

WFA Women's  
Championship



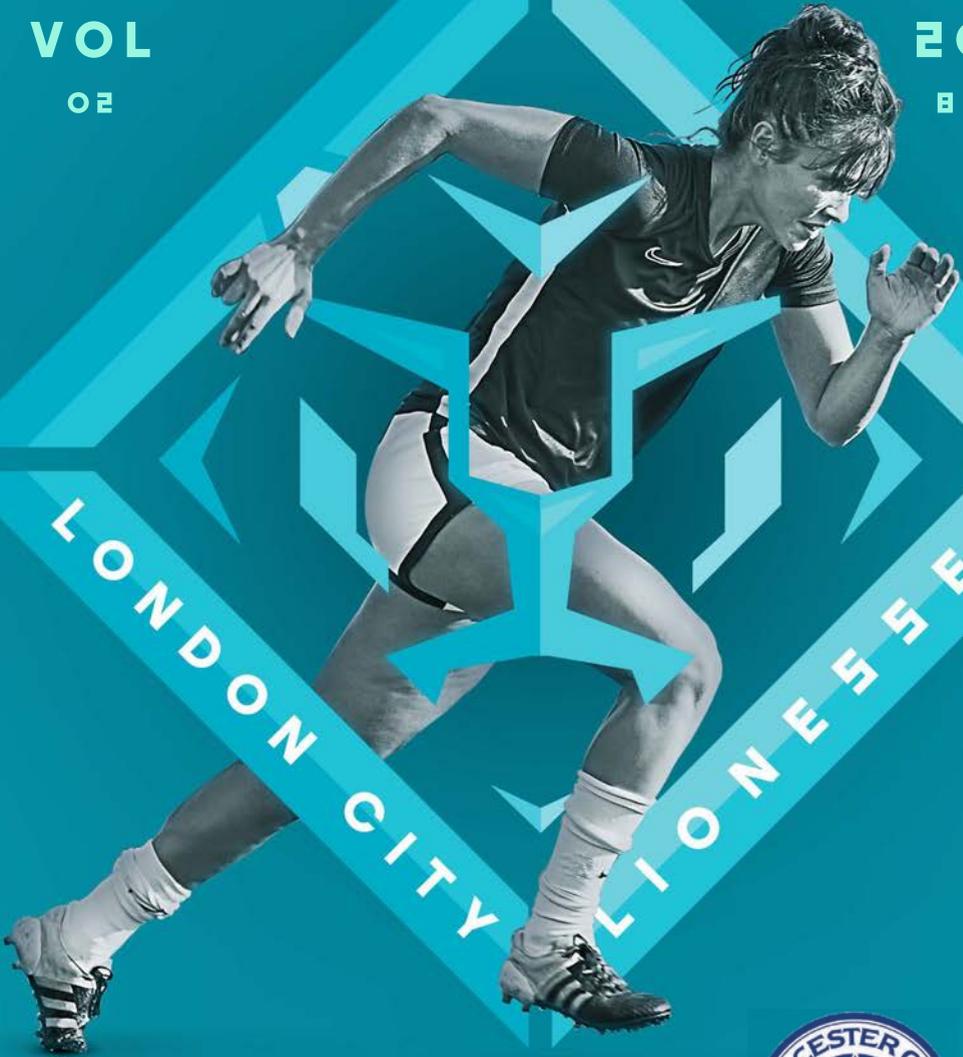
# MATCH DAY PROGRAMME

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2019

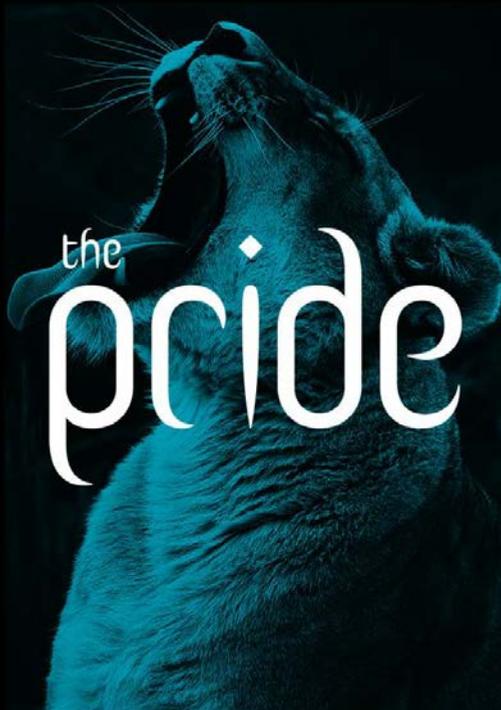
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LONDON CITY  
VERSUS  
LIONS

VERSUS





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London City Lionesses VS Aston Villa W.F.C

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Meet The Pride

London City Lionesses Versus Leicester City W.F.C

Sunday, September 8, 2019

KICKOFF 2PM

Dartford | Princes Park



# GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Supporters,

A very warm welcome to all visiting Prince's Park – including everyone associated with Leicester City Women FC. The season is well underway and today we are already looking forward to our third game and our second at Prince's Park. We know our opponents this afternoon will provide a stern test, as we look to continue our bright start to the Championship campaign. I wish everyone at Leicester – including fans, players and staff – an enjoyable game with plenty of good football on show.

Last Sunday's 3-2 loss to Aston Villa was of course hard to take given how well the players performed, but there are so many positives to take forward. The team showed great character and spirit to fight back from conceding an early goal and I'm sure if we carry on putting in those types of performances, the Prince's Park faithful will have plenty to cheer about this season.



With the club only six weeks old and just three fixtures down, it's still early days. There are bound to be ups and downs along the way but it's crucial that we stick together as a group, both on and off the pitch. As the early performances show, we want to instil the highest standards at the club. Our emphasis on professionalism is clear. We're the only full-time team in the Championship but it's all the extras – private medical insurance for players, access to sports psychologists – which really outline our big ambitions as a club. We have total faith in our approach, from the top to the bottom.

Yet, we know all our grand plans for the club can only be achieved with fans at the very heart of everything we do. They are absolutely key to making sure the club is successful and we need their support week in, week out. One way we're trying to connect with supporters is by bringing through young, hungry and talented players. That way we can make sure the team has a real identity and again is looking to the future.





# SELF MADE

Beyond our primary focus, to make the London City Lionesses as successful and forward-thinking as possible, we're also determined to play our part in developing the wider women's game. After such a successful World Cup for the Lionesses during the summer, we want to capitalise on this bounce of enthusiasm and energy, bringing that buzz to Prince's Park. The facilities and resources here are second to none, and we think these sorts of surroundings can inspire young girls up and down the country to pick up a football and take the women's game to the next level.

While we're always working on the road ahead, our primary focus for now is Leicester. There's a long way to go in the Championship season and patience will certainly be required at points. But most importantly, everyone is pulling in the same direction. It's a new, exciting project at the London City Lionesses and we want to bring people along on our journey. Let's maintain all our positive momentum from our opening performances and hopefully claim the three points today!

*Diane Culligan*

A NEW ERA FOR FOOTBALL.  
A NEW CLUB FOR LONDON.  
FOLLOW THE PRIDE.

# MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

*"Competing against this calibre of opponent has only strengthened our preparation for Leicester, allowing us to work on different technical and tactical aspects of our game."*



Hello and welcome again to Prince's Park – our second week hosting on the bounce. Today we entertain our visitors Leicester City Women FC and I'd like to extend our best wishes to all those involved at the club and a safe journey to and from the ground.

The season is already in full flow and I'm really pleased with how we've performed in our opening two games. Last Sunday's narrow loss to Aston Villa was tough to take. I thought we put on a great display in front of our fans against a top side and, had decisions gone our way, I thought we could have picked up at least a point. Still, there were lots of positives to take – our fitness levels, our creation of clear-cut chances and our resilience in fighting back from conceding early on.

The coaching staff and I are always looking at how we can improve the side and we've worked hard over the international break to take the team forwards in a number of areas. We tested ourselves against various calibre of opponents, which has only strengthened our preparation for Leicester, allowing us to work on different technical and tactical aspects of our game.

As for our opponents this afternoon, we know we'll be in for a tough game and have prepared for exactly that. Leicester have suffered difficult results in their first two games so we know they'll be looking to turn things around as soon as possible, starting at Prince's Park.

They have a young side with talented international players so we need to bring our very best this afternoon if we're to take home the three points. Leicester's goalkeeper, Demi Lambourne, has broken her wrist so I want to send a message on behalf of the club wishing her all the best. We look forward to seeing Demi on the pitch again soon.

Returning to our own affairs, which I've been really pleased with given the infancy of the club in its very first year, I think it's important to reiterate the elite environment we're building. The platform we are giving the squad to express and develop themselves, not just as players but as people, is right up there with the biggest clubs. Playing an attractive style of football is also a big part of what we're trying to implement, helping bring the fans on board and contributing to a great matchday experience.

Ultimately though this is first-team football. We know it's a results business and we look forward to putting into practice all the hard work from the training ground. The club continues to grow and I'm excited to carry on that journey this afternoon.

Enjoy the game.

*CHRIS PHILLIPS*



The FA Women's  
Championship



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THIS SEASON**

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**LDN  
CTY**

# MATCH REPORT

ASTON VILLA W.F.C

3-2

LONDON CITY LIONESSES



After a tough battle against Aston Villa Women FC, the London City Lionesses suffered a 3-2 defeat at Prince's Park.

Despite the narrow loss, the Lionesses displayed great character as Elizabeta Ejupi opened her account for the season with two goals. During a game of high drama, which proved a treat for the fans, the Lionesses showed their class against a side many have tipped for the Championship title this season.

The Villans took an early lead in the 11th minute with a neat finish from Amy West on the edge of the box. The Lionesses then levelled from Ejupi's indirect free-kick with the score level at half time.

After Gabby Ravenscroft replaced Kallie Balfour during the break, the Lionesses came out in full force for the second half. They took the lead in the 51st minute after a precise cross from winger Leanne Cowan was met by a cool first-time finish from Ejupi for her second.

Villa took no time to fire back, however, finding an equaliser from Natalie Haigh, which was quickly followed up by a strike from Shania Haynes to put the away side ahead.

With the score at 3-2 and chances coming at both ends, the fixture was a thrilling spectacle for those watching at Prince's Park.

Sian Rogers was forced into a couple of sharp saves late on and, despite the Lionesses' best efforts, the Villa keeper came out on top, helping her side wrap up the three points.

This was only the Lionesses' second league outing in their debut season. Although understandably disappointed not to pick up the three points on their home debut, the team showed plenty of promise.

After an encouraging performance, the Lionesses will be confident going into their next league match against Leicester City Women FC.



LIONESSES



ENGLAND

W GERMANY

WEMBLEY  
STADIUM

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SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2019 — 5.30PM

TICKETS £15 ADULTS / £1 KIDS

[THEFA.COM/TICKETS](http://THEFA.COM/TICKETS)

# MATCH DAY OPPOSITION

2019



2020

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Demi Lambourne (GK) | 12. Hayley James         |
| 2. Grace Riglar        | 13. Scarlett Field (GK)  |
| 3. Nat Johnson         | 14. Leigh Dugmore        |
| 4. Aimee Everett       | 16. Freya Thomas         |
| 5. Holly Morgan ©      | 17. Paige Bailey-Gayle   |
| 6. Lia Cataldo         | 18. Rachel Brown         |
| 7. Anneka Nuttall      | 21. Annie Taylor         |
| 8. Simran Jhamat       | 23. Lucy Johnson         |
| 9. Libby Smith         | 25. Georgia Pople        |
| 10. Annabel Blanchard  | 32. Taylor Charlton (GK) |
| 11. Lachante Paul      |                          |

## LEICESTER CITY WOMEN - SQUAD NUMBERS 2019/20



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A NEW ERA FOR FOOTBALL.  
A NEW CLUB FOR LONDON.  
FOLLOW THE PRIDE.

# MEET THE PRIDE

2019



2020

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Lucy Thomas       | 13. TBC             |
| 2. Chantelle Mackie  | 14. Kallie Balfour  |
| 3. Leanne Cowan      | 15. Vyan Sampson    |
| 4. Poppy Wilson      | 16. Harley Bennett  |
| 5. Hannah Short      | 17. Lucy Fitzgerald |
| 6. Ylenia Priest     | 18. Ellie Mason     |
| 7. Liz Ejupi         | 19. Lily Egg        |
| 8. Freda Ayisi       | 20. Annie Rossiter  |
| 9. Gabby Ravenscroft | 21. Flo Fyfe        |
| 10. Juliette Kemppi  | 22. Eden Bailey     |
| 11. Evie Clarke      | 23. Amber Gaylor    |
| 12. Grace Neville    | 24. Ellie Arnold    |



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