Kent FA

Official Programme

#MagicOfTheCup



Kent Women's Plate Final

Maidstone United FC

V

Glebe FC

Friday 4th June 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 Women's Plate Cup Final.

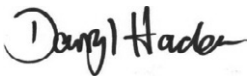
A particularly warm welcome is extended to the players, officials and supporters of Maidstone United Women and Glebe Ladies FC. It is great to finally be able to complete the 2019-2020 Kent FA Cup Finals, something which we as an organisation were keen to complete despite the challenging past 14 months. 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 Finals 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 both 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 these delayed Cup Finals.

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 matches 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 both teams competing today.

Denise Richmond, Kent FA Chair

Manager's Notes

Maidstone United FC



It has been a strange season for everyone involved with football - hence last season's cup finals being played at the end of this season!

I took over as first team coach at the beginning of this season but couldn't meet the players or train due to the first lock down. I accepted the role after being approached by John Jackson and bought into the vision he has for the women's team. We have similar football philosophies in how we want to play.

It's been a challenging season as I'm sure it has for everyone with working around the pandemic.

At the start of the season, we brought in a few players from the Development team and we had some mixed results as players took time to get used to how each other played. We played Glebe in the league and drew a tight game at their place 1-1. And I'm expecting a similar game tonight.

Then 'lockdown two' came along and put the brakes on everything !!!

Since coming back we have been able to get some consistent training in and performances have improved as the weeks have gone on. That is really credit to the players hard work and eagerness to play again and we are all looking forward to tonight.

Good luck to everyone involved this evening and thank you to the Kent FA for their hard work and effort to get this final played.

Andy Lane, Manager/Coach, Maidstone United Women

"It only takes a second..."

Due to the global pandemic, it has taken an unusually long period of time to arrive at this game. Time travelling jokes aside, the fact we are all here on a Friday in June in 2021 for the Final tie of the 2019-20 season Kent FA Women's Plate competition, speaks volumes!

However, and regardless of how long it has actually taken, please allow me to assure you that at around 4:15pm on a cold and wet Sunday, 26th January 2020, it seemed that not even an appearance by the good Doctor ("Who?") himself in his Tardis could possibly ensure the Stones would make it to this Final!

You see, at that time, and with just five minutes left 'on the clock' in our quarter-final tie away to Sittingbourne Ladies, the Stones were trailing the hosts by two goals to nil. In truth, I had already reconciled myself to the loss and my mind had moved on to consider tactics and team selection for the next league game.

I glanced behind me to where Gina - then a Development Team regular, who had volunteered to join up with the squad for the game - was sitting, patiently, on the bench in the dug-out.

"Warm up", I said, and Gina dutifully started to go through her stretching routine.

"Is it worth it?" Gina asked, with some justification.

"The experience is always worth it", I replied, not entirely convincingly; before adding, "Besides, it only takes a second to score a goal!"

Yes, when all else fails, you can always rely on a piece of Brian Clough wisdom to create the impression that you might actually know what you're doing!

At the next break in play, Gina entered the pitch, all dynamic energy and enthusiasm; and within 30 seconds she had halved the deficit with a rifled shot low into the corner!

This show of resistance from the youngest player in the squad seemed to inspire and rally the Stones team: players, who only moments earlier had appeared resigned to their fate, now sprinted back to the half-way line with a newly found sense of hope, belief, and purpose.

"How long, Ref?" I called to the match official.

"Four minutes", came the reply.

"It only takes a second to score a goal", I silently reminded myself!

From the restart, the Stones swarmed all over Sittingbourne, sensing (possibly a little over optimistically?) that a memorable victory was now ours for the taking!

A goal scoring opportunity came and went. And then, with only a minute left to play, another good chance was spurned as we blasted over the bar from close range.

"That's it, then", I thought to myself, fighting back the disappointment of forlorn hope and frantically attempting to recover any sense of reason and rationality.

But I'd forgotten about Cloughie...

From the Sittingbourne goal-kick, in one final act of defiance (and drawing upon energy supplies that could only have been borrowed from the following week's game!) the Stones players pressed high together and won the ball back in the opposition half. Incredibly, and with - quite literally - just seconds remaining ('Cloughie' time!), the ball was fed through to Charlotte who calmly slotted home to draw the game level at two goals apiece!

The referee's whistle blew immediately following the restart emphasizing exactly how near (or far!) we had come!

The result now seemed inevitable, and in extra time we played as we had throughout the season up to that point, scoring three more goals to ultimately secure victory by five goals to two and a place in the semi-final - once again, to be played 'away' - where we beat possibly our closest rivals, Margate, 3-1 to arrive here (somewhat belatedly!) today.

Whatever the outcome today, the players have been magnificent, and this final appearance is a deserved and fitting finale to two (interrupted) seasons of hard work.

We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and what they have achieved together...

"Come on you Stones!"

Congratulations to the players and coaching staff of Glebe Ladies on once again reaching the Final of the Kent FA Women's Plate competition.

Congratulations also to the match officials on their appointment to the game; and "thank you" for your work throughout the course of the season.

A special "thank you", also to Matt Dixon and everyone at the Kent FA for your commitment and determination in ensuring this Final could take place!

I would also like to thank our wonderful sponsors, Churchill Security Systems; Whitehead Monckton; and Europa Sports & Awards for their continued support and generosity during what has been an uncertain and difficult period - it is greatly appreciated!

And finally, I would like to place on record a vote of gratitude to the committee members and administrators of both clubs: without these volunteers, who work selflessly and tirelessly in the background, there would be no grassroots football - "Thank You !!"

Enjoy the game !!!

John Jackson, Season 2019-20 First Team Manager,
Head of Football Development, Maidstone United Women

Meet the Players

Maidstone United FC

Nicole Davies:
A great goalkeeper who has been ever present this season.

Ellisha Duffield-Goodyear:
Can play fullback or wingback on either side of the pitch.

Abigail Spragg:
The rock in our defence. Has the slide tackle down to a fine art.

Rachel Brewer:
A shoulder injury kept her out of the first part of the season. Very versatile, has played wing and centre back this year.

Megan Gill:
Injury has hampered her this season. A fullback or wing back who chips in with the odd goal or two.

Laura Howard:
Can play a variety of positions across the midfield. Protects the defence well when playing CDM.

Addy Kemp:
Has played in a variety of positions this year. Good in the air and chips in with some important goals.

Amanda Beeput:
Pacey and skilful striker who can score from anywhere in the opponent's half.

Charlotte Cresswell :
Attacking midfielder and captain who scores a goal or two.

Carly Farrow:
Striker whose movement terrifies defences. Top scorer so far this season.

Lucy Harrington:
Midfielder whose vision and passing is second to none.

Emma Harrington:
Fullback who can play on either side and who has put in some player of the match performances this season.

Gina Riley:
Central Midfielder who has been playing wide on the left to great effect and who has popped up with some great goals.

Alice Grandpierre:
A dynamic box to box midfielder. Tenacious in the tackle and good on the ball.

Beth Kemp:
Another who has played different roles this season. Mainly as a CB who likes to bring the ball out. Loves a header.

Abbie Skilton:
Central striker who has played on the right as well. Has scored some great goals and is second top scorer so far this season.

Keeley Butler:
Hampered by injury since the return. An energetic fullback who likes to get up the pitch.

Alex Ibaceta:
A right winger who loves to get forward and has a ferocious shot.

Amanda Beeput		1	Jody Lazell
Rachel Brewer		2	Lee-Anne Beaney
Keeley Butler		3	Katrina Li
Charlotte Cresswell		4	Laura Donnelly
Nicole Davies		5	Amy Davis
Ellisha Duffield-Goodyear		6	Jordan Springett
Carly Farrow		7	Jeanie Keable
Megan Gill		8	Cydney King
Alice Grandpierre		9	Hayley Irving
Emma Harrington		10	Sophie Jalowski
Lucy Harrington		11	Leana Ransom
Laura Howard		12	Ellie Beere
Alex Ibaceta		14	Alex Fagan
Addy Kemp		15	Danielle Brown
Beth Kemp		16	Katie Waters
Gina Riley		17	Hannah Fox
Abbie Skilton		18	Hannah McNamara
Abigail Spragg		19	Kathryn Esson

Manager:	Andy Lane	**Managers:**	Laura Donnelly
Coaches:	John Jackson, Darren Riley and Martyn Wilson	**Coaches:**	Rebecca Roberts and Sophie Longhurst
Colours:	Amber & Black Shirts / Black Shorts / Black Socks	**Colours:**	Red & Black Shirts / Black Shorts / Red Socks

Referee:	**Assistant:**	**Assistant:**	**Fourth Official:**
Jamie Turner	Paul Stevens	Phil Gower	Wayne Cooksey

Road to the Final

Kent Women's Plate

Maidstone United FC

1st Round: BYE

2nd Round (Away): Maidstone United vs. Sheppey Angels Women
Score: 0-10

Quarter-final (Away): Maidstone United vs. Sittingbourne Ladies
Score: 2-5 (AET)

Semi-final (Away): Maidstone United vs. Margate Ladies
Score: 1-3

Glebe FC

Semi Final: Glebe Ladies AWAY to Bromley Ladies
Score: 2-1 to Glebe
Scorers: Natalie Graves, Leana Ransom

Bromley came to the game as the favourites based on their current performances in the Greater London Women's League. Bromley dominated the first half and Glebe held on to enter the break with only a narrow deficit of 1-0. In a complete contrast to the first half, Glebe found a new energy and determination and deservedly equalised through Nat Graves. Glebe continued exerting their authority on the game and took the lead, albeit through a little bit of luck, when Leana Ransom closed down the goalkeepers kick and managed to deflect the ball into the net. Glebe had their backs against the wall for the last 10 minutes of the game, however they worked tirelessly to prevent an equaliser and deservedly progressed through to the final.





Manager's Notes

Glebe FC



After what has been an unprecedented and strange time for us all, Glebe Ladies are so happy to be able to play in the rearranged Kent Plate Final. In what seems a lifetime ago, we beat a very strong Bromley side in the semi-final to set up a repeat of the 2018/2019 Kent Plate Final versus Maidstone Women. Both sides are very familiar with each other and whenever we meet it is always a fiercely competitive match.

Over the past year or so, we have seen our club attract new players and grow into a very good footballing side. To be able to name a full squad of 18 today just goes to show the progress that is being made at our club. As a club we are very much looking forward to today's game and, unlike the last time we met in the final, hope that luck is on our side!

The team would also like to say a massive thank you to our sponsors Mark Aldridge and GLOSTER DYNAMIC DRIVEN MEP for helping sponsor the Ladies with their kits this season. Gloster MEP provides highly complex engineering solutions and is a specialist in providing fast-track mechanical and electrical fit-out.

Laura Donnelly,
Glebe Ladies Manager

Meet the Players

Glebe FC

Jody Lazell - Keeper
VET. Still playing and jumping around like a spring chicken.

Ellie Beere - Centre Back
Begged to play as a striker, she failed miserably. An outstanding, strong tackling defender.

Lee-Anne Beaney - Centre Back
Captain, Leader, Leg-end. Own goal maestro.

Hannah McNamara - Right back
Goalkeeper converted to right back. Possesses the sweetest strike of a football.

Laura Donnelly - Left back
Attacking left-back, forever overlapping on the wing. Completes the most sprints per game.

Leana Ransom - Left mid
Shot conversion rate is second to none. Must be something to do with the quads.

Alex Fagan - Centre Mid
New recruit. Banter still to come.

Cydney King - Centre Mid
'Ginger Wizard' - but still waiting to see the magic.

Katie Waters - Right Mid
Would be lethal if she could shoot. Or pass. Or run. Or head the ball.

Jordan Springett - Striker
Calming influence on the team. Must be her inner hippy.

Jeanie Keable - Striker
Plays when she wants. Scores when she wants. Bit of a myth but also a legend.

Kathryn Esson - Centre mid/Goalkeeper
Kat by name Cat by nature in-between the sticks.

Katrina Li - Centre mid
Forever barking orders to the team, forever being asked to be quiet.

Hannah Fox - Right mid
Loves to run. And run. And run. And run. Including to the bar after the game.

Sophie Jalowski - Striker
International signing. International superstar.

Hayley Irving - Right mid
Quick, intelligent, skilled, exquisite.... But enough about her banter.

Amy Davis - Centre back
New recruit. Head and shoulders above the rest.

Danielle Brown - Left back
Dedicated. First to arrive and last to leave training.

“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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