

# THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

ISSUE 53—October 2021



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# **THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL MAGAZINE**



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# Welcome

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## *Hello and welcome to Issue 53!*

Thanks for joining us again for another issue.

We missed a month last month due to some personal difficulties.

Unfortunately, as an NHS worker, life got a little bit on top of us but we are back and we are bigger and better than ever.

This month we have national games galore for all the home nations and we have the latest on the abuse allegations in USA, Australia and Venezuela.

We also have a great interview with Jill Ellis and Arsene Wenger.

Our new 2022 Calendar is also available for pre-sale.

A4 Wall Calendars are just £5 and will feature all your favourite women's players.


This year's theme is:

"Stars of the Future" and features all the best young players from across all the leagues.

Enjoy the issue!

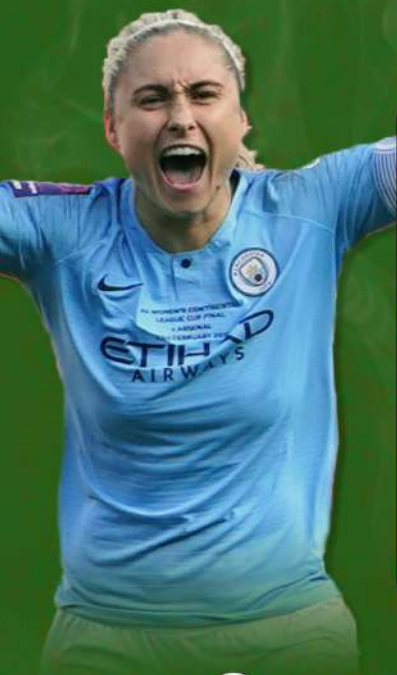
Helen Rowe-Willcocks

**Editor-in-Chief**

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# THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

## CALENDAR 2021

*The Rising Stars Changing the Game*

£5

(excluding postage  
and packaging)



# WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE



# Mitre launches new Barclays WSL football



British football brand Mitre has launched a new bespoke design Delta Max football exclusively for the Barclay's FA Women's Super League.

A key part of Mitre's partnership with The Football Association (The FA) the Delta Max football is built for maximum control, accuracy, and power.

The WSL is well under way again with already a number of massive results which have shocked fans.

Engineered with revolutionary Hyperseam technology where the seams are bonded and stitched, ensuring almost zero water uptake, helping the ball last in any weather.

The debossed, textured surface also

helps to manipulate airflow around the ball for pin-point accuracy and superior speed.

It meets all requirements for the professional game, with FIFA Pro accreditation, allowing players to play at their best.

In addition to the Delta Max, Mitre has launched a Replica version of the Delta Max WSL. Perfect for training, it's designed with durability in mind and superb air retention, so it keeps its shape over the course of the season.

*Available in various sizes depending on age.*

*Now available to buy on [www.mitre.com](http://www.mitre.com) RRP: £115.00 (Delta Max) and RRP: £12.25 (Delta Replica)*

# WSL Hall of Fame:

## First Names are announced

The FA has announced a new Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame—with the first four names being inducted.

A panel of women's football experts has been put together to pick the first names for the Hall of Fame.

### The Panel

- **Kelly Simmons** – Chair and FA's Director of Women's Professional Game
- **Ian Wright** – Barclays ambassador, ex-player, and pioneer of women's game
- **Hope Powell** – Ex-player, Brighton & Hove Albion Head Coach, and women's football pioneer
- **Marieanne Spacey-Cale** – Ex-player and women's football pioneer  
Mary Phillip – Ex-player and women's football pioneer
- **Vic Akers** – Ex-coach and women's football pioneer
- **Wendy Toms** – Ex-official and women's football pioneer
- **Jen O'Neill** – Journalist – She Kicks Magazine  
Suzy Wrack – Journalist – The Guardian

**Jess Creighton** – Journalist – Sky Sports News

- **Rachel Pavlou** – FA's Women's Development Manager
- **Kieran Theivam** – Ex-journalist and Barclays FA WSL Communications Manager

### Fara Williams

On Wednesday, October 6, the first inductee to the Hall of Fame.

A statement said: "The newly launched Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame is delighted to announce Fara Williams as the first inductee of 2021."



Williams, who is England's record cap holder, has had an illustrious career in the domestic game having played every season of the Barclays FA Women's Super League before her retirement this year, playing for clubs including Everton, Liverpool, Arsenal and Reading.

Widely regarded as one of this country's most gifted midfielders, Williams has been an integral part of every club she has played at, winning two Barclays FA Women's Super League titles during her time at Liverpool.

Ahead of the current season, Williams record of 147 appearances in the league was fifth overall, while she was fourth on the all-time list for assists (28) and second for the number of chances created (266).

The Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame expert selection panel agreed that Williams was a worthy inductee based on her achievements in the league, but also the impact she has had on the women's game during a career that spanned over 20 years.

Chair of the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame panel, Kelly Simmons, said: "Induction into the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame is the highest individual honour offered by the league and I am delighted that Fara is our first inductee.

"She is one of those players that can do something special when you least expect it, and because of that, as well as having been an ever present in the Barclays FA Women's Super League prior to her

retirement, the panel was unanimous in her being inducted.

"Not only was she an incredible player, but she is a wonderful person, and she is fully deserving of her induction into the inaugural Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame. Congratulations Fara."

## Rachel Yankey



Rachel Yankey was announced as the second inductee.

Yankey is one of the country's most decorated players having won every competition available with Arsenal, which included two FA Women's Super League titles in 2011 and 2012.

Many may also recall her starring role in the very first FA

Women's Continental Tyres League Cup Final, when she scored a double in the Gunners' 4-1 win over Birmingham City – one of them a stunning volley.

A skilful winger with a wand of a left-foot, Yankey was a standout in the inaugural season of the FA Women's Super league, creating more chances than any other player during her team's title winning campaign.

Her two league titles in the FA Women's Super League would contribute to an overall tally of eight during her career.

The Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame expert selection panel agreed that Yankey was a worthy inductee based on her incredible statistic of winning every competition available with Arsenal, and her consistent performances on the pitch.

Suzanne Wrack, journalist and member of the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame selection panel, said: "I am delighted that Rachel Yankey has been unveiled as one of the first ever Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame inductees.

"She was always a player I admired and one of those individuals who you could tell genuinely enjoyed every minute she had on the pitch.

"Watching her as a player was an absolute pleasure and I am thrilled she is taking that knowledge into coaching.

"She is fully deserving of her induction into the inaugural Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame."

## Kelly Smith



Kelly Smith has been announced as the third inductee.

Smith has been a face of the women's game for over a decade and has often been regarded by some as the country's greatest player.

Her return to the FA Women's Super League in 2012 after a spell playing in America, alongside Alex Scott, received huge attention and was seen as a landmark moment for the league to have attracted one of the game's biggest stars back to England.

Starring largely in the No.10 role for club and country, Smith helped her club Arsenal to a league title in 2012, while also playing a starring role in

Women's FA Cup victories in 2014 and 2016 – the latter year her final as a player.

Despite terrible luck with injuries, Smith's career lasted for over 20 years and as well as winning the UEFA Women's Cup pre Barclays FA WSL era, she, for the time being, is England's record goal scorer.

The Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame expert selection panel agreed that Smith's impact on the women's game during her career and her achievements made her a worthy inductee into this year's Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame.

Brighton & Hove Albion head coach, ex-player, and member of the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame selection panel, Hope Powell, said: "When thinking of my Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame inductee selection, Kelly Smith was one of the first individuals I thought of.

"There are few words that I can use to describe what she was able to do on the pitch. She was a magician, she made things look so effortless and she just glided across the field with ease.

"Kelly's profile and respect from different parts of the world has been a huge asset in promoting the women's game here. I am delighted that we are able to induct her into the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame."

## Emma Hayes



Emma Hayes MBE was unveiled as the final inductee into the Hall of Fame for 2021.

The newly launched Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame is delighted to announce Chelsea head coach Emma Hayes as the final inductee of 2021.

Hayes is the longest serving manager in the Barclays FA Women's Super League and is one of the country's most successful head coaches.

Her record of four league titles surpasses any other manager during the FA Women's Super League era, and she has also established Chelsea as one of Europe's giants during that

time, managing some of the world's best players.

She has also won two FA Women's Continental Tyres League Cups and two Women's FA Cups, while she recently passed 150 Barclays FA Women's Super League games in charge of her club.

The Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame expert selection panel agreed that Hayes was a worthy inductee based on her managerial achievements, but also the impact she has had on the women's game during her career.

Chair of the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame panel, Kelly Simmons, said: "Induction into the Hall of Fame is the highest individual honour offered by the league and I am delighted that Emma has been inducted.

"Her record is incredible, but she's so much more than that.

"She's a great ambassador for the league, who works

tirelessly behind the scenes, whilst also encouraging the development of coaches.

"She's taken her knowledge into the broadcast world to become a great pundit, and I feel we are really lucky to have her in the league and recognised in the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame."

All four inductees were selected by an expert panel that was made up of ex-players, coaches, a former official, journalists and representatives of The FA and Barclays.

Speaking of the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame selection panel, Kelly Simmons said: "When I was asked to chair the selection panel for the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame, I knew I wanted a variety of opinions and individuals to help me decide on who to induct.

"They have all made a significant impact on the women's game, so their

opinions and votes have been invaluable.

"I'm extremely thankful to the panel for giving up their time to help select the first ever Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame inductees."

Hayes is the final inductee into the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame for 2021, joining Fara Williams, Rachel Yankey and Kelly Smith.

A dedicated website to the Barclays FA Women's Super League Hall of Fame has also launched to coincide with the announcement of the inductees, which can be found at [wslhalloffame.thefa.com](http://wslhalloffame.thefa.com). You can keep up with the latest league news on the Barclays FA WSL Twitter page.



# HALL OF FAME

## Kirk leaves Everton

Everton have announced that Willie Kirk has been sacked as his position of head coach. The statement read:

“Everton can confirm that Willie Kirk has left his position as manager of the Club’s Women’s team.

“The Club would like to thank Willie for his service and wish him well for the future.

“Willie was appointed in December 2018 and has played a key role in the progress of our Women’s team and structure, making the Club more competitive in the Barclays FA WSL and reaching the 2020 FA Cup final.

“Everton is aiming to have a new manager in post ahead of the Club’s next match away to Leicester City in the Continental Cup on 3 November.”

Willie Kirk has made the following statement after leaving his position as manager of Everton Women:

“I am thankful to the Club for the opportunity that they gave me three years ago. During that time, we have made tremendous progress both on and off the pitch and I leave the Club in a better place. Without a doubt, the highlight was the FA Cup final less than a year ago, a memory that will stay with me forever.

“Unfortunately, this season has not started the way we anticipated, due to a very tough opening fixture list and the re-building of a squad with eight new players.

“I have no doubt the talented squad that I leave behind can go on to have a very bright future.

“I wish the Club, the staff and the players my very best wishes.”

## Bristol City to host open training

Bristol City will be hosting an open training session for fans on October 27 at the Robbins High Performance Centre.

Supporters are invited to watch Lauren Smith and her coaching staff put the Robins squad through their paces.

The open training session will run from 1-2pm as the City Women stars return from the international break.

Following the conclusion of training at 2pm the City Women squad will be available for a signing session over the pitch hoardings.

Tickets will be free to supporters, however they must be redeemed online and shown to the stewards on the gate to gain entry. Supporters will not be admitted if they have not redeemed a ticket online.





# Campbell honoured with lifetime achievement award



Baroness Sue Campbell has been celebrated for her incredible work transforming the life chances of young people.

She received the Lifetime Contribution to Education Award from the Teaching Awards Trust in recognition of her work to emphasize the importance on the value of sport to children and young people, and supporting schools to gain new resources to offer sporting opportunities.

Baroness Campbell began as a physical education teacher at Whalley Range High School in Manchester, in a career which took her to Chief

Executive of the Youth Sports Trust, Chair of UK Sport and her current role as The Football Association's Director of Women's Football.

She was presented with the award at the postponed 2020 celebration for the Pearson National Teaching Award winners.

This was organised to celebrate last year's award winners, some of the finest teachers, lecturers and education staff in the country, who were unable to be honoured in person last year due to the pandemic.

This is the award that is given annually by the

board of the Teaching Awards Trust to exceptional individuals who have dedicated their lives to education and who have made an outstanding contribution to improving the lives of children and young people across the UK.

Previous winners of the award include Sir Tim Brighouse, the former chief commissioner for schools, and Fred Jarvis MBE.

Pearson National Teaching Awards is an annual celebration of exceptional teachers, founded in 1998 by Lord Puttnam to recognise the life-changing impact an inspirational



Baroness Sue Campbell believes the Football Association is "driving change" after announcing a new three-year plan to improve disability football opportunities in England.



teacher can have on the lives of the young people they teach.

Baroness Sue Campbell said: "Thank you to Steve and everyone at The Teaching Awards Trust for this honour.

"I have always been passionate about the importance of sport in changing lives for the better, and spent my career trying to make this happen across the country.

"While I'm proud to have had this recognition, what is most important for me is that we keep building on the work done so far.

"Sport has the power to change young people's lives for the better.

"It can contribute to physical and mental wellbeing, it can provide opportunities to compete and collaborate with others and it can help shape their place in society.

It is so important that everyone is encouraged to discover what they love and is given the opportunity to be the best they can be."

Steve Munby, Chair of The Teaching Awards Trust, said: "Congratulations to Sue on receiving this award, which is so well-deserved.

"She has been an inspirational figure across the education sector for decades, and has made an indelible impact on the life chances of countless children.

"Throughout her career she has inspired young people to take up new sports, to fulfil their potential, and to reach for the top in every aspect of their lives.

"She is a national treasure, and we are all delighted to take this opportunity to thank her for everything she has done for our young people."

# CHAMPIONSHIP



# Palace Women make commitment to players Crystal clear with The Turmeric Co. partnership



Crystal Palace Women has committed to delivering leading nutritional support to its squad, by partnering with The Turmeric Co.

The Turmeric Co, founded by professional footballer Thomas Hal Robson-Kanu, has become Palace Women's Official Turmeric Supplier for the 2021/22 FA Women's Championship season.

The Turmeric Co. is the UK's leading producer of naturally produced turmeric shots, which are used by a number of professional football clubs and elite athletes to enhance their recovery and holistic health. The Turmeric Co. has spent over a decade perfecting their range of turmeric shots, using raw and fresh turmeric root combined with other fresh ingredients.

The Turmeric Co. has recently announced partnerships with a range of other clubs and national governing bodies of sport, including British Gymnastics, Brentford, Wigan Warriors and the English Institute of Sport.

Thomas Hal Robson-Kanu, Founder and CEO at The Turmeric Co. added: "Palace are

building something special with their women's side and have recognised the importance of natural nutrition to help the squad with managing their busy schedules by supporting recovery and immune health.

"They are making history every season it seems and are taking preparations to the next level off the pitch, to ensure continued improvements on the pitch. We are excited to be a part of this journey."

Dr. Andrew Greene, Head of Performance at Crystal Palace Women added: "Curcumin supplementation has been shown in the scientific literature to reduce inflammation and oxidative stress, decrease pain and muscle damage and aid superior recovery in athletes.

"These are significant benefits that will contribute to our players ability to recovery from training and match exertion, and as part of their nutritional planning, will help them to cope with the demands of the season."



The  
**Turmeric**  
Co.  
RAW TURMERIC  
& GINGER

## **Fraser named Liverpool's first managing director**

Liverpool have announced the appointment of Russ Fraser as the club's first managing director.

As managing director, Fraser will have overall responsibility for player recruitment, welfare, medical, operations and facilities for the LFC Women first team, academy and RTC.

Fraser will join up with the Women's Championship side in early November after completing a successful 18-month period at Leicester City, where he helped oversee the team's move into full-time professionalism.

That followed two years at West Ham United Women, where he worked alongside current Reds manager Matt Beard and saw the team reach a Women's FA Cup final.

During his time in London, Fraser helped West Ham consolidate their place in the WSL and managed their move to the Chadwell Heath training facility.

Liverpool FC's director of communications and executive director of LFC Women, Susan Black, said: "We are delighted to appoint Russ to the position of managing director of our women's section and are looking forward to him bringing much-needed skills, knowledge and experience to this newly created role.

"In seeking a first managing director for LFC Women, our key priority was to find someone with a significant track record of multi-year delivery within women's football and we certainly found that in Russ.

"His appointment builds on the solid foundation changes already put in place at LFC Women, giving us a structure led by an experienced women's football leader who can take us forward and continue our rebuilding journey step by step."

### **London City Lionesses announce signing of Grays**

London City Lionesses have announced the permanent signing of Jessica Gray.

Gray becomes the first player to move permanently from the development squad to the First team following club's implantation of the full youth pathway scheme.

Sporting Director Edward Gallagher said, "It's great to have Jess move permanently into our first team squad to push our already strong goalkeeping department of Shae and Anna. Jess makes the transition having spent one season in our development squad and through her hard work has earned this opportunity."

### **University of Greenwich become Charlton Athletic's front-of-shirt sponsor**

Charlton have announced a partnership with the University of Greenwich.

The deal sees the university become the first front-of-shirt principle partner of Charlton Athletic Women since the side turned professional at the start of July.

Charlton Owner Thomas Sandgaard agreed a deal to purchase Charlton Athletic Women in February and made the decision for the team to go full-time for the start of the 2021/22 season.

Commercial Director, Wayne Mumford, told the official website: "With new staff, new facilities, new players to be revealed and now a new sponsor, it is an exciting time for Charlton Athletic Women.

"Our owner has a clear vision to grow the women's team and we're pleased to be able to partner with the University of Greenwich, who wanted to be part of that growth of the team."

# The Potential of Women's Sport:

## Brands and Sports Need to think differently about women's sport

New research from The Space Between shows that women's sport fans have the potential to be more valuable than men's sport fans.

Sports marketing agency, The Space Between, today released new research comparing the attitudes and behaviours of women's sport fans and men's sport fans.

The research shows that fans of women's sport are more values-driven and purposeful, quicker adopters of tech and far more likely to buy the product of brand sponsors than fans of men's sport.

The Space Between commissioned the research from Savanta to offer new insight into fans of women's sport that could demonstrate to brands and rights holders the untapped value in women's sport audiences and prompt the sports and marketing sector to think differently about the commercial opportunity.

The findings include:

- Women's sport fans are twice as likely to recall brand sponsors than fans of men's sport and they are 25% more likely to buy brand sponsor products than fans of men's sport.

- 50% of women's sport fans strongly agree that brands should act with purpose and try to make the world a better place, compared to just 20% of men's sport fans, and these beliefs strongly influence the purchasing decisions of women's sport fans.
- 40% of women's sport fans deem it very important for the brand to reflect their values when choosing one brand over another vs. 20% of men's sport fans.
- Women's sport fans are significantly more tech savvy, environmentally conscious and community minded compared to men's sport fans.

Commenting on the rationale for the research, Adam Raincock, Co-Founder of The Space Between says: "It's time to change the narrative about the commercial and marketing value of women's sport.

"We need to alter the way we look at this audience from a focus on the quantity of the audience to the quality. There is a fundamental difference in how the audience connect with women's sport.

"It's deeper and more meaningful and so therefore

brands that get it right have an opportunity to create better and more valuable relationships with these fans.

"The sooner we make this shift the quicker we'll start to realise the real value of women's sport."

Speaking on the findings of the research, Tom Gladstone, Co-Founder of The Space Between says: "To date brands have largely used women's sport as a platform to show their support for equality, female empowerment, and inclusivity, but this risks leaving value on the table.

Women's sport fans have a more progressive, purposeful sense of what is important in society and place greater importance on brands playing a role in health & wellbeing, the environment and sustainability, opening up women's sport to a broader spectrum of brand partners."

The Space Between is making the research available to the industry free of charge and it can be downloaded at [www.spacebetweenagency.com/womens-sport-fan-research](http://www.spacebetweenagency.com/womens-sport-fan-research).

Commenting on the access to data on women's sport, Lisa Parfitt, Co-Founder of The Space Between says: "The growth of women's sport is a personal and professional priority for

“The Space Between so we are making the research freely available to the industry.

“Having new insight and data on women’s sport is critical to the progression and continued momentum of its commercialisation.

“It’s time for the industry to place more focus on the value of women’s sport fans attitudes and behaviours, for brands with a purposeful persuasion to understand the potential rewards and for sports to sell women’s sport in a new way.”

### About ‘The Space Between’



The Space Between is a new specialist sports marketing agency founded to help businesses make the most of today’s disrupted sports landscape, to meaningfully connect with consumers.

We believe that brands and rights holders are failing to fully realise the potential growth opportunities in sport.

The Space Between blends the consistency of a core team with the power of a collective and boasts a roster of clients including Vitality, Mitsubishi Motors, Principality Building Society, Purplebricks, The FA and ECB. The agency brand is inspired by Viktor Frankl, an Austrian neurologist, psychologist and Holocaust survivor who said that ‘Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom.’

The philosophy echoes the Co-Founders outlook on the role of marketing and inspired them to challenge agency conventions.

### About ‘The Research Methodology’

There is a large crossover in fans of men’s and women’s sport. Fans of women’s sport are also likely to follow men’s sport, so our research – surveying 500 sport fans in the UK aged 16+ – we looked at two separate cohorts to draw out the differences in attitude based on depth of interest in women’s sport.

1. Men’s Sport Fans defined as only following / watching men’s sport.

2. Women’s Sport Fans defined as those who are fans of 3 or more women’s sports.

Men make up a significant percentage of women’s sport fans, and are often more likely to watch women’s professional sport than women.

This is reflected in our survey, with men making up 41% of the women’s sport fans surveyed, compared with 48% of the men’s sport fans surveyed.

### About ‘Savanta’



Savanta is a fast-growing data, market research and advisory

company. We inform and inspire our clients through powerful data, empowering technology and high-impact consulting.

All designed to help our clients make better decisions and achieve faster progress. Savanta offers clients a full range of intelligence services, including:

- Bespoke research – tailored solutions built using specialists from Savanta’s Industry and Methodology Practices.
- Data collection and analysis – access to Global consumers and Business professionals through a proprietary technology platform.
- Intelligent products – including the BrandVue and Market Vue reputation tracking solutions.



# WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE



# FANWL Constitution and Reserve Season teams

## Constitution

### Northern Premier

AFC Fylde  
Brighouse Town  
Burnley  
Derby County  
Huddersfield Town  
Hull City  
Loughborough Lightning  
Middlesbrough  
Nottingham Forest  
Sheffield  
Stoke City  
West Bromwich Albion  
Wolverhampton Wanderers

### Southern Premier

Bridgewater United  
Cardiff City  
Chichester & Selsey  
Crawley Wasps  
Gillingham  
Hounslow  
Ipswich Town  
Keynsham Town  
London Bees  
Milton Keynes Dons  
Oxford United  
Plymouth Argyle  
Portsmouth  
Southampton

### Division One North

Alnwick Town  
Barnsley  
Bolton  
Bradford City AFC  
Chester-le-Street Town  
Chorley  
Durham Cestria  
FC United of Manchester  
Leeds United  
Liverpool Feds  
Newcastle United  
Norton & Stockton  
Stockport County

### Division One Mids

Bedworth United  
Boldmere St Michaels  
Burton Albion  
Doncaster Rovers Belles  
Holwell Sports  
Leafield Athletic  
Leek Town  
Lincoln City  
Long Eaton United  
Peterborough United  
Solihull Moors  
Sporting Khalsa  
Wem Town

### Division One SE

Actonians  
AFC Wimbledon  
Billericay Town  
Cambridge City  
Cambridge United  
Enfield Town  
Harlow Town  
Hashtag United  
Kent Football United  
London Seaward  
Norwich City  
QPR  
Stevenage

### Division One SW

AFC Bournemouth  
Buckland Athletic  
Cheltenham Town  
Chesham United  
Exeter City  
Larkhall Athletic  
Maidenhead United  
Poole Town  
Portishead Town  
Southampton Women  
Swindon Town

## Reserve Section

### North Division

Barnsley  
Bradford City  
Brighouse Town  
Chorley  
Durham Cestria

Huddersfield Town  
Hull City  
Leeds United  
Liverpool Feds  
Middlesbrough  
Sheffield  
Stockport County

### Midlands Division

Bedworth United  
Doncaster Rovers Belles  
Leicester City  
Long Eaton United  
Lincoln City  
Loughborough Lightning  
Nottingham Forest  
Solihull Moors  
Sporting Khalsa  
Stoke City  
West Bromwich Albion  
Wolverhampton Wanderers

### South East Division

Cambridge City  
Cambridge United  
Hashtag United  
Ipswich Town  
MK Dons  
Norwich City  
Stevenage  
Watford  
West Ham United

### South Central Division

Actonians  
AFC Wimbledon  
Billericay Town  
Charlton Athletic  
Crawley Wasps  
Crystal Palace  
Enfield Town  
London Bees  
London Seaward

### South West Division

Bridgewater United  
Chichester & Selsey  
Keynsham Town  
Lewes  
London City Lionesses  
Oxford United  
Portsmouth  
Southampton

## Record crowds watch Exeter City beat Plymouth Argyle

1380 spectators packed into St. James Park to see Exeter City beat Plymouth Argyle in a penalty shootout in the Devon Cup.

It was a perfect day and a perfect advert for women's football, with the Grecians claiming the upset over their Devon rivals, who play in the league above, with fans staying long after the final whistle to celebrate, take selfies with the team, and get autographs from the players it was a joyous and celebratory atmosphere.

"We wanted to give a good game for the crowd and won't get a much better game than that," goal-keeper Abbi Bond told DevonLive.

"It was end to end at times and what an advert for women's football in general and both teams went full throttle and thankfully we came out on top.

"It was amazing and as soon as we turned up to hear the crowd was brilliant. When we came out of the tunnel for the start of the match and heard everyone cheering it was quite surreal.

"But we tried to switch on and stay focused and play the game and we had to do that and ignore what was happening on the sidelines, but after the game, all the autographs and pictures with the fans, they look up to us but we need and want the support.

"It added an extra something and ten pen cent and they were the driving force and it really was a massive help for us."



## Dench joins QPR

Defender Mollie Dench has joined National League side Queens Park Rangers on a permanent deal.

The youngster leaves London Bees which she joined in the summer of 2018 and has made eight appearances for the club.

In the previous two disrupted campaigns, the young defender has found her chances limited and joined the R's on loan at the beginning of the 2020-21 season.

London Bees said: "The defender leaves The Hive with all of our best wishes and we wish her well for her new chapter at QPR."

# FANWNL

## 2021/22 Tables

### Northern Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1 Wolverhampton Wanderers	8	7	1	0	12	22
2 Derby County	7	6	0	1	11	18
3 Huddersfield Town	9	5	2	2	13	17
4 Fylde	7	5	1	1	12	16
5 Nottingham Forest	8	4	2	2	9	14
6 Burnley	8	4	0	4	7	12
7 Brighouse Town	7	3	3	1	7	12
8 West Bromwich Albion	9	2	3	4	-5	9
9 Stoke City	8	2	1	5	-6	7
10 Middlesbrough	8	2	0	6	-11	6
11 Sheffield	7	2	0	5	-11	6
12 Loughborough Lightning	8	1	1	6	-17	4
13 Hull City	8	0	2	6	-21	2

### Southern Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1 Ipswich Town	8	8	0	0	29	24
2 Southampton	7	7	0	0	39	21
3 Bridgewater United	9	6	2	1	18	20
4 Crawley Wasps	9	6	0	3	11	18
5 Portsmouth	9	5	1	3	17	16
6 Gillingham	10	5	1	4	-7	16
7 Oxford United	7	4	1	2	12	13
8 Cardiff City	9	4	1	4	4	13
9 London Bees	10	4	1	5	-3	13
10 Keynsham Town	10	3	0	7	-38	9
11 Chichester & Selsey	10	1	1	8	-21	4
12 Plymouth Argle	6	1	0	5	-13	3
13 Milton Keynes Dons	7	0	2	5	-14	2
14 Hounslow	7	0	0	7	-34	0



TheFA Women's  
National League

# FANWNL

## 2021/22 Tables

### Division One North

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1 Leeds United	9	6	1	2	13	19
2 Liverpool Feds	7	6	0	1	13	18
3 Newcastle United	7	5	1	1	20	16
4 Chorley	7	3	3	1	0	12
5 FC United of Manchester	8	4	0	4	-7	12
6 Stockport County	8	3	2	3	3	11
7 Norton & Stockton Ancients	8	3	1	4	2	10
8 Durham Cestria	7	3	1	3	0	10
9 Bradford City	7	2	1	4	-5	7
10 Chester-le-Street Town	7	1	2	4	-8	5
11 Barnsley	6	1	1	4	-4	4
12 Alnwick Town	7	0	1	6	-27	1

### Division One Midlands

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1 Lincoln City	8	7	0	1	17	21
2 Doncaster Rovers Belles	8	6	1	1	10	19
3 Boldmere St Michaels	7	5	1	1	13	16
4 Long Eaton United	8	4	3	1	9	15
5 Leek Town	9	4	0	5	-10	12
6 Solihull Moors	8	3	1	4	3	10
7 Holwell Sports	8	3	1	4	3	10
8 Leafield Athletic	7	3	1	3	-4	10
9 Sporting Khalsa	8	2	3	3	-1	9
10 Peterborough United	8	2	2	4	-7	8
11 Wem Town	6	2	1	3	-8	7
12 Burton Albion	8	1	2	5	-8	5
13 Bedworth United	9	1	0	8	-17	3



TheFA Women's  
National League

# FANWNL

## 2021/22 Tables

### Division One South East

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1 Hashtag United	9	8	1	0	31	25
2 Billericay Town	9	8	1	0	23	25
3 Actonians	9	5	2	2	13	17
4 AFC Wimbledon	8	5	1	2	15	16
5 Cambridge United	9	5	0	4	-3	15
6 London Seaward	8	3	3	2	0	12
7 Cambridge City	9	3	1	5	-1	10
8 Queens Park Rangers	6	2	1	3	2	7
9 Enfield Town	9	1	4	4	-4	7
10 Northwich City	8	2	1	5	-12	7
11 Stevenage	8	2	0	6	-24	6
12 Harlow Town	8	1	1	6	-24	4
13 Kent Football United	6	0	0	6	-16	0

### Division One South West

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1 Southampton	8	5	2	1	14	17
2 Cheltenham Town	8	5	2	1	10	17
3 Exeter City	7	4	2	1	17	14
4 Chesham United	7	4	2	1	6	14
5 AFC Bournemouth	6	3	3	0	16	12
6 Portishead	9	3	2	4	-2	11
7 Maidenhead United	5	2	1	2	2	7
8 Larkhill Athletic	7	2	1	4	-11	7
9 Swindon Town	6	0	3	3	-3	3
10 Buckland Athletic	5	1	0	4	-17	3
11 Poole Town	8	0	0	8	-32	0



TheFA Women's  
National League

# Burnley strengthens off-field management team with four new appointments



Burnley Football Club has strengthened its off-field management and operations team with key appointments in four newly created positions.

The new roles are headlined by the appointment of Russell Ball as the club's Head of Matchday Operations, reporting to Executive Chairman Alan Pace and overseeing the club's interaction with supporters, commercial partners, and the local community at Turf Moor.

Ball, who has over 25 years of board-level experience in real estate, has acted as an advisor to Burnley FC's owners ALK Capital since taking over the club in December 2020.

He has personally overseen stadium improvements

including the multimillion-pound investment in new hospitality facilities within the North Stand and the continued introduction of state-of-the-art technology at Turf Moor.

He will commence his new role immediately and play a key role in the board's vision to modernise and improve the Turf Moor matchday experience, whilst retaining its unique atmosphere.

The club's commitment to improving the supporter experience for all fans is also boosted by the appointment of Harriet Harbidge as Burnley FC's first-ever Fan Experience Manager.

Harbidge, who is from the local area and a graduate of the University of Central Lancashire, will lead all

existing supporter services functions and joins the club from Premier League champions Manchester City.

She previously served as Burnley FC's Supporter Liaison Officer from 2016 to 2019.

As part of the continued efforts to professionalise women's football at the club, Burnley FC Women is also proud to announce the appointment of Lola Ogunbote as its first Business Lead, overseeing all aspects of Burnley FC Women, including personnel, budgets, and day-to-day football club operations.

Ogunbote joins the Clarets whilst serving as the Executive Director of Goals for Girls, a US Non-Profit that unites girls through

football to lead community change.

A qualified FA coach, she previously worked in China as the Director of Football at Beijing Royal School and was an international community coach for Arsenal FC in Australia, South Africa, and Mozambique.

The club also welcomes Gurpri Bains as its Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Lead, further strengthening Burnley's FC's One Club for all ethos.

Bains will be responsible for the coordination and implementation of the club's DEI strategy and arrives at Burnley from the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

With a mixed skillset and background in arts participation and community engagement, she is also an FA qualified coach and has previous experience in football with the Aston Villa Foundation.

Alan Pace, Chairman of Burnley FC, said: "I am delighted to complete these four key appointments, as the next stage in our long-term growth plan for the club.

I look forward to working with Russell, Harriet, Lola and Gurpri as part of our expanding management and operations team at Turf Moor.

This is an exciting time to join the club as we continue moving forward both on and off the pitch."



# GRASSROOTS



# MARCO FLOREALE

## *on The Game of Two Halves*

*Football is everywhere at the moment, especially with the men's European Championships concluding in such dramatic fashion.*

A lot has been said for this men's England team about their off pitch demeanour. They are not just footballers, they are brand ambassadors, they take pride in being role models and they are not afraid to shout up for what they believe in. It's a far cry from the England of old. People have been proud to support this team and it's a familiar sight in the women's game.

When you ask people what they love about women's football nine times out of ten they will reply, "the friendly, family atmosphere". Players go out of their way to come talk to fans and interact and it is something which you can see more in this men's team as their Euros continued.

At the Game of Two Halves, they put education and branding as key areas they help their footballers develop.

Marco Floreale, co-founder is proud of what they do for their

footballers throughout their careers and not just about their transfers or wage discussions.

"We have put education at the forefront of what we provide and we have superb financial advisors who are there to help our players and make sure their money is working for them and they are not just squandering it on fancy things," he said.

"The man on the street cannot comprehend that you can go and spend over £70,000 on a designer watch, it takes the average man two years to earn that sort of money.

"We spent time making sure we had legal representation available, working on the education arm and then we reached out and got a partner in the Johan Cruyff institute."

“ We put education at the forefront of what we provide ”

The idea of being a footballer now has gone from just kicking a football on a pitch every week to a person who is offered boot contracts or deals with big companies and Floreale believes it is about making sure that players find the right balance.

He said: "If a footballer comes to me and the first thing they say is 'Can you get me a boot deal?' then I immediately step back. There is a lot more that needs sorting before you can start thinking about things like that.

"Obviously these things can be important to players but it's about making sure players are doing the right things at the right times. You need to make sure you still are playing for the love of the game not just the love of the money."

As the women's game grows you are already starting to see women's players appear in adverts and as brand ambassadors. Steph Houghton, Manchester City and England captain, has been a Nike ambassador for a number of years and a number of the

# The Game of Two Halves

Lionesses including midfielder Jill Scott appeared in an advert for Deliveroo recently.

“The more mainstream the women’s game becomes, the more there will be available. As the women’s game grows we want to make sure that our players grow with it and have the education to grow as well,” Floreale added.

One of the other aspects A Game of Two Halves is proud to look after is a player’s branding. This comes with how they represent themselves in life and online.

Social media has become a big part of everyone’s lives. Most people will have some form of social media account whether it be Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok etc and that includes footballers from across all walks of life.

There are three sides to social media – the positive, the negative and the downright ugly and a Game of Two Halves has a team set up to help players through the muddle of it.

Floreale said: “We looked into brand and how a player could become their own brand and create their own identity and revenue stream outside of playing football.

“The brand part for me is necessary to have in the current world, it’s a good outlet to create your identity on social media. You can make some amazing money on things like Instagram. It all began with David Beckham, he was not just a footballer, he was a brand.

“With social media, the moment a player becomes more well known, there is this thing where people go back and look for skeletons in your closet where you have said something which you shouldn’t.

“We are quite hot on making sure that players know how to deal with this, it’s not a case of deleting it and pretending it never happened but it’s a case of learning.

“Everyone can make a mistake or have an uneducated opinion but if you own it, learn from it and grow from it then you can show that you



“Everyone can make a mistake or have an uneducated opinion but if you own it, learn from it and grow from it then you can show that you are moving on as a person.

“When you are a young person you may say something which you think is cool, or trying to fit in but then looking back as a more well-rounded professional you realise what you said or wrote was wrong.

“We have teamed up with a company who are experts in looking after your brand.

“They will clean up your social media channels and educate you in why they need to do that.

“If you have these sorts of things on your social media channels it is hard sit round a table negotiating a contract if you have not learnt and owned these things.

“If you can prove you have grown as a person, you are human, you made a mistake, then people will think much more highly of you.

“On the other side, there will be some people whose opinions might not change and we will then look and think about whether we want to represent a player who is going to distract us from our jobs and keep us on our toes and putting out fires.”

*In next month's article, we will discuss how a Game of Two Halves has put mental health at the front of it's company and how they help their footballers get through the difficult times.*



**GAME OF  
TWO HALVES**

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- Representation in the boardroom.
- In house solicitor with decades of experience.

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## BRAND

- Social media experts.
- Become your own brand.
- Generate income alongside football.

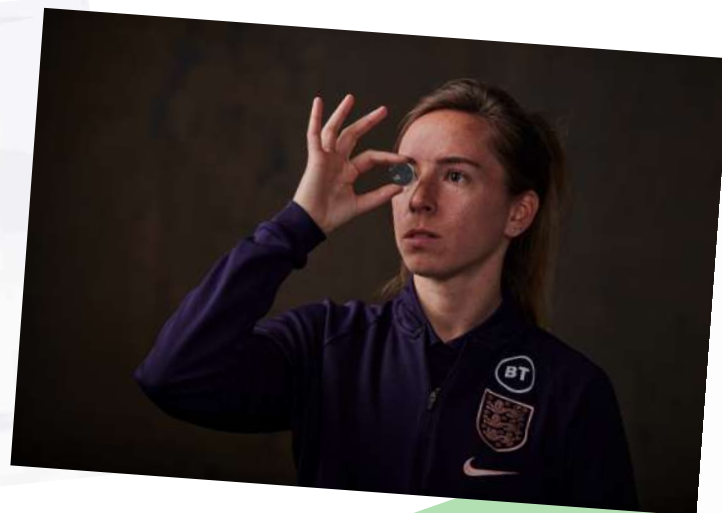
## FINANCE

- Domestic players advised by UK FCA Regulated Firm.
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**WE KEEP YOU ONSIDE,  
ON AND OFF THE PITCH**

**OUR ONE GOAL  
IS TO ENSURE  
OUR PLAYERS  
HAVE A LIFE  
AFTER  
FOOTBALL AND  
DON'T BECOME  
ONE OF THE 40%  
THAT ARE  
BANKRUPT  
WITHIN 5 YEARS  
OF RETIRING.**

# Official coin launches to start eve



After months of preparation, hundreds of entries, a star-studded panel of judges and a public vote, the official Coin for Respect has launched.

England Football and Nationwide Building Society's Coin for Respect initiative was created to help promote mutual respect on and off the pitch.

The organisations launched a competition that called on children aged 3-17 from across the country to design a coin depicting what respect meant to them, in what would be crowned the first official 'Coin for Respect'.

The coin toss has always been a symbol of fair chance at the start of every game, but until now, no official coin has ever existed.

The coin has now been brought to life with 15,000 distributed to grassroots referees across the country.

500 limited edition coins are also being distributed to celebrities and influential faces in the footballing world, FA

and England Football officials and politicians to help spread the message of mutual respect.

The aim is to ensure every game starts with respect.

The winning design from Chloe, a 12-year-old from Wallington, represents the idea that football is for everyone regardless of gender, race, sexuality, and that everyone should be respected on and off the pitch.

Chloe fought off competition from hundreds of other hopefuls to win the public vote after being shortlisted by the judging panel, which included ex-England goalkeeper, David James, EFL referee, Rebecca Welch, and England Lionesses, Beth Mead and Jordan Nobbs.

The first official Coin for Respect match was hosted at Wallington FC, Chloe's home club, on Thursday 7 October between 4-6pm, where the coin was used for the very first time.

The teams were treated to a coaching session from England legend David James and grassroots match official of the

year, Ella Broad, refereed the kick-off match. Now, the coin will be put to use up and down the country by referees at thousands of grassroots matches.

The Coin for Respect campaign, along with the winning coin design, is a part of Nationwide's pledge to ensure one million players, parents and coaches get involved with the England Football Respect campaign by 2023.

David James, ex-England goalkeeper and Coin for Respect ambassador spoke about the competition: "The Coin for Respect campaign is really important as it shines a light on respect in the game and connects with the younger generation of footballers, football fans, football followers, and highlights that respect is something that has to be adhered to.

"Having been involved with this campaign from the very start, I'm so excited that we now have a physical coin to

# Every grassroots match with respect



help carry forward the message of respect.

“Here’s hoping I get to play a match where it’s used sometime soon. I know I’ll be encouraging all of my friends and colleagues to use it to kick off their matches.”

Ella Broad, Grassroots Match Official of the Year, spoke about being involved in the launch: “I’m so excited to be involved in the campaign and to have attended the launch event.

“I can’t believe that I’m the first person to officially use the coin, and I’ll be certain to use it this season. The design is incredibly clever – Chloe has done a great job of creating a design that communicates such an important message.

“I hope that the Coin for Respect campaign and the use of the coin will help to drive mutual respect across the game.

“It’s such an important message to spread, and I hope everyone gets on board with it.

“Every game starts with a coin toss, and this is a great symbol for the game – it should start with respect, and continue throughout the game, on and off the pitch.”

Chloe commented: “I can’t believe I’m finally seeing my design come to life!

“The time has come to actually launch the coin, and I couldn’t be happier that it was at the club that I play for as well.

“I’m really excited to know that it is going to be used up and down the country and hopefully the message that I wanted to put forward shines through.”

Director of Advertising & Marketing at Nationwide Building Society, Paul Hibbs said: “Seeing the campaign come to fruition is something we’re really proud of, especially as with it, comes such a positive message.

“It’s brilliant to see the coin being used for the first time, hopefully it can inspire mutual respect across the country going forward.

“Mutual respect is something that we value at the core of Nationwide in everything we do, so to be able to create something tangible that reflects this in association with England Football has been a great journey for us.

“We hope the campaign will continue to be a success over the season and beyond.”

James Kendall, Director of Football Development at England Football, added: “This is a real milestone for us and our partnership with Nationwide Building Society.

“It’s brilliant to see the coin being distributed to grassroots referees as well as influential figures up and down the country.

“We really hope it will be put to great use and that the mutual respect message that the coin stands for will provide a benchmark that players, supporters and all those involved in the game aspire to achieve.”



# I'm the Coin for Respect winner!

Chloe, 12



# Tass Thistle youth coach honoured



Tass Thistle Youth Coach Alex Keir has been named the winner of the Scottish Football Association Grassroots Awards Best Volunteer in Girls and Women's Football.

Keir has been with the North Ayrshire club for over six years as a volunteer coach.

He has built the club's girls section which now has over 80 players ranging from U7 to U13.

Keir told the Irvine Times: "started off with Tass because of my son and daughter showed an interest in football.

"The girls team began with eight girls and I think it is near 80 at the moment.

"The oldest girls I have got at the moment are U13's and they are playing competitive seven-a-side.

"They are doing well this season as well.

"We are aiming to be fighting for the league title and we are in the quarter finals of the League Cup.

"I have had that group since they were four to six years old and they will be moving to 11-a-side and U15's girls football next year."

As well as creating competitive sides on the park Keir also has quite a knack for developing youngsters as well with two of his players recently signing for Celtic.

"Reluctantly, the girls got picked to go up for a trial at Celtic.

"We had a goalkeeper who was selected for the regional national development squad and from that it progressed to two of them being offered to join Celtic."

Keir's efforts at the club were rewarded last week with his award being bestowed upon him by the SFA at the national stadium, Hampden Park.



# AMMO'S ANTICS

Hi Ammo here,

Lots to tell you this month. Starting with a long away trip to play Sheffield United with my team Birmingham City.

The road north seemed to take forever for this pre-season friendly and our squad has been severely hit with injuries. Mostly to our older players. So just like our car journey it was always going to be an uphill struggle.

Sheffield United we're very well organised and had a clear game plan. We struggled to get going and ended up falling to a 2-0 defeat.

We went on a long unbeaten run last season so losing this first game was a bit of a setback.

The following week I had to pack my bags for my four day Wales U15 National camp.

This was my first residential camp and I was excited to join up with the squad. It was a hard four days, full of intense training sessions

working on all types of skills and drills.

It culminated in a game against an U15 boys team. Which was a tough end to what was a full on international camp.

Playing against boys our own age is always challenging but we put in a decent performance and I believe the gap between boys and girls football continues to close.

The week I got home I went straight back into training with Birmingham city as we prepared to welcome Chelsea in another pre-season friendly.

I had never played against Chelsea before but unsurprisingly they are known for being an extremely talented group.

They were fast, strong and were all top class technical footballers. They quickly went 2-0 up but we fought back to go into half time at 2-2.

When they came out for the second half they moved up another couple of gears and we Blues seemed to tire as the half went on. The final

score was 9-3 to Chelsea and we'd fallen to our second pre-season defeat.

Following the Chelsea game I attended a three day England U15 international camp. Just like the Wales camp I had attended previously this was an intensive few days of training and matches. Coaches observed the sessions and made notes on all the players.

I feel like I performed well during the time I was there. The next camp is in October and I will find out soon if I have been selected for it. There should be a fixture included in the next one.

The thing about international camp selection is, you never really know if you've done enough to get selected. The pool of talent, especially in England is huge so just the fact I was selected to attend one is seen as an excellent achievement. I'm pleased i had the experience and I think I did my best in each session.

Once the England camp was out of the way I was back with Birmingham in our final pre-season friendly, against Leicester at the women's training ground. Leicester have fantastic facilities, I was impressed with the training centre.

But after two straight defeats we needed to bounce back.

Again we were short on numbers and had two U14s playing up with us and we only had one sub. All due to injuries and holidays. I'm happy to say we put in a decent performance and I got 3 assists in a 7-1 win.

The following week we were facing a local derby against Aston Villa in our first league game of the season.

A lot of talented players have moved to Aston Villa from local RTCs recently and we knew it was going to be a very tough game. Once again blighted by injuries to some of our most experienced players we were beaten 4-0.

Although I don't think the score was an accurate reflection on the game. We had a number of chances that on any other day we would put away. But nevertheless they got the result. It was obviously a game they really wanted to win because at the end they, and their parents reacted like they had won the World Cup. I

would add some sort of quote about winning with dignity.. if I knew one.

So, not the start to the season we wanted. I'm not going to talk much about my own individual performances as much this year. We win and we lose as a team.

Next up we have a league game against Derby and after that I'm playing for Gloucestershire in the National cup final at the Aldershot ground. Gloucestershire have never reached the final so I'm going to give my best to help get the win.

I'll tell you all about it next time, as well as anything else that comes up at training.

The thought I want to leave you with is this. "Life isn't about never falling down, it's about picking yourself up and moving forward every time you fall."



# CUPS



# Continental Tyres League Cup games to be broadcast on BBC



The FA is pleased to announce that fixtures for the Group Stage of this season's FA Women's Continental Tyres League Cup have been confirmed, with the Final on the weekend of 5-6 March to be screened live on the BBC.

In what will be the eleventh season of the competition, the final will be screened on free to air television having previously been shown on BT Sport. Broadcast details will be released in due course.

The Group Stages will commence on the 13-14 October and run through to the 15 December, with 22 of the 24 clubs from the Barclays FA Women's Super League and FA Women's Championship entering in the First Round. Holders Chelsea and Arsenal receive a bye to the Quarter-Finals as a result of their participation in the UEFA Women's Champions League.

The competition is divided into two

sections – Northern and Southern – with two groups in the North and Three in the South.

Manchester City's entry into the competition since the draw was made sees them placed into Group B in the Northern Section.

The winner of each group will join Chelsea and Arsenal in the last eight, along with the best runner-up from across the five groups.

Having been associated with the competition for ten years, Continental Tyres have renewed their commitment for a further year and will continue to be lead sponsor as we enter the 2021/2022 campaign.

More details for the Final on the weekend of the 5-6 March will be released in due course.

# 2021/22 Vitality Women's FA Cup fixtures, key dates & information

## Qualifying Round 2

Frontiers *Pen winners	1-1	Woodson Park	Wallsend Boys LFC	2-2	Sunderland WE *Pen winners
Morecambe	7-1	Mansfield Town	Sherborne Town	4-1	Pucklechurch Spts
Haslingden	3-5	Crewe Alexandra	Gateshead Ruth	0-2	Penrith
Saltash United	WO	Halwill	Washington	3-1	West Allotment
Hartlepool Pools	1-3	Darlington	Bishop Auckland	2-1	Blyth Town
Hartlepool United	7-2	Workington Reds	Gateshead	2-1	Spennymoor Town
South Shields	3-2	Chester Le Street	Redcar Town	WO	Boro Rangers
St Josephs RoW	1-2	Thackley	Harworth Colliery	1-6	Wakefield Trinity
Outbridge WM	1-2	Hull United	Ossett United	5-2	Farsley Celtic
York City	9-2	Brighouse Sports	Grimsby Borough	1-3	Chesterfield
Harrogate Town	4-1	Ripon City	Rotherham United	4-2	Sheffield Wednesday
Bradford PA	1-2	Millmoor Juniors	Dronfield Town	3-2	Grimsby Town
Altofts	1-2	Farsley Celtic Jnrs	Altrincham	4-2	Ashton Town
Sir Tom Finney	6-1	Marine	Merseyrail	10-0	Wythenshawe Ams
West Didsbury & Chorl	0-1	Tranmere Rovers	Chester	4-5	Salford City
Blackburn Comm Spts	5-0	Sale United	Fleetwood Town Wrns	1-0	Accrington
Northwich Vixens	1-2	Cheadle Town Sting	AFC Darwen	11-0	Didsbury
Hindley Jnrs	1-3	Mossley Hill	BRNESC	4-2	Runcorn Linnets
Notts County	2-0	Kettering Town	Rise Park	0-7	Northampton Town
Woodlands	0-5	Anstey Nomads	Nottingham Trent Uni	10-1	Bugbrooke St Mich
Leicester Road	4-0	Leicester City	Loughborough Stud	4-2	Arnold Eagles
Thrapston Town	WO	Stewarts & Lloyds C	Lincoln United	5-0	Oadby & Wigston
Allextion & New Parks	0-10	Mansfield Town	Kingfisher	0-1	Lichfield City
Sutton Coldfield Town	2-0	Redditch United	Stourbridge	6-1	Kidderminster Harr
Tamworth Academy	1-3	Lye Town	Leamington Lions	3-2	Coventry Sphinx
Westfields	1-6	Shrewsbury Townn	Coundon Court	0-2	Knowle
Worcester City	1-2	Shifnal Town	Walsall Wood	0-3	AFC Telford United
Crusaders	8-0	Hereford Pegasus	Tamworth	7-0	Doveridge
Sandwell	3-10	Solihull Sporting	East Bergholt Urd	WO	Peterborough NS

## Qualifying Round 2

Needham Market	5-1	Sprowston	Whittlesey Athletic	WO	Histon
Wroxham	WO	Bury Town	Netherton United	5-2	Bungay Town
Haverhill Rovers	0-10	Wymondham Town	Brett Vale	1-5	Kings Lynn Town
Watford L Dev	2-5	Chelmsford City	Royston Town	1-2	Bowers & Pitsea
Headstone Manor	2-3	Biggleswade Utd	Garston	2-3	Southend United
Herts Vipers	7-1	AFC Dunstable	Bedford	2-0	Hutton
Luton Town	12-1	Oaklands Wolves	Leigh Ramblers	3-0	Colney Heath
Dulwich Hamlet	1-1	Herne Bay *Pen winners	Lancing	0-0	Seaford Town *Pen winners
Glebe	0-4	Millwall Lionesses	Islington Borough	1-2	Hastings United
Welling United	5-0	Borough Green	New London Lionesse	4-0	Aylesford
Dartford	11-1	Tunbridge Wells F	Abingdon Town	6-0	Long Crendon
Royal Wootton Bass	4-5	Denham United	Ascot United	3-0	Tilehurst Panthers
Eversley & California	2-4	Caversham United	Milton United	7-2	Woodley United
Wycombe Wanderers	6-0	Sport London e Benf	Ashford Town Middx	25-0	Highworth Town
FC Chippenham	1-2	Oxford City	Worthing	6-0	Newhaven
AFC Acorns	1-0	Badshot Lea	Steyping Town Comm	7-1	Roffery
Chichester City	2-3	AFC Littlehampton	Whyteleafe	0-4	Dorking Wanderers
Ashmount Leigh	2-2	Saltdean United *Pen winners	Ashford	1-1	Hackney *Pen winners
Fleet Town	WO	Holt United	Shanklin	0-2	Bournemouth Sports
Winchester City Flyers	2-6	New Milton Town	Weymouth	5-1	Alton
AFC Stoneham	WO	Merley Cobham Sp	Moneyfields	WO	Redlands
United Services Ports	0-7	Eastleigh in the Com	Middlezoy Rovers	5-4	Oldland Abbotonians
Forest Green Rovers	5-1	Almondsbury	Paulton Rovers	1-2	AEK Boco
Longwell Green	WO	Brislington	Bristol Union	3-0	Longlevens
Gloucester City	0-11	Ilminster Town	Frampton Rangers	0-2	Bishops Lydeard
Ottery St Marys	0-11	Liskeard Athletic	Torquay United	3-0	Helston Athletic
Axminster Town	3-2	Budleigh Salterton	Bideford	2-5	Feniton
AFC St Austell	7-0	Marine Academy Ply	Margate	1-10	Sutton United
Fulham	3-1	Eastbourne United	St Ives	3-2	Newmarket Town
Haringey Borough	3-6	Clapton Community	Brentford	2-5	Abingdon United
Walton Casuals *Pen winners	1-1	Woking	Maidstone United	0-7	Bromley

# 2021/22 Vitality Women's FA Cup fixtures, key dates & information

## Qualifying Round 3 fixtures

Morecambe Ladies	vs	South Shields	Shifnal Town	vs	Notts County
Durham Cestria	vs	Merseyrail	Leek Town	vs	Sutton Coldfield T
Sir Tom Finney	vs	Bolton	Doncaster Rovers	vs	Nottingham Trent U
Alnwick Town	vs	Penrith AFC	Lincoln United	vs	Millmoor Jnrs
Bradford City	vs	Farsley Celtic	Chesterfield	vs	Bedworth United
Tranmere Rovers	vs	Cheadle Town Sting	Shrewsbury Town	vs	Wem Town
Altofts	vs	Darlington	Dronfield Town	vs	Peterborough Utd
Haslingden	vs	Sunderland WE	Lichfield City	vs	Boldmere St Mich
Mossley Hill	vs	Bishop Auckland	Tamworth	vs	Northampton Town
Redcar Town	vs	Leeds United	Burton Albion	vs	Mansfield Town
Wakefield Trinity	vs	Hull United	Solihull Sporting	vs	Stourbridge
Washington	vs	Fleetwood Town	Leamington Lions	vs	Long Eaton
Chester-le-Street T	vs	Chorley	Biggleswade Utd	vs	Clapton Comm
FC United of Manc	vs	BRNESC	Southend Utd Comm	vs	Frontiers
York City	vs	Newcastle United	Luton Town	vs	Wroxham
Barnsley	vs	Salford City Lion	Harlow Town	vs	Norwich City
Stockport County	vs	Liverpool Feds	Hashtag United	vs	Enfield Town
Gateshead	vs	Harrogate Town	Leigh Ramblers	vs	Wymondham Town
Altrincham	vs	Norton & Stockton A	St Ives Town	vs	Cambridge City
Hartlepool United	vs	AFC Darwen	Kings Lynn Town	vs	Cambridge United
Blackburn Community	vs	Thackley	Needham Market	vs	Billericay Town
Lye Town	vs	Whittlesey Athletic	London Seaward	vs	Chelmsford City
Knowle	vs	Loughborough St	Bedford	vs	Bowers & Pitsea
Leicester Road	vs	Leafield Athletic	Hackney	vs	Stevenage
Holwell Sports	vs	Lincoln City	East Bergholt Utd	vs	Herts Vipers
Netherton United	vs	Anstey Nomads	Queens Park Rangers	vs	Caversham United
AFC Telford United	vs	Rotherham United	Herne Bay	vs	Wycombe Wanderers
Crusaders	vs	Solihull Moors	Steyning Town Comm	vs	Milton United
Thrapston Town	vs	Sporting Khasla	Dorking Wanderers	vs	Seaford Town

## Qualifying Round 3 fixtures

AFC Acorns	vs	Southampton	Abingdon United	vs	Moneyfields
Bromley	vs	Hastings United	New London Lion	vs	Ashford Town Middx
Kent Football Utd	vs	Denham United	Chesham United	vs	Maidenhead United
AFC Wimbledon	vs	Walton Casuals	Saltdean United	vs	Actonians
Fulham	vs	Dartford	Millwall Lionesses	vs	Fleet Town
Ascot United	vs	Oxford City	Welling United	vs	Sutton United
Worthing	vs	AFC Littlehampton	AFC Stoneham	vs	Feniton
AFC Bournemouth	vs	Saltash United	Abingdon Town	vs	Portishead
Swindon Town	vs	Longwell Green	Weymouth	vs	Sherbourne Town
Poole Town	vs	Torquay United	Cheltenham Town	vs	Larkhall Athletic
Liskeard Athletic	vs	Axminster Town	Bristol Ladies Union	vs	Ilminster Town
Exeter City	vs	Buckland Athletic	AEK Boco	vs	AFC St. Austell
Middlezoy Rovers	vs	New Milton Town	Eastleigh in the Comm	vs	Forest Green Rvrs
Bournemouth Sports	vs	Bishop's Lydeard			

## MATCH DATES

All ties must be played on Sunday 24 October 2021.

Kick-off 2.00pm, unless otherwise mutually agreed.

## DATES OF ROUNDS

First Round Proper Sunday 14 November 2021

Second Round Proper Sunday 28 November 2021

Third Round Proper Sunday 12 December 2021

Fourth Round Proper Sunday 30 January 2022

Fifth Round Proper Sunday 27 February 2022

Quarter Final Sunday 20 March 2022

Semi Final Sunday 17 April 2022

Final Sunday 15 May 2022

## PRIZE FUND PAYMENTS

First Round Qualifying £400 (W) £100 (L)

Second Round Qualifying £450 (W) £115 (L)

Third Round Qualifying £600 (W) £150 (L)

First Round Proper £850 (W) £215 (L)

Second Round Proper £1,000 (W) £250 (L)

Third Round Proper £1,250 (W) £315 (L)

Fourth Round Proper £2,000 (W) £500 (L)

Fifth Round Proper £3,000 (W) £750 (L)

Quarter Final £4,000 (W) £1,000 (L)

Semi Final £5,000 (W) £1,250 (L)

Final £25,000 (W) £15,000 (L)

# Adidas announces as global s



October 5, 2021 – Just ahead of today's highly-anticipated group stage kickoff, adidas has been announced as the exclusive global sponsor of Uefa Women's Champions League coverage for sports streaming platform and global broadcaster DAZN as well as partner YouTube.

This marks the first global sponsorship of the landmark multi-year broadcast partnership between UEFA, DAZN and YouTube and will exclusively span all 61 live matches from Matchday 1 through to the finals in May.

With fans for the first time finally able to follow the entire season of the UEFA Women's Champions League, all around the world, in one single place - on DAZN and/or free globally on DAZN's new YouTube channel – the

competition is on the brink of unprecedented growth.

Building on this long overdue global exposure, adidas will help it reach even more mainstream audiences.

The agreement with adidas makes the brand DAZN's largest global sponsor in history. The deal includes sponsorship advertising in all 61 live matches, as well as related highlights and clips.

It also includes adidas integration within DAZN's new "We All Rise" six-part city series, which will premiere at halftime of all matches during each week of the group stages and shine a light on the rich local history and rise of women's football. Over the course of the season, this will evolve to include deeper collaboration and co-creation between DAZN and adidas.

Meanwhile, the advertising agreement between adidas and YouTube includes pre-roll globally across all live matches and non-live content across the DAZN Uefa Women's Champions League Youtube channel.

Nick Craggs, General Manager, adidas Football: "The UEFA Women's Champions League is the pinnacle club competition and this new partnership will take it to more fans than ever before. At adidas, we believe that through sport we have the power to change lives. More visibility, more coverage and innovative formats are another step in the rise of women's football and we're excited to come together with DAZN and YouTube to drive the game forward."

James Rushton, Co-CEO of DAZN Group: "We are thrilled to officially announce adidas as

# ponsor of Champions League



a global sponsor of DAZN and our UEFA Women's Champions League coverage. This makes adidas our biggest global brand sponsor ever to date and is a testament to the tremendous commercialization and unrivalled brand partnership opportunities that exist around women's football, especially at this most elite level.

We look forward to working with adidas to further elevate the competition by reaching new and more fans as well as continuing to build upon the ever-growing economical ecosystem of the women's game."

Nancy Elder, Chief Communications Officer of DAZN Group: "When we announced this landmark deal a few months ago, we simultaneously unveiled a short film titled 'We ALL Rise

With More Eyes' – which conveys DAZN's unwavering belief in the ripple effect more visibility will have on taking the women's competition to new heights. With adidas on board as this season's global sponsor, the powerful and virtuous cycle of growth is well in motion and we look forward to more eyes on the game leading to much, much more – more likes, more fans, more sponsors, more players turned into household names, and more of the next generation inspired to play and pursue their dreams."

Ben McOwen Wilson, Managing Director of YouTube [UK & Ireland]: "YouTube is delighted to have adidas come on board as a global sponsor of the UEFA Women's Champions League live coverage on DAZN's YouTube channel that will be free to

view for fans around the world starting today! This is a landmark deal, representing one of the largest ever investments in women's football content, and is a massive signal of the value and appeal of the women's game to fans."

Marianne Stroehmann, Senior Industry Director of Google: "This is a major moment for women's football with a first-of-its-kind sponsorship that will allow adidas to reach and engage global fans of the Uefa Women's Champions League on YouTube. We know that there is a direct link between financial investment and breaking the visibility gap for women's football. Thanks to adidas, with the support of great partners like Mediacom, we have taken another step towards full equality for the women's game."

# Women's Champions League

## Group Stage Results and Tables

### Group Stage Match One

Hoffenheim	5-0	HB Koge
Hacken	0-3	Lyon
Barcelona	4-1	Arsenal
Benfica	0-0	Bayern
Zhytlobud-1	0-1	Real Madrid
Servette FCCF	0-3	Juventus
Breidablik	0-2	PSG
Chelsea	3-3	Wolfsburg

### Group Stage Match 2

PSG	5-0	Zhytlobud-1
Wolfsburg	5-0	Servette FCCF
Juventus	1-2	Chelsea
Real Madrid	5-0	Breidablik
Bayern	4-0	Hacken
HB Koge	0-2	Barcelona
Arsenal	4-0	Hoffenheim
Lyon	5-0	Benfica

GROUP A		MP	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Wolfsburg	2	1	0	0	5	4
2	Chelsea	2	1	0	0	1	4
3	Juventus	2	1	1	1	2	3
4	Servette	2	0	2	2	-8	0

GROUP B		MP	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Paris	2	2	0	0	7	6
2	Real Madrid	2	2	0	0	6	6
3	Zhytlobud-1	2	0	0	2	-6	0
4	Breidablik	2	0	0	2	-7	0

GROUP C		MP	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Barcelona	2	2	0	0	5	6
2	Arsenal	2	1	0	1	1	3
3	Hoffenheim	2	1	0	1	1	3
4	HB Koge	2	0	0	2	-7	0

GROUP D		MP	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Lyon	2	2	0	0	8	6
2	Bayern	2	1	1	0	4	4
3	Benfica	2	0	1	1	-5	1
4	Hacken	2	0	0	2	-7	0



# HOME NATIONS



## England to welcome Northern Ireland at Wembley

England are to return to Wembley Stadium connected by EE for a 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup qualifier against Northern Ireland.

The match, on Saturday 23 October (5.15pm kick-off), will be the first competitive fixture for the Lionesses at the national stadium since it reopened in 2007.

Wembley has staged two previous England international matches against Germany in November 2014 and November 2019.

The Lionesses last met Northern Ireland at St. George's Park back in February with Ellen White claiming a hat-trick and Ella Toone scoring on her debut in the 6-0 win.

The two countries could also meet at next summer's UEFA Women's EURO in England with the draw for the finals to take place in Manchester on 28 October.

Baroness Sue Campbell, The FA's director of women's football, said: "Having the chance for our England team to play again at Wembley in a competitive fixture is so important.

"From a performance point of view, it will give us the chance to get close to a big-game occasion of the kind we hope our squad will experience at next summer's home UEFA EURO.

"Having had such a challenging 18 months, the day will mean so much to our players and of course we hope the chance to play in front of so many fans will be something truly special.

"We have missed the supporters and let's hope that things are heading in the right direction on that front.

"We want Wembley to feel like home for our England team and we want the players to be able to thrive when they run out to play.

"We are at the start of an exciting season and with Sarina Wiegman coming in as head coach, there is every reason for us to be upbeat for the months ahead."

Under Wiegman, England will return to action when World Cup qualifying begins on Friday 17 September at home to North Macedonia, with the venue still to be confirmed, before travelling to Luxembourg four days later.

October's camp will conclude with a trip to Latvia three days after the Northern Ireland fixture.

November will then see the year's action conclude with two home qualifiers against Austria and Latvia on 27 and 30 November respectively, with the venues for those matches also yet to be confirmed.

The Lionesses last visit to Wembley came in November 2019 when a late German winner saw the visitors win 2-1 in front of an England women record crowd for a home international of 77,768.

The overall record for a women's game on English soil is the 80,023 that saw United States defeat Japan 2-1 to claim gold at London 2012.



# England squad named for October



England head coach Sarina Wiegman has named a 24-player squad for their October World Cup qualifiers against Northern Ireland and Latvia.

Following England's 8-0 victory over North Macedonia and 10-0 triumph away to Luxembourg, England continue to target qualification for the 2023 World Cup in Australia and New Zealand.

England face Group D opponents Northern Ireland in their first ever competitive fixture at Wembley Stadium on Saturday 23 October [kick-off: 5:15pm BST], before travelling to Riga to face Latvia at the Daugava Stadium on 26 October [kick-off: 6:30pm BST / 8:30pm EET].

Wiegman's second squad since joining England sees the return of Aston Villa goalkeeper

Hannah Hampton and Manchester United forward Alessia Russo, whilst Manchester City's Keira Walsh also makes a welcome return to international duty following injury.

England are without senior internationals Lucy Bronze, Steph Houghton and Ellie Roebuck as they continue their return to fitness.

Youngsters Jessica Carter, Niamh Charles, Lauren Hemp, Sandy McIver, Ella Toone, and Lotte Wubben-Moy have all retained their place in Wiegman's youthful squad.

Ballon d'Or nominee Ellen White, who was shortlisted for the prestigious award alongside her England teammate Fran Kirby, is close to breaking England Women's goalscoring record, requiring four goals to surpass Kelly

Smith's record of 46. Head coach Sarina Wiegman said: "After a wonderful start to our World Cup qualifying campaign last month, we are incredibly excited to play our first competitive fixture at Wembley Stadium.

"The incredible atmosphere our supporters generated at St Mary's Stadium for our match against North Macedonia gave our players and staff a tremendous lift, so the prospect of playing in front of thousands of fans at our national stadium later this month will be a special moment.

"Northern Ireland have made strong progress in recent years, qualifying earlier this year for the 2022 home UEFA Women's EURO.

"On top of that, their recent 4-0 victory over Latvia shows

# October World Cup qualifiers



the strength of their team and their determination to qualify for the World Cup.

“I can’t wait to get back together with our squad this weekend.

“Every player showed great ability and the collective positivity and ambition within the group was fantastic to see.

“We do still have one or two injuries to key players to contend with, but the depth in our squad is very strong.

“We hope to give our supporters more reasons to celebrate this month as we continue our progress towards qualification.”

The Lionesses meet up at England’s St. George’s Park base this Sunday before making the journey to London ahead of their historic competitive fixture at Wembley

Stadium. Fans can purchase tickets for England v Northern Ireland (Saturday 23 October, kick off: 5:15pm BST) by visiting [TheFA.com/tickets](https://www.thefa.com/tickets).

Tickets are priced from £20 for adults and £2.50 for children.

Concessions and group discounts are also available.

## England Women’s squad

### Goalkeepers:

Mary Earps (Manchester United), Hannah Hampton (Aston Villa), Sandy MacIver (Everton)

### Defenders:

Millie Bright (Chelsea), Jessica Carter (Chelsea), Niamh Charles (Chelsea), Rachel Daly (Houston Dash), Alex Greenwood (Manchester City), Demi Stokes (Manchester

City), Lotte Wubben-Moy (Arsenal)

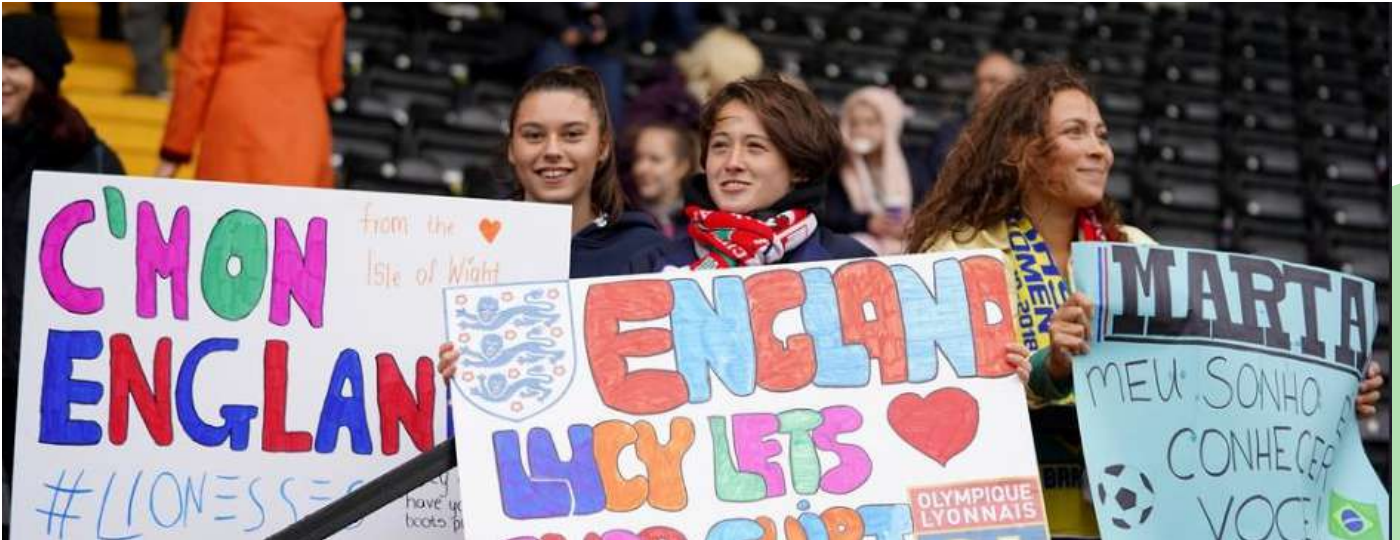
### Midfielders:

Jill Scott (Manchester City), Lucy Staniforth (Manchester United), Georgia Stanway (Manchester City), Keira Walsh (Manchester City), Leah Williamson (Arsenal), Katie Zelem (Manchester United)

### Forwards:

Bethany England (Chelsea), Lauren Hemp (Manchester City), Fran Kirby (Chelsea), Beth Mead (Arsenal), Nikita Parris (Arsenal), Alessia Russo (Manchester United), Ella Toone (Manchester United), Ellen White (Manchester City)

# Lionesses to shine at Stadium of Light



England will welcome Austria to Sunderland's Stadium of Light on Saturday 27 November (12.30pm KO) for their penultimate 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup qualifier of the year.

The Lionesses began the road to the finals in Australia and New Zealand earlier this month in convincing fashion with an 8-0 home win against North Macedonia followed by a 10-0 victory away to Luxembourg.

The Austria fixture promises to be a tough test, with the visitors to Sunderland having also qualified for next summer's UEFA EURO to be played in England.

The north-east fixture will have added edge for a number of players with Steph Houghton, Jill Scott, Lucy Bronze, Demi Stokes, Carly Telford, Lucy Staniforth and Beth Mead all representing Sunderland early in their careers.

This homecoming fixture comes after England take on Northern Ireland at Wembley Stadium on Saturday 23 October, with tickets available via [thefa.com/tickets](https://thefa.com/tickets).

Head coach Sarina Wiegman said: "I am well aware how important the north-east of England has been in the development of so many of our squad, and in particular Sunderland.

"I am delighted we can play in such an impressive stadium and in front of fans who are so passionate about the game.

"I know it will be a very special day and I hope we can rise to the occasion."

After the Austria fixture, England will play another home fixture against Latvia on 30 November to close out the year.

These final fixtures of 2021 will be crucial as Wiegman's squad look to consolidate on the strong start to World Cup qualifying and continue preparations for EURO 2022.

While this will be the Lionesses' first fixture at Sunderland, the senior men's side have played at the stadium three times in 1999, 2003 and 2016, while the ground has also staged men's U21 and U20 fixtures.

Tickets for the match will go on sale exclusively to My England Football members from 12pm on Thursday 30 September.

You can sign-up for free to become a My England Football member via <https://www.englandfootball.com/members>.

General sale will begin from midday on Friday 1 October, with tickets available on [thefa.com/tickets](https://thefa.com/tickets).

# England to round of the year in Doncaster



England will welcome Latvia to Doncaster Rovers' Keepmoat Stadium on Tuesday 30 November (kick off: 7.00pm) as they reach the halfway mark in their FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 qualifying campaign.

Head coach Sarina Wiegman said: "We are excited to visit the Keepmoat Stadium at the end of the year.

"Visiting another great venue in the north of England is hopefully welcome news for our many supporters in the region.

"Doncaster Rovers Belles are one of the most famous names in women's football in this country and have a great history that I am learning all about.

The same is true of Sunderland and it's astonishing just how many of our current England players started their careers in Yorkshire and the North East.

"Hopefully our visits to Sunderland and Doncaster will not only attract a lot of supporters but will also inspire the next generation of England hopefuls from both regions.

"We can't wait to visit in November, but of course before then we have two important fixtures to look forward to, starting next Saturday at Wembley Stadium against Northern Ireland. All in all, it's going to be a very exciting way to round off 2021!"

The Lionesses have an historic moment to savour next week when they head to Wembley for their first ever competitive fixture at the national stadium, against Northern Ireland on Saturday 23 October.

Tickets are still available via [thefa.com/tickets](https://thefa.com/tickets).

England then round off the month with a trip to the Daugava Stadium in Riga to face Latvia on Tuesday 26 October.

Looking ahead to next year, England will begin their 2022 UEFA Women's EURO preparations on home soil participating in the newly founded Four Nations tournament managed by Pitch International.

The team will then return its focus to Women's World Cup qualifying in April with the return fixtures against North Macedonia and Northern Ireland before finally concluding Group D after the EUROs when they face Austria and Luxembourg in September.

Tickets for the match against Latvia at the Keepmoat Stadium will go on sale exclusively to My England Football members from 12pm on Thursday 14 October.

Supporters can sign-up for free to become a My England Football member via <https://www.EnglandFootball.com/members>. General sale will begin from midday on Friday 15 October, with tickets available on [thefa.com/tickets](https://thefa.com/tickets).





# New Women's International Tournament coming to



- England to compete annually in world-class four-team tournament
- Germany and Spain confirmed for inaugural edition in February 2022
- Tournament has been created and will be delivered by long-term FA partner, Pitch International

England will welcome three of the world's top sides next February for the first staging of a new annual invitational women's tournament.

The Lionesses will be joined by Germany and Spain, both also ranked in FIFA's top ten, in the 2022 edition - with the fourth competing nation to be announced soon.

Fans will be treated to three double-header matches played across seven days in a round-robin format.

More details for the inaugural competition, including venues and ticket information, will be

released in the coming weeks.

The annual tournament will significantly boost England's international calendar and ensure Sarina Wiegman's squad regularly face world-class opposition, starting with the build-up to next summer's UEFA Women's EURO on home soil and the FIFA Women's World Cup in 2023.

Baroness Sue Campbell, director of women's football at The FA, said: "This exciting new addition to the international calendar promises to further accelerate the rapid growth we are already

# International Tournament to England



seeing in women's football.

"Giving England fans the opportunity to see their team take on some of the best opposition in the world on an annual basis will create substantial interest, leading to a broader fanbase and strengthening grassroots participation.

It will also provide the England team with the best preparation heading into the major tournaments over the next four years.

"Pitch International is a world-leader in organising events, has a superb track-record in women's

football, and is perfectly placed to lead the delivery of this new tournament."

Pitch International, a London-based sports marketing agency, created the tournament concept and has an agreement with The FA through to 2025 to manage all aspects of the tournament.

Cat Watson, director of women's sport at Pitch International, said: "We have seen first-hand the increased appetite for top quality women's football through our distribution of the Barclays FA Women's Super League.

"We're excited to be building on our

commitment to women's football, by investing in and delivering a new tournament featuring the best teams and players from around the world, that will be broadcast to a global audience."



# WU19 ready for Euro adventure



England return to action next week for round one of qualifying for the 2022 UEFA European Women's Under-19 Championship in Czech Republic.

Gemma Davies will take the squad on the short journey to the Republic of Ireland for a mini-tournament played in Limerick involving the hosts, Northern Ireland and Switzerland.

Davies said: "It will be a privilege to lead an England squad for the first time and I am

really looking forward to the group showing what they are capable of over the three matches.

"Sarina Wiegman has shown with the seniors that she will give young players a chance.

"Our U19s should see this as an opportunity to develop as England players on and off the pitch and first and foremost enjoy the experience of representing their country.

"We want to qualify for the next round, not only with the finals in mind but also to ensure we can get more quality matches."

The Young Lionesses will start against the Irish next Wednesday [20 October, kick-off 7pm] before taking on Northern Ireland three days later [23 October, kick-off 2pm] on the same day that the senior sides will meet at Wembley Stadium in EURO qualifying.

The group will finish the following Tuesday [26 October, kick-off 1pm] when they face Switzerland with the top three teams progressing to the second round next year.

Ultimately, from the 52 countries that entered overall, seven teams will qualify for the eight-nation finals in the Czech Republic to be played between 27 June and 9 July.

It all caps a busy month for England teams with the WU17s under Lydia Bedford reaching their own EURO second round earlier this month, while the seniors will take on Northern Ireland at home and Latvia away on 23 and 26 October respectively.

On 25 October, the WU23s led by Mo Marley will travel for an international in Belgium.

## England Women's under-19 squad

**Goalkeepers:** Khiara Keating (Manchester City on loan at Fylde Ladies), Eleanor Heeps (Tottenham Hotspur on loan at Blackburn Rovers)

**Defenders:** Teyah Goldie (Arsenal), Olivia McLoughlin (Aston Villa), Jorja Fox (Chelsea), Caitlin Smith (Clemson University), Lucy Parry (Liverpool), Ruby Mace (Manchester City), Tara Bourne (Manchester United on loan at Sheffield United)

**Midfielders:** Laura Brown (Aston Villa), Maisie Symonds (Brighton & Hove Albion), Mia Ross (Charlton Athletic), Charlotte Wardlaw (Chelsea on loan at Liverpool), Grace Clinton (Everton), Lucia Kendall (Southampton)

**Forwards:** Alex Hennessy (Arsenal), Freya Gregory (Aston Villa), Missy Goodwin (Aston Villa), Aggie Beever-Jones (Chelsea on loan at Bristol City), Lucy Watson (Sheffield United)



# England U17 squad named for Euro qualifiers



Lydia Bedford has named a 20-player squad for England women's under-17's three matches in Poland this month.

England WU17s met up on Wednesday and will fly out to Poland today (Friday) before next week's triple-header.

First up will be Russia at Stadion Miejski in Inowroclaw on Monday, with kick-off at 2.30pm BST (3.30pm local time).

On Thursday they will head to the Bydgoszcz Stadium to face Belgium at 2.30pm BST (3.30pm local time) before taking on the hosts Poland at the same venue on Sunday 10 October at 10am BST (11am local time).

Head coach Bedford's coaching staff will include her assistants, former Watford Ladies manager John Salomon and ex-Millwall Lionesses boss Daniel Mlinar, and goalkeeping coach Jamie Annerson, who used to play for Sheffield United and Rotherham among others.

Along with the below squad who will be travelling to Poland, there were also four players who were part of a training squad this week.

They were Sheffield United duo Ruby Clarke and Jennifer Handy, Manchester City's Beth

Strutton and Rebecca Ferguson of Newcastle United Ladies.

## England Women's under-17 squad

### Goalkeepers:

Grace Pilling (Manchester City), Hannah Poulter (Reading)

### Defenders:

Daisy Burt (Sunderland & Gateshead College), Isabel Milne (Chelsea), Evie Rabjohn (Aston Villa), Katie Ramsden (Leeds United), Jessica Simpson (Manchester United), Mackenzie Smith (Leicester City), Ella Wilson (Sunderland & Gateshead College)

### Midfielders:

Jemima Dahou (Manchester City), Ruby Doe (Arsenal), Maddy Earl (Arsenal), Grace Ede (Sunderland & Gateshead College), Keira Flannery (Arsenal), Shauna Guyatt (Chelsea)

### Forwards:

Keira Barry (Manchester United), Aimee Claypole (Chelsea), Mia Enderby (Sheffield United), Freya Godfrey (Arsenal), Ginny Lackey (Manchester City)

# England U23 squad named for Belgium International



England are to play an Under-23 match against Belgium as Sarina Wiegman looks to increase opportunities for promising players in the senior pathway.

The WU23s will travel to the Stade Leburton in Tubize for the international fixture on 25 October (kick-off 1.30pm), with experienced coach Mo Marley returning to guide the squad on an interim basis.

The training camp prior to departure will be at St. George's Park under the guidance of Marley who will mentor Emma Coates and England's most capped player Fara Williams, alongside goalkeeper coach Tom Pressman to complete the coaching team.

Kay Cossington, Head of Women's Technical, said: "Sarina and her staff want to bridge the gap between the age groups and the seniors, and after 18 months of limited international football in the women's game we can start to make up for lost opportunities.

"Emma and Fara will benefit greatly from working with Mo on this camp, as part of our commitment to helping our young coaches to get as much varied experience as possible.

"I am sure the players will relish the chance to be involved in international football and show what they can do."

Meanwhile, the WU17s returned this week after making it through the first round of qualifying in the 2022 UEFA Women's Under-17 Championship in Poland.

The squad will now enter the next round in the New Year as one of 28 teams hoping to secure one of seven spots in the eight-team finals to be held in Bosnia-Herzegovina next May.

## England Women's U23

### Goalkeepers:

Fran Bentley (Bristol City on loan from Man Utd), Emily Ramsey (Birmingham City on loan from Man Utd), Fran Stenson (Brighton & HA on loan from Arsenal)

### Defenders:

Asmita Ale (Tottenham Hotspur), Megan Finnigan (Everton), Gabrielle George (Everton), Taylor Hinds (Liverpool), Maya Le Tissier (Brighton & HA), Mayumi Pacheco (Aston Villa), Anna Pattern (Arsenal) Poppy Pattinson (Everton) Kiera Skeels (Charlton Athletic)

### Midfielders:

Missy Bo Kearns (Liverpool), Ruby Grant (Uni of N Carolina), Melisa Fillis (West Ham United), Jessica Park (Manchester City), Molly Pike (Leicester City)

### Forwards:

Angela Addison (Tottenham Hotspur), Ellie Brazil (Brighton & HA), Emma Harries (Reading), Jessica Naz (Tottenham Hotspur), Katie Robinson (Brighton & HA) Ebony Salmon (Racing Louisville)

# Dr Kate Hays joins England as Head of Performance Psychology



Dr Kate Hays has been appointed The FA's Head of Women's Performance Psychology.

Dr Hays joins after more than seven years in a similar role with the English Institute of Sport [EIS].

Vastly experienced in performance psychology and being part of multidisciplinary teams for 20 years, she has worked across a range of different sports and supported athletes competing in major global events including world championships, Olympics and Paralympics – most recently among the team behind the team at the Tokyo Games.

Her remit within the technical directorate at St. George's Park will include working closely with elite England players in an on-camp role as a key part of head coach Sarina Wiegman's support team.

Day to day, she will also ensure a consistent approach is introduced across all development sides as part of a commitment to strengthening the women's player pathway.

Dr Hays said: "I am really looking forward to joining a world class team at such an exciting time for women's football.

"After speaking to Kay and Sarina at length I know that we share the same vision and values and I can't wait to meet the players and wider staff group."

Kay Cossington, head of women's technical, said: "I am delighted to welcome Kate.

"She is vastly experienced and will play a part in our efforts to move to the next level of high performance.

"Another important aspect of her role will be developing a performance psychology

strategy for all of our national teams across the age groups.

"Kate is very passionate about making a difference and her experience will be invaluable for us."

Sue Campbell, director of women's football, said: "I am pleased we have been able to bring someone of this calibre into Sarina's team.

Kate has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in this area and shares Sarina's drive and values.

We are at a very exciting moment with the home EURO next summer and the start of World Cup qualifying this month.

We want to strengthen across all of our teams and Kate will play a pivotal role in preparing our players for success."



## Edinburgh City secure new sponsorship

Edinburgh City FC Women's team will be sponsored for the forthcoming season by Bellfield Taproom.

Bellfield's logo will feature on the team strips and the partners will hold a number of joint activities such as charity fundraisers and quiz nights.

Bellfield Taproom - in the city's Abbeyhill district - is a stone's throw from the club's home base: the new Meadowbank Stadium.

The team will return to playing home matches at Meadowbank, from November this year, when the newly rebuilt stadium reopens.

Dave Armstrong, Head of Media & Communications, Edinburgh City FC Women said how pleased they were to have secured sponsorship from Bellfield Taproom. He said:

"Sponsorship is crucial to our team and Bellfield is very local to our home base. Their reputation for being inclusive and 'supporting local' means they are a great partner for the club.

"We are ambitious and aiming to get to the top level, so we hope to make Bellfield proud of their association with the team."

Women's football in Scotland is growing at a rapid pace and the opportunities for brand and business awareness and promotion are increasing exponentially.

Edinburgh City FC Women's team currently play in the SWF Championship which is one tier away from Premiership football.

The Edinburgh City Women's squad boasts many Scotland Internationals as well as former Hibs and Celtic players.

The team has a Turkish International in Yasemin Emek and an American No.1, Kelli Hanman.

Speaking on behalf of Bellfield, Marie Brown, Director, said, "We're pleased to be sponsoring such an ambitious and talented squad and look forward to following their progress this season!

"We're also looking forward to meeting the players and to hosting events and fundraisers at our Taproom to help them on their way."



## SWF announces senior and youth league Cup final venues

Scottish Women's Football (SWF) can confirm the venues, dates, and scheduled kick-off times for the 2021 Senior and Youth League Cup Finals.

There are four senior cup finals still to be played after Sutherland WFC clinched the SWF Highlands and Islands League Cup over Clachnacuddin WFC on Sun 3rd Oct at Station Park, the home of Nairn County FC.

The Scottish Women's Football League (SWFL) Plate and Cup Finals will take place on Sun 21st Nov at the Tony Macaroni Arena in Livingston. The two finals will be played back-to-back with the Plate Final at 12:00 and the Cup Final at 16:30.

The following Sunday will see the first ever SWF Championship Cup Final at the Falkirk Stadium for a 14:00 kick-off. The Semi-Final draw took place yesterday and will see Rossvale or Montrose welcome Edinburgh Caledonia while Dryburgh Athletic host Ayr United.

The 2021 SWPL Cup will see the Semi-Finals hosted at Forthbank Stadium, on Sun 14th Nov. Both matches will be played on the same day, game one at 12:00 and game two at 16:30.

This year's SWPL Cup Final will be held at Partick Thistle's Firhill Stadium, which hosted the 2018 Scottish Women's Cup Final. The match will be played on Sun 5th Dec for a 16:10 KO and will be broadcast live on BBC ALBA.

Aileen Campbell, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Scottish Women's Football, said: "We're delighted to confirm the senior activity for our upcoming league cup finals. Women's football continues to thrive in Scotland at all levels, so it's important that SWF provides the right environment for these big events. I strongly believe today's announcement marks another positive shift as we grow and develop the game from our previous events, last held now in 2019."

It has also been confirmed that the SWPL Cup Semi-Finals and all senior cup finals will be live streamed or broadcast.

"Our agreement with BBC ALBA includes broadcasting the 2021 SWPL Cup Final, which we are delighted by" added Campbell. "We have also arranged live streaming from the SWPL Cup Semi-Finals and all other senior cup finals."

"We as an organisation believe it's vital that we grow the game on all fronts. We've seen based on past finals, we can have record attendances at stadiums while also promoting the game online or via broadcast to wider audiences here in Scotland and across the globe."

Alongside the senior League Cup finals, each Region (Central, East, North, South East, South West, and West) has their own Youth League Cup Final events. These feature a variety of finals at the U13's, U15's, and U17's age groups.

The details for 2021 are:

- Sat, 20th Nov: North Region Youth League Cup Finals, Gleaner Arena, Elgin
- Sun 21st Nov: Central Region Youth League Cup Finals, Westfield Park, Denny
- Sun 28th Nov: South East Region Youth League Cup Finals, Albyn Park, Broxburny
- Sun 28th Nov: East Region Youth League Cup Finals, Bayview Stadium, Leven
- Sat 4th Dec: West Region Youth League Cup Finals, The Circuit, Irvine
- Sat 4th Dec: South West Region Youth League Cup Finals, The Circuit, Irvine

"After a challenging time for youth football in Scotland, it's fantastic to have these finals return" said Campbell. "These events provide an amazing day for the players, officials, parents/guardians, and the community at large. No matter the result, these are the games that will make lifelong memories for these girls and hopefully inspire them to continue playing in the future."

# Evans and Weir return for Scotland double header



After missing the opening World Cup qualifying matches in September, Caroline Weir and Lisa Evans have recovered from their injuries and been named in the Scotland squad ahead of two matches against Hungary and Sweden.

Fresh from scoring at Hampden Park, against the Faroe Islands, Jenna Clark has received the nod once again, along with Amy Muir who has been recalled into the squad.

In midfield, Chloe Arthur will be looking to add to her two goals at Hampden Park in the last outing.

Martha Thomas misses out for the two games through injury.

First up for Pedro Martinez Losa's side is Hungary who Scotland defeated 2-0 last month in Budapest. Scotland will then take on Olympic finalists and the second best team in the world, Sweden, in Paisley.

Scotland will play their second match of the qualification campaign at Hampden Park, against Hungary as Pedro's side look to build on the 7-1 win over the Faroe Islands.

The match against Sweden will see Scotland make their return to Paisley, at a ground that holds fond memories for the SWNT, due to COP26 activity at Hampden Park.

## Scotland Squad

### Goalkeepers:

Lee Alexander (Glasgow City), Eartha Cumings (Charlton Athletic), Jenna Fife (Rangers)

### Defenders:

Rachel McLauchlan (Rangers), Nicola Docherty (Rangers), Amy Muir (Hibernian), Rachel Corsie (Kansas City), Jenna Clark (Glasgow City), Jenny Beattie (Arsenal), Sophie Howard (Leicester City), Leah Eddie (Hibernian)

### Midfielders:

Lucy Graham (Everton), Chloe Arthur (Aston Villa), Lisa Robertson (Birmingham City on loan from Celtic), Lisa Evans (West Ham United on loan from Arsenal), Kirsty Hanson (Manchester United), Rachael Boyle (Hibernian), Christy Grimshaw (AC Milan), Caroline Weir (Manchester City)

### Forwards:

Lana Clelland (US Sassuolo Calcio Femminile), Jane Ross (Rangers), Zoe Ness (Rangers), Erin Cuthbert (Chelsea), Claire Emslie (Everton), Lauren Davidson (Glasgow City)

## **Hamill named U19 qualifying squad**

Pauline Hamill has named her Scotland Women's Under-19s squad for our upcoming UEFA Women's Under-19 Championship Qualifying Round, to be played in the Netherlands.

In the young Scots' group are Austria, Ukraine and hosts, the Netherlands. Our schedule begins on Wednesday, 20 October as we face Austria, followed up with a test against Ukraine on Saturday, 23 October. Our third match sees us take on the hosts on Tuesday, 26 October.

### **Fixtures**

Austria v Scotland  
Wednesday, 20 October – 3pm  
Sportpark de Bosk

Scotland v Ukraine  
Saturday, 23 October – 3pm  
Sportpark Marsdijk

Scotland v Netherlands  
Tuesday, 26 October – 6pm  
Sportpark Marsdijk

### **Scotland Squad**

Eilidh Adams (Hibernian), Aimee Anderson (Heart of Midlothian), Amelie Birse (Heart of Midlothian), Tegan Bowie (Celtic), Jessica Broadrick (Aberdeen), Tegan Browning (Heart of Midlothian), Shona Cowan (Heart of Midlothian), Monica Forsyth (Heart of Midlothian), Caley Gibb (Spartans), Bayley Hutchison (Aberdeen), Rachael Johnstone (Celtic), Leila Lister Reading (Spartans), Grace Mitchell (Bristol City), Sarah Mitchell (Bristol City), Niamh Murphy (Manchester United), Jenna Penman (Aberdeen), Eva Thomson (Aberdeen), Kenzie Weir (Everton), Alicia Yates (Spartans)

## **Scotland Women's Under-17s withdraw from UEFA Women's Championship Qualification Round**

Scotland Women's Under-17s have withdrawn from the Qualification Round of the UEFA Women's Under-17s Championships following a number of positive COVID-19 tests within the squad.

Pauline MacDonald's side were due to travel to face Slovenia, Czech Republic and hosts the Netherlands ahead of tomorrow's opening match.

All players were tested on arrival on Sunday and returned negative results. Unfortunately, UEFA testing yesterday morning has subsequently returned a number of positive results within the playing squad.

The squad were subsequently left with too few players to fulfil their three match schedule, resulting in the decision to withdraw from the competition.

Scottish FA Chief Football Officer Andy Gould: "As soon as we were informed of the positive tests our medical staff contacted the relevant authorities and have subsequently informed UEFA that, regrettably, we will no longer be able to participate in the qualification round.

"These qualification tournaments provide invaluable developmental experience for our young players and we explored every option to try to fulfil our fixtures before making the difficult decision to withdraw.

"We are of course bitterly disappointed at not being able to compete but, as always, the health and wellbeing of all our players and staff is paramount."

## WU19 Euro qualifying round squad named

Nicola Anderson has named a 20-player squad as Cymru WU19s travel to Andorra for the 2022 UEFA WU19 EURO Qualifying Round.

The majority of the squad took part in the side's two draws against Northern Ireland in Colliers Park last month. Jessie Taylor (Cardiff Met), Phoebe Poole and Seren Watkins (both Cardiff City Women) will be representing the Genero Adran Leagues in the squad.

Anderson's side are in League B of a new Nations League format competition where they will face hosts Andorra (Tuesday 19 October), Moldova (Friday 22 October) and Albania (Monday 25 October) in the mini tournament.

This will be the first time the #WU19EURO has been held since matches were postponed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020.

### **CYMRU WU19 SQUAD:**

Safia MIDDLETON-PATEL (Manchester United), Lucy FARRELL-SHROUDER (Burnley), Maria FRANCIS-JONES (Manchester City), Bethan MCGOWAN (Arsenal), Bethan ROBERTS (Reading), Scarlett WILLIAMS (Tottenham Hotspur), Amy MEADOWS (Manchester City), Ella HUMPHREY (Brighton & Hove Albion), Ella HILLIARD (Bristol City), Phoebe POOLE (Cardiff City Women), Hollie SMITH (Cardiff City Ladies), Zoe SMITH (Cardiff City Ladies), Mary MCATEER (Aston Villa), Isabella REIDFORD (Manchester United), Jessie TAYLOR (Cardiff Met), Sophie PHILLIPS (Birmingham City), Megan CURRAN (Brighton & Hove Albion), Lauren PURCHASE (Aston Villa), Taylor REYNOLDS (Birmingham City), Seren WATKINS (Cardiff City Women).

## Dykes names squad for WU17 Euro qualifying round

Loren Dykes has named a 20-player squad as Cymru WU17s travel to Sweden for the 2022 UEFA Women's U17 EURO Qualifying Round.

The majority of the squad took part in the side's impressive 1-1 draw against England in August, while seven players selected are from clubs in the Adran Leagues.

Dykes' side are in League A of a new Nations League format competition where they will face Italy (Friday 22 October), France (Monday 25 October) and hosts Sweden (Thursday 28 October) in the mini tournament.

This will be the first time the #WU17EURO has been held since matches were postponed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020, when Cymru were due to compete in the Elite Round.

### **CYMRU WU17 SQUAD:**

Catrin THOMAS (Briton Ferry Llansawel & Millfield School), Emily ROBERTS (Port Talbot Town), Elin JONES (Aberystwyth Town), Bethan THOMAS (Liverpool), Lili JONES (Wrexham), Megan BOWEN (Barry Town United), Sophie RAWLING (FAW Trust Academy North), Manon PEARCE (Barry Town United), Claudia JONES (Liverpool), Maisie MILLER (Brighton & Hove Albion), Faye HILLIER-KNOX (Liverpool), Olivia FRANCIS (FAW Trust Academy South), Chloe MCMAHON (Bristol City), Niamh DUGGAN (Reading), Jessica COLLYER (West Ham United), Lily BILLINGHAM (Cardiff City Women), Madison WILLIAMS (Llandudno), Tianna TEISAR (Bristol City), Evie WILLIAMS (Everton), Evie HUGHES (FAW Trust Academy South).



# Glens secure treble by winning Electric Ireland Women's Challenge Cup



Glentoran Women completed the treble at the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park tonight.

The league champions deservedly lifted the Irish FA Women's Challenge Cup sponsored by Electric Ireland after defeating Crusaders Strikers 2-0 thanks to goals from player of the match Joely Andrews and Lauren Wade.

The Glens, with the NIFL Danske Bank Women's Premiership trophy and the Toalsbet.com County Antrim FA Women's Challenge Cup already in the cabinet, created the bulk of the chances in the match and deserved their success after producing some slick football.

The opening period of the match was scrappy before Glentoran, fielding a team packed with current and former Northern Ireland

internationals, enjoyed a period of sustained pressure.

The first clearcut chance of the game saw Glens midfielder Chloe McCarron unleash one of her trademark long range strikes. Her superb hit crashed off the bar and down onto the goalline, however the referee, Arleen Campbell, adjudged that the ball did not cross the line.

On 22 minutes the Glens took the lead thanks to a well worked goal. Captain Jessica Foy crossed to striker Kerry Beattie and she laid the ball back to Andrews 16 yards out and the midfielder planted it past Crues keeper Maddy Harvey-Clifford into the bottom corner of the net.

Five minutes later Strikers midfielder Amy McGivern got on the end of a long pass and scuffed an effort past the post. It was a decent opportunity to equalise.

Andrews had a chance to double the Glens' lead on 34 minutes. She bamboozled the Crues defence by twisting this way and that, creating an opening, however her weak shot was blocked and Harvey-Clifford gathered the ball.

Crusaders Strikers, who finished third in the league this season behind the Glens and Cliftonville Ladies, struggled to make an impact going forward although experienced midfielder Danielle McDowell-Tuffey did have an opportunity to draw her team level as half-time approached. She stepped up to take a free-kick just outside the area but Glens keeper Emma Higgins comfortably saved her shot at the near post.

The Crues, whose manager Jonny Tuffey was unable to attend the game due to Covid protocols, made a double substitution after the break

with Northern Ireland striker Emily Wilson, who missed last weekend's Co Antrim Cup decider through injury, and Meghan Ingram entering the fray.

Andrews sprayed a lovely pass to Wade down the left and her tantalising cross was plucked out of the air by Harvey-Clifford, and then McCarron fired a shot over the top.

Moments later Caragh Hamilton let fly from distance and Harvey-Clifford dived full length to push her powerful strike past the post. It was a top class save.

The Crues, with Julie Nelson solid as a rock at the heart of their defence, continued to thwart the Glens' forwards and they did well to snuff out an Andrews snapshot.

Wilson set off on a powerful run just after the hour mark, leaving a couple of Glentoran defenders trailing in her wake, however her shot from distance was easily held by Higgins.

Glens substitute Danielle Maxwell scooped a shot wide, Nelson stepped in to stop a promising move between Maxwell and Beattie in its tracks and Hamilton fizzed an effort past the post as the Glens continued to push forward.

Glentoran grabbed their second goal - and secured the treble - with minutes remaining. Midfielder Nadene Caldwell jinked her way past a couple of defenders and crossed for Wade to flick the ball past Harvey-Clifford from six yards.

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**Crusaders Strikers:** Maddy Harvey-Clifford, Chloe Archibald, Caitlyn Hamilton, Amy McGivern, Danielle McDowell-Tuffey, Mairead McCann, Julie Nelson (captain), Hollie Johnston, Beth Chalmers, Rachel McLaren, Jessica Rea.

**Substitutes: (used)** Emily Wilson, Meghan Ingram, Darcy Boyle;

**(unused)** Heather Mearns, Zoe Rodgers.

**Glentoran Women:** Emma Higgins, Jessica Foy (captain), Emma McMaster, Nadene Caldwell, Alison McMaster, Caragh Hamilton, Joely Andrews, Kerry Beattie, Kelly Bailie, Lauren Wade, Chloe McCarron.

**Substitutes: (used)** Danielle Maxwell, Rachel Rogan, Cara Mervyn;

**(unused)** Shannon Dunne.



electric  
Ireland

# Cadbury announced as FAI official partner



The FAI has announced that Cadbury will be an official partner of the Republic of Ireland women's team ahead of the 2023 World Cup qualifying campaign.

Vera Pauw's side play Sweden in Tallaght on Thursday in their opening qualifier.

The news comes shortly after the FAI also confirmed equal pay for the men's and women's national teams.

Cadbury intend to take an "active role supporting the FAI's strategy to continue to raise awareness and grow the women's game in Ireland."

It will also help support women's football at a grassroots level by enhancing club facilities while raising the profile of women's players in Ireland.

As part of the launch, Ireland captain Katie McCabe visited her old club, Raheny United FC, whose senior women's side will be the first of many grassroots women's teams around Ireland to receive funding from Cadbury in a bid to boost participation among women.

AI CEO, Jonathan Hill, said: "We are delighted to be partnering with Cadbury at what is an ex-

citing time for women's sport in Ireland.

"There have been significant strides taken, both on & off the pitch, in recent times and we are continuing to develop all areas of the game in order to improve structures, increase participation and enhance the profile of women's players in Ireland, which is in line with the 2022-2025 Draft FAI Strategy.

"Cadbury is a world-renowned brand who will bring a huge amount to this partnership to help us continue to move forward as we aim to affect women's football from all levels – Grassroots all the



way up to the Republic of Ireland Women's National Team.

"It is exciting to launch this partnership ahead of our 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup qualifying campaign and we look forward to working closely with Cadbury."

Managing Director of Mondelez Ireland, Eoin Kellett, said: "At Cadbury, we are delighted to announce our partnership with the Republic of Ireland Women's National Team.

"We've seen the team go from strength to strength in recent years and are looking forward to supporting them as they

aim to reach the World Cup in 2023 and beyond.

"We believe this partnership also bestows a responsibility upon us to help in growing the women's game – a challenge we look forward to supporting the FAI in taking on.

"According to Nielsen research, 73% of the general population agree that greater visibility of women's sports and athletes is crucial to grow women's sport.

"This is something we will look to support the FAI in addressing through the enhancement of football facilities for women and raising the profile of the

exemplary role models playing the sport."

Louise Quinn wrote: "Again another amazing sponsor for the WNT.

"Welcome Cadbury Ireland, amazing to have you guys on board."

Cadbury Ireland wrote: "We're delighted to support this amazing team."



# INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS



# U17 WWC Mascot launched



Coinciding with the International Day of the Girl Child, FIFA today unveiled an Asiatic lioness, known as Ibha, as the Official Mascot for the tournament to mark exactly one year to go until the tournament kicks off.

Representing “Nari Shakti”, or women power, Ibha is a strong, playful and charming Asiatic lioness that aims to inspire and encourage women and girls by using teamwork, resilience, kindness and empowering others.

In addition to the meaning behind her name, which approximately translates in Khasi as “one with good vision or judgement”, Ibha also wants to encourage girls in India and around the world to take the right decisions and reach their full potential.

Speaking about today’s launch, Sarai Bareman, FIFA Chief Women’s Football Officer, said:

“Ibha is a really exciting and inspiring character, one that young fans across India and around the world will have huge fun enjoying and interacting with in the lead-up to the FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup in India next year.

“2022 is on course to be a hugely significant year for women’s football, with future stars of the game set to showcase their skills in India – just nine months before the FIFA Women’s World Cup kicks off in Australia and New Zealand in 2023. Through the platform of the FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup, Ibha will play an important role in engaging with fans, as well as encouraging and inspiring more women and girls across India and beyond to take part and play the game.”

LOC Chairman Praful Patel added, “The launch of the Official Mascot Ibha is yet another significant milestone achieved on the road to hosting the FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup India 2022. Ibha symbolises courage and strength, which are core qualities of every woman, while also embodying the vibrance and visionary spirit of the tournament.

“Today also being International Day of the Girl Child, it is an appropriate occasion to reveal the mascot who will stand for a powerful and lively image that will inspire women to take new strides in not just football, but in other walks of life too.”

# Wenger and Ellis on the future of the game



FIFA Chief of Global Football Development Arsène Wenger and two-time FIFA Women's World Cup winning coach Jill Ellis, who has assumed the role of FIFA Technical Advisory Group leader for women's football, have stressed their aims of ensuring men's and women's football coexist as part of the ongoing consultation in relation to the future International Match Calendar (IMC).

The IMC sets the dates of national team matches and the days in which the players must be released by their clubs to join international squads.

It therefore has a central role in the sustainable growth of football in all regions of the world and at all levels.

FIFA is hearing from – and will continue to listen over the

coming months – to views and opinions from all key stakeholders, including fans, about how to make the calendar better for each IMC. Men's, women's and youth competitions.

Ahead of a first online summit with FIFA's member associations, which is being chaired by FIFA President Gianni Infantino – one of several opportunities to establish a constructive and open debate, at a global and regional level, over the coming months – both Arsène Wenger and Jill Ellis provided insight to their common approach at the Home of FIFA in Zurich, Switzerland.

"It's critical that we make sure the men's and women's games coexist," said Ellis.

"After the [FIFA Women's] World Cup 2019, we saw there were over 1 billion [television] viewers; that there is an appetite out there.

"I think it's important for us to make sure that we grow our footprint, to be bigger.

"So to coexist together with the men's game makes total sense."

Some of the early debate about the consultation process has suggested that any changes to the men's game, could be to the detriment of the women's game. A suggestion the Frenchman is keen to refute.

"[At] the start of my career, [there] was purely the men's football calendar.

Now, of course, the evolution of women's football has brought a necessity to communicate well and to make

sure we share the calendar throughout the season.

“That starts with creating space for everybody. That is absolutely vital.

“We have to sit down together and ask: ‘When do you play?’ and ‘When do we play?’ and see if we can find a way to make that work,” he added.

The progressive competitive imbalance, absence of a mandatory rest period for players, the excessive number of travels and matches endangering player health and well-being and the constant interruption of domestic leagues disrupting club competitions are some of the core topics under the microscope as part of the IMC consultation process.

In recent years, the growth of women’s domestic leagues and the increased volume of international player transfers has exacerbated the same issues, now facing the women’s international game.

“Obviously I’ve been in the global game, but I want to understand everybody’s viewpoint at our table,” said Ellis.

“To Arsène’s point, it is about communication and it’s about listening.

“To bring in former players, current players, club coaches, national team coaches.

“You want to understand the lens that they look through.

“When you bring people together and you start to share thoughts and ideas, it truly allows you to have a more complete grasp on what everybody is dealing with and what everybody’s challenge is

and what everybody’s opportunities are.

“I think it was very important to start this process to understand [questions like] what are the challenges to the Europeans, to the South Americans, to the club coaches, to the national team coaches?

“We want a model that is player-centric.

“Ultimately, that’s our game, the player.

“And so making sure that their lens and their voice is represented in this process has been very important.”

FIFA committed itself to reviewing the frequency of men’s, women’s and youth national team competitions after 166 FIFA member associations at the 71st FIFA Congress in May 2021 voted for a feasibility study to be carried out to explore the possible impact of holding the FIFA World Cup and FIFA Women’s World Cup every two years.

The long-term goal for FIFA, oft-stated by FIFA President Gianni Infantino, is to have 50 national teams and 50 clubs competing at the highest level of both the men’s and women’s game, in line with his FIFA Vision (2020-2023).

“You want both parties (the men’s and women’s game) to be happy and to develop.

“Therefore, I would say that it’s important to have a quality organisation on both sides that satisfies everybody,” continued Wenger.

“I agree,” added Ellis in conclusion. “I think our fan bases cross over. You see women at men’s matches, and

you see young boys and men at women’s matches.

“I agree with Arsène: we want to grow both platforms.

“Ultimately, you want this to truly be a global game.

“Right now, we’re still in our processes, we’ve got a lot of developing countries and nations on the women’s side.

“So to see that accelerate is part of our ambitions, so that we (FIFA) have access to everybody.”



# Team England's Women's Team win first Homeless World Cup 4 Nations Football Tournament



Team England's women's team - managed by Street Soccer London - won the first-ever Homeless World Cup 4 Nations Tournament in Edinburgh this weekend.

The event, in which 64 players were competing, was the first of its kind since the Homeless World Cup in Cardiff in 2019 and Street Soccer founder and chief executive David Duke hopes that the Homeless World Cup will happen again in 2022.

He said: "Congratulations to Team England, who won the women's competition and to Northern Ireland, who won the men's title.

"These competitions mean the world to our players, many of whom have

complex lives and challenges, and we're optimistic that the Homeless World Cup, possibly the most inspirational sporting competition in the world, can go ahead again next year."

Hayley Doran of Liverpool, who captained the winning England side, is pictured attached celebrating with her teammates at The Mound in Edinburgh.

## **Team England:**

Sian Bah, Zanaib El-Mouden, Elesha Edman, Becky Halpin, Hannah Murphy, Sanchia Napier-Lawrence, Hayley Doran.

Frankie Juma, Imrane Assafi Yaya, Shan Michael, Samuel Kur, Cherif Wahab, Marc Harvey, Mounir Jdaa, Yassin Mohammed.



# Around the World



# Danish pioneers remembered



Coinciding with the start of the opening round of qualifying matches for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 this week, a group of pioneering women from Danish Club Boldklubben Femina, winners of the first international women's football championships named "Coppa del Mondo" in Italy in 1970, visited the FIFA Museum today for official handover of several items from the tournament.

Following the tournament in Italy, which took place in 1970 and was followed by another international women's football tournament in Mexico in 1971, football associations began to officially recognise women's football throughout the 1970s and 1980s, which would lead to FIFA organising the first-ever FIFA Women's World Cup in China in 1991.

Historic items from the tournament that were officially handed over today included the pamphlet celebrating the 25th anniversary of BK Femina.

Birgit Schram, one of the players from Boldklubben Femina, said:

"It's fantastic (to be here today and see your objects in the museum). We would have never thought our objects could be exhibited like this. The trophy has been in our clubhouse for many years and we were asking ourselves: What will happen to it when we are not here anymore? With the objects in the FIFA Museum we are finally able to tell our story."

The visit also coincides with the start of the opening qualifying matches for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023. In Europe, Denmark play Malta tonight in Viborg, as the current generation of players kick-off their campaign to qualify for the next FIFA Women's World Cup in 2023.

Expanding on and complimenting the story of a host of iconic items that celebrate women's football already on display, which include the FIFA Women's World Cup Trophy, the items donated by Boldklubben Femina will be exhibited and are now available for fans and the visitors to see at the FIFA Museum.



# News from around the world

## **Fifa fears recent abuse cases are just ‘tip of the iceberg’**

In recent weeks there have been a number of allegations of abuse in women's football.

These have come from the US, Venezuela and Australia.

Joyce Cook, FIFA's Chief Education and Social Responsibility Officer, told CNN Sport's Amanda Davies that there will probably be similar stories out there, and encourages people to come forward.

"We are incredibly serious about eradicating abuse from sport, from football," Cook said. "We've spoken to a lot of other international sports federations about this topic over the last year.

"And what's clear is that part of ensuring that we have a safe sport means that we also have to provide remedy for those that have been abused, that are being abused and to make sure that any perpetrators not only not welcome but banned from sport."

In a statement sent to CNN, FIFA said the recent reports of abuses in football show it is a "major problem that affects all of us and which cannot be tolerated anymore."

"FIFA has shown that there is a zero tolerance policy for cases of sexual abuses in football: anyone found guilty of misconduct and abuse shall be brought to justice, sanctioned and removed from the game," it said.

"At the same time, the entire global football community needs to do more to prevent such cases from happening and put in place appropriate measures to support the victims."

### **Venezuela**

Accusations of sexual abuse by former Venezuelan national women's football coach Kenneth Zseremeta, the country's Attorney-General Tarek William Saab were announced earlier in October.

Football star Deyna Castellanos and 23 other players published a letter accusing their former coach, Zseremeta, of psychological and sexual abuse, and harassment over sexual orientation.

Zseremeta served as head coach of the Under-17 and Under-20 women national teams until 2017. He is among Venezuela's most successful football coaches of all time, with teams winning the South American Under-17 Football Championship twice, in 2013 and 2016.

### **Australia**

Also in October, Football Australia announced the formation of an independent complaint management process to "enable current and former footballers and staff to bring forward concerns regarding alleged abuse, harassment or bullying in relation to Football Australia's national teams and the A-Leagues."



# News from around the world

It comes after former Australia striker Lisa De Vanna revealed she had been the victim of sexual assault, harassment and bullying during her career.

## USA

US women's football has been shocked by the allegations that have emerged after former National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) coach Riley was fired by the North Carolina Courage.

An investigative report by The Athletic cites players on the record alleging that for years, Riley used his influence and power to sexually harass players and in one incident, coerce a player into having sex with him.

Riley denied the accusations in the Athletic report. CNN has not been able to reach Riley for comment.

Former NWSL player Mana Shim accused Riley of being a "predator" who "sexually harassed" her, while another former player, Sinead Farrelly, said the damage Riley caused "seeps into every part" of their livelihoods.

When NWSL action did resume, players across multiple games stopped in the sixth minute -- to highlight the six years it took for Shim, Farrelly and others to be heard -- joined together in the center circle, linking arms in a show of solidarity.

## Fifa evacuates 100 refugees

At least 20 women footballers are among 100 refugees evacuated by Fifa from Afghanistan.

The group of mainly women and girls, including some who play for the national team, left Kabul on Thursday on a flight bound for Doha, according to the Independent.

## Vandervort named USL Super League president

The United Soccer League today announced Amanda Vandervort as the first President of the USL Super League, the professional second division women's soccer league slated to kick off in 2023.

An innovative sports executive with more than 20 years of experience across all levels of women's and men's soccer, Vandervort brings business acumen, leadership skills and industry relationships to the USL Super League and USL's burgeoning women's soccer pathway.

"We are delighted to welcome Amanda to the USL executive team as USL Super League President," said USL CEO Alec Papadakis. "Amanda is one of the most accomplished soccer executives in the United States. Her expertise includes global women's soccer matters, partnerships, marketing, league expansion, club strategy, grassroots initiatives, and business development. Just as importantly, Amanda's perspective as a former player and coach aligns with the culture of our organization and that of our other senior executives."

# Simon Says

By Simon O'Neill

*Much has been said of the impact on players due to the lockdown, but what about match officials. I took the time to interview Julia Kings, a match official about the lockdown and how it has affected her.*

## **1. How has the lockdown affected your training as a match official?**

The main impact was the unexpected break in the football season at the levels that I officiate at. However, I was still able to maintain my fitness through running and home workouts, which actually led to an improvement in my fitness levels.

## **2. During the last 12/18 months have you managed to do officiate in any matches prior to the start of the 2021/22 season?**

In the last 12/18 months I have been able to officiate on quite a few games once grassroots football resumed, including games in the Nottingham Senior League, Tamworth Sunday League and Nottinghamshire Girls and Ladies league.

## **3. Have you been able to continue your training or has that suffered as well?**

Throughout the multiple lockdowns I have been able to continue with training through running. The only time it was affected was on occasions where I had to isolate and therefore could not go on any runs.

## **4. Do you receive support to help on the mental health side of fitness as a match official, especially in the lockdown?**

I have not personally received any mental health support as a match official however I know that there are people within my county FA who are mental health champions that would be able to provide assistance should it be required.

## **5. What does a typical week look like in training for a match official? How often do you have to do a fitness test?**

As I am currently both a player and a referee my week is usually pretty busy with 2 football training sessions as well as matches at the weekend.

Around this I try to add in a few runs throughout the week to keep on top of my fitness. In terms of fitness tests, they are not necessary for any referee unless going for promotion where they may need to pass an annual fitness test.

### **6. Do you do anything specific in preparing for a match?**

On the morning of a game, I always double check my kit bag, the kick off time, the league rules and the route to the game. Once arriving at a game I undergo the usual pre match routine of introducing myself to the teams, checking kit and ensuring everything is ready for the match to go ahead.

### **7. Are you looking to gain promotion to the next level of officials this season?**

After being promoted to level 5 at the end of last season, this season I am moving onto the women's promotion pathway and am looking to be promoted from 4W to 3W.

### **8. What do you like about your role as a match official?**

One thing I like about being a match official is the different view of a game it gives in contrast to that of a player. I also enjoy the variety of leagues that I officiate in and going to all the different grounds.

### **9. Would you recommend being a match official?**

I would recommend being a match official to anyone, especially if they have an interest in football and are looking to challenge themselves or try something new. Since becoming a match official I feel that it has helped me develop in many ways, including both my confidence and communication.

### **10. What are you ambitions this season and longer term?**

My main ambition this season to is get my promotion on the women's pathway and have an enjoyable season. In the longer term, my aim is to progress as far as I can as a match official.

# *Simon Says*

# Fifa Ballon d'Or 2021 finalists:

## The nominees



The nominees for the Women's Ballon d'Or 2021 have been announced.

The winners are set to be announced in December.

Last year, the award was cancelled for the first time in its history, owing to the pandemic but the Ballon d'Or is returning for 2021 and taking the previous 12 months of football into account.

France Football have decided upon the 30-woman shortlist for the prize; after which, a selection of international journalists, national team coaches and captains will

be asked to pick their top five players from the 30.

### Women's Ballon d'Or 2021 award nominees

Kadidiatou Diani (PSG)

Fran Kirby (Chelsea)

Jennifer Hermoso (Barcelona)

Christiane Endler (Lyon)

Christine Sinclair (Thorns FC)

Ashley Lawrence (PSG)

Irene Paredes (PSG, Barcelona)

Jessie Fleming (Chelsea)

Lieke Martens (Barcelona)

Sandra Panos (Barcelona)

Viviane Miedema (Arsenal)

Ellen White (Manchester City)

Pernille Harder (Chelsea)

Samantha Mewis (North Carolina Courage)

Wendie Renard (Lyon)

Marie-Antoinette Kattou (PSG)

Stina Blackstenius (Häcken)

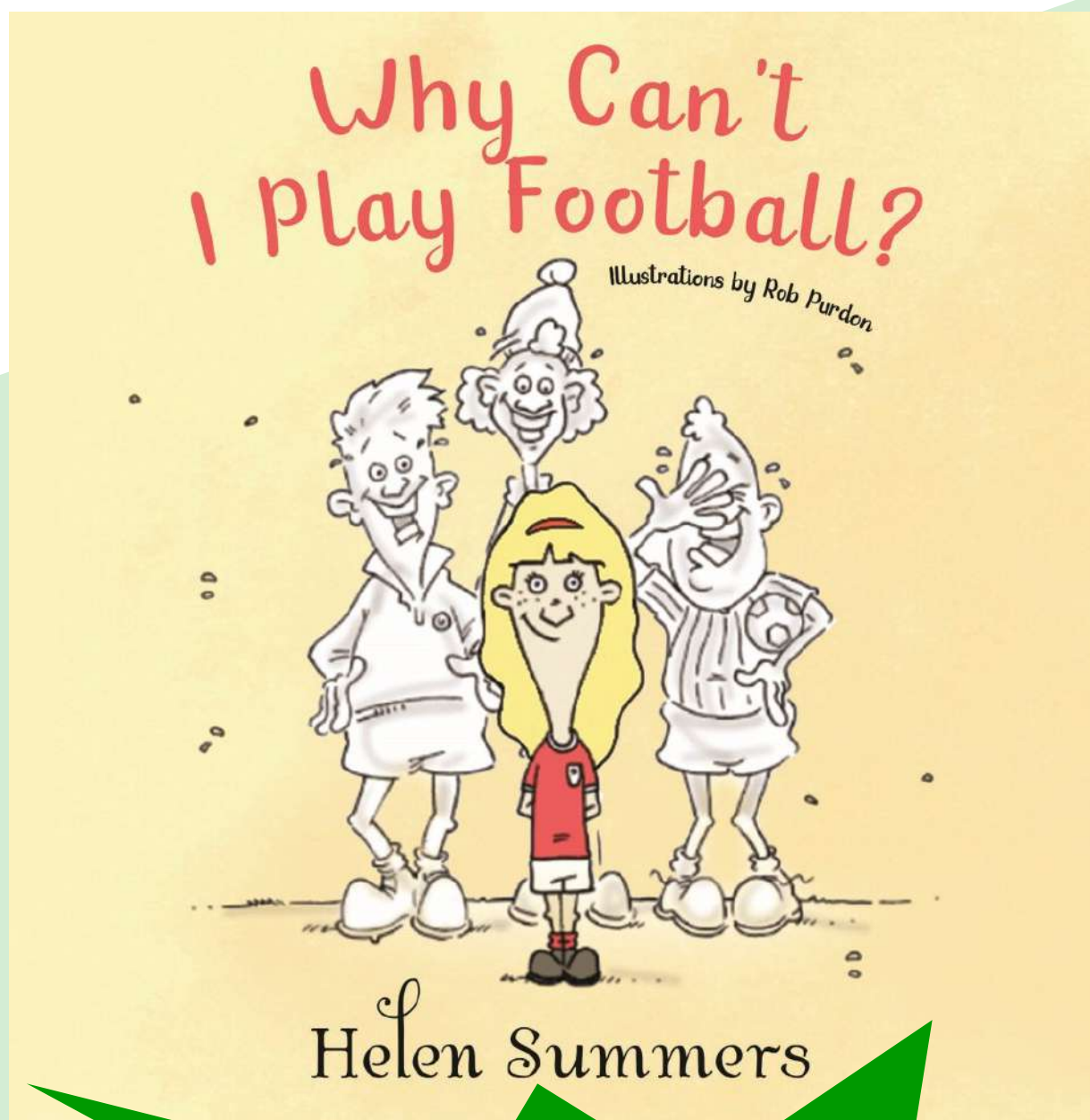
Magdalena Eriksson (Chelsea)

Sam Kerr (Chelsea)

Alexia Putellas (Barcelona)



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