



Women's Football Timeline

	National	Leicestershire
1628	First record of women playing football in Scotland	
1881	Modern football was born on 7 May with the first Scotland v England women's match played under Association style rules played at Hibernian Park, Easter Road.	
1895	<p>British Ladies FC formed by Nettie Honeyball, with Dumfries aristocrat Lady Florence Dixie as patron. First game, 'North' vs 'South' was played in March at Crouch End in front of 11,000. The club played over 100 exhibition matches across Great Britain often negatively received and reported.</p> <p>British Ladies FC played in Scotland for the first time, at St Mirren's Ground, Paisley on 1 May. Rioting protesters disrupted the match</p>	<p>LADIES FOOTBALL ON THE ATHLETIC GROUND – On Monday [14 October 1895] afternoon a match was played on the Nottingham-road Athletic Ground, Loughborough between two teams of “the Lady Footballers! There was not much actual football about the exhibition which was chiefly watched out of curiosity. Those who had the management of the affair did not extend to the Press the courtesies which the Loughborough Football Club and all other invariably offer for those reporting matches. The game ended in a victory for the “Whites” by two goals to one. <i>Leicester Journal 18 October 1895</i></p>
1896		<p>LADIES FOOTBALL MATCH A football match, in which ladies were the only contestants took place on the Belgrave-road ground this Saturday afternoon, in the presence of a fairly large number of spectators. Sir Thomas Wright was to have kicked off, but a business engagement prevented him doing so. The football was not of a very high order, even for lady players. <i>Leicester Daily Post – 11 May 1896</i></p>
1902	Scottish Football Association warned its members not to play charitable games against 'Ladies Teams'.	
1914	Outbreak of WWI. Women were needed in factories to keep production going. Many factories formed women's football teams.	
1916	Portsmouth Ladies founded. They pioneered women's football in WWI and helped popularise women's football as a means of boosting morale and funds for charity across the country.	
1917	<p>Dick Kerr's Ladies formed.</p> <p>A crowd of 10,000 spectators watched Dick Kerr's Ladies defeat Coulthards 4-0 at Deepdale, Preston on Xmas Day.</p> <p>Munitions factories gave birth to 'Munitions Football' and the 'Munitionettes' Cup, with Blyth Spartans Munitionettes beating Bolckow, Vaughan & Co 5-0 in the final.</p> <p>Manchester & District Ladies Football League established. Its membership was drawn from “the</p>	<p>Munition Girls football played fund raising matches across the county.</p>

	various great commercial undertakings within a radius of ten miles of Manchester." The league applied for affiliation to the Football Association but was rejected.	
1918	<p>After WWI ended women's football became much rarer as most teams ceased playing as women returned to pre-war roles.</p> <p>The second Munitonettes Cup was won by the ladies of Palmer's shipyard in Jarrow, who defeated Christopher Brown's of Hartlepool 1-0 at St James' Park in Newcastle on 22 March 1919</p> <p>England vs Scotland at Celtic Park -the 'munitonettes' game was between Beardsmore's and Vicker's teams.</p>	Coalville Muniton Girls won the Bass Charity Vase beating Shobnall Munitions in the final staged at Peel Croft, Burton.
1920	<p>Dick, Kerr Ladies F.C. played in one of the first women's international matches against a French XI team in 1920.</p> <p>A record crowd of 53,000 watched Dick Kerr's Ladies beat St Helen's Ladies 4-0 at Goodison Park [26 December 1920].</p>	Dick, Kerr Ladies International Team beat St Helen's Ladies 2-0 in front of 13,000 spectators at Filbert Street.
1921	<p>On 5 December the FA banned women from playing on FA-affiliated pitches, encouraging associated clubs "to refuse the use of their grounds for such matches." They stated, "the game of football is quite unsuitable for females and ought not to be encouraged."</p> <p>30 teams from across England met in Liverpool on 10 December 1921 to formalise the English Ladies Football Association (ELFA). This aimed "to popularise the game among girls and to assist charity".</p>	
1922	<p>The first and only ELFA Challenge Cup competition. Stoke Ladies lifted the trophy, beating Doncaster and Bentley Ladies 3-1 in the June 1922 final.</p> <p>Hey's Ladies of Bradford won the Bradford Charity Cup</p>	
1927		1,500 spectators watched Dick Kerr Ladies beat Blackpool Ladies at the Agricultural Show Ground, Aylestone Road.
1939-45	Many factories set up women's football teams and played matches to raise money for charity. The Kent Ladies Football League in 1944-45, won by Aylsham Ladies from Snowdown Colliery.	
1950	The Southern Counties Ladies Football League was started	
1956	A Southampton & District League , principally comprising works' teams, was launched.	
1967	<p>Arthur Hobbs organised a soccer tournament for local clubs in Kent, the matches taking place at Betteshanger Colliery Welfare ground.</p> <p>Warwickshire Ladies League established with 8 teams from Birmingham, Bedworth, Coventry, Nuneaton and Warwick.</p>	
1968	Midland Ladies Football League founded,	

	The Deal Tournament attracted entries from around the country, and by 1969 there were 52 entries, including teams from Czechoslovakia and Austria.	
1969	Women's Football Association (WFA) founded with 51 clubs	
1969-70	Butlin's Cup in association with ITV and the Daily Mirror. Games were played at Butlin's holiday camps during the summer months with national finals for England and Scotland. The winners playing off to decide the 'International' champions.	