

CELTIC



THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY
MAGAZINE 2008/09

v ST MIRREN
ISSUE 17



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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



"GOALS ARE OBVIOUSLY WHAT MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DEFEATS, DRAWS AND VICTORIES SO MISSED CHANCES HAVE AFFECTED US LATELY AND WE AIM TO GET BACK ON TRACK TODAY AGAINST ST MIRREN."

W **E have a new challenge before us now but it's one that the players and the backroom staff are up for in the championship race between now and the end of the season.**

This side has faced challenges before and risen to them by doing all that was asked of them and they have the determination to do that once more.

They are also determined to make amends for the loss of points over the last few games and, although I feel we have controlled games or great parts of them, the full three points have remained just outwith our reach.

The players as a team have nothing to reproach themselves about and last week at Fir Park was a prime example of switching off for a split second and then we paid the price by losing an equalising goal.

It's something we have to deal with but we do have the players here to cope with such setbacks and, if the truth be

known, we have been in worse positions before and still battled through to be champions.

We deserved to win last week and we could make a case for picking up full points in all of our games lately.

Goals are obviously what make the difference between defeats, draws and victories so missed chances have affected us lately and we aim to get back on track today against St Mirren.

Gus MacPherson has rallied his team and they have put a decent run together but that doesn't tell us anything we don't already know - it's obvious that they are a difficult team to beat and that they will put up a tough test for us this afternoon.

We hit a bit of form against them in our last game at Love Street but they have kept it tight here before and they can be a hard team to overcome.

However, we have the men to cope with that and with your backing today we can pull in another 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

Youth team Coach:

John McLaughlan

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 [13 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

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



WE know what we have to do today and to achieve that aim we will have to take advantage on our domination of games by converting that pressure into scoring goals.

I feel we have been controlling games recently but, as a team, we haven't been converting goals to match our possession in the matches but we know that has to change soon - and what better time than today?

Still, St Mirren won't be making it easy for us as Gus MacPherson has a well-organised team at his disposal and they have made things difficult for us in the past.

Their last visit here was a tight 1-0 win for us by virtue of a penalty while they are on a wee bit of an unbeaten run at the moment, but we know we have the ability and belief to halt that run and kick-start our own winning sequence after a run of drawn games.

The visitors are also on a four-game run of consecutive league draws, while we have dropped points with a number

of draws and that is something we fully aim to rectify today.

Of course, today is the first of a double-header against St Mirren as we travel to their new stadium next week on Scottish Cup duty but that game, as well as our midweek trip to Ayrshire to play Kilmarnock, is out of our thoughts just now.

All that is on our minds just now is picking up three points today against St Mirren and we hope that you can play your part in that by getting behind the men on the park right from the start.

STEPHEN McMANUS

