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Steve Smith, Meg Lanning, Megan Schutt and Rashid Khan join The Hundred

- Steve Smith, Meg Lanning, Megan Schutt and Rashid Khan among a superstar list of Direct Signings
- 148 places confirmed through retentions and Direct Signings, 68 left to fill at The Hundred Draft on 12 March
- England players retained include Jos Buttler, Nat Sciver-Brunt, Joe Root, Harry Brook and Sophie Ecclestone
- Ellyse Perry, Tim Southee, Hayley Matthews and Phoebe Litchfield some of the overseas players to return to The Hundred
- For more information, and to sign up for priority ticket access visit thehundred.com.

Twelve Direct Signings have been confirmed on Deadline Day in The Hundred, with the eight teams finalising their retentions and forming their squads ahead of The Hundred Draft on 12 March.

The list of international stars joining the competition is stronger than ever, with Australia's Steve Smith, Megan Schutt, Meg Lanning and Marcus Stoinis, New Zealand's Trent Boult, and Afghanistan's Rashid Khan all confirmed – alongside South Africans David Miller, Faf du Plessis and Heinrich Klaasen.

New Zealand's Amelia Kerr and Kane Williamson had already been confirmed along with South Africa's Laura Wolvaardt.

They join a star list of domestic and overseas retentions which includes England superstars Jos Buttler, Nat Sciver-Brunt and Adil Rashid, plus Australia's Beth Mooney, West Indies' Hayley Matthews, New Zealand's Tim Southee and Australia's Ellyse Perry.

It is the first time teams have been able to sign one men's and one women's player directly, rather than having to sign players through The Hundred Draft.

The teams will largely complete their squads at The Hundred Draft on 12 March, with May's Vitality Wildcard Draft – where teams can add two final men's and women's players, rewarding players who've been stand-out performers in domestic cricket – the final chance for teams to add to their group.

The Hundred returns for its fifth year at Lord's with a London derby between London Spirit and Oval Invincibles kicking off another year of world-class cricket and blockbuster entertainment.

Australia batter Steve Smith said: "I'm delighted to be joining Welsh Fire later this summer. I was due to be involved with The Hundred at the beginning of the competition so it's great to finally be able to make it to Wales. I've watched The Hundred from afar and I can't wait to be involved. It looks a lot of fun and obviously the cricket is world class, with talent at every team. I'm looking forward to trying out a new format and hopefully playing my part for Mike Hussey and the rest of the boys."

England all-rounder Nat Sciver-Brunt said: "The list of players joining the

competition looks better than ever, across the men's and the women's competitions. We're delighted to have [Australian duo] Ash Gardner and Alana King back at Trent Bridge, as well as a number of our home-grown players. Hopefully this is the year we can go all the way, we've still got the chance to add more quality at The Hundred Draft. I know we're all looking forward to getting back out there in front of our fans."

Birmingham Phoenix Women: Ellyse Perry, Amy Jones, Emily Arlott, Megan Schutt, Hannah Baker, Charis Pavely, Sterre Kalis, Ailsa Lister

Birmingham Phoenix Men: Liam Livingstone, Ben Duckett, Trent Boult, Jacob Bethell, Benny Howell, Adam Milne, Dan Mousley, Tim Southee, Will Smeed, Chris Wood, Aneurin Donald

London Spirit Women: Grace Harris, Danielle Gibson, Sarah Glenn, Charlie Dean, Deepti Sharma, Georgia Redmayne, Eva Gray, Cordelia Griffith, Tara Norris, Sophie Munro

London Spirit Men: Liam Dawson, Daniel Worrall, Kane Williamson, Richard Gleeson, Olly Stone, Ollie Pope, Keaton Jennings

Manchester Originals Women: Amelia Kerr, Sophie Ecclestone, Beth Mooney, Lauren Filer, Mahika Gaur, Evelyn Jones, Kathryn Bryce, Fi Morris, Danielle Gregory

Manchester Originals Men: Jos Buttler, Phil Salt, Heinrich Klaasen, Matthew Hurst, Scott Currie, Josh Tongue, Tom Hartley, Sonny Baker, Tom Aspinwall

Northern Superchargers Women: Phoebe Litchfield, Annabel Sutherland, Georgia Wareham, Kate Cross, Bess Heath, Linsey Smith, Hollie Armitage, Alice Davidson-Richards, Grace Ballinger, Davina Perrin

Northern Superchargers Men: Harry Brook, Adil Rashid, David Miller, Mitchell Santner, Brydon Carse, Matthew Potts, Ben Dwarshuis, Graham Clark, Pat Brown, Tom Lawes

Oval Invincibles Women: Marizanne Kapp, Alice Capsey, Lauren Winfield-Hill, Amanda-Jade Wellington, Meg Lanning, Tash Farrant, Ryana Macdonald-Gay, Sophia Smale, Jo Gardner, Rachel Slater

Oval Invincibles Men: Sam Curran, Will Jacks, Tom Curran, Jordan Cox, Rashid Khan, Saqib Mahmood, Sam Billings, Gus Atkinson, Nathan Sowter, Donovan Ferreira, Tawanda Muyeye

Southern Brave Women: Laura Wolvaardt, Danni Wyatt-Hodge, Maia Bouchier, Lauren Bell, Freya Kemp, Georgia Adams, Tilly Corteen-Coleman, Rhianna Southby

Southern Brave Men: James Vince, Jofra Archer, Tymal Mills, Chris Jordan, Faf du Plessis, Leus Du Plooy, Craig Overton, Laurie Evans, Finn Allen, Danny Briggs, James Coles

Trent Rockets Women: Ash Gardner, Nat Sciver-Brunt, Alana King, Heather Graham, Bryony Smith, Grace Scrivens, Kirstie Gordon, Alexa Stonehouse, Natasha Wraith, Cassidy McCarthy

Trent Rockets Men: Joe Root, Marcus Stoinis, Tom Banton, John Turner, Sam Cook, Sam Hain, Tom Alsop, Calvin Harrison

Welsh Fire Women: Hayley Matthews, Tammy Beaumont, Jessica Jonassen, Shabnim Ismail, Sarah Bryce, Georgia Elwiss, Freya Davies, Georgia Davis, Emily Windsor, Beth Langston

Welsh Fire Men: Steve Smith, Jonny Bairstow, Tom Kohler-Cadmore, Tom Abell, Luke Wells, Stephen Eskinazi

From today, supporters who are members at Counties or fans who have bought tickets for The Hundred in three seasons or more are able to buy match tickets [here](#).

An exclusive window will be open to fans who have previously bought tickets to The Hundred from 4-18 March.

All other fans who would like to access priority tickets can enter the priority sale window from 1-15 April by signing up in advance at thehundred.com.

The general sale period for the fifth year of The Hundred begins from 17 April. Tickets continue to be great value, with prices set at £5 for juniors aged

3-15 (free for under 3s) and adults starting from £12.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

Highlight statistics from The Hundred 2024:

- *Over two million people have attended The Hundred across the first four years of the competition.*
 - *In 2024, the one million landmark for fans attending The Hundred women's competition was passed.*
 - *The Hundred once again broke the global record for total attendance at a women's cricket competition in 2024, with 320,000 fans in attendance.*
 - *Records were broken for women's attendances at seven of the competition's eight venues – Emirates Old Trafford, Headingley, Sophia Gardens, Utilita Bowl, Trent Bridge, the Kia Oval and Lord's*
 - *In total, 540,000 tickets were sold for The Hundred's fourth year, with 31% of those fans women, 23% juniors, and 41% families.*
 - *Of those ticket-buyers in 2024, 30% were new to cricket and across the four years of the competition, The Hundred has welcomed over 400,000 junior ticket-holders through its doors.*
 - *Video views across The Hundred in 2024 were approximately 200m, a 114% increase on 2023, while engagements were at 18m – a 56% increase on 2023 – and impressions were 222m, up 127% on 2023.*
 - *Across Sky Sports and BBC, The Hundred had over 10 million unique viewers.*
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