

Message from the Club – J. League on Saturday, WE League on Sunday

A new page opens for sport in Saitama in 2021 with the start of the professional women's football league, the WE League.

Urawa Red Diamonds Ladies, champions of the 2020 Nadeshiko League, are joined by newly-founded Omiya Ardija Ventus, also based in Saitama City, and longstanding club Chifure AS Elfen Saitama, based in the area centred on Sayama City, in the pursuit of the WE League's goals of realising and nurturing a diverse society where everyone can fulfil their dreams and shine.

Our ladies' team was born as Motobuto Ladies in 1980, transformed into Urawa Reinas (later Saitama Reinas) in 1998, and became Urawa Red Diamonds Ladies in 2005. Urawa in Saitama is a football town, and we, as one of Japan's leading women's football teams, have already shared the joy of four league titles, including the first in the Reinas period in 2004, with the many fans who cheer our players at the Urawa Komaba Stadium.

Urawa Reds' forebear, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, was a giant of the men's Japan Soccer League from 1965-92. Mitsubishi Heavy Industries also has a long history of supporting the women's game in Japan. In the 1970's and 80's, when women's football in this country was still in its infancy, the Mitsubishi group, with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries at the core, provided funding, personnel, facilities and more as a key supporter of the Japan Women's Soccer Federation (1979-89), the body which independently

organized the All-Japan Women's Championship (now the Empress's Cup), national team activity and all other aspects of the women's game.

Now, with the launch of the WE League, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries has stepped forward again, in full accord with the WE League's goals, as a team naming rights partner. Our new name is Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Urawa Reds Ladies. Under this 3-year contract, we will do our utmost together with our partners to lay the foundations for the new professional team, establish medium- and long-term management plans, and nurture diversity in the community.

Urawa Reds' exploits in the J. League already thrill the people of our home town through both ups and downs. Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Urawa Reds Ladies will now be rivals for the men's team in striving to produce no less joy and excitement for our hometown community. We may not have the speed or power of our J. League counterparts but women's football does also embody great qualities of the sport, including that beauty of striving, teamwork, and fair play. We are convinced that we, too, can bring the joys of football to our home town. Our vision is the J. League on Saturday, the WE League on Sunday; our aim as professionals, to follow in Urawa Reds' footsteps by earning the love of our community and contributing thereby to Saitama own strong commitment to healthy development through sport.

Chronology of URAWA REDS LADIES

2004 (Dec.) Joint victory parade for Saitama Reinas, champions of the L. League, and Urawa Reds, winners of the J. League Second Stage.

Nagai Yoshikazu becomes team manager. Standards for professional contracts are established and the first 3 players sign. Second in the league / Semi-finalists in the Empress's Cup. Matsuda Noriko is named the league's best newcomer.

Muramatsu Hiroshi becomes team manager. Third in the league / Semi-finalists in the Empress's Cup.

Second in the league / Runners-up in the League Cup / Runners-up in the Empress's Cup. Fujita Nozomi is named the league's best newcomer.

Fourth in the league / Group stage in the League Cup / Semi-finalists in the Empress's Cup. Kohata Shiho is named the league's best newcomer.

Two-part season introduced. Third in Regular Series / Winners of Exciting Series for the strongest teams. Runners-up in the Empress's Cup. Goto Michi is the league's player of the year and Norimatsu Ruka, the best newcomer.

The single league season is restored. Eighth in the league / Semi-finalists in the League Cup / Quarter-finalists in the Empress's Cup.

Masaki Hirofumi replaces Ishihara as team manager in October. Fourth in the league / Group stage in the League Cup / Semi-finalists in the Empress's Cup.

League champions / Runners-up in the Empress's Cup. Sugasawa Yuika is the league's top scorer and player of the year.

2004

2006

2008

2010

2012

2014

2016

2018

2020

2005

2007

2009

2011

2013

2015

2017

2019

The team is reborn as Urawa Red Diamonds Ladies with the transfer of management to Urawa Reds. Sakaniwa Izumi becomes team manager. Fifth in the league / Semi-finalists in the Empress's Cup.

Third in the league / Runners-up in the League Cup / Semi-finalists in the Empress's Cup. Yano Kyoko is named the league's best newcomer.

League champions / Runners-up in the Empress's Cup. Ando Kozue is the league's top scorer and player of the year.

Third in the league / Quarter-finalists in the Empress's Cup. Kira Chinatsu is named the league's best newcomer.

Tezuka Takako becomes team manager but steps down in June. Yoshida Yasushi is appointed after Kanbe Shintaro leads the team for one game in September. Sixth in the league / Round of Sixteen (first round) in Empress's Cup.

Sixth in the Regular Series / Sixth in the Exciting Series / Quarter-finalists in the Empress's Cup. Seike Kiko is named the league's best newcomer.

Ishihara Takayoshi becomes team manager. Third in the league / Runners-up in the League Cup / Semi-finalists in the Empress's Cup.

Mori Eiji becomes team manager. Second in the league / Semi-finalists in the League Cup / Runners-up in the Empress's Cup.

2021 MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES URAWA REDS LADIES' PARTNERS



MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES URAWA REDS LADIES



WE LEAGUE 2021 WE LEAGUE PRE-SEASON MATCH

Match	Date	H/A	Kick Off	Opponent	Stadium
Pre-season Match No. 12	22/5 (Sat)	AWAY	13:00 KICK OFF	INAC KOBE LEONESSA	NOEVIR STADIUM KOBE (HYOGO PREFECTURE)
Pre-season Match No. 18	29/5 (Sat)	HOME	14:00 KICK OFF	SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA REGINA	URAWA KOMABA STADIUM
Club Original Match	19/6 (Sat)	HOME	14:00 KICK OFF	JEF UNITED ICHIHARA CHIBA LADIES	URAWA KOMABA STADIUM

90-minute matches played in 2 halves of 45 minutes each. Matches will be drawn if the scores are level after 90 minutes. Teams will not be ranked in any way according to the results of these matches.

This match coordinated between the clubs.

※For further details of the WE League's pre-season matches, please refer to the official WE League and Urawa Red Diamonds Ladies websites.

URAWA REDS ONLINE TICKET SITE
REX TICKET

<https://rex-ticket.jp/event/ladies/>
For ticket information, go to REX TICKET, the official Urawa Reds ticket site, at: <https://rex-ticket.jp/event/ladies/>





2021-2022 TEAM SQUAD

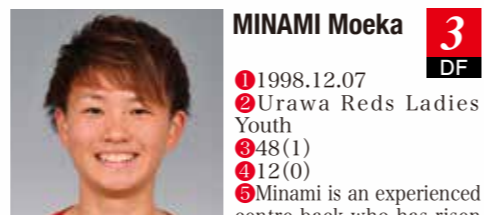
MITSUBISHI HEAVY URAWA REDS


IKEDA Sakiko **1**
GK

- 1992.09.08
- Urawa Reds Jr Youth Ladies
- 131 (0)
- 16 (0)
- With good ball skills, precise kicking and fine judgment when leaving her line, Ikeda, one of Reds' representative home-grown players, is a commanding presence across a wide playing area, supporting Reds' high back line almost as an auxiliary defender.


OSAFUNE Kana **2**
DF

- 1989.10.16
- Vegalta Sendai Ladies
- 92 (8)
- 15 (2)
- Now in her 7th season at Reds, Osafune is the consummate centre-back with over 300 official match appearances. She defends calmly to break down opposing attacks and also scores at set pieces.


MINAMI Moeka **3**
DF

- 1998.12.07
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 48 (1)
- 12 (0)
- Minami is an experienced centre-back who has risen through the age groups for the national team. She also joins the attack when opportunity knocks and scores many goals. In 2021, her fifth season since advancing from the youth team, she is now a university graduate and has signed professional terms.

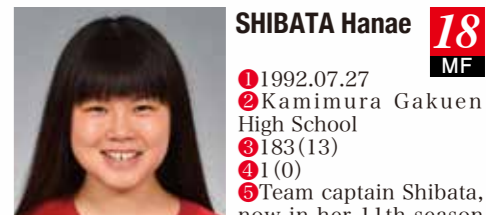
INDUSTRIES LADIES


MIZUTANI Yuki **16**
MF

- 1996.04.11
- University of TSUKUBA Women's Soccer Club
- 41 (5)
-
- Mizutani played for Reds as a student while still at Tsukuba University before signing formally in 2019. With her high skill and broad vision, she can fill any midfield role and also provides the feeds that produce the goals.


ENDO Yu **17**
MF

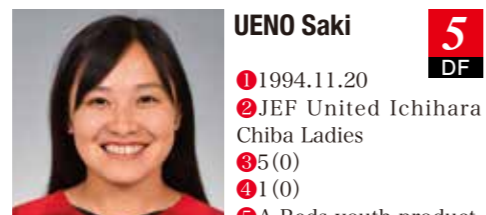
- 1997.10.29
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 28 (1)
-
- Endo has been known as a swift wing player ever since her Reds youth days. Now in her sixth season with the first team, she has gained a lot more playing time since 2019 and her direct running has become a rich source of chances from the sides.


SHIBATA Hanae **18**
MF

- 1992.07.27
- Kamimura Gakuen High School
- 183 (13)
- 1 (0)
- Team captain Shibata, now in her 11th season at Reds, has moved back from her original attacking midfield position to a holding role. She is now the skilled general for breaking up her opponents' attacks but also still scores a few herself from melees in front of goal.


SASAKI Mayu **4**
MF

- 1993.01.12
- Mynavi Vegalta Sendai Ladies
- 51 (4)
- 8 (0)
- Quick and with a pinpoint cross, versatile Sasaki, now in her fourth season at the club, plays left side-back, left side-half or as a holding midfielder as a big factor for the team wherever she is required the most.


UENO Saki **5**
DF

- 1994.11.20
- JEF United Ichihara Chiba Ladies
- 5 (0)
- 1 (0)
- A Reds youth product, fast on the overlap, left-side back Ueno won the league's best newcomer award at Chiba in 2013 and has also represented Japan. She returned to the Reds nest in 2020.


KURISHIMA Akari **6**
MF

- 1994.09.14
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 110 (3)
- 1 (0)
- Kurishima rose to the top team in the difficult 2013 season and made her mark right from the beginning with 10 appearances as a hard-running holding midfielder. She intercepts skilfully and packs a fine long shot as well.


SHIOKOSHI Yuzuho **19**
MF

- 1997.11.01
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 59 (4)
-
- Shiokoshi, a youth product now in her 6th season with the first team, is a versatile dribbler who can contribute anywhere in the attack and also a dead ball specialist. She combines broad vision with the skill to bring the ball through by herself and score.


TAKAHASHI Minori **20**
DF

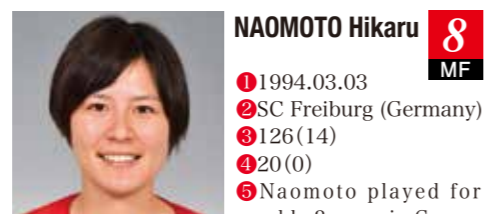
- 2001.10.08
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 40
-
- A precise, dependable defender, Takahashi played as centre-back and team captain in her youth days at Reds. She joined the first team in 2020.


BUNDO Mio **21**
GK

- 1997.03.08
- VONDS Ichihara FC Ladies
- 30
-
- Bundo came to Reds in 2020 via Ryutsu Keizai University and Chiba League First Division side VONDS Ichihara. She made the bench for 1 league and all Emperor's Cup matches last season and aims to go higher this year!


TAKAHASHI Hana **7**
DF

- 2000.02.19
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 43 (7)
- 1 (0)
- Quick, athletic Takahashi plays defensively at right side-back or in front as a forward and is known for her powerful shot. Richly experienced already, she has represented Japan through the various age groups.


NAOMOTO Hikaru **8**
MF

- 1994.03.03
- SC Freiburg (Germany)
- 126 (14)
- 20 (0)
- Naomoto played for roughly 2 years in Germany before returning in 2020 and contributed hugely to the title triumph with her freshly emboldened play. She is a chance maker, dribbling, providing the last pass, and shooting from outside the box.


SUGASAWA Yuika **9**
FW

- 1990.10.05
- JEF United Ichihara Chiba Ladies
- 69 (48)
- 71 (20)
- Now in her 5th season at Reds, Sugawara is a striker with 111 league goals to her credit so far and the ability to find the way through even in the unlikeliest situations. In 2020, she was the league's top scorer for the third time and won the league's MVP award.


IPOSHI Hiroka **22**
MF

- 2001.05.16
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 0
-
- Ipposhi can play either up front or in a supporting attacking role from midfield. She suffered a major injury in her third year at senior high but is now fit again and eager to prove herself in the Reds first team.


SHIBAYAMA Fumina **23**
MF

- 2000.04.13
- Tokiwagi Gakuen High School
- 1 (0)
-
- As captain and a holding midfielder, Shibayama led her school to a title and a runners-up medal in national high school tournaments in 2018-19 before joining Reds for the 2019 season. She now plays as a left side-back.


SHIMADA Mei **24**
FW

- 2002.05.08
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 30
-
- Shimada joins the first team this season. A prolific scorer from her youth team days, she won the national U-15 youth tournament with Reds in 2017. Strong under pressure, she turns her opponents well and shoots with clinical precision.


ANDO Kozue **10**
FW

- 1982.07.09
- SGS Essen(Germany)
- 159 (75)
- 126 (19)
- Ando, now in her 20th season since her Japanese league debut, has become a legend of Japanese women's football. She returned to Japan in 2017 after 7 and a half years in Germany and now leads the team mentally as well as through her play. She won the World Cup with Japan in 2011.


SEIKE Kiko **11**
FW

- 1996.08.08
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 106 (24)
- 2 (1)
- Seike scored 8 goals while still in her third year at senior high school in Reds' 2014 title season. With her must-see powerful shot and speedy dribbling, she has been playing as right side-back since 2019.


FUKUDA Shiori **12**
GK

- 2002.06.13
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 1 (0)
-
- A member of Reds' Japan U-15 youth tournament-winning team in 2017, Fukuda has worked her way up through the national teams of each age group and, as a third year at senior high, made her league debut off the bench in 2020. She wants to hear the fans cheer for her play this season.


KAWAI Nonoko **25**
DF

- 2002.05.05
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 0
-
- Another member of Reds' victorious team in the 2017 national U-15 youth tournament, Kawai came through as a captain and centre-back. A serious injury put her out of action towards the end of her youth team days but she is now looking to put that behind her in the WE League.


NAGASHIMA Reina **13**
DF

- 1998.09.12
- Urawa Reds Ladies Youth
- 24 (1)
-
- Nagashima is starting her 5th season on the first team. She played across the field, including as a forward, holding midfielder and side back, at the youth level but today has settled into an attacking midfield role as a chance maker with an incisive early cross.


UEMURA Shoko **14**
FW

- 1993.08.17
- Nittaidai FIELDS Yokohama
- 3 (0)
-
- Uemura was a prolific goal scorer in the second division through 2017, and the division's top scorer in 2016. She was ever-present for newly-promoted Yokohama in the top flight, too, in 2018, and joined Reds the following season.


YANAGISAWA Saki **15**
MF

- 1996.05.05
- Waseda University Association Football Club (Women)
- 1 (1)
-
- Now in her third season back at Reds, Yanagisawa, another youth product, is a hard-running attacking midfielder. She played for the Japanese university team while a student at Waseda University and also picked up a number of titles.

COACHING STAFF

General Manager	MORI Eiji
Team Manager	KUSUNOSE Naoki
Head Coach	MASAKI Hirofumi
Goalkeeper Coach	TATEISHI Norihisa
Assistant Coach	SHIMOYAMA Kaoru
Trainer	HAYASHI Saho

MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES URAWA REDS LADIES

Official site

<https://www.urawa-reds.co.jp/ladies/>