

BLACKBURN ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

F.A. Challenge Cup Winners:
1883-84 1884-85 1885-86
1889-90 1890-91 1927-28

League Champions:
1911-12 1913-14

★
SEASON 1953-54

★
Division II Champions:
1938-39



Aerial View—Ewood Park.
Photo: Blackburn Times.

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Tel.: Blackburn 5634.

SATURDAY, 27th MARCH, 1954

The Rover's visit to Leeds did not prove profitable for in addition to losing the services of Willie Kelly through injury we also lost the points. It is, however, pleasing to report that the injury to Kelly is not as bad as everyone feared at the time and he has responded to treatment magnificently.

The loss of the points is a serious blow to our promotion bid for it enabled Everton and Leicester to keep ahead of us and leave us in the third place. It was actually a good close game throughout and neither side could have grumbled if the points had been divided, and perhaps we can console ourselves in the fact that the winning goal was scored through an unfortunate penalty decision in the closing minutes of the match and whilst Kelly was off the field injured.

Leeds United have been a stumbling block to the Rovers this season for they also took from us a point at Ewood Park on 31st October when the match ended in a draw of two goals each. They are the only Yorkshire club to take points from us this season, the other three clubs from the county of the broad acres, Doncaster, Rotherham and Hull, have all surrendered full points both home and away. Leeds must have remembered their claim to be the “drier” side of Britain and were determined to “gi’ nowt,” but our battle for Lancashire against Yorkshire has come out well in our favour, even remembering that Hull City knocked us out of the F.A. Cup at the second attempt.

To-day we meet Luton Town, a team who took both points from us at Kennilworth Road on the 21st of November when they won by the odd goal in three. We seem to remember we have had trouble before with this team at Luton, there was a certain young man named Pye who took quite a fancy to the Rover's net at one time and got a hat full of goals for the “Hatters.”

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Luton are still a team to be respected and are in the seventh place from the top with 39 points from 35 matches. They have won five and drawn five away from home and lost seven with an inferior goal average of 25 against 32. At home they have won nine, drawn six and lost three with a credit goal average of 31 against 21, making it 56 goals for to 53 against.

The Rovers have five points more for equal matches and are ahead of their opponents all round so should not make any mistake to-day, for these two points are vital in the fight for promotion. One cannot say at this stage of the season that even a team in Luton's position are out of the running for they have still seven matches to play with a maximum of 14 points. It does seem, of course, that the odds of pulling up the number of points to pass Everton, Leicester and the Rovers, etc., is more than can be expected, but they are a team capable of giving a hard game to the best of them and we look forward to a good match with them here to-day.

Reviewing the promotion position one must constantly be looking up Everton and Leicester in particular, and the former is at home to-day—they meet West Ham United—and the latter pay a visit to Lincoln. Everton should hold on to their place at the head of affairs as a result of this match for West Ham have slipped up a bit of late although they beat Doncaster by two goals to one last Saturday. Leicester, now out of the F.A. Cup competition, may or may not just settle down to the seriousness of the position. This Cup fighting business is very tiring and gets players on edge so to speak, and the aftermath may have a detrimental effect upon the future League matches—at least that's what some of the clubs will hope! However, they journey to Lincoln to-day and those of us who remember the 29th of August, 1953, when Lincoln City startled the football world by winning eight goals to nil against a prominent team now well in the running for promotion but whose name we refrain from mentioning, will be whispering "Encore, encore, Lincoln."

NEXT HOME MATCH

Central League — Saturday, 3rd April

ROVERS RESERVES v. WEST BROM A. RESERVES

Kick-off 3 p.m.

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B	WEST BROM A. v. PORT VALE	B	BRISTOL R. v. ROtherham UTD.
C	ARSENAL v. MANCHESTER UTD.	C	BURY v. BIRMINGHAM C.
D	CARDIFF C. v. NEWCASTLE UTD.	D	DERBY C. v. PLYMOUTH A.
E	CHELSEA v. TOTTENHAM H.	E	DONCASTER R. v. NOTTINGHAM F.
F	HUDDERSFIELD T. v. CHARLTON A.	F	EVERTON v. WEST HAM UTD.
G	MANCHESTER C. v. LIVERPOOL	G	HULL C. v. FULHAM
H	PORTSMOUTH v. BOLTON W.	H	LINCOLN C. v. LEICESTER C.
J	SHEFFIELD UTD. v. BURNLEY	J	NOTTS C. v. STOKE C.
K	WOLVERHAMPTON W. v. MIDDLESBROUGH	K	OLDHAM A. v. LEEDS UTD.
L		L	LIVERPOOL RES. v. BLACKBURN R. RES.

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BRIGGS	LANGTON
9	11

Referee:
G. PANKHURST
(Warwick)



ADAM	TURNER	DAVIES
11	9	7
DOWNIE		CUMMINS
10		8
SHANKS	OWEN	MORTON
6	5	4
AHERNE	3	JONES
		2
		STRETON

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LEAGUE TABLES

Up to and including Saturday, March 20th.

LEAGUE—DIVISION II

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Everton	34	17	13	4	80	50	47
Leicester C.	34	18	9	7	81	51	45
Blackburn R.	35	18	8	9	75	45	44
Notts F.	35	17	9	9	73	50	43
Birming'h'm.	35	17	8	10	72	48	42
Rotherham	35	18	4	13	67	61	40
Luton T.	35	14	11	10	56	53	39
Fulham	35	14	9	12	84	69	37
Doncaster	34	15	7	12	53	46	37
Leeds U.	35	13	10	12	77	69	36
Bristol R.	34	10	15	9	54	47	35
Stoke C.	34	10	14	10	57	47	34
West Ham.	34	13	7	14	58	56	33
Notts C.	35	10	11	14	40	63	31
Hull C.	33	13	4	16	55	53	30
Lincoln C.	35	11	8	16	51	67	30
Derby C.	35	10	10	15	54	70	30
Swansea	35	10	8	17	46	69	28
Bury	35	8	12	15	41	63	28
Brentford	36	8	10	18	31	68	26
Plymouth	34	6	13	15	47	66	25
Oldham A.	33	6	8	19	31	72	20

CENTRAL LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Everton	35	21	7	7	80	41	49
Wolves	35	21	5	9	83	43	47
Burnley	34	21	5	8	58	39	47
Man. Utd.	36	19	6	11	76	34	44
Derby C.	34	16	8	10	78	61	40
Blackpool	33	17	5	11	61	45	39
Preston	35	16	7	12	66	67	39
Bolton W.	33	16	5	12	41	29	37
Liverpool	36	16	4	16	67	64	36
Sheffield W.	34	16	4	14	59	58	36
Man. C.	35	14	6	15	64	62	34
Huddersf'ld.	35	14	5	16	71	69	33
Aston Villa.	35	14	4	17	59	55	32
Barnsley	35	12	8	15	54	59	32
West Brom.	34	14	3	17	52	41	31
Blackburn R.	35	13	4	18	50	74	30
Bury	34	13	3	18	57	70	29
Sheffield W.	36	9	10	17	56	70	28
Chesterf'ld.	35	12	4	19	53	88	28
Newcastle.	32	12	3	17	48	81	27
Stoke C.	35	9	5	21	41	76	23
Leeds Utd.	36	9	1	26	43	100	19

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INTERNATIONAL MATCH

SCOTLAND v. ENGLAND

SATURDAY, 3rd APRIL, 1954

GLASGOW 42/6

BLACKBURN depart 12-26 a.m.

(early morning)

Return GLASGOW CENTRAL 11-30p.m.

BRITISH RAILWAYS

First Team Fixtures

Date	Opponents	F.A.	Date	Opponents	P.A.
1953			1954		
Aug. 20	Rotherham	Away—4-1	Jan. 1	Derby C.	Home—3-0
" 22	Bristol R.	Home—1-1	" 19	Bristol C.	Away—2-1
" 27	Brentford	Away—4-1	" 25	Doncaster R.	Home—2-0
" 29	Lincoln C.	Away—0-8	" 26	Doncaster R.	Away—2-0
" 31	Brentford	Home—2-2	"		
			" 16	Notts C.	
			" 23	Hull City	
			" 30	(4) Hull City	
Sept. 5	Notts C.	Home—2-0	Feb. 4	Hull City	Home—3-1
" 9	Derby C.	Away—2-2	" 6	Everton	Home—2-2
" 12	Hull City	Away—2-0	" 13	Oldham A.	Away—0-2
" 19	Everton	Home—0-0	" 20	(5) Bury	Away—1-1
" 26	Oldham A.	Away—0-1	" 27	Stoke City	Home—4-0
			" 6	Fulham	Away—0-0
Oct. 3	Bury	Home—4-2	" 13	(6) West Ham	Home—3-2
" 10	Stoke City	Away—0-3	" 20	Leeds United	Away—2-3
" 17	Fulham	Home—5-1	" 27	Luton Town	Home—4-1
" 24	West Ham	Away—1-2	"		
" 31	Leeds United	Home—2-2	" 3	Plymouth A.	
			" 10	Birmingham	
			" 16	Leicester C.	
Nov. 7	Birmingham	Away—0-0	" 17	Nott'ham F.	
" 14	Nott'ham F.	Home—2-0	" 19	Leicester C.	
" 21	Luton Town	Away—1-2	" 24	Swansea T.	
" 28	Plymouth A.	Home—2-3	"		
Dec. 5	Swansea T.	Away—1-2			

ROVERS' APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS

SECOND DIVISION

APPEARANCES	GOALSCORERS
Elvy	35
Suart	35
Kelly	35
Briggs	34
Eckersley	34
Quigley	33
Smith	29
Crossan	30
Bell	26
Campbell	25
Langton	25
Glover	18
McLean	12
Mooney	6
Clayton (R.)	4
Leaver	2
Bogan	1
Roberts	1

CENTRAL LEAGUE

APPEARANCES	GOAL SCORERS
Brown	32
Clayton (K.)	31
Chadwick	31
Pearson	28
Gray	23
Leaver	23
Roberts	22
Bogan	20
Patterson	21
Bean	16
Herron	15
McLean	15
Glover	14
Murray	13
Douglas	12
Burns	
Cairns	9
Clayton (R.)	6
Billington	5
Johnson	5
Bray	4
Campbell	4
Clancy	4
Clark (B.)	3
Smith	3
Bell	2
Garrity (K.)	1
Crossan	1

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