



Hertfordshire FA



Women's Senior Challenge Cup Final 2024 **Royston Town v Watford FC Development**

Sunday 21st April 2024 3:00pm
The County Ground, Letchworth Garden City



Welcome to The County Ground



Our thirteenth County Cup Final of 2024

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to The County Ground, home of Hertfordshire FA for today's Women's Senior Challenge Cup Final.

Our congratulations go to the players and management of both Royston Town and Watford on reaching the final. We wish you the very best of luck for the match and hope you have a memorable day. We also want to acknowledge the officials of both clubs, whose hard work behind the scenes gives these players the opportunity to be part of the game.

Congratulations also to the match officials on your appointment to this game, you thoroughly deserve it and we hope you are able to enjoy the occasion.

Finally we are delighted to welcome Sian Williams, a treble winning captain for Arsenal and former England and Wales international, who will meet the teams before the game and also present the medals at the end of the match.

While you are here be sure to make the most of the facilities, including the Pitchside Cafe which is next to the main stand and will be serving hot and cold drinks, food and snacks throughout the day. Should you have a query, our staff will be happy to help you.

Our goal is to create a friendly and welcoming environment for all and therefore ask that you show your appreciation during and after the game in a positive manner.

Graham Phillips,
Chair, Hertfordshire FA

Hertfordshire FA Competitions Committee

Chair

Graham Phillips

Secretary

Paddy Donovan

Committee Members and Representatives

Steve Trulock, Graham Martin, Gary Hollingsworth,
Peter Waller, Bob Spooner, Alan Wilson

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Do you know how to help keep
your child safe in football?

[TheFA.com/PlaySafe](https://www.thefa.com/PlaySafe)



In partnership with
NSPCC

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Competition History



This is the 23rd Final of the Hertfordshire FA
Women's Senior Challenge Cup

Our Women's Cup was introduced in the 1999-2000 season, reflecting the growth in Women's football in the county. Great effort has been put into the development of the female game over many years and we are proud to have reached the stage where we have now been able to add a second Women's competition, making this our Senior Cup.

The first winners of this competition were Berkhamsted Town Ladies, defeating Welwyn Garden City Ladies 2-0. For the next decade Watford had something of a stranglehold on the cup, winning in eight seasons out of the next nine.

Arsenal's second-string then had a run of three successive victories, before Stevenage established their period of dominance in this competition, winning five of the last seven finals. Royston have featured in three previous finals and will be hoping to add their name to the trophy for the first time today. Watford will look to add to their impressive tally of previous cup victories, with the Development team having won in 2016 and 2019.

Today's match will be 45 minutes each way, with kicks from the penalty mark if necessary. Teams may use five substitutes from a list of five provided to the referee before kick off.

Recent Finals

The COVID pandemic caused the 2019-20 season to be cut short, with winning semi finalists Stevenage and Watford declared to have shared the competition. The Women's Cup was not run in the subsequent season before returning in 2021-22.

2012/13	Arsenal Reserves	2 - 0	Watford
2013/14	Leverstock Green	3 - 1	Royston Town
2014/15	Stevenage	3 - 0	Hemel Hempstead Town
2015/16	Watford Development	2 - 0	Stevenage
2016/17	Stevenage	4 - 0	Royston Town
2017/18	Stevenage	8 - 0	Hoddesdon Town Owls
2018/19	Watford Development	4 - 0	Stevenage
2021/22	Stevenage	3 - 1	Colney Heath
2022/23	Stevenage	2 - 2 (6 - 5)P	Royston Town

Club Profile

Royston Town



Ambitious side looking to continue on its upward trajectory of recent years

The team began life in 1998-99 playing under the name of Heath Sports and were managed by Graham Phillips (who at the time was also secretary at Royston Town). Heath Sports changed their name and became part of Royston Town Football Club in 1998 and were consistent in the Eastern Region Women's Football League.

Lewis Endacott was appointed manager of the team in 2013. That season was the start of a successful period where we finished runners-up in the ERWFL Division 1, reached the final of the County Cup and secured some silverware by winning the League Plate. In the 2014-15 season we finished runners-up in the league again for a second season running, whilst retaining the League Plate and finishing runners up in the League Cup.

Whilst there was no cup success in 2015-16, we improved our league campaign by winning the ERWFL Division 1 and gained promotion to the ERWFL Premier Division. Since then we have established ourselves as a competitive side finishing runners up in 2021-22, narrowly missing out on promotion. Having missed out by the finest of margins in last years County Cup, we would love to take it one stage further and lift the trophy this season.



League Season

Eastern Region Women's Football League, Premier Division

As at 16/04/2024

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Real Bedford	17	16	0	1	80	17	63	48
2	Haringey Borough	20	13	3	4	72	31	41	42
3	Royston Town	18	11	2	5	51	27	24	35
4	Wroxham	19	10	0	9	47	30	17	30
5	Luton Town	14	8	4	2	38	12	26	28
6	Barking	21	8	4	9	54	49	5	28
7	Stevenage	18	6	7	5	58	40	18	25
8	Needham Market	20	8	1	11	51	54	-3	25
9	Bowers & Pitsea	19	7	3	9	39	46	-7	24
10	St Albans City	20	6	3	11	28	45	-17	21
11	AFC Dunstable	18	4	2	12	18	51	-33	14
12	Kings Lynn Town	20	0	1	19	7	141	-134	1

Your analysis of the season so far...

Despite a slow start in the league, losing the first two matches away at Bowers & Pitsea and Haringey Borough, we have had a great season so far. We then picked up good points with a convincing win against Kings Lynn Town and a deserved point away at Luton.

After defeat to high flying league leaders Real Bedford we went on an impressive ten game undefeated run in the league, winning nine games and drawing one. In the Women's Senior Cup we defeated holders Stevenage in the quarter-finals and then eventually beat Harpenden Town 4-0 in the semi-final in order to reach the final hurdle.





Royston Town

Currently 3rd in the Eastern Region Women's
Football League, Premier Division

As at 16/04/2024

League Form

Games Won	11
Games Drawn	2
Games Lost	5
Goals Scored	51
Goals Conceded	27

Leading Scorers

19	Emma Slater
8	Jordanne Sillitoe
6	Charlotte South
6	Poppy Smith
5	Laura Mills

Route to the Final

R1		BYE	
QF	Stevenage	1 - 2	Royston Town
SF	Royston Town	4 - 0	Harpenden Town



Watford FC Development

Currently 4th in the Women's National League,
Reserve South East & Central Division

As at 16/04/2024

League Form

Games Won	10
Games Drawn	2
Games Lost	5
Goals Scored	46
Goals Conceded	24

Leading Scorers

16	Isabella Sturmey
7	Sophie Dionissiou
6	Lily Whitelock
5	Diana Tobe
5	Francesca Vigo

Route to the Final

		BYE	
QF	Watford FC Development	8 - 2	Wodson Park
SF	Watford FC Development	2 - 1	Watford Ladies Development

Club Profile

Watford FC Development



Development side looking to secure their third County Cup title in eight years

Watford FC Women Development forms an integral part of the wider club and has a proud history of developing young players who have later gone on to first team football either with Watford or other clubs.

We bring players through from our Emerging Talent and Player Development Centres and they are given an opportunity to compete not only in the FA Women's National League Reserve Division, but also in County Cup competitions such as this one.

Watford as a club holds a proud history in this competition and has won it on several occasions, the last of which was won by the Development team in 2019. The Women's First Team currently plays in the Barclays Women's Championship having been promoted from the FA Women's National League Southern Division in the 2022-23 season.

We look to develop players not only on the pitch but as people off it, too. We are a family club and pride ourselves on being inclusive and supportive to staff and players alike.



League Season

Women's National League, South East and Central Division

As at 16/04/2024

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Oxford United Development	16	15	1	0	75	7	68	46
2	MK Dons Development	17	11	3	3	70	36	34	36
3	Billericay Town Reserves	16	11	0	5	55	34	21	33
4	Watford FC Development	17	10	2	5	46	24	22	32
5	London Seaward Reserves	17	7	2	8	30	42	-12	23
6	Queens Park Rangers Res.	17	5	4	8	34	47	-13	19
7	Cambridge City Reserves	17	6	1	10	28	55	-27	19
8	AFC Sudbury Reserves	16	4	1	11	33	37	-5	13
9	Rugby Borough Dev.	18	3	3	12	34	77	-43	12
10	Maidenhead United Dev.	17	3	1	13	17	62	-45	10

Your analysis of the season so far...

It's been a positive first season for Head Coach Renee Hector. Results have been a little inconsistent at times, but the ability of the group is very high and our performances in Cup Competitions in particular have been really pleasing – reaching not only the Senior Cup final but we are also in the Quarter-Final of the Combined Counties Floodlit Cup.

We are aiming for top two in the league with a young squad, many who are experiencing adult football for the first time and their attitude and application has been excellent. The lack of experience has sometimes shown but generally speaking, the players should be very proud of themselves and their performances.

We have progressed really well through the season and have gelled as a squad, and we are looking to end on a high and hopefully with some silverware to round off what has been a very enjoyable season for this group.

When it comes to concussion, don't take chances

IF IN DOUBT SIT THEM OUT

BE CONCUSSION AWARE



RECOGNISE

understand signs
and symptoms
of concussion



REMOVE

anyone with suspected
concussion must be
removed from play



REST

players must refrain
from exercise and start a
Graduated Return To Play



For additional free resources including
England Football Learning's online
concussion course and guidelines
englandfootball.com/concussion



**ENGLAND
FOOTBALL**

Do You Know How to Help Keep Your Child Safe in Football?



Hertfordshire FA Designated Safeguarding Manager
Gemma Chaffey on how you can play your part

Safeguarding is about creating safe environments and preventing children from experiencing harm or abuse. Put simply, safeguarding refers to measures we take to protect our children - and keep them safe and well. Whether that's your kids, the opposing players or even the referee, every young person has the right to enjoy football.

The FA offer a short Safeguarding for Parents Course designed to help you to make an informed choice about the football setting you enrol your child in. It starts by explaining the importance of safeguarding in football and the child-centred approach the game takes.

It will then guide you through questions you should ask to ensure the club or venue where your children play has the correct safeguarding policies, people and practices in place. The course also highlights signs that should concern you – and how to report these concerns.



**Together we can help make football safe for all. Take the free
Safeguarding Awareness for Parents and Carers course today!**

bit.ly/HFA-SAC

Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

Don't wait for someone else to do something about it

A child or young person may inform you directly that they are concerned about someone's behaviour towards them. Or you may become aware, through your own observations or through a third party, of possible abuse occurring. Either way you need to report it.

If you have a safeguarding concern you should raise it with your Club Welfare Officer, or alternatively contact our Designated Safeguarding Manager. Please call Gemma Chaffey on 07538 990836 or email safeguarding@hertfordshirefa.com.

If you cannot contact one of the above or you are worried about a child outside of football, you can also call Children Services 0300 123 4043 or the NSPCC helpline 0808 800 5000.

If you believe someone is in immediate danger of harm, always call the Police on 999

What is SADA?

The SADA Domestic Abuse Service, which is a service for everyone, aims to signpost and support people experiencing domestic abuse



A domestic abuse liaison worker will signpost you to support to help with a number of areas:

- Fitting security features to your home
- Help with referral to other agencies
- Housing/tenancy support
- Support for access to legal advice
- Practical support for you and family members
- Emotional support
- Debt and benefit advice
- Friday morning virtual drop in support service



Contact details

Domestic Abuse Service
Community Safety Team
Daneshill House
Danestrete
Stevenage

 01438 242666

 SADA@stevenage.gov.uk

In an emergency always call the Police on 999
To report a non-emergency call 101



Hertfordshire FA County Cup Finals 2024



Saturday 23rd March 10:00am
Under 14 Girls Challenge Cup

Won by Hertford Town Girls

Saturday 23rd March 2:30pm
Under 15 Girls Challenge Cup

Won by Hitchin Belles Youth

Wednesday 27th March 7:45pm
Senior Centenary Trophy

Won by Hoddesdon Town

Friday 29th March 3:00pm
Junior Cup

Won by Sarratt Reserves

Sunday 7th April 10:00am
Under 18 Boys Challenge Cup

Won by Cheshunt Youth

Sunday 7th April 3:00pm
Sunday Intermediate Cup

Won by Brewster Plumbing

Tuesday 9th April 7:45pm*
Senior Challenge Cup

Won by St Albans City

Wednesday 10th April 7:45pm
Charity Shield

Won by Tring Athletic

Sunday 14th April 10:00am
Under 14 Boys Challenge Cup

Won by Sun Sports Youth

Sunday 14th April 3:00pm
Sunday Junior Cup

Won by Northaw Reserves

Sunday 21st April 10:00am
Under 15 Boys Challenge Cup

Stags vs St Albans City Youth

Sunday 21st April 3:00pm
Women's Senior Challenge Cup

Royston Town vs Watford FC Development

Sunday 28th April 10:00am
Under 16 Boys Challenge Cup

Sun Sports Youth vs Hemel Aces

Sunday 28th April 3:00pm
Sunday Senior Cup

WD Bushey vs Strafford Arms

Saturday 4th May 10:00am
Under 16 Girls Challenge Cup
Stevenage Starlets vs Hitchin Belles Youth

Saturday 4th May 3:00pm
Under 18 Girls Challenge Cup
Garston Ladies Junior vs Oaklands Wolves

Sunday 26th May 10:30am
Women's Trophy
Colney Heath vs Stevenage FC Development

Date to be confirmed*
Charity Cup
Potters Bar Town v St Albans City

Date to be confirmed
Intermediate Cup
Finalists to be confirmed

** All finals to be played at The County Ground, Letchworth, with the exception of the Senior Cup which is to be played at Top Field in Hitchin and the Charity Cup for which the venue is still to be confirmed*



V



Riana Badal
Amy Cooper
Erin Davies
Anneliese Georgiou
Lily Hall
Nicole Hendrick
Chloe Holt
Amy Houghton
Amy Josland
Tally Miles
Laura Mills
Jessica Morley
Ellie Pickard
Stacey Roper
Elle Sarter
Jordanne Sillitoe
Emma Slater
Emily Smith
Poppy Smith
Charlotte South
Emma Todd
Katie White

Manager: Lewis Endacott
Assistant: Gemma Cruickshank
Colours: White Shirt, Black
Shorts, White Socks

Georgia Brandon
Charlotte Byde
Stephanie Caseriu
Jessica Da Costa Monteiro
Sophie Dionissiou
Tegan Gibbs
Elsie Ellen Grant
Dominique Hampshire
Tiana McKenzie-David
Leah Shellard
Liana Sideras
Isabella Sturmeay
Chloe Tambula
Diana Tobe
Francesca Vigo
Aleksandra Werszko
Lily Whitelock
Bronte Young

Manager: Renee Hector
Assistants: Korey Eristhee, Ruby Jager
Colours: Yellow Shirt, Black
Shorts, Yellow Socks

Referee:
Rhys Stewart

Assistants:
John Haynes, Jacob Hamilton

Fourth Official:
Phillip Draper