

WFA Women's  
Championship



# MATCH DAY PROGRAMME

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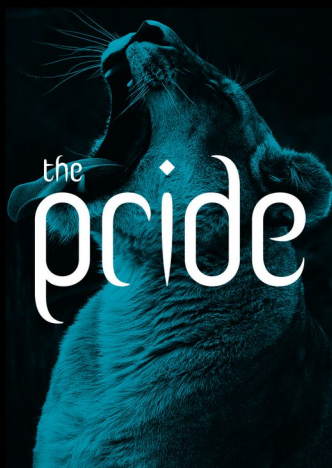
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2019

29 SEP



VERSUS



## **PRESENTS**

London City Lionesses Versus Durham W.F.C

Sunday, September 29, 2019

KICKOFF 12PM

Dartford | Princes Park

## **IN THIS PROGRAMME**

Greetings From The Chair

Message From The Manager

Player Interview: Hannah Short

Match Day Opposition: Durham W.F.C

Meet Our Pride



# GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Supporters,

Welcome once again to Princes Park stadium for our return to FA Women's Championship action. Particular warm welcome to everyone from Durham who has made the long journey down to Dartford for today's game.

It's a quick turnaround from the game last week against Arsenal and I'm sure the players will be looking forward to continuing our strong start in the league campaign. The result from last week reads pretty poorly, but anyone who was at that game will agree that we put on a strong show against a really strong Arsenal side.

It was a great show of respect from Arsenal for them to play what was essentially their first-team side, full of senior international players - it certainly wasn't their reserves or development players - they came here to win. We won't see too different an Arsenal side when they play in the Champions League this season. I felt that 5-0 was perhaps a harsh result on us, we even had the chance to take the lead at one point, though we had good chances and should have probably come away with a goal or two.



Arsenal Women's FC are the sort of club we aspire to be. They set a fine example of professionalism on and off the pitch. If I look back 20 years ago in the women's game, Arsenal were the example to follow and still are today.

Albeit you have the likes of Chelsea WFC and Manchester City WFC knocking on their door, they remain the benchmark for the women's game in my opinion. It was great to host a club like that and see an increased attendance at Prince's Park. I hope that some of the supporters that came down last week will have been impressed by our matchday experience and we hope to see them again on a regular basis. Our aim remains to engage our local audience in Dartford and beyond.





The attention now turns fully to today's game and to Durham, who like us, are a standalone women's team and we respect what they are trying to do also. They are certainly a strong outfit and we are all aware of that. They have had a 100% start to the league season and their result against Aston Villa last weekend certainly caught the eye. The staff and the players are well aware of the physical threat that Durham will pose, but recent performances have proven that we can match teams well in that department. I've noticed everyone from the staff to the players continuing to excel in training this week and the standards are being kept as high as ever.

I'm really looking forward to this one and hope everyone enjoys a great game!

*Diane Culligan*





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# MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

*"Today we face a really strong Durham side who are in great form, having won four out of their four opening games this season including an impressive result against Aston Villa last week in the Continental Cup."*



Hello everyone and welcome back to Prince's Park for what we hope will be another exciting game in the FA Women's Championship. I hope our counterparts at Durham had a pleasant trip down and it wasn't too long a journey for them.

Looking back to last week's game against Arsenal, we obviously come away knowing it was a very tough game against a really strong side. I believe they are one of the best teams in European football, if not the world. Their class shone through throughout the game and the difference in level showed, but we take the positives in that my staff and players certainly learnt a lot from it, and we will look at them and think about our own pathways to getting there one day.

Today we face a really strong Durham side who are in great form, having won four out of their four opening games this season including an impressive result against Aston Villa last week in the Continental Cup. They are well organised, have physically strong players and a great manager in Lee Sanders. We'll need to be at our best to get a result today and demonstrate that we can adapt our play. I'm expecting that Durham will be very sharp and push our players to produce their best in terms of physicality on the pitch. We won't differ from what we have done so far this season, having implemented what we consider a unique style of play, but we need to make sure we can mix it and keep standards high.

At the start of the season when I assessed our competitors in this league, I had Aston Villa, Sheffield United and all down as the teams that would be gunning for promotion and so far, results have reflected that. Today marks a good opportunity for us to gauge our level against a side who will be there or thereabouts come the end of the season. A positive result today would certainly give us even more confidence about what we can do this season.

The squad has continued to develop over recent weeks, and I was delighted to be able to hand full debuts to Annie Rossiter, Vanessa Susanna and Chantelle Mackie. Giving players like them a start in a game like that was a great chance for them to show what they can do, and it certainly gives me even more to think about when selected players for today's game. There is great competition for places and that's every manager's ideal scenario.

It was great to see a big crowd here last week for the Arsenal game. We're hopeful that we caught the eye of some of those and we'll see them down here again. It's a different atmosphere with a bigger crowd and it can definitely have a positive impact on the pitch.

I hope you enjoy today's game.

*CHRIS PHILLIPS*





The FA Women's  
Championship



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# PLAYER INTERVIEW:

## HANNAH SHORT

Hannah Short talks us through her role off the pitch with the club, working in the community to spread the word about London City Lionesses.



### **Tell us about role with the Sister Clubs programme.**

It's about getting young girls and boys in and around the local area excited about the club, to come along to our games and inspiring the next generation. I am new to the role and I am thoroughly excited to be taking our new club out and spreading it around the local community.

### **What are your aims with the programme?**

My aim is to reach out and connect with local schools, and football clubs through skill school sessions, assemblies, tournaments and try to make London City Lionesses a household name. We want people to talk about us and ultimately come down to Prince's Park so we can show them what we're about on the pitch!

### **How important is it to engage with the local community?**

It's very important. It can give people the chance to come together and build a strong community through the support of London City Lionesses. We want supporters to share a common goal and become part of our pride. Hopefully, when our young fans are given the chance to interact with our players it will be an inspirational moment and who knows, maybe one day they can become a London City Lioness one day themselves!

### **What are your upcoming plans with Sister clubs?**

We've got some big plans! We plan on taking players into schools to take part in competitions, Q&A sessions, coaching sessions, skill schools and tournaments. We also want to work together closely with local businesses, who will be able to help us and hopefully we'll be able to help them through engaging with each other. Local business is vital to any community.

### **How important is it to you as a player for a fan base to grow?**

It's really important as the crowd can be your 12th player, in games where you might need that extra boost. Having that backing from the crowd can push you. As a new club, we feel we are an exciting one too, you need to get the word out and it's important that everyone knows who we are and what we are about! I'm personally looking forward to working on trying to grow our fanbase.

### **Is it enjoyable to be able to play for LCL and help off the pitch with this project?**

Yes, I enjoy playing for such an ambitious club and I am excited to spread the word. I can share the LCL principles with our community and we hope we can make a real connection with those people and they can become part of our pride.





**LDN  
CTY**

# MATCH DAY OPPOSITION

2019



2020

- Hannah Reid (GK)
- Megan Borthwick (GK)
- Ellie Christon
- Kathryn Hill
- Becky Salicki
- Sarah Wilson
- Abby Holmes
- Beth Hepple
- Lauren Briggs
- Rachel Lee
- Sarah Robson
- Lisa Robertson
- Megan Bell
- Nicki Gears
- Emily Roberts
- Molly Sharpe
- Iris Richterhof



LIONESSES



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# MEET OUR 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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