

**COBHAM COLTS U14 – RESULTS, SCORERS AND
MATCH REPORTS 2007/08
MEDWAY NEWS YOUTH LEAGUE DIVISION 2**

Real 60	Home	5-1	Tom, Cem, Charlie, Jack, George B
Sheerness East Youth	Away	4-2	Tom 2, Liam, Carl
Rainham Eagles	Home	2-0	Tom, Jack
Lordswood	Away	3-0	Charlie, Liam, Jack
Swallows	Away	3-2	George C, Jack, Pelumi
Lordswood	Home	5-2	Jack 3, Miguel 2
Deanview 95	Home	3-2	Jack 2, Michael
Cuxton 91	Away	7-1	Jack 3, George B, Liam, Kyle, Miguel
Sheerness East Youth	Home	2-2	Miguel, Liam
Cuxton 91	Home	5-2	Tom, Jack, Miguel, Liam, Michael
Rochester City	Home	2-0	Miguel, Jack
New Ash Green	Home	4-0	Jack 2, Miguel, Kyle
Real 60	Away	6-1	Jack 4, Miguel, Liam
Swallows	Home	2-1	Jack, Liam
Rochester City	Away	2-1	George C, Michael
New Ash Green	Away	1-1	Miguel
Rainham Eagles	Away	1-0	Tom
Deanview 95	Away	1-2	Charlie

(Click on score for match report)

**MEDWAY NEWS YOUTH LEAGUE DIVISION 2
U14s FINAL TABLE**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Cobham Colts	18	8	1	0	30	10	7	1	1	28	10	47
Lordswood Youth	18	7	0	2	30	9	6	1	2	37	16	40
Rainham Eagles	18	6	1	2	23	11	6	1	2	19	8	38
Sheerness East Yth	18	7	1	1	37	12	4	2	3	24	19	36
Deanview 95	18	5	1	3	22	13	3	1	5	20	22	26
New Ash Green	18	4	1	4	17	16	2	0	7	15	27	19
Rochester City	18	3	0	6	24	28	2	1	6	15	20	16
Swallows	18	2	1	6	16	29	3	0	6	21	28	16
Real 60	18	2	1	6	20	43	2	0	7	17	36	13
Cuxton 91	18	2	0	7	10	42	2	0	7	17	43	12

Cobham Colts 5

*Tom, Charlie, Jack,
Cem, George B*

Real 60 1 (9th September 2007)

This was great start to the new season in the higher division. Cobham played lots of good football and were 4-0 up by half time. Cem scored an early contender for goal of the season when he managed to chip the keeper from near the half way line.

Real 60 played some good football throughout and pulled one back early in the second half. George C soon added another for Cobham from close range. Strangely, Cobham had lots more chances in the second period but good saves from the Real keeper and poor finishing meant the game finished with no more goals. Liam made a great debut on the left of midfield, causing lots with his dribbling and passing.

MOTM: Liam

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Sheerness East Youth 2

Cobham Colts 4 (16th September 2007)

Tom (2), Liam, Carl

Sheerness Match Report: After their resounding 9-1 victory the previous week, East were brought back down to earth with a bump. After having the majority of the possession in the first half and finding it hard to break down the stern Cobham defence, they made the break midway through the first half. After a jinking run down the left wing, James Lelliot put a pin point cross into the box for Craig Rayfield to run in and volley home in style.

Cobham came back at them after that but the East defence stood firm with Daniel Morgan having an outstanding game at centre back, until a minute from the break when a lack of concentration from the defence let Cobham in for the equaliser.

After the restart East again fell asleep as Cobham got the better of them straight away to go 2-1 up and then, as the Sheerness side searched for an equaliser themselves, Cobham broke away and got a third. East came back at them and the inform Sam Wilson, having one of his best games for the club, scored a fine goal with a left foot shot across the keeper. East then went close to drawing level when a good cross from the left saw Lewis King fire just over the bar. East kept going forward and went for it with a 3-3-4 formation but in the dying seconds succumbed to another Cobham breakaway goal to go down 4-2 in a very entertaining game from two very good footballing sides, who both gave very good accounts of themselves.

Comment: This was a very tight game against a physically strong side that played some good football. In the first half we were overrun a bit and struggled to cope with the pace of the game against SEY, who were relegated from the 1st division last season and were used to playing a higher standard. We went in 1-1 at half time, mainly to some good defending and excellent saves by the MOTM, Paul.

The second half was more even. We got a quick second before Liam scored an excellent solo effort starting on the half way line, cutting in from the left and slotting home after beating three players. We were put under some pressure before scoring again on the break.

MOTM: Paul

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Cobham Colts 2

Rainham Eagles 0 (23rd September 2007)

Tom, Jack

This was a very tight game between two good and committed sides. Both Rainham and Cobham defended well and chances were few and far between.

Cobham took the lead midway through the first half, when Tom broke the offside trap before slotting the ball into the corner of the goal. The second half followed the first. Possession was shared evenly and the game could have gone either way. However, Jack added a second for Cobham with a fine strike. Rainham pushed hard to get back into the game but Cobham held firm.

MOTM: Tom

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Lordswood 0

Cobham Colts 3

(30 September 2007)

Charlie, Liam, Jack

The score line does not do Lordswood justice. It could easily have finished 3-3 or more as both sides passed the ball well and made plenty of chances.

Cobham got off to a flying start with a goal in the first few minutes. Charlie cut in from the right and drove the ball into the far corner with a great shot. Lordswood seemed a bit shell-shocked for the next few minutes and Cobham pushed for a second. After that Lordswood got into the game and dominated parts of it.

In the second half both teams had more chances, including a Lordswood shot from the edge of the box that somehow hit both posts without going in. Paul also had to make some fine saves. However, it was Jack who got a second for Cobham and Liam made it three in the last minute.

The whole team played well, but the defence stood out with Luke edging the man of the match award.

Lordswood were unlucky and probably the best attacking team played so far. Cobham made it four wins out of four, and in the last three games have probably played the main rivals for promotion.

MOTM: Luke

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Swallows 2

Cobham Colts 3

(7 October 2007)

George C, Jack, Pelumi

Another hard fought win against a determined Swallows side. Cobham started slowly and struggled to cope with the Swallows striker who scored the opener after a defensive mix-up. George C levelled the scores after making a driving run through the middle.

Cobham enjoyed a fair share of possession but found it hard to deal with Swallows' quick closing down and long game on a small pitch, where space was limited. Cobham had to fall behind again from a headed corner early in the second half, before they woke up.

After that, Cobham enjoyed most of the possession and laid siege on the Swallows goal. Liam, Andrew and Kyle were driving the team forward. Plenty of chances came and went before Jack got the equaliser with about 10 minutes to go. Cobham continued to press and Pelumi got his first Cobham goal and the winner with a powerful header from Jack's corner.

MOTM: Kyle

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Cobham Colts 5

Jack (3), Miguel (2)

Lordswood 2

(October 2007)

No match report

MOTM: Jack

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Cobham Colts 3

Deanview 95 2 (October 2007)

Jack (2), Michael

Deanview pushed Cobham all the way and were unlucky not to get a point. Cobham were gain slow to start and Deanview took a deserved lead. Jack finished well with a long shot to equalise with one of Cobham's few chances in the first half. Deanview worked much harder and Cobham could not mount any pressure.

The second period started the way of the first and Deanview again took the lead. It wasn't until the last 20 minutes that Cobham got going and started to make clear chances. Michael scored with a swerving shot and Jack soon added a third for a relieved Cobham. Both sides had further chances but Cobham held onto their 100% record in the league.

MOTM: Kyle

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Cuxton 91 1

Cobham Colts 7

(18 November 2007)

Jack (3), Kyle, Miguel, Liam, George B

Cuxton match report: Top of the table Cobham Colts was a tough fixture but we started well and matched them for a while with good marking and created good chances on the break. As the match continued Cobham's good passing started to tell and we started conceding goals. We played some good football when we got the ball down and started passing it but failed to make our chances count and had one bounce on the line from the underside of the crossbar. Our only goal was a lovely controlled chip over the keeper from Josh from a perfectly weighted pass through the defence from Dylan.

Comment: Although this was a comfortable win, the score line did not do Cuxton justice as they played some neat football at times and could have got a couple more goals. However, we also played well with some excellent passing and movement. Poor finishing by Cobham and regular subs kept the score down.

Andrew really started to enjoy himself in the second half, beating the Cuxton right midfielder at will and going on a number of mazy runs – including one where he seemed to beat half the opposition!

MOTM: Charlie

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Cobham Colts 2

Sheerness East Youth 2 (25 November 2007)

Miguel, Liam

Sheerness Match Report: It was first versus second in this huge fixture and was to be a stern test for Sheerness East as Cobham went into the game with a one hundred percent record in all competitions. As the game started, East looked a little nervous as Cobham made the early running and took the lead after ten minutes. This seemed to, in a funny way, settle the East lads down and they started to pass the ball around and play some very good football. Chances were coming for both sides but it was Carl Ord who rose above everybody in the box from a corner to head home a superb equaliser on twenty minutes. Cobham came back at the East again and soon went two one up after a mix up at the back. By now it was real end to end stuff with both teams playing football of the highest quality in a very entertaining game. Some good movement on the left produced another fine goal for Daniel Morgan to draw the East level again.

Into the second half and the East carried on in the same vein as the first half but with an extra edge to their play. As the half went on East grew in confidence and were getting the better of their opponents. Tackles were flying in and Sam Wilson was caught late but the ref waved play on. The next tackle that went in was from the aggrieved Wilson who was shown a yellow card for his troubles, slightly harsh in my opinion especially as a similar challenge from Chris Town in the first half was deemed worthy of a free kick against the player. East continued to push for the winner and were denied a clear penalty when Ord was felled in the box. As the game drew to a close, a trademark James Lelliot free kick cannoned back off the bar to deny the East boys all three points.

This was an excellent game of football with both sides playing quality football which was a credit to themselves and the Medway News Youth League.

Comment: The Cobham defence played really well, with Dalton outstanding.

MOTM: Dalton

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Cobham Colts 5

Cuxton 91 2

(9 December 2007)

Tom, Miguel, Liam, Jack, Michael

Cuxton match report: A tough match on a soggy sloping pitch against the top of the division was not going to be easy but the lads raised their game and gave a very good account of themselves with some good football and 100% effort from all areas for the full 70 minutes. Strong play from Reece and Dylan in the centre gave us attacking opportunities and extra defensive cover as they worked up and down the pitch. The match was pretty even in the first half with Kian making some great saves and blocks and the back 4 working well to cover Cobham's attackers, the second half got tougher as tiredness in the muddy conditions took its toll but the final score of 5-2 did flatter Cobham a touch. A good overall performance with many players standing out and a classy confident goal from Josh, chipping the keeper from a very tight angle, but man of the match went to Jamie who persistently pushed into attacking areas, getting his second goal for the team but gave just as much effort to getting back to tracking Cobham's right winger if we lost possession, excellent job. The team is getting stronger and playing better as the season progresses and all matches will be looked at positively as this performance shows we can compete with the best in our division.

Comment: A comfortable win for Cobham, although Cuxton did play lots of good passing football. Conditions were difficult, but both teams did well but Cobham's finishing took the points.

MOTM: Miguel

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Cobham Colts 2

Miguel, Jack

Rochester City 0

16 December 2007

It took something special to break the deadlock against an in form keeper who looked unbeatable. It came around the 60th minute when 0-0 seemed the likely result, when Miguel hit a fierce shot from an angle that was still rising when it hit the back of the net in the far corner – probably goal of the season so far.

Rochester worked very hard, were well organised and had a stubborn defence. Although they created few clear cut chances, the Cobham defence had to work hard. Tom came close in the first half when he rounded the keeper but the ball ran behind before he could add the finishing touch.

In the second half, Rochester kept up their work rate and looked like they would keep a clean sheet. Before the goal, Cobham continued to make good chances but never looked like beating their excellent keeper. The best chance fell to Rochester, however, and it took a double goal line clearance by Andrew to keep them out.

Jack added a second when his corner deflected off a Rochester defender and went in. Michael, Paul, Andrew and Miguel all played well and there were solid performances from the rest.

The award for the “best goal celebration of the season” went to Keith (Miguel’s dad and linesman), who leapt down nearly the whole touchline shouting, “that’s my boy”!

MOTM: Michael

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Cobham Colts 4

Miguel, Jack (2), Kyle

New Ash Green 0

6 January 2007

NAG started with confidence after a good win in their last game against Sheerness. Working very hard, they were first to most loose balls and closed Cobham down all over the pitch. Thanks to some great defending, particularly by Pelumi against a big, fast striker they were restricted to one good chance on goal the whole game. Half-time came with the score at 0-0.

A different Cobham team came out in the second-half and matched NAG all over the pitch for effort. We soon started to control the game, playing some great football and creating chances. Miguel opened the scoring after 45 minutes, with another unstoppable shot that hit the back of the net before the goalkeeper could react. Miguel enjoyed another very good game, repeatedly beating their right back with skill and pace.

Cobham kept up the pace and added a second through Jack with a calm finish in the corner. Soon afterwards Jack got his second. Kyle replaced him up front at the end and finished with a lob from outside of the box from a great long pass from Andrew who had an excellent game.

The second half was probably one of our best performances of the season against a good, tough and hard-working side. For the first time, a real desire to win and crunch into tackles could be seen.

MOTM: Pelumi

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Real 60 1

Cobham Colts 6

Jack (4), Miguel, Liam

13 January 2007

This was a comfortable win on a small, bumpy pitch in very windy conditions. Although we controlled the game from the start we struggled to make clear cut chances against a Real team that worked hard. The football was not great, as Cobham wanted too many touches and played too much through the middle. The opener came with a miss hit shot by Jack from the edge from the edge of the box that somehow bobbed into the corner.

Jack's second and third were good finishes. First, with a neat lob - before completing a hat-trick by volleying a Miguel cross in after a good move on the right. One brilliant piece of football saw Cobham play 4 or 5 one touch passes to open up Real before a good chance went begging.

In the second half, Real started brightly with the wind and hill in their favour and scored a good header from a corner. Cobham responded immediately, with Jack finishing well to make it 4-1. Liam added a trademark goal by cutting in past a couple of players before curling it into the far corner. Miguel capped another good display by beating the keeper and finishing from an acute angle. Dalton and Pelumi also put in strong performances and both George's played well.

MOTM: Jack

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Cobham Colts 2

Jack, Liam

Swallows 1

20 January 2007

Cobham again made hard work against a physical Swallows side. Swallows took an early lead from a long ball that found the defence asleep and a good lob over the keeper caught in no-man's land. Cobham struggled to find any fluency but managed to equalise 10 minutes later through a smart finish by Jack from the edge of the area.

The second half followed the first. Swallows closed down quickly and pumped the ball long to their tall strong forward who held onto the ball very well. Paul had little to do in goal, but Cobham failed to make many good chances. A draw looked on the cards until 5 minutes to go. Jack played a good ball down the right which Miguel ran onto before crossing deep. The ball went across the penalty area before it was met by Liam with an unstoppable shot that rocketed into the top corner.

This was probably one of Cobham poorest displays of the season, but we again managed to pull out a win without playing well. Carl came on as sub at right back and did very well and Charlie had his best game for a couple of months. Luke and Miguel also did well, but overall there was too much loose passing and not much decent football.

MOTM: Carl

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Rochester City 1

Cobham Colts 2

Michael, George C

27 January 2007

Cobham secured at least second place and promotion on a sloping pitch and in very windy conditions. This was a close game in the end, but Cobham should have buried the game in the first half.

Rochester started with a lot of possession in the first 15 minutes without creating much, as Cobham found the conditions difficult. Cobham then started to take control. Tom hit a left foot shot just wide after closing down the defender and pinching the ball. Miguel shot wide and couple of Jack corners caused real problems, with Pelumi heading just wide and Rochester clearing another off the line. Cobham over hit a lot of passes down the slope and with the wind. In the last 20 minutes of the half Miguel caused Rochester lots of problems with his skill and running. Michael got the first with a back post header from another good corner by Jack after 30 minutes. He nearly got his second from a hard shot that was tipped over the bar.

In the second half Rochester used the pitch to play direct football aimed at their quick defender who they pushed into attack. They caused a few problems but Pelumi and Dalton were excellent at the back. Cobham started to play some better football and the second goal came after a good move ended with Jack producing a neat flick near the penalty spot and George C running onto it before slotting it in the corner. George should have got his second but managed to find the defender on the line with the whole goal to aim at from 2 metres. Kyle also had an effort cleared off the line.

Rochester got back into the game soon after, when a long shot caught the wind and flew over Paul off his line. After that, Rochester pressed but were mainly restricted to long range efforts and Paul made a couple of neat saves.

Again Cobham were out worked for a lot of the match and can look a bit short in the centre of midfield sometimes as players drift out of position. However, the win was deserved based on the number of good chances and quality from our key players made the difference.

MOTM: Dalton

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New Ash Green 1

Cobham Colts 1

Miguel

3 February 2007

Cobham went into this game needing a win to seal the League title. In the first half Cobham totally dominated the play with some great football. They should have gone in at half time 4 or 5 goals to the good, but only managed the one with a powerful Miguel header from a George C corner.

Kyle and Carl had excellent games in the first half, winning nearly all 50/50's and passing well. Tom had a goal disallowed for a dubious offside call, and lots of other good chances were wasted.

Cobham made changes at half time, but then started to lose the midfield clashes and failed to put any pressure on the NAG defence. To their credit NAG upped their game and caused a few more problems. But silly defending did not help with the centre halves giving the ball away by trying to beat the attackers in dangerous positions. NAG scored with their first real effort on goal. Cobham had at least six chances to clear the ball and eventually the shot came in. Paul saved brilliantly low down to his left only to see NAG react quickest and stab the ball home.

Even though Cobham were not playing as well, they still made plenty of chances to seal the game. Miguel hit the bar, Michael has two good shots that just went wide and Liam nearly scored twice. However, NAG nearly pinched all three points at the end after more woeful defending - but Paul again saved well from close range.

After playing such brilliant football in the first half, it was a shame to see it go unrewarded.

MOTM: Miguel

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Rainham Eagles 0

Cobham Colts 1

Tom

10 February 2007

Cobham sealed the League Championship with a narrow win in another hard fought and close game with Rainham. Rainham got the better of the early exchanges but good defending stopped any clear chances. After 10 minutes Cobham started to get into the game as the midfield started to win their fair share of the ball.

Tom also went close, but it was always going to be hard to score in the quite small goals. Cobham's best effort came from a Kyle, meeting a Liam cross with a powerful header that went just wide. Rainham also had a couple of good efforts that went wide and Dalton nearly put it in his own net after a mix-up with Paul. Both team were very competitive and cancelled each other out as the game went to half-time at 0-0. Cobham lost George C to an injury early on and Liam also went off after about 25 minutes after causing a lot of problems down the left.

Tom got the game's only goal 2 minutes into the second half. After a good move down the left, Jack did a great lay-off for Tom to finish well with a high half volley. Rainham came back into it, chasing the equaliser and put a fair amount of pressure on the Cobham box. Paul looked very solid in goal and made a couple of excellent saves – one from a close range header that looked certain to go in. Cobham continued to play some good football when they got the ball and had some chances. Tom's left foot shot just went wide and Charlie forced their keeper into a good save in the top corner. Jack was unlucky not to get a penalty when he seemed to have his shirt tugged from behind when running on goal.

Rainham probably deserved a point from the game, but good defending by the whole team kept them out. The two central midfielders stood out for Rainham, whereas Jack and Paul stood for Cobham on a day everyone played well.

MOTM: Paul

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Deanview 95 2

Cobham Colts 1 (February 2008)

Charlie

Cobham lost their unbeaten record in the last game of the season. This was a close game, with both teams having plenty of good chances. After it looked as if the game would end in a draw, Deanview clinched a last minute winner to claim a deserved victory (after earlier in the season when the game was abandoned with Deanview 2-0 up).

Having clinched the league the previous week, Cobham used this as an opportunity for the goalkeeper and defenders to play further forward and try to get a goal. However, it was Charlie who got Cobham's goal with his third of the season. Will had a very good game in the centre of the defence and was chosen as man of the match by his team mates.

MOTM: Will

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