

CareerCompass Report

Personalised career analysis based on your CV.

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SECTION A — Candidate Overview

1. Candidate Snapshot

Charlie Webb is an early-career candidate completing a BA (Hons) in Football Business and Finance, with practical experience in customer service, site assistance, and accounting support. They have demonstrated leadership through sports and entrepreneurial skills via an online reselling business. Their current role as an Accounts Trainee complements their academic background with hands-on finance experience.

- Location: Brighton and Hove / North London (implied)
- Seniority: Early-career (student / recent graduate level)
- Core fields: Football business, finance, customer service, accounting support
- Additional context: Leadership in football, Xero accounting certifications (May 2025)

2. Suitable Roles

- **Finance Assistant / Accounts Assistant:** Fits well due to current Accounts Trainee role and Xero certifications. Hiring managers look for accuracy, attention to detail, and familiarity with accounting software.
- **Football Operations Coordinator / Event Support:** Experience at Wembley Stadium and football coaching background align with operational roles in sports organisations.
- **Customer Service Representative in Sports or Finance sectors:** Strong customer service skills and communication make this a natural fit, especially in client-facing finance or sports environments.
- **Junior Financial Analyst (entry-level):** With financial analysis skills and academic background, this could be a next step, though may require further technical upskilling.
- **Sports Agency Assistant / Football Agency Support:** Level 2 Football Agency qualification supports roles in sports management agencies, where understanding of contracts and client relations is valued.

3. Strengths

- **Financial software proficiency (Xero):** Demonstrates practical accounting skills; highlight this in interviews as a foundation for finance roles.
- **Leadership and teamwork:** Captaining football teams and coaching experience show ability to lead and collaborate under pressure.
- **Customer service and communication:** Roles at Wembley and Wave Leisure prove strong interpersonal skills; frame as ability to manage client expectations and resolve issues.
- **Time management and reliability:** Balancing studies, work, and a reselling business reflects strong organisational skills.

- **Problem-solving and adaptability:** Experience in site assistance and event environments shows capacity to handle dynamic situations effectively.

4. Skill Gaps & What to Learn

- **Advanced Excel and financial modelling:** Build on existing Excel skills with intermediate functions, pivot tables, and basic modelling to support analyst roles.
- **Accounting principles and standards:** Deepen understanding of UK GAAP/IFRS basics through online courses or textbooks to complement Xero knowledge.
- **Data analysis and visualization:** Learn introductory SQL and Power BI or Tableau basics to increase analytical capabilities.
- **Networking in football business and finance:** Speak to 2–3 professionals working in football operations or finance roles to understand day-to-day challenges and skills needed.
- **Commercial awareness in sports finance:** Follow industry news, attend webinars or local events to understand market trends and employer priorities.

SECTION B — Candidate → Hired

5. Salary Expectations

Based on aggregated salary data from Glassdoor and ONS for early-career finance and sports operations roles:

- **UK (Brighton/London area):** £20,000–£27,000 per year for finance assistant or operations roles.
- **EU (major cities):** €22,000–€30,000 per year.
- **US (entry-level sports admin/finance):** \$35,000–\$45,000 annually.

Career progression (3–7 years):

- **Senior Finance Analyst:** £30,000–£40,000 (UK) – requires stronger technical skills and experience.
- **Football Operations Manager / Coordinator:** £28,000–£38,000 (UK) – leadership and operational expertise needed.
- **Finance Manager:** £40,000–£55,000 (UK) – typically after gaining professional qualifications and experience.

Insider tips on compensation:

- Early-career pay often grows with demonstrated technical skills and certifications rather than just time served.
- Avoid underselling yourself; prepare to discuss your Xero certifications and practical experience confidently during salary talks.
- Consider non-salary benefits like training opportunities, exposure to senior staff, and company culture when evaluating offers.

6. Companies Hiring / Employer Types

- Sports clubs and stadiums with operations or commercial teams (e.g., football clubs, event venues).
- Mid-sized accounting or finance firms supporting sports clients or SMEs.
- Sports agencies and management companies, especially those with football focus.
- Corporate finance teams within sports-related businesses or leisure sectors.
- Look for employers offering structured graduate schemes, mentoring, or rotation programmes to broaden skills.
- Red flags include employers with high turnover, lack of training, or vague role descriptions lacking clear responsibilities.

7. 90-Day Action Plan

Days 1–30 (Foundation)

- Update CV and LinkedIn to highlight Xero certifications, football business degree, and customer service experience.
- Complete an intermediate Excel course focusing on finance functions.
- Identify and join relevant football business and finance groups on LinkedIn.
- Reach out to 1–2 alumni or professionals working in football finance or operations for informational interviews.
- Research companies offering graduate schemes or entry-level roles in football business and finance.

Days 31–60 (Execution)

- Apply to 10–15 targeted roles in finance assistant, football operations, or sports agency support.
- Attend at least one local or virtual networking event related to sports business or finance.
- Practice interview questions focusing on problem-solving, teamwork, and financial scenarios.
- Begin learning basics of financial modelling or data visualization tools.
- Follow up with contacts from informational interviews to deepen relationships.

Days 61–90 (Optimisation)

- Request feedback on applications and interviews to refine approach.
- Expand network by connecting with recruiters or hiring managers in target companies.
- Consider volunteering or short-term projects in football business or finance to gain practical experience.
- Prepare tailored cover letters referencing specific team functions (e.g. supporting month-end reporting or event coordination).
- Review and update skills portfolio with examples of problem-solving and leadership from football and work experience.

SECTION C — Job Search Resources

8. Professional Summary (CV & LinkedIn Ready)

Motivated Football Business and Finance undergraduate with hands-on experience in accounting support, customer service, and event operations. Proficient in Xero accounting software and skilled in leadership, communication, and problem-solving. Seeking an entry-level finance or football operations role to apply my analytical skills and passion for sports business in a dynamic environment.

9. Cover Letter Opening Paragraph

I am a dedicated Football Business and Finance student with practical experience supporting accounting operations and delivering excellent customer service in fast-paced sports environments, including Wembley Stadium. My Xero certifications and hands-on work with financial data equip me to contribute effectively to finance or football operations teams. I am particularly interested in roles that support month-end reporting or event coordination, where I can

leverage my attention to detail and proactive approach to challenges.

10. Job Search Tips

- Use LinkedIn to connect with professionals in football business and finance; personalise outreach messages by referencing shared interests or recent company news.
- Highlight your Xero certifications and practical accounting experience prominently in your CV and cover letters.
- Include specific examples of leadership and problem-solving from sports and work experience in interviews to stand out.
- Look for graduate schemes or rotational programmes in sports business or finance to gain broad exposure early on.
- Prepare for interviews by practising responses to behavioural questions and basic finance scenarios relevant to football business.
- Consider building a simple portfolio or case study of a financial analysis or event coordination project to showcase your skills.
- Attend industry webinars or local meetups to stay informed and expand your network within football business and finance.

This report is indicative and based on typical labour-market patterns, not guaranteed outcomes.