



# CELTIC v HEARTS

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP • SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019  
CELTIC PARK • KO 3PM • PRICE £3.50







# CELTIC FC 2018/19 SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP CHAMPIONS - 8 IN A ROW

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#GR8since1888

#8inaRow

## 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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# 'We want to finish with two big wins, starting today as the eight-in-a-row celebrations begin in earnest'



**FIRST** of all, I want to welcome Craig Levein and his Hearts players, staff and supporters to Celtic Park for the first of two very important games inside a week between todays' teams, as we meet for the final league game of the campaign ahead of next Saturday's Scottish Cup final at Hampden.

It is, of course, Trophy Day here and, indeed, this is our first home game since clinching the title at Pittodrie a couple of weeks ago, so I hope you all enjoy today's festivities and I also hope we give you a performance and result to match the occasion.

We shouldn't forget, though, the role that Brendan Rodgers played in this championship win, and I also feel we should pay tribute to part that Brendan, and indeed, Ronny Deila, played on the road to eight-in-a-row, a run that I was also proud and privileged to play a part in at the outset.

However, this is all about today,

and this afternoon the supporters get the opportunity to celebrate and pay tribute to the players who have consistently delivered silverware to Celtic Park, and those players fully deserve to be presented with the SPFL trophy at the end of today's game.

The players worked hard and showed, grit, determination and patience in the 3-0 win over Aberdeen that clinched the title, but we all know those attributes didn't surface at Ibrox last weekend. So we have been working all week at Lennoxton to ensure that there's not a repeat of that this week.

We want to finish this league campaign and celebrate Trophy Day on a high with a good performance by giving the supporters something to cheer throughout the 90 minutes before the presentation celebrations get underway.

Hearts won't make it easy for us, though, as they will also want to

end their league season with a win before we meet in the cup final next Saturday.

We know what's at stake for us over these two matches as they are both games that Celtic fans will want to enjoy as wins and remember for years to come. So that is what we aim to achieve both here and at Hampden.

This side are used to playing big games and we want to finish with two big wins, starting today as the eight-in-a-row celebrations begin in earnest. We want to finish off this league campaign with a win on Trophy Day and then we can look forward to the cup final. Enjoy the game.

Neil Lennon





The image shows three men standing in the stands of a football stadium, wearing Celtic FC home jerseys. The jerseys are white with green horizontal stripes and feature the New Balance logo, the Celtic FC crest, and the Dafabet sponsor logo. The stadium seats are green and white, and the background is slightly blurred.

**new balance**



**WIN A NEW BALANCE CELTIC FC 19-20 HOME JERSEY!**

WE WANT TO SEE YOU CELEBRATING!

TAG **@NBFOOTBALL** IN YOUR POSTS FROM TODAY'S GAME FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN.

\*T&C Apply. Full terms on: [Facebook.com/NBFootballOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/NBFootballOfficial)





A word with our captain...

SCOTT BROWN



## We are determined to deliver the win today and add to making this a really memorable day

**I'M delighted that we return today to Celtic Park as champions after our win two weeks ago, and we can all now look forward to the trophy presentation at the end of this afternoon's game.**

Of course, we have a difficult game to play first, and Hearts will also be looking to take full points today so, first and foremost, we will be focused on the 90 minutes of football against a very tough opponent before we even think about lifting the SPFL trophy.

That means we want to make your day doubly enjoyable by finishing our league fixtures with a win to celebrate before you join in with the post-match party.

We won't be partying too much,

though, as next weekend we face Hearts again in the Scottish Cup final and we all know what a win in that game would mean to the club and the supporters, so we will be back at Lennoxton this week to prepare for yet another important game.

We know everyone was disappointed last weekend, but that has made us more determined to deliver the win today and add to making this a really memorable day for everyone connected with club.

The supporters play a role in every game, so the Celtic fans have played a real part in each of the eight-in-a-row league titles that we are celebrating today.

So this isn't just about winning the league title this season, this is

about marking eight full seasons as champions. And I can assure you that players like myself, James Forrest and Mikael Lustig, who have celebrated them all, will enjoy this one just as much and maybe even more than we did the first of the run eight years ago.

So we hope you all enjoy the game and the festivities afterwards, and hopefully we can all look forward to celebrating again next Saturday at Hampden.



# TIME TO CELEBR8!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHAMPIONS  
ON AN 8TH CONSECUTIVE SPFL TITLE  
FROM ALL AT MAGNERS' IRISH CIDER**



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for the facts





**THIS** afternoon, Neil Lennon's Celtic side will be presented with the SPFL Premiership trophy - a celebration that is becoming a very happy habit...

- 2011/12
- 2012/13
- 2013/14
- 2014/15
- 2015/16
- 2016/17
- 2017/18

And now...  
**2018/19**



All of the title wins have been enjoyed and savoured but the Celts had to battle in each of the 304 games played over these league-winning campaigns.

Over the following pages, we take a look month-by-month at Celtic's road to the 2018/19 title as well as the games in the League Cup, Scottish Cup and in Europe that have interspersed with the Hoops delivering their eighth title in a row.