



Kent FA

Official Programme

#MagicOfTheCup



Kent Women's Cup Final

Aylesford Ladies FC

V

Dartford Women FC

Tuesday 25 May 2021 - 19:45

Maidstone United, Gallagher Stadium, Maidstone

The Kent Football Association



Office open Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm
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Welcome to the Gallagher Stadium



Welcome to the Gallagher Stadium, for the Kent Women's Cup Finals.

A particularly warm welcome is extended to the players, officials and supporters of Aylesford Ladies FC and Dartford Women's FC. It is great to finally be able to complete the 2019-2020 Kent FA Cup Finals, something which we as an organisation were keen to complete despite the challenging past 14 months. It was important to us that we recognised the achievement of the players and club officials for their effort in reaching a Kent FA Cup final. This is their great day and represents a just reward for their efforts during the 2019-2020 season. We would also like to congratulate today's Match Officials for being honoured with their prestigious County Cup Final appointment as recognition for their exceptional performances. Finally, we would like to thank Maidstone United for the use of their excellent facilities today.

The past 12 months have been extremely challenging for everyone involved within grassroots football across Kent, and I am sure that the effects of the pandemic will still be felt in the grassroots game for some time. There will be some significant challenges for football in this county as we transition out of the pandemic and restart grassroots football, but with the vaccination programme and an ease of the lockdown restrictions, we hope that the 2021-2022 season returns to being a more 'normal' one.

As the governing body of football in Kent, the Kent FA aims to establish safe and structured football opportunities for the benefit of all. The Kent FA is committed to creating a culture of continuous improvement and working towards higher standards of service delivery to support football in Kent and ultimately provide a positive football experience to everyone.

People's perception of Kent FA often revolves around rules and regulation, but we actually do more than you think! Our diverse work includes widening football participation levels, raising standards so more people can enjoy football, delivering competitions and running representative football. This is all in addition to our vital work in governing the game in Kent. On behalf of the Kent FA we would like to wish both teams the best of luck today and most of all, that it is an enjoyable experience for everyone.

Darryl Haden, Chief Executive, Kent FA

“Congratulations to all involved in today's final. Whatever the result you should take great pride in your achievement in reaching this stage.”

Congratulations to the teams on reaching today's final! It's been a difficult and stressful time of late, however I am pleased and proud that we finally get to hold this delayed Cup Final.

The event today is the culmination of hours of practice, determination and fun so regardless of the result, we hope that everyone involved will enjoy the match and have a memorable day out.

I am proud of the work by all at Kent FA which has enabled teams and clubs from Kent to continue to participate in grassroots football and I thank my Kent FA colleagues, volunteers and staff, for their organisation of the competitions throughout the past two seasons and the final today.

Best of luck to all the teams competing today.

Denise Richmond, Kent FA Chair

Manager's Notes

Aylesford Ladies FC



On behalf of everyone at Aylesford I sincerely thank Kent FA for running the Competition and rearranging the final given all the challenges of the last year, and Maidstone United for hosting the final tonight; we hope to play our part in an entertaining match. Everyone associated with the team are thrilled to have reached our second Kent Women's Cup Final in four seasons. A County Cup final is always a highlight of the season and I'm sure this will be no different for both sets of players, coaching staff and particularly the return of supporters.

Dartford are one of the biggest Clubs in the County and have consistently been one of the stronger teams in the London & South East Regional League and will probably start as favourites. Paul and Connor have been great servants for the team over the years assembling a talented squad of players.

This will be our second appearance in the final for Aylesford and we are very much relishing the challenge of causing an upset. At the start of last season, it was one of the challenges we set the team and it's an indication of how much progress that we have made in a short space of time. For a village club like us, which is like a big family, opportunities like this are very special. Given the stop start nature of this season and some squad changes we've adapted really well, and this will be a great test of where we are as a team.

Both teams play in the London & South East Regional League, one below the National League, where we regularly compete against significantly bigger clubs, such as Fulham, QPR and Dulwich Hamlet. We have been growing as a Club with a focus on our women's and girls' section, with a successful Wildcats programme which starts from 5 years old, creation of girls' teams and a second team. Our second team in particular have surpassed all expectations, aside of earning promotion in their first season they have all brought into the ethos of the Club, in which we have already been able to hand some of the players first team experience and haven't looked out of place. We are very proud to currently have the highest ranked second team in Kent and they are led by an excellent coach in Joe Rowe, they have been a real credit to themselves and Aylesford.

I'm thankful that I have a great squad of players who have brought into our community club values and what we are trying to achieve. They make it easy to manage and they all deserve great credit for making the final. Our head coach James Gray has been invaluable since he joined the Club, showing such dedication and commitment and has made such a difference to the team as well as George White who has joined the team this season. We are against a strong team, but we will be going all out to win, and we have already shown this season that we can upset the odds.

The team would also like to say a massive thank you to the Club Committee for continuing to support the team and women's football in general. We would also like to mention players that helped get us to the final last season that have since moved on from the team, Rachel Ahern, Katie Waters, Charley Sanford, Terri Cranstoun and Lisa Fulgence.

Dwayne Ellis
Aylesford First Team Manager

Meet the Players

Aylesford Ladies FC

Sade Rider – Goalkeeper

Joined the Club this season and came through at Gillingham Academy. A very good shot stopper and lots of saves made this season proves that. Has made a real difference to the team and has put in some excellent performances.

Alex Witham – Centre Back

Tough tackling centre back who will do anything for anyone in the team with a never say die attitude. She has proved an integral part of our defence over several seasons. Very rarely beaten one on one and always gives absolutely everything to the cause, a real leader for us and pops up with goals.

Alison Draper – Left Back

One of the long serving players in the squad always puts in a good performance. Not many wingers get past her and her pace provides a real threat to opposition full backs. She can also play further forward comfortably. Alison's consistent performances have seen her name amongst the first on the team sheet. Club vice-captain.

Sian Cheedy – Centre Back

Joined the club last season from Thamesview and has been a rock since her arrival. An excellent reader of the game, a commanding presence and brings great experience to the squad. Another leader in the team who also has an eye for a pass. A former Welsh international.

Sasha Rudler – Centre Back

Joined the Club this season from Gillingham Development. Youngest player in the squad but shows a real maturity in her play which is beyond her years. Quick, brave, reliable defender who can hold her own in a physical battle. Comfortable on the ball and keen to keep the ball and start attacks from the back when she can. Quiet character but a welcome addition to the squad and one of our lead performers.

Stacey Glover – Right Back

Stacey is a long serving player for Aylesford. She can play anywhere across the back and loves defending, especially slide tackling. As brave as a lion she always gives 100% to the Aylesford cause. Has been having an excellent season and made the right back position her own this season.

Sydney Davis – Right Back

Sydney joined the team this season from Gillingham Development. A modern full back she loves to get forward and join the attack. She's been hampered this season with injury but a promising talent to look out for.

Kel Philpott – Central Midfield

Into her fourth season at the Club after joining from Glebe. Kel has been a really strong player in multiple positions this season, which is testament to her ability and experience. A real threat at set pieces, many teams have struggled to stop her in the air. Our very own James Milner.

Milly Penfold – Central Midfield

Signed this season on loan from Gillingham. Milly is technically an excellent player, with a superb range of passing, provides finesse to the team and has also claimed a few goals this season. She is capable of starting attacks from deep and can control the tempo of matches. Has a bright future ahead of her.

Lucy Dante – Central Midfield

Joined this season on loan from Gillingham. Covers an unbelievable amount of ground in midfield as a box to box defensive midfielder. Reads the game really well and a strong tackler, she's made a real impact on the team and there's more to come from her. Barely missed a game this season, and a valued member of the team.

Hannah Tyler – Central Midfield

Her second season at the Club having come from Gillingham Academy. Probably one of the fittest players in the squad and matched by her work rate and determination. Forced her way into the team with some impressive performances and has also chipped in with some important goals.

Rebecca Barr – Central Midfield (Captain)

Becks is everything you would ask for in a captain and a brilliant player. Longest serving player in the squad with 14 years at the Club. She is our top goal scorer and top for assists for us in this competition. She's our playmaker and technically one of the best players you'll see as well as being a real leader for the team on and off the pitch.

Annabelle Colston – Centre Forward

Signed this season after having a couple of seasons out of football but previously of Gillingham and Tottenham Hotspur Academy. She is an out and out centre forward and has been a great addition. A hard player to play against and gives defenders all sorts of problems with her strength and technical ability as well as her pace. She also has a great range of passing, can bring the midfield into play, leads the line well and is a constant goal threat.

Laura Brown – Centre Forward

Another long serving player for Aylesford. She's bagged a few goals this season including a hat trick in this Competition. She reads the game well and technically one of our best players. Quiet by nature but has a powerful strike and scores cracking goals.

Fiona Constable – Wide Forward

Third consecutive season at the Club since signing from Gillingham. Skilful on the ball and will find a pass when you think it's not on. She's capable of beating defenders and excellent at putting in dangerous crosses. Capable of scoring spectacular goals.

Beth Hulme – Wide Forward (Vice Captain)

Long serving player for Aylesford. She's been hampered by a couple of injuries this season but still among the top scorers. Quick, powerful forward who can create something out of nothing. Leads the line well and good in the air. Club vice-captain.

Amy Hagnes – Wide Forward

Joined the Club this season on loan from Gillingham. She's an honest, hardworking player who always gives everything for the team. A direct winger who loves running at players and getting into dangerous positions. She has put in good performances for us whenever called upon.

Abi Hearn – Defender

Joined the Club this season on loan from Gillingham. She's impressed in training and when called upon has not let the team down. A tenacious and determined player, she is difficult to shake off and never gives up.

Lily Bennett – Goalkeeper

Joined the Club last season from Gillingham Academy and currently at Bromley Academy. Her second season in adult football and she has a bright future ahead of her. Excellent shot stopper, technically proficient and is emerging as one of the strong characters of the team. When called upon she has not let the first team down. Growing vastly in confidence in her time with us.

Zara Chapman – Goalkeeper

Long serving member of the Club who can also play on pitch as a striker. A very good shot stopper and lots of saves made last season proves that. A unique character but great to have around the changing room and has a few clean sheets to her name last season.



V



Sade Rider 1
Sasha Rudler 2
Sian Cheedy 3
Alex Witham 4
Alison Draper 5
Lucy Dante 6
Rebecca Barr (C) 7
Stacey Glover 8
Beth Hulme 9
Kel Philpott 10
Fiona Constable 11
Milly Penfold 12
Abi Hearn 14
Sydney Davis 15
Amy Haynes 16
Hannah Tyler 17
Annabelle Colston 18

Jade Charlton
Emily Read
Issy Michalski
Elizabeth Adams (C)
Alicia Gibbs
Megan Mansfield
Kimberley Green
Emily Vaughan
Joanne Woodgates
Rebecca Burnham
Shauni Griffiths
Charlie Torry
Sacha Brinkley
Katie Butts
Georgie Davis
Rachel Stevens

Manager: Dwayne Ellis

Coach: James Gray

Colours: Blue & White Shirts / Blue Shorts / Blue Socks

Managers: Paul Taylor

Coach: Connor Dymond

Colours: Grey Shirts / Black Shorts / Black Socks

Referee:
Nicola Quayle

Assistant:
James Grimley

Assistant:
Callum Moore

Fourth Official:
Kelly Ryan



Road to the Final

Kent Women's Cup

Aylesford Ladies FC

First Round – Aylesford (AWAY) v Maidstone United Score: 1-4
Scorers: Becks Barr, Fiona Constable, Hannah Tyler, Lisa Fulgence

Second Round – Aylesford (AWAY) v Glebe Score: 0-2
Scorers: Alison Draper, Fiona Constabl)

Quarter Final – Aylesford (HOME) v Ashford Score: 3-2
Scorers: Becks Barr 2, Lisa Fulgence

Semi-Final – Aylesford (AWAY) v Gillingham Development Score: 1-3
Scorers: Becks Barr, Beth Hulme, Kel Philpott

Dartford Women FC

First Round – Dartford Women 10 Margate Ladies 0

Second Round – Bye

Quarter Finals – Herne Bay Women 0 Dartford Women 1

Semi Finals – Dartford Women 3 Gillingham Ladies 2



Manager's Notes

Dartford Women FC



A very big welcome to everyone here for tonight's cup final.

I must give a big thanks to the Kent FA for managing to get this delayed final played here tonight. Also a big congratulations to Aylesford for getting to the final. I am looking forward to a great game between our two teams.

Special thank you to Connor, Adele, all the back room staff and of course our Chairman for your continued support and commitment during a very difficult year.

I am so glad to be finally back training and playing.

To our supporters, you are the best.

Most importantly my team, you a bunch of very special ladies whom I am so very proud of. Your talent, attitude, loyalty, togetherness and sense of humour never fail to amaze me. You are a pleasure to manage.

Finally, I hope this is an exciting final with us brining the Cup back to Dartford FC.

Paul Taylor
DWFC Manager

“ Firstly I would like to say thank you to whoever involved in getting this event on, as both teams have waited so patiently to finally get the chance to play the final from last season. Especially in the manner we won the semi-final, for it to be delayed so long was heart breaking.

I know everyone at Dartford Football Club is rooting for us and you will see that in the support tonight.

The players have worked so hard over these past 2 years and fully deserve the chance to play this final out. If they play to the standard that me and Paul set them, they are in with a very good chance of winning the game and the trophy.

It has been a pleasure coaching this group of players and I wish them all the best.

Connor Dymond
DWFC Coach

”

Meet the Players

Dartford Women FC

Jade Charlton: Our number one. The back bone of our squad and a real social butterfly. We heard a rumour that Strongbow have changed the name of Dark Fruits to Jades Drink. Jade pulled off one of possibly the best saves we have ever seen against Gillingham to get us here tonight. Try not to break your wrist in this final please.

Issy Michalski: You can tell that not having 15 holidays last year has really taken its toll. The ski resorts must be near closure. Our disposable player who will give everything wherever she is on the pitch. Looking forward to seeing her match photos. Still holds the best goal line clearance for handball.

Charlie Torry: KARENNN. What a defender Charlie is. Can read a game through the palm of her hand. An incredible footballer who gives her all every single game and training session. Worries a lot about fines and getting fined. Is rather partial to a salt and pepper box.

Joanne Woodgates: Returning to the game this year and joining Dartford, you would have never thought she'd been away. Cool, calm and collected and one of the hardest working centre backs you'll ever meet. Adding depth and experience to our squad, even pops up with a goal or two.

Kimberley Green: A core part of the team now into her second season at the club. Kim is the master of the Cruyff turn and she'll go through you or round you and either way you will know about it. Has more trainers than goals, maybe tonight's the night she will pop up with something special.

Georgie Davis: Our only left footed player in the squad, and what a wand of a left foot. Works tirelessly for the team and is a fantastic club player. Will help with anything in and around the club, and is loved by many. Georgie does love a tackle, maybe a little too much.

Megan Mansfield: Megs could play anywhere on the pitch but she really is one of the best defenders you will see in the league. Meg can ping a ball better than half of the Premier league. Plagued by injury lately, hoping she will be fit enough to play a part in the game. The last time we was here she scored a worldie of a free kick from the half way line.

Rebecca Burnham: She does not stop laughing. Seriously does not stop. A great defender who does love a slide tackle. Becky is one of the most reliable footballers we have ever had. First round is on Becky tonight, heard she likes a drink or two.

Lizzie Adams: Our Skipper, Our captain, Our leader. The nicest human on the planet. The scorer of our winning goal against Gillingham which meant we could play in this final. An absolute workhorse, must be something to do with her family heritage/background.

Alicia Gibbs: Eats dohnuts for a living, or so I've been told. Considering this season she was going to struggle to play the majority of games, she has managed to play 80% of them. Our left wing, back post ninja, who scores such important goals. Just for heavens sake do not put her in goal, our previous encounter with Aylesford with Alicia in goal didn't go too well.

Emily Read: At least this final isn't in Eastbourne. The oldest player now in our squad. Any left backs worst nightmare, and the hardest working player in the team. Scores some of the most superb goals. She will end up one day strolling around Battersea giving dogs hugs. Paul O' Grady of the women's world.

Shauni Griffiths: PT extraordinaire and the reason many of us stayed fit during lockdown. Shauni is such a presence in midfield and such a threat once she is on the ball. Can hit a ball incredibly hard as Emily will testify. Just please if it's the last minute and we have a corner do not put it in the box, she will never live that decision down.

Emily Vaughan: New to the team this year, another Parkwood transfer and another great addition to the team. Put her out on the wing, number 10 or sweeper and the ball will stick to her like glue. Can time a tackle down to the last second, must be aware of that Snipper Em.

Sacha Brinkley: AKA 'Sexy Sach' her words not ours. A wonderfully gifted footballer who can see a pass with her eyes closed. Sometimes tries too hard. Loves a trick and a flick, not sure she has a left foot though. Has one of the best sense of humours, obviously dating a Karen is pretty funny.

Katie Butts: 'Yeh that's my ex' How many times do you think we have heard that? A wonderful winger that's full of pace and silky skills. Known for her lateness but hopefully she will turn up on time tonight and show you exactly what she is made of. Rachel Stevens: Rachel is another core member of the team now following her transfer a few seasons ago. The speed machine upfront or out on the wing, terrorising defenders and proving a constant threat in the box. The girl does like a moan though, would hate to be a defender when shes on one, chewing your ear off.

Nicha Dyett: Every defenders worst nightmare, Nicha is one of our newest additions to the squad. Strong, skilful and won't hold back. A pivotal part of our attacking force and leads by example in her commitment and passion every week. Seems to be the only player that enjoys the sin bin. Hope Nicha has packed her hat, scarf and gloves just in case it goes below 20 degrees.

Kelly Amerasighe: What a reserve goalkeeper to have in our ranks. A wonderful shot stopper, who jumps around like a crazy cat. The ultimate team player who will be incredibly glad to have in our squad.

Caitlin Hirst: Our little one, living the American dream. Was incredibly fitting that it would be a Gillingham Academy player to score within 30 seconds to knock them out the cup. Gives you everything you want in a striker, and we miss her dearly.

Rachel Ahern: Joined this season, has played a couple of times for us. A great footballer who hopefully next season we will get to see more of.

Sarah White: Our footgolf champion. A great footballer who can turn a game on a sixpence. Will be sorely missed over the next year.

Verity Snow Burgess: Have you retired or not? A true centre half that will always give her all. Age is no number for V and she has proved that season after season. A great role model for any young girl wanting to get into football.

Adele Pearce: 'Mums the word' the teams greatest supporter. Hopefully one day she will be able to put her boots back on, if she can bend down that far.

“ Hello! Congratulations to all the appointed match officials, who have been selected to officiate in today's County Cup finals. Being selected to officiate on a final-tie is an extremely prestigious appointment, and highlights the hard work, commitment and effort that they have all contributed over the course of the season. With 23 finals this season, we have appointed 92 match officials to final-ties, representing just 5% of all affiliated match officials within Kent. We also extend our appointment process to 23 selected Referee Observers and Mentors who are on-hand today to help encourage and support the development of the appointed match officials. Congratulations to all involved, and enjoy the occasion.

”

Nick Dunn, Referee Development Officer.



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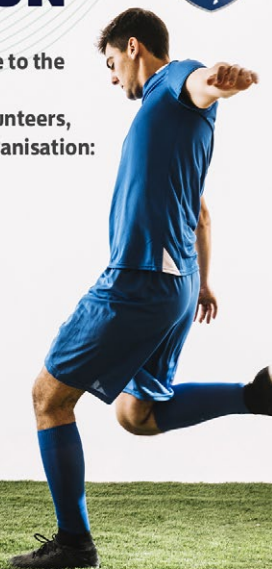


Kent FA are proud to work with a number of local businesses who contribute to the continued growth of football in the county. If you would like to give back to grassroots football in Kent, supporting over 51,000 players and 15,000 volunteers, there are a range of commercial opportunities available to you and your organisation:

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I missed three tackles, but coach
said I gave 110%.

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