

## **MATCHDAY PROGRAMME**

2023/24 Season Issue 1

2nd September 2023 | PSDL Division One FIRST TEAM vs CHARMOUTH



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#### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Good afternoon everyone! Welcome to Henhayes for our first game of the 2023/24 season, as our First Team take on Charmouth. As always, it has been a busy summer - so here I'll give you a quick round up of the developments over the past few months.

After a challenging year, both Mens sides ended up in the bottom 2 of their respective decisions last season, resulting in much needed relegation to a more suitable level for the time being. This sees the First Team playing in Division 1, but the Reserves remaining in a new look Division 2. This is because at the Perry Street League AGM it was decided to remove Division 3 and re-distribute the teams, with our Reserves now in the



bottom tier consisting of last season's Division 3 sides plus the bottom half of Division 2. We have 3 new teams in the league this season; Axminster Town Reserves coming into Division 1 alongside re-formed West & Middle Chinnock and Forton Rangers A entering Division 2. However 3 existing teams have now folded, with Chard United A, Barrington Reserves and Drimpton not continuing this season - keeping the total number of teams in the league the same. Combe St Nicholas did enter a B Team into Division 3, but have since withdrawn their A Team due to lack of players, with the new side being renamed the Colts and keeping Combe with two PSDL teams.

The summer has seen a change in management for both teams too. Paul McCormack decided to step down due to family commitments, and has returned to Shepton Beauchamp. Last season's First Team Captain Jamie Stewart has taken over the side with my support. We didn't think we would have a Reserve Team, with a number of players from both sides moving on to new teams, however Rangers stalwarts James Martin and Steve Bryant have stepped up in the last couple of weeks and put in a tremendous effort to get a side together. The squad remains a work in progress, and we're still looking for more players, but the new management duo have done well to get a side out today away at Combe.

There has been a lot of effort off the pitch as always from my parents, Sue and Steve, to get everything ready for the new season - for which I'm very grateful. I'm not sure the concept of an off-season exists for them! Over the coming weeks I'll provide an overview of some of these developments.

So here we are! Thank you to all the players and managers that have stuck with us - I'm looking forward to an exciting season and hope you all enjoy watching it with us. Up The Rangers!

Mark Holton, Chairman.

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### **TODAY'S RANGERS SQUAD**



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Charmouth are the first visitors to Henhayes this season, and they'll be hoping to continue their good finish from last season where they ended up 5th in Division One with 7 wins from their 18 games

It's been relatively even over the years between the 2 teams, with both sides generally fairing better at home. Rangers Firsts have 11 head-to-head wins with Charmouth picking up 6, with just 1 draw. The last time the two sides met was in February 2020 in the season Crewkerne gained promotion to the Premier Division. Rangers won 5-0 with goals from Jack Cossins, Sam Walters, Scott Jennings, Ash Pogson and Liam Bagwell.



Liam and current assistant manager Mark Holton are the only players still in the Crewkerne squad from that victory 3 years ago.

A very warm welcome to all the Charmouth players and coaches, as well as those of you who have come out to support this afternoon. We hope you enjoy the game as we kick off the 2023/24 season.



PSDL DIVISION ONE			
1	Axminster Town Reserves		
2	Charmouth		
3	CRFC FIRSTS		
4	Donyatt United		
5	Dowlish Wake & Donyatt		
6	Forton Rangers Reserves		
7	Ilminster Town Reserves		
8	Misterton Reserves		
9	Netherbury		
10	Pymore		
11	South Petherton Reserves		
12	West & Middle Chinnock		

PSDL DIVISION TWO			
1	Chard United Reserves		
2	Combe St Nicholas Colts		
3	CRFC RESERVES		
4	Forton Rangers A		
5	Ilminster Town A		
6	Kingsbury Episcopi		
7	Merriott Moretti		
8	Merriott Saints		
9	Perry Street Reserves		
10	Shepton Beauchamp Res		
11	Thorncombe		
12	Uplyme 2nds		
13	Winsham United		
14	Yetminster United Reserves		

SCWL DIVISION TWO SOUTH					
1	Bridgwater Vixens	6	Pen Mill Reserves		
2	Bridport	7	Porlock		
3	Burnham United	8	Wellington		
4	Combe St Nicholas	9	Wincanton Town		
5	CRFC LADIES	10	Yeovil Town Development		

**Upcoming Fixtures at Henhayes** 

03/09 @ 14:00 - Ladies Team vs Bridport 06/09 @ 18:30 - First Team vs Misterton Reserves It's been a busy pre season for Rangers, and despite the results not always coming the performances have been improving each week with the opportunity to integrate lots of new faces in to the squad - and play some new teams along the way.

The summer campaign started with a mixed squad travelling to Barwick. A good opportunity to blow away the cobwebs and get the first game under the belt. Some good football was played from the outset, but the in-form hosts continued their winning streak that saw them promoted last season with a 3-1 victory.

The games then came thick and fast. Next up was an entertaining 5-3 loss against Donyatt in a game that was end-to-end. We travelled to Somerton to play a strong Langport side who won 4-1. Then off to Axminster to face Millwey Rise with a small squad - which ended up being the decided factor when injuries lead to Rangers completing the game with 9 men having been 2-1 up, ultimately losing 6-3. That was followed up by a close game against Stoke-sub-Hamdon, where clinical finishing was the difference in their 2-0 win.

Rangers then had the first dedicated Reserve Team friendly on a Wednesday night against a very well drilled Maiden Newton side. The 9-1 defeat was a fair reflection, but saw many debutants for Crewkerne who have subsequently signed. The friendlies were then wrapped up last weekend with the Firsts being edged out 2-1 by Crossways Spitfires.

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