



# HODDESDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

## THE POTTED HISTORY



- 1879 Club founded on 14<sup>th</sup> April as Hoddesdon F.C., playing on Mansers Field
- 1884 Played first FA Cup tie, losing 8-0 to Foresters
- 1885 Co-founders of the Herts. F.A
- 1887 First winners of Herts. Challenge Cup (Senior Cup). Also won in 1888 and 1890, and were losing finalists in 1889, 1892 and 1910
- 1890 New colours confirmed as chocolate with blue sleeves
- 1892 Goal nets purchased and used for the first time
- 1896 Amalgamated with Hoddesdon Wanderers FC and Broxbourne Club FC. Founder members of the East Herts. League. Had use of a ground in Broxbourne
- 1899 Moved to present ground at Lowfield
- 1903 Rye Park FC amalgamated with Hoddesdon
- 1908 Joined Herts. County League and played in both leagues until 1921/22
- 1919 'Town' was added to the Club's name
- 1924 Finalists in Herts. Senior Cup. Joined Spartan League
- 1923-36 Won local Perry Charity Cup seven times and were runners-up once
- 1927-28 Spartan Division Two, Section 'B' Champions. Waltham Hospital Cup winners
- 1934 Rejected an invitation from Bedford Town F.C. to join the United Counties League
- 1935-36 Spartan League Division One Champions, Promoted to Premier Division
- 1936-37 Relegated back to Division One of the Spartan League
- 1945-46 Allocated to Central Division of regionalised Spartan League
- 1946-47 Elected back into Premier Division of Spartan League, where remained for next thirty Years.
- 1948 Won Herts. Charity Shield for first of five occasions.
- 1951-52 Finalists in the Herts. Senior Cup. Shared games between Lowfield and Essex Rd. Arena.
- 1952-54 Played at the Essex Road Arena
- 1953 Finalists in the Perry Charity Cup
- 1964-65 Runners-up in the Spartan League
- 1965 Elmer Elliott appointed as Chairman
- 1966-67 Reached 1<sup>st</sup> Round Proper of the FA Amateur Cup. Also in 1969-70
- 1967-68 Finalists in the Herts. Charity Shield, and in 1968-69
- 1970-71 Club achieved the treble of Spartan League Champions, Spartan League Challenge Cup winners and Herts. Charity Shield winners.
- 1971-72 Spartan League Challenge Cup and Herts. Charity Shield retained
- 1972-74 Runners-up in Spartan League
- 1973 Floodlights installed and opened with West Ham's visit on March 7<sup>th</sup>, watched by an all-time record crowd, of 3,500
- 1975 First ever winners of the FA Vase, beating Epsom & Ewell 2-1 at Wembley in front of nearly 10,000 spectators.
- 1977-78 Elected into the Athenian League
- 1978-79 Won Herts. Charity Shield for fourth time, beating Royston Town 4-1
- 1982 Terry Scales appointed as Manager
- 1984 Athenian League disbanded and Hoddesdon joined South Midlands League
- 1985-86 Beat Selby to win the SM Challenge Trophy, and lost to Selby in the final of the Herts. Senior Centenary Trophy.
- 1986-87 Won the Herts. Senior Centenary Trophy and SM Challenge Trophy
- 1987-88 Losing finalists in the Herts. Senior Centenary Trophy against Wingate
- 1988 Stuart Parker became 1<sup>st</sup> player to achieve 300 appearances

- 1989-90 Winners of the South Midlands Floodlight Cup, beating Isthmian League side Vauxhall Motors. Losing finalists in the Herts. Senior Centenary Trophy against London Colney. Reached the semi-final of the London Senior Cup, beating two Isthmian League sides. Glenn Swaby and Steve Gooding reached 300 appearances
- 1990 Terry Scales resigned as Manager in September. Stuart Parker reached 400 appearances
- 1991-92 SM Challenge Trophy won for 3<sup>rd</sup> time.  
Gary Cummins and David Wilson reached 300 appearances.  
Gary Cummins scored his 200<sup>th</sup> goal for the Club
- 1992-93 1<sup>st</sup> team played a club record 76 competitive matches and reached the finals of the SM Floodlight Cup and the Premier Division Cup. Reached the last 16 of the FA Vase. Stuart Parker made his 500<sup>th</sup> appearance. Glenn Swaby achieved 400 appearances and Martin Smith 300.
- 1993-94 Herts. Charity Shield finalists. Gary Cummins and David Wilson reached 400 appearances and Paul Robbins 300, while Stuart Parker reached 550, coming out of retirement.
- 1994 Elmer Elliott Stepped down as Chairman, and was replaced by Roger Merton
- 1994-95 Finalists in the Roy Bailey Memorial Trophy, losing 1-0 (aet) to Waltham Abbey. Programme voted no. 1 nationally by Wirrall Programme Club
- 1995-96 David Wilson reached 500 appearances, and Jeff Cross and John Walton 300
- 1996-97 Awarded 'Team Talk' magazine Programme of the Year award. New 100 seater stand opened by Elmer Elliott.
- 1997-98 SM League amalgamated with Spartan League and Club plays in Premier Division North. Finished in top ten, earning a right to play in the SSMFL Premier Division in 1998/99. SSMFL Premier Division Plate won. David Wilson made an all-time appearances record of 559. Jeff Cross reached 400 appearances.
- 1998-99 Finalists in Herts. Charity Shield, losing 1-0 to London Colney
- 1999-00 Jeff Cross reached 500 appearances, and Pablo Ardiles 300
- 2000-01 Finalists in the Roy Bailey Memorial Trophy, losing 3-4 on penalties to Somerset Ambury V&E. Jeff Cross set a new Club record with 600 appearances in 12 seasons. Ritchie Simmonds became 11<sup>th</sup> player to reach 300 appearances  
Programme won Wirrall Programme Club Survey for the second time
- 2001-02 Winners of the SM Floodlight Cup, beating Biggleswade Town 3-1
- 2002-03 Roy Bailey Memorial Trophy winners, beating Cheshunt 2-1 (aet). Paul Mann reached 300 appearances.
- 2003-04 125<sup>th</sup> season and 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive season in SM League, Premier Division, being the only remaining side from when they joined in 1984-85  
Won Herts. Charity Shield, beating Welwyn Garden City 3-2  
Pablo Ardiles reached 400 appearances and Neil Conner 300
- 2004-05 Club relegated to Division One of the SSMFL after 21 seasons in the Premier Division.
- 2005-06 Geoff O'Veil appointed as Manager. Finalists in the Herts. Senior Centenary Trophy, losing 2-0 to Codicote
- 2006-07 Arsenal Ladies faced Cardiff in a League game at less than 17 hours notice, to become the first ladies side ever to play at Lowfield. The FA Drugs Agency visited Lowfield for the first time, following this game. Sky Sports visited Lowfield to film the Arsenal Ladies match.
- 2007-08 Winners of Herts Senior Centenary Trophy, beating Hertford Heath 3-1 in the Final. Finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in Division One, narrowly missing out on promotion.
- 2008-09 Retained the Herts. Senior Centenary Trophy, beating Hatfield Town on penalties. 25<sup>th</sup> consecutive season in the (Spartan) South Midlands League.
- 2009-10 Beaten finalists in SSMFL Division One Cup. Reached last 64 of the FA Vase.
- 2010 Andy Crawford appointed Manager for the 2010-11 season.