

WHO ARE YA?!

BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION

The Seagulls are flying again!

THE CLUB

Founded 1901

Colours Blue and white

Nickname The Seagulls

Stadium Falmer Stadium

Record Attendance 36,747 v Fulham, 1958

Record Win 10-1 v Wisbech, 1965

Record Defeat 9-0 v Middlesbrough, 1958

Most Appearances 509, Ernie "Tug" Wilson, 1922-36

Most Goals Tommy Cook, 123, 1922-29

Honours Division Two/Championship runners-up, 1978-79; 2016-17; FA Cup runners-up, 1983

FIFA 19 Rating ★★★★★

Despite being homeless and nearly dropping into non-League just 20 years ago, Brighton fans refused to give up on their club. Now they are watching their team play Premier League football in a spectacular stadium!

THE MANAGER

Chris Hughton has been Brighton's manager since 2014. Before he took them up in 2016-17 he had also won promotion as manager of Newcastle United!

Hughton used to be a full-back with Tottenham. He also played 53 times for the Republic of Ireland.



THE HISTORY

Brighton have played in all four divisions of the League but did not reach the top level for the first time until 1979-80. They spent four years there and did an unfortunate double in 1982-83 - being relegated and losing in the FA Cup final in the same season!

They lost the FA Cup to Manchester United 4-0 in a replay after the first



PREVIOUSLY MANAGED
NEWCASTLE UNITED
BIRMINGHAM CITY
NORWICH CITY

THE BOSS
CHRIS HUGHTON

MASCOT
GULLY THE SEAGULL



LOVE ALBION



Brighton might need a bigger stadium soon!



The Seagulls are loving life in the Premier League!

match finished 2-2. In the final minute of the first game, Brighton forward **Gordon Smith** had a great chance to win the Cup when he was running in on goal. The commentator famously shouted "And Smith must score..." but his shot was blocked by the United keeper.

After that relegation Brighton had some difficult times, which included having to move out of their stadium and nearly being relegated into non-League in 1996-97. On the final day, they travelled to **Hereford** needing a draw to stay up and relegate their opponents. Brighton were losing at

half time but substitute **Robbie Reinelt** equalised after 62 minutes and they stayed up!

Brighton moved out of the bottom division in 2001 and finally got back to the top level last season.

THE STADIUM

Brighton have played at **Falmer Stadium** since 2011. They had to leave their old home, the **Goldstone Ground**, in 1997 when it was controversially sold. After that they shared at Gillingham (75 miles away!) for two years then played at the **Withdean**, a small athletics stadium in Brighton, until their new ground was built. The Withdean could only hold 8,000 but over 30,000 can cheer them on at Falmer!

THE FANS

Brighton's fans famously helped to save the club when it nearly went out of business in the 1990s. Last season the team were watched by an average crowd of **30,403**, which was Brighton's highest so far in the five years they had played in the top division. If they stay up in the Premier League, they may need to make the ground bigger!

THE RIVALS

Brighton's main rivals are **Crystal Palace**, even though the two clubs are 40 miles apart! The rivalry developed during the late 1970s when both were chasing promotion from the Third Division (now League One). Brighton fans started calling their team "Seagulls" in response to Palace fans chanting their own nickname "Eagles" during matches between the two clubs!

THE STAR PLAYERS

Anthony Knockaert's quick feet and direct running are helping Brighton to stay in the Premier League! Up front **Glenn Murray** uses his aerial power to terrorise defences while Holland international **Davy Propper** dictates from midfield.



Anthony Knockaert - wing wizard

DID YOU KNOW?

The club's full name is Brighton & Hove Albion. Hove is a smaller town to the west of Brighton. The two towns merged into one in 1997 and officially became a city in 2001!