

# CELTIC



THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY  
MAGAZINE 2008/09

v FALKIRK  
ISSUE 19



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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



**A**FTER being away from home for over a month, we make a quick return to Celtic Park tonight after our weekend clash with Hamilton Accies.

It's going to be another tough match, but with just eight league games remaining, that will be the case every week between now and the end of the season.

It was a tremendous performance on Saturday against a team who have been difficult opponents throughout this season, and we were delighted with the victory, the four goals and the clean sheet.

Most of our squad had been away on international duty, which hindered our preparations and, in some cases, meant that players were only returning back here a few hours before the game.

That is something that we are used to and it is what happens at big clubs when there are a lot of top-quality players in the squad. Nevertheless, it can still be a difficult challenge so it was

very pleasing to see the incredible energy levels among our players and it was a display I'm sure you all enjoyed.

Everyone was also delighted with the goals from Georgios Samaras and Jan Vennegoor of Hesselink.

We have a squad here full of good team-mates and those two players have continued to work incredibly hard in training and in our matches for the team, even when they weren't scoring, so it was great to see them get their rewards on Saturday.

And we saw another piece of Naka magic to set up Aiden for his goal.

We enjoyed the victory on Saturday but the focus quickly shifted towards tonight's match against Falkirk.

Regardless of league positions, we know that Falkirk are a good football team and a side who will give us a tough game tonight.

So we know that we will have to be at our very best in order for us to succeed in our aim of gaining all three points.

# 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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# CAPTAIN

## STEPHEN McMANUS



**T**HERE is a tremendous team spirit in the squad here and that has been a major factor in our success over the past three seasons.

It is incredibly tough to win the league title and it doesn't get any easier trying to repeat the feat. If anything it actually gets more difficult and we know that there is still a lot of hard work ahead in order for us to achieve our number one goal again.

But on Saturday, I think people got a glimpse of the team spirit with the way the boys celebrated Sami and Jan's goals.

They are both really important members of the squad and both of them have already made a massive contribution to our previous success.

And we were all delighted to see them among the goals against Hamilton. It would be great if they scored in every game - I'm sure they'd be the first to admit that - but that is never the case for any striker. Though even when the goals dried up, they kept working hard every day and it was great to see them get on the scoresheet.

That's why everyone wanted to join in the celebrations

because we've seen on a daily basis the effort they've been putting in and they thoroughly deserve to be back among the goals.

It would also be great to see them score again tonight but, like every game we play, as long as we win the game, then it doesn't matter who gets the goals tonight.

Falkirk will be just as determined to win this game and John Hughes' team are always difficult opponents.

They're also a good football team so I think we're set for a decent match tonight, and let's hope we're cheering some more Celtic goals, regardless of who gets them.

STEPHEN McMANUS

