



Moeen Ali and Liam Livingstone will both be back at Birmingham Phoenix. Photo: ECB/Getty Images

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Moeen, Perry, Wong and Woakes return to Edgbaston in The Hundred

- Moeen Ali, Ellyse Perry, Chris Woakes and Issy Wong all confirmed to be back at Edgbaston
- The Hundred Draft powered by Sage to be televised live on Sky Sports on Thursday 23 March
- Draft in the women's competition to be held for the first time
- Two Vitality Wildcard picks in the men's competition
- For more information and to sign up for priority ticket access visit thehundred.com

Birmingham Phoenix have today confirmed the men's and women's stars they have re-signed to return to Edgbaston this summer for the third year of The Hundred.

Fans at Edgbaston will be seeing some familiar faces with 10 of the men's players who took Phoenix close to The Hundred Eliminator last year retained, including captain Moeen Ali, England star and local boy Chris Woakes and Pakistan leg-spinner Shadab Khan.

Birmingham native Amy Jones is back for the women's team, who have also retained Australian superstar Ellyse Perry, Issy Wong and Em Arlott.

Rashid Khan, Jos Buttler, Nat Sciver-Brunt, Smriti Mandhana and Glenn Maxwell are among the list of players who have been retained by other teams in The Hundred.

Across both competitions, 114 players have been retained in total, meaning 134 spots remain to be filled at The Hundred Draft powered by Sage, and across the open market process in the women's competition.

Teams in the men's competition are able to retain 10 players, and women's teams can retain four of their players. Six men's sides have retained all 10, while Welsh Fire – under the new leadership of Australian great Mike Hussey – will have eight places to fill at The Draft, at which they'll have the first pick.

The women's competition will be hosting a draft for the first time, with Tammy Beaumont's Welsh Fire the first side to pick with the likes of England stars Sophia Dunkley, Danni Wyatt and Kate Cross, as well as a host of international players, up for grabs. The final list for The Hundred Draft powered by Sage is due to be confirmed on 28 February.

The Hundred will kick off its third year at Trent Bridge on Tuesday 1 August with a Trent Rockets v Southern Brave double-header – the first of 68 games that promise high-octane men's and women's sporting action, live music, and a host of family-friendly entertainment

More than half a million people attended games during The Hundred's second year in 2022, including a record-breaking 271,000 watching live

women's fixtures across the competition and more families buying tickets than in 2021.

There will be an initial, exclusive window to purchase tickets from 15-28 March for anyone who has previously bought tickets for The Hundred. Those yet to attend can sign up in advance at <u>thehundred.com</u> for priority ticket access from 5–18 April. Tickets will then go on general sale on Thursday 20 April. Tickets this year remain great value in line with 2022 pricing, with prices set at £5 for juniors aged 6-15, free for children five and under, and adults starting from £10.

Moeen Ali, winner of two ICC World Cups with England Men and one of 10 retained players with Birmingham Phoenix, said: "We're really excited about having retained 10 players ahead of the third year of the competition. We've seen across short-form competitions around the world that keeping a core squad together can make a real difference, and hopefully it'll help us win The Hundred this year. We've got a lot of talented players and it's a great group, so we can't wait to get out in front of the Edgbaston crowd again."

England Women bowler and Birmingham local Issy Wong said: "August can't come soon enough! It's always a great moment to play at Edgbaston in front of your home fans and I'm delighted to have been retained for the third year of The Hundred. We've retained some great players and I know we'll add to that at the draft and beyond and be in a great position to compete in 2023."

Over 14.1 million people tuned in to watch The Hundred action in 2022 and games will again be broadcast 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.

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⊠from 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.⊠

Highlight statistics from The Hundred 2022:⊠

- More than 500,000 people attended games across the course of the competition
- The Hundred continued to take cricket to new audiences with more women (28%), children (22%) and families (41%) attending than in the first year
- 2022 once again set a new global record for total attendance at a women's cricket competition, with 271,000 people attending
- All eight venues broke their previous best for domestic women's attendances
- Of the Sky and BBC TV coverage, 42% hadn't watched any other ECB cricket in 2022 prior to The Hundred, resulting in 5.9m new viewers
- Women (31%) and children (14%) made up a significant share of the TV audience

About The Hundred Draft powered by Sage:

For more information about The Hundred Draft powered by Sage, follow <u>this</u> <u>link.</u>

About The Hundred fixtures:

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