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Birmingham Phoenix announce retained players on Deadline Day

- Birmingham Phoenix men's and women's teams confirm returning players for fourth year of The Hundred

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- The Hundred Draft powered by Sage to take place at The Shard on Wednesday 20 March
- First Edgbaston game to be played on Saturday 3 August, double-header against Southern Brave

 For more information and to sign up for priority ticket access visitXthehundred.com

Ellyse Perry, Chris Woakes, Sophie Devine and Moeen Ali will all be back in action at Edgbaston in The Hundred next season with Birmingham Phoenix confirming the retention of 17 players on Deadline Day.

England Men's duo Ben Duckett and Liam Livingstone are among the names who'll be back in action for Phoenix, while local England Women seamer Issy Wong is also returning.

Across both the Birmingham Phoenix men's and women's teams, 17 players have been retained in total, meaning 10 spots remain to be filled at The Hundred Draft powered by Sage.

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The Hundred Draft, powered by Sage, will take place at The Shard on Wednesday 20 March, live-streamed from 5.30pm on thehundred.com, YouTube and TikTok. Each team will take it in turns to select domestic and overseas players to complete their squads.

Birmingham Phoenix's season in the fourth year of The Hundred gets underway at the Kia Oval on Tuesday 23 July, one of 68 games that promise world class men's and women's sporting action, live music, and a host of family-friendly entertainment.

The home opener for both Phoenix men's and women's teams will be against Southern Brave at Edgbaston on Saturday 3 August.

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Retained Players

Birmingham PhoenixWomen: Sophie Devine (O), Ellyse Perry (O), Issy Wong, Emily Arlott, Hannah Baker, Sterre Kalis, Charis Pavely

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Birmingham PhoenixMen: Chris Woakes, Liam Livingstone, Moeen Ali, Ben Duckett, Benny Howell, Adam Milne (O), Will Smeed, Tom Helm, Jamie Smith, Jacob Bethell

Birmingham native and Phoenix men's captain Moeen Ali said: "We have

retained the most players of any squad in the men's competition this year and that continuity should really help us this campaign. I love playing in my home city and the atmosphere at Edgbaston is always amazing. Hopefully this is the year that we can channel that atmosphere and help the team progress further in the competition."

England Women's bowler and Birmingham local Issy Wong said: "We had a disappointing tournament last time out and we are determined to put that right. I am really looking forward to playing with the likes of Ellyse Perry and Sophie Devine again. The Hundred is such a fun competition to play in, and it's even more special for me as a local, I love Edgbaston and so I'm really looking forward to it."

A record 580,000 fans were in attendance across The Hundred last season, including over 300,000 in the women's competition. The Hundred's blend of high-quality sport and entertainment saw 41% of all tickets sold to families, 23% to juniors and 30% to women.

From 13-27 March there will be an exclusive window open to buy tickets for fans who have previously attended The Hundred. There will be a priority window open from 9-23 April for all fans who sign up in advance at Athehundred.com.

Tickets are once again great value, with prices set at £5 for juniors aged 3-15 (free for under 3s) and adults starting from £11.

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All games will again be live on Sky Sports and BBC broadcast and digital channels throughout the competition.

To stay up to date with the latest news, buy tickets or to sign up for priority access, visit **thehundred.com** or follow The Hundred, and the eight teams, on Instagram, TikTok and YouTube.

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Notes to Editors

About The Hundred:■

The Hundred is an action-packed, unmissable cricket competition that fuses world-class cricket with blockbuster entertainment.

Combining a short, fast format of cricket, with each game lasting less than three hours, and incredible entertainment beyond the sport, The Hundred is making cricket more accessible and reaching a broader audience. It's simple: 100 balls per team, most runs wins, so every ball counts.

The Hundred features eight teams rown seven cities, with men's and women's competitions taking place side by side: Welsh Fire (Cardiff), Southern Brave (Southampton), Northern Superchargers (Leeds), London Spirit, Trent Rockets (Nottingham), Oval Invincibles (London), Manchester Originals and Birmingham Phoenix. Each teams features some of the best international and domestic cricketers from around the world, including England Men's & Women's World Cup winners. ■

The Hundred fixtures are available here.

More information about The Hundred Draft powered by Sage is **available here**. ■

About The Hundred fixtures:■

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