BRISTOL ROVERS FC - OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

BRISTOL ROVERS v SWINDON TOWN 08 / 11 / 17 / KO 19:45



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FEEDBACK FROM

A WORD FROM THE MANAGER



GOOD evening and welcome to The Memorial Stadium for our final group match in the Checkatrade Trophy, against Swindon Town.

Welcome, also, to Swindon boss David Flitcroft and his staff and players and to the club's supporters who have made the short trip down the M4 for the match.

It's a winner take all scenario tonight, as both clubs have three points and victory will see one of us go through to the knockout stages of the competition, so I'm sure we can expect a competitive game.

We played a pre-season friendly against Swindon out in Portugal in the summer, when both sides were planning and looking ahead to the new season.

David had signed a number of new players at that time and he has moulded them into a squad that looks capable of mounting a strong challenge for an immediate return to League One as they currently lie in fifth place in the League Two table, just five points off of top spot.

We were both in FA Cup action at the weekend and our visitors eased through to the second round of the competition with a 5-1 win at Dartford, while we were beaten 4-2 at Notts County on Friday night. We were quick out of the blocks against the League Two leaders and scored twice in the opening 12 minutes. We might even have scored a third goal had we been awarded a penalty for what looked like a foul on Tom Nichols in the area.

However, from being on the front foot, we conceded twice before the half time whistle and seemed to cave in as we didn't defend well and made bad decisions.

It was extremely disappointing that the home side scored their two opening goals from set pieces, because we had worked hard all week on defending them.

If I'm honest, the ninety minutes at Meadow Lane sums up our inconsistency this season so far, and now we have to regroup and go again.

As I've said before in my notes, I would love us to have a good cup run. We did experience a couple of good results in this season's Carabao Cup, but it's thoroughly disappointing to be out of this season's FA Cup competition and the manner in which we capitulated after being two goals ahead.

The only cup competition left for us now is the one we are involved in this evening and we will be going all out to ensure that we make it through to the next round.

I hope you will all get behind us and enjoy the game.

IF I'M HONEST, THE NINETY MINUTES AT MEADOW LANE SUMS UP OUR INCONSISTENCY THIS SEASON SO FAR, AND NOW WE HAVE TO REGROUP AND GO AGAIN.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS...

BY GRAHAM MILLS

SWINDON TOWN



DAVID FLITCROFT - MANAGER

THE MANAGEMENT

DAVID Flitcroft was appointed manager in June 2017 having previously managed at Bury and Barnsley.

As a player he made over 500 Football League appearances. Began his career at Preston North End and was loaned to Lincoln City. He joined Chester in December 1993 and spent six years at the club before joining Rochdale.

Switched to Macclesfield in July 2003 but after six months joined Bury. After 100 league appearances for The Shakers he moved to Hyde United but returned to Rochdale as assistant manager to Keith Hill with the duo later joining Barnsley. Flitcroft took over the hot seat from Hill following his sacking and led the club away from the relegation zone. He moved to Bury and gained promotion back to League One.

His assistant is Ben Futcher who enjoyed a lengthy playing career most notably at Lincoln City and Bury. He was previously Flitcroft's number two at Bury.

SWINDON Town gained their first Checkatrade Trophy points with a 1-0 win at home to Wycombe Wanderers last Tuesday.

Manager David Flitcroft gave 21 year old right back, Kyle Knoyle his first team debut in that game. He is a product of the West Ham Academy and spent time on loan at Dundee United and Wigan Athletic before joining Swindon Town. Deadline day signing Reice Charles-Cook was in goal with Chris Robertson and Matt Preston making up the defence. Charles-Cook came through the youth ranks at Arsenal before joining Bury. He then joined Coventry City in June 2014 and was loaned out to Nuneaton.

Robertson is a former Port Vale central defender who scored six goals in 71 appearances for the club between 2013 and 2015. He began his career at Sheffield United and then had five years at Torquay United and then enjoyed two years at Preston North End. Has also played for Ross County in the Scottish Premier League. Last season he played for AFC Wimbledon, netting just one goal. Birmingham born Preston began his career with Walsall in 2014. He had a loan spell at Icelandic side IBV and then Barwell. He joined Swindon on a one year deal, since extended, and scored the winning goal against Wycombe.

In midfield were James Dunne, Timi Elsnik, Kaiyne Woolery and Kellan Gordon. Dunne started his career at Wimbledon's youth Academy, before moving to Arsenal in 2004. He spent four years progressing through the ranks at Arsenal, and was loaned out to Nottingham Forest in October 2008. He returned to Arsenal and was released by the North London side at the end of 2008/09 season. He joined Exeter City and went on to make over 100 appearances over three seasons. In May 2012 he joined League One club Stevenage, and was loaned to Scottish Premier League side St Johnstone. After winning the Scottish Cup with the Saints, he signed with Portsmouth in June 2014 and has since played for Dagenham & Redbridge FC and Cambridge United.

Elsnik is a deadline day signing, on loan, from Derby County. He is a Slovenian international at U-17, U-18 and U-19 levels. Woolery began his career at Maidstone United before being signed by Tamworth. He was loaned out to Maidstone United and Stafford Rangers before joining Bolton Wanderers in August 2014. Loaned to Notts County in January 2015. he signed for Wigan in August 2016 and was sent out on loan to Forest Green Rovers scoring twice for the club in their National Play Off Final. He joined Swindon in the summer. Gordon was on the books of Stoke City as a youth before joining Derby County. He is currently on a season long loan with The Robins.

Ellis Iandolo, Paul Mullin and Keshi Anderson were the attackers against Wycombe. landolo signed for The Reds in August 2015 following a successful trial period. Once on the books of boyhood club Gillingham, the attacker caught the eye of Town whilst plying his trade for the Soccer Elite FA Academy. He made 13 outings during his debut season at the club and signed a new deal in the summer. Mullin spent three seasons at Morecambe before his summer switch to Swindon. He started his career as a youth with Everton and then Liverpool. He signed for Huddersfield Town but did not make a senior appearance before joining Morecambe in the summer

THE OPPOSITION...

of 2014. Anderson has arrived on loan from Crystal Palace until January 2018. He is a product of the Watford Academy but left the club and signed for Non League Barton Rovers. Crystal Palace signed him in 2015 and he has enjoyed loan spells at Doncaster Rovers, Bolton Wanderers and Northampton Town.

Donal McDermott replaced Elsnik in the 76th minute. He is another summer signing joining The Robins after being released by Rochdale. The former AFC Bournemouth man appeared 46 times in all competitions for the Lancashire side, scoring three goals. Harry Smith came on for Mullin in the 58th minute. He is on loan at the club from Millwall whom he joined from Non League Folkestone Invicta.

Unused substitutes were Will Henry, Joe Romanski and Ben Purkiss, Bristol born goalkeeper Henry was with Bristol City as a youth before moving to Swindon Town. He has had loans at Shrivenham and Dunstable Town and was recently called up to the England U-20 squad. Youngster Romanski was enjoying his first involvement with the first team squad whilst Purkiss is an experienced defender and can name Gainsborough Trinity, York City, Oxford United, Darlington, Hereford United, Walsall and Port Vale as former clubs having started as a youth at Sheffield United. The 33 year old moved to Wiltshire in the summer.

Lawrence Vigouroux joined the club in August 2015, initially on a year long loan from Liverpool. He established himself as the first choice goalkeeper last season, keeping 12 clean sheets. Defender Dion Conroy, 21, signed in June 2017 from Chelsea on a two and a half year deal. He has also played for Aldershot on loan.

John Goddard signed for Town in May 2016 on a three year deal from Woking, where he made 116 appearances scoring 25 goals. The midfielder began at Reading and has won two England 'C' caps.

Midfielder Matthew Taylor joined the club in the summer after scoring seven goals in 48 appearances for Northampton Town last season. Formerly with Luton Town. Portsmouth, Bolton Wanderers, West Ham United and Burnley he has been capped at England U-21 and 'B' levels. 23 year old striker Luke Norris is an August 2016 signing from Gillingham. He has also played for Hitchin Town, Brentford, Boreham Wood, Northampton Town and Dagenham & Redbridge.

Oliver Lancashire began his career as a youth player for Crystal Palace before joining Southampton's Academy. He captained Southampton's U-18 side and turned professional in July 200. He had two loan spells at Grimsby Town and, following his release by Southampton, joined Walsall in July 2010 where he made 58 appearances. Subsequently played for went to Aldershot Town, Rochdale and Shrewsbury Town.

Amine Linganzi is a Congolese International who joined the club in the summer. The 27 year old midfielder played for French side St Etienne before joining Blackburn Rovers in January 2010. He was loaned to Preston North End and has since played for Accrington Stanley, Gillingham, Frejus Saint-Raphael and Portsmouth.

Jordan Young has been at the club since he was eight years old and was called up to the Scotland U-15 squad in April 2014. He made his league debut in February 2016, in a 1-0 defeat against Port Vale.

Chris Hussey, 28, joined the Robins on a season long loan in June 2017 from Sheffield Wednesday. He was with Woking as a youth before switching to AFC Wimbledon where he graduated to the first team. After three years at the club he moved to Coventry City but returned to Wimbledon in January 2013. He has since played for Burton Albion and Bury.





AMINE LINGANZ



REICE CHARLES-COOK





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NEXT MATCH AT THE MEM



AFC WIMBLEDON

EFL SKY BET LEAGUE ONE / SAT 18TH NOV 2017 / KO 3.00PM

FOLLOWING last Friday night's FA Cup exit at the hands of Notts County, our next visitors will be Neal Ardley's AFC Wimbledon.

This season's newcomers at Wimbledon include 23 year old keeper George Long, on loan from Sheffield United, who has played on loan for Oxford United and Motherwell.

Defender Abdul Yussuf Oshilaja was with Cardiff City as a youth, going on loan to various clubs before switching to Kingsmeadow in June.

Former Swindon Town defender Callum Kennedy is in his second spell with the Dons after leaving for Leyton Orient in the summer of 2016. Midfielder Liam Trotter, a former Ipswich Town trainee, spent time on loan at Millwall, Grimsby Town, Scunthorpe and Bolton Wanderers, who signed him on a permanent basis in July 2014 after he ended the previous campaign on loan with the Trotters.

Tom Soares started his career with the Crystal Palace Academy and went on to score 11 times in 162 outings for the Eagles. The former England U-21 cap, who joined Bury in 2012, netted 22 goals in 187 appearances for the Shakers.

Andy Barcham, who made one appearance for Spurs, scored his second goal of the current campaign in September.



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REFEREE Andre Marriner

- ASSISTANT REFEREE 1. Simon Beck
- ASSISTANT REFEREE 2 Sian Massey-Ellis

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IMAGIN

RUISING

FOURTH OFFICIAL: Stephen Martin

BRISTOL ROVERS **v SWINDON TOWN** 08 / 11 / 17 / KO 19:45

Bristol Rovers FC: The Memorial Stadium. Filton Avenue, Bristol BS7 OBF Tel: 0117 9096648



- LAWRENCE VIGOUROUX 1
- 2 BEN PURKISS
- 3 CHRIS HUSSEY
- 4 MATT PRESTON
- 5 CHRIS ROBERTSON
- 6 OLLY LANCASHIRE
- 7 PAUL MULLIN
- 8 JAMES DUNNE
- 9 LUKE MORRIS
- 10 JOHN GODDARD
- 11 JAMES BROPHY
- 12 WILL HENRY
- 14 ELLIS IANDOLO
- 15 TOM SMITH
- **16 AMINE LINGAZI**
- 17 HARRY SMITH
- 18 DONAL McDERMOTT
- 19 TIMI ELSNIK
- 20 KELLAN GORDON

- 21 REICE CHARLES-COOK
- 22 KAIYNE WOOLERY
- 24 KYLE KNOYLE
- 25 DION CONROY
- 26 JORDAN YOUNG
- 27 SCOTT TWINE
- 30 KESHI ANDERSON
- 31 MATTHEW TAYLOR



THE PIRATE The Official Matchday BRISTOL ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB Programme Editor¹ Keith Brookman Photography JMP, Neil Brookman, Alan Marshali DVD production Screen Soccer

Programme designed & produced by: Ann Walter Printed by: Pensord, Blackwood, S. Wales

Back Cover photo: Ryan Sweeney is challenged by John Goddard on Swindon's last visit to The Mem in January this year

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Front Cover photo: Ollie Clarke is the first to congratulate Stuart Sinclair on his goal against Notts County last Friday