



Hertfordshire FA



Under 16 Girls Challenge Cup Final 2023
Watford FC CSE Trust v Knebworth Youth

Saturday 29th April 2023 10:30am
The County Ground, Letchworth Garden City



Welcome to The County Ground



Our ninth County Cup Final of 2023

Good morning and a warm welcome to The County Ground, home of Hertfordshire FA for today's Under 16 Girls Challenge Cup Final.

Our congratulations go to the players and management of both Watford FC CSE Trust and Knebworth Youth 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 both club's volunteers, 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.

While you are here be sure to make the most of the facilities, including our licensed cafe serving hot and cold drinks, food and snacks which is next to the main stand. 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.

Tony Butler,
Chair, Competitions Committee

“ ***Congratulations to all involved in today's final,
whatever the result you should take great pride in
the achievement of reaching this stage*** ”

Hertfordshire FA Competitions Committee

Chair

Tony Butler

Secretary

Paddy Donovan

Committee Members and Representatives

Steve Trulock, Gary Hollingsworth, Peter Waller, Ken Coniam,
Graham Phillips, Graham Martin, Richard Dowden

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Competition History



This is the 17th Final of the Hertfordshire FA
Under 16 Girls Challenge Cup

The Hertfordshire FA Under 16 Girls Challenge Cup was introduced in the 1997/98 season, reflecting the growth in girls playing across the county. This was the first time there had been County Cups specifically for girls in Hertfordshire and was introduced alongside Under 14 and Under 12 competitions. Cups for the 'odd' age groups would follow in 2005/06.

The early years of the competition were dominated by Bushey Rangers, who won four of the first five titles and they remain the club that has won this trophy most times. There then followed a number of years when there were not enough teams for a viable competition. This reflects the fact that while the younger age groups thrived as female participation grew, there remains a challenge in keeping girls involved in the game through to adult.

More recently this situation has improved significantly and the competition has flourished, with an Under 18 Girls County Cup competition also being added in Hertfordshire for the first time this year. The last few finals have all been close affairs and hopefully we can look forward to another exciting and competitive match today.

Today's match will be 40 minutes each way, with kicks from the penalty mark if necessary. Teams are permitted roll-on/roll-off substitutes.

Recent Finals

The COVID pandemic caused the 2019/20 season to be cut short, with winning semi-finalists Stevenage Boro Juniors and Wodson Park declared to have shared the competition. The Under 16 Girls Cup was not run in the subsequent season before returning last year.

2010/11	Bedwell Rangers	3 - 2	Watford Ladies
2011/12	Hemel Hempstead Girls	6 - 0	Harvesters
2013/14	Watford Ladies	3 - 1	Bury Rangers Youth
2015/16	Watford Ladies	5 - 1	Harvesters
2016/17	BSCFC	5 - 1	St Albans City Youth
2017/18	Garston Ladies	3 - 2	Watford Ladies
2018/19	Watford Ladies	1 - 1 (3 - 2)P	St Albans City Youth
2021/22	Meninas	1 - 0	Watford Ladies Youth

Club Profile

Watford FC CSE Trust

Charity arm of Watford FC dedicated to improving lives and enhancing communities



Watford's Community Sports and Education Trust has a proud history of engaging with our communities through sport, physical activity and learning on behalf of Watford Football Club. Our mission is to make a positive difference for all through sport, physical activity and learning, through our values of innovation, inclusivity, and integrity.

Our communities include Hertfordshire and Harrow but we are continuously exploring new and exciting ventures to expand the Watford FC family. Currently employing over 60 members of full and part-time staff, 80 members of sessional staff and over 50 active volunteers, all with a passion for making an impact to the lives of those we engage.

Our girls pathway has gone from strength to strength over the past four seasons and this season introduced its Under 16 squad into competitive football for the first time as part of the 'Junior Premier League' as part of their recent expansion into girls football.

This has already led to the progression of five players through to the Watford FC Women development squad this season. The Under 16's have provided a brilliant inspiration to the more than 200 players who are currently in the pathway.



League Season

Junior Premier League Warriors U16 Blues Division

As at 23/04/2023

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Leicester City Women	15	13	0	2	97	20	77	41
2	Crystal Palace FC Women	13	9	2	2	54	14	40	29
3	Watford FC	13	8	2	3	33	16	17	27
4	HFR Haringey Girls	12	8	2	2	47	13	34	26
5	Tottenham Hotspur Women	15	7	7	1	45	45	0	22
6	Millwall Lionesses	15	3	8	4	26	37	-11	13
7	Notts County Women	13	3	9	1	30	52	-22	10
8	West Ham United Girls	14	2	11	1	17	57	-40	7
9	Bournville FC	14	1	13	0	12	107	-95	3

Give us your analysis of the season so far...

A newly constructed team at the start of the 2022/23 season, this year has seen the U16 squad consistently compete in matches against some of the top teams in the country.

The team is currently sitting third in a division consisting of clubs such as Leicester City, Tottenham Hotspur, West Ham United and Crystal Palace to name a few. The girls are a pleasure for us to coach and drive their own standards throughout, whilst wanting to improve and be the best versions of themselves.

Every one of these players has contributed something positive to this season and I am sure that will be the case once again in today's final. Whatever the result we hope that the players, officials, and supporters of both clubs enjoy their experience today, on what should be a memorable occasion for all.

RAISING STANDARDS

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Meet the Players

Watford FC CSE Trust



Tells us about your squad....

Rebekah Dowsett

A commanding keeper, Rebekah is a big presence in between the sticks. She gained international recognition in last November when she made her debut for England WU16 team at St Georges Park.

Isabel Doolan

A natural centre-half, she takes everything that is asked of her on board. Looks to initiate play from deep and is comfortable in possession whilst also having a knack of being in the right place at the right time.

Sophie Birkett

Having mostly played as a defender up until this season, Sophie is now deployed mainly in defensive midfield where she can exhibit her composure and range of passing combined with her tough tackling.

Yasmin Dixon

Team captain who leads by example. Just loves to defend and takes real pride in all that she does. Has also confidently made the step up to the senior development squad in the second half of the season.



Jasmine Yamani

A valuable part of the team's defence and a vocal presence both on the pitch and from the sidelines. Jas is a reliable left sided defender who drives the team on with her clear communication.



Georgia Brandon

A dynamic and skilful midfielder, with an eye for a telling pass. The distances she covers in fixtures is amazing. Now a regular for the development squad in the FAWN, she's the glue in the middle of this squad.

Torri Keen

A player that is equally comfortable positioned out wide as she is just behind the forwards. Torri possesses outstanding technical ability in possession of the ball and is capable of the outrageous.

Serafina Chew-Siegel

Unfortunately Seri has had her season disrupted heavily by injury, and so has been greatly missed by the team. Nevertheless remains one of the best passers of the ball in the squad.

Isabelle Smith

Isabelle is a player who loves to take players on and has the ability to finish from various distances. She is also likely to be found recording the team dances.

Francesca Vigo

Calm and composed, Fran plays a vital role for the team in possession. A regular scorer from midfield this season, she's another who has stepped up to the development squad. Is also the changing room DJ.

Charlotte Byde

Wide player who excels in one on one situations, she will look to take players on whilst also excelling in her defensive duties. She has also been part of the England ISFA Squad for the past two seasons.

Isabella Sturmey

A forward with the ability to use both feet, who works hard for the team both in and out of possession. Sturmey is the most recent U16 to progress into the senior development squad.

Summer-Lily Squires

An attacking midfielder who is a consistently hardworking player with a fantastic attitude. Summer has contributed with some important goals this season.



Sabina Peterson-Rajalingam

A disciplined midfielder who possesses great technical ability who likes to dictate the tempo of matches. Sabina also has a knack of contributing fine goals.

Melissa Porter

A versatile defender, Mel has improved almost every aspect of her game this season. She can play anywhere across the back line and can also be relied upon to play in midfield if required.

Sophie Mabbs

A tireless presence on the flanks, she's a constant handful to play against. Scorer of some important goals, she's another to have made appearances for the senior development squad this season.

Isabel Sosa

Having joined the squad slightly later than the rest of the players, Isabel has still made some fantastic contributions to the team, none more so than scoring the opening goal in the Semi-Final.

Charlotte Davey

A good shot stopper, Charlotte's season has been disrupted by injury. Now fully recovered she will be looking to end the season strong and show everyone the quality we know she has.



Watford FC CSE Trust

Currently 3rd in the Junior Premier League
Warriors U16 Blues Division

As at 23/04/2023

League Form

Games Won	8
Games Drawn	2
Games Lost	3
Goals Scored	33
Goals Conceded	16

Leading Scorers

22	Isabella Sturmey
14	Francesca Vigo
12	Sophie Mabbs
11	Isabelle Smith
7	Sabina Peterson-Rajalingam

Route to the Final

R1		BYE	
R2	Watford Ladies Youth Hornets	3 - 5	Watford FC CSE Trust
QF	Watford FC CSE Trust	9 - 0	Oaklands Wolves
SF	Watford FC CSE Trust	3 - 0	Watford Ladies Youth Warriors



Knebworth Youth

Currently 2nd in the Hertfordshire Girls Football
Partnership League, U16 Division 1

As at 23/04/2023

League Form

Games Won	11
Games Drawn	0
Games Lost	2
Goals Scored	53
Goals Conceded	16

Leading Scorers

24	Daniella Coello
23	Ruby Sellek
22	Katie Boyle
13	Jessica Poulter
13	Millie Grima-Stacey

Route to the Final

R1	Berkhamsted Raiders Youth	A - W	Knebworth Youth
R2	Knebworth Youth	8 - 0	Goffs Oak Girls
QF	Knebworth Youth	6 - 0	Watford Ladies Youth Harts
SF	Knebworth Youth	3 - 2	Royston Town Youth

Meet the Players

Knebworth Youth

Tells us about your squad....



Lucy Fox

This is Lucy's first season with us, and she has fitted in perfectly. She's a great shot stopper and developing more as a keeper every day. She commands her area well and plays with a fantastic attitude.

Maddy Baumeister

An awesome defender, Maddy has been a part of the team from the start and her development has been incredible. After a long period out through injury she has come back more determined than ever.

Ivy Rose-McGregor

A defender who has the physical attributes and appropriate attitude for the role. She is tall, strong, and always ready for a battle with the forwards. Calm on the ball and always playing with a smile on her face.

Olivia Milton

A player who is strong, vocal, and always happy to get her head on the ball when required. A leader on the pitch, Liv will organise the defence and do what it takes to keep the forwards at bay.

Jasmine Cooper-Pearson

Calm, composed and comfortable on the ball, Jasmine is always looking up for that pass through to the midfielders that will take the team forward and turn the play from defence into attack.

Ella Lacey

Player with a great engine and a willingness to do the hard work for the team. Strong, fast and plays with a never stop attitude. Always wants the ball so she can run and create the goals.

Isabelle Wright

Izzy is always willing to put the team first, whether playing at the back or midfield she is always ready for the battle and gives 100% in every game. Composed, strong with a great eye for an incredible pass.

Harrie Devine

Sitting in front of the defence Harrie reads the game well and can always be relied upon to be alert to the danger. Strong, confident, and always looking to get that ball to forward players.

Katie Boyle

With her combination of lightning pace and great skill, you can see why she scores so many goals. Whether playing on the wing or up front Katie will want the ball ready to create some magic

Jessica Poulter

Skilful, composed along with a never stop attitude makes Jess the fantastic player she is. Whether it's scoring a goal or creating an assist, she is always involved in the attacking play.



Daniella Coello

Been with the team from the start, Dani has developed into a fantastic player. She has skill, vision, composure and her goal tally says it all, being top scorer for us for many seasons down the years.

Millie Grima-Stacey

A player who is strong, competitive and prepared to battle to the end. Always wanting the ball and looking to either score or create an assist for another in her team. Has a great eye for a goal.

Jo Wardle

Unfortunately, Jo was injured at the start of the season but is now back working hard to get back to where she left off. A player who is fast, composed and if you give her the chance to score ... she will!

Ruby Sellek

Ruby's first season with us but has slotted in very well and it feels like she's been a part of the team for years. Extremely fast, she's always alert and ready to get in behind and score goals. One to watch.



Club Profile

Knebworth Youth

Club with a proud history of serving its local community with football opportunities

Knebworth Football Club, was originally formed in 1901, while Knebworth Youth FC was formed in 1977 and incorporated into the adult club in 2013.

The Youth Club first achieved FA Charter Standard status in 2004 and went on to pick up the Hertfordshire FA 'Club of the Year' in both 2006 and 2008. Further hard work and continued development saw the club achieve the coveted FA 'Development Club' status.

Today Knebworth FC offers youth football to over 430 young players aged 4-18 in both girls, boys and mixed teams of all abilities, alongside two Saturday men's teams, one men's veterans team and a women's team. Our aim is to give young footballers from across our community the foundations for a lifetime love of the game.

All of our coaches hold FA coaching qualifications, First Aid and Safeguarding certificates, and have been DBS checked. We have over 120 volunteers, whether coaches, coordinators, or committee members, in the youth section of the Club alone.

We are very proud of our current 3 Star Accreditation from England Football. The club continues to grow year on year and in the past three years we have seen our girls football offer grow from two to six teams and we continue to expand.



League Season

Hertfordshire Girls Partnership League, U16 Division 1

As at 23/04/2023

	P	W	D	L	PTS
1 Oaklands Wolves FC	16	11	2	3	35
2 Knebworth Youth	13	11	0	2	33
3 BSC FC Youth	14	9	2	3	29
4 Watford Ladies Youth Hornets	12	8	1	3	25
5 Goffs Oak Girls	14	6	2	6	20
6 Watford Ladies Youth Harts	15	4	1	10	13
7 Chorleywood Common Youth	13	3	3	7	12
8 Hillingdon Abbots	14	3	0	11	9
9 Bedwell Rangers Youth	13	1	1	11	4

Give us your analysis of the season so far...

It has been a great first season as the Knebworth Tigresses, having previously played as Stevenage Borough Juniors Lionesses and made the switch between clubs in the summer.

After finishing second in the league last year with only losing one game and being beaten in the Semi-Final of the County Cup, the girls were looking to go a step further and win the Division One title this season and reach the final of the County Cup.

They currently have the title of the league in sight, achieved their goal of making the final of the County Cup and are also in the League Cup final in May. These girls only get to train once a week for 50 minutes and play a game on a Saturday morning so we make sure we work on as much as we can in the timings we have.

The girls are fantastic and have a great attitude towards football and their coaches. Many of them have played together for years and deserve to be where they are today. We want to say thank you to both the girls and parents for all the support you have given the team this year. So good luck girls. Go out there and enjoy yourselves.



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Now raise it again
Stay Accredited*

Guest of Honour

Michelle Chandler

Hertfordshire FA Board Member and Chair of two local grassroots leagues



I have been a Council Member of Hertfordshire FA since 2018 and from this season joined the Board of Directors. I first got involved in the game through my children when my daughter wanted to play. I was Chair of a local club, before starting up my own Ladies team which is now Harpenden Town Women where I am still the Secretary.

I am also Secretary for the Oaklands Wolves girls teams and Chair of the Hertfordshire Girls Partnership League and the Beds & Herts Women's Football League. Outside of football I run my own business with my husband as a full-time job and otherwise pretty much all of my remaining hours are devoted to grassroots Football.

Having been actively involved with the Women's and Girls game in Hertfordshire for more than 10 years now, I am proud of how it has grown over this time. Within the HGFPL, myself and the Committee remain committed to growing and improving what we offer, with almost 6,000 young people signed and playing this season alone.

We are delighted to welcome Michelle to today's final where she will meet the teams before the game and also present the medals at the end of the match.

Today's Match Officials

Charlotte Hindmarch (Referee)

It's a pleasure to be given the opportunity to officiate in the Cup Final. It's my fourth season refereeing and I mostly do women's and girls leagues to help the game grow! I'm looking forward to a brilliant game.

David Benson (Assistant)

I'm a huge football fan with three lads who play so can understand how much today's game means for all involved. Reaching a County Cup Final is a great achievement, so best of luck and hope you enjoy the day.

Oliver Rich (Assistant)

I've been a ref for the last two years and really enjoy it. I'm looking forward to officiating a Cup Final, having already had the pleasure of officiating youth games for the likes of Watford and Arsenal.

Ruben Munday (Fourth Official)

I have been refereeing for just over a year and have enjoyed the experience very much and look forward to officiating more games such as this in future. Best of luck to both teams and my fellow officials.



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The Decision maker.

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ENGLAND FOOTBALL

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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 2023



Join us for more exciting action as our competitions reach their climax

Wednesday 15th March 7:45pm Intermediate Cup

Won by Hemel Hempstead Rovers

Wednesday 22 March 7:45pm Senior Centenary Trophy

Won by Ware Sports

Saturday 25 March 2:30pm U18 Girls Cup

Won by Watford Ladies Youth

Wednesday 29 March 7:45pm* Senior Challenge Cup

Won by Berkhamsted

Friday 7 April 2:30pm Junior Cup

Won by Sun Sports Rovers

Sunday 16 April 2:30pm Sunday Intermediate Cup

Won by Brookmans Park

Sunday 23 April 10:30am U15 Boys Cup

Won by Baldock Town

Sunday 23 April 2:30pm Women's Cup

Won by Stevenage FC Women

Saturday 29 April 10:30am U16 Girls Cup

Watford FC CSE Trust v Knebworth Youth

Sunday 30 April 2:30pm Sunday Junior Cup

FC Emperors Head v Glenn Sports

Sunday 7th May 10:30am U16 Boys Cup

Ware FC Academy v Harpenden Town

Sunday 7th May 2:30pm U18 Boys Cup

Cheshunt v Hemel Hempstead Town

Saturday 20 May 10:30am U14 Girls Cup

Watford Ladies Youth v Bedwell Rangers

Saturday 20 May 2:30pm U15 Girls Cup

Watford Ladies Youth v Hitchin Belles Youth

Sunday 21 May 10:30am U14 Boys Cup

Ware FC Academy v Cheshunt Youth

Sunday 21 May 3:00pm Sunday Senior Cup

Borehamwood Rovers v St Josephs South Oxhey

* All finals to be played at The County Ground, Letchworth with the exception of the Senior Challenge Cup which is being held at Theobalds Lane, Cheshunt



V



Rebekah Dowsett

Isabel Doolan

Sophie Birkett

Yasmin Dixon

Jasmine Yamani

Georgia Brandon

Torri Keen

Serafina Chew-Siegel

Isabelle Smith

Francesca Vigo

Charlotte Hyde

Isabella Sturmey

Summer-Lily Squires

Sabina Peterson-Rajalingam

Melissa Porter

Sophie Mabbs

Isabel Sosa

Charlotte Davey

Lucy Fox

Maddy Baumeister

Ivy Rose-McGregor

Olivia Milton

Jasmine Cooper-Pearson

Ella Lacey

Isabelle Wright

Harrie Devine

Katie Boyle

Millie Grima-Stacey

Jessica Poulter

Daniella Coello

Ruby Sellek

Jo Wardle

Manager: John Ryan

Assistant: Elliott Jealous

Colours: Yellow Shirt, Black
Shorts, Yellow Socks

Manager: John Boyle

Assistant: Lee Milton

Colours: Orange Shirt, Black
Shorts, Black Socks

Referee:
Charlotte Hindmarch

Assistants:
Oliver Rich, David Benson

Fourth Official:
Ruben Munday