

THE POACHERS

Bottesford Town v Eccleshill United

Saturday 26th July 2025



Match Sponsor:





Who we are:

League History:

Lincolnshire League: 1974-2000; Central Midlands League: 2000-2007; NCEL 2007-

Honours:

Central Midlands League: Supreme Div - 2006/07;
Lincolnshire League: Champions - 1989/90 1990/91
1991/92; League Cup Winners - 1986/87 1988/89
1989/90.

Players Progressing:

Mark Wilson (Manchester United),
Sam Slocombe (Scunthorpe United).

Main club sponsor:



Barrett Steel Stadium

Birch Park, Ontario Road, Scunthorpe, DN17 2TQ.
Tel: 01724 871883.



Who we are:

Manager: Leigh Herrick

Assistant Manager: Daniel Fish

Assistant Manager: Steve Ridley

Physio: Jackie Mumby

President: Gary Carnaby

Vice President: Pete O'Sullivan, Ian Catterall

Club Chairman: Anthony Reeve

First Team Chairman: Howard Pirie

Junior Chairman: Sam Horton

Treasurer: John Walker

Secretary: Stephen Altoft

Match Secretary: Phil Pearson

Media Manager: Curtis Clague

Marketing Manager: Jason Oxenforth

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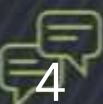


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Chairman's Notes

Welcome to Barrett Steel Stadium at Birch Park for today's game as we host Eccleshill United.

It's been a busy summer both on and off the pitch since the end of last season, and all the hard work behind the scenes will hopefully lead to a strong campaign ahead. Our manager has been busy assembling his own squad, and there's a real sense of excitement as we head into the 2025/26 season.

On a personal note, I'm gutted not to be here for the first two games as I'm away on holiday – but I'll be keeping everything crossed that we hit the ground running. A huge thank you to everyone who's contributed to a fantastic pre-season – both on and off the pitch. If we achieve what we're aiming for this year, it won't be down to luck; it'll be thanks to proper planning and preparation. So get behind the lads and show your support. As the great poet Trotter once said: "This time next year, Rodney!"

Up the Botty!
Howard Pirie

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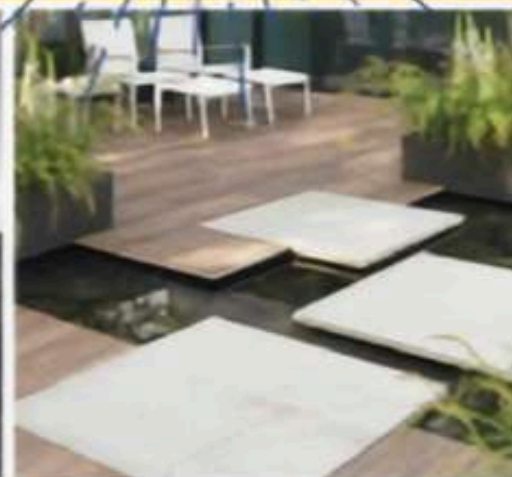
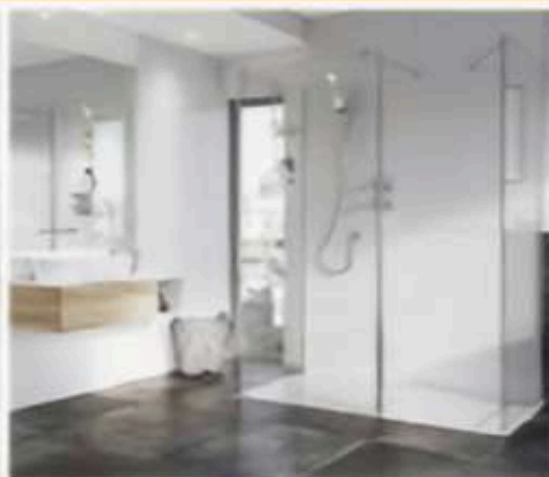


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Commercial Update

Good afternoon, and a warm welcome to everyone associated with Eccleshill Football Club.

It's great to be back into the full swing of the football season. After a strong summer of recruitment—bringing together a fantastic mix of experience and youth—we're really looking forward to the campaign ahead.

Off the pitch, we've been busy developing our brand-new sponsors' lounge, which will be an exciting addition to our sponsorship packages.

We're also looking ahead to our annual Golf Day, taking place on Friday 8th August at Holme Hall—a key fundraiser that always proves to be a great event for the club.

A big thank you to Gary Carnaby of Raintons of Ashby for sponsoring today's match—your support is greatly appreciated.

We hope you all enjoy the game.

Here's to a great season ahead!

Best regards,
Jason



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Club History

The Club was formed in 1974 and played their football in the Lincolnshire League. The original base was at the Dolphin pub, with the football being played at Fred Gough School. The Club moved to its current Birch Park home in 1983.

The senior side experienced a successful period during the early 90's winning a number of Cup competitions and the Lincolnshire League in

three successive seasons, In 2000 the 1st team entered the Central Midlands League gaining promotion in 2005 to Division 1 in the Northern Counties East Football League. In 2016 they won the 'play-off' final to gain promotion to the Premier League where they have played for the last 5 seasons. The Club has for many years supported the local Scunthorpe and District adult Football Leagues, The year 2000 saw the amalgamation of the Junior and Senior Clubs clearly demonstrating that players starting with the Club at the age of 6 could be encouraged to stay with the Club for their progress in football.

The Club today has 25 teams both boys and girls playing mini-soccer in the local Saturday Kalson League, 11 a-side teams in the Sunday Kalson League, Youth football being played in the Junior Premier League, & the Lincolnshire Intermediate League, and a Development Squad playing in the Central Midlands Football League. A newly formed Veterans team who will play in the Humber Veterans League In 2018 a new addition to the Club was the introduction of the DSActive team for individuals who are Downs Syndrome, the team has grown from strength to strength and they now perform in the Ability Counts League.

Exciting times lay ahead with our next development focusing on a number of improvements for the Bottesford Sports Hall

The Club's proudest achievement was in 2003 when they became a FA Charter Standard Community Club, being one of the first Clubs in the Country at that time to get the achievement. The Club had to work very hard to meet all of the FA criteria and is now reaping the benefits and rewards. In 2009, the Club achieved the distinction of being awarded by the Lincolnshire Football Association as the FA Charter Standard Club of the year, a reward for the efforts of the members of the Club. This massive involvement in 'grass roots football' and its development has seen the provision of enhanced facilities to support the same, with the introduction of a magnificent Changing Room & Meeting Room facility in 2009 for the use of all those who play their sport at Birch Park. Developments continued in 2019 with the aid of grant support from both the North Lincolnshire and Bottesford Town Councils together with the Football Foundation, with the addition of a new tractor and grass cutting maintenance equipment plus the replacement of the floodlights for the main pitch with a modern LED installation which was designed for the future provision of a new Stadia Facility incorporating a 3G playing surface.

2020 also saw through the efforts of number of volunteers & sponsors, a new Catering Facility to serve the needs of everybody who visits Birch Park.

Proudly, the Club today is able to announce that after many years of preparation and with the financial support from predominantly the Football Foundation, the North Lincolnshire Council and the S.S.E. Sustainable Community Fund, together with other supporting groups, the new £1.5m Barrett Steel Stadium facility was officially opened in July 2023.



The Visitors

Eccleshill United current squad list

Harvey Atkinson

Idris Atta

Callum Bradbury

Christopher Bumhira

Max Davies

Lee Elam

Mohammed Farhan Subhani

Mark Ferguson

Benjamin Gordan

Kieran Haigh

Perry Heritage

Alhassane Keita

Faris Khan

Daniel Laban

Alexander Laird

Jordan Moorhouse

Junior Nasihunu

Ashton Newsome

Cole Roberts

Zackary Sangster

Joseph Storey

Etienne Sumaili



NCEL Round Up

From the start of the 2025/26 season, the Macron NCEL will adopt the Captain's Only Protocol, formalising that only team captains may approach the referee to discuss major decisions. This nationwide protocol is part of efforts to improve respect, reduce dissent, and create a better matchday environment across all levels of the game.

Key Points:

- Normal, respectful communication with referees is allowed.
- Dissent, by word or action, remains a yellow card offence—even for captains.
- Only captains may speak to the referee about key decisions.
- Captains must keep teammates away from the referee.
- Referees may pause play to allow captains to pass messages to their teams.

Additional Rules:

- If the goalkeeper is captain, an outfield player must be nominated to interact with the referee.
- A 4-metre “captain-only zone” will be enforced around the referee.
- Non-captains entering this zone may be cautioned for dissent.
- Repeat offences may lead to sanctions from competition organisers.

This protocol brings consistency from professional to grassroots football and aims to support better behaviour towards match officials.

Reminder:

The new 8-second rule for goalkeepers also comes into effect from the start of the new NCEL season.