

Bristol Ladies Union FC Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2019



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Chairman's Piece:

Welcome to a new season with Bristol Ladies Union FC, The BLUs! A particular welcome to all our new players, whether that is girls playing competitive league football for the first time at U10s, or those joining us from other clubs in older age groups. I hope that you really enjoy playing football for us and that you have a long association with the club and girls and women's football.

This summer, the club was keen to capitalise on a successful 2018/19 season and the wonderful Women's World Cup in June and July. Many of you will have heard my call for volunteers and a new sponsor at the end of season party, and I am delighted to confirm our new shirt sponsor, Unleashed Software -<https://www.unleashedsoftware.com/> - who have committed to sponsor the club for the next ten years. Thank you so much to the company and to all those who have made this transformational deal possible. You should all start seeing the new logos appearing on team shirts over the course of the next couple of months.

We have also had a couple of volunteers for key roles, notably a Kit Manager, Anna Sice, and a Child Welfare Officer, Lucy Cripps; thank you to them for stepping forward. However, we still need a new Treasurer, a Club Secretary and a Volunteers Coordinator. These roles are not too onerous, so if you think you can help your club please do get in touch. Without new volunteers, we will not be able to facilitate football as we do.

BLUFC goes from strength to strength: we now have a full complement of teams, from U9s Sunday training all the way through to the oldest age group - U16s - in the Bristol Girls League; a Development Team in the Gloucestershire County Women's League and a 1st Team in the South West Women's Football League. Good luck to all players and coaches for the 2019/20 season!

Justin

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Under 11s news

One new addition to the squad for this season. Mima Brotherton joins us after training with us last season. She has had a fantastic start so looking forward to seeing how she progresses.

We continue to focus on long term development so it's been a tough start in division A so far but a great challenge for the girls. Already some exciting games with results not always going our way, although thoroughly deserved! and we have currently won 1, drawn 1 and lost 3.



Every game will be very competitive this season so interesting to see how the girls do, so an exciting season ahead...

(Thanks to Les Abraham)



The night we got over the line

Under 13s news

BLU U12 Champions!!!

Wow last seasons under 12s certainly finished with a flourish. At one point the title appeared to have slipped from their hands before they went on an incredible streak of 7 straight wins conceding only 3 goals!!!

I think what I was most proud of was the reaction from other teams. I received emails and texts from every coach in the league and a summary would be 'deserved , great bunch of girls , played the right way, best club in the league on and off the pitch', which goes to show the girls won the league but always played in the spirit and ethos of BLU.

The other end of season highlight was a trip to the Midlands to represent Bristol at the Aces tournament. That was a true challenge, but we stood up well winning 1, drawing 1 and losing 2, and one of those to the tournament winners Blackpool.

We nearly lost the girls the night before. It was a very hot evening, so we headed for refreshments(!) in a

lovely pub on the river where the girls befriended 'Dave' the boatman and nearly mugged him of his lovely yacht!

Many thanks to Mille and Raya (U13s) for bolstering our numbers for Aces - very welcome additions!!

The girls have started their U13s again in great form. They are currently unbeaten in a super tough league.....it's going to be an interesting season.....

(Thanks to Darren Crew)



Aces squad /pirates!!!

BLUFC Dev – Getting stronger every game

After securing promotion to Division 1 in the Glos Senior League we discovered very quickly that it wasn't going to be an easy season. Losing very badly to Cheltenham in the first game the team quickly worked out that we needed to manage the game differently in order to compete and carry on the success of BLUFC.

New formations, fantastic team work and quality finishing has brought us back into contention. We have played all the toughest teams in the league and showed that we can match them all or beat them. Narrowly missing out to the newly formed and unbeaten Bristol Rovers (losing 4- 3) the team have huge confidence that hopefully will carry us through the season and end up competing for at least a top 3 slot.

On the social scene some of the team were lucky enough to be invited by our new sponsors, Unleashed Software, to represent BLUFC at the grand unveiling of their new offices in Bristol. A fantastic evening, mixing with local celebs including Bristol Bears Jake Heenan and club sponsor Lisa Miles-Heal. A great opportunity to tell everyone about the success of BLUFC..... we also now have our shirt, framed and pride of place in the Unleashed office.

A HUGE thanks to all the team at Unleashed Software for their hospitality, support of ladies football and for sharing our vision at BLUFC.

(Thanks to Andrew White)



First team news

The new season new line up includes a couple of new faces. For example, Lily Broad who use to play for BOCO Ladies, which is a very good move by her as we just beat her ex team 7 v 0 and 6-1 already this season. Lily helped us out in goal while Chloe Howourth was recovering from a broken wrist.

Also, Ellie Preece who has stepped up to the 1sts from Chalky's Dev team and made a great start by scoring 11 goals in 5 games. I haven't seen many better strikers.

We had a mixed start to the season and have won 3, drawn 1 and lost 1. It was always going to be a test playing in this higher standard of football.



We have a very small squad, but are still managing to get a team out every week and they are fully committed and what a lovely bunch of girls they are.

(Thanks to Steve Price)

Photo above, left to right
Back Row: Ellie Preece - Lily Broad - Melody Lewis - Anna Fraser - Olivia stone - Emily Baker - Ellie Haines Madison Price (Capt)
Front Row: Lilly Farr - Aoife Condrion - Chole Howourth - Sophie Price - Hannah Price

Top 5 Songs Selection

This time, Molly Abraham from U11 has selected her top songs to share with us. We welcome any player to send in their choice for future newsletters.

1. **Stitches by Shawn Mendes.** My favourite song at the moment and my best friend introduced me to this song. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbfpW0pbvaU>
2. **2002 by Anne Marie.** Anne Marie sang it at an Ed Sheeran concert and I've loved it ever since. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Il-an3K9pjjg>
3. **Lush life by Zara Larsson.** Reminds me of my holiday back in May in West Wales. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tD4HCZe-tew>
4. **Senorita by Shawn Mendes.** I like to listen to this song when I'm chilling out. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pkh8UtuejGw>
5. **Can't stop the feeling by Justin Timberlake.** The song is on the list because it's used in one of my favourite films, 'Trolls'. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ru0K8uYEZWw>



Recruitment shout out...

BLU Committee is looking for a volunteer to join them in the following roles.....

Treasurer

Club Secretary

Volunteers Coordinator

The current (interim) treasurer would support the new volunteer as needed.

Contact Fran Kendall (Secretary) on 07702 591698 or Justin Ogilvie on 07872 190132 for more information if you are interested.

Useful websites:

Bristol Girls FA Full Time – results and leagues – <http://fulltime-league.thefa.com/Index.do?league=4508388>

Women's Euro 2021, England – <https://www.uefa.com/womenseuro/>

Committee members: (and contacts)

Please note new vice chairman

Chairman

Justin Ogilvie
07872 190132
blufc.chair@gmail.com

Vice-chairman

Nathalie Haines
07779 165849

Interim Treasurer

Nathalie Haines
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Secretary

Fran Kendall
07702 591698
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Membership Secretary

Sandra Freke
07766 938977

Club Welfare Officer

Lucy Cripps
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Volunteers

Dave Morrell
07879 666245

Kit Manager

Anna Sice
07968 411471
annasice@hotmail.com

Referee Coordinator

Andrew White
07970 644370

Thanks for reading – feel free to contact Rob Groves to offer future content or general comments on rob.Groves13@hotmail.co.uk or 07582 437972. All contributions welcome from parents, players and coaches.

Many thanks again to Les Abraham for the final newsletter presentation.

BLU Website

<http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/BLUFC>



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UNION FC**

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