



**SOUTH WALES ALLIANCE FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

[www.southwalesallianceleague.co.uk](http://www.southwalesallianceleague.co.uk)

# SWAL NEWSLETTER

## MAY 2024



### SW Alliance League News

#### Round-Up

The Newsletter is updated as of the games on Saturday 4th May. One of the reasons to move to 12 teams divisions was to keep games competitive going to the end of the season with minimal number of “dead rubbers” - this past weekend saw some decided and there is still many other deciding games to take place!

#### Premier Division

Bridgend St have guaranteed a top 2 finish and promotion but what they probably did not expect was it would come following 2 end of season defeats! FC Cwmaman can win the title and need 2 pts from their final 3 games - but not a formality playing Tonyrefail BGC (who have a relegation battle), Treherbert BGC Cardiff Airport. Dinas Powys were already relegated but Caerphilly Athletic (beating Bridgend St) and Llanrumney Utd (beating Aber Valley) mean Tonyrefail BGC need that win against FC Cwmaman in their final game!

Games coming up to watch out for are:

- |        |                              |
|--------|------------------------------|
| 8 May  | FC Cwmaman v Tonyrefail BGC  |
| 15 May | Treherbert BGC v FC Cwmaman  |
| 18 May | Cardiff Airport v FC Cwmaman |

#### Championship

The Champions, Runners-Up and subsequent promotion places were decided on 27 April - congratulations to Ely Rangers who, until Saturday, last lost a league game back on 14 October - to Runners Up Llantwit Fardre. Ely Rangers scoring 87 goals in the process - averaging over 4 goals per game- 48 coming from the strike partnership of Richard Greaves (26) and Alex Long (22). Llantwit Fardre's Ryan Prosser splitting the Ely Rangers pair with 25 and has one final game left to take the top spot. Relegation places are Garw BGC and Sully Sports. The latter needing a win in their local derby against Vale United but despite twice leading lost 3-2. The final place is between Aberfan and rivals Merthyr Saints however Aberfan need to beat Llantwit Fardre!

## Division One - West

Congratulations to Afan United winning the D1W title in their first SWAL season! But the 2nd promotion place is between Cardiff Bay Warriors and Tata Steel United. Relegation is a "Pick 'Em" with Canton Rangers already relegated, leaving one from Cogan Coronation, Grange Albion & Fairwater.

Major games coming up that could decide things are:

8 May	Afan Utd v Cardiff Bay Warriors
8 May	Grange Albion v Fairwater
8 May	Bettws v Cogan Coronation
11 May	Cwm Welfare v Grange Albion
11 May	Cogan Coronation v Tata Steel United
15 May	Cogan Coronation v Cardiff Bay Warriors

## Division One - East

The top of the table clash on 4 May saw Cardiff Cosmopolitan play Cwmbach Royal Stars. The Stars are unbeaten this season and the victory - in front of 222 spectators - gave them the title with Cosmos as runners up. The relegation battle went to the very end of the season, with St Albans relegated, Penrhiwfer pulled off the "Great Escape" in their final game beating Nelson Cavaliers and relegating AFC Whitchurch!

Tables can be found here: <http://www.southwalesallianceleague.co.uk/match-info/tables>

Fixtures can be found here: <http://www.southwalesallianceleague.co.uk/match-info/fixtures>

*Or on the Comet app*



**SWAL TEAM OF THE MONTH**  
**April 2024**



Another difficult decision with so many clubs having good end of season runs. However...



**DINAS POWYS FC**

Dinas Powys came into the SW Alliance League this season after relegation from the Ardal League. The club were formed in 1971 and promoted into the former SW Amateur League in 1990, becoming champions in 1998. In 1999-2000 Dinas Powys were promoted to the then Welsh League when they defeated Bettws in the SWFA Play-Off 2-1.

Success continued and in 2007-2008 they finished runners-up to Goytre Utd in Division 1. Dinas won't need to be reminded of their first season in the Alliance Premier Division - which has been a very difficult one to say the least - however in March they finally secured their first point against Aber Valley before - on a Wednesday evening the 10th April - their first league victory of the season finally came with a 3-1 win against their Vale of Glamorgan rivals Cardiff Airport.

Well done for sticking with the difficult season!



# W John Owen Cup Final 2024

**Saturday 11th May 2024**  
**@ USW Treforest KO 2.30pm**



**Ely Rangers v FC Cwmaman**



**@ USW Sports Park, Treforest KO 2.30pm**

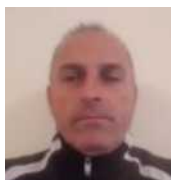
## Match Officials

**Referee:**



**Geoff Martin**

**Assistants:**



**Paul Walters**



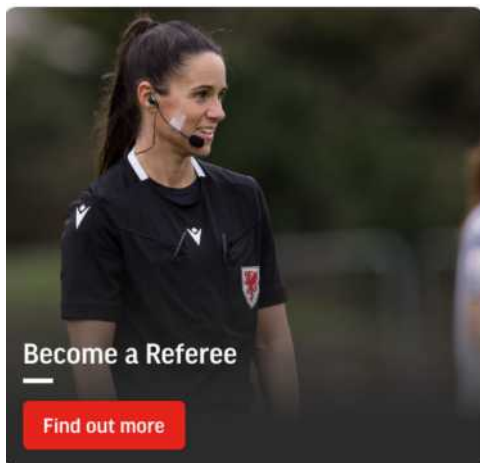
**Mark Hulbert**

**4th Official:**



**Nigel Jones**

**ENTRY £4**  
**PROGRAMMES £1**  
***Cash or Card***



## Become a Coach

[www.fawcourses.com/courses](http://www.fawcourses.com/courses)

Here you will find links to  
coaching course from  
Grassroots Level 1

[www.fawcourses.com/grassroots-coach-education](http://www.fawcourses.com/grassroots-coach-education)

through to Medical Courses  
and FAW Uefa Pro Licence

## Become a Referee

<https://becomearef.wales/>

There are several courses  
available from a fully FAW  
Qualified Referee to FAW Intro  
to Refereeing Award  
and Futsal Qualification Award

## Come & Play

<https://faw.cymru/grassroots/>

Grassroots football is the  
lifeblood of Welsh football.  
Here you can find all the clubs  
near you and which level of  
FAW accreditation they are  
currently at. Platinum is the  
highest level of accreditation  
and standard the lowest.



## SWAL Clubs Accreditation

<https://faw.cymru/grassroots/>

### Platinum

AFC Whitchurch  
Dinas Powys  
Ely Rangers  
Llanrumney United

### Gold

Sully Sports  
Tonyrefail BGC

### Silver

Aber Valley  
Caerphilly Athletic  
Holton Road  
Clwb Cymric  
Cogan Coronation

### Bronze

AFC Penrhiwceiber  
Cardiff Airport  
Cwmbach Royal Stars  
Cwrt Rawlin  
FC Cwmaman  
Fairwater FC  
Grange Albion  
Llantwit Fardre  
Maesteg Park  
Porthcawl Town Athletic  
Treforest FC  
Merthyr Saints  
Pencoed Athletic BGC  
St Albans



# SWFA - CHAMPION CLUBS



**Aberdare Valley Association  
Football League**



**Penywaun FC**



**Bridgend & District Football  
League**



**Caerau All Whites FC**



**Cardiff & District Football  
League**



**Splott Cons FC**



**Cardiff Combination League**



**Cardiff Hibernian FC**



**Merthyr Tydfil Football  
League**



**Pantyscallog Village FC**



**Port Talbot & District  
Football League**



**Margam YC**



**Rhondda & District League**



**Treorchy BGC**



**Taff Ely & Rhymney Valley  
Football League**



**Talbot Green FC**



**Vale of Glamorgan League**



**St Athan FC**



## Automatically Promoted to SWAL

*\*Based on average points per game*



Caerau All Whites FC



Splott Cons FC



Margam YC



Pantyscallog Village FC

## Play Off Games (Winners are Promoted)

Play Off games to take place @ SDM Stadium, Bridgend (Penybont FC)  
on 11 May 2024



Cardiff Hibernian FC

v

Talbot Green FC



KO 12pm



Treorchy BGC

v

St Athan FC



KO 4pm



## FAW Football Service Centre Support Portal

The new support portal is now live for all to access.

### Accessing the Portal

The new portal can be accessed via the following link - [support.faw.cymru](https://support.faw.cymru) , or through a new support icon on the [faw.cymru](https://faw.cymru) website.

Here, you will be able to raise tickets, view support articles, & view all previous raised tickets.

Additionally, you can also email [support@faw.cymru](mailto:support@faw.cymru)

### Using the Portal

You are now able to create a profile on the portal. A video showing how to do this can be found here

[https://www.canva.com/design/DAF7jSeXAPM/OxpxNtHCBauWXeRKA2s9Cw/watch?utm\\_content=DAF7jSeXAPM&utm\\_campaign=designshare&utm\\_medium=link&utm\\_source=editor](https://www.canva.com/design/DAF7jSeXAPM/OxpxNtHCBauWXeRKA2s9Cw/watch?utm_content=DAF7jSeXAPM&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=editor)

### Opening Hours:

Please note the Football Services Centre contact number of 02922 672 252 will not be affected by this update and will continue to be operational from 9-8pm Monday to Friday and 9-5 on Saturdays and Sundays. <https://faw.cymru/football-services-centre/>



# The Cymru Football Foundation

<https://faw.cymru/cff/>

**The Cymru Football Foundation is a registered charity developing inspirational and fit-for-future football facilities to improve & grow Welsh football on and off the pitch**

## WHO WE ARE

<https://faw.cymru/cff/who-we-are/>

The CFF supports the development of football facilities through investment, assistance and guidance.

The CFF is delivering the Football Association of Wales' (FAW) commitment to develop inspirational fit-for-future football facilities that will improve and grow Welsh football on and off the pitch.

The standard of football facilities across Wales, particularly at grassroots level, requires coordinated long-term investment to deliver the most accessible and appropriate environments for current & future members of the Welsh football family.

The CFF is playing a leading role in addressing this challenge by delivering a series of facility development programmes that will develop outstanding football facilities, resulting in more players and better experiences – helping improve the health and wellbeing of a nation.

## IMPACT

<https://faw.cymru/cff/our-impact/>

- **Investment**

Through investing into inspirational and fit-for-future facilities, we're aiming to improve experiences and encourage more players from all backgrounds, develop stronger and sustainable community-focussed football clubs and double the number of women and girls participation, all whilst improving the health and wellbeing of a nation.

- **Funding**

See below for funding that has been awarded to SW Alliance League clubs and also facilities used by them

## NEWS & SUCCESS STORIES

<https://faw.cymru/cff/news/category/news/>

### CFF Shortlisted at WISA Sports Industry Awards 2024



The CFF's Sustainability Fund has been shortlisted for the Best Sustainability Initiative whilst a Fit-For-Future Facilities Fund project in partnership with Cricket Wales and Welsh Government has been shortlisted for the Best Collaboration Initiative.

## FUNDING

<https://faw.cymru/cff/funding/>

- Fit-For-Future Facilities Programme
- Fit-For-Future Equipment Fund
- Our Success Stories

## GUIDANCE

<https://faw.cymru/cff/guidance/>

Supporting you and your club

A gateway to useful resources -supporting you with guidance to help manage and improve your facilities.

- Artificial 3G pitch Guidance
- Changing Room Guidance
- Environments for Her

**Click on the links for more information**





# Example of CFF Successes for SW Alliance Clubs / Facilities

<https://faw.cymru/cff/our-impact/>

Club / Facility	Project	Total Cost	Grant Awarded
Barry Plastics S&L Co Ltd (Sully Sport FC)	Changing room upgrade	£184,104	£158,524
Cardiff City House of Sport Llanrumney Community Sports Hub,	New changing rooms and community space	£458,000	£185,000
Pencoed Athletic BGC	Goals and Shelters	£8,226.00	£6,500.00
Cwm Welfare Community Sports Club Ltd	New changing rooms and clubhouse	£315,152	£ 285,101
Rhondda Cynon Taf Council Baglan Football Field	New full-size 3G pitch	£1,100,000	£100,000
Treforest FC	Solar panels, Solar inverter, New boiler & LED Lights	£28,035.00	£20,000.00 (Requested)
Penybont Academy Bryntirion Park	New grass floodlight training area	£57,332	£ 45,395
Porthcawl Town Athletic Locks Lane, Porthcawl,	New grass floodlight training area	£6,973.08	£5,578.47

**CYMRU**  
**FOOTBALL**  
**FOUNDATION**



# Hugh James

## SWFA Senior Cup Final

Played 27 April 2024 @ SDM Stadium - home of  
Penybont FC - KO:5.30pm



**Ton Pentre**

**v**

**FC Cwmaman**



**0-0**  
**Pens 1-4**



Photos taken from official Twitter / X account of



**FC\_Cwmaman @FC\_Cwmaman**



## NEW PUBLICATION

### 'THE MARTYRS' AND 'THE MUSH'



#### THE FORTUNES OF MERTHYR TOWN AFC AND MID RHONDDA AFC IN THE 'VICTORY SEASON' OF 1919-1920

BY PHILIP SWEET

A 138 PAGE PUBLICATION WHICH INCLUDES:

- The formation and early history of both clubs
- A detailed month by month analysis of the 1919-20 season with full statistics
- The demise of both clubs

**COST - £12 OR £15 INCLUDING POSTAGE  
AND PACKING**

Copies available from: 13, Nant Y Dall Avenue, Rhydyfelin,  
Pontypridd CF37 5LE - Cheques payable to P. Sweet

For details of online payment contact the author on:

[secretaryswal@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryswal@gmail.com) or call 07394 967881



**Remember each week a  
SWAL game from the  
Rhondda and Cynon Taff  
area is featured on gtfm**

**Join Matt Rowley  
to discuss the  
weeks' football  
round-up  
@mattrowley1973  
@gtfm\_radio**



# SWAL LEAGUE FUNDING

THE **100** CLUB

The SWAL have started a 100 CLUB to help raise funding for the League  
All information on joining the 100 Club is available here:

[www.southwalesallianceleague.co.uk/downloads/swal-funding](http://www.southwalesallianceleague.co.uk/downloads/swal-funding)

**April 2024 Winners: Idwal Jones & Gwyn John**

**May 2024 Winners: Dave Wilcox & Steve Paterson**

To join contact Karin Preene Email [karinpreene@gmail.com](mailto:karinpreene@gmail.com)

Or go to <http://www.southwalesallianceleague.co.uk/downloads/swal-funding>



