

## **PREDICTION GAME 2020 -2021**

(The Hopeless Forecasters Competition)

The prediction game for 2020-21 season is run by the Hitchin Executive Club, on behalf of Hitchin Town Football Club.

Forms will be available at the first game following production of the 2020-21 fixtures.

### **WHAT YOU NEED TO DO**

Obtain an entry form from the club shop, supporters club shop, or on line and then predict the score/result of all of Hitchin Town`s league games for the season **and** their final league position. **PUT HITCHIN SCORE FIRST**

This year there is also a £50 prize for the best funny name using HTFC but not Hitchin Town Football or Club. Entry is optional at no further cost. The prize will be given out early in the season.

Return this form as soon as possible with a £10 entry fee to Steve Maxted.

### **PRIZES:**

Half the entry fee will be donated to the club and the remainder will be for prizes. Last year with 88 entries there were prizes for the top three at Christmas, then at the end of the season the prize money was 40% (1<sup>st</sup>), 30% (2<sup>nd</sup>), 20% (3<sup>rd</sup>), 10% (4<sup>th</sup>) and the last place person got a free entry to the prediction game this year.

Should a tie occur then the prediction nearest to Hitchin Town`s final league position will be deemed the winner.

### **HOW IT WORKS:**

Each game prediction will be scored as follows:

- 5 points for correct result and score
- 2 points for correct result
- 1 point for correct score by either home or away side
- 0 point for wrong result.

Weekly updates will be shown on the Hitchin Town web site and in the Supporters Club Shop at the next home match.

**REMEMBER THE MORE PEOPLE WHO TAKE PART THE GREATER THE PRIZE MONEY.**

Thanks for your support.

Contact Steve Maxted 01462 623711

The prediction league has just completed its 8th year and has been a surprising success with the Hitchin fans.

It all started prior to the start of the 2010/11 season when the Executive Club was looking at a way to raise some money for the club. The idea was put forward and agreed although I am sure some members were a bit unsure how this all worked.

It was thought that the entry price of £10 was fair and this fee has been maintained ever since. As you all know half the money raised goes towards the club and the rest in prize money. I originally said that should the numbers fall below 50 then the prediction game was not worth doing but I may at some time change my mind.

I always felt that any person correctly getting the score completely correct would be mentioned on the web site updates. Even those failing to achieve this throughout the season would also get a mention at the end of the season.

The numbers taking part have varied but at its best we were two short of the magic 100 entries.

From 2010-11 to 2013-14 you got 1 point for a correct result (win/loss/draw) and 3 points for a completely correct result/score. From the 2014/15 season people have gained 5 points for a completely correct result, 2 points for a correct result and 1 point should they have one of the scores correct. This seems a bit complicated but in practise is easy to administer.

There has always been a free entry to the following year's game for the person finishing bottom of the league. In 2018-19 there was a tie for last place so there were two free entries. Prize money was originally for the first three places only. From the 2014/15 season to date the final top 4 places receive prize money and also the top 3 as at the 31 December each season.

Here are the winners:

2010/11 – 50 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> John Richardson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Gilbert, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fred Andrews – last Christine Newbold.

2011/12 – 73 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> Bryan Garwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> Darren White, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mick Wise – last Andy Preston.

2012/13 – 82 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> Mick Dring, 2<sup>nd</sup> Iris Maxted, 3<sup>rd</sup> Chris Newbold, last – Richard Armstrong

2013/14 – 75 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> Ray Prutton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gillian Wise, 3<sup>rd</sup> Craig Revels, last – Luke Revels/Chris Davies

2014/15 – 82 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> Mick Wise, 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Maxted, 3<sup>rd</sup> Rupert Russell, 4<sup>th</sup> Peter/Ian Murrell, last – Martin Dobbs

2015/16 – 88 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> Anthony Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ray Lincoln, 3<sup>rd</sup> David Tudball, 4<sup>th</sup> Terry Barratt, last – Luke Revels

2016/17 – 98 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> David Tudball, 2<sup>nd</sup> Colin Ridgway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Chris Newbold, 4<sup>th</sup> Guy Williams, last – Gillian Wise.

2017/18 – 82 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> Mick Docking, 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Maxted, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Honeysuckle Cant, 4<sup>th</sup> Derek Barker, last place Richard Barnes and Bloody Sam.

2018/19 – 88 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> Darren Locker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pauline Lincoln, 3<sup>rd</sup> Arthur Fox Sake, 4<sup>th</sup> Honeysuckle Cant, last place Gemma Chapman

2019/20 – 88 entries – 1<sup>st</sup> Jackie McDonald, 2<sup>nd</sup> FC Wisealona (Andy Wise, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mick Wise, 4<sup>th</sup> Kamakazekate (Kate Deller), last place Ruth Denniss

Mention should also be given to Gillian Wise and Barry Swain who hold the record of 4 consecutive completely correct predictions.

## **LEAGUE SWEEPSTAKE**

The idea here is to have a random pick of a team and their final league position.

### **Requirements**

1 lined note book or sheets (should have at least 26 lines)  
2 white envelope  
24 cards (team name) and 24 cards (with numbers on them) – 2 bags of some sort.  
Biro  
Bag to collect money.

The note book / sheets will have four columns per page. The left hand column will be a list of all the league teams then the number, persons name and telephone number.

The 2 x 24 cards are put into separate envelopes / bags.  
People pick a name card at random from the envelope / bag then pick a number card.  
The number, name and contact is noted and written into the note book against the team they have picked.  
The cards they have picked are put to one side in the white envelope.  
This goes on until all 24 cards have been picked.

There will probably be more than 24 people having a go.

Once the first game is completed we start all over again BUT this time when putting the details in the note book / sheet on a new page / sheet.  
Likewise when these 24 cards have been picked we start a third game on a new page / sheet.  
And so it continues.

Each column of 24 names is one game.

Suggest that we charge £5 per entry which will total £120 per game and the winner receives £50. Prizes split between winners if necessary.  
Should we be unable at some stage not to sell all 24 teams then the winner still receives £50.  
Each full game will raise £70 for the club.

The winner is the person who has picked the team and final position correctly.

NOTE: This should not be started before the prediction game has started nor the sponsorship game.  
Suggestions seem to state we start late September and leave it open all year.

I will have most contact details from the prediction game but any I don't have we can ask for.  
Monies collected can be given to Roy when received and then at the end Roy can write out the required cheques.

The original idea comes from Andy Hannah and has been adapted.

### **LEAGUE SWEEPSTAKE (SOUTHERN LEAGUE)**

The idea here is to random pick a league team and then random pick a number for their final league position.

The winner is the person who has picked the team and final position correctly (or nearest).

We charge £5 per entry.

£50 is the winning prize which may need to be split between winners if necessary.

Should we be unable at some stage not to sell all 24 teams then the winner still receives £50. This should only be the last game.

Each full game will raise £70 for the club.

There will be 22 cards with league names on them and 22 cards numbered 1-22.

Each set of 22 cards are put into a separate envelope / bag.

People pick a named team card at random from the envelope / bag, then pick a numbered card from another envelope / bag .

The number, person's name and contact is noted and written onto a spreadsheet against the team they have previously picked.

The team and numbered cards that have been picked are put to one side in another envelope bag thus removing them from that particular game.

This goes on until all 22 cards have been picked.

There will probably be more than 22 people having a go so once the first game is completed we start all over again using a second spreadsheet to collate the details as explained above. Likewise when all the team and numbered cards have been picked we start a third game. And so it continues.

Suggest that this run from mid-September to the end of the season.

There should be no limit on the number of entries an individual can have whether it be over a few games or all in one game.

### **POINTS:**

Can this be run on behalf HTFC and go towards a special fund ?. People are more likely to enter if they know what the money is going towards.

Can the cards and spreadsheets be kept in the club office at all times.

As Chris & Roy have much to do on match days perhaps we can ask people to buy an entry at a set time on match days. i.e. 2.30pm – 3pm

For transparency purposes each spreadsheet could be signed and dated by HTFC Treasurer upon receiving the £110 or for any other monies involved with this sweepstake.

Following the end of the season the HTFC Treasurer needs to be contacted with the winners details so that cheques can be written.

Suggest that once the cheques are completed perhaps the HTFC Treasurer could either contact probably myself (so that I may collect the cheques and deliver accordingly) or post them himself.