

BIRKENHEAD UNITED AFC



Northern
Region
Football



SUN 10 SEP

1.00PM, SHEPHERDS PARK

ROUND 20

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weston design



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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



WELCOME BACK TO SHEPHERDS PARK & BIRKENHEAD UNITED, AS THIS YEAR OF THE FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP WENDS ITS WAY INTO A NEW SPRING!

It is massively exciting for us to showcase the Women's game this weekend. We had hoped to have the U16s game on the Friday night but other commitments meant that Auckland United were not available for this opportunity. We are super excited for the Women's Conference team to be playing their last game of the season here, subject to qualifying for the final play-off game, here today.

It is also the first time that we have produced & printed a Women's only Match Day Programme!

The impact of the FIFA Women's World Cup continues to create ripples of excitement, engagement & legacy as this programme itself bears testimony too. The success of European teams in the World Cup, with three of the four semi-finalists coming from Europe, reflects on the importance of the investment & attention that the European nations have been putting into the women's game, which is surely an example for other nations in how to succeed in this space.

However, the unfolding, & hopefully the final unravelling, that has followed on from the incident at the final shows us all, that there is still much to be done, as we progress to make the world a more equitable place. Being one of the founder Clubs to sign the NRF Equity Charter is a great step in the right direction, but this is just the tip of a very large iceberg to grapple with and surmount.

These are systemic issues that start right at the top of FIFA, issues that we must all be aligned on to guide the game and the world into a more equitable place.

There is no place in sport, or indeed life, for harassers, bullies, and abusers. The responsibility we shoulder as a club that promotes family engagement through football, and with football strives to deliver opportunities for everyone to achieve better physical & mental health outcomes, has never been more important.

This is the focus of an equitable environment, where the opportunities are the same, the support to achieve is the same, and the ability to succeed is equally & equitably provided. There is no place at all for any "deliberate indifference" when elites, motivated only to maintain positions of power, & based on spurious or non-sensical propositions & arguments, seek to maintain an unequitable status quo.

We occupy a world that is continually overwhelming & full of challenges, challenges that are both mental & physical & sometimes both together! Being a Club where not only the concept, but the lived practice of whānau is inextricably linked, we have a duty to collectively recognise that we need to stand together for all our whānau and continue to do the right thing.

Only together can we progress & succeed. Only together can we build an equitable place for all our grandchildren's grandchildren. The building may be complete, but how we live within it remains a story to be lived.

'¡Se acabó! No estás sola'
(It's over, you're not alone)

David Williams
Birkenhead United AFC President

Harcourts Cooper & Co



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WOMEN AND GIRLS COMMITTEE



2023 HAS BEEN A FANTASTIC YEAR FOR WOMEN'S AND GIRLS FOOTBALL WITH NZ CO-HOSTING THE FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP AND BIRKO HAVING THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY OF BEING SELECTED AS THE TRAINING VENUE FOR THE ITALIAN TEAM.

Many players from our girls and women's teams had the chance to meet and greet the Italian team at their open training session as well as attend games during the World Cup. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity for our club members and seeing an international team training up close and personal provided a unique view of the women's game and inspired many.

Some highlights for the Birko women's and girls' space this year:

- Women's Conference team: Currently top of the table with 1 game to go. A win or a draw sees them clinch the NRF Women's Conference title and will go through to play-off for promotion into the Lotto NRFL Women's Championship for the 2024 season.
 - 5 of our U16 players had the opportunity to trial for the NZ U16 team for the OFC U16 Women's Championship. This was a valuable learning experience for them.
 - This year for the first time we have a girls team entered in the U17 tournament which is being held at Western Springs in December
 - We have had a number of junior girls involved in Skills Centre this season and more signing up for Term 4
 - More of our senior women's and U16's players have been involved in coaching junior teams/players.
 - In collaboration with NRF, Friday nights has been Girls futsal night at Birkenhead College. Sessions have run through Term 1 and will continue in Term 4.
- A significant step in our commitment to gender equity was the signing of the NRF Gender Equity Charter.
- Planning for the 2024 season is already underway with a focus on leveraging the huge interest in football that has been created by the World Cup. We are always looking to create more footballing opportunities for women and girls across all age groups.
- This includes getting more girls into the Skills Centre and futsal, working towards TDP for our youth teams, entry into future tournaments and recruiting more players for our senior teams.
- The committee would like to acknowledge the coaches and managers of all our girls and women's teams. These volunteers spend a huge amount of time and effort helping our players develop and the club couldn't operate without them.
- So, a big thank you to all those involved.
- Also, thanks to all the parents/family and friends who continue to support all our women and girls' teams at the club and of course the sponsors Kemp's Weir Lawyers and John Bull Footwear who continue to commit to investing in our women's programme.
- Enjoy the game this afternoon! This team has continued to improve week on week as the season has progressed.
- With 20 league games and two cup games played, we are proud of the commitment, effort and determination they have shown throughout the whole season.
- Ngā mihi nui
Women and Girls Committee



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McDonald's has been supporting junior football in New Zealand for nearly 20 years. With the 2019 season about to start, we're working with New Zealand Football, the regional federations and clubs to help kick start the dreams of junior footballers around the country. A big thanks to you for the role you play in helping your child enjoy the beautiful game.



AKORANGA DR

LUCA VASORI COACH'S COMMENTS



WELCOME METRO FC TO SHEPHERDS PARK, THE HOME OF FOOTBALL!

When we started our pre-season back in February, we didn't know what to expect this year after a challenging 2022 season, however we thought the team could battle its way through and do well to finish as high as possible.

Now we are here, playing the final match against our strongest opponent, on the very last day of the competition. It's like a final for both teams, as the winner will get a chance to get promoted to the NRFL Championship in 2024.

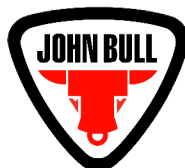
Metro FC has been our strongest opponent throughout the season, a well-coached group of women that certainly know how to play football with the relevant agonism and physicality. Our Team is aware of the qualities of this Metro FC team, however all BU AFC players are also confident in their own capabilities and courage, making it a very competitive outfit.

Surely this game will be different from last one we played at Phyllis Reserve because it's the very last one, it's more than just a game, it's a final that can send the team into a promotion play-off, therefore it requires the relevant mental and physical approach to give our women the best chance to succeed.

Whatever the result will be at the end of 90 minutes, it won't change who we are as people, because we have reached this point in time due to everyone's efforts, commitment and courage.

We are very thankful to all the people that have been involved in supporting the Team since day one, and we hope to return your efforts with an outstanding performance today!

Luca Vasori
Women's First Team Head Coach



FOOTWEAR

ROUND 20 PREVIEW



FIRST TEAM FIXTURE



VS



**BIRKENHEAD UNITED
VS METRO**

Sunday 10th September, 1pm,
Shepherds Park

Matchday Sponsored By: **Harcourts** Cooper & Co

OTHER FIXTURES

RESULTS



**ONEHUNGA MANGERE
VS BEACHLANDS MARAETAI**

Sunday 10th September 1pm,
Mangere Domain

-



**BAY OLYMPIC
VS GREENHITHE**

Sunday 10th September 1pm,
Olympic Park

-

uhlsport

ROUND 19 REVIEW



FIRST TEAM FIXTURE



3 - 7



1 - 3



**METRO
VS BAY OLYMPIC**



2 - 3



**GREENHITHE
VS ONEHUNGA MANGERE**

LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Birkenhead United	19	13	3	3	45	17	28	42
Metro FC	18	12	2	4	34	19	15	38
Greenhithe Mozamba	18	8	2	8	33	26	7	26
Bay Olympic	19	5	3	11	17	32	-15	18
Beachlands Maraetai	19	4	5	10	22	39	-17	17
Onehunga Mangere United	17	4	3	10	14	32	-18	15

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2023 WOMENS SQUAD



**ABBIE
GARWOOD**



**ABBY
CHAD**



**AMELIA
JEFFERIES**



**ANNIE
LYDON**



**CHARLOTTE
ENGLAND**



**CHARLOTTE
LEWIS**



**HOLLY
JONES**



**HOLLY
LEWIS**



**JOCQUELINE
REMPE**



**MADDIE
SCOTT**



**MAKAYLA
WILLIAMS**



**MANAIA
HUAKAU**

2023 WOMENS SQUAD



Northern Region
Football



**MORGAN
HERBST**



**NICOLA
O'LEARY**



**NINA
O'LEARY**



**TAE LAH
LEAT**



**VICTORIA
LEWIS**



**WILMA
NILSSON**



**LUCA
VASORI**



**STUART
DOVE**

PLAYER PROFILE

SHAYDEN CATHRO

PLAYER BIO

Nickname	Shay
Age	25 Years
Place of Birth	Durban, South Africa
Playing Position	CDM
Right / Left Footed	Right
Previous Clubs	West Coast Rangers (9 years) Glenfield Rovers (9 years)
Honours / Trophies	Few player / players' player of the year



DID YOU KNOW

My favourite pro club is: I'll say Manchester City just because of Jack Grealish

If I wasn't a footballer I would be: Very unfit

One thing people may not know about me is:
I cried when I had to play football for the first time

The country I haven't been but want to visit: Croatia

The item on top of my bucket list is:
Travel

Favourite sports team growing up was:
Springboks (RWC 2023 Winners)

My favourite TV show character is:
Michael Scott from The Office

Favourite place to dine out is: Mulan

Favourite day of the week is: Friday of course

I was starstruck when I met: Luca Vadori!

I've been told I look like: I'm 16 years old

Q & A SESSION

Q: What's your best footballing memory and why?

A: My parents wanted me to play a team sport when I was a kid and signed me up for football. I cried and didn't want to go, got POD and haven't looked back since.

Q: Best advice you have ever been given?

A: You can only control what you can control

Q: What do coaches often tell you?

A: Growing up, it was always "talk more"

Q: What advice would give you any young players playing your position?

A: Work hard, check your shoulders, play what you see

Q: What is your pre-match routine? Do you have any lucky charms / superstitions?

A: I always have a water bottle, electrolytes drink and an energy drink on me for before and during the game

Q: What are your goals and ambitions for the season?

A: Win the league and continue to grow as a team

Q: How would you describe yourself as a player?

A: Composed and good awareness

Q: Which team do you most look forward to playing?

A: Metro - toughest competition

Q: Toughest individual player you've played against and why?

A: Katie Rood in my CB days - super fast and good footwork, had to read the game and get the right body position always or she was gone

Q: What non-football accomplishment are you most proud of?

A: The one time I ran 10km and never did it again (I hate going for runs)

Q: If you could go to dinner with any 3 people (past or present), who would it be?

A: My Dad and his parents

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FOOTWEAR



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PLAYER PROFILE

HOLLY LEWIS

PLAYER BIO

Nickname	Holzlolz
Age	21 Years
Place of Birth	Auckland
Playing Position	Anywhere in midfield
Right / Left Footed	Right
Previous Clubs	Glenfield, Forrest Hill
Honours / Trophies	Player of the Year when I was 10



DID YOU KNOW

If I wasn't a footballer I would be: Boring

The country I haven't been but want to visit: China

Most underrated TV show is: Gossip Girl

My favourite TV show character is: Jake Peralta

Favourite place to dine out is: Lilian, Grey Lynn

Favourite day of the week is: Saturday

Favourite Video Game: Buzz the quiz game

I was starstruck when I met: Fred Again

Q & A SESSION

Q: What's your best footballing memory and why?

A: It's not the most positive at all, however I got kung-fu kicked in the head during a match at Westlake Girls!

Q: Best advice you have ever been given?

A: Don't sweat the small stuff

Q: What do coaches often tell you?

A: Receive facing outwards!!

Q: What advice would give you any young players playing your position?

A: Being strong and composed are some of the best traits of a midfielder

Q: What is your pre-match routine? Do you have any lucky charms / superstitions?

A: Double socks

Q: What are your goals and ambitions for the season?

A: To get promoted!

Q: How would you describe yourself as a player?

A: Tenacious, loud, a playmaker

Q: Which team do you most look forward to playing?

A: Metro

Q: Toughest individual player you've played against and why?

A: Jaime Govind in training, because she's annoying to mark and talks a lot

Q: If you could go to dinner with any 3 people (past or present), who would it be?

A: Giannis Antetonkounmpo, Fred Again.. and my sister

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MATCHDAY SQUAD

BIRKENHEAD UNITED AFC

- 1 MANAIA HUAKAU
- 2 NICOLA O'LEARY
- 3 NINA O'LEARY
- 4 VICTORIA LEWIS
- 5 CHARLOTTE ENGLAND
- 6 JAIME GOVIND
- 7 MAKAYLA WILLIAMS
- 8 MADDI SCOTT
- 9 ABBY CHAD
- 10 HOLLY LEWIS
- 11 JAQUELINE REMPE
- 13 SHAYDEN CATHRO
- 14 RUBY GILLUM
- 17 MORGAN HERBST
- 18 ANNIE LYDON

LUCA VASORI
Head Coach

STUART DOVE
Assistant Coach