

hoops

THE OFFICIAL CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 2012/13



UEFA
CHAMPIONS
LEAGUE



1888-2013

celtic juventus



12TH FEBRUARY 2013 • KICK OFF: 7.45PM • £4
UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE LAST 16 • FIRST LEG



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FRONT

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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.





NEIL LENNON AND THE FIRST TEAM SQUAD CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE

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Manager's Notes

NEIL LENNON



TOGETHER, WE CAN CREATE ANOTHER MEMORABLE NIGHT AT CELTIC PARK



GOOD evening and a very warm welcome to Celtic Park for our UEFA Champions League last 16 tie with Juventus. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend that welcome to everyone from Juventus, management, players and supporters, who have made the trip from Turin to Glasgow.

This is a match that we've all been looking forward to since the draw was made back in December, and now that it's here, it's one that we all want to enjoy.

For any club to reach the last 16 of this competition is a great achievement, and you only have to look at the teams who have made it to this stage to realise how well we've done and also how good every team is.

There are nine previous winners of the European Cup/UEFA Champions League in the last 16, including ourselves and Juventus, which also means there are some exciting match-ups at this stage.

Our game tonight certainly falls into that category, and when two famous

names like Celtic and Juventus meet in European competition, it's a game that creates great interest and excitement.

I was lucky enough, as a Celtic player, to face Juventus in the UEFA Champions League back in 2001. Both of those games, in Turin and here at Celtic Park, were very tough encounters, but also memorable ones for a whole variety of reasons.

Juventus contained a host of world-class players then, as do the current Juventus squad. You only have to look at their achievement last season in being the first side to remain unbeaten in winning the Serie A title to realise that, while they also finished top of their UEFA Champions League group this season, knocking out the holders, Chelsea, in the process.

When the draw was made, we knew immediately that we were facing a tough challenge, but it's one that we're all looking forward to.

European nights at Celtic Park are famous throughout football, and we've

enjoyed some great victories here over the years, most recently our wins over Barcelona and Spartak Moscow in this season's group stage.

Our aim, obviously, is to try and win tonight's match, and take a victory to Turin next month for the second leg. The players will be focused on that task and determined to do everything they can to achieve that.

Your support, as always, will be vital tonight. The reputation that Celtic Park enjoys as a special European venue is due, in no small part, to the atmosphere that our supporters create, and I'm sure that will be the case again tonight.

Together, hopefully we can create another memorable night. Enjoy the game.