

2014 WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE



Joy for Liverpool...

...tears for Chelsea

Final WSL Table 2014

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	P
Liverpool	14	7	5	2	19	10	+9	26
Chelsea	14	8	2	4	23	16	+7	26
Birmingham City	14	7	4	3	20	14	+6	25
Arsenal	14	6	3	5	24	21	+3	21
Manchester City	14	6	1	7	13	16	-3	19
Notts County	14	4	6	4	12	8	+4	18
Bristol City	14	5	1	8	18	24	-6	16
Everton	14	0	4	10	10	30	-20	4

THE SEASON WHEN... LIVERPOOL WON THE LEAGUE ON THE FINAL DAY!

A thrilling race for the WSL title went down to the wire, with both Chelsea and Birmingham City pushing the Reds all the way



Birmingham's Karen Carney was the top goalscorer

WHY IT MATTERED

Arsenal had won the last nine national titles, but in 2013 Liverpool broke their dominance. This fourth season of the Women's Super League would show if the tide really was turning.

There was some controversy before it even started. Manchester City, who were signing lots of new star players, hadn't played in the WSL before and wanted to join. But even though a new second division

was being added, City were allowed to go straight into the top division, taking the place of Doncaster Belles. Many people felt that was unfair.

Unlike other English leagues, the WSL seasons took place in the summer, between April and October. And when there are just eight clubs, every point and goal matters... as the teams fighting for the title would discover!



Liverpool take on Doncaster Belles in the cup

TOP FACT

Everton didn't win a single game all season and their relegation brought to an end their 21 consecutive years as a top-flight club



Everton struggle during the WSL Merseyside derby

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

The following year Liverpool struggled with the combination of a huge injury list and a heavy load of cup games. They **only won four of their 14 league games**, finishing second from bottom.

Chelsea tasted final day joy instead of heartbreak when they claimed the 2015 title, finishing two points clear of Man City, who would lift the title themselves in 2016.

The summer women's football calendar only lasted another two years. The FA, who are in charge of the league, decided that a **September to May season**, with a month's break in the middle, would boost attendances and help the England team. The 2017-18 campaign was the WSL's first "winter season".

THE STORY OF THE SEASON

Defending champions Liverpool started with a win over newcomers Man City, but followed it up with a series of draws. Although Birmingham set the pace with five wins in the first half of the campaign, Chelsea were never far behind and caught them when the sides met in late August.

Liverpool recovered to climb to third, but with a game left they were a point behind Birmingham and three points off leaders Chelsea. A final day win away at Man City would guarantee that the Londoners were champions!

Chelsea were shocked to be 2-0 down at half time, but their title rivals were also struggling – Birmingham were losing 2-1 at home to Notts County, while Liverpool were locked at 0-0 with Bristol Academy.

The second halves kicked off, and then the drama started. Liverpool scored three quick goals to put themselves in command. Birmingham equalised in their game and

with 20 minutes to go Chelsea pulled one back. Another goal for either side would have snatched the title, but the opposition defences were holding firm.

It was all over at Liverpool, but they couldn't celebrate yet. The players waited... and then the news came through. Chelsea had lost, Birmingham had drawn – Liverpool were champions!



Liverpool mascot Mighty Red gets wet!



Notts County ran out of money!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Notts County Ladies had financial difficulties in 2017 and the club no longer exist. The other seven teams are all still playing in the top tier of women's football!

2014 WINNERS

League Champions Liverpool

FA Cup winners Arsenal

FA WSL Cup winners Man City

Top scorer Karen Carney, Birmingham City (8)

Players' player of the year Lucy Bronze, Liverpool

Young player of the year Martha Harris, Liverpool



Liverpool fans celebrate their league title