

# CELTIC



THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY  
MAGAZINE 2008/09

v ABERDEEN  
ISSUE 20



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## SOCIAL MISSION STATEMENT

### Introduction

Celtic Football Club is legendary and as with most legends as much myth as fact surrounds its history and what the Club stands for today. The Social Mission Statement aims to simply define what the Club stands for and seeks to promote within society.

### History

Celtic Football Club was founded in 1888. Its principal founder was a Marist Brother named Walfrid. The Club had two principal aims: The first aim was to raise funds to provide food for the poor of the East End of Glasgow, an area of the City that was greatly impoverished and had a high rate of infant mortality. Within the East End was a large Irish community and friction was growing between the native Glaswegians and the new influx of Irish. Brother Walfrid saw the need for social integration and his vision was a football club that Scottish and Irish, Protestants and Catholics alike could support. A new football club would be a vehicle to bring the communities together and this was the second aim. The Marist brother sought for the Club to have both a Scottish and Irish identity and hence, the Club's name "Celtic" came about, representing a bridge of cultures across the Irish Sea.

### Current Positioning of Celtic Football Club

Celtic Football Club is a Scottish football club with proud Irish links. The primary business of Celtic is as a football club. It is run on a professional business basis with no political agenda. However, the Club has a wider role and the responsibility of being a major Scottish social institution promoting health, well-being and social integration.

### Who is Celtic Football Club for?

Celtic Football Club is for people who want to support a football club that strives for excellence in Scotland and in Europe, is proud of its history, supportive of its local community and seeks to support the following aims: "To maximise all opportunities to disassociate the Club from sectarianism and bigotry of any kind. To promote Celtic as a Club for all people, regardless of gender, age, religion, race or ability."

### Summary

Celtic is a club for everyone who believes in football as a medium for healthy pleasure, entertainment and social integration. The Club always has been and always will simply aim to be the team of the people.

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# MANAGER

## GORDON STRACHAN



**W**ELCOME to Celtic Park today for the last match before the top six break away for the final five games of the season.

We go into today's match knowing that we will be lining up against Aberdeen again very soon as Jimmy Calderwood's side have deservedly gained that all-important place in the top half of the table.

They are there because they have been consistent and are a hard team to beat but we have been pretty steady at home recently with a string of fine results with 15 goals scored and none lost in our last three games here so it looks like we could be in for a good test today.

Indeed, Aberdeen were the last side to get the better of us in the league but we obviously aim to be on our toes today as the season enters its final phase.

I've been pleased with the scoring rate here over the last few games with Falkirk and Hamilton Accies being the most recent

games, featuring two 4-0 wins after our 7-0 defeat of St Mirren.

A highlight of our recent games has been the return of Jan Vennegoor of Hesselink and Georgios Samaras to the scoresheet but, once more, we have been afflicted by injuries and that will play a major part in the team selection today.

However, there are a few names on their way back as well and there will be plenty of competition for places today and in the final run-in.

After the international break, we picked up another couple of niggles in our draw with Hearts at Tynecastle last week so a few of the players have been resting up for a day or so while others have been involved in light training because we aim to put out our strongest team for the game today as we go all out to maintain our place at the top of the table.

With your help we can do that as we are all up for this challenge in bringing in another title.

# CELTIC FACTFILE



## CELTIC PLC DIRECTORS

### Celtic plc Directors:

John Reid  
Peter Lawwell  
Eric Riley  
Dermot Desmond  
Tom Allison  
Brian McBride  
Brian Wilson  
Ian Livingston

### CFAC Directors:

Peter Lawwell  
Eric Riley  
John Keane  
Michael McDonald  
Kevin Sweeney

### Manager:

Gordon Strachan

### Assistant Manager:

Garry Pendrey

### Coach:

Neil Lennon

### Head of Youth:

Chris McCart

### Football Development Manager:

John Park

### Reserve Coach:

Willie McStay

### Club Doctor:

Derek McCormack

### Kit Controller:

John Clark

## CLUB HONOURS

### Scottish League Winners [42 times]

1892-93, 1893-94, 1895-96, 1897-98,  
1904-05, 1905-06, 1906-07, 1907-08,  
1908-09, 1909-10, 1913-14, 1914-15,  
1915-16, 1916-17, 1918-19, 1921-22,  
1925-26, 1935-36, 1937-38, 1953-54,  
1965-66, 1966-67, 1967-68, 1968-69,  
1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73,  
1973-74, 1976-77, 1978-79, 1980-81,  
1981-82, 1985-86, 1987-88, 1997-98,  
2000-01, 2001-02, 2003-04, 2005-06,  
2006-07, 2007-08

### Scottish Cup Winners [34 times]

1892, 1899, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1908,  
1911, 1912, 1914, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1931,  
1933, 1937, 1951, 1954, 1965, 1967,  
1969, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977,  
1980, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1995, 2001,  
2004, 2005, 2007

### League Cup Winners [14 times]

1956-57, 1957-58, 1965-66, 1966-67, 1967-68,  
1968-69, 1969-70, 1974-75, 1982-83, 1997-98,  
1999-00, 2000-01, 2005-06, 2008-09

### European Cup Winners 1967

### Coronation Cup Winners 1953

## CLUB DIRECTORY & HONOURS

Celtic Football Club  
Celtic Park, Glasgow, G40 3RE  
**Telephone:** 0871 226 1888  
**Website:** www.celticfc.net

**Formed:** 1888

**Stadium:** Celtic Park

**Capacity:** 60,506

**Home strip colours:**

Green/white hooped shirts, white shorts,  
white socks

**Away strip colours:**

Gold shirts, green shorts, gold socks

**Record attendance:**

92,000 v Rangers, 1938

**Record victory:**

11-0 v Dundee, 1895

**Record defeat:**

0-8 v Motherwell, 1937

**Most league goals in 1 season:**

50 - Jimmy McGrory, 1935-36

**Most Premier/SPL goals in 1 season:**

35 - Brian McClair, 1986-87

35 - Henrik Larsson, 2000-01

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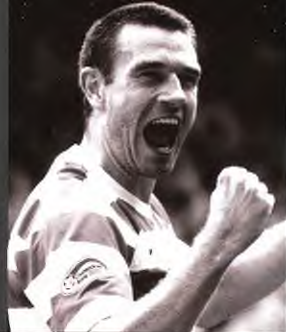
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# CAPTAIN

## STEPHEN McMANUS



**ONCE more we take to the pitch in another concerted effort to earn three points in the fight for the championship but, as I'm writing these programme notes midweek in preparation for today's game, I don't know if I'll be involved in the action this afternoon.**

Thanks to an injury picked up against Hearts last weekend, I could be on the bench or sitting with you in the stands watching the game unfold but one thing is for sure - no matter who takes to the field today, the 11 men involved will be giving nothing less than 100 per cent commitment as we play our final game before the split.

Despite the draw at Tynecastle last week, we still go into this weekend's meeting on top of the table and that's where we still aim to be at the end of the game.

However, we are fully aware that a really tough test in the shape of Aberdeen stands between us and that goal so we know that we are in for a difficult game against a side that has caused us a few problems this season in games that have featured more than a few goals.

We also know that we will be facing Aberdeen again in the near future as their performances this season have merited a place in the top six and they will also have their eyes set on Europe so they will set a formidable barrier in our bid for full points today.

With your backing, however, we all know what this Celtic team is capable of as our last three home games have proved with plenty of goals up front and nothing given away at the back.

And although this afternoon will provide a sterner test, we can take inspiration from our recent scorelines here to go into this game with the aim of finishing with full points.

STEPHEN McMANUS

