

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

ISSUE 31

MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2019



WEMBLEY SELLOUT

We preview the sellout game at Wembley as England get ready to take on Germany, an exclusive interview with Andy Ross and all the latest from the UK's top divisions and competitions.

THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL MAGAZINE



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Welcome

CONTRIBUTORS

Editor: Helen Rowe-Willcocks

Writers: Ammo Curtis

Jessica Chandok

Hannah Clarke

Bridget Lockwood

Allie Coker

Marissa Thomas

Daniela Pochelli

Photography: joerdeli

@GOTB

Website designer: Will Ibbetson

Graphic designer: Phil Brooke

SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: @womensfootiemag

Facebook:

thewomensfootiemag

Instagram:

Thewomensfootballmagazine

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Hello and welcome to Issue 31!

Hello everyone and welcome to issue 31!

We have so much exciting content ahead of the international weekend—we hope you are all managing to go to a game to see your side whether it's England at Wembley or Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales in their qualifiers. Make sure you tweet us #TWFMLive with your pictures from the game!

Anyway back to the issue we have interviews with Toni Duggan and Andy Ross—a fascinating interview about setting up a new women's football team.

We also have Allie Coker looking at her favourite West Ham moments, Ammo and Georgia are back with their latest columns and we have all the news across the leagues and the world from all aspects of women's football.

Don't forget to get your hands on one of our calendars—they are selling like hotcakes and just £5.

Enjoy the issue!

Helen Rowe-Willcocks

Editor-in-Chief

@helenrw11

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WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE



The Proclaimers have got nothing on me



By Allie Coker

It seemed in July 2018 that all of my conversations started with “Did you know West Ham are going to have a women's team?” – it genuinely replaced “hello” as a greeting for a long time. My love for Women's football by this point was well-known. Since the 2015 World Cup, I had been following the game and Man City had been my team of choice, due to the fact that I live in Manchester and half the England squad was made up of City players. The news that West Ham was getting a women's team wasn't actually new. West Ham Ladies had been around for a while, playing in the Conference South. Their jumping up three leagues to the WSL was however very new and very exciting. It was after the announcement of football legends such as Claire Rafferty, Jane Ross and our Captain

Fantastic Gilly Flaherty that I knew we were taking it seriously and I resolved to get to a game or two. However, after my first trip to see them play Arsenal, I realised I was in for a lot of expense and a lot of miles on the M6. So far it has been 10,087.8 miles to be precise.

By the end of this season I expect to get to reach just over 15,000 miles – even though I don't drive so I am a frequent flyer on the various national coach services. You don't travel up and down the country as much as I do without some mishaps and hilarity though. My biggest problem is that I am lacking any sense of direction. So many times I have turned into storage yards, car parks and once someone's garden due to my lack of wherewithal – but I always get there in the end.

The question I get asked most is why. Being based in Stockport it would have been so much easier to have carried on following Manchester City and ignored my club's newest creation. This was never going to happen. Firstly, my mother would have killed me if I'd continued to support any other team when there was a feasible West Ham option. Having been brought up as a claret and blue since I was knee-high to a grasshopper, it would have been unthinkable to support a team who played against the Hammers.

Speaking of mothers - the game against Chelsea away on Mother's day last season will always be very special to me. One reason being my very forgiving mother who let me abandon her, all in the name of football. Two; drawing with Chelsea was a real game-changer for us in terms of how seriously we were to be taken in the league. Three; being surrounded by Chelsea fans as one of the only Hammers in my section cheering when Gilly Flaherty scored the equaliser. Like, actually jumping-out-of-my-seat, fist-pumping kind of cheering. Luckily I was in the family stand and was reassured that as she was an ex-Chelsea player I was safe. It was also the day that Mrs. Rafferty (Claire's mum) took me to her heart and decided I needed looking after.

Being surrounded by the opposition can also lead to some comedic moments. One of my first games was away at Arsenal. I was one of the only fans actually wearing colours for the Hammers so I was quite noticeable. Surrounded by Arsenal fans, I began my usual chanting for the Irons. It soon became a shouting match between me and some little Gunners as to who could cheer on their team the loudest. Finally, a very indignant 3-year-old turned to me to ask the age-old question; "Why do you support West Ham?" My standard reply to this has always been "Well, someone's got to." He looked very pensive for a moment and then started chanting for the Hammers as loudly as his tiny little lungs could muster. His Arsenal-supporting





parents did not seem too impressed with this development.

Another huge factor in my decision to start following my team was the feeling I got as soon as I saw those girls stepping out in the classic claret and blue for the first time. It felt as though a missing puzzle piece had been clicked in; that although I had been devoted to my time with Man City, the emotion cheering on the club I had been raised to support was something indescribable.

The absolute pinnacle of this so far has been the FA Cup semi-final vs Reading – even more so than the actual final. That game had everything; drama, passion and penalties plus a couple of face-breaks (I'm sure Jo Potter has forgiven Claire Rafferty for that one). It was the first game where there had been a sizeable crowd of West Ham fans so we did what all good West Ham fans do; we did not stop singing and trying to out-shout the opposition. 800 West Ham fans singing Forever Blowing Bubbles to a very emotional team that were singing back to us is a moment I will never forget. I still don't think my nerves have ever settled back from the rollercoaster of being so disheartened by the early Reading goal, the jubilation of the Alisha's equaliser and then the heart-stopping penalty shoot-out. I will be talking about that game when I am old and grey. It was also memorable because logistically I hadn't factored in penalties and the extra time. Which meant it was questionable how I was going to make it back home as my planned coach was long gone by the time I left Adams Park. Thank goodness for last-minute train deals.

The final reason for doing what I do is for the love of the game and the love of that team as well. The whole squad puts 100 percent in every game and the fans feel it. Even when we lose you know how much that affects the girls and how much it spurs them on. That passion comes back to the fans tenfold and I have never seen a team

who give so much to their fans and vice versa. It's definitely what spurs my dedication.

A shining example of this was my trip to Yeovil away. Logistically it was a nightmare on a cold December evening. I had to travel the day before stay overnight in Bournemouth before continuing on the Sunday morning; by far the most miles travelled for one game. However, a 5-0 win made it all worthwhile. I had got there super early and was waiting with the Yeovil fans to get into the ground. Many of them were bemused by my effort to get to the game and asked if it was all worth it (a common query). Just as they asked the question, the team bus pulled up and off came Raff, who came straight up to me and pulled me into a bear hug. The small perks of being a regular follower. It was a great game to go to and worth what ended up being 700 miles of travel.

On a more personal level, one of the greatest memories for me was the last game of the season. Gilly had promised me a shirt as thank you for my travels. She came through tenfold for me. At the end of the game she presented me with her FA Cup shirt which she had signed by the entire squad. And you wonder why I am forever grateful for and loyal to my team.

As an all-time favourite moment though, it's hard to beat something that happened at Bristol away. I was standing chatting with a couple of fellow Hammers about why our captain Gilly was on the bench when she was fully fit. We worked out she was probably on the yellow card cusp, meaning

one more and she would have been out for the next game – which would have a struggle since it was the FA Cup final. If I have learnt anything it's to be careful about what you say as little ears can be listening. In this case, the two young daughters of the fellow Hammer I was chatting to. Gilly came over after a good win and made a lot of fuss of the little ones. A blonde-haired blue-eyed angelic-looking child tugged on Gilly's shirt and said those heart-stopping words.

"Gilly can I ask you a question?"

Gilly game as ever lowered herself to the small child eye line. "Of course you can mate."

"Why do you keep getting yellow cards?"

Ah the innocence of youth. I still giggle about that story now even though it was mortifying at the time.

People think I am insane for travelling as much as I do. It takes a lot of time and effort and planning. The logistics of travelling the first 10,000 miles has not been easy. However, I wouldn't change it. I have met some great people following this team and have seen a lot of the country. Even if it's just motorways and non-league football grounds.

You can read more of my travels here and see my thoughts on all if the games here:

www.adventuresinclaretandblue.com

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEVS54dHdUTvRc1ZKdPMSoA/>
featured



Jill Scott becomes Forever Living ambassador



Manchester City midfielder Jill Scott has been signed by health and wellness company Forever Living as a brand ambassador in the UK.

Forever Living is the world's largest grower and manufacturer of aloe vera products which includes aloe vera-based drinks and bee-derived cosmetics, nutritional supplements and personal care products.

Scott, who has earned over 140 caps playing for England, grew up in Sunderland and started to play aged eight.

She went on to join Everton Ladies in 2006, making her debut for the England senior team in August of the same year before joining Manchester City in 2013.

Scott has competed in three European Championships and four World Cups; including this year in France where she became England's most capped footballer in the World Cup Finals, overtaking Peter Shilton in the quarter-final win against Cameroon.

Commenting on her ambassador role, Scott said, "I've been using Forever's products to support my demanding lifestyle; I am always on the go both on and off the field. As I have got to know the company and its brand values, it was a natural fit for me to become an ambassador."

Forever Living Products (UK) Ltd's country manager Bob Parker said, "We are delighted to welcome Jill as an ambassador. She is an incredible role model, demonstrating what can be achieved by hard work, determination and love of her sport. These qualities are also at the heart of Forever Living. Jill is a huge inspiration and we are proud to have her association with the brand."

Fran Kirby receives honorary doctorate and makes 100th Chelsea appearance

It's been some month for Chelsea's Fran Kirby, despite not making the England team for the two friendlies in November.

The 26-year-old received the Doctor of Science Honoris Causa from the University of Winchester as it recognised her achievements both on and off the field – particularly her work in supporting mental health.

She wrote on Twitter: “To receive this because of something that I’m so passionate about, makes me so proud. Mental health is always something that I will be very open about, and I hope we can continue to break the stigma around it.”

Just over a week later, Kirby was walking out at the Rush Green Stadium to face London rivals West Ham in her 100th Chelsea appearance.



10 facts about Kirby's time at Chelsea

1. She scored on her Blues' debut when she came off the bench against Birmingham
2. She scored Chelsea's first ever Champions League goal – against Glasgow City in April 201
3. So far Kirby has scored 65 goals for Emma Hayes' side
4. Kirby was the first female winner of the FWA Player of the Year award in 2018
5. She was also named the PFA Players' Player of the Year for the 2017-18 season
6. Kirby scored the winning goal in Chelsea's 2-1 FA Cup final win in 2018 to lift the trophy
7. She was nicknamed "Mini Messi" by Mark Sampson
8. Serious injuries have left her with bad knee pain which she has to manage daily
9. Kirby is extremely open about struggling with mental health due to the loss of her mum
10. Thierry Henry is her idol



Injury updates

Aoife Mannion

Manchester City defender Aoife Mannion is out for an “extended spell” after picking up a serious knee injury during their 1-1 draw in the first leg of the Champions League clash with Atletico Madrid.

The 24-year-old, who was called up to England for the first time in August, will “shortly undergo surgery” according to the club.

(write statement in a box) In a statement on Twitter, she wrote:

Thank you or all the lovely comforting messages of support sent my way. I have ruptured my ACL and so I'll be out from the game for some time.

I am not sure what the road to recovery will look like but I do know that the path has been well trodden by many women in the game before me. I am so lucky to be at a club where I am surrounded by teams of physios, doctors and S&C coaches that will manage every detail of my recovery. I have such respect and admiration for most players who have worked themselves back to fitness with far less support than I will have.

For now I will have to fan girl my team from the sideline rather than beside them on the pitch.

My favourite quote... Marcus Aurelius ‘What stands in the way becomes the way.’

Time to #RecoverLikeAWoman

Maria Thorisdottir

Chelsea Women's defender Maria Thorisdottir has undergone surgery on a fractured leg.

The 26-year-old Norwegian defender suffered the injury in training before their game against West Ham.

Thorisdottir joined Chelsea in 2017 and has recently renewed her contract until 2021 but she will be out for the rest of 2019.



Maria Thorisdottir
@MariaThorisdottir

Unfortunately I fractured a bone in my leg last week in training. Yesterday i had a successful surgery and fingers crossed for a speedy recovery. 2020 im coming for you! 🌟💙



WSL October review

By Bridget Lockwood



TheFA Women's
Super League



Arsenal

Position: 2nd

Results:

Chelsea 2 – 1 Arsenal

Arsenal 1 – 0 Manchester City

Arsenal had two tough games in the month of October against title contenders Chelsea and Manchester City. Only ten minutes into the games the Gunners opened the scoring, with Miedema slotting the ball through the Chelsea defence which found Van de Donk who calmly put the ball into the back of the net. However, they couldn't hold onto this lead, Beth England scoring the equaliser and super sub Thorisdottir getting the late winner with a first time shot curling in passed Zinsberger into the Arsenal goal. Their second game was much more positive as they beat City, being the first team to score against Nick Cushing's side so far this season. Miedema put Arsenal ahead just before half time but Arsenal could have scored several more with Nobbs dragging a shot just wide and Evans firing just over the bar.

Birmingham City

Position: 9th

Results:

Manchester City 3 – 0 Birmingham City

Birmingham City 2 – 0 Liverpool

Birmingham were able to register their first goal and win of the season this month. Their first game against Manchester City saw them lose 3 – 0; with an even first half City got their first goal with a lucky deflected strike. However, in the second half Birmingham couldn't hold back the attacking force of City as they easily put away two more goals. Birmingham City then got their first win of the season scoring a goal in each half against bottom of the table Liverpool. Starting quickly Birmingham got their first goal nine minutes into the game as Kerys Harrop headed home a free kick from Lucy Staniforth. This was doubled in the 83rd minute as Staniforth went from assister to goal scorer with a strike into the top corner to help the Blues secure their first three points of the season.





Brighton & Hove Albion

Position: 11th

Results:

Brighton & Hove Albion 1 – 3 West Ham United

Everton 2 – 0 Brighton & Hove Albion

Brighton are still without a win this season, not registering any points from the two games they played this month. A disappointing game against West Ham saw them score an extra time consolation goal as the Hammers easily put away three as they dominated possession. In their second game of the month they played Everton. Even though Brighton had their chances, inform Kelly hit the first goal then 10 minutes later Esme Morgan headed home the second. Brighton only have two points so far this season and are hoping for their first league victory to come soon.

Bristol City

Position: 10th

Results:

Liverpool 1 – 1 Bristol City

Bristol City 1 – 2 Tottenham Hotspur



Both teams had chances to go ahead but couldn't be separated in the one all draw. The Robins got an early lead with a superb strike from their right wing looping over the keeper and into the back of the net. Nonetheless Liverpool kept pushing for an equaliser and were rewarded late into the second half as Bristol defender Loren Dykes brought down Babajibe inside the box and Liverpool put it away from the spot. The Robins were then at home against Tottenham, still searching for their first win of the season. The hosts went ahead when Harrison blasted the ball into the roof of the net while Tottenham struggled to clear. But Tottenham fought back scoring two goals in two minutes to get the win, they could have had another but Bristol keeper Baggaley pulled off another brilliant save when Spurs were awarded a penalty from a foul in the box by Yara Daniels.

Chelsea

Position: 1st

Results:

Chelsea 2 – 1 Arsenal

West Ham 1 – 3 Chelsea



Chelsea played two derby's this month, coming from behind in both games to win in a glorious fashion. The blues played champions Arsenal in their first game of the month, going behind very early on they constantly pushed to find an equaliser. It eventually came in the second half when Beth England flicked the ball up from Fran Kirby's cut-back to volley it in from close range. Chelsea winner came five minutes before full time as super sub Maria Thorisdottir hit the ball first time to curl the ball past the keeper and into the back of the net, with the blues celebrating in front of the home crowd of nearly 4,150 fans. Chelsea moved to the top of the table after beating West Ham 1 – 3, the second goal from Ji So-Yun is a definite contender for goal of the month smashing the ball in from 20 yards.

Everton

Position: 5th

Results:

Reading 3 – 2 Everton

Everton 2 – 0 Brighton & Hove Albion



Everton's first game of the month was an entertaining one for fans the end to end play saw both teams having equal possession. The attacking nature of the game meant there was four goals in the first 23 minutes, but Reading were victorious as sub Utland headed home the winner mid-way through the second half. Chloe Kelly scored her fourth goal in five WSL games to help with Everton win over Brighton in a 2 – 0 victory. The second came just ten minutes later as Esme Morgan headed home from a corner to score her first goal for the club since signing on loan from Manchester City. This win ended back to back losses for the Toffees moving them up to fifth in the table.

Liverpool

Position: 12th

Results:

Liverpool 1 – 1 Bristol City

Birmingham City 2 – 0 Liverpool



Another tough month for Liverpool as they still look for their first win of the campaign. The Reds scored their first league goal against Bristol during a 1 – 1 draw. It came in 72nd minute after Babajide who had been causing problems for the City defence was brought down in the box by Loren Dykes. The penalty was calmly slotted away by Mel Lawley who had been pushing hard for a goal all game. In their second game of the month they faced Birmingham who were also looking for their first win of the season. Liverpool could not stop the excellence of Lucy Staniforth who assisted and scored a goal to help Birmingham get the win and leave Liverpool still looking to get their first win of the season.

Manchester City

Position: 3rd

Results:

Manchester City 3 – 0 Birmingham City

Arsenal 1 – 0 Manchester City



City had a slow first half in their game against Birmingham with the only goal coming from a deflected shot from Keira Walsh. After a quiet first half Man City picked up the pace scoring nearly straight away as Wullaert nicely finished from a Beckie cross. Substitute Lee Geum-min also got on the score sheet for City with her first goal in English football to round up a good afternoon for Cushing's side. Conceding their first goal of the season they played champions Arsenal, where they struggled to break down the strong Arsenal defense and create chances having to opt for long range shots.

Manchester United

Position: 4th

Results:

Tottenham Hotspur 0 – 3 Manchester United

Manchester United 2 – 0 Reading

In United's first meeting of the month they faced their fellow newly promoted side Tottenham. A competitive game with strong tackles throughout saw United player James sent off in extra time just minutes after she had been awarded man of the match. This didn't dampen the mood as they still went on to win 3 – 0. United then beating Reading to secure their third successive win in the WSL. A perfectly timed Volley at the back post from Kirsty Hanson put the Red Devils ahead just 16 minutes in. Despite Reading looking dangerous throughout sub Sigsworth put the game to bed scoring a low driven shot past Molony in the 85th minute.



Reading

Position: 8th

Results:

Reading 3 – 2 Everton

Manchester United 2 – 0 Reading



The Royals played an entertaining game against Everton as both teams score two goals inside the first 23 minutes. Jade Moore scoring twice with her head for the Royals with Everton equaling the score through Kelly and Graham. Reading eventually got the winner through summer signing Utland who again scored with her head. All the goals came from a Fara Williams assist making her the only player to provide three assists in more than one WSL match. This heading form didn't last for Reading as they failed to capitalise from any of Fara Williams free kicks as they lost 2 – 0 to United.

Tottenham Hotspur

Position: 6th

Results:

Tottenham Hotspurs 0 – 3 Manchester United

Bristol City 1 – 2 Tottenham Hotspur

Tottenham couldn't match fellow promoted side Manchester United losing 3 – 0, the second goal coming from Spurs defender Neville as she turned the ball into her own net early into the second half. Despite the win United had man of the match Lauren James sent off in extra time after receiving a second yellow card. Their second game of the season against Bristol; two unbelievable strikes from Kit Graham within minutes of each other helped Tottenham come from behind to win. It could have been three for Tottenham as they were awarded a penalty, however Furness saw her effort saved by Baggaley in the Bristol goal.





West Ham United

Position: 7th

Results:

Brighton & Hove Albion 1 – 3 West Ham United

West Ham United 1 – 3 Chelsea

West Ham dominated against Brighton, with goals from Thomas, Dali and Lehmann helping them on their way to a slick victory. It looked bright for the Hammers against London rivals Chelsea as Adriana Leon gave them the lead with her first touch after coming on as a substitute. But they could not hold onto this lead with Chelsea putting three passed them, one being a superb 20-yard effort from Ji which was unstoppable as it rocketed into the top corner.

November's WSL fixtures can be found at:

www.thewomensfootballmagazine.com/fixtures



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WSL Player of the month

September

Chloe Kelly of Everton won the player of the month for September.



© Joerdeli Photography | Daniela Porcelli

October

The shortlist has been announced for the October award.

The nominees are:

- Kirsty Hanson—Manchester United
- Kerys Harrop—Birmingham City
- Chloe Kelly—Everton
- Vivianne Miedema—Arsenal
- Danielle van de Donk—Arsenal



Ammo's Antics

Hi everyone,

Back to normal format this week. So last time I told you about my knee injury. I tore a ligament called a meniscus. Well, the road to recovery has been a long one. I've still been going to training three times a week with Birmingham but I've spent the whole time with our physios. Who are brilliant by the way. From the moment I got injured they had a plan to get me back playing, but they wouldn't rush me back.

It's been a massively frustrating ten weeks since it happened. I've tried to take it one step at a time. I don't have a lot of patience... unlike our physios. There's a joke there somewhere. I think it's called "a pun".

It was weeks before I could even begin running. Then it seemed like running is all I could do. I can't confirm it but I think I've run around the world a couple of times.

It's also been cold, windy and wet. But I've never stopped running. I don't give up.

My team mates have been awesome. Shouting "go Ammo!" As I run past them.. fifty eight times.

But here's the thing. I am going to be a professional footballer when I'm older. I have no doubt about that. So I will do whatever is needed to get there.

After weeks of runs a football was eventually introduced. Some simple passing drills to help make my knee stronger. At this point I'd

missed the RTC tournament at Warwick (gutted about that one) And matches against MK Dons, Bristol City and West Brom. I've been lucky that I haven't missed more. We've had some games cancelled due to waterlogged pitches. After about 9 weeks I was allowed to do half the training sessions. It was great to be back with my team mates. I was racing to be fit for the weekends game against Aston Villa. Happy to say I was allowed to play 20 minutes against Villa. They are a strong team who gave us a few problems. We came out 3-2 winners. I came through the match ok. The following week we had Wolves away at the men's training ground. It's a great facility.

Wolves are another team who have improved over the last couple of years. Again I was on limited minutes, so could only play the second half. I played right back and gave my knee a real test getting up and down the wing. We won the game 3-0. I was happy with my performance.

So after ten long and painful weeks.. I'm officially back.

Special thanks to all the physios at Birmingham who have helped get me fit again.

Tonight is my first Wales training session for 12 weeks and on Saturday we travel up to play Man Utd in a friendly.

Recovery from an injury can be hard. It can feel like it's taking forever and can be super frustrating. But.. it will get better.

You just have to stay focused, work hard and you'll bounce back. Like me.

Stay happy,

Ammo

CHAMPIONSHIP



Championship monthly Round-up



By Helen Rowe-Willcocks



Aston Villa

Position: 1st

Results:

Charlton Athletic 0-4 Aston Villa

Aston Villa 1-1 Durham

Aston Villa have gone to the top of the table as they remain unbeaten in the league. Melissa Johnson's impressive season continues and she scored a hat-trick in their dominant win over Charlton. Emma Follis, who has also started strong bagged the final goal. Durham proved to be their toughest task so far, as they ended their winning streak. After the visitors went ahead after just eight minutes, it was a second half goal from Nadine Hanssen which bagged them the point.

Blackburn Rovers

Position: 8th

Results:

Durham 0-1 Blackburn

Blackburn 2-2 Coventry United



Blackburn Rovers moved off the bottom of the table and up three places after an unbeaten league month in October. Ellie Stewart's first half penalty was enough to secure them their first win of the season in a shock result against promotion hopefuls Durham. They continued their new momentum with a 2-2 draw with Coventry. The visitors took an early lead but two second half goals from captain Saffron Jordan was what they needed to get the point.

Charlton Athletic

Position: 11th

Results:

Charlton Athletic 0-4 Aston Villa

Sheffield United 2-2 Charlton Athletic



Charlton have sunk to the bottom of the Championship table after a difficult October. Athletic fell to a 4-0 defeat to promotion hopefuls Aston Villa before a late goal from Sheffield United saw them only come away with a point. United took an early lead but Ellie Dorey and Charlie Devlin scored Charlton's first league goals of the season. Unfortunately a late equaliser saw them share the points.

Coventry United

Position: 10th

Results:

Coventry United 1-2 London City Lionesses

Blackburn 2-2 Coventry United



Coventry have moved down one place this month after failing to get a win. Despite taking an early lead through Helen Dermody, London City Lionesses took home all the points in Coventry's opening league game of October. Coventry are still searching for their first league win of the campaign but an 86th minute equaliser against Blackburn saw them travel south with a point. Coventry took an early lead through Amber Hughes but they struggled to keep the momentum going and went behind in the second half.. It was down to substitute Shannon O'Brien to secure the point which put an end to four defeats on the trot for Coventry.

Crystal Palace

Position: 7th

Results:

Crystal Palace 1-5 Sheffield United
London Bees 2-3 Crystal Palace

The Eagles remain seventh in the league after a mixed month in the Championship. Palace struggled against a dominant Sheffield United team and Magda Mosengo's goal did nothing to help them as they fell to a 5-1 defeat. Ella Rutherford scored twice in their late win over London rivals the Bees—her first goals for the club. After scoring in the first half, Bianca Baptiste doubled their lead but two goals from London Bees made it seem like they would have to share the points. In injury time an incredible strike from Rutherford sealed the victory for Palace.



Durham

Position: 4th

Results:

Durham 0-1 Blackburn
Aston Villa 1-1 Durham

Durham have slipped off the top of the table after failing to get a league win in October. The side fell to a shock defeat against a Blackburn team who had not picked up a win yet. In a tough game against Aston Villa, who have moved to the top of the table, Nicki Gears opened the scoring for Durham after just eight minutes but they failed to hold on for the win and let one in just before the hour mark.



Leicester City

Position: 9th

Results:

Lewes 0-3 Leicester City

Leicester only played one league game in October but found themselves securing their first Championship win of the season. After a goalless first half, Hayley James, Lachante Paul and Libby Smith were on hand to bag the goals. The Foxes have struggled so far this season but they put on a dominant performance. Their second goal from Paul was a beautiful individual effort as she turned two defenders before curling the ball into the back of the net.



Lewes



Position: 6th

Results:

Lewes 0-3 Leicester City

London City Lionesses 3-0 Lewes

Lewes have hit a slump in the Championship and fell to two 3-0 defeats in October. Their first came to Leicester City, who had failed to win in the league before their visit to Lewes. In their second league game of the month London City Lionesses dominated and Lewes could not find their usual fast paced rhythm.

London Bees



Position: 5th

Results:

London Bees 2-3 Crystal Palace

London Bees have slipped two places in the Championship table but only played one league game in the month of October. The Bees thought they had guaranteed a point against Crystal Palace after coming from behind. They went 2-0 down but goals from Nikita Whinnett and Merrick Will looked to secure them a point. Will's goal was one to remember as she struck a perfect half volley into the corner of the net. Unfortunately an injury time winner for Palace saw the Bees take no points from the day or the month.

London City Lionesses

Position: 2nd

Results:

Coventry United 1-2 London City Lionesses

London City Lionesses 3-0 Lewes

Some of the biggest movers of the month see London City Lionesses move up from fifth to second in the league. The Lionesses went behind after just four minutes against Coventry but Ylenia Priest evened up the scores in the first half. It looked like the two sides would share the points but with just minutes of normal time remaining, substitute Kallie Balfour scored the winner. Evie Clarke was missing for their home tie against Lewes after receiving a second yellow card against Coventry for time wasting. It did not matter though as the Lionesses dominated the game at Princes Park. Goals from captain Ellie Mason, Elisabetta Ejupi and Hannah Short



Sheffield United

Position: 3rd

Results:

Blackburn Rovers 2-3 Sheffield United

Sheffield United 5-1 Coventry United

Sheffield United have moved up to third after an unbeaten Championship October. Blackburn opened the scoring but a first half goal from Chloe Dixon and second half goals from Katie Wilkinson and Jade Pennock were enough to seal victory even if a late Rovers goal caused a scare. United put on a dominant performance against Coventry United. Four goals before half time put the Blades well ahead - two from Wilkinson, and goals from Olivia Fergusson and Aimer Palmer. Maddy Cusack added a fifth on 70 minutes. The Blades sit third having lost just once so far this season.



November's Championship fixtures can be found at:
www.thewomensfootballmagazine.com/fixtures



**THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE**



Aston Villa announce shirt sponsor

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Aston Villa Women have sealed a shirt sponsorship with cleaning brand Guard Industry.

It marks the first independent jersey partnership for the team, who compete in the second tier of the women's soccer pyramid in England.

Previously, they held the same shirt sponsor as the men's team.

Gemma Davies, Aston Villa Women's manager, told the website: "This is a landmark moment in the history of Aston Villa Women. We've made huge strides on and off the pitch under the club's ownership over the past 12 months and having our own front-of-shirt sponsor is testament to that progress. I'm proud to be a part of this team each and every day and I'm delighted that Guard Industry have embraced the journey that we're on."



London City Lionesses sack Chris Phillips



London City Lionesses sacked manager Chris Phillips after just six league games on October 15.

The club, which formed in the summers after breaking away from Millwall Lionesses in May, have won four of their league games in the Championship.

Phillips was also the manager at Millwall before the breakaway but Head of player development John Bayer took interim charge for the Conti Cup visit of London Bees.

Sources told BBC Sport that Phillips departs with the club's best wishes, but the club felt a change of direction was needed.

So far a new manager has not been announced.



Championship player of the month

September

Molly Sharpe of Durham won the player of the month for September.



October

The shortlist has been announced for the October award.

The nominees are:

Jade Pennock—Sheffield United

Melissa Johnson—Aston Villa

Ellie Mason—London City Lionesses

Saffron Jordan—Blackburn Rovers



HENDRIX

4



INVESTMENT

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Women's Football Weekend give fans perfect opportunity to attend a game



© Joerdeli Photography | Daniela Porcelli

By Marissa Thomas

With women's football increasing in popularity, the Football Association announced in September that they would begin an annual Women's Football Weekend to take place on 17 November. There will be six Barclays FAWSL and five Women's Championship matches with plenty of fixtures for fans to attend.

Continuing on the landmark moments that have already occurred this season with women's matches taking place at Stamford Bridge, the Etihad Stadium, the London Stadium and Ashton Gate, the Women's Football Weekend will see three more matches at men's stadiums.

Newly promoted Tottenham Hotspur will host North London rivals and defending WSL champions Arsenal at the Tottenham Hotspur stadium while Anfield will entertain its first Women's Super League match, a Merseyside

derby nonetheless.

Speaking after the announcement, Liverpool chief executive Peter Moore said: "This is a historic moment for women's football on Merseyside. We are incredibly proud to have our women's team play their first league game at Anfield and for it to be a Merseyside derby against Everton makes it extra special.

Reading will also face Bristol City at the Madejski Stadium as part of Women's Football Weekend. A record crowd of 31,213 watched the first-ever WSL Manchester derby in September and there is a huge opportunity to not only match but beat that record with the three fixtures at men's stadiums in November.

In the Women's Championship, London City Lionesses travel to Crystal Palace, while Durham take on London Bees. Bottom of the table Charlton Athletic host Leicester City, Coventry United go up against Aston Villa and Lewes will play Sheffield United.

The decision to host the inaugural Women's Football Weekend during the men's international break means that new fans could be attracted to the women's game, watching football for a much cheaper price and having a good day out in the process.

The aim then, is to keep them coming to games at the women's normal stadiums, instead of just attending the showcase events. While it is good to have big crowds in big stadiums, that is often a one off and women's football teams are crying out for high levels of support every week.

Manchester United travel to Chelsea as part of Women's Football Weekend and it will be interesting to see if Kingsmeadow is a sell-out on the day.

In the words of the FA director of the women's professional game, Kelly Simmons: "There has never been a better time to visit your local team, and we encourage all supporters to get involved at all levels of the pyramid."

Women's Football Weekend fixtures

Women's Super League

Manchester City v West Ham United

Brighton & Hove Albion v Birmingham City

Chelsea v Manchester United

Reading v Bristol City

Liverpool v Everton

Tottenham Hotspur v Arsenal

Championship

Durham v London Bees

Lewes v Sheffield United

Charlton Athletic v Leicester City

Coventry United v Aston Villa

Crystal Palace v London City Lionesses



Framed by the Fans



NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE



THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE

Derby County announce new board of directors



Derby County Ladies have announced a new board of directors to help oversee the growth of the club.

The new board will work alongside the existing Operational Board and helps to formalise the link with the club.

It is the latest step since Derby announced it would be increasing its support of the Ladies team in March 2018.

Since then the Ewe Rams have also started training at the Derby County Training Centre.

The new Governance board consists of:

Nick Britten, Chair, Managing Director of Another Voice and Director of Corporate Communications, Derby County Football Club

Faye Nixon, Vice Chair, Head of Marketing, Derby County Football Club

Sarah Bailey, Secretary, Corporate Solicitor, Geldards LLP

Claire Twells, Business Development Partner & Head of Debt Recovery, Smith Partnership

Stephen Pearce, CEO, Derby County Football Club

Lauren Asquith, Club Development and Disability Manager, Derby County Community Trust

Michael Johnson, England U21 coach, former Derby County player, Derby County Football Club ambassador

Nick Britten told the official website: "This is an extremely exciting time for Ewe Rams as we seek to move onto the next level.

"We are building on some already excellent, nationally-recognised work, and the expertise all members of the Board bring will help enable the Club to thrive, grow and remain sustainable in the long term, providing support across all aspects of the Club's organisation."

Derby County Ladies FC, CEO, Duncan Gibb added: "The main club have been incredibly supportive during that time and formalising that link provides tangible evidence of the Clubs holistic one club approach.

"This announcement is a landmark day in the proud history of Derby County Ladies FC."

Annie Heatherson makes 100th Yeovil appearance



Annie Heatherson has made her 100th appearance for Yeovil.

The 35-year-old striker joined the club in 2014, after officially retiring a year earlier.

Heatherson, who is the club captain for the green and whites, spent time with Charlton Athletic, Chelsea, Millwall and Fulham to name just a few before hanging up her boots having fallen out of favour at Bristol Academy.

The former Women's FA Cup winner was persuaded into a comeback with Yeovil, who were then in the WSL 2 division in December 2014.

On October 10, Heatherson marked her 100th game with a goal against Keynsham Town in the National League clash.

During her time at Yeovil some of :

- Won the WSL2 title in 2016
- Scored the goal which secured them the title over Bristol on the last day of the 2016 season
- She is the youth academy coach

Premier Division News

Hull City aim to break attendance record

Hull City Ladies are aiming to break their attendance record on November 10.

The attempt will come on the same weekend as England take on Germany in a friendly at a sold out Wembley stadium.

With England supporters set to break a record, Hull City Ladies has challenged their supporters and the wider community to go and watch the Tigresses host Middlesbrough Women at the Dransfield Stadium.

There are a number of incentives for U16s which includes free pizza and sweets, a free raffle, free coaching and much more.

Tickets are:

Adult: £5

Concession: £4

U16: FREE

Kick-off is at 2pm, doors open at 12pm.



Gillingham appoint new first-team manager



Gillingham have announced the appointment of Jamie Raynor as the Ladies first team manager.

Raynor replaces Jack Wheeler who left his role by mutual consent.

The manager has previous experience at Rotherham United as community coach and assistant manager of their ladies team.

He also will take on the roles as assistant youth team coach and the girls academy coach.

Speaking to the club website, he said: "The girls work really, really hard and they are a great bunch. They are listening to new ideas and this is possibly the biggest role I've had at the age of 23. I can't wait to get going."



Fylde's Play

with Georgia Stevens

@Stix_Official_9 @FyldeLadiesFC

October has been somewhat of a month to forget for us as a club at Fylde. Losses against Wolves and Bolton saw us knocked out of the League Cup and County Cup respectively. This was a setback for us certainly, but has also given us a chance to refocus, reevaluate and come together as a squad. Our attention turns to the league and the FA Cup where we hope to perform as well as we can.

Personally, October has been a month of highs and lows. Illness saw me miss my first game for as long as I can remember - if I try really hard I think the last time was with concussion for Everton Under 13s around 6/7 years ago! Missing out on game day and a week of training was a massive blow for me physically and mentally but also made me eager to get back on the pitch and doing what I love.

On a positive note, after receiving a nomination for Women's Rising Star in the North West Football Awards, it was announced that the votes had been counted and I was a finalist! This means that I'll be attending the awards night, hosted at The Point, Old Trafford. I can't tell you how much that means to me as attending an event like this has been a goal of mine for 2019/20, so to achieve it earlier than planned is brilliant. I'd like to

thank everyone who reads this and voted for me!

Another milestone for myself was that I earned my first ever professional sponsorship deal with Umbro. After attending a trial event, alongside semi-professional men from across the country, I was notified that I had won the competition and alongside others from across the globe and I would become an official Umbro sponsored athlete.

The event itself, entitled Diamond FC, was an unbelievable experience and I made such great friends there - a special mention to Jonathan and Jay who also won a contract and made me feel welcome on the coach up!

To sum it up, having a brand deal for a full year with one of the UK's most recognisable names in sport is (without sounding cliché) a dream come true and I can't wait for what else is in store. A massive thank you to everyone at Umbro and I can't wait for everyone to see what is in store!

Be sure to keep an eye out on my socials - @georgia.stevo on Instagram and @stix_official_9 on Twitter - to see what's next on this journey and let me know you're a reader!



Women's Ballon D'Or nominees



The 20 nominees are:

- Lucy Bronze (Lyon/England)
- Ellen White (Manchester City/ England)
- Sam Kerr (Chicago Red Stars/Australia)
- Nilla Fischer (Linkopings/Sweden)
- Amandine Henry (Lyon/France)
- Alex Morgan (Orlando Pride/USA)
- Vivianne Miedema (Arsenal/Netherlands)
- Dzenifer Marozsan (Lyon/Germany)
- Pernille Harder (VfL Wolfsburg/Denmark)
 - Sarah Bouhaddi (Lyon/France)
 - Marta (Orlando Pride/Brazil)
 - Ada Hegerberg (Lyon)
- Kosovare Asllani (CD Tacon/Sweden)
- Sofia Jakobsson (CD Tacon/Sweden)
- Tobin Heath (Portland Thorns/USA)
- Megan Rapinoe (Reign FC/USA)
- Lieke Martens (Barcelona/Netherlands)
- Sari van Veenendaal (Atletico Madrid/Netherlands)
 - Wendie Renard (Lyon/France)
 - Rose Lavelle (Washington Spirit/USA)

The Women's Ballon d'Or winner will be named in Paris on 2 December.

GRASSROOTS



ANDY ROSS

At the beginning of June the idea of Bolton County having a women's team was just a dream but after an initial approach by player and U10s coach Delyth Iddon some hard work followed by Club Directors Gareth Lindsay David Hough and Stewart Dawes alongside manager Andy Ross and his assistant and so called 'better half' Jessica Ross a team was formed.

In this two-part special we sit down with an exclusive interview with Andy to discuss the new club and how it's thriving after such a quick turn around.

How did you get into coaching?

I got into coaching through my youngest son when he was about 13. They went up to under 21s. Then my other half Jessica played for a ladies team and she went to Leigh. Their manager had to leave so I took it over. We were running a one team club with a group of women who wanted to play football. I ran that for seven years, I decided I had taken it as far as I could. I got another offer to run a different team in Swinton but then Jessica and

her sister had gone to Bolton County and were running the under 9 girls team.

How did the women's team for Bolton County come about?

They wanted a women's team to complete the final piece of their jigsaw. So alongside Jessica we have set up this women's team from scratch.

How has it been setting it up from scratch?

Very interesting. Apart from one person, people have been so supportive. We had a meeting on the third of June, on the fifth of June we made our application to join the league even though we only had six players at the time! Then the first training session was 19 June – it was a very quick turnaround. My sister-in-law – who has now become the press officer and social media

woman – she was punting so much information out about the new team.

How many people turned up to the first training session?

We had 13 people turn up. It was from my perspective – where do you pitch this? Are they going to be good or will they need a lot of work? Fortunately, we had a real mixed bag.

What did you do to prepare them so quick for the new season?

What we did to try and get them to gel we went to the Lancashire FA Women's summer 7-a-side league. It was probably one of the best decisions we made. Although it hinders the 11 v 11 to a degree, it got them really gelled.

Do you still have the same squad you started with?

We have lost one or two along the way but we have brought a lot of people in. We currently have 19 players registered which I consider to be completely successful. We didn't know where to pitch it so we have gone into the bottom division.

“We wanted to complete the final jigsaw piece”

What have you achieved on the marketing side of the club?

We have managed to get two sponsors, and a brand new kit. We have used a few connections along the way. We have done really well and it's moved forwards really quickly.

What is the age range of the players?

16-38. There are one or two who could not commit when I was at Leigh but they have now come back into football. We have a broad range of players and abilities but I have been pleasantly surprised with the quality we have.

How did your first match go?

We played our first competitive XI v XI game in September and we got absolutely battered—we can only go up! We played Wigan's development side but there was a lot of their first team players in it as they did not have a game that day. There was a real imbalance but you take it for what it is.

The girls have gelled, the vast majority didn't know each other before the summer so that is really important.

How often do you train?

We train once a week. It's a nightmare during the summer as you have to get people off the pitch. We train late on a Wednesday as we have a lot of people who work. There is a





© Carl Duffy - C Duffy Photography

balance as we have people who work, some who have kids and we have to factor that in.

How important is it showing that women can come back to sport after having children?

There are not many examples at the minute, it's not something that is spoken about but hopefully it will be soon. It's one of those that you don't get in the men's game. They just miss a game and their back the week later.

I did have it in my old team where two of my best players took a year out. It's difficult and then you also have those who want to go off to to

university. Thankfully now university teams are growing in strength too and many can go on to play with them whilst studying.

We have an ethos that we do not turn anyone away. It does not matter if they have not played or not played in years. Come along and join in. Even if all you do is train.

What are the difficulties faced with grassroots teams?

We have to travel long distances sometimes like Carlisle, Workington, Kendle—it's a full day trip. Cumbria do not have a winter league so we have a trip to Whitehaven. When

Workington got promoted, it killed their league so Lancashire took on their teams. You get used to them and they become quite enjoyable. It becomes a bit of nightmare though when you do not get there on time and you cannot warm up properly. At least Lancashire have allowed them to come in or they would have no where to play.

How many teams are in the league?

They have split it into a Premier, Championship and League One. We are in league one. There are eight teams. There are some development teams but we are all new teams so

hopefully it will be a really competitive competition. I think the Championship has eight or nine and the top has nine. They are trying to expand it out.

Are there any negatives?

Unfortunately, all the Women's Super League games take place at the same time. As that side grows, you have to wonder if it will have an impact.

Do you think the gap between grassroots and the top divisions is too high now?

Yes. It's one of my little pet hates. They have not quite split the women's game into what is

the professional side and what is the grassroots that feeds into it.

If you look at the women's Lancashire county cup the disparity between the teams is unbelievable. We could enter that competition—we haven't for this reason—we could play Blackburn Rovers who are in the Championship. It's ridiculous. If you go to the FA Cup then that's what you expect but you don't want that for all the cups. I think they have to look at that issue.

Women that want to play football to a certain level can keep going. Look at Burnley—they have gone up the leagues

and are progressing really well. It is possible but you could easily pick the four teams that will be in the County Cup final. If you took them out you would have a really competitive competition. Put a cap up to NW Women's Prem and then you will have something like the EFL Trophy.

Follow Bolton County on social media:

Twitter: @BoltonCountyWFC

Facebook: www.facebook.com/boltonCountyGirls

Andy Ross has so much more to say so make sure you get part two in Issue 32.



Notts County announce new partnership



Notts County Instagram

Notts County Women have announced a new partnership with The Woodthorpe Hospital and Ramsay Health care.

The deal will see Woodthorpe Hospital as front of shirt sponsor with the deal offering both financial and medical benefits to the Women's section.

In a statement they said: "We are delighted to partner with a locally and globally renowned organisation that will provide the senior section with its biggest financial sponsorship to date.

"The deal will also see players in the Women's section benefit from world leading, injury diagnostics and rehabilitation."

After the original Notts County Ladies side was disbanded in 2017, Notts County Women was launched ahead of the 2018-19 season and went on to compete in East Midlands Division 1 South.

Grassroots news

Game abandoned due to serious injury

Saltdean Women's London and South East Women's Regional Football League game against Whyteleafe Women was abandoned following a serious injury to one of their players.

Following the game the club announced on social media that captain Nay Robinson had broken her fibula and ruptured her ligaments.

In a statement, they said: "The force of the landing caused further damage around her tibia and talus.

"Heartbreaking news, we wish her a speedy recovery. She will still be a massive part of the club moving forward."

Opponents Wytleeafe wrote: "Due to a serious injury sustained by one of the Saltdean Women's players, our game was abandoned.

"Our best wishes go out to her and we hope she makes a full and speedy recovery."

Get well soon Nay!



Grimsby Borough recognised

Grimsby Borough have been recognised by the national FA as being a lead in Lincolnshire for girls and ladies football.

In a statement on social media the club said: "Grimsby Borough are extremely proud to announce that we have been recognised by the National FA as being a lead in Lincolnshire.

"We have been acknowledged as a lead club as we have the highest number of female teams in the country.

"We would like to say a huge thank you to our young ladies past and present within the club and their amazing parents/guardians who allow the girls to play the game.

"Without you guys Borough Girls wouldn't be as great as it is now."

One Goal: The vision of Daniela Porcelli



What is One Goal?

The One Goal's vision is to become a unique worldwide charitable organization that uses an authentic process within the women's game to achieve it.

Our mission at The One Goal is to work locally and internationally to raise funds from the women's game which we will put back by donating to help organizations that are using sports as a method to help people and their communities. Our goal is to encourage and support future generations to give them more of a chance to reach their dreams not only in their chosen sport but also in their life goals.

The popularity of women's football continues to grow worldwide and The One Goal will help put the players on the map by raising funds selling authentic merchandise to the fans. Our charitable organization will then use the funds raised to benefit projects within the game and other projects which stand for our values. Dedicating our efforts from the grassroots upwards, we can help the game advance and provide more opportunities for women and girls who wish to follow their dreams.

Daniela's personal message

A dream came true. My dream of a small charitable organization focusing on supporting others and having a unique approach. Before I met Hedvig, I just had an idea, not a plan. But from their on, it has been going step by step. Small steps, but with incredible support through all the challenges we have encountered and had come more of our ways. We will happily face them as we have "The One Goal" insight: Helping others.

I couldn't have done this alone. And didn't want to. Volunteering for such a great cause and doing this next to amazing people, is a wonderful experience, which is enriching my life.

Hedvig, who is not only one of the best goalkeepers in the world and a legend already, she is also a wonderful person who values her family, friends, and teammates in a huge way. But she also cares for more. For people who don't have the privileges we have. So connecting our ideas together and founding The One Goal, is one way to give back. To help others. Gratefully.

The One Goal exists. Because of the great involvement and support from Hedvig. Because of all our amazing volunteers who daily bring in time, skills and ideas. Because of all the players who donated an item or in the future want to donate. Because of all you "our partners" who support us immensely. Because of all of you, who follow us, share our journey and talk about it. Because of all the continuous support from my family and friends to keep doing what I love. Because of you all, this is possible.

We are small but unique. We put all our passion and time into it to grow healthy and steady. To do good. To give back to where everything comes from. To support people. To support. And love.

Thank you for everything. Love Daniela

The Approach

The One Goal's focus is to connect with athletes and teams all around the globe to support people and their communities together through the use of an international platform.

HOW WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS:

Players and their clubs will donate their personal owned items like jerseys, kits, boots and any other memorabilia to our organization

All donated items will go for auction through the online platform ebid.net. Fans and supporters all around the world can register for free and participate in the bidding

We are also encouraging athletes from the men's game to support our cause

Our goal is to donate the money and collaborate with diverse organizations who are supporting our values and ethical views . See further information here

Players can also request the charities they want to donate to.

Check them out HERE: <https://theonegoal.org>



CUPS



**THE WOMEN'S
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Champions League round-of-16 round up



Man City knocked out by Atletico

Manchester City are out of the Champions League after losing 2-1 (3-2 on aggregate) to Atletico Madrid in the second leg.

After a tense first leg which saw Nick Cushing's side lead through Janine Beekie before Charlyn Corral cancelled out the goal late on.

In the second leg in Spain, Steph Houghton's scored a first-half own goal which summed up the game for the WSL side.

Atletico skipper Angela Sosa scored a close-range goal to put the hosts well ahead and despite Pauline Bremer pulling a goal back late on it was too little, too late.

This is the second consecutive season in which City have been knocked out by the Spanish side.

Speaking after the game, Cushing said: "It's disappointing. For the players and the staff, it will hurt them. But it happens in football.

"We're in a difficult period at the minute. In football, sometimes you have these difficult moments and you just have to believe, keep working hard and come out of the other end.

"Today showed me that we've got enough quality and we're still a good team."

Arsenal dominate

Arsenal continue to dominate in the Champions League and are safely through to the quarter finals.

Danielle van de Donk and Vivianne Miedema both scored hat-tricks alongside Jill Roord's effort and a Kim Little penalty.

The Gunners, who already had a 5-2 lead from the first leg, showed their strength and did not let up for the full 90 minutes.

Jordan Nobbs (pictured) was rested for the game but manager Joe Montemurro has confirmed it was part of her continued progression after the ACL game and the club were not wanting to push her too quickly after such a long period out.

Montemurro said after the game: "It was good to be able to try a few things tonight and get some players playing. We're going to need the whole squad able to do the roles that are required."

Glasgow win on penalties

Glasgow City are through to the quarter-finals for the second time in the club's history.

The Scottish champions secured an important win in the first leg at Petershill Park but struggled in the second leg.

The game finished 2-2 on aggregate resulting in penalties.

An outstanding performance from Glasgow goalkeeper Lee Alexander put the Scottish side in the next round draw.

She made three saves in the shootout as Glasgow kept their cool.

"It took your breath away, that one," City head coach Scott Booth said.

"It didn't go to plan first half but we came out in the second half and played really brave football.

"This is what we've been striving for four-and-a-half years - to get over that line and make the quarter-finals is amazing."



Hegerberg breaks Champions League record

Lyon striker Ada Hegerberg has become the highest scorer in Women's Champions League history.

At the age of 24 the Norweigan has surpassed the record held by German Anja Mittag (51).

Hegerberg is now on 53 goals from 50 appearances in the Champions League.

She is the fastest player of either sex to reach 50 European goals - former Manchester United striker Ruud van Nistelrooy did it in 62 games compared to the Lyon forward's 49.

Round of 16 results (aggregate results)

PSG	7-1	Breidabilk
Arsenal	13-2	Slavia Prague
Glasgow City	2-2 1-3 penalties	Brondby IF
Minsk	1-8	Barcelona
Lyon	11-0	Fortuna Hjorring
Bayern Munich	7-0	BIIK Kazygurt
FC Twente	0-7	Wolfsburg
Atletico Madrid	3-2	Manchester City





SSE Women's FA Cup

FA Cup 3rd qualifying round results

The FA Cup 3rd qualifying round took place on Sunday October 27.

Northwich Vixens	2-7	Liverpool Feds	Sutton Coldfield Town	1-5	Wolves
Leeds United	0-3	Barnsley	Harlow Town	1-2	Billericay Town
Chester-le-Street Town	3-1	Newcastle United	Cambridge City	3-7	AFC Basildon
Hartlepool United	0-8	Chorley	Ipswich Town	6-1	Norwich City
Norton & Stockton Ancients	2-6	Durham Cestria	Bowers & Pitsea	0-3	Luton Town
Stockport County	2-2	Brighouse Town <i>4-2 winners on pens</i>	Actonians	3-1	Fulham
Peterborough United	2-3	The New Saints	QPR Development	1-2	Leyton Orient
Sporting Khalsa	1-3	Lincoln City	Enfield Town	1-2	AFC Wimbledon
Bedworth United	2-4	Woodlands	Chesham United	3-0	Wycombe Wanderers
Leicester United	0-1	Leek Town	Portishead Town <i>3-1 winners on pens</i>	1-1	Moneyfields
Birmingham & WM	1-2	Crewe Alexandra	Southampton Women's	3-1	AFC Bournemouth
Southampton Women	11-0	Poole Town	Cheltenham Town	4-3	Exeter City

Round Dates

First Round Proper - Sunday 10 November 2019

Second Round Proper - Sunday 1 December 2019

Third Round Proper - Sunday 5 January 2020

Fourth Round Proper - Sunday 26 January 2020

Fifth Round Proper - Sunday 16 February 2020

Quarter Final - Sunday 15 March 2020

Semi-Final - Sunday 19 April 2020

Final - Saturday 9 May 2020





FA Cup 1st round proper

Crewe Alexandra vs Barnsley

Liverpool Feds vs Brighouse Town

Durham Cestria vs Chester-le-Street

The New Saints vs Chorley

Leek Town vs Lincoln City

Wolverhampton Wanderers vs Luton Town

Woodlands vs Billericay Town

Ipswich Town vs Leyton Orient

Actonians vs AFC Wimbledon

Chesham United vs Southampton Women

Southampton Women's vs Portishead

5 things you may have missed from the Continental Tyres League Cup



Liverpool have their first win

Kirsty Linnett bagged a hat-trick as Liverpool won their first game of the season. Vicky Jepson's side have struggled so far this season and lost last minute to Sheffield United in the first round of the Conti Cup. A first half hat-trick from Kirsty Linnett, her first for the Reds, helped boost them to a 5-1 win over Coventry.

A case of Déjà vu

Tottenham have their second victory over London rivals West Ham. The side, who were promoted from the Championship last season, beat the Hammers in the league a matter of weeks ago before beating them again in the Conti Cup. The game finished 2-2 to go to penalties and after Gilly Flaherty's pen went over the bar and Adriana Leon's effort was saved, Tottenham bagged the extra point.

Penalties galore in Group B

In the third round of the competition all three group B games finished in draws and penalties. Brighton and Arsenal shared the points but it was the Seagulls who came out on top in the penalties to take the extra point. This ends the Gunners perfect start to the competition. Neither side could score during normal time in the Bees v Charlton game and the Bees were the penalty winners and finally London City Lionesses took the extra point from Bristol City.

White opens her account

Ellen White scored her first Manchester City goal since joining the club in the summer. The England star has been out with injury until recent weeks and scored the opening goal in their 2-1 win over Birmingham.

Rood scores a stunner

If you can get on social media and watch Katie Rood's worldie of a goal. It has to be something special to beat Chelsea's Carly Telford and boy it was! Unfortunately Rood's side could not celebrate too much as they lost 2-1.

Continental Tyres League Cup results and Tables

Round 2—19 & 20 October			Round 3—2 & 3 November		
Group A (North 1)					
Aston Villa	3-1	Sheffield United	Aston Villa	2-0	Liverpool
Blackburn Rovers	1-3	Durham	Durham	4-0	Coventry United
Coventry United	1-5	Liverpool	Sheffield United	4-1	Blackburn Rovers
Group B (South 1)					
Arsenal	4-0	Charlton Athletic	Brighton	0-0 (4-2)	Arsenal
Brighton	1-2	Bristol City	London Bees	0-0 (4-2)	Charlton Athletic
London City Lionesses	0-3	London Bees	Bristol City	1-1 (3-4)	London City Lionesses
Group C (North 2)					
Manchester Utd	2-0	Manchester City	Everton	0-3	Manchester Utd
Leicester City	1-5	Birmingham City	Manchester City	2-1	Birmingham City
Group D (South 2)					
Crystal Palace	0-3	Chelsea	Lewes	1-2	Chelsea
Reading	3-2	Lewes	Crystal Palace	0-3	Tottenham
West Ham United	2-2 (2-4)	Tottenham	Reading	0-1	West Ham United

Group A						
Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Durham	3	3	0	0	9	9
Sheffield United	3	2	0	1	2	6
Aston Villa	3	2	0	1	1	6
Liverpool	3	1	0	2	1	3
Coventry United	3	0	1	2	-8	2
Blackburn Rover	3	0	1	2	-5	1

Group B						
Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Arsenal	3	2	1	0	9	7
Bristol City	3	2	1	0	4	7
Brighton	3	1	1	1	2	4
London Bees	3	1	1	1	0	4
Charlton Athletic	3	0	1	2	-7	1
London City Lionesses	3	0	1	2	-8	1

Group C						
Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Manchester United	2	2	0	0	5	6
Birmingham City	3	2	0	1	4	6
Manchester City	3	2	0	1	4	6
Everton	2	0	0	2	-4	0
Leicester City	2	0	0	2	-9	0

Group D						
Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Chelsea	3	3	0	0	6	9
Reading	3	2	0	1	4	6
Tottenham	3	1	1	1	-1	5
West Ham United	3	1	1	1	-1	4
Crystal Palace	3	1	0	2	-5	3
Lewes	3	0	0	3	-3	0



National League Cup and Plate draws

After the determining round, the draws for the National League and Plate draws have been made.

FA WNL Cup 2019-20 second round

17 November		
Huddersfield Town	vs	London Eaton Utd or Liverpool Feds
Yeovil Town	vs	Southampton
24 November		
Brighouse Town	vs	Derby County
Stoke City	vs	Wolverhampton Wanderers
Crawley Wasps	vs	Portsmouth
AFC Basildon	vs	Milton Keynes Dons
Chesham United or Exeter City	vs	Billericay Town

FA WNL Plate 2019-20 second round

17 November		
Nottingham Forest	vs	Leeds United
Stockport County	vs	Middlesbrough
24 November		
Bolton Wanderers	vs	Newcastle United
West Bromwich Albion	vs	Leicester Utd or Leafield Athletic
Plymouth Argyle	vs	AFC Wimbledon
Maidenhead United	vs	Stevenage
Watford	vs	Oxford United
Cheltenham Town	vs	Chichester City



Home Nations



**THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE**



Squad named for Autumn internationals



© Joerdeli Photography | Daniela Porcelli

Phil Neville has named the England Women's squad for the forthcoming autumn internationals against Germany and Czech Republic.

The 21-player squad will meet up at their St George's Park base next week in preparation for the visit of Germany to a sold-out Wembley Stadium on 9th November [kick-off 5:30pm GMT].

The Lionesses are set to break the all-time attendance record for a women's game in England. It is hoped the final crowd on the day could top the current record of 80,023 that came when the United States beat Japan 2-1 at Wembley to claim gold at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

The squad then travel to České Budějovice to play Czech Republic on 12 November at the Stadion Střelecký ostrov [kick-off 7:15pm GMT]. The match at the home of SK Dynamo České Budějovice will be the Lionesses' final game of 2019.

Neville has selected an experienced group which includes 17 members of England's FIFA Women's World Cup squad who reached the semi-finals in France earlier this year.

Ellen White, Georgia Stanway and Gemma Bonner will also join their England teammates at St George's Park to train with the group. White and Stanway are returning from injury and Neville will continue to assess their fitness on camp before making a decision on whether they are ready to be recalled to the squad.

Phil Neville said: “This is going to be a momentous occasion in the history of women’s football in England. To have sold out Wembley Stadium for the first time and to have potentially over 80,000 fans cheering on our team will not only be record-breaking, it will be an incredibly proud and humbling experience for myself and my players and staff.

“It will be a hugely significant landmark moment on our journey and we are all extremely honoured to be playing a part in that. But it will also be a moment for us to say thank you and show our enormous appreciation to all those players throughout the history of the women’s game in England whose hard work, determination and resilience in far tougher times has helped bring us to where we are today.

“The hairs will be standing up on the backs of our necks a week on Saturday when we walk out onto the Wembley pitch. I’m delighted that

so many of England’s former players are able to join us for an occasion which celebrates the achievements of every one of them.

“There’s an incredible amount of work that goes on behind the scenes at The FA to help us attract huge crowds like this and I want to thank everyone for their tremendous support.

“On my recent travels around Europe to watch my players I can tell you that what’s happening in England - the way the Lionesses have connected with the nation and the attendances in the Barclays FAWSL and of course at Wembley - is attracting huge admiration from other nations.”

The Germany and Czech Republic fixtures are part of the Lionesses' continued preparations for the UEFA Women's EURO 2021, which will be played at nine venues across England. As the host nation, the Lionesses do not have to qualify for the final tournament.



England squad

Goalkeepers: Mary Earps (7), Ellie Roebuck (4), Carly Telford (23)

Defenders: Millie Bright (33), Lucy Bronze (79), Rachel Daly (31), Alex Greenwood (43), Steph Houghton (116), Abie McManus (17), Demi Stokes (56), Leah Williamson (12)

Midfielders: Toni Duggan (76), Jordan Nobbs (58), Jill Scott (144), Lucy Staniforth (14), Keira Walsh (24)

Forwards: Bethany England (4), Lauren Hemp (1), Beth Mead (23), Nikita Parris (45), Jodie Taylor (50)

Training with squad: Ellen White, Georgia Stanway, Gemma Bonner

**Number in brackets is the number of England Caps they currently have*

TONI DUGGAN

You've had a tough few months and missed the last England selection how far off your best are you?

I am getting really close and I know I needed to get back to my best. I am in a really good place and a happy place both on and off the pitch. I am aware of myself, I know I haven't been at my best for a while and that I needed some time to myself to get myself back personally both on and off the pitch. I missed selection and I had a great week getting myself back fit. I have had two difficult injuries, one at the World Cup and one directly after which is not like me as a player. I knew what I needed to work on. I feel really happy at the minute.

Did Phil Neville speak to you about what he wanted from you?

I speak to Phil a lot. I think he is really good with all the players. It's one of the biggest positives about him is the way he treats the players individually. We spoke together with all the staff. I know where I am at, I am clear and happy with that. I knew what I needed to do to get back into the England squad.



England v Germany:

A record-breaking match beckons



By Connor Botting

Off the back of a summer which raised the profile of women's football worldwide, England's Lionesses face Germany at Wembley next month in a match which could mark a new era for Women's football in England.

England play at Wembley Stadium for the first time since 2014, when they lost 3-0 to Germany, but at the same time set a record for attendance at a Lionesses' match, with 45,619 watching from the stands – but next month's encounter has seen more than 75,000 tickets sold, eclipsing the national team's previous record.

The record attendance for any women's football match in the UK was set way back at the London 2012 Olympics – when Team GB shocked Brazil, defeating the South American's 1-0, with 70,584 attending Wembley that day.

However, following such a positive summer, Phil Neville's England side are enduring somewhat of a World Cup hangover, following their semi final loss to the USA 2-1, and then their 3rd place play-off loss to Sweden by the same score line, their last two friendlies haven't gone to plan.

England squandered a 2-0 lead against Belgium as the match finished 3-3, and then followed that up with a 2-1 loss to 1995 World Champions Norway.

Neville's side however have two more friendlies to regain the form which saw them capture the imagination and support of the nation over the summer – as they face Brazil in front of a 30,000 sell out crowd at the Riverside Stadium in Middlesbrough, before jetting off to face Portugal away at the Estadio do Bonfim, before their clash with the Germans in November.

England will be buoyed by the return to fitness for Arsenal midfielder Jordan Nobbs – who has been absent since a knee injury she sustained in a match against Everton last season, and which ultimately ruled her out of the World Cup.

With England hosting the 2021 UEFA European Championship they will therefore not be required to play in qualification matches, meaning that these friendlies will be the only matches they will play on their build up to the tournament, so it is paramount that they perform in these matches.

The Lionesses' encounter with Germany promises to be an enthralling one, and with the tickets continuing to sell, Neville's ladies will feel the full support of the crowd, and undoubtedly the biggest crowd many, if not all, of the team has played in front of, but must ensure they take advantage of fixtures like this if they want to perform well at their home tournament in two years time.



Scottish Women's Cup



Holders Hibernian are into their fifth consecutive Scottish Women's Cup final.

They beat Motherwell 4-1 in the semi final with Amy Muir, Collette Cavangh, Siobhan Hunter and Rachael Boyle getting the winning goals.

All four goalscorers will be fighting for their fourth trophies.

They will meet Glasgow City in the final at Tynecastle.

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They will meet Glasgow City in the final at Tynecastle.

Glasgow City fought back from a goal down to beat Rangers and reach their 13th Scottish Women's Cup final

Hibernian head coach Grant Scott: "That's four Scottish Cups in a row for the squad, four finals in a row for me as coach, so I'm looking forward to it. Based in Edinburgh, we'll hope for a big crowd, and see what happens on the day.

"We want it as much as anything else. We're cup holders - we wanted to defend that all the way to the final and we're doing that now. It's a brand new trophy, ours is the only name on it so far, we want it to be ours for another year, so there's motivation for the players just to win the final."

Glasgow City head coach Scott Booth: "Rachel McLauchlan has been such a great addition to the squad. She's a top, top player. She has everything to be honest.

"Her performance today shouldn't harm her Scotland chances, she's 100% good enough to get into that squad and she knows it."

The final will be on Sunday November 24.



Scotland squad for November qualifiers

Shelley Kerr has named her squad for their final match of 2019.

Scotland will take on Albania in the Elbasan Arena in their UEFA Women's Euro 2021 Qualifier on November 8.

West Ham United striker Martha Thomas received her first call-up to the Scotland squad but has since had to pull out due to injury.

She has been replaced by Manchester United's Kirsty Hanson.

The squad also sees recalls for Emma Mitchell and Christie Murray who has recovered from a post-world cup injury.

Shelley Kerr told the official website: "It is also great to have Emma Mitchell back. She has been a key player for us for a number of years and to have her in a Scotland shirt again will be great to see.

"The squad is more competitive than ever and we're hoping to end what has been a special year, on a high.

"Albania holds happy memories for us and we're going there looking to continue our positive start to EURO Qualification."

SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Lee Alexander (Glasgow City), Jenna Fife (Hibernian), Shannon Lynn (Vittsjö GIK)

Defenders: Chloe Arthur (Birmingham City), Jennifer Beattie (Arsenal), Rachel Corsie (Utah Royals), Sophie Howard (Reading), Hayley Lauder (Glasgow City), Rachel McLauchlan (Glasgow City), Emma Mitchell (Arsenal)

Midfielders: Lizzie Arnot (Manchester United), Rachael Boyle (Hibernian), Leanne Crichton (Glasgow City), Lucy Graham (Everton), Kim Little (Arsenal), Christie Murray (Liverpool), Caroline Weir (Manchester City)

Forwards: Erin Cuthbert (Chelsea), Claire Emslie (Orlando Pride), Lisa Evans (Arsenal), Abbi Grant (Birmingham City), Jane Ross (Manchester United), Martha Thomas (West Ham United)





Wales squad for qualifier

Jayne Ludlow has announced her squad for the Euro 2021 qualifier against Northern Ireland.

Natasha Harding misses out after picking up an injury whilst playing domestically with Reading but captain Sophie Ingle is back after missing the 1-0 win over Belarus due to a hip injury.

Wales squad

Laura O'Sullivan (Cardiff City Ladies FC), Claire Skinner (Cardiff City Ladies FC), Olivia Clark (Huddersfield Town Ladies FC), Sophie Ingle (Chelsea FC Women), Hayley Ladd (Manchester United Women FC), Loren Dykes (Bristol City Women FC), Gemma Evans (Bristol City Women FC), Nadia Lawrence (Cardiff City Ladies FC), Rhiannon Roberts (Liverpool FC Women), Anna Filbey (Tottenham Hotspur Women FC), Angharad James (Reading FC Women), Elise Hughes (Everton Ladies FC), Rachel Rowe (Reading FC Women), Megan Wynne (Tottenham Hotspur Women FC), Helen Ward (Watford FC Ladies), Kayleigh Green (Brighton & Hove Albion Women FC), Josie Green (Tottenham Hotspur Women FC), Georgia Walters (Tranmere Rovers Ladies FC), Kylie Nolan (Cardiff City Ladies FC), Carrie Jones (Cardiff City Ladies FC), Maria Francis-Jones (Cardiff City Ladies FC), Chloe Williams (Manchester United Women FC)



Cheryl Foster joins Ifab panel

Former Wales international Cheryl Foster has been appointed to the International Football Association Board's Football Advisory Panel (FAP).

Foster, 39, joins the board which is made up of five members, Fifa and the Football Associations of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

She will join the likes of Luis Figo on the panel as they use expertise and knowledge to discuss potential law changes.

Foster became the first female referee to officiate a Welsh Premier League game in 2018 and has 63 caps for Wales.



We welcome [@cheryl_foster8](#) who will represent [@FAWales](#) 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿 on our Football Advisory Panel! ⚽

PLAYER

63 matches for [@Cymru](#) (1997-2011)

9 years with [@LiverpoolFCW](#)

REFEREE

[@FIFAcom](#) referee since 2016

1st woman appointed to [@cymruleagues](#) men's first tier

bit.ly/Cheryl_Foster



10:10 AM · Oct 15, 2019 · [Twitter Web App](#)



Northern Ireland squad

Northern Ireland manager Kenny Shiels has named a changed squad for the Euro 2021 qualifying double-header against Norway and Wales.

Shiels has brought in seven new players as they sit fourth in group C after taking just one point from their first two games.

Blackburn Rovers duo Lauren Perry and Kelsie Burrows, Cliftonville's Toni-Leigh Finnegan, Glentoran midfielder Emma McMaster and Linfield pair Casey Howe and Caitlin McGuinness have all been called-up.

Sheffield United Women goalkeeper Becky Flaherty, who was a late call-up to the previous squad, has also been included.

Northern Ireland's match against Wales at Seaview on Tuesday, 12 November will be streamed on the BBC Sport NI website.

SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Flaherty (Sheffield United), Perry (Blackburn Rovers)

Defenders: Nelson (Crusaders), Hutton (Linfield), Vance (Glentoran), Newborough (Charlton Athletic), Holdaway (Crystal Palace), Burrows (Blackburn Rovers), Finnegan (Cliftonville)

Midfielders: Callaghan (Cliftonville), McFadden (Durham), Furness (Reading), McCarron (Linfield), Bell (Durham), McKenna (Linfield), McMaster (Glentoran)

Forwards: Magill (Everton), Wade (Throttur Reykjavik), McGuinness (Linfield), Howe (Linfield)




UEFA Women's Under-17 Euro 2020

The 2019/20 UEFA European Women's Under-17 Championship qualifying round has decided the elite round line-up.

England, Scotland and Wales are all through to the elite round with the elite round draw taking place on November 29.

Hosts Sweden have bye to eight-team finals from 9 to 22 May, which will act as Europe's qualifier for the 2020 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in India.

Countries in the elite round draw are:

- 
- Austria
 - Belgium
 - Croatia
 - Czech Republic
 - Denmark
 - England
 - France
 - Germany
 - Greece
 - Hungary
 - Iceland
 - Italy
 - Netherlands
 - Norway
 - Poland
 - Portugal
 - Republic of Ireland
 - Romania
 - Russia
 - Scotland
 - Serbia
 - Slovakia
 - Slovenia
 - Spain
 - Switzerland[®]
 - Turkey
 - Ukraine
 - Wales



FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ 

NIKE VAPOR SPEED

World Cup Watch

Record breaking numbers at the World Cup

A record-breaking 1.12 billion viewers watched the 2019 Women's World Cup, a Fifa report says.

The USA lifted their fourth title with a 2-0 win over the Netherlands in France, in a final which had an estimated average live audience of 82.18 million.

The average live match audience more than doubled from Canada in 2015.

"The fact we broke 1 billion shows the pulling power of the women's game," said Fifa president Gianni Infantino.

"If we promote and broadcast world-class football widely, whether it's played by men or women, the fans will always want to watch."

In July, it was confirmed 47% of the UK population watched the BBC coverage of the event with England's semi-final loss to the USA attracting an audience of 11.7m, the highest live TV audience of 2019 to date.

According to Fifa's report - which looked at viewing across all platforms - there were 993.5 million watching on TV alone and 481.5 million accessed the coverage on digital platforms.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP
FRANCE 2019

World Cup Watch

Fifa looking to increase payments at 2023 Women's World Cup

Fifa is looking to increase bonus payments to players at the 2023 Women's World Cup, according to French news wire service Agence France-Presse (AFP).

The organisation's president, Gianni Infantino, had already pledged to more than double the prize money for the 2023 tournament, up to US\$60 million, with the number of teams also increasing from 24 to 32 at the next edition.

Now Fifa plans to renegotiate contracts that will allow it to boost its bonus offering to players in four years' time, although it has not been speculated how much the cash offering will be, with AFP reporting the fees would be 'much greater'.

It comes ahead of a Fifa Council meeting in Shanghai on 24th October, an event where the organisation is expected to confirm plans already announced by Infantino to double funding for women's soccer to US\$1 billion over the next four years. The money will come from Fifa's cash reserves, which exceed US\$2.7 billion.

Infantino will likely use the event to continue to press his case for the creation of a Women's World League for international teams, as well as a women's Club World Cup. A decision on both of these is expected in March next year.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP
FRANCE 2019



Global Soccer Awards



The Globe Soccer Awards has, for the first time in its history, introduced three categories that will recognise the world's leading female footballing talent.

The categories of Best Women's Player of the Year, Best Club of the Year and Best Referee of the Year have been introduced ahead of the 2019 Awards, which will take place at

Dubai's Madinat Jumeirah on Sunday, December 29.

The trio of women's stars vying for the inaugural Best Women's Player award comprise US duo Alex Morgan and Megan Rapinoe, winners of the 2019 Fifa Women's World Cup, along with England's Lucy Bronze, who led Olympique Lyonnais to victory in the Uefa Women's Champions League.





AROUND THE WORLD



JP JOERDELI PHOTOGRAPHY
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THE **WOMEN'S**
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE

North Carolina wins NWSL Championship



NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE

North Carolina have won a second consecutive title after they beat Chicago Red Stars 4-0.

Jessica McDonald, Crystal Dunn, Sam Kerr and Debinha were the goal scorers in a one-sided affair as Chicago struggled throughout the game.

Courage looked the much stronger side all the way through and controlled the game with ease.

Chicago's Sam Kerr was named the league's most valuable player after scoring 18 goals in 21 games and she will be leaving the team at the end of the season—it is rumoured she could be heading to Chelsea.

A capacity crowd of 10,227 attended the championship game.

Louisville to get NWSL team

Louisville will become the National Women's Soccer League's fourth expansion team.

They become the first team to join the NWSL since Utah Royals replaced Salt Lake City at the beginning of 2018.

The team will start the 2021 season and it will be the first time the city has a top-tier pro sports team since 1976.

"This market is hungry for more pro soccer, and we know our NWSL team will be a shining star in this league," said Louisville City president Brad Estes.

Louisville - who will be part of Louisville City FC, winners of the men's Championships in 2017 and 2018 - will be the sixth NWSL team to affiliate with a men's pro team.

NWSL President Amanda Duffy added: "With the club's growing, passionate fanbase, coupled with its strong ownership group, and its significant investment in a soccer specific stadium in a downtown location, we are thrilled to bring the highest level of women's professional soccer to the area."

The league has seen record-breaking attendances following the United States' fourth Women's World Cup win in France in July.

The NWSL expansion draft for the 2021 season will take place towards the end of 2020.





News from around the world



Amazing women celebrated at Orlando Pride

In Orlando Pride's last NWSL game of the season, two remarkable women made their re-appearance to the team.

Toni Pressley, who was diagnosed with breast cancer and had a double mastectomy three months ago, and Sydney Leroux, who gave birth to her second child just three months ago.

Leroux was an 88th minute substitute in the 1-1 draw with Sky Blue and gave birth to her daughter Roux on June 28.

She was back in training on July 27.

The 29-year-old tweeted: "It's been a long road but I did it."

Vlatko Andonovski names first US squad

Three days after being confirmed as the new US women's coach Vlatko Andonovski has named his first squad.

The former Reign FC manager was brought in following Jill Ellis' resignation after the Women's World Cup win.

Most of the squad is the same as the WWC winners but seven other players are included including three first-time call-ups.

- Goalkeeper Aubrey Bledsoe, named to the NWSL Best XI with Washington
- Defender Alana Cook, who plays for Paris St. Germain and has been courted by England
- Defender Imani Dorsey, the 2018 NWSL Rookie of the Year in 2018 with Sky Blue FC.

Kelley O'Hara, Ali Krieger, Crystal Dunn and Tierna Davidson and forward Megan Rapinoe are injured but training. Alex Morgan recently announced that she was pregnant with her first child.

Goalkeepers: Aubrey Bledsoe (Washington Spirit), Adrianna Franch (Portland Thorns), Ashlyn Harris (Orlando Pride), Alyssa Naeher (Chicago RS)

Defenders: Alana Cook (PSG), Abby Dahlkemper (NC Courage), Imani Dorsey (Sky Blue FC), Becky Sauerbrunn (Utah Royals), Casey Short (Chicago RS), Emily Sonnett (Portland Thorns)

Midfielders: Morgan Brian (Chicago RS), Julie Ertz (Chicago RS), Lindsey Horan (Portland Thorns), Rose Lavelle (Washington Spirit), Allie Long (Reign FC), Samantha Mewis (NC Courage), Andi Sullivan (Washington Spirit)

Forwards: Tobin Heath (Portland Thorns), Carli Lloyd (Sky Blue FC), Jessica McDonald (NC Courage), Christen Press (Utah Royals), Mallory Pugh (Washington Spirit), Margaret Purce (Portland Thorns), Lynn Williams (North Carolina Courage)



News from around the world

Barcelona to broadcast games



Barcelona have announced that the club will broadcast every home fixture of its women's team, Barcelona Femeni, via their own channels, appearing to settle a dispute with Mediapro by permitting away games to be broadcast on Mediapro's Gol channel.

In a statement on the club's website, Barcelona said: '[The club] will broadcast through its own channels all the matches of the Primera Iberdrola that will be played this season at the Johan Cruyff Stadium.'

Barcelona's announcement comes less than a month they breached Mediapro's media rights contract with the majority of the league's clubs.

In contradiction of the deal between the Spanish media agency and the Association of Women's Soccer Clubs (ACFF), the 12-member Spanish women's club soccer body, Barcelona chose to air their fixture with Atletico Madrid via their own digital platform. Mediapro's rights deal with the ACFF outlaws this without permission from the agency or the member club, which Barcelona did not gain.

As one of four clubs outside of the ACFF's three-year, €3 million (US\$3.3 million) deal with Mediapro, Barcelona claim that women's soccer requires more exposure in order to 'develop female sport correctly'.

Asian Cup

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) has revealed expansion plans for the Women's Asian Cup.

The national team tournament the Women's Asian Cup will grow from eight to 12 teams for its next edition in 2022.

The 2018 Women's Asian Cup was hosted by Jordan, with the AFC stating that it currently has proposals for the 2022 hosting rights from Chinese Taipei, India and Uzbekistan.



AFC ASIAN CUP



News from around the world

Spain to strike

Almost 200 women footballers in Spain have voted to strike in a disagreement over pay and conditions in the top league.

The action was supported by 93% of the players employed by 16 clubs at a meeting in Madrid after over a year of failed negotiations.

Clubs are proposing a minimum wage of €16,000 (\$17,000; £14,000), but unions representing the players are asking for at least €20,000.

One of the unresolved issues relates to women players being recognised as full-time professional footballers.

A date for the strike has not been set.

Melbourne re-sign captain

Melbourne have re-signed captain Steph Catley ahead of the 2019/20 season.

The 25-year-old old joins the club on a one-year loan deal from NWSL side Seattle Reign.

Catley joins fellow Westfield Matildas, Lydia Williams, Emily van Egmond, Emma Checker, Ellie Carpenter and Kyah Simon to commit to the Club ahead of the upcoming season.



Tarania Clarke dies after stabbing incident

In awful news, it was announced that 20-year-old Jamaica midfielder Tarania Clarke has died.

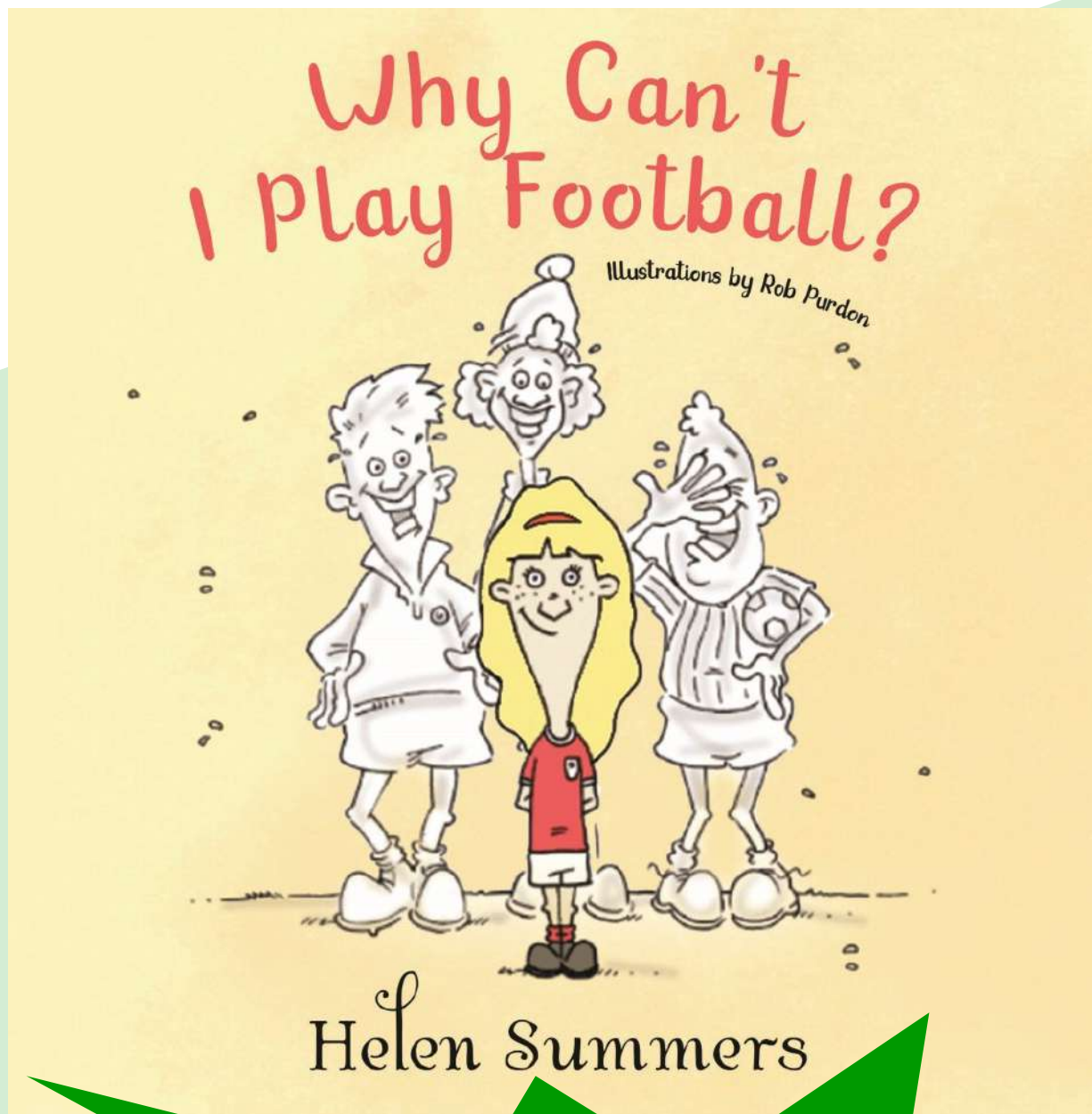
The Reggae Girls player was involved in a dispute over a mobile phone in Kingston.

A woman has been arrested.

In a statement to BBC Sport, the JFF president Michael Ricketts said: “ I must use this opportunity to personally, and certainly on behalf of the JFF, extend my most profound condolences to the immediate family members and friends of Ms Clarke, her school family at Excelesior and, of course, her club Waterhouse.

“The JFF must give as much support as we can during this time of bereavement to her mother and close friends.”

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**THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL
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