

# FOOTBALL RIVALRIES BY MATTHEW AND RYAN



Birmingham City VS Aston Villa is the biggest football derby in Birmingham. (A derby is when two local teams have a match.)

These derbies are normally full of passion, pride, emotion, excitement ... and sometimes even anger.



Aston Villa were founded in 1874 while

Birmingham were founded in 1875. Aston Villa have won twenty- one major trophies while the Blues have only won two.

Formed in 1875 as Small Heath Alliance, they became Small Heath in 1888, then Birmingham in 1905, finally becoming Birmingham City in 1943.

St. Andrews is the home of Birmingham city; the capacity is 30,016 while villa park's capacity is 42,682. St. Andrews was built in 1906 when villa park was built in 1897.

The last time these rivals met was the 30<sup>th</sup> October, Villa took the lead with Gary Gardener via a spectacular header, but in the second half David Davis, the Birmingham centre-midfielder levelled it up with a phenomenal goal from just outside the box.

A Villa supporter at the school said: "I'm excited for this derby because it's all about the bragging rights the next day." Although another student highlighted the danger of local derbies, saying: "It's risky to go to these matches because of the violence that happens".

Birmingham vs Villa is sometimes not even about the football ... some fans just go to fight! The Aston Villa firm is called The Sea Crew but Birmingham's is well known they are called The Zulus.

The next time these two met will be 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 at villa park at 12:00.



Here's to a good (hopefully friendly) derby!