthmian League Division Two South title. Three years later promotion to the Isthmian Premier Division was achieved after finishing as runners-up to Marlow, despite gaining 100 points during the season. The club enjoyed a nine-season stay in the Premier Division, with two fifth places, in their first two seasons at that level being the highest. In 1992 the Isthmian League Cup was won, defeating league runners-up Enfield 3-1 in the final held at Dagenham's, Victoria Road Ground. Sadly in 1997, the Blues were relegated back to Division One, with the final match of the season seeing long-standing managers Jeff and Fred Saxton step down from their roles and the playing retirement of the holder of the club appearances record, Phil Sammons (748 appearances) after fifteen seasons with the Blues.

The club's most successful period came in the early to mid-2000s, with the arrival of Mick Woodward as a director. When former Tottenham Hotspur midfielder, Mark Stimson, stepped up as manager in 2002, it would herald a period of success, that no one at the club had dared to dream. The Blues were founder members of the new Conference South in the 2004-05 season and were its first champions, securing promotion to the top level of the non-league game, for the first time in its history. For good measure, the FA Trophy was also won, when Hucknall Town were defeated 6-5 on penalties, after extra-time had ended 1-1, in the final held at Villa Park.



THE OPPOSITION

Grays Athletic

With players such as Jamie Stuart, Stuart Thurgood, Aaron McLean and Michael Kightly the Blues finished their first top-flight season in third place. The end-of-season play-offs were reached, but unfortunately, a poor display in the first twenty minutes of the first (away) leg of the semi-final, saw the Blues' dream of EFL football ended by Halifax Town, 5-4 on aggregate. The FA Trophy was retained, with the Blues winning it the hard way, by going through the entire competition, only facing Conference National opponents. The final, which was held at West Ham's, Boleyn Ground, saw nearly ten thousand Blues fans in the attendance of 14,000. First-half goals from Michael Kightly and Glenn Poole would send them home happy, with Grays defeating Woking by two goals to nil.

Shortly after the 2005-06 season had ended, Mark Stimson and his assistant manager, Scott Barrett, stepped down from their roles. They were replaced by former Leeds United player Frank Gray, although his reign was short, lasting only until October, when he was sacked shortly after a defeat by Bromley, in the FA Cup. It was a season where the star players of the previous few years moved on, with the club being involved in a fight against relegation from Christmas. By the season's end, former Tottenham defender, Justin Edinburgh was in charge and the Blues just avoided relegation on the final day of the season.

By the 2009-10 season, Mick Woodward had stepped down as Chairman, though still owned most of the shares. Former West Ham midfielder John Moncur became the new Chairman, joined by his friend and local businessman, Andy Swallow, who became vice-chairman. Woodward started the season as CEO, but ended his involvement in the club by November. Andy Swallow stepped in to keep the club running. By the end of the campaign, the club finished bottom. Faced with a substantial rent increase, the club vacated its home ground of the Recreation Ground after 104 years. Rather than dropping to the Conference South, the club sought to drop a further division to the Isthmian Premier Division. Being Grays Athletic though, nothing is ever smooth! When the league allocations were revealed, Grays were initially placed in the Essex Senior League. After an appeal to the FA held at Wembley Stadium, the Blues eventually were placed in the Isthmian North Division, a drop of three levels.

This season sees Grays Athletic ground sharing with our oldest rivals Tilbury, at Chadfields. Mark Stimson has returned as manager and Lee Vehit and Gavin Holland, taking over the roles of Chairman and his deputy.

Shortly before the start of the 2023-24 season, Grays Athletic received good news. A joint application with a developer, to bring the former Thurrock F.C.'s ground at Ship Lane, Purfleet, back into football use alongside a pre-delivery inspection car area was granted by Thurrock Council. There still remain two stages of re-affirmation for the development to be finally approved, but Grays Athletic could finally have something it has never had before in its history - a ground which it owns. Along with a strong commitment to the local community, everyone at the club intends for it to be around for many more years.





PARTNERS WITH
ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



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ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



MATCHDAY SQUADS

Isthmian North North
Friday 9th February 2024, 7.45pm



NEW SALAMIS

Reuben Rabsetin
Andrew Tayaca
Kevin Mustali
Christos Batzelis
Tommy Boxer
Alaa Oujdi
Panny Boxer
Albert Adu (c)
Kyle Lynch
Spyros Mentis
Cem Poyraz
Romey Meoded
Micah Jackson
Wraynel Herclues
Nathan Mandla
Ibrahim Kehinde
Joe Wright
Ange Djadja
Derek Asamoah

GRAYS ATHLETIC

Daniel Sambridge
Giani Ashley
Kyan Gulliver
Malaki Toussaint
Andy George
Jack Humphrey
Bobby Unwin
Billy Crook
Kien Connolly
Codey Cosgrave
Aron Gordon
Michael Finneran
Rohat Matyar
Alejandro Machado
Elliot Sartorius
Phil Roberts