



**Highadmit Projects South Wales Premier League**

**X @SWPLInfo**

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

**HIGHADMIT  
PROJECTS**  
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# **SOUTH WALES PREMIER LEAGUE NEWSLETTER**

## ***JANUARY 2025***



## **SW Premier League News**

**New Season - New Name - Same Competitiveness**

### **PREMIERSHIP**

As we move into the 2nd half of the season Cardiff Airport still head the table in the Premier Division - and still unbeaten! Caerphilly and Llantwit Fardre are still within striking distance should Airport slip up with Penydarren BGC, Aber Valley and FC Cwmaman having a lot of games in hand

### **CHAMPIONSHIP**

Afan United have opened up a huge 15 point lead in the Championship however they have played a lot more games than the chasing pack. Will Afans' decision not to get tied up in cups be the deciding factor?

### **DIVISION ONE WEST**

You cannot see past the top 2 at this stage - both Tata Steel United and Caerau All Whites have opened up a 13pt gap over 3rd placed Cogan Coronation. Will Llangeinor who have had some excellent cup exploits and have a lot of games in hand crash the party?

### **DIVISION ONE EAST**

At present the promotion places look to be between AFC Penrhiwceiber, Penygraig United and Splott. Penygraig United's season has seen them get to the QF of the FAW Trophy and still in the WJO Cup. Has their cup success means they have extended themselves too far? We will see over the coming weeks!

**Tables can be found here:** <https://www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk/match-info/tables>

**Fixtures can be found here:** <https://www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk/match-info/fixtures>



# SWPL Club of the Month December 2024



## Penrhiwfer AFC

With only one Saturday of SWPL Football in December due to Storm Darragh it became all but an impossible task however it was decided that **PENRHIWFER AFC**

would be named as Club of the Month after a difficult season they finally had their first win against local rivals and promotion hopefuls -

**Treorchy Boys and Girls Club - with a 3-2 victory!**

After taking the lead twice with goals from Keiron Williams it was Connor Stephens who sealed Penrhiwfer's victory in the 86th minute!



## FAW Trophy QF Draw

**Ties to be played weekend of 22 February 2025**



**Bow Street**

**v Penygraig United**



**Port Talbot Town**

**v FC Cwmaman**



**A fantastic achievement by the 3 SWPL clubs to reach the last 8!**



## FAW TIER 3 MEN'S LICENCE APPLICATIONS

(SWPL to Ardal League)

10 SWPL Clubs have applied



**Aber Valley**



**Caerphilly Athletic**



**Cardiff Airport**



**Ely Rangers**



**FC Cwmaman**



**Llantwit Fardre**



**Pencoed Athletic BGC**



**Penydarren Seniors BGC**



**Porthcawl Town Athletic**



**Port Talbot Town**



## SWFA TIER 4 LICENCE APPLICATIONS

(SWPL Championship to Premier Division)

10 Clubs have applied



**Aberdare Town FC**



**Afan United FC**



**AFC Wattstown**



**Bettws FC**



**Cardiff Bay Warriors FC**



**Cardiff Cosmopolitan FC**



**Clwb Cymric**



**Cwmbach Royal Stars SC**



**Dinas Powys FC**



**Vale United FC**



THE HIGHADMIT PROJECTS  
SOUTH WALES ALLIANCE  
FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
2015-2024



**A HISTORY**

PHILIP SWEET

Compiled by the SWPL Secretary  
Phil Sweet

Cost £5 plus £2.50 P&P

Available from Phil -

Email: [swplsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:swplsecretary@gmail.com)



# TEAMS APPLIED TO SWFA FOR PROMOTION FROM T7 TO T6 (LOCAL LEAGUE TO SW PREMIER LEAGUE) 23 Clubs have applied for promotion



## PORT TALBOT & DISTRICT



**Cornelly United FC**



**FC Porthcawl**



**Glyncorrwg AFC**



## TAFF ELY & RHYMNEY VALLEY



**AFC Bargoed**



**Rhydyfelin AFC**



**Rhydyfelin Non Pol FC**



## MERTHYR TYDFIL



**Heolgerrig Red Lion  
Community FC**



**Trelewis Welfare AFC**



## CARDIFF COMBINATION



**Cardiff Hibernian FC**



**Tiger Bay FC**



## BRIDGEND & DISTRICT



**Bridgend Town FC**



**Brynna FC**



**Llangynwyd Rangers FC**



## ABERDARE VALLEY



**AFC Abercynon**



## VALE OF GLAMORGAN



**Barry Athletic**



**Island Marine FC**



**St Athan FC**



## CARDIFF & DISTRICT



**Canton Rangers FC**



**Pentyrch Rangers**



**Splott Albion**



## RHONDDA & DISTRICT



**CWM Rhondda**



**Porth Harlequins BGC**



**Tonypandy Albion**

Promotion is dependant of SWFA Licensing criteria

[www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk/downloads/swfa-information](http://www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk/downloads/swfa-information)





# Club Development



## Club Developers

To support with participation, facility and workforce development across the grassroots game in Wales, the FAW has seven Club Developers, designated to each of the Area Associations in Wales.

The Club Development Officers are responsible for building a robust and sustainable club network, supporting clubs to engage with their community, deliver a comprehensive offer of activities and create high quality operations and facilities.



## What can a Club Developer do for you?

Club Developers can support your club to become a sustainable thriving club.

Developers will achieve this by supporting your club in achieving their vision and strategic objectives.

Providing guidance on financial sustainability, education opportunities for volunteers, including facility development, volunteer recruitment, community engagement, marketing and communication, legal and governance, and general club management.

Club Developers will have sound knowledge of club accreditation and be able to support on this specific programme.



## What can a Club Developer help you with?

- Club Accreditation
- Accessing funding opportunities
- Setting and achieving club visions and ambitions
- Off the pitch volunteer education



## How can I contact a Club Developer?

Club Developers for your region are listed below.

- South Wales – Cicely-Lock-Williams Email: [clwilliams@faw.cymru](mailto:clwilliams@faw.cymru)



## Want to grow participation?

We have a dedicated team of Participation Officers that can help support the growth of football in your local area from traditional club programmes to inclusive recreational offers with a view to making football accessible to all.



## How can I contact my local Participation Officer?

South Wales – Jamie Griffin Email: [jgriffin@faw.cymru](mailto:jgriffin@faw.cymru)

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



**CARDIFF CITY V COVENTRY CITY**  
WEDNESDAY 1ST JANUARY

## SW REFEREE STEPS UP AFTER MATCH REFEREE IS INJURED AT BLUEBIRDS GAME

When SWPL Referee Dale Randall went to see Cardiff City play Coventry in the Championship, little did he know he would end up officiating the game.

The 32-year-old part-time referee was watching in the stands when a plea went out for a fourth official after the referee left the pitch because of injury.

Despite being more used to the second tier of domestic football, Dale stood up for the biggest game of his life. He was supposed to be refereeing Goytre United and Llantwit Major in the JD Cymru South league, but the match was cancelled because of a waterlogged pitch.



**Dale Randall**

It was, Mr Randall said, *"a bit nuts - It was surreal, 19,000 supporters watching you I've never officiated in front of that sort of crowd."*

James Durkin, had started the game as fourth official but had to replace injured ref Geoff Eltringham in the first half. Dale, from Tonyrefail, in Rhondda Cynon Taf, then took over Mr Eltringham's original role at the start of the second half.



Dale had a crash course in using the subs board before he was handed an earpiece and set to work.

He said: *"Geoff Eltringham was limping around. One of the Cardiff City coaching staff told me to put the board up for added time because he couldn't walk. At half-time they're giving me the communication kit and a quick tutorial on what they want from me. It was nuts really. I don't think I knew the referee's name until I heard it through my earpiece."*

Dale added that he had a Football Association of Wales jacket on so had to change into something else.

It was not all smooth sailing. *"I probably got the substitutes board wrong once - the ins and the outs were the wrong way round."*

The reaction has been "mad". "I've had 400 texts from the refereeing fraternity, friends and family saying 'well done'," he said.

He added that getting to see behind the curtain of a high level match was a *"unique experience.... I'm back to normal next week officiating at Tredegar Town. A slightly different world"*

After the game, which ended with a 1-1 score, neither manager spoke with Mr Randall but he was invited to the referee's room for a debrief before returning to his wife.

"There was a debrief and then I had to go and find my wife who I had abandoned in the first half. "You didn't even say goodbye' - that's how she greeted me."

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cz0r5532339o>

**REFEREE**



# **New FAW Initiative Captains Only Approach**

***Wef 1st February 2025***

As many will have seen from UEFA Euro 2024 this summer, UEFA adopted an approach which encouraged only team captains to approach the match referee to avoid mobbing/dissent.

The FAW Referees Committee agreed to adopt the UEFA EURO 24 Captains Only Approach for all FAW National League (Tiers 1-3 Men's & Tiers 1&2 Women's) & FAW Senior Cup competitions for season 2024/25 .

**THE FAW COMMUNITY GAME BOARD HAVE NOW AGREED THIS WILL BE EXTENDED TO ALL FOOTBALL WITHIN WALES FROM 1st FEBRUARY 2025.**

The success of the new approach at UEFA EURO 2024, has been welcomed by public opinion as unquestionable progress for the image of football and boosts our confidence that this is the way forward. Fair play and respect are values that football, the most popular sport in the world, must convey to society at large.

## **GUIDELINES**

- Normal interactions between players and the referee are allowed and remain important (to increase transparency and avoid possible frustration and conflict).
- Any player (including the captain) who shows dissent by word or action will be cautioned (yellow card).
- The referee will, where appropriate, explain important decisions to the captain(s) and/or the player(s) involved in an incident.

## **TO PREVENT PLAYERS MOBBING OR SURROUNDING THE REFEREE IN MAJOR SITUATIONS AND FOLLOWING KEY INCIDENTS OR DECISIONS:**

- only one player from each team – usually the captain – is allowed to approach the referee and, when doing so, they must always interact in a respectful manner;
- the referee may instruct/encourage players (verbally or with gestures) not to approach them;
- the team captains are responsible for helping to direct their team-mates away from the referee;
- players who approach/surround the referee when they are not permitted to do so may be cautioned (yellow card) or sent to the sin bin (if the system is in operation)
- if appropriate, the referee may delay the restart of play to allow the captain(s) time to speak with their team-mates to explain a decision, demand proper behaviour, etc.
- Interaction with, or an approach by, any player other than the captain is at the discretion of the referee, e.g. if the player has committed an offence, been fouled, and/or is injured.

## **GUIDELINES WHEN THE CAPTAIN IS THE GOALKEEPER**

- Where the goalkeeper is the captain, the referee must be told, no later than at the coin toss before kick-off, which player is nominated to approach the referee instead of the goalkeeper.
- Only the goalkeeper or the nominated player, not both, may approach the referee.
- If the nominated player is substituted or sent off, another player must be nominated.

THE IFAB GUIDELINES CAN ALSO BE FOUND HERE:

<https://downloads.theifab.com/downloads/only-the-captain-can-approach-the-referee-guidelines-for-competitions>

**IT IS STRONGLY ADVISED FOR REFEREES TO REMIND CLUB MANAGERS / COACHES & CAPTAINS OF THIS INSTRUCTION PRIOR TO KICK-OFF AT ALL FIXTURES.**



# W JOHN OWEN CUP DRAW

## Round 2



**Tongwynlais AFC**

**v**

**Penygraig United**



**Saturday 25th January 2025**

**KO 2.00pm**

## Round 3



**Aber Valley**

**v**

**Pantyscallog Village FC**



**Saturday 25th January 2025**

**KO 2.00pm**



**Grange Albion FC**

**v**

**Pencoed Athletic BGC FC**



**Saturday 22nd February 2025**

**KO 2.00pm**



**Llangeinor FC**

**v**

**Penydarren Seniors BGC**



**Saturday 22nd February 2025**

**KO 2.00pm**



**FC Cwmaman**

**v**

**Dinas Powys FC**



**Saturday 25th January 2025**

**KO 2.00pm**



**Cardiff Airport**

**v**

**Tongwynlais AFC /  
Penygraig United FC**



**TBC**





# W JOHN OWEN CUP QUARTER FINAL DRAW



**Porthcawl Town Athletic v**

**Llangeinor /  
Penydarren BGC**



**TBC**



**Grange Albion /  
Pencoed Ath BGC**

**Cardiff Airport /  
Tongwynlais /  
Penygraig United**



**TBC**



**Vale United v**

**Llantwit Fardre**



**Saturday 22 February 2025 KO 2pm**



**Aber Valley /  
Pantyscallog Village**

**FC Cwmaman /  
Dinas Powys**



**TBC**

**Every rescheduled round of the WJO Cup 25 appears to bring yet another round of postponed games!  
In addition with so many clubs still involved in cup games and with restrictions with stadium  
availability the WJO Cup games are having to be arranged as and when fixtures allow.**



# HUGH JAMES SWFA SENIOR CUP

Games to be played 1st February 2025



**Cwm Welfare FC**

**V**

**FC Cwmaman**



**Clwb Cymric FC**

**V**

**AFC Wattstown**



**Cwmbach Royal Stars SC**

**V**

**Llanrumney United FC**



**Dinas Powys FC**

**V**

**Nelson Cavaliers AFC**



**Margam Youth Centre**

**V**

**Port Talbot Town FC**



**Porthcawl Town Athletic FC**

**V**

**Cardiff Airport**



**Radyr Rangers FC Seniors**

**V**

**Caerphilly Athletic FC**



**Sully Sports FC**

**V**

**Splott FC**



***The last 16 of the Hugh James Senior Cup sees a draw dominated by SWPL clubs - only Radyr Rangers survive from the local leagues and they face SWPL Premier Division Caerphilly Athletic!***

***Holders FC Cwmaman travel to face Cwm Welfare, a local derby with Margam YC v Port Talbot Town and a "Seaside El Clásico" between Porthcawl Town Athletic and Barry based Cardiff Airport!***

Remember to check the website for updates as they come in!  
**[www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk](http://www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk)**

or the new X account  
**[twitter.com/SWPLInfo](https://twitter.com/SWPLInfo)**

The SWPL website is continually updated with information  
Go to the Downloads and check out the folders.  
**[www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk/downloads](http://www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk/downloads)**

If anyone has any suggestions or  
articles for the  
**SWPL Newsletter please let me know**

**PAST NEWSLETTERS CAN BE FOUND HERE:**  
**[www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk/downloads/newsletters](http://www.southwalespremierleague.co.uk/downloads/newsletters)**

**PLEASE NOTE THE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS**

Regards

*Terry*

Terry Allday

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**Please Note:**

SWPL Officer Contact periods

Monday - Friday 6pm - 8.30pm

Sat - 9am - 6pm

Sun - Emergency only