

= York City F.C. =

York City Football Club is a professional association football club based in the city of York , North Yorkshire , England . The team compete in the National League , the fifth tier of league football in England , as of the 2016 ? 17 season .

First founded in 1908 , the club played seven seasons in non @-@ League football before folding in 1917 . A new club was formed in 1922 , and played in the Midland League for seven years before joining the Football League . They played in the third tier until 1959 , when they were promoted for the first time . York achieved their best run in the FA Cup in 1954 ? 55 , when they met Newcastle United in the semi @-@ final . They fluctuated between the Third and Fourth Divisions , before spending two seasons in the Second Division in the 1970s . York first played at Wembley Stadium in 1993 , when they won the Third Division play @-@ off final . At the end of 2003 ? 04 , they lost their Football League status after being relegated from the Third Division . The 2011 ? 12 FA Trophy was the first national knockout competition won by York , and they returned into the Football League that season .

York are nicknamed " the Minstermen " , after York Minster , and the team traditionally play in red kits . They played at Fulfordgate from 1922 to 1932 , when they moved to their current ground , Bootham Crescent . The ground has been subject to numerous improvements over the years , but the club lost ownership of it when it was transferred to a holding company in 1999 . York bought it back five years later , but the terms of the loan used to do so necessitated they move to a new ground . They are due to move into the York Community Stadium in 2018 . York have had rivalries with numerous clubs , but their traditional rivals are Hull City and Scarborough . The club 's record appearance holder is Barry Jackson , who made 539 appearances , while their leading scorer is Norman Wilkinson , with 143 goals .

= = History = =

= = = 1908 ? 46 : Original club , refoundation and establishment in Football League = = =

York City Football Club was founded in 1908 as an amateur club , and joined the Northern League and acquired a ground in Holgate Road . They left the Northern League after two seasons when joining the Yorkshire Combination to reduce travelling . The club turned professional in 1912 and purchased a new ground at Field View . York joined the Midland League , where they played for three seasons , rising as high as 10th @-@ place in 1912 ? 13 . They played their final season in 1914 ? 15 , after which the competition was suspended due to the First World War . The club into liquidation through the bankruptcy court in August 1917 after a creditor pressed for payment for the ground 's stand .

The club was re @-@ founded as York City Association Football and Athletic Club Limited on 6 May 1922 and gained admission into the Midland League , after an unsuccessful application to join the Football League . York ranked in 19th @-@ place in 1922 ? 23 and 1923 ? 24 , and entered the FA Cup for the first time in the latter . York played in the Midland League for seven seasons , achieving a highest finish of sixth , in 1924 ? 25 and 1926 ? 27 . They surpassed the qualifying rounds of the FA Cup for the first time in 1926 ? 27 , when they were beaten 2 ? 1 by Second Division club Grimsby Town in the second round . The club made its first serious attempt for election into the Football League in May 1937 , but this was unsuccessful as Barrow and Accrington Stanley were re @-@ elected . However , the club was successful two years later , being elected into the Football League in June 1929 to replace Ashington in the Third Division North .

York won 2 ? 0 against Wigan Borough in their first match in the Football League , and finished 1929 ? 30 sixth in the Third Division North . Three years later , York only avoided having to seek re @-@ election after winning the last match of 1932 ? 33 . In the 1937 ? 38 FA Cup , they eliminated First Division sides West Bromwich Albion and Middlesbrough , and drew 0 ? 0 at home to Huddersfield Town in the sixth round , before losing the replay 2 ? 1 at Leeds Road . York had been

challenging for promotion in 1937 ? 38 before faltering in the closing weeks , and in the following season only avoided having to apply for re @-@ election with victory in the penultimate match . They participated in the regional competitions organised by the Football League upon the outbreak of the Second World War in September 1939 . York played in wartime competitions for seven seasons , and in 1942 won the Combined Counties Cup .

= = = 1946 ? 81 : FA Cup run , promotion and relegations = = =

Peacetime football resumed in 1946 ? 47 and York finished the next three seasons in midtable . However , they were forced to apply for re @-@ election for the first time after finishing bottom of the Third Division North in 1949 ? 50 . York pursued promotion in 1952 ? 53 , before finishing fourth with 53 points , which were new club records in the Football League . The club 's longest cup run came when they reached the semi @-@ final of the 1954 ? 55 FA Cup , a campaign in which Arthur Bottom scored eight goals . In the semi @-@ final , York drew 1 ? 1 with Newcastle United at Hillsborough , before being beaten 2 ? 0 at Roker Park in the replay . This meant York had become the first third @-@ tier club to play in an FA Cup semi @-@ final replay . With a 13th @-@ place finish in 1957 ? 58 , York became founder members of the Fourth Division , while the clubs finishing in the top half of the North and South sections formed the new Third Division .

York only missed out on the runners @-@ up spot in 1958 ? 59 on goal average , and were promoted for the first time in third place . However , they were relegated from the Third Division after just one season in 1959 ? 60 . York 's best run in the League Cup came in 1961 ? 62 , the competition 's second season , after reaching the fifth round . They were beaten 2 ? 1 by divisional rivals Rochdale . York had to apply for re @-@ election for the second time after finishing 22nd in 1963 ? 64 , but achieved a second promotion the next season , again in third place in the Fourth Division . York were again relegated after one season , finishing bottom of the Third Division in 1965 ? 66 . The club was forced to apply for re @-@ election in three successive seasons , from 1966 ? 67 to 1968 ? 69 , after finishing in the bottom four of the Fourth Division in each of those season . York 's record of earning promotion every six years was maintained in 1970 ? 71 , with a fourth @-@ place finish in the Fourth Division .

York avoided relegation from the Third Division in 1971 ? 72 and 1972 ? 73 , albeit only on goal average in both seasons . After these two seasons they hit form in 1973 ? 74 , when " three up , three down " was introduced to the top three divisions . After being among the leaders most of the season , York were promoted into the Second Division for the first time in third place . The club 's highest @-@ ever league placing was achieved in mid October 1974 when York were fifth in the Second Division , and they finished 1974 ? 75 in 15th @-@ place . York finished in 21st @-@ place the following season , and were relegated back into the Third Division . York dropped further still , being relegated in 1976 ? 77 after finishing bottom of the Third Division . The 1977 ? 78 season culminated in the club being forced to apply for re @-@ election for the sixth time , after ranking third from bottom in the Fourth Division . Two midtable finishes followed before York made their seventh application for re @-@ election , after they finished bottom of the Fourth Division in 1980 ? 81 .

= = = 1981 ? 2004 : Further promotions and relegation from Football League = = =

In 1981 ? 82 , York endured a club @-@ record run of 12 home matches without victory , but only missed out on promotion in 1982 ? 83 due to their poor away form in the second half of the season . York won the Fourth Division championship with 101 points in 1983 ? 84 , becoming the first Football League team to achieve a three @-@ figure points total in a season . In January 1985 , York recorded a 1 ? 0 home victory over First Division Arsenal in the fourth round of the 1984 ? 85 FA Cup , courtesy of an 89th @-@ minute penalty scored by Keith Houchen . They proceeded to draw 1 ? 1 at home with European Cup holders Liverpool in February 1985 , but lost 7 ? 0 in the replay at Anfield ; York 's record cup defeat . The teams met again in the following season 's FA Cup , and after another 1 ? 1 home draw , Liverpool won 3 ? 1 in the replay after extra time at Anfield .

Their finish of seventh in the Third Division in 1985 ? 86 marked the fifth consecutive season York had improved their end @-@ of @-@ season league ranking .

York only avoid relegation with a draw in the last match of 1986 ? 87 , but did go down the following season after finishing second from bottom in the Third Division . In 1992 ? 93 , York ended a five @-@ year spell in the Third Division by gaining promotion into the Second Division via the play @-@ offs . Crewe Alexandra were beaten in the play @-@ off final at Wembley Stadium , with a 5 ? 3 penalty shoot @-@ out victory following a 1 ? 1 extra time draw . York reached the Second Division play @-@ offs at the first attempt , but lost 1 ? 0 on aggregate to Stockport County in the semi @-@ final . York recorded a 4 ? 3 aggregate victory in the 1995 ? 96 League Cup second round over the eventual FA Premier League and FA Cup double winners Manchester United . This included a 3 ? 0 win in the first leg at Old Trafford against strong United that included some younger players , and a more experienced United team was unable to overcome the deficit in the second leg , York losing 3 ? 1 . They then beat Everton in the second round of the following season 's League Cup ; they drew the first leg 1 ? 1 at Goodison Park , but won the second leg 3 ? 2 at home .

York were relegated from the Second Division in 1998 ? 99 , after dropping into 21st @-@ place on the last day of the season . In December 2001 , long @-@ serving chairman Douglas Craig put the club and its ground up for sale for £ 4 @. @ 5 million , before announcing that the club would resign from the Football League if a buyer was not found . Motor racing driver John Batchelor took over the club in March 2002 , and by December the club had gone into administration . The Supporters ' Trust (ST) bought the club in March 2003 after an offer of £ 100 @, @ 000 as payment for £ 160 @, @ 000 owed in tax was accepted by the Inland Revenue . Batchelor left having diverted almost all of the £ 400 @, @ 000 received from a sponsorship deal with Persimmon to his racing team , and having failed to deliver on his promise of having ST members on the board . York failed to win any of their final 20 league fixtures in 2003 ? 04 and finished bottom of the Third Division . This meant the club was relegated into the Football Conference , ending 75 years of Football League membership .

= = = 2004 ? present : Return into and relegation from Football League = = =

York only avoided relegation late into their first Conference National season in 2004 ? 05 , before reaching the play @-@ off semi @-@ final in 2006 ? 07 , when they were beaten 2 ? 1 on aggregate by Morecambe . Having only escaped relegation towards the end of 2008 ? 09 , York participated in the 2009 FA Trophy Final , and were defeated 2 ? 0 by Stevenage Borough at Wembley Stadium . They reached the 2010 play @-@ off final at Wembley , but were beaten 3 ? 1 by Oxford United . Two years later York won their first national knockout competition , after they beat Newport County 2 ? 0 in the 2012 FA Trophy Final at Wembley . A week later they earned promotion into League Two after they beat Luton Town 2 ? 1 at Wembley in the 2012 Conference Premier play @-@ off Final , marking the club 's return into the Football League after an eight @-@ year absence .

York only secured survival from relegation late into 2012 ? 13 , their first season back in the Football League . They made the League Two play @-@ offs the following season , and were beaten 1 ? 0 on aggregate by Fleetwood Town in the semi @-@ final . However , York were relegated into the National League four years after returning into the Football League , with a bottom @-@ place finish in League Two in 2015 ? 16 .

= = Club identity = =

York are nicknamed " the Minstermen " , in reference to York Minster . It is believed to have been coined by a journalist who came to watch the team during a successful cup run , and was only first used officially in literature in 1972 . Before this , York were known as " the Robins " , because of the team 's red shirts . They were billed " the Happy Wanderers " , after a popular song , at the time of their run in the 1954 ? 55 FA Cup .

For most of the club 's history , York have worn red shirts . However , in the club 's first season , 1922 ? 23 , the kit comprised maroon shirts , white shorts and black socks were worn . Maroon and

white striped shirts were worn for three years in the mid 1920s , before the maroon shirts returned . In 1933 , York changed their maroon jerseys to chocolate and cream stripes , a reference to the city 's association with the confectionery industry . After four years they changed their colours to what were described as " distinctive red shirts " , with the official explanation that the striped jerseys clashed with opponents too often . York continued to don red shirts before a two @-@ year spell of wearing all @-@ white kits from 1967 to 1969 .

York resumed wearing maroon shirts with white shorts in 1970 . To mark their promotion into the Second Division in 1974 , a bold white " Y " was added to the shirts , which became known as the " Y @-@ fronts " . Red shirts returned in 1978 , along with the introduction of navy blue shorts . In 2004 , the club dropped navy from the kits and instead used plain red and white , until 2008 when a kit mostly of navy was introduced . For 2007 ? 08 , the club brought in a third kit , which comprised light blue shirts and socks , with maroon shorts . A kit with purple shirts was introduced for a one @-@ off appearance in the 2009 FA Trophy Final . Red shirts returned in 2010 , and have been worn with red , navy blue , light blue and white shorts .

York adopted the city 's coat of arms as their crest upon the club 's formation , although it only featured on the shirts from 1950 to 1951 . In 1959 , a second crest was introduced , in the form of a shield that contained the York Minster , the White Rose of York and a robin . This crest never appeared on the shirts , but from 1970 to 1973 they bore the letters " YCFC " running upwards from left to right , and from 1974 to 1978 the " Y @-@ fronts " shirts included a stylised badge in which the " Y " and " C " were combined . The shirts bore a new crest in 1978 , which depicted Bootham Bar , two heraldic lions and the club name in all @-@ white , and in 1983 this was updated into a coloured version .

When Batchelor took over the club in 2002 , the crest was replaced by one signifying the club 's new name of " York City Soccer Club " and held a chequered flag motif . After Batchelor 's one @-@ year period at the club , the name reverted to " York City Football Club " and a new logo was introduced . It was selected following a supporters ' vote held by the club , and the successful design was made by Michael Elgie . The badge features five lions , four of which are navy blue and are placed on a white " Y " shaped background . The rest of the background is red with the fifth lion in white , placed between the top part of the " Y " .

Tables of kit suppliers and shirt sponsors appear below :

= = Grounds = =

= = = Fulfordgate = = =

York 's first ground was Fulfordgate , which was located on Heslington Lane , Fulford in the south @-@ east of York . With the ground not ready , York played their first two home matches at Mille Crux , Haxby Road , before they took to the field at Fulfordgate for a 4 ? 1 win over Mansfield Town on 20 September 1922 . Fulfordgate was gradually improved ; terracing was replaced banking behind one of the goals , the covered Popular Stand was extended to house 1 @,@ 000 supporters , and a small seated stand was erected . By the time of York 's election into the Football League in 1929 , the ground was estimated to hold a capacity of 17 @,@ 000 . However , attendances declined in York 's second and third Football League seasons , and the directors blamed this on the ground 's location . In April 1932 , York 's shareholders voted to move to Bootham Crescent , which had been vacated by York Cricket Club , on a 21 @-@ year lease . This site was located near the city centre , and had a significantly higher population living nearby than Fulfordgate .

= = = Bootham Crescent = = =

Bootham Crescent was renovated over the summer of 1932 ; the Main and Popular Stands were built and terraces were banked up behind the goals . The ground was officially opened on 31 August 1932 , for York 's 2 ? 2 draw with Stockport County in the Third Division North . It was played before

8 @, @ 106 supporters , and York 's Tom Mitchell scored the first goal at the ground . There were teething problems in Bootham Crescent 's early years : attendances were not higher than at Fulfordgate in its first four seasons , and there were questions over the quality of the pitch . In March 1938 the ground 's record attendance was set when 28 @, @ 123 people watched York play Huddersfield Town in the FA Cup . The ground endured slight damage during the Second World War , when bombs were dropped on houses along the Shipton Street End . Improvements were made shortly after the war ended , including the concreting of the banking at the Grosvenor Road End being completed .

With the club 's finances in a strong position , York purchased Bootham Crescent for £ 4 @, @ 075 in September 1948 . Over the late 1940s and early 1950s , concreting was completed on the terracing in the Popular Stand and the Shipton Street End . The Main Stand was extended towards Shipton Street over the summer of 1955 , and a year later a concrete wall was built at the Grosvenor Road End , as a safety precaution and as a support for additional banking and terracing . The ground was fitted with floodlights in 1959 , which were officially switched on for a friendly against Newcastle United . The floodlights were updated and improved in 1980 , and were officially switched on for a friendly with Grimsby Town . A gymnasium was built at the Grosvenor Road End in 1981 , and two years later new offices for the manager , secretary , matchday and lottery manager were built , along with a vice @-@ presidents ' lounge .

During the early 1980s , the rear of the Grosvenor Road End was cordoned off as cracks had appeared in the rear wall , and this section of the ground was later segregated and allocated to away supporters . Extensive improvements were made over the mid 1980s , including new turnstiles , refurbished dressing rooms , new referees ' changing room and physiotherapist 's treatment room being readied , hospitality boxes being built to the Main Stand and crash barriers being strengthened . The David Longhurst Stand was constructed over the summer of 1991 , and was named after the York player who collapsed and died from heart failure in a match a year earlier . It provided covered accommodation for supporters in what was previously the Shipton Street End , and was officially opened for a friendly match against Leeds United . In June 1995 , new floodlights were installed , which were twice as powerful as the original floodlights .

In July 1999 , York ceased ownership of Bootham Crescent when their real property assets were transferred to a holding company called Bootham Crescent Holdings . Craig announced the ground would close by 30 June 2002 , and under Batchelor York 's lease was replaced with one expiring in June 2003 . In March 2003 , York extended the lease to May 2004 , and proceeded with plans to move to Huntington Stadium under the ownership of the Supporters ' Trust . The club instead bought Bootham Crescent in February 2004 , using a £ 2 million loan from the Football Stadium Improvement Fund (FSIF) .

The ground was renamed KitKat Crescent in January 2005 , as part of a sponsorship deal in which Nestlé made a donation to the club , although the ground was still commonly referred to as Bootham Crescent . In January 2010 the deal expired , when Nestlé ended all their sponsorship arrangements with the club . There has not been any major investment in the ground since the 1990s , and it has faced problems with holes in the Main Stand roof , crumbling in the Grosvenor Road End , drainage problems and toilet conditions . Bootham Crescent holds a capacity of 8 @, @ 256 , with seating for 3 @, @ 409 .

= = = York Community Stadium = = =

Per the terms of the FSIF loan , the club was required to have identified a site for a new stadium by 2007 , and have detailed planning permission by 2009 , to avoid financial penalties . York failed to formally identify a site by the end of 2007 , and by March 2008 plans had ground to a halt . In May 2008 , City of York Council announced its commitment to building a community stadium , for use by York and the city 's rugby league club , York City Knights . In July 2010 , the option of building a 6 @, @ 000 all @-@ seater stadium at Monks Cross in Huntington , on the site of Huntington Stadium , was chosen by the council . In August 2014 , the council named Greenwich Leisure Ltd as the preferred bidder to deliver an 8 @, @ 000 all @-@ seater stadium , a leisure complex and a

community hub . Construction is to start in the summer of 2016 , for completion in early 2018 .

= = Supporters and rivalries = =

York was the 16th @-@ best supported League Two club in 2014 ? 15 , with an average home attendance of 3 @,@ 555 . The club has a number of domestic supporters ' groups , including the East Riding Minstermen , Harrogate Minstermen , York Minstermen , York City South and the Supporters ' Trust . The now @-@ disbanded group Jorvik Reds , who were primarily inspired by the continental ultras movement , were known for staging pre @-@ match displays . The York Nomad Society is the hooligan firm associated with the club .

For home games , the club produces a 60 @-@ page official match programme , entitled The Citizen . York have been the subject of a number of independent supporters ' fanzines , including Terrace Talk , In The City , New Frontiers , Johnny Ward 's Eyes , Ginner 's Left Foot and RaBTaT . The club mascot is a lion named Yorkie the Lion and he is known for performing comic antics before matches . John Sentamu , the Archbishop of York , became the club patron for 2007 ? 08 , having become a regular spectator at home matches as a season ticket holder .

The 2003 Football Fans Census revealed that no other team 's supporters considered York to be among their club 's main rivals . Traditionally , York 's two main rivalries have been with Hull City and Scarborough . While York fans saw Hull as their main rival , this was not reciprocated by the East Yorkshire club , who saw Leeds United as their main rival . York also had a rivalry with Halifax Town and they were the team most local to York when the two played in the Conference . A rivalry with Luton Town developed during the club 's final years in the Conference as both clubs met regularly in crucial matches , accompanied by a series of contentious incidents involving crowd trouble , contentious transfers and complaints about the behaviour of directors .

= = Records and statistics = =

The record for the most appearances for York is held by Barry Jackson , who played 539 matches in all competitions . Jackson also holds the record for the most league appearances for the club , with 428 . Norman Wilkinson is the club 's top goalscorer with 143 goals in all competitions , which includes 127 in the league and 16 in the FA Cup . Six players , Keith Walwyn , Billy Fenton , Alf Patrick , Paul Aimson , Arthur Bottom and Tom Fenoughty , have also scored more than 100 goals for the club .

The first player to be capped at international level while playing for York was Eamon Dunphy , when he made his debut for the Republic of Ireland against Spain on 10 November 1965 . The most capped player is Peter Scott , who earned seven caps for Northern Ireland while at the club . The first York player to score in an international match was Anthony Straker , who scored for Grenada against Haiti on 4 September 2015 .

York 's largest victory was a 9 ? 1 win over Southport in the Third Division North in 1957 , while the heaviest loss was 12 ? 0 to Chester City in 1936 in the same division . Their widest victory margin in the FA Cup is by six goals , which was achieved five times . These were 7 ? 1 wins over Horsforth in 1924 , Stockton Malleable in 1927 and Stockton in 1928 , and 6 ? 0 wins over South Shields in 1968 and Rushall Olympic in 2007 . York 's record defeat in the FA Cup was 7 ? 0 to Liverpool in 1985 .

The club 's highest attendance at their former Fulfordgate ground was 12 @,@ 721 against Sheffield United in the FA Cup on 14 January 1931 , while the lowest was 1 @,@ 500 against Maltby Main on 23 September 1925 in the same competition . Their highest attendance at Bootham Crescent was 28 @,@ 123 , for an FA Cup match against Huddersfield Town on 5 March 1938 ; the lowest was 608 against Mansfield Town in the Conference League Cup on 4 November 2008 .

The highest transfer fee received for a York player is £ 950 @,@ 000 from Sheffield Wednesday for Richard Cresswell on 25 March 1999 , while the most expensive player bought is Adrian Randall , who cost £ 140 @,@ 000 from Burnley on 28 December 1995 . The youngest player to play for the club is Reg Stockill , who was aged 15 years and 281 days on his debut against Wigan Borough in the Third Division North on 29 August 1929 . The oldest player is Paul Musselwhite , who played his

last match aged 43 years and 127 days against Forest Green Rovers in the Conference on 28 April 2012 .

= = Players = =

= = = Current squad = = =

Where a player has not declared an international allegiance , nation is determined by place of birth .
Squad correct as of 26 July 2016 .

= = = Former players = = =

= = = Clubmen of the Year = = =

= = Club officials = =

Owner : JM Packaging
Board of directors
As of 6 May 2016
Chairman : Jason McGill
Stadium Development Director : Ian McAndrew
Financial Management Consultant : Peter Rookes
Coaching staff
As of 19 July 2016
Manager : Jackie McNamara
Assistant manager : Simon Donnelly
Goalkeeping coach : Craig Hinchcliffe
Academy manager : Vacant
Youth team manager : Steve Torpey

= = = Former managers = = =

= = Honours = =

York City 's honours include the following :
Third Division (level 3)
Promoted : 1973 ? 74
Fourth Division / Third Division (level 4)
Winners : 1983 ? 84
Promoted : 1958 ? 59 , 1964 ? 65 , 1970 ? 71
Play @-@ off winners : 1992 ? 93
Conference Premier (level 5)
Play @-@ off winners : 2011 ? 12
FA Trophy
Winners : 2011 ? 12
Runners @-@ up : 2008 ? 09