



WOMEN'S AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS MOROCCO 26

BORN WINNERS



With the Women's Africa Cup of Nations on the horizon, it's time to look at the names and teams that keep outperforming the rest of the nations. The tournament will kick off on the 26th of July and run to the 16th of August played across Rabat and Casablanca in Morocco.

What's at stake? A place in the 2027 FIFA Women's World Cup in Brazil but also prize money at USD 1 Million. What makes this edition even bigger is the expansion to 16 nations from the continent. Prior to 2022 only 8 nations participated, and in the 2022 edition 12 nations took the stage



CAF 
**WOMEN'S
AFRICA CUP
OF NATIONS
MOROCCO 26**

GROUP A

-  MOROCCO
-  ALGERIA
-  SENEGAL
-  KENYA

GROUP B

-  SOUTH AFRICA
-  CÔTE D'IVOIRE
-  BURKINA FASO
-  TANZANIA

GROUP C

-  NIGERIA
-  ZAMBIA
-  EGYPT
-  MALAWI

GROUP D

-  GHANA
-  CAMEROON
-  MALI
-  CAPE VERDE



A LOOK AT THE HISTORY

WAFCON dates back to 1991 but was restricted into a biennial tournament from 1998 which is now considered the first edition. 1991 and 1995 saw Nigeria win the titles but do not form part of their 10 titles to date.

Nigeria won the 2024 edition against Morocco making it their 10th title. Equatorial Guinea (2008 and 2012) and South Africa (2022) are the only other two sides to have ever won the tournament. 26 nations have competed in the WAFCON across Africa with the 2026 edition seeing Mali and Cape Verde make their tournament debuts.



16

TEAMS



ONE DREAM.

SOUTH AFRICA

have been heavy contenders at WAFCON playing in every edition since 1998. Banyana Banyana have played in all but 2 semi finals, ending runners up 4 times until 2022 when they went to win their maiden title in Morocco. South Africa went on to host the competition in 2000, 2004 and 2010. South Africa used the momentum of winning the WAFCON into the FIFA Women's World Cup in 2023 reaching the knockout stages for the first time in their history both mens and womens.

The team is coached by South African football legend Dr Desiree Ellis, she has transformed Banyana Banyana into one of the most consistent and competitive women's side on the continent. She's brought in emerging talent and experience into this years squad looking to erase 2024 and go back to their winning ways.

Players to watch: Thembi Kgatlana, Hilda Magaia, Nthabiseng Majiya



NIGERIA

Nigeria has been a dominant force in women's football in the continent. Winning 6 titles back to back from 1998 to 2006. The Super Falcons continued being a powerhouse featuring in semi-final of all the editions since its inception. The Super Falcons are also the only African side to have featured in all FIFA Women's World Cups.

The 2022 semi final between 9 time champions Nigeria and hosts Morocco saw record breaking attendance as we all viewership for the women's game. More than 45 500 spectators witnessed Morocco defeat Nigeria to reach their first WAFCON finals.

Players to watch: Esther Okoronkwo, Chinwendu Ihezuo



GHANA

Considered one of the continent's top sides, bounced back in 2024 to claim bronze in the tournament after not qualifying for the 2022 edition. Ghana has ended runners up 3 times and won bronze 4 times in the competition. Their 2024 success came from a change of coaches with Kim Lars Bjorkegren coming in to take over the Black Queens.

In 2026 Ghana will look to win their maiden title but will be tested in their group. The team has a mix of experience and home grown talent. Foreign based players also return to represent the Black Queens. Ghana will also use this competition to boost their chances of qualifying for the World Cup having last made an appearance in 2007.

Players to watch: Cynthia Konlan Fiindib, Adubea, Boaduwa and Evelyn Badu



CAMEROON

One of the teams to have featured in a majority of the WAFCONs since 1998. They've only missed 2 competitions including the 2024 edition. They come back this year and look to also win their maiden title. Cameroon have played in 10 semi finals reaching the final 3 times and ending runners up.

Coming back to the tournament the Indomitable Lionesses looks to cement their stand as one of Africa's most consistent teams in the competition. Over the years they have clashed with rivals Nigeria and are one of the only 3 teams that have reached the final apart from previous winners.

Players to watch: Naomi Eto, Gabrielle Aboudi Onguene, and Nchout Njoya Ajara



MOROCCO

Tournament hosts and back to back runners up Morocco is also in search of their maiden title. The North Africans are already making history by being the first nation to host 3 consecutive tournaments and hope to make this year the year they win on home soil.

The Atlas Lionesses will look to turn silver to gold as they begin their campaign against Kenya. The team has grown to be one of Africa's emerging powerhouses, with continuous backing into the womens game. They made a historic round of 16 qualification at their maiden World Cup in 2023 and the coach says the mix of new talent and experienced leaders has led to this success for the side. Since 2024 Morocco has invested more into player, and facility development in preparation for WAFCON 2026.

Players to watch: Ghizlane Chebbak, Kautar Azraf, Nouhaila Benzina

