

2023-24 SEASON GUIDE

BREAKING NEW GROUND

Last season began with us all feeling that tangible shift in momentum that the Lionesses' UEFA Women's Euro win brought to women's football.

More than a year on from that pivotal moment and with an electric summer of FIFA Women's World Cup action to add to the anticipation, we're set to enter another year fresh from celebrating tumbling records and landmark achievements across our domestic leagues.

With each season that goes by, we – you – continue to step the leagues up to new heights.

Last season saw 170% more fans attending Barclays Women's Super League games than the year before, while Barclays Women's Championship matches achieved a 75% uplift in spectators heading through the gates. Meanwhile, away from the stands, the Barclays WSL became the most followed women's professional football league in the world with over two million social media followers, with 36% more watching broadcasts across 188 international markets worldwide.

We're entering an exciting period of evolution for the top tiers of the women's domestic game as we transition the leagues towards a new and independent structure.

As that work continues throughout this season, we're looking forward to your input and collaboration as we continue to grow some of the most ambitious, compelling, and competitive leagues in football.

We are pleased to introduce you to our season guide for 2023-24.

Inside, you'll find a host of key facts and helpful stats about each of the 2023-24 campaign's competing clubs, including squad lists, contact details, and plenty of background on the league's rich history.

Our players, clubs, partners, media, and fans all continue to contribute in extraordinary ways to the growth of the Barclays Women's Super League and Barclays Women's Championship, and whatever part you have to play, we hope you find this guide useful.

Here's to another brilliant season.

Women's Professional Game Team





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	Barclays Women's Championship 2023-24 Clubs Birmingham City Founded 1968 Blackburn Rovers Founded 1991 Charlton Athletic Founded 1905 Crystal Palace Founded 1992 Durham Founded 2007 Lewes Founded 1885 London City Lionesses Founded 2019 Reading Founded 1871 Sheffield United Founded 1889 Southampton FC Founded 2017 Sunderland Founded 1879 Watford Founded 1881 Our Partners Barclays Women's Championship Broadcasters





2022-23 STATS





GOALS 2022-23

12

MELISSA JOHNSON
CHARLTON ATHLETIC

12 ARAH EWENS

JADE PENNOCK
BIRMINGHAM CITY

SARAH EWENS
LONDON CITY LIONESSES

SHANIA HAYLES
BRISTOL CITY

SAFFRON JORDAN
BLACKBURN ROVERS



ASSISTS

(8

ABIGAIL HARRISON
BRISTOL CITY

7

SHANADE HOPCROFT LONDON CITY LIONESSES

ATLANTA PRIMUS
LONDON CITY LIONESSES

AIMEE PALMER
BRISTOL CITY

ABBEY JOICE SUNDERLAND



CLEAN SHEETS

2022-23

13
FRANCESCA BENTLEY
BRISTOL CITY

10 af yañ

SHAE YAÑEZ LONDON CITY LIONESSES

KAYLA RENDELL SOUTHAMPTON F.C.

LUCY THOMAS
BIRMINGHAM CITY

TOTAL GOALS BY CLUBS

2022-23

30

BIRMINGHAM CITY

39



BRISTOL CITY

34



CHARLTON ATHLETIC

32



SHEFFIELD UNITED

LAST SEASON



271 PLAYERS WITH

14 DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES

LONDON CITY

LIONESSES



KEY DATES

17 JULY

26-27 AUGUST

14 SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

26 NOV - 9 DEC

1-31 JANUARY

23-24 MARCH

28 APRIL

FIXTURE LAUNCH **SEASON LAUNCH** **SUMMER TRANSFER WINDOW**

CLOSES

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

RAINBOW LACES

WINTER **TRANSFER WINDOW**

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL WEEKEND

END OF SEASON

ALL-TIME TEAM RECORDS

TOP 5 **MOST GOALS**







189

NUMBER OF CLUBS WHO HAVE PLAYED IN

THE BARCLAYS WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP







TOP 5 MOST WINS



88

















32

TOP 5

MOST CLEAN SHEETS



29



28

295

255

184

184

FIRST EVER MATCH

14 APRIL 2014

OXFORD UTD O - 3 LONDON BEES

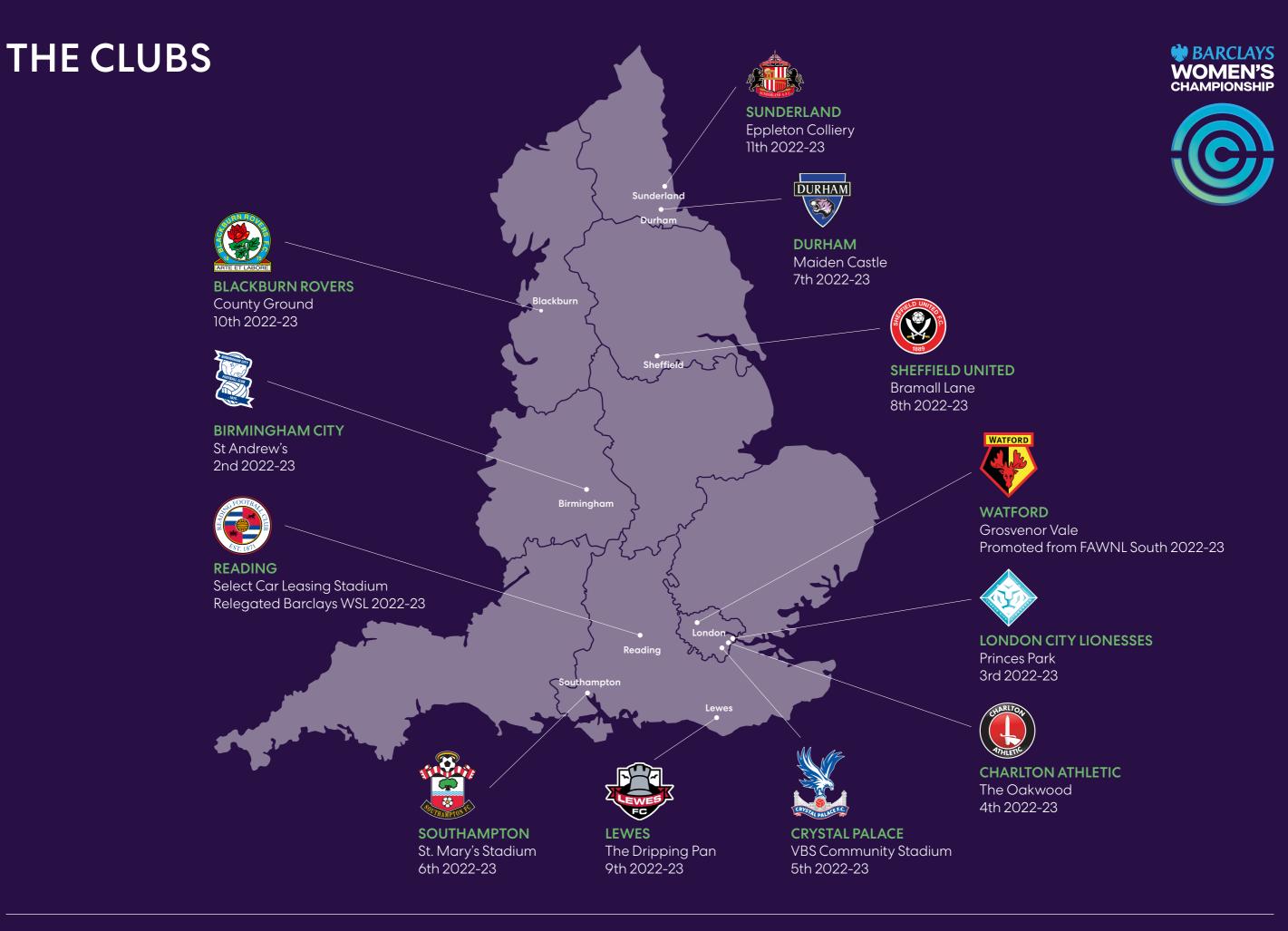
HIGHEST ATTENDANCE

SHEFFIELD UNITED V **LONDON CITY LIONESSES**

BRAMALL LANE, 20 NOVEMBER 2022

PREVIOUS LEAGUE WINNERS & TOP GOALSCORERS

2014 SUNDERLAND	2015 READING	2016 YEOVIL TOWN	2017-18 DONCASTER ROVERS BELLES	2018-19 MANCHESTER UNITED	2019-2020 ASTON VILLA	2020-21 LEICESTER CITY	2021-22 LIVERPOOL	2022-23 BRISTOL CITY
24 FRAN KIRBY READING	20 COURTNEY SWEETMAN-KIRK DONCASTER ROVERS BELLES	13 INI-ABASI UMOTONG OXFORD UNITED JO WILSON LONDON BEES	15 JESSICA SIGSWORTH DONCASTER ROVERS BELLES	17 JESSICA SIGSWORTH MANCHESTER UNITED	15 KATIE WILKINSON SHEFFIELD UNITED	19 KATIE WILKINSON SHEFFIELD UNITED	17 ABI HARRISON BRISTOL CITY	MELISSA JOHNSON CHARLTON ATHLETIC SARAH EWENS LONDON CITY LIONESSES



BIRMINGHAM CITY Founded: 1968

(i) @BCFCWomen











OVERVIEW

Key Information



Head Coach Darren Carter



Stadium St. Andrew's Stadium Birmingham B94RL

Capacity 29,409

Seasons in the league

Nickname **Blues**

STATISTICS

Key Club Facts



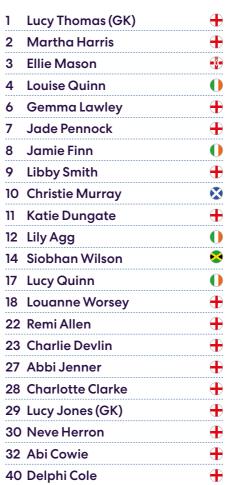
Women's FA Cup winners

Birmingham City Women won the Women's FA Cup for the first time in 2012, beating Chelsea 3-2 on penalties at Ashton Gate.

Head Coach Darren Carter wrote his name into the Club's history books as a player, scoring the winning penalty that sent the Men's First Team to the Premier League in 2002.

Jade Pennock won the Barclays Women's Championship Player of the Season award in 2022-23, becoming the first Blues player to do so.

SQUAD LIST



42 Layla Banaras

2023-24 Season







OVERVIEW Kit





Royal Blue/Royal Blue/White

Goalkeeper Home Black/Black/Black





Crimson/Black/Crimson

Goalkeeper Away Yellow/Yellow/Yellow



BLACKBURN ROVERS Founded: 1991

(i) @RoversWFC











OVERVIEW Key Information

Head Coach Simon Parker



Stadium Lancashire FA The County Ground Leyland PR25 2LF

Capacity 2,300

Seasons in the league

Nickname Rovers

Key Club Facts



Our pride

Ella Toone, Georgia Stanway and Keira Walsh all came through the Blackburn Rovers Academy system.

A club for the community

Blackburn were formed in 1991 as part of the Blackburn Rovers community programme and have been called Rovers "Ladies" up until this season, now having changed their name to Blackburn Rovers Women.

Blackburn won the National League North title three years in a row 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 seasons.

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season















Blue & White/Blue/Blue

Goalkeeper Home Black/Black/Black





Away Black/Black/Black

Goalkeeper Away Red/Red/Red



3rd Choice Green/Green/Green

CHARLTON ATHLETIC Founded: 1905

(i) @CAFCWomen











OVERVIEW Key Information



Head Coach Karen Hills



Stadium The Valley London, SE7 8AN The Oakwood Dartford, DA14DN

Capacity 27.111 / 1.000

Seasons in the league

Nickname The Addicks

Key Club Facts



Third time lucky

It took the Addicks three times until they could lift the FA Cup, losing to Fulham and Arsenal in the years prior. The Addicks claimed the biggest prize in women's football in 2005 when they beat Everton 1-0 in the FA Cup final at Upton Park.

Back in the Championship

Charlton secured promotion back to the Barclays Women's Championship in 2018 following a 2-1 win over Blackburn Rovers at Bramall Lane in the WPL play-off final.

Golden boot winner

Melissa Johnson was awarded the 2022-23 golden boot after netting 12 times in the Championship, tied with London City Lionesses' Sarah Ewens.

The women's team turned professional in the summer of 2021.

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season



OVERVIEW Kit





Home Red/Black/Red

Goalkeeper Home Light Blue/Light Blue/Light Blue





Black/Black/Black

Goalkeeper Away Acid Lime/Acid Lime/Acid Lime







3rd Choice White/Black/White





CRYSTAL PALACE Founded: 1961

(O) @cpfc_w











OVERVIEW Key Information



Head Coach Laura Kaminski



Stadium The VBS Community Stadium SM12EY

Capacity 5.000

Seasons in the league

Nickname The Eagles

STATISTICS Key Club Facts



Paige Bailey-Gayle made history in July 2023 as the first women's CPFC squad member to make a FIFA Women's World Cup.

Building on history

Crystal Palace can draw an established link back to the Crystal Palace football team founded in 1861, which played its first match in March 1862.

The connection makes Palace the oldest league club in existence still playing professional football, and founding members of both the Football Association and FA Cup.

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season



Kit





OVERVIEW



Red & Blue/Blue/Blue

Goalkeeper Home Green/Green/Green





White/Sky Blue/White

Goalkeeper Away Purple/Purple



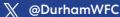
3rd Choice Black/Black/Black

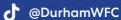


DURHAM

© @DurhamWFC

@DurhamWomenFC









OVERVIEW Key Information



Head Coach Claire Ditchburn



Stadium Maiden Castle Durham DH13SE

Capacity 1,800

Seasons in the league

Nickname The Wildcats

STATISTICS Key Club Facts



A fast evolving club

Durham were initially formed in 2007 as a single grassroots team but rapidly evolved - and the club were accepted into the second tier of women's football ahead of the 2014 season.

Lionesses legend

The Wildcats have a Lionesses Legend in their ranks, with forward Jess Clarke having made 52 international appearances for England. She scored 11 times, including at the 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup.

Durham's best-ever season came in the 2020-21 campaign, in which they finished second in the Barclays Women's Championship - only narrowly missing out on promotion.

SQUAD LIST 2023-24 Season











OVERVIEW Kit





Goalkeeper Home Black/Black/Black

Blue/Blue/Blue





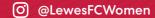
Away Black/Black/Black

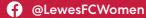
Goalkeeper Away Green/Green/Green



Goalkeeper 3rd Choice Yellow/Black/Yellow

LEWES Founded: 1885













OVERVIEW Key Information



Head Coach Scott Booth



Stadium The Dripping Pan Lewes BN72XA

Capacity 2,801

Seasons in the league

Nickname The Rooks

STATISTICS Key Club Facts



The gaffer

Scott Booth won 22 caps for Scotland, and later managed youth sides in the national set-ups before joining Glasgow City in the Scottish Women's Premier league where he led the team to six consecutive league titles, two Scottish Cups and one Scottish League Cup. He was awarded a place in the top 10 UEFA Women's Coach of the year in 2019.

The Dripping Pan

With picturesque white chalk cliffs of the South Downs at one end, the stadium has some stunning views, recently being voted No.1 in the "British Football's Greatest Grounds" book.

100% fan owned

Anyone can own a share in the club for as little as £50 per year. Lewes is the first semi-professional / professional football club in the world to have equal playing budget and resources across the men's and women's team.

In 2023, Lewes women's team reached their first ever FA cup quarter finals which was played in front of a club record attendance of 2.801.

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season











OVERVIEW Kit





Red with Black Stripes/Black/Black

Goalkeeper Home Blue/Blue/Black





Away White/Black/Black

Goalkeeper Away Grey/Grey/Black





3rd Choice Green/Green/Green

Goalkeeper 3rd Choice Yellow/Yellow/Black

LONDON CITY LIONESSES Founded: 2019

(i) @LondonCityLionesses

@LondonCityLionesses

@LondonCityLionesses





OVERVIEW Key Information



Head Coach Carolina Morace



Stadium Princes Park Dartford DA11RT

Capacity 4,100

Seasons in the league

Nickname The Lionesses

Key Club Facts



Golden Boot winner

Sarah Ewens (2022-23) is the first London City Lioness to win the Barclays Women's Championship Golden Boot, tied with Charlton Athletic's Melissa Johnson (12).

London City broke its attendance record three times in 2022-23, most recently against South London rivals Charlton Athletic on 2 April (424).

International class

London City Lionesses head coach Carolina Morace was the first woman to be inducted into the Italian Football Hall of Fame, after scoring 105 goals in 150 appearances for the Azzure. Carolina enjoyed a prolific career as a player, winning the Serie A title 12 times and scoring more than 550 goals for her numerous clubs. Carolina became the first woman to manage a professional men's football team in June 1999, leading Viterbese of Serie C.

London City Lionesses is the capital's only independent professional women's football club.

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season











Light Blue/Dark Blue/Dark Blue

Goalkeeper Home Pink/Black/Pink





Pink/Black/Pink

Goalkeeper Away Green/Black/Green





READING Founded: 1871











OVERVIEW Key Information



Head Coach Liam Gilbert



Stadium Select Car Leasing Stadium Reading RG2 OFL

Capacity 24,161

Seasons in the league

Nickname The Royals

STATISTICS Key Club Facts



A swift return?

Reading were promoted to the Barclays Women's Super League in 2015, winning the WSL 2 title after coming from behind to beat Aston Villa 3-2 on the final day. Since then, the Royals have been in the Barclays WSL (8 years) until they were relegated last season on the final day.

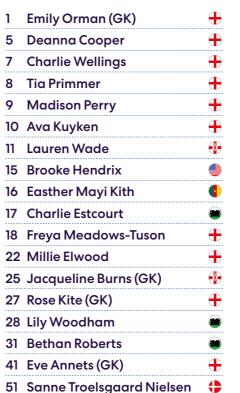
Farewell to a club legend

Kelly Chambers, now Cousins, is the club's longest servant having represented the Royals as a Player, Manager and Director of Women's Football for more than 20 years. This season will be the first season without Kelly at the helm since 2012.

Last season was a record-breaking year from the fans, setting & breaking four attendance records which now currently stands at just over 6,000. As well as seeing a record number of Season Ticket Holders, which grew by 700% from the previous year.

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season











Blue & White Hoops/Blue/Blue

Goalkeeper Home Yellow/Yellow/Yellow





Grey/Dark Grey/Grey

Goalkeeper Away Green/Green/Green





3rd Choice Purple/Purple

Goalkeeper 3rd Choice Black/Black/Black

SHEFFIELD UNITED

Founded: 1889

© @sufc_women

@SUFCWomen









OVERVIEWKey Information



Head Coach Jonathan Morgan



StadiumBramall Lane
Sheffield
S2 4SU

Capacity 32,000

Seasons in the league

Nickname

The Blades / United

Key Club Facts



Forged in steel

Sheffield United was originally formed as 'Sheffield United Community Ladies' by Blades legend Tony Currie in the 1990s as part of the 'United in the Community' project.

Championship record crowd

Sheffield United set the Barclays Women's Championship attendance record in November 2022 as 11,137 people watched the Blades face London City Lionesses at Bramall Lane.

Charlotte Newsham didn't miss a minute in the Barclays Women's Championship in 2022-23, winning Sheffield United's Player of the Season award.

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season

15 Tamara Wilcock

17 Sophie Haywood

22 Darcie Sugden-Brook

33 Bethan Davies (GK)

29 Fallon Connolly-Jackson

32 Juliet Adebowale-Arimoro

16 Chene Muir

18 Ella Kinzett

19 Alanta Brown

24 Rachel Brown



+

+

 \otimes







OVERVIEW

Kit



Home
Red & White Stripes/Black/Black

Goalkeeper Home White/White/White





Away
Teal & Navy Blue/Navy Blue/Navy Blue

Goalkeeper Away Teal/Teal/Teal





3rd ChoiceGold/Gold/Gold

Goalkeeper 3rd Choice Black/Black/Red

SOUTHAMPTON Founded: 2017

(O) @SaintsFCWomen

(f) @southamptonfc









OVERVIEW Key Information



Head Coach Marieanne Spacey-Cale



Stadium St Mary's Stadium Southampton SO14 5FP

Capacity 32,000

Seasons in the league

Nickname Saints Women

Key Club Facts



The Saints go marching in

Saints Women's FC was formed in the 2017-18 season and started off in the Hampshire County Women's Football League - back-to-back promotions brought them to the Championship in 2022.

Fans flock to St Mary's Stadium

In their first season of the Barclays Women's Championship, Southampton had the highest average attendance in the league for the 2022-23 season with a phenomenal 539% increase in attendance from the 2021-22 season.

Their manager Marieanne Spacey-Cale was a prolific footballer, finishing her career with 94 caps and 30 goals for England.

SQUAD LIST

24 Paige Peake

2023-24 Season















Red & White/Black/White

Goalkeeper Home Black & Yellow/Black/Black





White/Teal/Teal

Goalkeeper Away Pink/Pink/Pink





3rd Choice Black/Grey/Black

Goalkeeper 3rd Choice Teal/Teal/Teal

SUNDERLAND AFC Founded: 1879

(O) @safcwomen









OVERVIEW

Key Information



Head Coach Melanie Reay



Stadium **Eppleton Colliery** Welfare Ground Houghton le Spring DH59NA

Capacity 1,810

Seasons in the league

Nickname

Black Cats, Lasses

Key Club Facts



Lionesses history

The team has a long-standing history of producing England internationals, with Jill Scott, Steph Houghton, Demi Stokes, Jordan Nobbs, Beth Mead and Lucy Bronze the notable alumni from the Black Cats.

Inaugural champions

Sunderland Women were crowned the inaugural champions of the WSL 2 in 2014, now known as the Barclays Women's Championship.

Sunderland Women were founded in 1989, with the team originally being named the Kestrels.

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season











OVERVIEW

Kit





Red & White/Black/Red

Goalkeeper Home Yellow/Yellow/Yellow





Pink/Purple/Purple

Goalkeeper Away Peach/Orange/Orange





3rd Choice Lime/Lime/Lime

Goalkeeper 3rd Choice Blue/Blue/Blue

WATFORD

Founded: 1881

@WatfordFCWomen

@WatfordFCWomen

@WatfordFCWomen

@WatfordFCWomen





OVERVIEWKey Information

Head CoachDamon Lathrope



Stadium Grosvenor Vale Ruislip, HA4 6JQ Vicarage Road Watford. WD18 0ER

Capacity 4,085 / 22,200

Seasons in the league

Nickname

The Hornets. The Golden Girls

rtoy Crai

STATISTICS

Key Club Facts



Promoted

Following their 1-0 victory over Nottingham Forest in May 2023's play-off final and subsequent changes to promotion from the third-tier, Watford were the final side to achieve promotion from the FA Women's National League via the play-offs.

Full circle

Winger Gemma Davison returned to the Hornets in 2022 as a 10-time FA WSL winner, UEFA Cup winner and England international. The 36-year-old began her career in the Golden Girls' youth setup.

Watford's all-time top goalscorer Helen Ward is also Wales' highest-ever goalscorer, netting 44 times for the Dragons!

SQUAD LIST

2023-24 Season











OVERVIEW Kit





Home Black & Yellow/Black/Yellow

Goalkeeper Home Purple/Purple





Away White/Maroon/Maroon

Goalkeeper Away Crimson/Crimson/Crimson



TITLE PARTNER



Barclays has been providing banking services around the world for more than 330 years. For almost a third of that time, the bank has supported football, starting with its role as banker to The FA, and is still a partner of the Premier League, a partnership which has been in place for 22 years. Four years ago Barclays expanded its support when it became title sponsor of the Women's Super League.

Having recently renewed its sponsorship, the bank has doubled its original investment, breaking its own record for investment in UK women's sport. Barclays also became the first title sponsor of the Women's Championship last season, further strengthening the bank's support of the women's game.

Alongside its backing of the top flight leagues, Barclays is lead partner of Barclays Girls' Football School Partnerships and Barclays 'Game On'. Both of these initiatives will deliver the bank's goal of giving girls in England equal access to football in schools by 2024. Outside of schools, the Barclays Community Football Fund helps make football more accessible in communities across the UK, and brings more equality to grassroots football. In its inaugural year, it supported 2000 community groups across the UK, engaging over 268,000 young people in inclusive football activities.

Barclays is a British universal bank, diversified by business, by different types of customer and client, and by geography. The businesses include consumer banking and payments operations around the world, as well as a top-tier, full service, global corporate and investment bank.

All are supported by the bank's service company, which provides technology, operations and functional services across the Group. Over the coming years Barclays will continue to support football through its partnership with The FA and Premier League and by providing services to the football industry as a whole, building on relationships fostered over many years.

For more information on Barclays, please visit https://www.barclays/football

OFFICIAL BALL SUPPLIER



The FA is delighted to announce the continuation of Nike as the Official Ball Supplier of the Barclays Women's Super League (BWSL), Barclays Women's Championship (BWC) and The FA Women's Continental Tyres League Cup for the 2023-24 season.

The agreement sees the Nike Flight ball technology continue to be used when the Barclays Women's Super League and the Barclays Women's Championship kicks off.

Each competition has its own branded ball, while The FA Women's Continental Tyres League Cup will have a competition branded ball for the Final in March.

Breakthrough Aerowsculpt technology uses features on the surface of the ball to help air move around it more easily. That means less wobble in the air and a more stable, predictable flight path.

This 2023-24 season sees the first time Nike will bring the opportunity for the Barclays Women's Super League ball to be purchased at retail.

For further information about Nike, please visit www.nike.com/gb



BROADCASTERS

GRAVITYMEDIA

Gravity Media is The FA's production partner; Gravity is present at every Barclays Women's Championship match to capture footage. All highlights and full match replays are made available on The FA Player.



All matches in the first two rounds of the season are shown live; for every other round one match is shown live on The FA Player.

sky sports

The Barclays Women's Championship Show is shown on both Sky Sports and The FA Player.

WEBSITE



womensleagues.thefa.com

SOCIAL MEDIA



X @BarclaysWC





