

212 UPTON LANE, FOREST GATE, LONDON EZ 9NP

Clapton CFC vs Bromley FC

Sunday, August 24th 2025.

Kick-off 2pm

London & South East Regional Women's Football League Division One North



## OPPONENTS

#### BROMLEY FC

Welcome to today's visiting players, coaches, supporters and officials

Since merging with the men's club in 2012/3, Bromley have progressed rapidly, winning a shed-load of trophies along the way. For the last two seasons they've finished second in the table - close not enough for promotion - so they will start as hot favourites to finally take the top spot.

#### Form guide

The Ravens had an almost perfect season last time, winning 18, drawing 2 and losing 2. In preseason, they beat Carshalton Town 5-1 and Cray Wanderers 10-0. So it was a big shock they lost their league opener last week, 5-2 at home to newly promoted Hammersmith, in front of an excellent crowd of 683.

#### Previous meetings

We've lost 3 of 4 games without scoring. The one win was 3-0 in 2021/22 at a very muddy Stray Dog, thanks to goals from Emily Link (2) and Marta Casanovas. Maybe we need more mud? In the return game, Bromley won 2-0. Last season we lost 2-0 away at Hayes Lane and 3-0 at home.

#### Player/s to watch

Last season's top scorer Leen
Ekwo - with 45 goals in 23
games - has moved to Dartford.
However, second top scorer
Bethany Hull remains with the
club, as does much of last
season's impressive squad.

## THE PLAYER PATHWAY

From 2021 to halfway through last season, I saw six players make the jump from the (then) Development Team to the First Team squad. Since then, nine Reserves players have featured for the First Team. Three were in last week's starting lineup.

Movement between the Development,
Reserves and First teams was a particular
focus at the Women and Non-Binary Teams' AGM
earlier this spring and strong efforts have
been made to formalise a player pathway.

Alice Sharpe said Reserves coaches Amii and Johanna are "really helpful" when it comes to making players available for the First Team, and that she's seen marked improvement in Reserve players' ability due to their coaching.

Brian Bramble said: "We are always noticing our Reserves players in training, especially in the matches [between the First and Reserves] at the end." He also said movement in the other direction is equally important for players who need more game time to develop or to return after injury.

Ruby Earle and Ching Chun made their starting debuts for the First Team last week. Both players wanted to mention specifically that while it was a proud moment, they couldn't ignore the injustice of trans women being robbed of the opportunity to play football.

Trenna

## WHY NINE PLAYERS?

The Clapton CFC Women's First Team kicked off the new league season with just nine players on the pitch at the start.

The two other positions were left deliberately vacant at kick off to

represent the two
FA bans - on women's
football as a whole
in 1921 and on trans
players' involvement
in football in 2025.

We hope other allies may adopt this small but visible gesture.

## **ALICE SHARPE**

## WOMEN'S HEAD COACH

Last Sunday's 1-0 win against Herne Bay was exactly what this team is all about - resilient, hard-working, and together from the first whistle to the last.

It wasn't pretty at times, but it was full of heart, and that's what makes me proud to be part of this group. Every player left everything out there, and that's the standard we're setting for ourselves.

Today we welcome Bromley - a side that got the better of us twice last season. That still stings, and we've not forgotten it. But football's about growth, and I know this team is stronger, fitter and more united now. We're ready for the challenge and we'll give everything to put things right.

But if we're honest, football feels like the secondary story this season. The FA's decision to ban trans players from the women's game is devastating. It's cruel, it's wrong, and it flies in the face of what community football is supposed to stand for. Women are being excluded, teammates and friends are being told they don't belong - and we cannot accept that.

Clapton CFC has always been about inclusion, about fighting for everyone's right to play. So while we'll keep giving everything on the pitch, we also need to stand together off it. If you have ideas for protest or ways to build the movement, reach out to the coaches or the team - we want to hear from you, and we'll stand alongside you.

So make yourselves heard today, both in the stands and beyond. Let's show what Clapton is really about: resilience, community, and solidarity.

## ABOUT US

Clapton Community FC is a Community Benefit Society wholly owned and run by our members. The charity Old Spotted Dog Ground Trust operates the ground on behalf of Clapton CFC members.

#### WOMEN'S FIRST TEAM

Alice Sharpe - Head Coach Brian Bramble and Jack Francis - Coaches

# CCFC

### WOMEN'S FIRST TEAM



#### **GOALKEEPERS**

Ella Bowles

Janell Mathurin

#### **DEFENDERS**

Marta Boiro
Mim Chadwick
Ruby Earle
Lenny Holmes
Annie Lyons
Julia Moulton
Noora Oikarainen
Allana Scoble
Alice Sharpe
Kaylee Shurety

Eva van der Vliet

#### MIDFIELDERS

Ching Chun
Lucy FeII
Lucy Spours
Li Steiner
Egle Trezzi

#### **FORWARDS**

Leigha Bradding-Butler Marta Casanovas Emily Link Maria Mendonca Aimee Shaw Sophie Ugur

#### BROMLEY FC

Eloise Bovill Jessica Carpanini Neve Connor Zoe Cozma Jade Davenport Holly Davis Anwen Donaldson Schach Melanie Espinosa Charlotte Greenwood Bethany Hull Eleanor Hutchings Grace Kelly Charlotte Lee Daisy Monaghan Alyssia Mundle Phoebe Murton Esther Ogunyemi Hannah-Elizabeth Paige Amy Taylor Alex White Joanne Woodgates

NEXT GAME HERE AT THE OLD SPOTTED DOG GROUND

Tuesday at 7.45pm CCFC Men's First Team
vs Romford (BBC Essex Cup)

#### **OFFICIALS**

Referee

Zoe Wheeler

Assistant Referees

Emily Woodhouse

Zakariya Ikram Jake Hinckson



100% FAN-OWNED FOOTBALL

BECOME A MEMBER, JOIN A COMMITTEE,
GET INVOLVED, LEND A HAND, BUILD THE CLUB