

SPOTLIGHT: MANCHESTER CITY'S STELLAR SEASON

Manchester City had a stellar 2016-17 season, completing the domestic treble of the FA Women's Super League trophy (2016), the FA WSL Continental Tyres Cup (2016) and the FA Women's Cup (2017), a remarkable achievement for a team in its third season. In addition, the squad reached the semi-final in their inaugural UEFA Women's Champions League (UWCL) season.

These trophies led to a further wave of prestigious awards given for both team and individual performances, including:

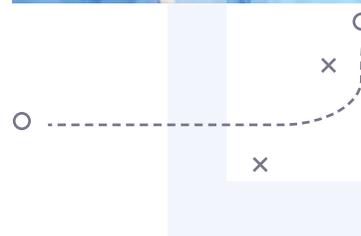
- Nick Cushing won FA WSL and North West Football Awards (NWFA) Manager of the Year
- Isobel Christiansen won Women's Player of the Year at the NWFA
- The Club won WSL 1 Club of the Year at the FA Women's Football Awards
- The team was nominated for Team of the Year at the BBC Sports Personality Awards
- Five players were named in the PFA WSL Team of the Year
- Lucy Bronze won PFA Player of the Year and WSL Player of the Year

As a result of their unbeaten WSL season, City became the first women's football club to appear on the front page of a British national newspaper, the Guardian, and Steph Houghton later graced the cover of FourFourTwo magazine, alongside her male colleagues, and Metro's MatchZone magazine.

City's fanbase has continued to grow apace, including a league-record number of seasoncard holders. Attendance at City home games increased by 50% from the previous season and is the highest in the WSL for the third consecutive year, reaching a peak at 4,096 against Chelsea Ladies in their final match of the season and breaking the previous league attendance record.

The club was the first in the UK to broadcast a competitive fixture on Facebook Live when City took on Doncaster Belles, which reached more than 3.5 million people. In the UWCL, three home fixtures were also streamed live, reaching a cumulative audience of 12.1 million people.

The shortened FA WSL Spring Series saw the signing of two-time Olympic gold medallist, Women's World Cup winner and twice winner of FIFA World Footballer of the Year, Carli Lloyd. When she took to the field at the FA Cup Final at Wembley Stadium, more than 35,000 people saw her play in person, and 1.2 million more on national television (BBC Two).



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