

Devon Ability Counts League 2010-11



Season Review

Championship Round-Up

The 2010/11 Season saw the closest ever finish in the Devon Ability Counts League Championship division, with 4 teams all still in the title hunt going into the last weekend. One-time league leaders Exeter City headed into the last weekend needing wins over the top three clubs and started well with a win over Exeter Deaf putting them into title contention, however a close 1-0 defeat to Plymouth Argyle effectively ended Exeter City's chances.

Plymouth Argyle themselves continued a fine recent run of form through most of the day, and a run of 4 victories including a 2-0 defeat of leaders

Plymouth Argyle Pilgrims put them into contention going into the last match. However Exeter Deaf – whose title hopes had earlier ended with a draw against Pilgrims, raised their game and pulled off a stunning 3-1 victory to deny Argyle the title. This left Plymouth Pilgrims merely needing a result against bottom placed Exeter City Grecians to win the title, which they did so with some style to win the league outright, ahead of Plymouth Argyle (2nd) and Exeter Deaf (3rd). The Championship has enjoyed an extremely close season with all 4 top teams taking points off each other. Fast improving Torquay Utd Inspirations deserve a mention too, winning the Fair Play Award for the season, voted on by match referees and teams.

League 1 Round-Up

Whilst League 1 has seen a number of very evenly matched teams in 2010/11, throughout the season one team has been above the rest, and Plymouth Argyle retained their Devon Ability Counts League 1 title with some style losing only one game through the season. Plymouth Argyle Reserves cemented a 2nd place finish on the final weekend by going undefeated, and with Exeter City (3rd) unable to close the gap. Lower down Horizon Hotshots finished the season strongly with draws against higher placed teams and a win over Torquay Utd Inspirations. Hotshots also capped off the day by winning the Divisions Fair Play Award for the season, voted for by referees and other teams.



Above: Plymouth Argyle Pilgrims
(Winners: Championship)

Championship	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Pilgrims	29	16	9	4	+29	70
Plym. Argyle	29	17	5	7	+24	68
Exeter Deaf	29	15	9	5	+18	68
Exeter City	29	16	6	7	+25	67
Torquay Utd	29	1	3	25	-59	34
City Grecians	25	2	4	19	-37	33

League 1	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Plym. Argyle	33	23	9	1	+47	88
Plym. Reserves	33	16	13	4	+32	78
Exeter City	33	15	9	9	+14	72
City Grecians	33	10	8	15	-21	61
Horizon Hots.	33	6	9	18	-26	54
Torquay Utd	33	5	8	20	-35	51
Horizon Heroes	18	3	4	11	-11	28



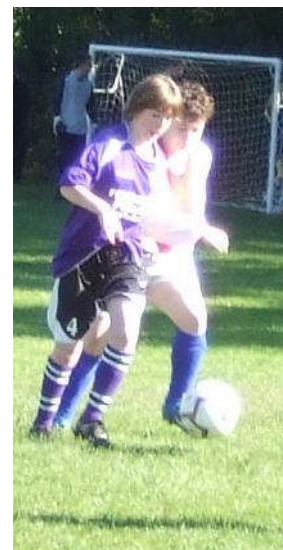
Above: Plymouth Argyle
(Winners: League 1)

Women's Football

2011/12 will see the creation of the first formal Devon Ability Counts Women's League, with teams/players likely from Plymouth Argyle, Exeter, Tavistock Specials, Free Spirits, Torquay Utd, Twyford Spartans and Bideford. Some clubs will field whole teams, others will work together to field combined sides.

However during this season just finished, the league has been first working towards this, and throughout the season there were the first Women's friendly matches in Devon, with games between Plymouth Argyle, Exeter City, Torquay Utd and Free Spirits.

(Left: Exeter City Ladies v Plymouth Argyle Ladies, October 2010)



League 2 (Mens) Round Up

League 2 in 2010/11 has always had an air of unpredictability about it; for instance on the opening day of the season bottom placed finishers Exeter City had a fine win over eventual champions Tavistock Specials. The Specials however have enjoyed an excellent debut season, leading the table since October, and despite some last day upsets in losing to ROC Active Exeter and Torquay Utd, the Specials did enough to seal the title with wins over Exeter City and Free Spirits. Plymouth Argyle Pilgrims were never too far behind however, and put in strong finish to the season to eventually finish only 2 points behind Tavistock. Elsewhere in the league, Bideford Blues just managed to sneak into 3rd ahead of debutants Newton Soccability and ROC Active Exeter. Torquay Utd Inspirations won the Fair Play Award in League 2, with the highest Sportsmanship marks awarded in all of the divisions, an excellent achievement.



Above: Tavistock Specials
(Winners: League 2)

League 2	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Tavistock	42	28	6	8	+36	104
Plym. Pilgrims	42	29	2	11	+58	102
Bideford	42	23	7	12	+50	95
Newton Socc.	42	20	9	13	+21	91
ROC Active	42	17	9	16	+14	85
Free Spirits	42	17	6	19	+8	82
Torquay Utd	42	8	3	31	-68	61
Exeter City	42	4	2	36	-119	52