# **LONDON BEES**

VS RUGBY BOROUGH



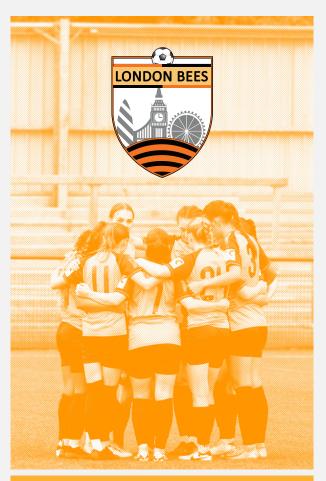
















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# CLUB HI/TORY

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.

A couple of disappointing seasons leaves the Bees in the fourth tier of Women's football but the summer saw a new era begin with Dan McKimm taking charge as head coach. The team sit 6th in the FA WNL Division One South east and are currently unbeaten in 8 games in all competitions.

# 2024/25













London Bees' 12 game unbeaten run came to an end on Sunday afternoon with Chatham Town taking all three points from the Bees Stadium.

Chatham took the lead in the opening minute when a mistake in the Bee's defence allowed the visitors to take charge of the ball before passing the ball to Lottie Sharp who slotted the ball into an empty net.

The visitors in their quest for the top spot tried their luck again when a left-footed shot from the edge of the box was saved down low by Tia Ginn. The first change of the game for the Bees came to Millie Isherwood but her shot in the 14th minute was kept out by Eligon in the Chatham goal.

A chance fell to the visitors again when they reclaimed possession in a dangerous area in the Bees half, the resulting shot from the number seven was held by Ginn.

The final shot of the first half fell to Campbell for the Bees who striked from outside the box but the ball flew wide of the left-hand post.

#### Half Time 0-1

Chatham came out the second half like they did the first, hungry for more they got their second goal when Amelia Woodgate got on the end of a loose ball from a corner to put her side two goals up. Campbell was first to have a go at goal for the Bees in the second half but her shot from the edge of the box flew high over the crossbar.

Chatham had a quiet second half following their second goal, their latest attempt at goal came in the form of a shot from outside the box which skied over the crossbar.

The Bee's best chance of the game fell to Lily Whitelock who got on the end of a fantastic ball from midfield before racing through on goal, her shot was well saved by Eligon.

Substitute Tambula had the ball in the back of the net with seconds to play, halving the deficit for the Bees but this proved to be nothing but a consolation as the referee blew for full time shortly after.

#### Full Time 1-2

**Lineup:** Ginn, Hoteit, Heil (Affri 59'), Lee (Tambula 45'), Durn, Isherwood, Lanza (Whitelock 59'), Burrows (Charles 70'), Wozniak, Campbell (Bartlett 59'), Hoare

**Goals**: Tambula (90 + 5').





# **RUGBY BOROUGH**

Founded in 1991, the club began in the West Midlands Regional League. In 1997, as Coventry City, they were promoted into the FA Women's Premier League Northern Division, where they stayed until relegation in 2002.

In 2002-03 the club developed closer relations with Coventry City F.C. while revamping and expanding the youth centre of excellence. In 2004 the club were promoted back to the FA Women's Premier League Northern Division but lasted only a season at the higher level.

After three consecutive runners-up finishes, Coventry won the Midland Combination again in 2010 - scoring 66 goals in 22 league games.

In July 2015 they merged with Coventry United and moved into the Butts Park Arena, home of Coventry R.F.C. April 2019 saw the side win the National League South, the third tier in the women's game, seeing them gain promotion to the FA Women's Championship.

In 2021 Steve Quinlan, Paul Marsh and Darren Langdon bought a 49% stake in the club. The club announced plans to liquidate on 23 December 2021 however the club never entered liquidation. The club's last fixture before the announcement on 23 December 2021 was a 1–0 home victory over fellow FA Women's Championship side, Watford. With a formal deadline set for 4 January 2022, investors Angels Group made a bid to acquire the club and clear the debts to ensure the club could complete the season. The offer was accepted, and the club was rescued although the FA handed down a 10 points deduction for triggering an insolvency event although the club did not officially enter liquidation.

Following relegation in 2023 the club relocated itself 15 miles out of Coventry and into Rugby before rebranding themselves as Rugby Brough FC.

# SQUADLIST

# **LONDON BEES**



### Manager **Dan McKimm**

- (GK) Tia Ginn 1
  - Mira Hoteit 2
    - Aria Heil 3
- Chloe Tambula 4
- Cheyenne Flynn 5
  - Sophie Lee 7
  - Aimee Durn 8
- Millie Isherwood 9
  - Sam Lanza 10
- Megan Burrows 11
- Millie Constantine 15
- Sarah McDermott 16
  - Aaliyah Charles 18
  - Olivia Bartlett 19
- Rebekah Wozniak **20** 
  - Inès Affri 21
- Shamoy Campbell 22
  - Hailey Hoare 24
  - Lily Whitelock 27
  - Alice Hughes -
- Destiny Rosier-Welsh -
  - Frankie Tilbury -
    - Faye Murphy -
- Portia-Milan Langley Wright -
  - (GK) Molly Baxter -
    - (GK) Mia O'Brien -

## RUGBY BOROUGH

#### Manager

#### Lee Burch

- 1 Anna Pedersen (GK)
- 2 Alanah Mann
- 3 Saskia Morris
- 4 Rhianne Rush
- 5 Mia Malone
- **6** Rhian Cleverly
- 7 Angelina Nixon
- 8 Mai Moncaster
- **9** Lily Greenslade
- 10 Ebony Wiseman
- 11 Lucy Wood
- 14 Nicky Potts
- **16** Meg Shaw
- 17 Freya Upson (GK)
- 18 Jess Camwell
- 19 Lucy Whipp
- 20 Emma Wallace
- 21 Katy Morris
- 22 Georgia Robert
- **27** Yasmin Mosby
- 29 Karesha Iton
- **31** Bethan Roberts
- **51** Kelis Barton

#### Match Officials

Referee: Francesca Catchpole

4th Official: Abi Oyeleke

**Assistant 1:** Rebecca Halford

Assistant 2: Olivia Brownlee

Observer: Ian Corner