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FOUNDED 1888



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OFFICIAL ADDRESS

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Glasgow, G40 3RE *Tel.:* 041-554 2710

Celtic v. Kilmarnock

CELTIC PARK

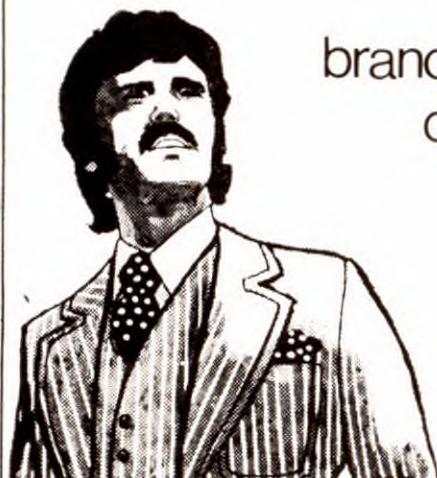
SCOTTISH LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday, 31st August, 1974 Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

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JOCK STEIN says...

Today we start the long race for the league championship title and Kilmarnock provide the opening opposition in a season which will transform the Scottish football scene as we know it at present.

Quite apart from the race for the championship flag, clubs will be battling for a place among the top ten clubs who will form the Premier league starting next season.

In welcoming Kilmarnock we also congratulate ex-Celtic player and coach Willie Fernie who took up the challenge of the managerial chair at Rugby Park last season and successfully guided the Ayrshire club to promotion.

Qualifying

Willie and his players have produced splendid results in qualifying for the quarter-final stage of the League Cup and today's game could very easily prove to be a game of the highest quality.

For our own part, we have also qualified for the next round of the League Cup and our pairing with Hamilton Accies brings us games with a team managed by another former Celtic player, in this case Eric Smith.

Although we didn't set the heather on fire in our sectional games in the League Cup, we still had our section sewn-up before our final game against Motherwell at Fir Park.

This enabled us to give a well-earned rest to some players and reward others for their industry and effort with the reserves.

It's fair to say that we haven't been firing on all cylinders in our matches—with the possible exception of the

Liverpool game—but there have been flashes of real Celtic form in a couple of recent games which indicate some players are beginning to find their form.

Good Side

Last weekend I travelled to Holland to see our European Cup opponents, Olympiakos of Greece, playing in one of their pre-season tour games.

In circumstances which didn't necessarily show the Greek champions at their best, they showed enough to indicate that they'll be a good side.

However, that game isn't until Sept. 18, and we have a lot of football to play before then, starting with Kilmarnock this afternoon.

The League Championship flag will be unfurled before today's game and then we'll set off on the long haul trying to take our title run into double figures.

Behaviour

The so-called Celtic supporters who were in the enclosure at Fir Park on Wednesday night and normally stand in the centre of the Celtic Park enclosure had better mend their ways. We want nothing to do with people singing songs of a religious or political nature and chanting obscenities to the discomfiture of all decent spectators.

Celtic employ staff irrespective of political or religious views and people of every persuasion support the club. That's how it should be.

The culprits are being warned—behave yourselves and control your tongues at matches—or we will take action to end this embarrassing behaviour.

Spectators are requested to avoid undue haste in and around the ground and especially when leaving at the end of the match. They are also requested to cooperate with police and stewards in the interest of safety.

TEAMS AND OFFICIALS

CELTIC HONOURS

Scottish League Champions (29 times)

1893, 1894, 1896,
1898, 1905, 1906,
1907, 1908, 1909,
1910, 1914, 1915,
1916, 1917, 1919,
1922, 1926, 1936,
1938, 1954, 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969,
1970, 1971, 1972,
1973, 1974.

Scottish League Cup Winners (7 times)

1957, 1958, 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969,
1970.

CELTIC

(from)

CONNAGHAN

McGRAIN

McCLUSKEY

CONNELLY

McNEILL

CALLAGHAN

BROGAN

JOHNSTONE

MURRAY

DALGLISH

WILSON

DAVIDSON

LENNOX

R.

G.

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A ABERDEEN
HIBERNIAN

B AIRDRIE
DUNDEE

C ARBROATH
MORTON

D AYR UNITED
RANGERS

E DUMBARTON
CLYDE

F DUNDEE UNITED
MOTHERWELL

G HEARTS
ST. JOHNSTONE

H PARTICK THISTLE
DUNFERMLINE

ALS FOR TODAY'S GAME

CELTIC HONOURS

KILMARNOCK

Referee:
B. VALENTINE
(Dundee)

Linesmen:
R. STEWART
(Clydebank)

J. O'NEILL
(Blantyre)

(from)
STEWART
MAXWELL
ROBERTSON
McCULLOCH
RODMAN
McDICKEN
COOK
FLEMING
MORRISON
SHEED
SMITH
McSHERRY
WHYTE

Scottish Cup Winners (23 times)

1892, 1899, 1900,
1904, 1907, 1908,
1911, 1912, 1914,
1923, 1925, 1927,
1931, 1933, 1937,
1951, 1954, 1965,
1967, 1969, 1971,
1972, 1974.

European Cup
1967.

Coronation Cup
1953.

**Empire Exhibition
Cup**
1938.

SCOREBOARD

I	BIRMINGHAM CITY WOLVERHAMPTON	M	LEICESTER CITY CARLISLE
J	BURNLEY COVENTRY CITY	N	LUTON TOWN Q.P.R.
K	CHELSEA LIVERPOOL	O	MANCHESTER CITY LEEDS UNITED
L	EVERTON ARSENAL	P	NEWCASTLE UTD. WEST HAM UNITED

TODAY'S VISITORS

Kilmarnock, managed by former Celtic forward Willie Fernie, visit Celtic Park today for the opening fixture of the 1974-75 League Championship campaign.

The league race this year, however, is somewhat different from the usual title race. With only the ten leading clubs qualifying for the new Premier League, this season's competition takes on a keener than normal competitive edge.

Killie, after good League Cup qualifying displays, have their sights set firmly on a place among the elite and Willie Fernie feels that a game against the present League Champions is a good test of their challenge.

INSPIRED

On the last occasion that Celtic opened the season with Kilmarnock as guests, the game was played at Hampden (because of stand repairs at Celtic Park) and Celtic won 6-2 despite an inspired performance by the then Killie goalkeeper Alistair Hunter.

Today, however, we have a detailed look at a concluding league match between the two clubs on May 15th 1967, the season in which Celtic won the League Championship, Scottish Cup and League Cup treble for the first time.

These trophies, together with the Glasgow Cup were put on display at half-time for the benefit of the fans.

Only three of the Celts who played in the match are still on Celtic's books. None of the Killie team who played that Monday night is on the Rugby Park staff this season.

The teams were :—

Celtic—Fallon, Craig and Gemmell, Murdoch, Cushley and Clark, Johnstone and McNeill, Wallace, Auld and Lennox. Twelfth man Hughes.

Kilmarnock—Ferguson, King and McFadzean, Murray, McGrory and Beattie, McLean and McNally, Bertelsen, Queen and Watson (C), Twelfth man Watson (M).

Bobby Lennox opened the scoring for Celtic midway through the first half when he ran on to a Wallace pass to score from the edge of the box. The only other goal of the game was scored by Willie Wallace himself when he controlled a Bobby Murdoch pass with his right foot and smashed an unsavable shot past 'keeper Ferguson with his left.

JUBILANT

At the end of the game the jubilant Celtic players chaired manager Jock Stein on to the park to a terrific ovation from the delighted fans. Looking back the records we find that Kilmarnock haven't won a League game at Celtic Park since December 10th, 1955, Killie won that game 2-0 and Willie Fernie was a member of the Celtic team that season.



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