



# EUW AFC

4 TEAMS 1 CLUB



## Welcome back to the club!

Everyone at EUW AFC hopes you are excited for our first ever newsletter! We have included loads of updates on our amazing growth as a Club and our excitement for the new season. We love all our Alumni members and miss playing with you all so much! We hope this newsletter fills a small part of the EUW AFC shaped hole in your heart.

*Molly McGregor, Community and Alumni Officer.*

Hello everyone,

Exciting to see the 1st ever Alumni Newsletter launch.

EUW AFC continues to grow on and off the pitch with now x4 11 aside teams, 2 Futsal teams and a recreational programme; it's been a busy start to the new term. Players, staff and committee members continue to raise standards as they build on the foundations and success of previous years. I hope everyone is well wherever and whatever they are doing around the world. As a club we are always open to all and you are always welcome back to visit a game or a social event if you are in Edinburgh!

Thank you for your continued support. Until next time!

*Mike Ross, Club Director, 1st Team Coach.*

## Back in action after injury!



"It's been so great to be back training and not just freezing on the side-lines at Peffermill! Being able to play football always helps me concentrate better while at Uni so I'm glad to be playing in my 4th year."

- *Katie Macdonald, Club Mental Health Officer and SU Vice-President*

"It has been a long time coming to be able to train again, and I am embracing every minute of it. I have felt so much support from everyone in the team and the Club, and my first 90 minutes after one and a half years of injury felt amazing. The social aspect of football is so important to me and I am happy to be part of such a supportive Club!"

- *Cecilia Bosman, Club Treasurer and SU Treasurer*

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## First thoughts from the coaches!

"After several years hard work and success, we managed to hit our objective of reaching the Premier League. With limited pre-season we are finding our feet against new oppositions and the team continues to grow. We have a good mix of new players and experience led by Captain Kristina and Vice Izzy. We always knew this league would be tough, but it's given us a fresh challenge with every game feeling like a cup final. It's also been a great test against other universities who have several scholarship players who are often very talented and several international level players. After the successes of winning the Scottish Cup last year we aim to do as well as possible in that competition too. We know it won't be easy as universities in Scotland continue to improve around us. I've really enjoyed coaching the group this year and the added improvements of our own team strength and conditioning sessions and more video analysis sessions has helped the players become more complete players."

- *Mike Ross, 1<sup>st</sup> Team Coach*



"The new season brings a new squad, new promise and a new league situation - we are going into a year without the opportunity to compete against EUW AFC 1s in the league due to their promotion to the Northern Prem. That was always a fixture with some added spice! We have a good mix of old faces, players who have earned a step up and some exciting new talent. The really pleasing element for the club is the number of 1<sup>st</sup> year undergraduates who have



earned their place in the 2s. There was strong competition at the trials and many hard calls to make regarding squad selection - perhaps reflected in the super start the 3s have made to their season. It's the usual mix of nationalities and backgrounds bringing so many different experiences to the squad that adds to the enjoyment of being a player with EUW AFC - American, Norwegian, Dutch, German, Austrian & Swedish along with English and even a few Scots! Well done everyone who has earned a place after what was a physically demanding selection process.

It has been a solid start to the season. A good first win has been followed by battling displays, some injuries and a few additional points - which could well have been more wins, giving us something to target for the return fixtures.

We look forward to the challenges ahead, Northumbria 2s in the BUCS cup (at home), and the prospect of a potential tie in the Scottish Cup.....v EUW AFC 1s!

The players have already bonded well, and that togetherness brings a real "all for one" feeling to training and the match day squad. Even some appalling weather at training doesn't dampen spirits but simply brings players closer together in shared experiences!

With efforts from the committee we aim to expand the coaching set up for the 2s, and along with the "2s Management Team" of co-captains Jenna McDonald and Kirsty Wilson, supported by VC Meg Gower, we look forward to the rest of the season."

- Derek Nelson, 2nd Team Head Coach



"Val and I are extremely proud of how the girls have started the season and finishing the semester top of the league. Hopefully we can keep pushing and finish the season the way we've started! Super proud of all the team and hopefully pushing for promotion and winning the League this Season."

- Laura Thomson, 3rd Team Head Coach



"The two early morning training slots have been well attended, with Futsal only players alongside 1s, 2s, 3s and 4s. Given the timing of training slots allocated to the XI's teams this is the only opportunity for players to get to know each other (outside socials) and to build club spirit. There has been a really good turnout from new club members eager to contribute, to learn and hopefully to share in good results. The 1s have a hard act to follow this year in Northern Prem Futsal but captain Jane Marshall and VC Izzy Coppel will work hard for a repeat of previous successes. The 2s can draw from a greater player pool, giving captain Caitlin Mitchell and VC Linda Martetschlaeger lots of support and playing strength in the team's efforts in Scottish Div 1.

We have the bonus of additional coaching input from Alumni Florence Haines, much appreciated by all. Fixtures for both squads started on Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Nov, so we're battling on - and hopefully onward to Antwerp 2020!"

- Derek Nelson, Futsal Head Coach





# Meet the Captains!

## The 1st Team

Leading the charge into the BUCS Northern Premier League is Captain Kristina Kim. After being Scottish Student Sport Player of the Tournament during her masters and helping the First Team to win the SSS Cup and Promotion in 2018/19, Kristina is ready to return to EUW AFC as Captain during her PhD. Working alongside experienced Kristina is of course Vice-Captain Izzy Coppel. In her second year this year she is already becoming a big name in the club by her role as Social Sec. We cannot wait to see what this duo gets up to!



## The 2nd Team

That right she's back! Jenna McDonald teased us all with the idea of her leaving but she's back for more study and we could not be happier! Jenna is co-captain with striker sensation Kirsty Wilson! When Kirsty is not treating animals, she truly is a treat for us to watch on the twos. This captaincy team would not be complete without Vice-Captain Meg Gower! Meg is in her 3<sup>rd</sup> year and is also Committee fundraising officer this year, showing her dedication on and off the pitch. The Scottish 1A BUCS division better watch out as this experienced captaincy team leads out a brand new 2s team full of fresh legs to battle.



## The 3rd Team

No surprises here - Molly Simmons returns as captain of the 3s and this year she has the added title of President of the Club as well! To keep Molly down with the new players is of course the first of the 3s vice-captains - Helena Martin! Despite being a 4<sup>th</sup> year medic, Helena is known for hidden talents such as hanging out with the youngsters and winning half marathons she doesn't train for. There is one more crucial person involved in this leadership team. She is in her second year of giving up her Saturday morning to help organise our Recreational Programme as well as being a very committed member of the 3s. This can only be 4<sup>th</sup> year Fiona Graham! These girls are a perfect combination to get the 3s further than ever in their BUCS league this year!



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## Introducing our 4th Team for 2019!

“The first year for the development squad will surely be an exciting time and a great learning experience for the players and myself, but it's something that I and the players are more than looking forward to.

The aim for this squad is to develop the players as footballers and as people, and to hopefully progress them into the 3<sup>rd</sup> team. I am proud to say one player has already moved up, showing that the objective of this squad is something that can be achieved. Every player should aspire to reach that next step and, after training with them, I can see that in all the players which I am more than pleased about.

I'm looking forward to this year with the 4s, I have a fun, enthusiastic squad who are all looking to learn and hopefully this is a trend that will continue through the years. “

- Sean Cairns, 4th Team Coach





## Futsal News

### Futsal 1s

Our first team fixtures in the BUCS Northern Premier League started on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November when they travelled to Durham to play the first 3 matches of the league. 1s Captain this season is Jane Marshall and Vice-Captain is Izzy Coppel. The team has made a strong start, following on from a fantastic futsal season last year.

### Futsal 2s

Our second teams' fixtures also started on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November when they played their first fixtures at Oriam in Edinburgh. 2s Captain this season is Caitlin Mitchell and Vice-Captain is Linda Martetschlaeger. The 2s finished second in the league last year only on goal difference so we will be hoping to make that final push this year! An extra futsal target is to send a squad to the PCU games in Antwerp, 22-24th April 2020 for the third year in a row!

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## Dates for the Diary!

27th November EUW AFC Football Pub Quiz

28th November EUW AFC Christmas Tournament

4th December Christmas Dinner

7th December EUW AFC Sleep in the Park

Thanks for reading! We hope you enjoyed our first EUWAFC Newsletter! Stay tuned for news about the upcoming Alumni Day 2020!

Keep up to date on all the latest news via our social media!

@EUWAFC

<https://www.euwafc.com/>

**EUWAFC**

*4 teams*

*1 club*

