

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

MATCHDAY FIVE
GROUP H



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LEAGUE



CELTIC v AC MILAN

Celtic Park, Tuesday, November 26, 2013 Kick-off: 7.45pm

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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



WELCOMING A TEAM LIKE AC MILAN TO CELTIC PARK IS A SIGN OF OUR OWN EUROPEAN PEDIGREE

GOOD evening and welcome to Celtic Park for tonight's UEFA Champions League match against AC Milan.

I would also like to welcome the players, management and supporters who have travelled over from Milan for the game.

This is a vital game for both clubs, and tonight's result will have a major impact on the final placings in the group. We might be fourth going into the game, but a victory for us over AC Milan will see us move ahead of them, possibly into second-place, depending on the result of the game between Barcelona and Ajax.

Our UEFA Champions League group has been an extremely tough one which, for the first time, saw four previous European champions drawn together.

It's also been a very enjoyable campaign, although we'd ideally like to have had more points on the board going into tonight's match. Certainly, we feel that's what we deserve and, apart from a disappointing

performance in Amsterdam, we've acquitted ourselves well and proved a match for some of Europe's top teams.

Our game against AC Milan in the San Siro was one that left us very disappointed. I thought the team played magnificently and deserved to get something from the match.

However, it's a game that also illustrates just how difficult it is to get results at this level, and when you're facing a team of AC Milan's quality, then you know they have the players who can punish you if they get the opportunity.

Tonight, our challenge is two-fold - to take the game to Milan and, more importantly, take the chances we create, while also remaining resolute in defence to deny them goalscoring opportunities.

Our home record in this competition is one that we're extremely proud of and we're determined to maintain that tonight.

This is a stage that, as a club, we want to perform on and we've shown we deserve to

be there, and in welcoming a team of AC Milan's stature to Celtic Park, it shows the level we're at and where we want to remain.

I'm also sure that for the Milan players who have not been fortunate enough to experience a European night at this stadium, they, like many other players before them, will be impressed by the atmosphere generated by our supporters. It really is second to none.

Hopefully, with that support and the determination of the players, we can make it another memorable European night at Paradise. Enjoy the game.



DARE IL BENVENUTO AL CELTIC PARK AD UN CLUB COME L'AC MILAN E' UN SEGNO DEL NOSTRO PEDEGREE EUROPEO

Buonasera e benvenuti al Celtic Park per la partita di Champions League di questa sera.

Vorrei dare il mio benvenuto anche ai giocatori, ai manager e ai tifosi che sono venuti da Milano per la partita.

Si tratta di un match di vitale importanza per entrambe le squadre ed il risultato di stasera determinerà anche il piazzamento finale nel gruppo. Potremmo essere quarti ma una vittoria sul Milan ci vedrebbe superarli e potremmo anche posizionarci al secondo posto, dipenderà dal risultato della partita tra Barcellona e Ajax.

Il nostro gruppo di Champions League è stato estremamente duro, infatti per la prima volta vi si sono confrontate quattro squadre che hanno già vinto il titolo di campioni d'Europa.

E' stata una tornata piacevole, anche se avremmo preferito affrontare il match di questa sera con più punti. Certamente crediamo di aver meritato il nostro piazzamento sino ad ora, e a parte la non

brillante performance di Amsterdam, abbiamo dato ottima prova delle nostre capacità per stare tra le migliori squadre d'Europa.

La partita con il Milan a San Siro ci ha deluso. Penso che la squadra abbia giocato benissimo e che avrebbe meritato un risultato migliore. Tuttavia una partita come quella mostra quanto sia difficile fare un buon risultato a questo livello; quando ti confronti con una squadra della qualità del Milan sai che possiede giocatori che ti castigano appena ne hanno l'opportunità.

Questa sera la sfida che dobbiamo fronteggiare è duplice: dobbiamo essere noi a condurre il gioco, e, cosa più importante, dobbiamo cogliere le opportunità che saremo capaci di creare pur restando molto vigili in difesa per evitare che loro abbiano possibilità di segnare.

Siamo fieri del nostro primato nelle partite in casa in questa competizione e siamo determinati a mantenerlo anche questa sera.

Questo è il livello al quale vogliamo continuare a giocare, ed abbiamo dimostrato di meritarcelo, ed il fatto di ospitare il Milan questa sera al Celtic Park ne è una prova.

Sono anche sicuro che i giocatori del Milan che non hanno avuto la fortuna di giocare in questo stadio prima, saranno colpiti, come tanti altri giocatori prima di loro, dall'atmosfera creata dai nostri tifosi. Non è seconda a nessuno.

Se tutto va bene, con quel tifo e con la determinazione dei giocatori, possiamo creare una nuova, memorabile serata Europea. Buon divertimento.