

= 1876 FA Cup Final =

The 1876 FA Cup Final was a football match between Wanderers and Old Etonians on 11 March 1876 at Kennington Oval in London . It was the fifth final of the world 's oldest football competition , the Football Association Challenge Cup ( known in the modern era as the FA Cup ) . Wanderers had won the Cup on two previous occasions . The Etonians were playing in their second consecutive final , having lost in the 1875 final . Both teams had conceded only one goal in the four rounds prior to the final . In the semi @-@ finals Wanderers defeated Swifts and the Etonians beat the 1874 FA Cup winners Oxford University .

The match finished in a 1 ? 1 draw , the second time an FA Cup Final had finished all @-@ square . John Hawley Edwards scored for Wanderers , but the Etonians equalised with a goal credited in modern publications to Alexander Bonsor , although contemporary newspaper reports do not identify him as the scorer . A week later , the replay took place at the same venue . The Etonians were forced to make a number of changes due to players being unavailable , and the revised team was no match for the Wanderers , who won 3 ? 0 . Charles Wollaston and Thomas Hughes scored a goal apiece in a five @-@ minute spell before half @-@ time , and Hughes added the third early in the second half .

= = Route to the final = =

Old Etonians , the team for former pupils of Eton College , had reached the 1875 final but been defeated by Royal Engineers . Wanderers had won the competition in both 1872 and 1873 but had not progressed beyond the quarter @-@ finals in the subsequent two seasons . Both teams entered the 1875 ? 76 competition at the first round stage and were allocated matches at home . Wanderers defeated a team from the 1st Surrey Rifles regiment 5 ? 0 , and the Etonians overcame Pilgrims 4 ? 1 . In the second round Wanderers defeated Crystal Palace ( not the modern club ) 3 ? 0 and the Etonians had an easy win over Maidenhead , scoring eight goals without reply .

At the quarter @-@ final stage , Wanderers took on the world 's oldest football club , Sheffield and won 2 ? 0 , and the Etonians gained a 1 ? 0 victory over Clapham Rovers . Both semi @-@ final matches took place at Kennington Oval in London , as stipulated in the original rules of the competition . The Etonians beat the 1874 FA Cup winners Oxford University 1 ? 0 in the first semi @-@ final , and a week later Wanderers clinched their place in the final , defeating the Slough @-@ based club Swifts 2 ? 1 .

= = Match = =

= = = Summary = = =

Three sets of brothers played in the match . Francis and Hubert Heron lined up for the Wanderers , while the Etonians ' team included Hon. Edward Lyttelton and his brother Hon. Alfred Lyttelton and Albert Meysey @-@ Thompson and his brother Charles . The latter pair 's surname had been simply Thompson until it was changed in 1874 , and for the final Albert played under the name Thompson and Charles under the name Meysey . This is the only occasion that two or more pairs of brothers have played in the same FA Cup Final . Later that year , Francis Birley married Margaret , sister of his team @-@ mate Jarvis Kenrick . The Etonian team also included Julian Sturgis , who had been born in the USA and was the first foreign @-@ born player to appear in the Cup Final ( discounting those born to British parents in the British Empire ) , as well as Arthur Kinnaid , who had captained Wanderers to victory in the 1873 FA Cup Final . Wanderers began the match with two full @-@ backs , two half @-@ backs and six forwards , while the Etonians opted for one full @-@ back , two half @-@ backs and seven forwards .

Wanderers won the coin toss and chose to start the game defending the Harleyford Road end of The Oval . The crowd was estimated at 3 @, @ 500 , the largest for an FA Cup Final up to that point

. The match was played in a strong wind , to the extent that when Frederick Maddison took a corner kick for Wanderers , the gale blew the ball back out of play . The Wanderers dominated the early stages of the game , but the Etonians kept them at bay for around 35 minutes until Charles Wollaston eluded Thompson and passed the ball to John Hawley Edwards , who kicked it narrowly under the crossbar of the Etonians ' goal to give Wanderers the lead . In the second half the Old Etonians had the wind in their favour and had the better of the play . Around five minutes after the interval , a corner kick to the Etonians led to a " scrimmage " ( a term in common use at the time to describe a group of players struggling to gain possession of the ball ) in front of their opponents ' goal , which resulted in the ball and a number of players being forced over the goal @-@ line , uprooting the goalposts in the process . Modern sources credit the goal to Alexander Bonsor , but contemporary newspaper reports in The Sporting Life and Bell 's Life in London do not mention his name , merely noting that the goal was scored " from a scrimmage " . Neither team could manage to score another goal , and the game finished with the scores level , meaning that for the second successive season a replay would be needed to determine the winners of the competition .

= = = Details = = =

Match rules :

90 minutes normal time .

30 minutes extra @-@ time if scores are level , at captains ' discretion .

Replay if scores still level .

No substitutes .

= = Replay = =

= = = Summary = = =

The replay took place one week later at the same venue . The Wanderers fielded an unchanged team , but the Etonians had to make a number of changes , as Meysey was injured and three other players were unavailable due to other commitments . One of the replacements , Edgar Lubbock , had not long recovered from a bout of illness and was noted as being out of practice , and Kinnaid was still suffering the after @-@ effects of an injury sustained in the original match .

The weather on the day of the match was extremely cold , with the threat of snow . The Etonians began the match playing in a rough manner , and there were also many appeals from the players for handball , which disrupted play . After around half an hour , the Wanderers ' forwards surged towards their opponents ' goal and Charles Wollaston got the final kick which sent the ball past goalkeeper Quintin Hogg , one of the replacement players brought in for the replay . Almost immediately afterwards , another massed attack by the Wanderers led to Thomas Hughes doubling the lead .

Soon after half @-@ time , Hawley Edwards , Francis Heron and Jarvis Kenrick combined in a skilful attack and set up Hughes to score his second goal of the game . Although the Wanderers ' goalkeeper , W. D. O. Greig , was called into action several times , the Etonians were unable to get the ball past him , and the match finished 3 ? 0 to the Wanderers . The winning team 's captain Francis Birley was praised for his performance by the press , as were both Lyttleton brothers for the Etonians .

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Match rules :

90 minutes normal time .

30 minutes extra @-@ time if scores are level , at captains ' discretion .

Replay if scores still level .

No substitutes .

= = Post @-@ match = =

As occurred each year until 1882 , the winning team did not receive the trophy at the stadium on the day of the match , but later in the year at their annual dinner . In addition to receiving the Cup , the winning team each received a gold medal from the committee of Surrey County Cricket Club . A week after the replay , four of the victorious Wanderers were chosen to represent London in a match against an equivalent team from Sheffield . Despite their presence , the London XI lost the game 6 ? 0 .