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Sunday, September 20, 2026



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WNL Women's
National League



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Notes from **Flo Allen**

Good afternoon and welcome back to The Nest for our second consecutive home fixture as we take on Stoke City.



Last Sunday's match against Boldmere once again demonstrated just how competitive this league is proving to be.

There is still plenty more to come from this group and we remain focused on delivering a complete 90-minute performance.

Managing both the scoreline and the momentum of games will be key to achieving that.

Congratulations must also go to Drew Wilson, who scored her first league goal to secure a valuable point for us.

Thank you, as always, to the supporters who have joined us at The Nest this afternoon.

Your backing is greatly appreciated, particularly with today's fixture overlapping with our men's game at Carrow Road.

Next Sunday, we return to League Cup action for our final group-stage fixture at home against Stevenage.

We will be looking to build on the positive momentum from today and take a strong result into that match as we aim to progress to the next stage of the competition.

Enjoy the game and thank you for your continued support.

OTBC

Head Coach Notes from Perry Northeast

Norwich City Women's head coach Perry Northeast had mixed emotions after last weekend's game against Boldmere St Michaels, confirming he was pleased to have taken something out of the tie but knew the squad had more to show on the day.



"It was another competitive game where both teams had momentum in different phases and different parts of the game throughout.

"Clearly going one down so early in a game is difficult and then having a second goal against you can also be a bit of a sucker punch, when probably at that point in time, it was looking like a game that would have gone to 1-1.

"But that being said, we stayed calm and patient.

"It was important we didn't just go ultra direct because we wanted to ensure that when we did have the opportunities to finish the attack, they would have been with quality.

"If we take everything away from the game and the emotional side of it and how the game felt, we actually scored two good quality goals.

"In this league you have to find a way and you have to stay patient; you have to believe in what you're trying to achieve and we did exactly that and came away with what I think was probably a deserved point on the balance of play.

"When we came off the pitch in the first half, we had to try and eradicate the score line.

"It was just minor tweaks and minor tactical adjustments and like we made at 60 minutes or so, a bit of a personnel adjustment.

"It's important to not just look at what the result is at half-time but what's actually happening in the game, so we were fairly calm, we were fairly measured but we were direct with the two or three points that we wanted to improve in the second half and that's what got us back into the game and got us a draw."

Sharing his thoughts on each of the goals from the game, Northeast described them both as important in their own ways.



"Issy Moore had switched over to the left-hand side and we felt that she would have some good advantages in taking her fall back in a one versus one situation.

"We've been working on that type of finish when she has the opportunity to come inside, so, I'm really happy that she's executing that now very well.

"And then, of course, at the end it was patient play in a set-piece type situation.

"That's just good opportunism and the delivery in the box was good and Drew (Wilson) obliged to finish it with one touch, which was nice.

"At the time of her goal, we were obviously jubilant in the fact that it's always fantastic to score at that time of the game but at the same time, there's probably that feeling of frustration as to why we're in that position in the first place.

"There were also still 30 seconds to a minute to play, so you're still thinking tactically how we can go and win the game from that moment

and we didn't quite then work out that one more opportunity that I would have liked in that last minute.

"That being said, obviously high emotions and very, very mixed."

On being back on home turf in front of a noisy crowd, the head coach added: "I've said it numerous times; it's really nice to see the fans, meet the fans and we need them in games like this.

"When we are performing quite well but the players need that extra little push, you can really feel the noise and the players respond to it so well.

"It's fantastic that we have the support that we do and they did get us over the line.

"So, I think as well as the players on the pitch being proud that we scored so late on to achieve a point, the fans must also take pride in what they did to pull the players through in a good performance."

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Evie Williams



Eloise Hall



Millie Daviss



Ellie Smith



Elliana Martin



Holly Kennard



Bryony Brodie



Eva-Jean Young



Faith Harrison



Poppy Groves



Emily Wallace



Lara Densley



Freya Symonds



Lauren Hailes



Issy Moore



Amber Locker



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Feature Interview:

Eloise King

City midfielder Eloise King joined the Canaries in the summer of 2025 and helped the club to promotion in her debut season as a Yellow. Having settled into Norfolk life comfortably, King has used her previous experience in Tier 3 to get Perry Northeast's side off to a positive start in the Northern Premier Division. This afternoon, she reflects on last weekend's thrilling draw against Boldmere St Michaels.

"It was definitely a tough game.

we kept pushing throughout the game.

"I think every game in this league will be.

"Ultimately, we obviously want to win every game, but to get a point after going 2-0 down, we'll take that.

"It's a step up for us, but I'm just glad that we managed to get a point out of it and probably upped our game in the second half, which is obviously a good sign that

"I think we knew coming into this league it was always going to be a physical and technical step-up.

"We work week in and week out on both parts, physical and technical attributes, so, we're definitely improving."

"We'll obviously reflect on the game and our main thing is just to keep improving and getting better as a team and as individuals."

Reflecting on Drew Wilson's 96th minute equaliser and the squad's reactions to the goal, King said: "It was just pure relief."

"I think that the first goal was a bit of a mix-up at the back, so I'll reflect on that, watch that back and take accountability for where I need to improve in that area."

"But overall, I'm obviously delighted for the team and for Drew."

"We're all just so happy that we managed to get the well-earned equaliser right at the end."

Sunday's draw saw City back in action in front of a crowd of 300 for only their second home league match of the season.

"It was so great to be back at The Nest."

"I 100% prefer playing at home with our fans backing us."

"They're always behind us whether we're losing, drawing or winning; it doesn't change."

"So, we were all really happy that we were back here."





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We'll obviously reflect on the game and our main thing is just to keep improving and getting better as a team and as individuals

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The Visitors: Stoke City

This afternoon we welcome Stoke City to The Nest for another Northern Premier Division tie.

The visitors have travelled over 200 miles to reach Norfolk from third place in the league table after three wins and one defeat.

They opened their 2026/27 campaign with back-to-back wins against Boldmere St Michaels in the league and Wythenshawe in the League Cup, putting five past the Midlands side and three past the Tier 5 side.

Their second Northern Premier Division tie ended in a disappointing but narrow

1-0 defeat to Loughborough Lightning in their first league away trip of the season.

The Potters returned to winning ways the following week, however, beating Blackburn Rovers in a 9-0 thrashing in the next group stage game of the cup before taking a 3-0 win over Hull City the following week.

Delphi Cole is the squad's leading goalscorer so far this season, with five to her name so far.

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Head Coach: Perry Northeast

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|----|-----------------|----|---------------|
| 1 | Poppy Irvine | 16 | Emily Wallace |
| 2 | Grace Riglar | 17 | Lara Densley |
| 3 | Natalie Johnson | 18 | Freya Symonds |
| 4 | Eloise King | 19 | Lauren Hailes |
| 6 | Evie Williams | 20 | Issy Moore |
| 7 | Eloise Hall | 21 | Amber Locker |
| 8 | Millie Daviss | 22 | Poppy Francis |
| 9 | Ellie Smith | 23 | Zofia Szczech |
| 10 | Elliana Martin | 24 | Drew Wilson |
| 11 | Holly Kennard | 25 | Niyah Dunbar |
| 12 | Bryony Brodie | 26 | Sienna Booty |
| 13 | Eva-Jean Young | 27 | Megan Frary |
| 14 | Faith Harrison | 28 | Abi Calver |
| 15 | Poppy Groves | | |

