

THE BLUE & WHITE

OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME OF KILMARNOCK FOOTBALL CLUB | £2.50 | SEASON 2010/11 | NO 5



CLYDESDALE BANK SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE | SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2010 | KO 12.45PM



v CELTIC
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Division 1 Champions: 1964/65

Runners-up:

1959/60, 1960/61, 1962/63, 1963/64

New Division 1 Runners-up:

1975/76, 1978/79, 1981/82, 1992/93

Division 2 Champions:

1897/98, 1898/99

"B" Division Runners-up:

1953/54

(Old) Division 2 Runners-up:

1973/74

(New) Division 2 Runners-up:

1989/90

Scottish Cup Winners:

1920, 1929, 1997

Scottish Cup Runners-up:

1898, 1932, 1938, 1957, 1960

League Cup Runners-up:

1952/53, 1960/61, 1962/63, 2000/01, 2006/07

Scottish Qualifying Cup Winners:

1896/97

Ayrshire FA Challenge Cup Winners:

42 times

European Cup Entrants:

1965/66

Cup Winners Cup Entrants:

1997/98

Fairs Cup/UEFA Cup Entrants:

1964/65, 1966/67 (Semi-finalists), 1969/70,

1970/71, 1998/99, 1999/2000, 2001/02

New York International Tourney

Runners-up: 1960

Club Directory

Chairman: Michael Johnston

Honorary President: Sir John Orr, OBE

Manager: Mixu Paatelainen

Assistant Manager: Kenny Shiels

Youth Development Coach: Alan Robertson

Community Coaches:

Paul McDonald, Alan Mahood

Matchday Host: Ray Montgomerie

Doctor: Gerry Canning

Physios: Alex MacQueen, Ross Goodwin (Asst)

Commercial: Anne Clark

Club Secretary: Kirsten Callaghan

Facilities Manager: Mark Gallagher

Park Hotel: (01563) 545999

Club Shop: Rugby Park (01563) 545310

Official Match Programme

Season 2010/11

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The views expressed in this programme

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KICKING OFF



Up for the challenge

It's amazing how three successive wins can lift the spirits. Victories over Airdrie United, Aberdeen and St. Mirren have seen an air of quiet optimism return to Rugby Park.

Just as important as the results is the manner in which the team is playing at the moment. They're playing with some style, and their passing game is flourishing under Mixu Paatelainen. Impressive debuts by Alexei Eremenko and Harry Forrester against St. Mirren were matched by signs that the team is clicking into place. The only downside to last weekend's win was the unfortunate injury suffered by James Dayton, but at the

moment it looks like the replacements are there.

A run of four home matches out of five in SPL and League Cup (five out of six if you count the Testimonial against Ayr United on the 28th) means that the Rugby Park faithful get a chance to see the new-look Killie in action over the next few weeks.

The St. Mirren game was only the first that sequence, however, and we face a tough task this afternoon when Celtic, unbeaten in the SPL without losing a goal so far this season, are our visitors. This Killie side looks up for the challenge though!

KEEP YOUR
EYE ON THE

MALL



KILMARNOCK

▶ The three points against St. Mirren last Saturday were very welcome, but just as pleasing was the performance that the players put in on their way to the win. Much of the post-match attention was focused on the debut of Alexei Eremenko, but there was more to it than that.

All the players deserve credit for the way that they stuck to the game plan, and we didn't panic, even after Saints equalised. We want the players to keep the ball on the ground and hit hard on the break, and we were rewarded with that fine strike by James Dayton. It was really unfortunate that James had to be stretchered off in the second half, but we'll give him every support we can in what could be a long haul back to full fitness.

I knew what Alexei could do from free kicks, so it was little surprise when he scored what proved to be the winner. I thought he did really well for a player who had just arrived in Kilmarnock a couple of days before, and I'm sure that there's more to come when he reaches full match fitness.

Six points out of six from our last two games has really raised the players' morale, and they're looking forward to today's fixture against League leaders Celtic. This will be a big test for us, but the players are up for it.

MIXU



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Impressive debuts

There's nothing more certain to endear you to the supporters of your new Club than scoring on your debut, and our new signing Alexei Eremenko did just that last Saturday with a superb free kick against St. Mirren. Overall Alexei, on loan from Metalist Kharkiv, had a fine game, spraying passes about and generally outmuscling Saints in midfield. Not bad for someone who had just arrived in Ayrshire a couple of days before, and had hardly met his new team-mates.

Another of our loan signings, Harry Forrester, was also thrown into the action last weekend when he replaced the injured David Silva in the first half. Harry could count himself unlucky not to get on the scoresheet in the second half.



WELL DONE PETER

Well done to big Killie fan Peter Orr, a member of the KFCDSA, who won the Wheelchair Section of the Scottish Disability Sport Lawn Bowls Championship in Aberdeen on 4th September.



TIME CHANGE

Today's kick off was put back half-an-hour at the request of the TV broadcasters.



HIBS HERE ON WEDNESDAY

We've another home match this Wednesday, 22nd September, when Hibernian come to Rugby Park in the 3rd Round of the Co-operative Insurance League Cup.

Kick off is 7.45pm and admission is £15 for adults, £10 concessions (>65, U18, students) and £5 (under 16's).



The "Young Killie" Boy & Girl of the Year, Aidren Shearer and Sarah Kelly, received their trophies from Michael Doyle, Mehdi Taouil and Steven Old last Saturday

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MOTHERWELL Hamilton Road 01698 264162



COATBRIDGE Whifflet Street, Coatbridge 01236 441177
DUNFERMLINE Halbeath Interchange 01383 556100
EAST KILBRIDE Whirlies Roundabout 01355 222722
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Celtic

The visiting club to Kilmarnock for today's Clydesdale Bank Scottish Premier League fixture is Celtic F.C. We welcome the directors, management, players and supporters of Celtic to Rugby Park, and hope they will enjoy with us another exciting and entertaining encounter between our respective teams.

Today's game has been switched to a Sunday with a 12.45 p.m. kick-off because it will be shown live on Sky television, thus we also welcome everyone connected with the Sky broadcasting team on duty today, and hope they too will enjoy their visit to Rugby Park.

Celtic arrive at Rugby Park with a highly impressive record so far this season in the SPL. Neil Lennon's men have won all 4 games they have played without conceding a goal, and scoring 9 times in the process. They sit proudly, and deservedly top of the S.P.L table, and it is a position that everyone connected with Celtic is determined will remain in their possession.

Indeed, since Neil Lennon took over as caretaker manager in March earlier this year, they have enjoyed a 100% record in the S.P.L. He was in charge of the last 8 games in the league last season, and Celtic won all of them. Thus, adding on the 4 games played this term since his permanent appointment in the summer, then Celtic actually arrive today boasting an outstanding record of 12 successive league wins.

What was a terribly disappointing start to this season has possibly acted as a spur to Celtic in the manner in which they have gone about their business in the S.P.L. They were knocked out of the Champions League in the qualifying round by Sporting Braga (Portugal) 2-4 on aggregate, then were delivered a further blow, when they lost 2-4 on aggregate to FC Utrecht (Netherlands) in the Europa League play-off round. It meant they had no European football to look forward to this autumn, but it may well prove to be a blessing in disguise as far as their S.P.L. and domestic Cup competition aspirations are concerned. Last season was the first since 2003 that Celtic did not win any silverware, and it hurt deeply, especially how easily they exited the Cup competitions to Hearts (Co-operative League Cup) and Ross County (Scottish F.A. Cup), and struggled away from home in the league. They lost 6 away games in the S.P.L. – the most since 1999-2000 – and this contributed greatly to them failing to win the title.

However, despite the obvious wrench of exiting early from European competition, Celtic seem to be a far stronger looking team this season, and the form shown by them in the S.P.L. so far is excellent. Decent away wins at tough venues such as Inverness (1-0) and Motherwell (1-0), as well as very comfortable home wins against St. Mirren (4-0) and Hearts (3-0) have been achieved as the team is settling in after the numerous personnel changes in the summer. Certainly, the form shown by the majority of the new players brought in by Neil Lennon over the summer months indicates that they will



certainly be a potent force as they begin to gel as the season progresses.

Gone from Celtic Park are Lee Naylor (free), Artur Boruc (Fiorentina), Stephen McManus (Middlesbrough), Paul Caddis and Simon Ferry (Swindon Town), Marc-Antoine Fortune (West Bromwich Albion), Cillian Sheridan (CSKA Sofia) and Aiden McGeady (Spartak Moscow). Also put out on loan are Ben Hutchinson (Lincoln City), Darren O'Dea (Ipswich Town), Morten Rasmussen (Mainz), Graham Carey (Huddersfield Town), Josh Thompson (Rochdale) and Paul McGowan (St. Mirren).

The new faces brought in are Charlie

Mulgrew (Aberdeen), Cha Du-Ri (SC Freiburg), Joe Ledley (Cardiff City), Daryl Murphy (Sunderland), Efrain Juarez (UNAM Pumas), Gary Hooper (Scunthorpe United), Beram Kayal (Maccabi Haifa), Daniel Majstorovic (AEK Athens), Emilio Izaguirre (Montagua), Anthony Stokes (Hibernian) and on loan Fraser Forster (Newcastle United).

It is a massive amount of changes, but it has already shown it is working in a positive way, and Celtic will be looking to prove this with another win to maintain their place at the top of the table. Kilmarnock has had a good couple of results to boost their confidence with wins against Aberdeen and St. Mirren either side of the International break. Mixu