



Celtic

v FC Astana • UCL play-off round, first leg • Wednesday August 16, 2017 • Celtic Park • KO: 7.45pm • £3.50

1
GOALKEEPER



Strachan

GORDON

Strachan Programme



 **dafabet**

PROUD MAIN CLUB SPONSOR

A CLUB LIKE NO OTHER



2016/17 TREBLE WINNERS

VISIT WWW.DAFABET.COM FOR ALL THE CELTIC FC ODDS

+18 Please Gamble Responsibly

Contents

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

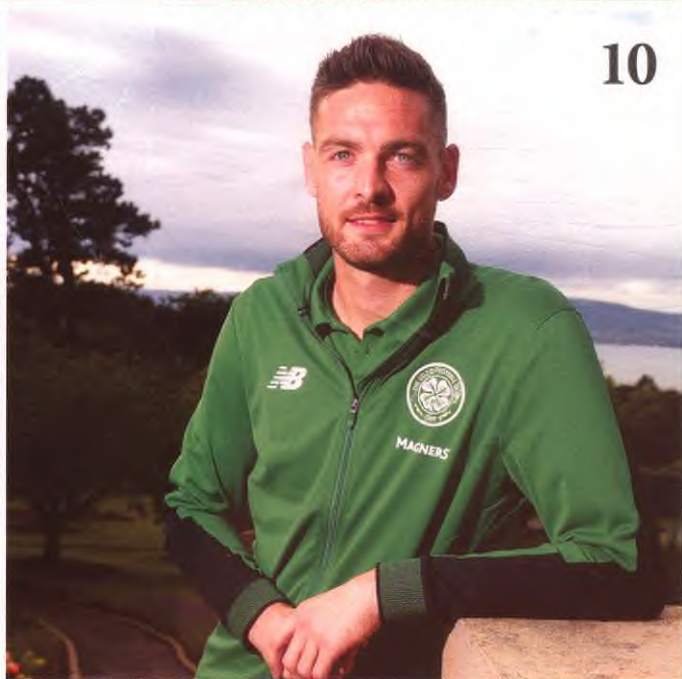
Celtic Football Club is a Scottish football club with proud Irish links. The primary business of Celtic is as a football club. It is run on a professional business basis with no political agenda. However, the Club has a wider role and the responsibility of being a major Scottish social institution promoting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



10



33

04 Brendan Rodgers

07 Captain's Notes

10 Craig Gordon

17 The Opposition

24 Through the Lens

33 Euro Appearances

38 Tommy McNally

40 Packie Bonner

46 Fixtures

50 Quiz

MANAGING DIRECTOR Steve Hanrahan
EXECUTIVE ART EDITOR Rick Cooke SENIOR EDITOR Paul Dove
PROGRAMME EDITOR Paul Cuddihy DEPUTY EDITOR Joe Sullivan
REPORTERS Mark Henderson, Tony Connolly
DESIGN Lee Ashun
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER Claire Brown
PHOTOGRAPHY PA Photos, SNS Group
PUBLISHED BY Sport Media
PRINTED BY J Thomson Colour Printers

Trinity Mirror Sport Media

recycle



The FSC logo identifies products that contain wood from well managed forests certified in accordance with rules of the Forest Stewardship Council.



Manager's Notes...

BRENDAN RODGERS





We're aiming to take a strong lead to Kazakhstan on a special European night

GOOD evening and welcome to Celtic Park for tonight's UEFA Champions League play-off against FC Astana. It's a match we're all looking forward to and we're hoping to enjoy another special European night at our stadium.

I would also like to welcome our visitors, who have made the long journey from Kazakhstan. It's a journey, of course, that they will be familiar with, as are we, given that we faced each other last season, and we know, from those meetings, that both legs of this play-off will be tough.

Last season, the first leg was in Astana, and we returned home having gained a 1-1 draw, setting up what proved to be a memorable night here as we progressed to the next stage of the competition.

This time around, regardless of what happens here tonight, we know we have another match next Tuesday to decide the outcome of the tie.

Our previous game against Rosenborg was a perfect illustration of that, and while the first leg of that tie finished goal-less here, the fact that we recorded a clean sheet gave us a platform to go and win the second leg in Norway, scoring a decisive away goal to set up tonight's match.

Of course, we would like to head out to Kazakhstan in possession of a strong lead, and that will be our aim tonight, though Astana will be aiming to ensure that isn't the case.

Playing our last league fixture on Friday night has given us an extra 24 hours to prepare for this match, and the players have been working hard



"We go into this game with confidence, without fear, and determined to do everything we can to be successful"

all week in preparation for tonight's game.

European nights at Celtic Park are always special occasions, and our supporters play their part too. Your backing for the team is vital, both in those periods where we are on the offensive but also in the moments when we have to defend.

So we go into this game with confidence, without fear, and determined to do everything we can to ensure a successful 90 minutes that will set us up for our trip to Kazakhstan.

Tonight we aim to make a big step towards UEFA Champions League group qualification, but we can only do this together. Be loud and proud and stay with the team and help us to the victory we all want. 'Mon the Hoops!

Brendan Rodgers
Without Fear



LIVE THE LEGEND

LISBON LIONS | 50 YEARS



NEW 2017/18
ALL 3 KITS

**OUT
NOW**

**MAKE IT
OFFICIAL**
BUY DIRECT

SALES
0871 226 1888*

ONLINE
CELTICSUPERSTORE.CO.UK

SHOP
CELTIC STORES

**FREE
CLICK
COLLECT**

*Calls cost 13p per minute, plus your phone company's access charge.
For customer enquiries relating to existing purchases only, please call 0141 230 1967. Calls charged at standard rates.



A word with our captain...

SCOTT BROWN

Your support is one of our great strengths and will be vital tonight



WE'RE close to reaching the group stages of the UEFA Champions League and repeating our achievement of doing so last season, but we are taking nothing for granted and know that two very tough games lie ahead against FC Astana, just as they were last season.

Then, we played in the third qualifying round of the tournament, and it took a last-minute penalty from Moussa Dembele to put us through to the play-off.

So we know that Astana will be difficult opponents, although I'm sure they'll think the same thing about us, and we just want to concentrate on what we do in the game. Hopefully, at the end of the 90 minutes, we'll have a good lead to take to Kazakhstan next week.

It was also good to win the first

'It was also good to win the first Glasgow derby of the season - Olivier Ntcham scored a great goal to win it for us ... and, yes, it was his goal'

Glasgow derby of the season last Friday night at Firhill, and Olivier Ntcham scored a great goal to win it for us ... and, yes, it was his goal.

I managed to get the armband back off Kieran Tierney after he'd captained the team last week against Kilmarnock. He did really well - the whole team did and it was a great victory - and, of course, KT scored a special goal. I'd be proud of that one myself!

As always, we won't mind who scores for us tonight, and I know you all feel the same. Thanks for your

support, as always. It does mean a lot to the lads and it is one of our great strengths, especially here at Celtic Park. Hopefully, we can have another good night, with some goal celebrations as well. Enjoy the game.

Scott Brown



NO TO RACISM



RESPECT

f /UEFA

@UEFA

Instagram icon UEFA_official

UEFA.org

The Rover Returns

John Kennedy hails the homecoming of Shaun Maloney as coach

Exclusive interview:
Tony Connelly



JOHN Kennedy believes that Shaun Maloney's experience in progressing through the Celtic ranks will be invaluable in helping prepare the Development Squad for the step-up to the first team.

Maloney's return to Paradise as a coach for the Under-20s sees the 34-year-old complete a full circle for the Hoops, having himself graduated from the Celtic Youth Academy before going on to enjoy two successful spells in the first-team.

A graduate of the Celtic Youth Academy, Maloney spent seven years at Celtic between 2000 and '07 before moving down south to join Aston Villa. He returned to Paradise in 2008 and spent three further years with the Hoops.

In total he made 215 appearances for Celtic, scoring 52 goals and winning five league titles, five Scottish Cups and three League Cups. He gained 47 caps for Scotland, while he also enjoyed spells with Wigan Athletic, Chicago Fire and Hull City.

Discussing the arrival of his "good friend", Kennedy spoke highly of Maloney's achievements as a player and pointed out that his 10 years at the club have given him valuable knowledge which he can pass down to the young Boys.

"He brings a wealth of experience in terms of starting at the club as a young player and moving into the first-team and being very successful," said Kennedy. "He's had spells in England, America and is an FA Cup winner, so he'll bring a lot to the table.

"What he'll bring here is a personality and a character. He's a model professional, a player who many of our

first-team guys would look up to, never mind the young players. Tommy McIntyre has been working on his own for all of the pre-season so it's another coach who can be in contact with the players and the players can look up to him."

Maloney's arrival marks his third stint at the club. However, this time, the Scotland internationalist will take on a different challenge as he embarks on a new career in coaching, having decided to call time on his playing career. Kennedy was quick to highlight how Maloney's outlook on the game aligned with that of Brendan Rodgers.

"He has a lot of knowledge of the game and is a player who's been studying it for a long time," said Celtic's first-team coach. "When the manager sat down with him, he realised very quickly that Shaun was very much on the same page as we are in terms of how he wanted the game to be played and how we see things moving forward."

The affinity between Maloney's own ideas and that of Brendan Rodgers, along with the the rest of the coaching staff, will be crucial in helping the young players forge a path into the first-team, according to Kennedy.

"It's vitally important that we prepare our young players the way we prepare the first-team guys in order for them to put in performances like they did against Kilmarnock last week, and Shaun's a great candidate to do that," he added.

"He understands the pressure of coming into a first-team environment as a young player and the transition of that, so he's got that experience that he can transition to the players, which is a big positive."