

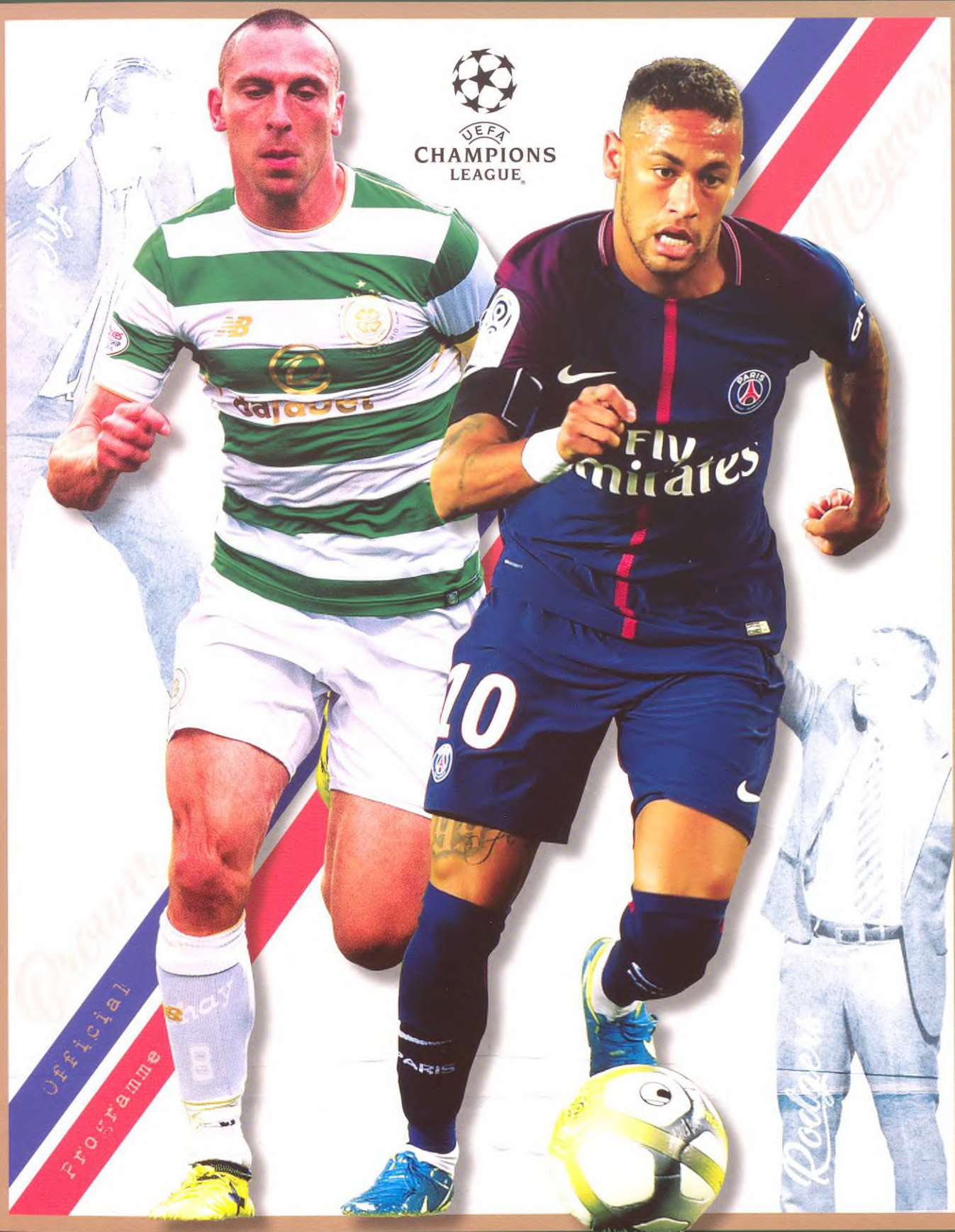


Celtic

v Paris Saint-Germain



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UEFA Champions League • Tuesday September 12, 2017 • Celtic Park • KO: 7.45pm • £5



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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

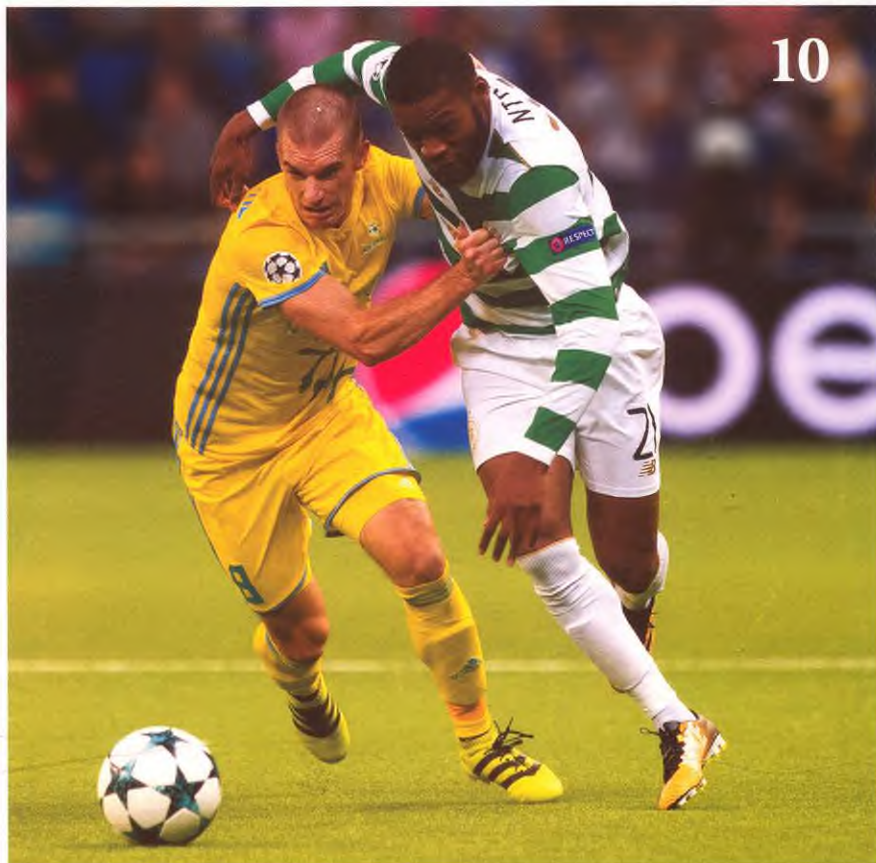
Celtic Football Club is a Scottish football club with proud Irish links. The primary business of Celtic is as a football club. It is run on a professional business basis with no political agenda. However, the Club has a wider role and the responsibility of being a major Scottish social institution promoting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



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Manager's Notes...

BRENDAN RODGERS





Players are focused and determined to show they deserve to be on this stage

GOOD evening and welcome to Celtic Park for tonight's UEFA Champions League match against Paris Saint-Germain. It's our first group-stage game in this season's competition, and it's one that everyone at the club is looking forward to.

I would also like to extend that welcome to our visitors from France – the players, management and supporters of PSG – to our city and our stadium.

Our first target this season, just as it was in the last campaign, was to reach this stage of the UEFA Champions League and, once again, we have managed to do that through our hard work, dedication and some very good performances in the qualification rounds.

Having now taken our place amongst Europe's elite – somewhere we believe that Celtic belong – we can now look forward to some fantastic games of football against some of the game's top players and top clubs.

That begins tonight with the visit of Paris Saint-Germain to Celtic Park. They are a massive club with a fantastic reputation and,

'We know that every game we play in this tournament will be very tough, but this is the level we want to be competing at'

of course, they have some world-class players in their squad. Our supporters will obviously be looking forward to seeing these players at close quarters while we, as players and management, are relishing the challenge of competing against one of Europe's top sides.

We know that every game we play in this tournament will be very tough, but this is the level we want to be competing at and these are the games which every player wants to be part of.

We also know that, for our opponents, Celtic Park will be a tough venue. That has been the case for many top-class teams down through the years who have come here, and



we aim to ensure that continues to be so this season.

There is no atmosphere in football comparable to Celtic Park on a European night. That's not just something that we say as an idle boast. That is something which many of the world's best players have said consistently over many seasons.

The combination of our incredible support, and the performances that Celtic teams produce in tandem with that, has cemented that reputation. We remember, for example, last season's thrilling encounter with Manchester City in this competition, a match that we could, and probably should, have won. That night was a memorable one, and we would all clearly love to experience that again.

Of course, we know that it will be a tough game tonight, given the quality of the opposition, but we have prepared well for this match.

The players are focused, they are

determined, they know their own qualities and they want to show that they deserve to be on this stage.

I know that they will give everything on the pitch tonight, while I also know that our supporters will give everything in the stands to back the team. It's a powerful combination which we've seen work to great effect many times before. We hope that tonight, it will do so again, and we can all enjoy another special European night at Paradise. Good Luck to us all and let's make this a night to remember.

Brendan Rodgers
Without Fear



THE ROAD TO PARADISE

BRENDAN

RODGER'S

THE OFFICIAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY

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