

the red eye



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UEFA
CHAMPIONS
LEAGUE

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Cliftonville v Celtic

UEFA Champions League Second Qualifying Round, First Leg
Wednesday, July 17, 2013
Solitude, Belfast, 7.45pm

The following statement has been issued by the Management Committee of Cliftonville Football Club and all supporters are duly asked to take note:

Cliftonville Football Club is an equal opportunities Club and, therefore, will not tolerate any form of sectarianism or racially offensive behaviour or chanting.

"As part of our ongoing commitment to the IFA's *Football For All* campaign, to *Kick It Out* and to equality, anyone caught making racist or sectarian comments may be arrested, prosecuted and banned from the Club.

"If you or your fellow supporters hear any abuse of this nature, then, please report it to the nearest steward or call the helpline number **0800 169 9414**."

A new Code of Conduct for adoption by the senior clubs has been introduced by the IFA because of the implications under Article 55 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code. The potential measures available to the authorities for any instances of discrimination, racism or sectarianism in football range from match suspension and deduction of points (3 for a first offence, 6 for a second and relegation for persistent offenders) through to disqualification from a competition.

Cliftonville Football Club have submitted a range of proposals to the Chief Executive of the IFA to demonstrate its commitment to this ideal.

These include the issuing of a statement of non-tolerance with regard to discrimination, racism and sectarianism, conditions attached to being a member, official, player or supporter of the club and steps to ensure that the club does all that it reasonably and practically can to show its level of commitment.

The Club asks all members, officials, players and supporters to work with it in making this strategy a success on and off the pitch and wherever Cliftonville FC might be represented.

Let's All Kick It Out!

The Cliftonville FC Code of Conduct

Supporters are asked to refrain from...

- Using sectarian, racist or any inappropriate language
- The display of any racist or sectarian emblems or banners
- Using foul, abusive or insulting language, gestures or threatening behaviour
- Missile throwing or entering the pitch area

Supporters should...

- Respect all players, team attendants and match officials
- Follow directions and instructions given by stewards and Club officials
- Respect other supporters
- Report breaches of our code to a steward, Club Official, or on the telephone number provided (left)
- Remember to observe the Code both at Solitude and away games
- Support Cliftonville loudly and proudly!

Visiting supporters are also asked to respect our Code of Conduct. ALL supporters please note that observing the Code of Conduct is a condition of your entry to the ground. Any person not observing the Code may be ejected from the ground and could face further sanctions.





The Formation

MANAGER



"With playing in the Champions League in front of a worldwide television audience comes a huge responsibility but I have no doubt that my players will represent the shirt and that badge with distinction and honour on this most historic of occasions."

Page 6



UP FRONT: Stephen Garrett and Barry Johnston celebrate with the Gibson Cup at the Reds' final home game of last season.

AT THE BACK

The Gibson Cup, Gold Cup and Floodlit Cup are all pocketed in our first trophy-laden retrospective of the season.

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INSIDE WRITE



There's none of that seeding, coefficient or qualifying round rubbish in Red Arnie's alternative Champions League draw.

Page 25

MIDFIELD

It's played twenty, won two as Cliftonville's latest Euro outing looms large.

Pages 20 & 21



CHANGING ENDS

Hoops keeping their fingers crossed that Solitude is just the first stop-off point on another rewarding continental adventure.

Page 12

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THERE'S NO NEED TO WAIT IN LINE



SIGN UP FOR THE
CHAMPIONS AND
SECURE YOUR
PLACE FOR THE
CAMPAIGN AHEAD!

SEASON TICKET PRICES

Adult: £130
Family: £175
Senior: £50
Youth: £50
Child: £25

To reward the Red Army for their incredible support throughout last year, we've implemented a price freeze across all Season Ticket categories! Make your purchase tonight in The Reds Shop or via our Official Website and let us know when you #SignUpForTheChampions by getting in touch on Twitter!



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Welcome to Solitude

GERARD LAWLOR
CHAIRMAN

GOOD evening and welcome to Solitude for this evening's Champions League Second Qualifying Round First Leg fixture.

I also extend a warm céad mile fáilte to the officials, players and staff of Celtic as our respective Clubs prepare to go head to head on the European stage.

Ever since this tie was drawn at UEFA Headquarters in Nyon just over three weeks ago, never has there been a game so eagerly anticipated within north Belfast - the oldest Club in the country and founders of football in Ireland hosting a Club steeped in Irish history and tradition and which boasts a worldwide following within the Irish community.

While the two sides have met in friendly games throughout their histories, it is only fitting that the first competitive contest should take place under the umbrella of the UEFA Champions League, a competition Celtic did fantastically well in last season and in which they will have high hopes of enjoying similar heroics this year.

Their success in the tournament is a credit to a fine Ulster-

man and it's a privilege to welcome Manager Neil Lennon back to Solitude tonight.

It is also a great opportunity for our own players and staff to pit their wits against one of the finest sides in Europe.

I know our team have been counting down the days for this match to take place and the occasion - as well as next week's return clash in Glasgow - is just reward for their endeavours throughout a glorious 2012/13 campaign.

I must place on record my thanks to all of the willing volunteers who have worked so hard to ensure Solitude is a fit stage to host this evening's game - be it painting the ground, washing seats, selling tickets or any of the countless tasks which regularly go unseen - your efforts are greatly appreciated not just by myself and the Management Committee, but your fellow supporters also.

From top to bottom, Cliftonville FC is a fans-run Club and the way people pull together and are prepared to sacrifice their own free time to come along and play their part behind the scenes is something of which we should be very proud.

The seat you're sitting in tonight was cleaned by one of our fans in the run-up to the game; the scarf round your neck or the replica jersey you're wearing was bought from someone who came along to help in the Club Shop; the precious ticket that granted your access to the stadium was sold to you by a supporter and the turnstile operator you handed it over to is also a valued member of the Red Army. Both Cliftonville and Celtic, of course, share many fans and I have no doubt there are plenty of families in attendance together this evening with both sides in their hearts.

I ask you all to make this a truly memorable occasion for all the correct reasons. Let's show passionate support for our teams, let's create an electric atmosphere and show our worldwide television audience how football can be competitive and sporting but, above all, adheres to the principles of UEFA's 'Respect' campaign. As the Thai Tims have been singing these last few weeks, let friendship be the winner. I hope you all enjoy the game and hopefully it is a night we'll remember for a long to come.



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Founded September 20, 1879

CONTACTS

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Club Shop: theredshop@cliftonvillefc.net
Matchday Mascots: mascots@cliftonvillefc.net

PERSONNEL

President: Jim Boyce
Honorary Life President: Brendan Rafferty
Vice Presidents: Dr John Campbell
Fred Jardine Billy Hesse, John Mollroy,
Dessie Kirkwood, Hugh McCartan,
Sean McClean, Jack Patterson, Paul Treanor
Chairman: Gerard Lawlor
Secretary: George Walsh
Treasurer: Stephen McKillop
Director of Team Affairs: Gerard Lawlor
Media Officer: David Begley
Commercial Director: Bronagh McMullan
Stadium Director: Adrian Keenan
Social Club Director: John Rogan
Supporters' Representative: Michael Hanna
Club Doctor: Dr John Campbell
Physiotherapist: Brendan Lynch
Sports Therapist: Fred Jardine
Sports Psychologist: Mark O'Hara
Head of Youth Development: Kyle Spiers
Yth Development Secretary: Darrach Teague
Youth Welfare Officer: Kyle Spiers
Club Shop: Bronagh McMullan, Kevin Johnston,
Francis Milnes, Ciódhna Morgan
The Red Eye & Website: Conor McLaughlin
YouReds TV: Tiarnan McCullough

COACHING STAFF

Manager: Tommy Breslin
First Team Coaches: Kyle Spiers, Peter Murray,
Gerard Lyttle
Goalkeeping Coach: Paul Straney
Olympic Manager: Michael Press
Olympic Assistant Manager: David McAlinden
Strollers Manager: Darrach Teague
Strollers Assistant Manager: Manus Magill
Ladies Manager: Mark Duff
Team Attendant: Brian Campbell
Youth Development Coaches: Kieran Barnes,
Martin Briggs, Sean Cleary, Mickey Donnelly,
Martin Douglas, Gerry Griffin, Anthony Lavery,
Brendan Lynch, Jim McAlinden, Sean McCafferty,
Michael McClements, Conal McNally

HONOURS

Irish League: 1906, 1910, 1998, 2013
Irish Cup: 1883, 1888, 1897, 1900, 1901, 1907,
1909, 1979
League Cup: 2003, 2013
County Antrim Shield: 1892, 1894, 1898, 1926,
1979, 1997, 2007, 2008, 2011
Gold Cup: 1923, 1933, 1980
Belfast Charities Cup: 1884, 1886, 1997, 1888,
1889, 1897, 1906, 1908, 1909, 1924
Alhambra Cup: 1922
Floodlit Cup: 1996
Soccer Sixes: 1995
Charity Shield: 1999
Steel & Sons Cup: 1900, 1902, 1907, 1908,
1914, 1922
Intermediate Cup: 1898, 1900, 1902
'B' Division: 1954, 1981
Reserve League: 2001, 2003, 2012
George Wilson Cup: 1999, 2007, 2013
Irish Junior Cup: 1893
Irish Alliance First Division: 1899, 1900
IFA Youth League: 1993, 1994, 2003, 2010
IFA Youth Cup: 2001
IFA Youth League Cup: 2001, 2003
Bob Larmour Memorial Cup: 2006, 2007, 2008,
2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

Team

MANAGER TOMMY BRESLIN

WE have all been looking forward to representing Cliftonville in the Champions League from the very moment we secured the Premiership crown last season.

That sense of anticipation was heightened when UEFA's draw paired us with Celtic, one of the biggest Clubs in the world, but much as I am keen to extend a warm welcome to Neil Lennon, his team and staff this evening, I will be reminding my own players of their responsibilities.

We have never approached European fixtures with a mindset of simply making up the numbers and always strive to do the very best that we can, which is the exact attitude we will be adopting when we leave the changing room tonight.

The draw was favourable to us in so much as there is minimal travel involved, meaning we are able to schedule training sessions and plan without the disruption of being on a plane or a bus for long stretches as would have been the case with all of the other teams in the hat but, clearly, facing a side who overcame Barcelona en route to the knockout stages last season means we have a mammoth task on our hands.

The hype has been non-stop

over these last three weeks but, at the end of the day, this isn't a novelty fixture - it's business, it's the Champions League; the grandest stage of all and we will give it everything we've got.

Our opponents have their hearts set on once again qualifying for the group stages of the competition, so there is no doubt they will be fired up to get this first hurdle out of the road.

Scotland has its own fair share of tight, compact grounds and coming to Solitude will not be a culture shock for Celtic, but we know from our own experiences how unnerving it can be to find yourself up against a comparative minnow.

It's the equivalent of us playing a Junior side in the Irish Cup, as a few below-par performances could cause some problems and, who knows, if enough Celtic players have an off-night and we hit our stride then we could end up going to Glasgow in very decent shape.

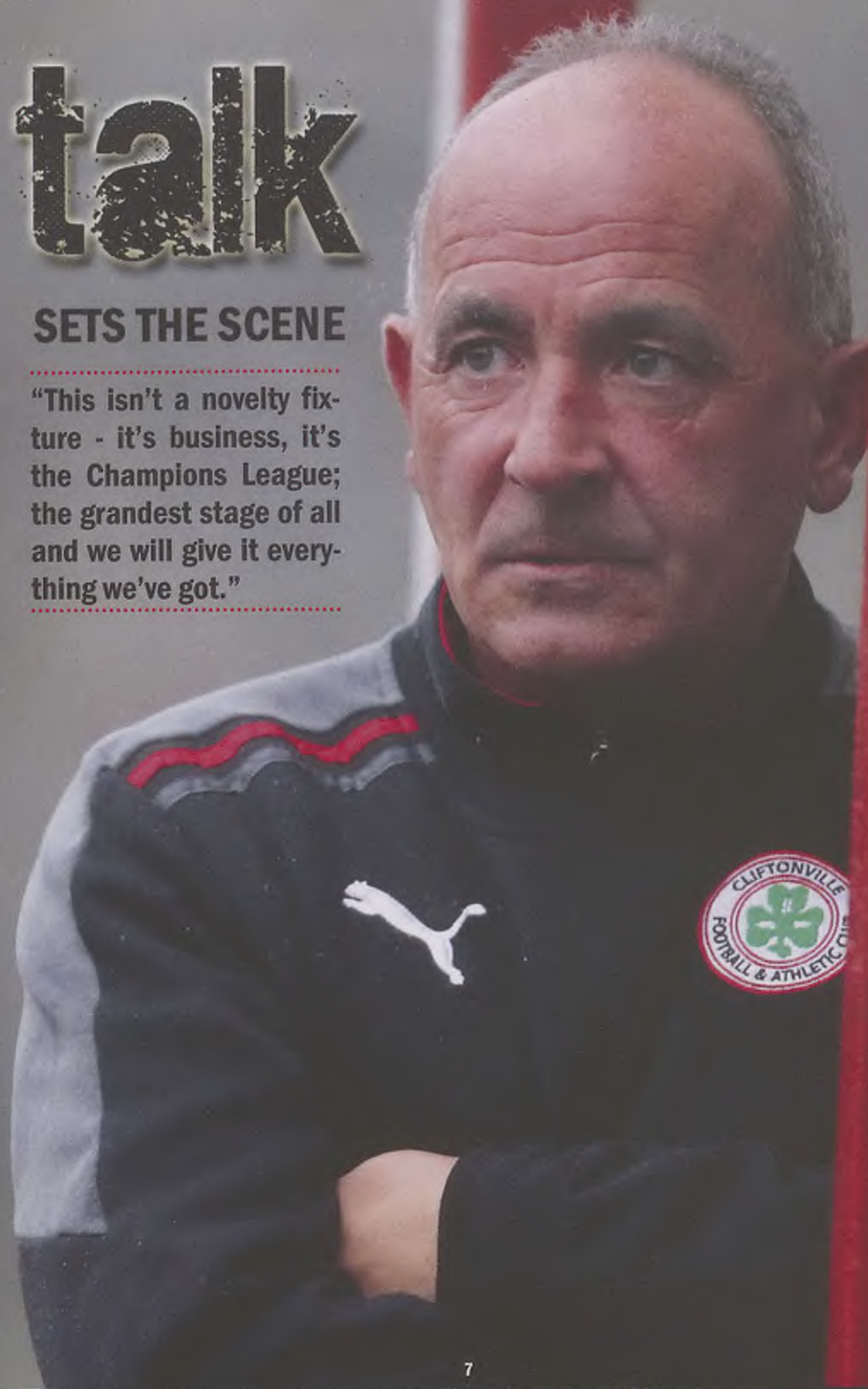
Our supporters, as ever, have a job to do, too, and I call upon you to get behind the team from the very start and play a passionate role in this historic night.

We have earned some magnificent achievements over these last few years but, together, we could top so much of it in the 90 minutes ahead.

talk

SETS THE SCENE

"This isn't a novelty fixture - it's business, it's the Champions League; the grandest stage of all and we will give it everything we've got."



66 GOALS BETWEEN 'EM!

BOYCE & GORMLEY - LICENSED TO THRILL!

Photography and design by Michael Walsh, www.pushphotografik.com



SOLITUDE 17.07.13 | CELTIC PARK 23.07.13



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Red the latest?

This week's news noticeboard



Premiership diary dates

AUGUST

- 10: Ards (h)
- 17: Linfield (a)
- 24: Warrenpoint Town (a)
- 31: Portadown (h)

SEPTEMBER

- 3: Coleraine (h)
- 7: Ballymena United (a)
- 14: Glenavon (h)
- 21: Glenavon (a)
- 28: Dungannon Swifts (a)

OCTOBER

- 5: Crusaders (h)
- 12: Ballinamallard United (a)
- 19: Warrenpoint Town (h)
- 26: Glenavon (a)

NOVEMBER

- 2: Dungannon Swifts (h)
- 9: Ballymena United (h)
- 16: Coleraine (a)
- 23: Portadown (a)
- 30: Linfield (h)

DECEMBER

- 7: Glenavon (h)
- 14: Ards (a)
- 21: Ballinamallard (h)
- 28: Crusaders (a)

JANUARY

- 1: Coleraine (h)
- 8: Glenavon (a)
- 14: Ards (a)
- 18: Portadown (h)
- 24: Ballymena United (a)

FEBRUARY

- 1: Linfield (h)
- 15: Crusaders (h)
- 22: Dungannon Swifts (a)

MARCH

- 8: Ballinamallard United (h)
- 15: Warrenpoint Town (a)
- 22: Glenavon (a)



LEAD ROLES

PUMA'S 2013/14 Leisure-wear range is now available for purchase from The Reds Shop here at Solitude and at the click of a button via our Official Website.

A CLIFTONVILLE XI will travel to The Showgrounds to face Newry City AFC tomorrow evening (7.30pm) in aid of the Kevin Bell Memorial Fund.

AODHÁN McReynolds is wished a very happy third birthday by his father Barney, who hopes to have further cause for celebration come full-time tonight.

AS a reward for your magnificent support throughout last year, Cliftonville Football Club are delighted to provide all 2012/13 Members and Season Ticket holders their own Irish Premiership Champions' medals' in the form of a commemorative pin-badge.

These limited edition and individually-numbered keepsakes (left) will be distributed in the near future while, following a recent vote among Members to increase their annual subscriptions to £200, tickets for the new campaign are now available for renewal from Club Secretary George Walsh.

TICKETS for the Pre-Match Lunch ahead of the August 10 Premiership opener with Ards are now available for £25 (inc. match admission) from Kevin Crossan.

THE Club is currently welcoming applications for the vacant position of Facilities Coordinator. Contact solitude@cliftonvillefc.net for further details.

UP FORE IT?

ANYONE interested in signing up for the Cliftonville FC Golf Day at Fortwilliam Golf Club on Thursday, August 8 is asked to make contact with Hugh McCartan, Denis McMullan, Kevin Johnston or, alternatively, e-mail golfday@cliftonvillefc.net.



Easier Seyda than alone

BUT FULL-BACK SAYS CLIFTONVILLE WILL STILL BE EAMONN FOR

THE buzzing of his mobile told the story even before he had the opportunity to read the texts that were flooding in.

Work commitments forbade Eamonn Seydak from watching the Champions League draw live but, once he'd completed the formalities of a consultancy meeting, it didn't take long for the news of developments to filter through.

As the grandson of a Polish soldier who relocated to Scotland in the aftermath of war with the Soviets, Seydak was always set for a family homecoming of sorts when proceedings at UEFA Headquarters whittled Cliftonville's list of potential opponents down to either Celtic or Legia Warsaw – but he admits a European battle with the Bhoys is the one everybody in the home changing room had their hearts set on.

"It wasn't until about 45 minutes after the draw that I finally had a chance to get near my phone," he says.

"I think I'd something like 17 missed calls and 18 messages, almost all of which were people looking for tickets, and I actually just took five minutes to sit in

the car and let the news sink in. "Celtic are an absolutely massive club and bringing them to Solitude in the Champions League is something special, not to mention the fact that we also have to go over to Glasgow and play at Celtic Park.

"It's the draw that I know most of the players and I'm sure the majority of our fans were hoping for but, despite all the hype and everything that comes with it, there comes a time when you have to tune into the task in front of you. We're under no illusions as to how difficult it will be, but we're going to go out and try to be as competitive as possible."

Though a sizeable amount of his team mates will be going head-to-head with their idols this evening, Ipswich Town fan Seydak is never likely to run that risk in Europe's premier Club competition but is no less eager than others to be involved on this biggest of all stages.

"When I saw the list of teams we could play, I always said I'd have been happy with either Celtic or Legia Warsaw," explains the 27-year-old.

"My grandfather was from a place called Bydgoszcz, which

is in between Poznan and Gdansk so I was able to call in and visit it when I was travelling between Ireland's matches at Euro 2012 last summer.

"He was a soldier who fought against the Russians but, after the war, couldn't get back into the country and ended up moving to Falkirk, where my dad [Eddie, former Manager of Limerick United] was born.

"His own work then took him to Letterkenny, so that's how the Seydak name ended up over here!

"Warsaw's a wee bit away from Bydgoszcz but there was still a link one way or the other if we'd ended up in either Poland or Scotland, which turned out to be the last two countries in the hat during the draw."

The opposition determined, all that remained was to make a mark on the training pitch and try to earn a place in Tommy Breslin's line-up for tonight's historic clash.

"We actually had a session on the night of the draw," adds the former Institute full-back.

"Everybody was on a real high and, there were no complaints about doing laps of the Waterworks [a claim which Breslin

SHOCK OF THE CENTURY

disputes] and it was very competitive, especially with a few new faces in there trying to show what they can do.

"To be honest, though, our training always has a bit of a bite to it, especially with guys like George McMullan, Ryan Catney, Barry Johnston and Conor Devlin about – they don't let you rest on your laurels at any time.

"The days of using pre-season to get fit are long gone and you should be reporting back in good condition, raring to go. Two nights after getting back from his holidays, Ciaran Caldwell was winning the running competitions, which I think says it all.

"Our main objective for the year ahead is to retain the League title, there's no doubt about that, but we don't just want the games against Celtic to pass us by. I'm confident we can give a good account of ourselves and I know we have players who can hurt them. There's no expectation or pressure on us, but we'll be going into these matches trying to win them." And, 96 days after watching McMullan clip home that famous penalty to complete one miracle, there are a few members of the Red Army who simply wouldn't bet against the impossible happening here tonight.



The whole 12 yards...

Scan the code to enjoy the moment we qualified for the Champions League from your preferred vantage point...

1 George McMullan slots home to the delight of the Main Stand



2 The right side of the Cage End laps up an historic spot-kick



3 Watch it all over again from the centre of the Cage End



4 The left corner flag gave a superb view of all the action



5 Sheer carnage on the terracing as the Red's wrap it up



Readers are advised of the presence of strong language in some of the videos uploaded to YouTube by our supporters.