

SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE

Premier Division Sat 7 October 2023 15:00

London Lions -v- Baldock Town









WELCOME

A warm welcome to you all to our fabulous home here at the Alpha Stadium – we're all so very proud of the incredible development of the facility here over recent years and, over the summer, that investment continued; the installation of a state-of-the-art irrigation system will, we trust, ensure our playing surface remains as good as any outside of the professional game.

And we believe we now have a first team squad capable of doing our home justice, a young group that is beginning to show the fruits of the labours that so many have put into our youth set up that now boasts in excess of 50 teams.

Competing in the Spartan League carries many challenges, and we're learning how tough it is to maintain consistency in terms of selection and performance over a season that is likely to span approaching 60 matches. But it's a challenge we are relishing and one we believe we are up to. Last season we started slowly, but once into our groove climbed the table to ensure the top 6 finish that grants clubs at our level the prized reward of an FA Cup place.

Once again it was in the cups that we really excelled, retaining the Herts Senior Centenary Trophy with an Adam Bolle inspired 5-1 win over Belstone before narrowly failing to retain our Divisional SSML cup with a defeat in the final.

We are also incredibly proud that our club supplied approaching 75% of those that represented Team GB on the pitch and as management in the European and Pan-American Maccabi Games in the summer. Led by our own Andy Landesberg, our Open Age side stormed to the gold

LONDON LIONS FC

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1st Team Manager

Andy Landesberg

Coaches

Steve Grenfell Darren Yarlett

Club Physio

Peter Sheppard

medal in Budapest, scoring 27 and conceding just 2 on their way to beating a strong French team in the final. That winning mentality is one we hope the boys will bring back to their league football.

We are though much more than just a first team. Our juniors go from strength to strength, with our U-18's taking on a new challenge as they step out of local Sunday football and into a midweek floodlight league. Our men's section will look to compete at the top end of their divisions while our double winning Masters side continue to show there's plenty of life in some old dogs yet! All goes to show we are a club that looks to inspire itself to greater things at every level, from under 6 to over 55.

On the pitch we hope our play is of the quality to which we aspire, with a competitive spirit and sportsmanship the values that are fundamental to all our sides. Off the pitch we hope we equally do things the right way and strive to be, if nothing else, good hosts!



So all that's left is to say is enjoy the game and come join us in the clubhouse for a cup of tea at half and full time! May the best team win.

David Kyte

OUR HISTORY

In the summer of 1995, the players and officials of Maccabi Association London (MAL) decided that they had reached the limits of Sunday football and that a new challenge was required. The Hertfordshire Senior County League was a popular choice and the club made its debut in the 95/96 season under a new name of MALEX.

Four years later the club had made many friends but had narrowly missed out on promotion from Division 1 in each season. During the summer of 1999, the club revised its management structure, and decided to change its name to LONDON MACCABI LIONS, whilst retaining its all-Jewish status.

Under the management team of Bobby Fisher and Adam Solomons the 1st team lost only three league games that season as they won the Division 1 and reached the semi-finals of the Aubrey Cup. The club grew into one of the strongest teams in the Premier League but had to wait to land its first major honour in 2007 when Lions beat Metropolitan Police to lift the Herts Centenary Trophy. This was supplemented by the Reserves who were also promoted as champions, in 2002, and made it to three Herts Reserve Cup finals, winning one in 09/10.

After a decade in the Herts Premier, in 2009/10 now under the stewardship of Tony Gold and Steve Grenfell, Lions won the Herts Senior County League for the first time in the club's history, winning promotion to the Spartan South Midlands League in the process. The following season – the club's first in the South Midlands Division One – they added a second Herts Centenary Trophy beating Letchworth Garden City Eagles 3-2 in the final. Lions were able to go on better in 2012/13, winning the South Midlands Division One title and promotion to the heights of the South Midlands Premier Division. The club also made their debut in the FA Cup, winning 4-0 against Clapton.

Now just one league away from semi-professional football, it was a tall order for a team missing a number of players who had departed following promotion, and so 2013/14 saw Lions suffer their first ever relegation at the end of a difficult season. Having steadied the ship, the club decided to return to the Herts Senior County League for 2015/16 in order to rebuild.

Seeking to promote a new generation under manager Andy Landesberg, there was immediate reward by winning the Anagram Records Trophy at the end of their first season, with most of the starting XI having come through the club's massive youth set up. We then achieved an unprecedented treble in winning the league, Centenary Trophy and, for the first time, the Aubrey Cup.

The club was welcomed back to Spartan South Midlands League where we have won further honours in the shape of the Division One Cup (2018), Herts Centenary Trophy (2019) and Spring Cup (2021) while threatening to get promotion to the Premier Division before Covid struck.

The club was reassigned to the Combined Counties League Division One in the summer of 2021 and we are again targeting promotion to the next step, as well as representing our community with pride.

Spartan South Midlands League Division One Winners 2012/13

Spartan South Midlands League Division One Cup Winners 2017/18 Runners-Up 2018/19

Spartan South Midlands League Spring Cup Winners 2020/21

Anagram Records Trophy (Capital Counties Trophy) Winners 2015/16

Herts FA Senior Centenary TrophyWinners 2006/07, 2010/11, 2016/17, 2018/19
Runners-Up 2017/18

Herts Senior County League Premier Division

Winners 2009/10, 2016/17 Runners-Up 2008/09

Herts Senior County League Division One

Winners 1999/00

Aubrey Cup

Winners 2016/17

Spartan South Midlands League Reserve Challenge Trophy

Runners-Up 2010/11

Herts Senior County League Reserve Division One

Runners-Up 2004/05

Herts Senior County League Reserve Division Two

Winners 2001/02

Club Records

Record Win: 14-2 v Bedmond (2010/11, Herts County Premier Div.)

Record Defeat: 1-11 v Cockfosters (2013/14, South Midlands Prem. Div.)

Most Appearances in Career: Adam Myeroff (507)

Most Goals in Career: Adam Stolerman (134)

Most Goals in a Season: 46, James Gershfield 2017/17

Most Goals in a Game: 6, Adam Bolle v Broadfields United (W 6-3), SSMFL Div 1,

2017/18

Best Performance in FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round, 2013/142015/16

Combined Counties Football League 21/22

21/22 - Division One Winners

Austin Lipman – top goal scorer 21/22 CCFL Division One

Club of the Year 21/22 CCFL

Combined Counties Football League 22/23 Premier Division North

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Baldock Town FC

Joshua Mollison (GK) Kit Brown **Newman Carney** Alfie Cooper Harry Dollimore Flavius Drescanu Josh Furness Charlie Joy Dean Laing Archie O'Brien David Parkinson Dominik Robertson Owen Robertson Luke Rowland Nikolay Rusev Jamie Snapes Troy Tizard-Cleghorn Jude White

Mr; Dave McAdam Asst; John Dalli

Coach; Danny Hutchins

Sports Therapist; Amy Kibler

Shirts: Red

Shorts: Red

Socks: Red

Goalkeeper: All purple

Following the demise of the original Baldock Town FC in 2001 the new Baldock Town were formed from the Baldock Town Youth FC as an outlet for youth squads in 2003. The new Baldock Town played its first competitive match in September 2003 in the North Herts League at 'The Shed' on Clothall Road, Baldock. The match was against Magnum with a Rob Foster hat-trick sealing a 5-1 win. The club then progressed from the North Herts League to the Herts Senior County League (HSCL). The 1st Team won Div 1 of the HSCL in their debut season in 2007/2008.

For three seasons from 2008 the team played its home matches on at the County Ground, Letchworth but they returned to Baldock to play at their old ground in Norton Road now known as the North Herts Arena.

After three near misses the 1st Team finally won the HSCL Premier Div title in 2012. Unfortunately due to ground grading issues the team were unable to take their place in the Spartan Southern Midlands League (SSML).

In order to achieve its ambition of playing at the highest possible level the Team were forced to move to ground share with Hitchin FC. The club finished in second place the following season but this proved to be good enough to secure that elusive promotion to the SSML. The side, managed by former player Scott Grant, also won the Herts

Senior Centenary Trophy for the first time and retained the Anagram Records Trophy. The next two seasons saw a period of consolidation for the 1st Team as they finished 7th and 10th, respectively, in SSML Div 1 (Step 6 on the Non-League pyramid). After three seasons at Hitchin the club moved to share with Stotfold FC. Luke Gregson then took over in 2015, following Grant's resignation, and assisted by Dean Gilbert the team then went on a superb run and ended up just missing out on promotion. The 3rd place finish was the highest placing in their recent history. The 2017-18 season proved to be momentus as Baldock Town continued to progress and finished second in Div 1 and were duly promoted to the SSML Premier Division. The team continued with its run of excellent form and finished in 5th place in their first season in the SSML Premier Division. The following season Baldock managed to get to 12th position before the season was prematurely ended as Covid 19 started to take hold. Luke Gregson decided to step down at the end of that season and Adam Fisher took over as Manager, assisted by Rob Bates.

Baldock only managed 12 games in the 2020-21 season as Covid-19 pandemic eventually won and the League was abandoned. Rob Bates took over as Manager during the summer of 2021 and started the season with some great Cup performances but failed to turn that into League form. The last couple of seasons have been variable with Team development on-going. The Team currently ground

share with Arlesey FC and are managed by Dave McAdam.

PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

- 1 St Panteleimon
- 2 Biggleswade United
- 3 Real Bedford
- 4 FC Romania
- 5 <u>Milton Keynes Irish</u>
- 6 <u>Harpenden Town</u>
- 7 <u>Leverstock Green</u>
- 8 <u>Dunstable Town</u>
- 9 <u>Colney Heath</u>
- 10 <u>Tring Athletic</u>
- 11 Baldock Town
- 12 <u>Potton United</u>
- 13 <u>Cockfosters</u>
- 14 <u>London Lions</u>

- 15 Aylesbury Vale Dynamos
- 16 <u>Arlesey Town</u>
- 17 <u>Crawley Green</u>
- 18 <u>Stansted</u>
- 19 Shefford Town & Campton
- 20 <u>Sawbridgeworth Town</u>



BEFORE YOU CURSE

MIND YOUR LANGUAGE



Respect





London Lions

Jake Rinsler

Benji Weinberger

Adam Lipman

Barr Slagter

Samuel Goldberg

Jack Mordecai

Jake Furman

Max Kyte

Austin Lipman

Liron Mannie

Daniel Creese

Levi Levenfiche

Teddie Levenfiche

Felix Shalom

Adam Arnold

Mikey Perkins

Nathan Schindler

Ben Barnett

Josh Samberg

Nathan Bloonh

Colours
Keeper: All Green
Shirts: White
Shorts: Blue
Socks: Blue
Management
Manager: Andy Landesberg
Manager: Darren Yarlett
Coach: Steve Grenfell
Physio: Pete Sheppard

Match officials

Referee: Daniel Statham Official 2: Kevin Dunnings Official 3: Paul O'Hare