

The man chosen to select and coach the team for Crystal Palace FC in 1895 was Nicholas Lane Jackson (1849-1937), President of the London Football Association.



Figure 530 – Nicholas Lane Jackson, Crystal Palace FC coach in 1895

This gives us the clear signal that the Crystal Palace Company, though we have seen evidence that their ultimate aim was a professional football club, had decided that their best course of action in the short-term was to cosy-up to the avidly-amateur London FA, at least for the beginning of their new venture - maybe just to play for time.

In the previous decade, Mr Jackson had founded that very apogee of amateurism, *Corinthian FC*, and a man more disdainful of professionalism could not have been given the job at Crystal Palace. You may remember, it was in fact N.L. Jackson who was the man at the vanguard of the ferocious campaign to try to prevent Arsenal from going pro, four years earlier, in Figure 493.

The Corinthian Club, though its players were amateurs, did charge stiff fees for appearance money, and we shouldn't assume for a moment that the Crystal Palace Company were getting a free ride from Jackson.

Jackson picked most of his Palace team from Corinthian players, including Maurice Hugh Stanbrough (1870-1904), Lewis Vaughan Lodge (1872-1916) and Arthur George Henfry (1867-1929):



Figure 531 – Hugh Stanbrough (left), Vaughan Lodge (centre) and Arthur Henfry (right) played for Crystal Palace FC in the 1890s