

Matchday

CAMBRIDGE UNITED
FA WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE • 2PM • 16TH NOVEMBER





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
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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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CLUB HISTORY

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

Welcome back to The Hive and welcome to today's visitors, Cambridge Utd. If also like to extend a special welcome to Barnet FC Women's Walking Football Team who are here supporting us today.

It's nice to be back on home turf after last week's trip down the M4 to Gwalia Utd, although the day down in Wales was a really productive one on many fronts, despite exiting the competition.

I was really pleased with the performance. Obviously going two goals behind in the first seven minutes was far from the start we wanted, but I didn't feel we actually started that slowly and the two goals came from isolated moments as opposed to anything else.

The resilience and character the girls showed thereafter was fantastic though - it would have been really easy to crumble and go through the motions for the rest of the game, but they came back fighting and made a real fist of the contest against a decent opposition. I think the girls can

take plenty of positives and learnings from the game, and we as a staff certainly felt we learned a few things about certain individuals and the group as a whole.

Last season we faced two tier three opponents and lost both games without scoring a goal (3-0 and 6-0), and, in truth, there was a big gap between us in both games. This season though, we've faced two tier three teams and have come away with a 2-2 draw, which we could have easily won, and a narrow 3-2 loss last week, so I think the signs of improvement are evident and we've definitely closed the gap on where we're trying to get to.

As many of you have hopefully seen, we welcomed Hayley Hoare back the club this week. Hayley's quality is well known, and her return is a massive boost for us going into the Christmas run-in.

Please get behind her and the team this afternoon and help us get the three points over the line in what's going to be a huge test.



Dan McKimm

**Happy
Birthday**

We hope you had a great birthday weekend



Mira Hoteit

Captain's Column

Welcome back, everyone! After a cup weekend on the road, it's great to be back at The Hive and back to league action. Today we take on Cambridge United, a familiar opponent that we faced earlier in the National League Plate, in a thrilling game that ended 4-3 in our favour. Now we cross paths again for our first league encounter of the season.

Last weekend was a long one for the squad as we made the journey to Wales to face Gwalia in the Plate. It was a proper challenge against a Tier 3 side, and we knew we'd need to be at our best. We've been in similar situations before, whether it was Hashtag earlier this season or Rugby Borough and Plymouth last year, so we were ready for it. The match ended 3-2 to the hosts, but we showed real character and matched them throughout.

Now the focus is fully back on the league. With a strong win against Luton last time out, we want to rebuild our

momentum and keep pushing up the table. Every match from here feels like a cup final, and every point matters.

Cambridge are a good side with threats going forward, but having played them already gives us confidence. There were a lot of learnings we took from that first meeting, both in how we managed their attack and how we created our own chances. Today is a great chance to put those learnings into action. The energy in training has been brilliant, and everyone's pushing hard to keep raising standards.

Finally, a massive thank you to all our supporters. It's brilliant seeing familiar faces in the stands week after week, and even better to see the numbers growing. Your energy makes a huge difference, and we hope to give you an entertaining match today, and, most importantly, a big win.

Come on you Bees!



Match Report

GWALIA UNITED VS LONDON BEES 3-2



Despite a hard-fought battle between two strong sides, the London Bees bowed out of the FAWNL Plate Cup after a narrow 3-2 defeat away to Gwalia United in South Wales.

The rain began to fall as the game got underway, setting the scene for a dramatic contest.

The Bees made a bright start, but it was Gwalia who struck first inside the opening five minutes after a well-taken effort from the edge of the box found its way into the bottom right corner.

Just a minute later, the hosts doubled their lead when a corner delivery reached an unmarked player at the back post, who headed home to make it 2-0.

Dan McKimm's side responded well, pressing high and creating chances in the final third.

Their persistence paid off when Lily Whitelock broke free down the flank and delivered a superb ball into the box, where Betty Larkin met it with a powerful strike to pull one back for the Bees.

The remainder of the first half proved to be an intense midfield battle, with both sides exchanging periods of possession.

Sam Lanza produced a moment of brilliance, driving through the centre and feeding Whitelock, whose effort was well held by the Gwalia goalkeeper.

Shortly before the break, Thea Budden was forced off with a slight injury and was replaced by Daisy Hind.

Half-Time: Gwalia United 2-1 London Bees

The hosts came out strong after the restart, applying early pressure and testing the Bees' back line.

Gwalia nearly extended their lead following a misplaced back pass, but the resulting effort flew over the bar.

At the other end, Larkin pounced on a defensive lapse to set up Sandra Martins, whose powerful strike narrowly missed the target.

Moments later, Gwalia broke free again after another defensive error, but goalkeeper Tia Ginn produced an excellent save to keep the score unchanged.

Despite the Bees' best efforts to find an equaliser, Gwalia added a third when a cross from the right deflected off Megan Burrows and looped into the net.

Looking to change things up, McKimm introduced Millie Isherwood to add an extra attacking threat.

The Bees pushed forward with intent, and Whitelock came close twice in quick succession, cutting inside and curling efforts towards goal, only to be denied by two strong saves from the Gwalia keeper.

Frustrations began to show late on as Isherwood received a sin bin from the referee and was sent to the side lines for the remainder of the match.

In the closing moments, Larkin struck again by finding space outside the box and firing into the bottom right corner to claim her second goal of the game.

Despite the late rally, time ran out for the Bees as the referee's whistle brought their FAWNL Plate Cup campaign to an end.

Full-Time: Gwalia United 3-2 London Bees

The London Bees will be back on home grounds next Sunday as they host Cambridge United for a 2pm league clash in the FAWNL Division One South East.

Lineup: Ginn (Roberts 80'), Heil, Martins (Isherwood 62), Durn, Lanza, Budden (Hind 41), Vigo, Larkin, Wozniak (Callison 76), Davidson (Burrows 45), Whitelock

Goals: Larkin (16, 90)



CAMBRIDGE UNITED

Cambridge United Women, often referred to as “The U’s,” are a long-standing and ambitious women’s football club based in Cambridge, England. Founded in 1992, the team has grown significantly over the decades and now forms an important part of the wider Cambridge United football structure. In recent years, the club has undergone organisational developments, including the establishment of a dedicated Women’s Football Board designed to strengthen governance, visibility, and long-term sustainability within the women’s programme.

The team competes in the FA Women’s National League Division One South East, the fourth tier of the English women’s football pyramid. Their home fixtures are primarily played at Rowley Park in St Neots, with select showcase matches held at Cambridge United’s Abbey Stadium. This dual-ground approach helps the club balance community accessibility with opportunities for large-scale matchdays.

Cambridge United Women place strong emphasis on development, pathway creation, and long-term growth of the women’s game. In 2023, the club restructured its setup to include both a

First Team and a newly formed Under-18s side competing in the Junior Premier League Warriors division. This move created a more streamlined and supportive progression route for young female footballers aspiring to reach senior levels.

The club is supported by a Women’s Board and dedicated staff, including leadership roles focused on strengthening strategy, youth development, and day-to-day operations. This governance model reflects a commitment to elevating the professionalism of the women’s game within the Cambridge United framework.

Competitively, Cambridge United Women have shown increasing ambition and resilience. A notable recent milestone was reaching the FA Women’s National League Plate final in the 2023–24 season — the club’s first national cup final. Though they fell short in the final, the achievement marked an important step in their competitive evolution.

With a blend of community values, player development pathways, and on-field ambition, Cambridge United Women continue to play a vital role in the growth of women’s football in Cambridgeshire.

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SQUAD LIST

Manager

Dan McKimm

(GK) Tia Ginn

(GK) Emma Roberts

Mira Hoteit

Aria Heil

Daisy Hind

Cheyenne Flynn

Ryah Vyse

Sandra Martin

Aimee Durn

Millie Isherwood

Sam Lanza

Megan Burrows

Thea Budden

Brionne Fowle

Francesca Vigo

Betty Larkin

Rebekah Wozniak

Sophie Davidson

Shamoy Campbell

Layla Kenly

Hayley Hoare

Ronnie Richards

Lily Whitelock

Isla Callinson

Match Officials

Referee: Philip Mayer

Assistant 1: Neil Jenkins

Assistant 2: Ella Squires