

= 1967 Football League Cup Final =

The 1967 Football League Cup Final was an association football match between Queens Park Rangers (QPR) and West Bromwich Albion on 4 March 1967 at Wembley Stadium , London . It was the final match of the 1966 ? 67 Football League Cup , the seventh season of the Football League Cup , a football competition for the teams in The Football League . This was the first final to be decided over a single game ; the six previous finals were contested over two legs . QPR were appearing in their first final , while Albion were appearing in their second after winning the previous final in 1966 .

As QPR were in the Third Division they played one more round than Albion who received a bye in the first round . Therefore , QPR progressed through six rounds to reach the final , whereas Albion progressed through five . Matches up to the semi @-@ final were contested on a one @-@ off basis with the exception of the semi @-@ finals which were contested over two @-@ legs , with a match at each team 's home ground . QPR 's matches were generally close affairs , they only won by a three two goal margin or more in three of their matches . Albion 's matches were almost all comfortable victories . Their biggest margin of victory was five goals when they beat Aston Villa 6 ? 1 . While the only match did not win was the second leg of the semi @-@ final against West Ham United , which was drawn 2 ? 2 .

Watched by a crowd of 97 @, @ 952 , Albion took the lead in the first half when Clive Clark scored in the 7th minute . He scored again later in the half to give Albion a 2 ? 0 lead at half @-@ time . QPR reduced the deficit in the 63rd minute when Roger Morgan scored and then levelled the match 12 minutes later courtesy of a goal by Rodney Marsh . Mark Lazarus scored a third goal for QPR in the 81st minute , as QPR won the match 3 ? 2 to win the League Cup for the first time .

QPR 's victory caused a problem for the Football Association as typically the League Cup winner would qualify for the Inter @-@ Cities Fairs Cup , but one of the criteria for that competition was that the team must come from the highest tier of that country 's league system . QPR was replaced in the following season 's European competition by a First Division side .

= = Road to Wembley = =

= = = Queens Park Rangers = = =

On the first day of the 1966 ? 67 Football League Cup on 23 August 1966 , QPR played Colchester United at their home ground of Loftus Road , winning 5 ? 0 . In the third round , they defeated Welsh team Swansea City on 2 ? 1 . They were drawn against Leicester City in the following round . Three goals in the second half saw QPR come back from being 2 ? 1 down to win the match by 4 ? 2 . The first of these goals was a rebound off Leicester goalkeeper Gordon Banks after a shot by Rodney Marsh , then a shot by Les Allen went through a Leicester goalmouth packed with defenders , and the final goal came from Mark Lazarus in similar circumstances to the Allen goal . QPR were put under pressure in their match against Carlisle United , but Marsh scored twice more for Rangers to give them the 2 ? 1 victory .

Until the first leg of the semi @-@ final against Birmingham City , QPR had not won an away match during their League Cup campaign . They were one goal down at half time , and again were forced to recover the deficit during the second half . In the 55th minute , Marsh scored his 34th goal of the season , he headed the ball into the goal after a corner kick from Allen . Marsh was involved again in QPR 's second and third goal as he set up Roger Morgan for the second , and then back heeled the ball through to Lazarus for the third . QPR 's fourth and final goal saw Marsh hit a header direct from a free kick to Allen who scored . The second leg secured QPR 's first trip to Wembley , and marked the first time that a team from the Third Division had reached any Wembley final . They won the game 3 ? 1 , but they did not score until the last twelve minutes of the match .

= = = West Bromwich Albion = = =

Bobby Hope led Albion to a victory at the start of their League Cup campaign , having received a bye past the first round , scoring a hat @-@ trick as the team went on to defeat Aston Villa 6 ? 0 . Albion played Manchester City on 5 October 1966 in the third round , and although they won the game 4 ? 2 , they were pressed hard for the victory . Albion went a goal down after nine minutes against Northampton Town , but came back to win 3 ? 1 .

Their semi @-@ final was a rematch of the 1966 Football League Cup Final , with West Ham United the opposition over two legs . Albion took a commanding lead in the first leg with a 4 ? 0 victory , a goal from Dennis Clarke and a hat @-@ trick from Jeff Astle . West Ham captain Bobby Moore urged his team to push Albion hard in the second leg , even in the closing stages of the match when they still had all four goals from the first leg to catch up with . Goals from Geoff Hurst and Johnny Byrne for West Ham were cancelled out by goals from Stanley Jones and Clarke by the 60th minute . The match finished with 2 ? 2 , thus Albion progressed due to a 6 ? 2 aggregate victory .

= = Match = =

= = = Background = = =

It was decided at a Football Association Council meeting on 26 September 1966 to host the League Cup at Wembley Stadium for the first time . The final had previously been decided over two legs , but the move to Wembley coincided with a change in format to a single leg final . Albion were the defending champions and were aiming to become the first team to retain the Cup . The winner of the League Cup typically went on to play in the Inter @-@ Cities Fairs Cup . Albion were still in the competition at the time of the final , although they had recently lost 3 ? 0 to Bologna in the first leg of the third round .

Queens Park Rangers 's strip for the final was all @-@ white , instead of their normal white and blue hoops . West Bromwich Albion wore their away strip , which was all @-@ red . Each team 's supporters did not have a limit on the number of tickets they were allowed to purchase . This was despite a limit of 15 @,@ 000 for FA Cup finals which were also held at Wembley . A crowd of nearly 100 @,@ 000 was expected to be inside the stadium , although only highlights were to be shown on television .

= = = First @-@ half = = =

Rangers started the slower of the two sides , with Albion passing the ball with some considerable pace . Any QPR attack stagnated once someone attempted to pass the ball through to Rodney Marsh or Les Allen , who were overwhelmed by the numbers of Albion defensive players . Albion 's first goal came in the seventh minute as the ball was worked down the left hand side of the pitch by Tony Brown , Bobby Hope and finally Doug Fraser , before Clive Clark 's shot went through a gap in QPR 's defence . The Albion supporters began provocatively chanting " easy " , although QPR were immediately on the attack with Albion goalkeeper Dick Sheppard saving a shot from Frank Sibley .

QPR continued to be outplayed for the most part by their First Division opponents . In the twenty fifth minute , Clark once again ran with the ball down the left hand side of the pitch , outrunning QPR 's Ron Hunt , before crossing it into the path of Jeff Astle . His subsequent shot was saved by QPR goalkeeper Peter Springett , who managed to push the ball around the post . QPR briefly had a chance for a counterattack as Mark Lazarus found himself on the halfway line with the ball , before taking it around Ian Collard and found the Albion defence out of position , leaving him with a clear path to goal . But the opposition players were gaining on him as he approached the penalty area , with the attack falling apart shortly afterwards . Nine minutes before half time , QPR found themselves under attack by Albion again with some cross pitch passing resulting in Clark 's second goal of the game . QPR had a corner just before half time which fell to the feet of club captain Mike

Keen , but his shot went of the post . The game went into half time at 2 ? 0 to Albion .

== Second @-@ half ==

The teams came out for the second half , and Rangers began an attack almost immediately . A series of short , quick passes from Marsh and Roger Morgan released Allen but he was not quick enough to make something of the chance . A high pass from Keen followed , striking defender Clarke in the back , from which the Albion defence were forced to clear . The attacks continued to come from Rangers as Lazarus passed the ball through to Marsh who took the ball around two defenders , but his shot went over the bar . QPR were rewarded for their perseverance in the sixty @-@ third minute as Lazarus took the ball around Albion captain Graham Williams , crossing the ball in for Morgan , who scored with a header to reduce the deficit to a single goal .

Albion 's sole goalscoring opportunity of the second half came afterwards ; Clark took the ball on a lengthy run before crossing it into the box , across an open goal with no Albion player there to tap the ball in and put the game beyond QPR 's reach . Fifteen minutes from the end of the match QPR equalised , Marsh 's shot with his right foot went in off the post . A corner followed for QPR who were now dominating Albion with their style of play . Allen crossed it in to Lazarus , but the Albion goalkeeper saved the shot with his legs . With eight minutes to go , one of Albion defenders mis @-@ kicked the ball in their own penalty area . Hunt rushed in for the chance but Sheppard once again saved the game for Albion . The ball ran free to Mike Lazarus who tapped the ball into the back of an empty net to increase the scoreline to 3 ? 2 in QPR 's favour . A final attack from QPR came in the closing moments of the game as Lazarus took the ball past two defenders and into the box , his subsequent shot hit the outside of the post and went wide .

== Details ==

Match rules

90 minutes .

30 minutes of extra @-@ time if necessary .

Replay if scores still level .

One named substitute .

Sources :

== Post match ==

QPR 's victory was the first occasion a team from the Third Division had won a major trophy in England . Both teams received £ 18 @, @ 000 as their share of the gate receipts . QPR 's victory created a problem for the Football League management committee . On previous occasions , one of the three nominations for the Inter @-@ Cities Fairs Cup was the winner of the League Cup . However , the Fairs Cup committee required that only teams from the highest tier of a nation 's league system could enter . In the end , Nottingham Forest , Leeds United and Liverpool qualified for the following season 's competition .

QPR paraded the trophy in front of the crowd in their following home match at Loftus Road , where they defeated Bournemouth 4 ? 0 . The 1966 ? 67 season saw QPR do a double , winning the Third Division title as well . The season is considered to be the most successful season in the club 's history . Albion reached the final again in 1970 , where they were once again runners @-@ up , this time to Manchester City . QPR did not reach the final until 1986 when they lost against Oxford United .

Before the match against Sheffield Wednesday on 11 March 2007 , the 1967 cup winning team were paraded at half time at Loftus Road to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the win . In the 2002 ? 03 Second Division play @-@ off final QPR wore an all @-@ white strip in reference to their Football League Cup victory . As of 2015 , QPR 's victory in the 1967 Football League Cup remains the only major trophy the club has won .

