





#### FA Women's National League

The Club operates and carries out its activities through the following commercial entity:

#### **London Bees Football Club Limited**

The Hive Camrose Avenue London HA8 6AG

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 08538110 VAT NUMBER: 795967248

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The Club is a member of the FA Women's National League and is subject to the FA Women's National League's rules and regulations.

As required by those regulations, the Club can confirm the following person(s) have a 'significant interest' in the Club:

London Bees Football Club Limited (Anthony A Kleanthous)

#### BEES FOOTBALL GROUP

Chairman: Anthony A Kleanthous

#### FIRST TEAM

Manager: Dan McKimm

Assistant Manager: Tim Abramyan

GK Coach: James McKimm Lead Physio: Ali Jaweed Physio: Steve Spencer S&C Coach: Harry Garrod

Mental Performance Coach: Kate Chesser

**Nutritionist:** Georgia Ridgeway **Analyst:** Abhishek Bakuly

#### PROGRAMME TEAM

Club Photographer

Kieran Falcon

**Graphic Designer** 

Liam Warr

Press Officer

Alfie Cracknell

#### **CLUB HONOURS**

FA Women's Premier League Southern Division

Winners: 1993, 2010

FA Women's Premier League Cup

Winners: 1996



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There are many ancestral spirits behind the London Bees, but its earliest roots date back to a group of ladies working at Transport for London's District Line.

In the 1970s the women, looking for a team to play football, banded together and entered the Hounslow & District League – forming the platform for a remarkable rise.

Named in honour of their workplace, District Line Ladies FC appeared in leagues across Greater London before tasting promotion to the Women's FA National League Southern Division in the early 1990s.

It did not take long afterwards before the squad merged with Wembley FC – becoming Wembley Ladies FC and reaching their zenith in an FA Cup final defeat to Millwall Lionesses in 1997.

Meanwhile Barnet Ladies FC, established by Barnet director Graham Slyper in the mid-80s, had become officially affiliated with the men's club.

It prompted another merger in 1998 after Wembley's FA Cup finalists began to leave the club, including teenager and eventual England legend Kelly Smith.

Barnet FC Ladies have been a virtual mainstay in English football's top tier ever since before London Bees, a brand new franchise, was welcomed into the Women's Super League fold for 2014.

London Bees first ever fixture in WSL2 resulted in a 3-0 victory over Oxford United Ladies, with 16-year old Lucy Loomes scoring their first ever goal.

In 2016, the Bees experienced their best season to date, taking home a record points haul for the season as well as a historic run to the semi-finals of the Continental Cup, knocking out Chelsea en route. The 2017 Spring Series saw the Bees get off to a great start and top the league in the early stages.

This season marks the second year of Dan McKimm's tenure as manager of the London Bees. The Bees currently sit top of the FA Women's National League Division One South East, the fourth tier of women's football in England, after a perfect start with three wins from three matches. With promotion the clear goal, the Bees will be hoping to build on this early momentum and turn a strong start into a truly memorable season.





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### Dan McKimm

#### Manager's Column

I'm excited to be penning my first column in our new programme. Massive thanks must go to the media team, particularly Alfie, Liam and Kieran, for getting this up and running for us. It's another step in the right direction in terms of the overall matchday experience we want to provide, so I hope you look forward to this each home game moving forward.

It's been a positive start to the season for us and I've been really happy with the attitude and application the girls have shown. Performances have been good on the whole, and results pretty positive in the main, despite the fact we've had a lot of challenges with injuries so far. I still feel we haven't quite hit top gear yet though, despite showing flashes throughout different games, and I feel once we put together a full ninety minutes of us at our full potential, that will be the real catalyst for our season to kick on

Last weekend's WNL Plate tie with Cambridge Utd is a great example of this. We were outstanding in the first half, particularly out of possession with how dominant we were on the first contacts and second balls, but then in the second half we really dropped our levels and allowed them an easy route back into the game. What should have been a routine result suddenly turned into a much closer game

than it needed to be, and another day could have turned out differently.

Nevertheless, we're through in that competition and we'll be looking to do the same here again today, in what will be a tricky fixture. Last season's FA Cup run was, quite rightly, a highlight for many, and had a huge impact on our team chemistry and togetherness. We're desperate to try and replicate that run again this season, and go one better if we can, so please get behind us today and be the 12th player that can make all the difference.

That leads me nicely into thanking everyone for the fantastic support we've received over the last few weeks. As I hope I've managed to convey in my post-match interviews, it's such a massive boost to us and it means so much to us as a group to have the support behind us in the ground each week, so I'm really grateful. As the weather turns now, it's going to be less appealing to turn out each week, but we're entering a critical period of the season and I can't stress how important the backing is, so we need your support and noise more than ever each game. Keep turning out, bring your family, friends etc., and let's make our support the envy of the WNL this season.

Enjoy the game, and get behind the girls this afternoon.



## **Aimee Durn**

#### Captain's Column

It's great to be back playing at the Bees Stadium after a couple of weeks away from home. We're excited to be competing in the FA Cup again — a competition we had enormous success in last season, and one that created many special memories as a group, after reaching the Fourth Round.

We're on a strong run of form, coming off the back of four wins, which is testament to the hard work of all the players and staff. Last week, we came up against Cambridge United in the WNL Plate. We had an excellent first half, going 3-0 up and then getting the fourth early in the second half. Disappointingly, we let the opposition back in the game, but we showed real fight and heart to grind out the win. It wasn't our prettiest performance in the second half, but we are proud of how we stuck together and battled to progress to the last 16.

Today we face Barking, who we do not know too much about, as we have only

previously played them in a pre-season friendly last season. The coaches always do their opposition analysis to prepare us, and we are ready and excited for the challenge ahead. Despite being Tier 5, we know we are coming up against a good side who are really going to be up for it, so our performance and standards cannot slip, as we want to be in the hat for Monday night's draw.

We have a very tight-knit group, and there is a real sense of unity among us. It's an honour to play for this club in such an iconic competition and, together, we hope for another successful FA cup run.

Finally, we're so grateful for all the support from the fans week in, week out. It makes a huge difference to us on the pitch and really fuels our performance every single week.

Thank you for the ongoing support, and we hope to give you a great game!

#### Up the Bees!



**Match Report** 

# CAMBRIDGE UNITED vs. LONDON BEES 3-4

A tale of two halves as the Bees hold on to secure a 4-3 win against Cambridge United to progress to the next round of the Plate Cup despite a strong lead at the break.

From kick off both pressed hard for the ball, as the tension to break the deadlock early on was felt around the ground.

The Bees came close to taking an early lead after just five minutes, as the ball fell into the box and was scrambled around between the players.

Lily Whitelock was able to get a shot on target, but despite it being saved the referee stopped the play for offside.

Moments later Millie Isherwood was played through from inside her own half, and with a quick look up she took a shot from long range, hoping to beat the keeper who was off her line, but the ball fell too wide and resulted in a Cambridge goal kick.

You could feel that a goal was approaching soon, as Shamoy Campbell created a good chance for herself to cross the ball in from the right, hoping to pick out Isherwood but it was just out of reach for the striker.

However, just minutes later the Bees had opened the scoring, as Whitelock charged down the left side and cut in for a shot at goal.

Her chance was saved by the keeper, but Isherwood was there to fire home the rebound and give her side the lead.

It took just under one minute for the Bees to double their score, as Thea Budden played a brilliant ball over the top to pick out Brionne Fowle at the back post, who tapped it past the goalkeeper, adding another goal to her tally for the season and giving Budden an assit on her full debut.

Around the 30th minute mark the Bees had won a corner, with Isherwood stepping up to take it she fired the ball deep into the mix, where Cheyenne Flynn raised up highest to make the connection and head it perfectly out of the keepers reach and into the back of the net, making it 3-0 to the Bees and giving Dan McKimm's side a comfortable lead heading into the break.

Half-Time: Cambridge United 0-3 London Bees

As the game kicked off for the second half, the goals kept on coming for the Bees as Isherwood scored her second of the match.

The ball was delivered in from the right, where Betty Larkin and Isherwood were waiting to strike, both attacks had their first attempts blocked by the defence, but Isherwood was able to send the ball into the goal on her second attempt, giving her side their fourth goal of the match.

Minutes later the game started to turn as the hosts scored two goals in one minute, giving them a lifeline back in this game.

On the hour mark things started to get worrying for the Bees as Cambridge were awarded a penalty after a foul in the box.

The hosts were able to convert the penalty quickly, making the score now 3-4 and giving the Bees some extra work to do in the remaining 30 minutes of the half.

Dan McKimm brought some fresh legs into the field in the hope of hanging onto the lead with Sam Lanza, Aimee Durn and Fran Vigo entering the game.

The hosts weren't giving up as they tried to find a way to complete the comeback but the Bees held firm, refusing to give up the lead they worked hard to achieve.

With full time approaching, the U's won a free kick in the Bees half, they lobbed it over the top aiming towards the far corner, but Roberts made a brilliantly timed dive to stop the shot and deny the hosts in the final moments.

The referee later blew the whistle for full-time, and the Bees held on to secure the win, and earning their spot into the next round of the cup.

#### Full-Time: Cambridge United 3-4 London Bees

Line-Up: Roberts, Heil, Flynn, Vyse (Vigo 66'), Isherwood, Burrows, Budden, Fowle, Larkin (Lanza 55'), Campbell (Durn 66'), Whitelock

Goals: Isherwood (18', 47'), Fowle (20'), Flynn (34')

The Bees are back in more cup action next week as they take on Barking at The Bees Stadium in the next round of the FA Cup.

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## Fran Vigo joins Hive Foundation

The link between The Hive Foundation and the London Bees continues to grow, as London Bees player, Francesca Vigo has joined part of the team, helping to inspire a younger generation of footballers.

Francesca has joined the coaching team, leading our Girl's Thursday evening session and fitting in brilliantly with the environment.

She will be contributing to our community sessions at The Hive as well as engaging with numerous school programmes that the Foundation is currently involved in.

Foundation Manager, Aleksander Czerniec said, "Francesca has a fantastic mindset and we are incredibly lucky to hire someone with the experience that she has had as a player, will be invaluable to the children she will be coaching".

Francesca Vigo said, "I'm really excited to be doing the foundation and working with the rest of the coaching staff as I think I'll gain valuable experience and I'm also very excited to work with young players who are passionate about football."





#### BARKING

Barking Women FC, based in east London, are the women's first team of Barking FC and play their home matches at Mayesbrook Parkin Dagenham. Competing in the London & South East Women's Regional Football League Premier Division, the fifth tier of English women's football, the club has quickly developed into a strong presence in regional competition. After earning promotion from Division 1 South of the Eastern Region Women's Football League with an unbeaten record, Barking consolidated their place in the higher division, finishing fifth in the 2024–25 season with 38 points.

Led by prolific striker Laura Bunton, who scored 35 goals that season, the team is known for its attacking style and high-energy approach, though they continue to build defensive depth to compete with more established sides. The 2025–26 campaign began with a tough 0–3 home defeat to Brentford Women, showing the competitiveness of the league.

Beyond results, Barking Women FC play a key community role, promoting local participation and serving as an important step between grassroots football and the semi-professional game in east London. Their ambition remains clear: to develop consistently, attract talented players, and push toward higher tiers of the women's football pyramid. With a loyal local following and growing recognition, Barking Women FC exemplify the rapid progress of regional women's football in England.

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# SQUADLIST

#### Manager Dan McKimm

(GK) Tia Ginn (GK) Emma Roberts Mira Hoteit Ryah Vyse Sandra Martin Aimee Durn Millie Isherwood Sam Lanza Thea Budden Brionne Fowle Rebekah Wozniak Isla Callinson

#### Match Officials

Referee: Gulam Damji Assistant 1: Richard Blackwood

Assistant 2: Ali Matour