

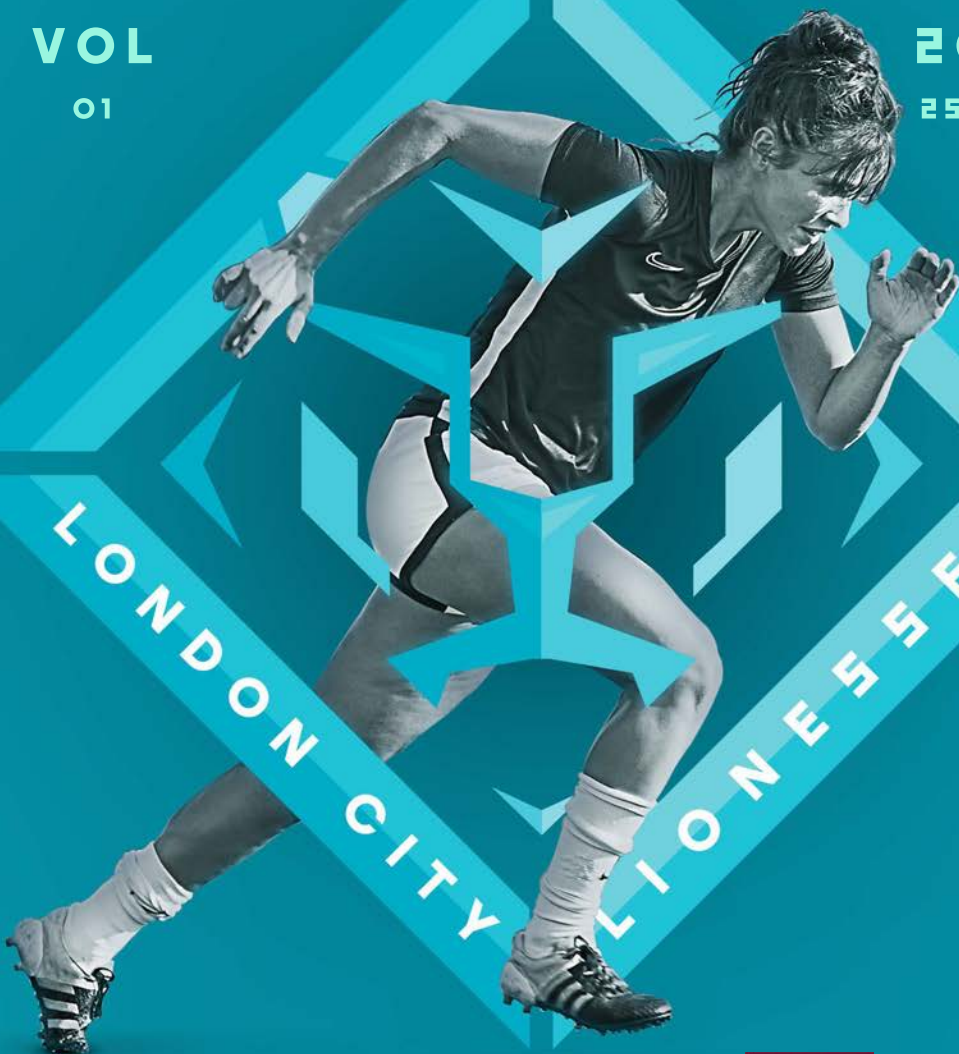
WFA Women's  
Championship



# MATCH DAY PROGRAMME

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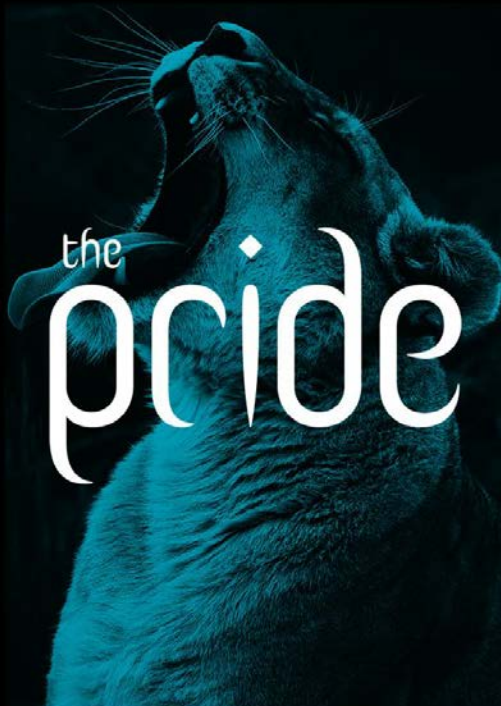
**2019**  
**25 AUG**



LONDON CITY  
LIONESSES

VERSUS





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London City Lionesses Versus Aston Villa W.F.C

Sunday, August 25, 2019

KICKOFF 2PM

Dartford | Princes Park



# GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Supporters,

A very warm welcome to everyone visiting Prince's Park – including the players, fans and directors from Aston Villa Women FC. Today, everyone is part of a small piece of history – the London City Lionesses' first ever home match. Congratulations! For some of you, this is the start of another chapter of watching football here in Dartford, while for others it might be your maiden visit.



Regardless, I want to reiterate to everyone who comes through our turnstiles just how welcome you all are. At London City Lionesses we are inclusive, not exclusive.

This is the start of a long journey, but make no mistake, these are very exciting times. During the course of the summer, we were very pleased to accept The FA's support in forming our new team and I want to place on record my thanks to them for their continued support.

The summer also saw another pride of Lionesses win new fans thanks to their heroics in France. We too are hoping to play our own part in growing the women's game in this country. The Manager, Board and I are taking a long-term view on how to achieve that and to be sustainable in the process.

This season is the second stage of a bigger plan for our Pride of Lionesses and we are so happy for you all to be part of it.



For example, we are only one of three clubs in London to hold The FA's Sister Club licence – the other two being Arsenal & Chelsea. We are pleased and honoured to be in such illustrious company. Growing our Sister Clubs network will allow us to build an extensive community outreach project again, to be inclusive and ensure that London City Lionesses are a club for everyone.



On the pitch, Chris continues to assemble a hungry group of players who want to learn, develop and to get better as individuals and a team. There are some familiar faces and some who have joined the squad to add depth and experience. The performances during pre-season and the win at London Bees last week showed the progress that has already been made.



Away from matches, the players are receiving expert guidance across nutrition, sports psychology, conditioning and performance analysis – thanks must go to the backroom staff, who are all consummate professionals, who are working tirelessly to ensure that all the players benefit from the input the various disciplines they have been introduced to. Many thanks also to the staff who run the Prince's Park complex. We have been made to feel very welcome and they continue to go out of their way to accommodate us.

We have 11 internationals in the squad at different levels and we will work hard with the national teams to ensure that those representing their country will continue to do so throughout their time with the club.



I must also mention super congratulations to Grace Neville, who will also have a place in the history books, as the first ever goalscorer for London City Lionesses. One to tell the grandchildren! Well done Grace. Being able to mention these two wonderful and positive achievements of Juliette and Grace is such a lovely way for me to be able draw my first notes of the season to a close.

# SELF MADE

At London City Lionesses, we want the best and strive for the best and to be the best. Our partnership with Nike to create an iconic kit is a statement of our intent. On behalf of everyone at the club, I would like to thank Nike for their involvement thus far and our great partnership going forward. Their commitment even extended to a bespoke training camp put on at St George's Park, which was vital to allow the girls to bond. We hope the association with a brand like Nike will help to attract additional commercial interests.

Although I am usually reluctant to single out individuals, I must pass on my congratulations to Juliette Kemppi on her call up to the Finnish senior national team, this week. It was wonderful news for Juliette and indeed our club as a whole.



Before I finish however, I would like to reiterate these are early days and we are under no illusions – much hard work lies ahead and we are up for it. Hard work is something we relish, though, not fear. We hope you, the supporters, will lend us your support, because our ambitions, as a club will not be realised without you. Together, we, as a team – just like the players – can achieve anything.

*Diane Culligan*





The FA Women's  
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# message from the manager



*"Today we host a really strong Aston Villa side, who showed their strength after coming back to win from a 2-0 deficit against Sheffield United last weekend. I really enjoyed watching that game back – it was a great advert for the women's games – but we are all aware of the threat that this Villa side carry."*

Hello and welcome everyone to the Prince's Park Stadium. Welcome to our visitors Aston Villa, who I hope had an enjoyable trip down to London. I'm delighted to finally welcome you all to a new season and a new beginning for London City Lionesses. I'm immensely proud to be here today in front of a home crowd and I'm really looking forward to the rest of the season after a fantastic start last weekend.

It's been a really busy summer for everyone involved. We've assembled a club that has the foundations to facilitate elite level performance and developed an environment where I hope players and coaches can thrive. I'm satisfied that we have a competitive and balanced squad, but we may have one or two new faces to introduce to you soon.

We wouldn't have been able to build this infrastructure without the support of our partners. I want to thank Nike for all of their support so far and particularly for producing two fantastic playing kits, which everyone is delighted with. I'm also keen to welcome and thank Titan for their support. Titan allow us to monitor our players' performance with GPS tracking data, which is invaluable and allows us to develop our players and ways of working.

I was really pleased with our performance on the opening day at London Bees last weekend. Two goals and a clean sheet reads impressively but I'm confident we can still improve and last week gives us something to build on.

We've continued to work hard in training, and we want to come away from today with the same level of satisfaction as last time out.

Today we host a really strong Aston Villa side, who showed their strength after coming back to win from a 2-0 deficit against Sheffield United last weekend. I really enjoyed watching that game back – it was a great advert for the women's games – but we are all aware of the threat that this Villa side carry. Gemma Davies has put together an excellent side, one of the favourites to win this league, and I have nothing but respect for her.

It's our first chance to show you what we're all about today and we are hopeful that we produce an entertaining style of play. We've implemented a footballing philosophy with that in mind and want to show that we have our own identity on the pitch.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Juliette Kempfi on her call-up to the Finland team for their upcoming fixtures. We're delighted to have players of Juliette's calibre on board and I hope we see more of our players appear for their countries in the future.

Hopefully this is the start of what will be a successful first season for London City Lionesses. I look forward to seeing you all throughout the season and hope enjoy the game today.

*CHRIS PHILLIPS*





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# 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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