



ARGYLE v OXFORD UNITED

SUNDAY, 25 AUGUST 2024
2PM



TheFA Women's
National League

PREMIER DIVISION SOUTH



ARGYLE WOMEN

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Head Coach NOTES

Good afternoon, all, and a warm welcome to Home Park for today's first home match of the 2024/25 FA Women's National League Southern Premier division campaign. We are delighted to welcome all the Green Army to the Theatre of Greens today, as well as players, staff, and supporters of Oxford United.

As well as this being our first season under the umbrella of the wider football club, it is really exciting to be back at Home Park, and we can't wait to put on a show for all of those in attendance here today. Our season opener didn't go as we'd have liked, but this week has been a review and reflection to help us understand what we can do better.

The upcoming season will be tough, but exciting. With our additions over the summer, younger players moving up, and rewarding our experienced players with contracts, we are continually moving in the direction we want to go in.

It has been a tough start, but we all know what this squad can achieve, and we're really excited to be in the position where we have brought some experienced players in to further grow our side here.

It is great that we will be playing at Home Park on many occasions this season. It will be great to see and hear you all getting behind the girls and staff, whilst we all battle hard on the pitch to secure the best possible season for Plymouth Argyle.

Enjoy the game,

Ryan

"It is great that we will be playing at Home Park on many occasions this season. It will be great to see and hear you all getting behind the girls and staff"



Match

Argyle suffered a 4-0 defeat to Cheltenham Town away from home in their opening game of the 2024/25 FA Women's National League Southern Premier division campaign.

Two goals in either half was enough for the Robins, who took their chances at a good time to punish Argyle.

Cheltenham took the lead in the 17th minute. Argyle were down to 10 players as Amii Kearley was waiting to return to action after going down on the pitch. The ball was whipped into the box and

tapped home by forward Henna Butcher after Ffion Llewellyn's initial shot.

Cheltenham doubled their lead minutes before the half-time whistle, with Lacy-Jai Liggett running onto a ball through Argyle's defence and slotting a slow rolling finish past Felgate in the Argyle goal.

After the break, Una Lue scored a third for Cheltenham, and the hosts added another after the hour mark, with captain Emily Owen heading home from a corner.



Action

Match





OXFORD UNITED

Founded in 2005, Oxford United Women have been a key feature in the women's football set-up in England. Featuring as one of the inaugural members of the Women's Championship in 2014, the U's spent several years in the league but were relegated to the FA Women's National League Southern Premier Division for the 2018/19 season, the same year Argyle got promoted back into the league.

From that point, the two have battled it out, albeit on different sides of the table, but this matches between Argyle and Oxford have generally yielded tight encounters.

Last season, the Adobe Women's FA Cup third-round game at Coach Road was one people in attendance will never forget. Argyle came away as penalty shoot-out victors after Imy Crawford's goal in extra time handed the Greens the lifeline they needed.

In both league fixtures last season Oxford came away victorious, but with Argyle comfortably securing safety in ninth and the U's finishing fifth in the league table, two more exciting ties will take place this season.

Sam Rose is Oxford Women's first-ever full-time First Team Manager, joining the team in November 2023. Rose worked as an assistant manager for Women's Super League side Aston Villa, and guided Oxford to 44 points and fifth in the table in his first season in charge.

As for Rose's squad, a key priority was to hold onto the talent already at his disposal, and they did that whilst adding new players into the mix as well. Vitaliia Budaieva, Nic Gibson, Jenna Legg, Paris Sercombe, Sarah King and Jamie Gotch extended their stay with the U's for the 2024/25 season.

Bethany-May Howard's arrival from Championship side Southampton was an important addition to Oxford's side. Earlier additions of Zoe Creaney from MK Dons, Ruby Sealey from Billericay Town, and Pheobie Poole from Cheltenham have bolstered the U's across the pitch.

Oxford United started their 2024/25 league campaign last weekend, losing 3-0 at home to Ipswich Town.



24/25

NEW



O N L I N E &
I N S T O R E

Imy Crawford

100

appearances



Imy Crawford recently joined an elite list of Argyle Women players, becoming one of only 14 players to make 100 appearances in Green.

Since making her debut, as a substitute, against Chester & Selsey in October 2020, the 21-year-old has had an important impact on Head Coach Ryan Perks' side and has had her hard work recently rewarded by receiving a contract with Argyle.

In her time with the Greens, Crawford has not only made strides on the pitch but has also developed her leadership skills. The midfielder was named the team's vice-captain last season, and her relationship with captain Giota Papaioannou allows the team to thrive whenever either is in command on the pitch.

With plenty of footballing years ahead of her and the 2024/25 season arriving, the appearances will surely flood in for Crawford in her time at Home Park.

When speaking to Argyle TV about her achievement, Crawford said: "I've been at this club since I was 16, so to now be here, making my 100th appearance, it's something I'm really proud of.

"Probably when I was 16 or so, I didn't think I would have achieved this so early on in my career. It's a big moment for me.

"This club has been home to me. I live over the water at Torpoint, so I remember coming here when I was little with my dad, watching the men's team. I've now been captain and vice-captain for this club, it's a proud moment for me.

"It's special for me and my family also. They're always here, watching me in the stands.



"It's funny, people always joke about me being one of the older players. I've just turned 21, so I'm still very early on in my career, and I hope to achieve a lot more, but from being young, I know how much your older players can affect you. Now, being one of the 'older' ones, I like to help the younger ones. I get on well with them and think that helps them feel settled and relaxed.

"I think that's when you get the best out of the young players when they're relaxed, and they thrive off that and can show that on the pitch."

Last season, Crawford played an important part in Argyle's FA Cup victory over Oxford United, leading her side to a 5-3 penalty shoot-out win, scoring a stunning goal during the game. Imy feels it will always be a tie she remembers.

"I think that's one game that's always stuck with me," she said. "You play so many games and some you don't remember so well, but this one will always stick with me.

"The FA Cup is always an exciting cup to be in. We want to progress as far as we can, and to have the impact I did was something I was proud of.

"[For the goal], I just remember hitting the ball. I do it a lot and you miss so many, but I thought as soon as it hit my foot 'that's going in'. I didn't know what to do with myself. I remember turning around and running to the bench, and everyone was going crazy, so that will stick with me."

I've been at this club since I was 16, so to now be here, making my 100th appearance, it's something I'm really proud of"



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2024/25 FAWNL SOUTHERN PREMIER DIVISION FIXTURES



WFA Women's
National League

AUGUST

 Sun 18 Cheltenham Town L 4-0

 Sun 25 Oxford United H

SEPTEMBER

 Sun 1 Milton Keynes Dons A

 Sun 8 Hashtag United H

 Sun 15 Watford H

 Sun 22 Billericay Town A

OCTOBER

 Sun 6 Lewes A

 Wed 9 Exeter City H

 Sun 13 Ipswich Town H

 Sun 27 AFC Wimbledon A

NOVEMBER

 Sun 10 Gwalia United H

 Sun 17 Cheltenham Town H

DECEMBER

 Sun 15 Oxford United A

JANUARY

 Sun 5 Milton Keynes Dons H

 Sun 12 Hashtag United A

FEBRUARY

 Sun 2 Lewes H

 Wed 12 Exeter City A

 Sun 23 Billericay Town H

MARCH

 Sun 9 Watford A

 Sun 23 Ipswich Town A

APRIL

 Sun 13 AFC Wimbledon H

 Sun 27 Gwalia United A

THE TEAMS

Match Officials

Referee: Luke Fabry
Assistants: Steven Godfrey
and Ben Hilton



- 1 Lily Felgate 🍀
- 2 Katie Dickson
- 3 Roxy Thomas
- 4 Amii Kearley
- 5 Giota Papa
- 6 Taya Pomfret
- 7 Charlotte Whitmore
- 8 Imy Crawford
- 9 Ellie Sara
- 10 Georgia Wilson
- 11 Jade Berrow
- 13 Grace Smith
- 14 Kelsey Blight
- 15 Georgie Knott
- 16 Ella Stephens
- 17 Lulu Jarvis
- 19 Erin O'Shea
- 20 Fern Orchard
- 24 Ava Kuyken
- 25 Jess Geach



- 1 Beth Howard 🍀
- 2 Nicola Gibson
- 3 Shelly Provan
- 4 Kate Wiseman
- 5 Zoe Creaney
- 6 Cecily Wellesley-Smith
- 7 Izzy Cook
- 8 Jenna Legg
- 9 Zoe Barratt
- 10 Phoebe Poole
- 11 Ruby Sealey
- 15 Ellie-Mae Richardson
- 16 Jamie Gotch
- 17 Sarah King
- 18 Taome Oliver
- 19 Leah Burrridge
- 20 Lucy Trinder
- 22 Paris Sercombe
- 30 Vita Budaieva
- Shaunna Jenkins



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