

**Premier Division** Sat 09 Sep 2023 15:00

London Lions-v-Milton Keynes Irish





HAMILTON COURT GROUP





# **WELCOME**

A warm welcome to you all to our fabulous home here at the Alpha Stadium – we're all so very proud of the incredible development of the facility here over recent years and, over the summer, that investment continued; the installation of a state-of-the-art irrigation system will, we trust, ensure our playing surface remains as good as any outside of the professional game.

And we believe we now have a first team squad capable of doing our home justice, a young group that is beginning to show the fruits of the labours that so many have put into our youth set up that now boasts in excess of 50 teams.

Competing in the Spartan League carries many challenges, and we're learning how tough it is to maintain consistency in terms of selection and performance over a season that is likely to span approaching 60 matches. But it's a challenge we are relishing and one we believe we are up to. Last season we started slowly, but once into our groove climbed the table to ensure the top 6 finish that grants clubs at our level the prized reward of an FA Cup place.

Once again it was in the cups that we really excelled, retaining the Herts Senior Centenary Trophy with an Adam Bolle inspired 5-1 win over Belstone before narrowly failing to retain our Divisional SSML cup with a defeat in the final.

We are also incredibly proud that our club supplied approaching 75% of those that represented Team GB on the pitch and as management in the European and Pan-American Maccabi Games in the summer. Led by our own Andy Landesberg, our Open Age side stormed to the gold medal in Budapest, scoring 27 and conceding just 2 on their

# LONDON LIONS FC

#### President

**David Kyte** 

### **Vice Presidents**

Neville Zeller

#### Chairman

**Andrew Landesberg** 

#### First team secretary

Velina Stoyanova

#### Treasurer

**David Hyman** 

#### Committee

Joel Nathan
Nigel Burns
Lee Glassar
David Hyman
David Kyte
Andrew Landesberg

## 1st Team Manager

Andy Landesberg

#### Coaches

Steve Grenfell Darren Yarlett

#### **Club Physio**

Peter Sheppard

way to beating a strong French team in the final. That winning mentality is one we hope the boys will bring back to their league football.

We are though much more than just a first team. Our juniors go from strength to strength, with our U-18's taking on a new challenge as they step out of local Sunday football and into a midweek floodlight league. Our men's section will look to compete at the top end of their divisions while our double winning Masters side continue to show there's plenty of life in some old dogs yet! All goes to show we are a club that looks to inspire itself to greater things at every level, from under 6 to over 55.

On the pitch we hope our play is of the quality to which we aspire, with a competitive spirit and sportsmanship the values that are fundamental to all our sides. Off the pitch we hope we equally do things the right way and strive to be, if nothing else, good hosts!



So all that's left is to say is enjoy the game and come join us in the clubhouse for a cup of tea at half and full time! May the best team win.

David Kyte

#### **OUR HISTORY**

In the summer of 1995, the players and officials of Maccabi Association London (MAL) decided that they had reached the limits of Sunday football and that a new challenge was required. The Hertfordshire Senior County League was a popular choice and the club made its debut in the 95/96 season under a new name of MALEX.

Four years later the club had made many friends but had narrowly missed out on promotion from Division 1 in each season. During the summer of 1999, the club revised its management structure, and decided to change its name to LONDON MACCABI LIONS, whilst retaining its all-Jewish status.

Under the management team of Bobby Fisher and Adam Solomons the 1st team lost only three league games that season as they won the Division 1 and reached the semi-finals of the Aubrey Cup. The club grew into one of the strongest teams in the Premier League but had to wait to land its first major honour in 2007 when Lions beat Metropolitan Police to lift the Herts Centenary Trophy. This was supplemented by the Reserves who were also promoted as champions, in 2002, and made it to three Herts Reserve Cup finals, winning one in 09/10.

After a decade in the Herts Premier, in 2009/10 now under the stewardship of Tony Gold and Steve Grenfell, Lions won the Herts Senior County League for the first time in the club's history, winning promotion to the Spartan South Midlands League in the process. The following season – the club's first in the South Midlands Division One – they added a second Herts Centenary Trophy beating Letchworth Garden City Eagles 3-2 in the final. Lions were able to go on better in 2012/13, winning the South Midlands Division One title and promotion to the heights of the South Midlands Premier Division. The club also made their debut in the FA Cup, winning 4-0 against Clapton.

Now just one league away from semi-professional football, it was a tall order for a team missing a number of players who had departed following promotion, and so 2013/14 saw Lions suffer their first ever relegation at the end of a difficult season. Having steadied the ship, the club decided to return to the Herts Senior County League for 2015/16 in order to rebuild.

Seeking to promote a new generation under manager Andy Landesberg, there was immediate reward by winning the Anagram Records Trophy at the end of their first season, with most of the starting XI having come through the club's massive youth set up. We then achieved an unprecedented treble in winning the league, Centenary Trophy and, for the first time, the Aubrey Cup.

The club was welcomed back to Spartan South Midlands League where we have won further honours in the shape of the Division One Cup (2018), Herts Centenary Trophy (2019) and Spring Cup (2021) while threatening to get promotion to the Premier Division before Covid struck.

The club was reassigned to the Combined Counties League Division One in the summer of 2021 and we are again targeting promotion to the next step, as well as representing our community with pride.

# Spartan South Midlands League Division One

Winners 2012/13

## **Spartan South Midlands League Division One Cup**

Winners 2017/18 Runners-Up 2018/19

## **Spartan South Midlands League Spring Cup**

Winners 2020/21

## **Anagram Records Trophy (Capital Counties Trophy)**

Winners 2015/16

## **Herts FA Senior Centenary Trophy**

Winners 2006/07, 2010/11, 2016/17, 2018/19 Runners-Up 2017/18

## **Herts Senior County League Premier Division**

Winners 2009/10, 2016/17 Runners-Up 2008/09

### **Herts Senior County League Division One**

Winners 1999/00

#### **Aubrey Cup**

Winners 2016/17

### **Spartan South Midlands League Reserve Challenge Trophy**

Runners-Up 2010/11

#### Herts Senior County League Reserve Division One

Runners-Up 2004/05

#### **Herts Senior County League Reserve Division Two**

Winners 2001/02

#### **Club Records**

**Record Win:** 14-2 v Bedmond (2010/11, Herts County Premier Div.)

Record Defeat: 1-11 v Cockfosters (2013/14, South Midlands Prem. Div.)

Most Appearances in Career: Adam Myeroff (507)

Most Goals in Career: Adam Stolerman (134)

Most Goals in a Season: 46, James Gershfield 2017/17

Most Goals in a Game: 6, Adam Bolle v Broadfields United (W 6-3), SSMFL Div 1,

2017/18

Best Performance in FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round, 2013/142015/16

# Combined Counties Football League 21/22

21/22 - Division One Winners

Austin Lipman – top goal scorer 21/22 CCFL Division One

Club of the Year 21/22 CCFL

Combined Counties Football League 22/23 Premier Division North

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# **MK Irish Club History**

# (Short)

On June 1st 2020 the club was formed when Milton Keynes Robins, Unite MK and Milton Keynes Irish Veterans joined together to operate as one club going into the 2020-21 season, Milton Keynes Irish FC! Our first season as a club was unfortunately brought to an early finish due to the effects of COVID-19. The 2020/21 season was looking to be very promising as we found the first team sitting second in the SSMFL Division 1 table after 9 games played with the best PPG in the league and went on an exciting run in the FA Vase which saw us get knocked out in the 3rd round on penalties after advancing through 4 rounds beating three higher league opposition. The season was officially curtailed, however due to performances under Milton Keynes Robins, the club earned promotion to the

Spartan South Midlands Premier Division (Step 5) based on PPG over the previous 2 seasons. The first team are back now playing at Step 5 in the Spartan South Midlands Premier Division, after one season in the United Counties Premier League South in 2022-23 finishing in 5<sup>th</sup> position, the reserve team were playing in the UCL Reserve Division also finished in 5<sup>th</sup> position in 2022-23 and have moved over to SSMFL Division 2 for the 2023-24 season.

The Veterans are playing in the Milton Keynes Veterans League Division One, were triple champions in the 2022-23 season and have been unbeaten in the league for the past 4 seasons.

2021 saw the addition of a Southern Counties U18 Floodlit Midweek team and also had youth teams coming over to join under the MK Irish banner from Scot FC, in 2023-24 the club has 7 youth teams spanning from U9 to U18 in the Milton Keynes & District Development League.

**Likely Squad away vs London Lions 9 Sept 2023 from:**Nathaniel Beecher
Stephen Brooks

Mason Davis

Luke Gardner

Aaron Halai

Callum Hirst

Owusu Kyeremateng

Andre Olukanmi

**Keelan Shand** 

**George Shrieves** 

Nathan Smith

**Rvan Smith** 

Liam Smyth

Mason Spence

Jack Taylor

Shaheim Ward

Tyriq Ward ©

Clinton Zawe

Manager – Terry Shrieves Coaches – Glyn Creaser, Lee Brown Physio – Andy Nicholls Social Media – Dom Domaingue, Jake Parlett Photographer – Silvana Peillis

Colours: Shirt – Green/White, Shorts – Green, Socks – Green, keeper all yellow



# **BEFORE YOU CURSE**

**MIND YOUR LANGUAGE** 



Respect





## **London Lions**

Jake Rinsler

Benji Weinberger

Adam Lipman

Barr Slagter

Samuel Goldberg

Jack Mordecai

Jake Furman

Max Kyte

Austin Lipman

Liron Mannie

**Daniel Creese** 

Felix Shalom

Adam Arnold

Mikey Perkins

Nathan Schindler

Ben Barnett

Josh Samberg

Colours
Keeper: All Green
Shirts: White
Shorts: Blue
Socks: Blue
Management
Manager: Andy Landesberg
Manager: Darren Yarlett
Coach: Steve Grenfell
Physio: Pete Sheppard

# Match officials



Official 1: Pavlos Anastasi

Official 2: Matthew Rendell

Official 3: Rhys Stewart