

THE ROBINS REVIEW

Official Matchday Programme



Vs SWINDON TOWN WOMEN | Thursday 26 August 2021 | 7:45PM Kick-off | FA Women's National League



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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



Welcome to the first of two home fixtures under the lights this season as we host the players, fans and staff of Swindon Town who make the short hop north on the A429 for this local derby.

Swindon have opened with two 1 – 1 draws, initially against AFC Bournemouth, then this past weekend away at Portishead Town. Previous encounters have always been close, and an evening kick off always seems to intensify the occasion.

We kick-started our own season after the long trip to Poole on Sunday. Four good goals and a clean sheet representing an outstanding performance from the first whistle! Exeter are currently leading the way this early in the season, and both tonight, and the trip to Devon at the weekend, will see the league start to take shape.

The FA Women's National League have confirmed that there will be the usual one

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team promoted and two relegated following the different approach taken over the last two seasons curtailed due to Covid19.

We are delighted to have announced the new partnership with Burlow Engineering, producers of high quality engineering components in Cheltenham. Burlow have sponsored the Ladies training kit, and join main shirt sponsors The Financial Fitness Group in providing valuable support to the club. We continue to seek additional sponsors to help us cover the ever increasing costs of running a Tier 4 organisation.

Season tickets are still available and now at £35, and cover all league and cup games, including the recently announced home draw against Southampton FC from Tier 3 in the FA WNL League Cup Determining Round.

Tonight also represents a for the club as the game will be streamed live. If you struggle to make games, or have friends and family that do, then you can find us on Joymo.tv via the Joymo app or the link embedded on our website, www.ctlfc.com/livestream/ for the same price as a match ticket.

As always, enjoy the game and thank you for your support!

Andy Liddle,
Chairman



MANAGER'S MUSINGS

Good evening and welcome to The Corinium Stadium as we host our second fixture and our first of the season under the lights.

Following last week's disappointment, we've managed to bounce back after our opening fixture vs Southampton Women. We took stock as a group, learnt lessons, and used it as additional motivation for the season moving forward which was highlighted with our performance against Poole. We were able to give a much better account of ourselves, playing some fantastic football but also limiting the hosts to a few chances which is something coupled with the clean sheet that added extra value to our win.

However, this is the starting point for our season ahead as we continue to improve by connecting our new group together each game and hopefully start to welcome back a couple of our players from the injury table. It's been difficult with the number of injuries we've had from the beginning of pre-season, but this is something we've used to give players within our club opportunities. We've been able to give 9 players their debuts, including three players stepping up from the Development Team, which is fantastic for the club and the pathway we're building.

Additionally, I'd like to congratulate Holly Rogers on working her way back from

“ I'd like to congratulate Holly Rogers on working her way back from so many challenges... to make her first start since returning to the club, last week against Poole. A destination only Holly could have predicted three months ago, which highlights her strength, resilience, and belief within herself. ”

so many challenges, bumps in the road and setbacks to be able to make her first start since returning to the club, last week against Poole. A destination only Holly could have predicted three months ago, which highlights her strength, resilience, and belief within herself.

I'd like to welcome Swindon Town Ladies, Jamie Lloyd-Davies and his staff, players and supporters tonight. This derby has all the makings to be a fantastic occasion, with so many talented players on show from both sides. Previous meetings between the two clubs have been close and hard fought which has made for an exciting football match, so here's to one more!

Enjoy the game tonight, Tom.

MATCH REPORT

Cheltenham Town Ladies 1 – 3 Southampton Women



Watson, Hallsworth, Walecki, Colley (Jones 54), Butler, Criddle, Bevan, Liggett, Legall (Rogers 44), Haynes, Wathan.
Subs not used: Dix, Goodwin, Donnelly.

Parker, Cheshire (Reid 88), Mear, Tucker, Okoro (Lawrence 78), Wheeler (Osbourne 90+5), Wernham (May 70), Whitlock (White 70), Wylie, Samuels, Jeal



Cheltenham Town Ladies fell to an opening-day defeat against Southampton Women in the club's first game at their new home in Cirencester.

Two Sian Wylie goals in a matter of minutes had given the visitors a half-time lead that reflected the pattern of play, but the Robins came back firing after the break.

They came close on several occasions, before a fortuitous third goal for Southampton knocked the stuffing out of Cheltenham. However, Lacy-Jai Liggett did get one back in the last ten minutes to give the team some positives to take away from the performance.

It was a new-look starting 11 selected by Tom Davies, with Amy Wathan, Monet Legall, Lois Colley and Aimee Watson among the debutants.

The game at the Corinium Stadium began with Southampton on the front foot, and Rachel Okoro and Hannah Samuels both came close.

The visitors continued to enjoy more of the ball, and took the lead when Emily Wernham drove towards the byline, pulled the ball back, and after her initial effort was blocked, Wylie found the net at the second time of asking. The shot had just enough power on it after more valiant defending.

Just a couple of minutes later, Wylie found the net again as Samuels got down the left and put in a low cross that was confidently finished by the striker. Cheltenham started to get a foothold in the game after Aliss Wheeler was denied a third by the offside flag, but they suffered another blow just before half-time as new signing Legall had to be substituted.

It was nearly the perfect end to the half for Davies' side, but Billie Haynes' (pictured) expert turn and shot came off the post to ensure the two-goal deficit remained at half-time. Another unfortunate moment for the hosts saw Lois Colley pull up on the edge of her own box,

leading to a one-on-one chance for Rachel Okoro, but the Southampton player missed the target.

Once again, the Robins responded well to adversity as Haynes played in substitute Holly Rogers, whose shot was well-saved by Ellie Parker.

After a teasing ball into the box went all the way through, Southampton went up the other end and scored a third as the rebound from Wylie's effort was cleared straight into Emily Wernham and it bounced into the net. Cheltenham had a couple more efforts through Liggett and found their goal on 85 minutes as Rogers played an excellent through ball for the former rugby player, who finished well past Parker.

The Robins ended the game well, threatening to get another back, but a couple of stoppages in the final moments halted their momentum.

CHEL TENHAM TOWN

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MATCH REPORT

Poole Town Ladies 0 – 4 Cheltenham Town Ladies



Chrippes, Collinson (M. Kemp 55), Fisher, Kelly (Acott 71), King (G. Kemp 65), D. Maidment, Moody, Norman, Witherington, Wyatt (A. Maidment 65).

Watson, Hallsworth, Goodwin (Walecki 75), Butler, Criddle (Jones 66), Barbour-Gresham, Bevan, Liggett, Rogers (Donnelly 75), Haynes, Wathan
Subs not used: Hayward.



A 4-0 win away on the south coast sealed Cheltenham Town Ladies' first victory of the season on Sunday.

A dominant performance with goals from Amy Wathan, Billie Haynes, Abby Bevan and debut goal for Georgie-Marie Barbour-Gresham enough for all three points.

The Robins created considerably more chances than their hosts and barring a couple of Poole chances at the end of the first half, the result never looked in doubt.

Cheltenham now sit fifth in the Women's National League Division One South West after the first two rounds of fixtures.

Manager Tom Davies made three changes to the side that were beaten by Southampton Women on opening day. Barbour-Gresham and Angelina Goodwin made their competitive debuts, while Holly Rogers started for the first time since returning from injury. The trio replaced Ellie Walecki,

Monet Legall and Lois Colley from the first game, with Tamzin Hayward earning a place on the bench.

Cheltenham came close to a very early opener as Haynes' corner came off the bar, before Charlotte Criddle set up Rogers with a couple of excellent through balls, both of which were saved by Sam Chrippes.

Rogers again almost found the breakthrough as she had an effort cleared off the line, with Lacy-Jai Liggett and Bevan also going close in the early stages.

The goal came on 22 minutes, and in some style, as new signing Wathan took aim from all of 25 yards and found the net effortlessly.

Liggett and Haynes then tested the Poole 'keeper as the Robins looked for some breathing space.

Poole almost got back on level terms just before the interval with a speculative strike from distance catching the post, and

Aimee Watson being forced into action for the first time a couple of minutes later.

Despite trailing at the break, Poole continued their momentum at the start of the second half, with a shot from a narrow angle hitting the side netting. However, the energetic Haynes doubled Cheltenham's lead on 53 minutes, driving into the area and firing across the goal from 12 yards out.

Rogers then did well to create an opening on 61 minutes, but her shot went over. The third goal came soon enough, though, when Bevan elegantly lobbed Chrippes from the edge of the area.

Liggett forced another save, before Wathan was denied from close range as the clock ticked over 90 minutes. In added time, Cheltenham found a fourth as Barbour-Gresham got on the end of Haynes' corner and headed into the net expertly.

DEVELOPMENT TEAM

There's just something magical about a game under the floodlights isn't there?

I suppose it helps when the midweek games all tend to be against more local opposition, like Swindon. It just adds a bit extra to what is already an electric derby. These fixtures have always been tight in the past, providing drama like only a local derby can – let's hope that tonight carries on that tradition!

Talking of drama the Development Team had their first pre-season friendly last week, facing Cardiff City U19's down at Gloucestershire FA's HQ in Almondsbury. It was great to get some minutes in the legs, and although pre-season games aren't always about the result, it was nice to run out winners, 6 – 5.

“I'm delighted that Becky made her [First Team] debut off the bench. Becky has had a two or three seasons with the Dev side and there is something so rewarding about seeing somebody's hard work paying off. ”

It's not every day you see an eleven goal thriller, even in pre-season. Fingers crossed we won't see too many during the season either, for the sake of my nerves!

On the mention of competitive football, it was fantastic to see Hannah Dix named amongst the substitutes for the Southampton game, and Becky Donnelly and Tamzin Hayward named on the bench at the weekend against Poole, and I'm delighted that Becky made her debut off the bench. Becky has had a two or three seasons with the Dev side and there is something so rewarding about seeing somebody's hard work paying off. Hopefully the Dev players can keep fighting for their opportunity going forward!

Our next pre-season game will be back in Cheltenham on the 31st of August, at Cheltenham Saracens' Petersfield Park, and then it's head-first into the new league season on September 5!

If you're not able to make a First Team game in Cirencester this season, I know the Dev Team girls would really appreciate your support – so you can still support Cheltenham Town Ladies and get your football fix, it's two birds with one stone!

For now though, it's all about the local derby. Have fun, and enjoy the game this evening!

**Simon Galpin,
Development Team Manager**

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Cheltenham Town Ladies FC



2021/22 FIXTURES

FIRST TEAM

DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Date	Opposition	Score
15 Aug	H Southampton Women	1-3L
22 Aug	A Poole Town	0-4W
25 Aug	H Swindon Town*	-
29 Aug	A Exeter City	-
5 Sept	H Larkhall Athletic	-
12 Sept	H Southampton FC (LC)	-
26 Sept	A Maidenhead United	-
29 Sept	H Portishead Town*	-
24 Oct	WFAC 3 rd Qual. Round	
31 Oct	A Chesham United	-
14 Nov	H AFC Bournemouth	-
21 Nov	H Buckland Athletic	-
12 Dec	A Southampton Women	-
9 Jan	H Poole Town	-
19 Jan	A Swindon Town*	-
30 Jan	H Exeter City	-
6 Feb	A Larkhall Athletic	-
20 Feb	H Maidenhead United	-
23 Feb	A Portishead Town*	-
27 Feb	H Chesham United	-
13 Mar	A AFC Bournemouth	-
20 Mar	A Buckland Athletic	-

Date	Opposition	Score
5 Sept	H Weston Mendip	-
19 Sept	A Weston-super-Mare	-
26 Sept	H Almondsbury	-
3 Oct	A Bristol Ladies Union	-
10 Oct	H Bristol Rovers	-
24 Oct	A Downend Flyers	-
31 Oct	H Frampton Rangers	-
7 Nov	A Oldland Abbotonians	-
14 Nov	A Weston Mendip	-
21 Nov	H Weston-super-Mare	-
28 Nov	A Almondsbury	-
5 Dec	H Bristol Ladies Union	-
12 Dec	A Bristol Rovers	-
9 Jan	H Downend Flyers	-
16 Jan	A Frampton Rangers	-
23 Jan	H Oldland Abbotonians	-

*7:45pm kick-off.

(LC)/(LP) = League Cup/Plate | (FAC) = FA Cup

Development Team home fixtures to be played at Petersfield Park.

Home score always comes first on results. Fixture details subject to change.



TODAY'S TEAMS



Cheltenham Town Ladies

Manager: Tom DAVIES

Aimee WATSON

Lauren ELLIS

Sammy HALLSWORTH

Mai BUTLER

Cerys DOLLOWAY

Lois COLLEY

Monet LEGALL

Georgie-Marie BARBOUR-GRESHAM

Holly FINCH

Courtney JONES

Charlotte CRIDDLE

Annabel DAVIES

Lacey-Jai LIGGETT

Abby BEVAN

Billie HAYNES

Holly ROGERS

Amy WATHAN

Tamzin HAYWARD

Swindon Town Women

Manager: Jamie LLOYD-DAVIES

Meghan ATTENBOROUGH

Chenise AUSTIN

Kathryn BACH

Anna BARNES

Stephany BENT

Alice BOWDEN

Annabelle COLSTON

Helena DIAZ-BUTCHER

Grace EAGLES

Honor FRASER

Kaylen GERKEY

Natalie GOODRIGHT

Jessica GRAHAM

Jennifer GRAY

Danielle HULL

Amy LEASK

Rianne LEWIS

Emily MCGROGAN

Sophie MITCHELL

Kirsten RENDALL

Victoria TAYLOR

Alice TELLING

Gipsev VIVEASH

Referee: Daniel Forrester

Assistant Referees: James Lewis & Keith Simpson



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