

SSE AIRTRICITY WOMENS PREMIER DIVISION Matchday Programme 2024



# CITYVIEW

Volume 3 Issue 1

## CORK CITY V PEAMOUNT UNITED

Saturday March 9th 2024  
TURNER'S CROSS, CORK  
Kick Off 5pm



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# FROM THE DUGOUT

I'd like to offer a warm welcome to James O'Callaghan and Peamount United. They come down as Champions but it's a new season and a new team facing them and we're full of confidence. Everything has been positive, and training has been great so loads of positives going into the start of the season. The new signings have been good additions to the team, and they've improved us, and to help us get better as a team. Chloe Atkinson is back and it's like having a new player really and we missed her for the last 5 or 6 games after her injury.

Eva Mangan is our captain this year, she leads by example in how she prepares for a game, looks after herself and how she applies herself on and off the pitch. Eva's taken it in her stride, we've seen her develop in becoming a leader in the dressing room and around the girls."

"Peamount United is not going to be an easy game, but if we focus on the things that we know the girls can do today, on our own strengths I think we'll be in a good position. We just have to go in and concentrate on what we can do and not worry about what other people do or think and just concentrate on our own personal performance."

"The players and staff have been out trying to promote the game and we want families and young girls coming in to support us. We have players at the club who hopefully will be future internationals and people can talk about how they watched them at Turners Cross.

Enjoy the game,  
*Danny Murphy*

An exclusive interview with Danny on this week's Rebel Army Podcast. Just push the image below.



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# AROUND THE CLUB



Massive Congratulations to our own Holly O'Hagan who represented the Irish WU16 side away to Northern Ireland this week, helping the team to a 3-1 victory.



Chloe Atkinson, Colleen Kennedy & Josh Cooney visited the girls at Riverstown last week.



Colleen Kennedy, Kiera Sena, Ciara McNamara & Josh Cooney visited the Watergrasshill Utd



Congratulations to our WU19 Captain Grace Flanagan who captained Pres Thurles to National success.



We were delighted to pop over to a Wilton United training session, where Shaunagh McCarthy, Jesse Mendez & Josh Cooney chatted to a few different teams!



# The Captain's View

City View sat down with Captain Eva Mangan this week to discuss the new additions to the squad, a season filled with promise, but we opened with a look back at the pre-season.

“It was good. Danny only gave us two weeks off and we were in the gym, we went with the approach of playing male teams rather than girl's teams and that did us the world of good really. Their speed of play and their physicality is a bit more than we would have been used to and we matched them too, we won a few games, but I think that will stand to us in the League now and it was a good approach by the management I think, and we got confidence from it, and I think we can bring that now into the League games.”

Asked if the pre-season felt low-key as games weren't publicised “I don't know really; pre-season games being well attended doesn't really bother us. Your focus is about getting minutes in the legs and trying things out. It's not like we're were trying to keep our preparation secret, or not wanting anyone to have the opportunity to see what we were working on, I think the preparation we had will probably stand to us a lot more than if we'd played another National League side.”

Of course, Eva's 'off-season' coincides with the College season, so she's really been playing straight through. “Yeah, I haven't really had a lot of time off, we've only really finished up our season with UCC two week ago, so we were playing right through winter.”

“Me, Hannah (Walsh), Aoibhin (Donnelly), Laura (Shine) and Alix (Mendez) have had games every week with UCC which was enjoyable really, it's a different level obviously but it kept us tipping away.”



The interview was conducted before the signing of Dorothea Greulich was announced, but Eva is full of praise for the new additions that Danny Murphy has brought in “The new signings have been really good, they've added some real quality to the team and added more competition for places. We have more players capable of impacting the first eleven and that means everyone has had to work harder to fight for places. Colleen (Kennedy-O'Donnell) has loads of experience, she's really good. Her knowledge of football is so good, how she communicates and lets people know how she wants the ball.”



“Orlaith (O'Mahony) as well, I played a few games with her in the National set-up and I always used to rate her. Her knowledge is very good, I think she's important for us and probably something we were missing the last couple of years, a really good 6 to keep the game moving constantly. Having Orlaith there, I've seen it in pre-season, I don't have to drop in as much and we link up really well so that's good, hopefully I can push on a bit more, score more and get more shots off and I feel that's where I am at my best.”

“Aoife (Robinson) is a great addition, I was even surprised myself when she was there at training, the management kept it very quiet. She is really good; she's scored against us a few times so there was a bit of slagging there” she laughs “but she is quality and in training she's been great. She can score, but also drop in and hold the ball, she's really an all-rounder which will help us a lot as we haven't had a great goalscoring record the last few years. Hopefully, Aoife is the woman who can change that.”

We close out with the minor fuss about Irish International Amber Barrett's prediction that Saturday's game would be a 4-0 procession for Peamount “Ah, Amber's prediction is kind of irrelevant to us, it doesn't impact our preparation or how we feel as a group going into Saturday. Peamount are an excellent side with some really good players, and difficult to play against but last season is gone, we're a new team. We're all raring to go, we'll give it our all and we've worked so hard in the pre-season that we're not going to let any team off easy.”

# AROUND THE CLUB



Cork City FC are delighted to welcome **Hennebry Financial Services** as an official partner for the 2024 season.



We're so grateful to renew our partnership with **Audiovox Hearing** for the 2024 Season!



We are delighted to announce G&G Kombucha as a new partner to our Women's side which will see them supply product to our Women's players as well as becoming matchball sponsor for all home games for the 2024 Season





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**HUNTING FOR SUCCESS**

Over the off-season, Danny Murphy appointed **Trish Fennelly-Hunt** as WU19 Manager. After a decade minding the nets as a goalkeeper in the Women's National League, Trish is now minding the next crop of Cork City FC talent coming through the Women's academy and she's relishing the challenge.

"I was with the WU17s last year and that was my first year not playing. I had been talking to Danny prior to that about coming on board and doing a bit of coaching, obviously I've done my coaching badges and I suppose it was still new to me as I'd been concentrating on playing for so long. Then it kind of came out of the blue for me really, Danny asked me would I be interested in taking the WU19s job and it was great to be considered, but I was humming and hawing a little to be honest because it's a big step-up coach to manager but also I have a little girl who's four, so I had to factor that in too, would I be able to give the role the full attention it needed, as a manager who have to be on top of everything, as I'd be the type that would want to go in there and do it properly."

"In the end though I was thinking, why am I doing the badges if I'm not going to take an opportunity like this, and of course I knew the majority of the girls who were moving up from the WU17s and I knew what they were about, that they were talented, so to continue to help them develop and be with that group was a big draw too.



Trish at the Women's National League Launch during her Cork City FC Women playing days

"I spoke to my family and they were like "just do it, have no regrets, and I'm loving it."

"It's a young squad, most of the girls who have stepped up still qualify for WU17s and it was like that last year too. I knew the talent that was there and that the girls would be well able for it and then the WU19s that were already there are such a talented and hard-working group, they take on information really well and are great to work with."

"Last year there was a lot of new players and a whole new staff and this year a lot of new players again, but the chats with Craig and Danny have been brilliant, we know what we want to do and whatever age a girl is coming into us, we want each team to be Elite and to set up as well as possible to guarantee that development and progression into senior. We're all on the same page as to how we want to progress."

"Pre-season was good, but it was very busy, obviously I had to find a staff to work with as well and I'm delighted we have Josh (Cooney), Derek (Daniels), Eoin (Kelly) and Orla (O'Regan) in and we've all gelled really well straight away, and the same with the girls. We've had three pre-season games, we played Wilton Ladies twice, two very good results and Douglas Hall senior Ladies, which was a very good result again. I was watching the physicality, but the girls went out there, into tackles and no fear. But all the girls are in the gym, getting proper plans and nutrition and they're all getting stronger. You can see the difference in them over the course of a year. We were hoping for four, but the generator died so we had no lights" she laughs "But we played an internal friendly against the WU17s and that was really competitive, there was a bit of bite to it. It was decent."

"I'm looking after the goalkeeper coaching myself initially, Paul (Hunt, Trish's husband) would be ideal" she jokes "but he's looking after the little one while I'm coaching. But James and I will run dedicated goalie sessions as well."

"The change in the league has been unbelievable. I started playing 2012, there was no gym, train 2 nights a week and then match and that was senior level. No emphasis put on food, strength and conditioning and recovery. The girls are probably sick of me saying I would love my time over to get what they're getting now."



Trish in her playing days representing Cork Women's FC

"I've been where they've been, but the support given now is brilliant. The coaches are more educated now as well, there's more emphasis on the tactical side, look, it's just more professional." One other thing that's great about the WU19s is we have Aoife McIver in with us, she suffered a really bad injury at the end of last season, terrible timing as she was just moving out of WU19s, but she can play as an overage player with us this season while she's getting back fit with a look to getting back to pushing for the senior side later in the season."

Looking forward to Waterford at home on Sunday "It's been a really good week's training, a lot of work, a lot of effort and we learned a lot from last week's games on areas we want to work but overall, it was a very positive start to the season so we're really excited and looking forward to playing in Bishopstown. We've prepared well this week, worked on shape. We know Waterford will be a tough test, but really looking forward to it and to getting another game under our belts."

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# GIRLS ACADEMY ROUNDUP

The opening weekend for our Women's Academy couldn't have gone much better. Two games, two wins, two clean sheets and eight goals scored in two Munster Derby matches against Cobh Ramblers, WU17 on Saturday and WU19 on Sunday.

It was two debutants who got on the scoresheet in Saturday's WU17 game and manager Craig Robinson was happy with the performance, while knowing there's even more to come from his squad.

"Happy to get off to a positive start with the three points, three good goals and a clean sheet and we got all nineteen players involved also with game minutes, especially all those girls making their Cork City debuts" said Craig "Two of those debutants got on the scoresheet, two goal for Kate (Mulcahy) which is great to get a strikers confidence going from the start and a great goal from Julia (Farinha) off the bench, showing that we have great options in the squad, whoever starts."

It's still a development league and Craig knows that it's the first hurdle in a long journey "I think we all agreed after the game, players and coaches, that the performance could have been better, some nerves but back into training to improve on those areas we felt could have been better and get ready for CK United away next weekend."



Sunday's WU19 game saw City cruise to a 5-0 win with goals from Grace Flanagan, Jaydine Seward, Zoe Finnerty, Heidi O'Sullivan and Christina Dring and Manager Trish Fennelly Hunt was really happy with the start.

"Obviously, it was a good positive start, we played some very good football, still there are some little bits and pieces we want to fine tune but the girls went out there well prepared, they had worked really hard this week building up to the game and followed the game plan perfectly and got the result we had worked for all week."

"We worked very well as a team with some lovely passages of play, Five goals, and just very happy with the performance and the effort put in by all the girls. We just want to bring that positivity into training this week and onto the next game."

# GETTING TO KNOW CCFC's U17s & U19s



**Name:** Ciara O'Driscoll  
**Team:** WU17  
**Position:** Centre Back  
**Previous Clubs:** Carrigaline United  
**Describe Yourself:** Competitive, Clever, Caring  
**Favourite Player:** Ramos  
**Biggest Influence:** My Dad  
**Favourite Sporting Memory:** Winning the Interprovincial Title with Munster  
**Favourite Food:** Toast  
**Favourite Film/TV Show:** Gossip Girl  
**Favourite Game:** Articulate  
**If you had a superpower, what would it be:** To pause / rewind time

**Name:** Kelsey Cooper  
**Team:** WU19  
**Position:** Wing/striker  
**Previous Clubs:** Wilton united and Cobh Ramblers  
**Describe Yourself:** Passionate  
**Favourite Player:** Ella Toone  
**Biggest Influence:** My Mam & Dad  
**Favourite Sporting Memory:** Winning the All-Ireland in the Aviva stadium with my School  
**Favourite Food:** Lasagna  
**Favourite Film/TV Show:** Friends  
**Favourite Game:** 30 Seconds  
**If you had a superpower, what would it be:** Invisibility





## United they stand – A view from Peamount United

*Bartley Ramsay*

Peamount United go into the 2024 season as League Champions. The fact that Peamount ended up as winners of the League for the fourth time surprised many observers of the women's game in Ireland. A number of high-profile departures during the summer of 2022 seemed for some to end the period of Peamount being a top club.

That James O'Callaghan's squad were written off was to be one of the main motivations that ultimately saw the title end up in PRL Park in Greenogue. James made some astute signings in Becky Watkins, top scorer Kate Mooney, Avril Brierly and Carla McManus. James also dipped into the academy at Peamount to promote three players Ellen Dolan, Jess Fitzgerald, and Freya Healy who have all since been named in Ireland squads by Eileen Gleeson.

The 2024 season is going to be different, as the Peas will no longer be underdogs, but the team that every other in the League will want to knock off their perch. James has retained the bulk of last season's squad, except for Tara O'Hanlon, who has moved to Manchester City in England.

The Peas have added two players to the squad this season, both who had been playing with Bohemians last season.

A defender, who can also play the holding role in midfield Ciara Maher and a forward in Erica Burke. The returning Lucy McCartan and Carla McManus will also seem like fresh players for Peamount as they spent a lot of last season out injured with ACL injuries.



Pre-season has been a bit stop start with the weather putting paid to two planned pre-season friendly matches. The Peas had started brightly in February with wins over DLR Waves and Sligo Rovers. Then two friendlies against Shelbourne and Wexford, were postponed, this meant that prior to playing Athlone Town in last weekend's Presidents Cup match, the Peas had been idle for three weeks. The task for this Peamount squad is

to go on and emulate the team of 2023 and find the drive and determination required to retain their title. All at the club are also looking forward to participating in the Champions League and their aim is to go as far as they can in that competition. Today sees the start of a new League campaign, and it will be far from easy, but everyone at Peamount is working to making it a season to remember.



Peamount United Dominated the 2023 SSE Airtricity Women's Premier Division Awards with **James O'Callaghan** being named Manager of the year and **Sadhbh Doyle** being named player of the year (Left). Doyle was also named on the team of the year alongside team-mates **Erin McLaughlin**, **Jetta Berrill**, **Niamh Reid-Burke** and **Karen Duggan** (above). Pics: Sportsfile

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**2. Lauren WALSH** 



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**3. Shaunagh McCARTHY** 



**AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR (AWAY)**

**4. Ciara McNAMARA** 



**AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR (AWAY)**

**5. Heidi MACKIN** 



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**6. Jesse MENDEZ** 



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**7. Kiera SENA** 




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**8. Orlaith O'MAHONY** 



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**9. Christina DRING** 



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**10. Eva MANGAN** 



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**11. Aoibhin DONNELLY** 



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**13. Ellie O'BRIEN** 



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**14. Heidi O'SULLIVAN** 



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**15. Chloe ATKINSON** 

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**16. Laura SHINE** 

 **AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR (AWAY)**



**17. Niamh COTTER** 

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**18. Aoife ROBINSON** 

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**19. Erin O'BRIEN** 

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**21. Colleen KENNEDY** 

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**23. Dorothea GREULICH** 

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**24. Alix MENDEZ** 

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