

Celtic



MEMBERSHIP
CHAMPIONS



V

ROSS COUNTY

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

19/10/2019 • CELTIC PARK • KO 3PM





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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.

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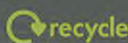
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'Confidence is high within the squad and we're determined to do everything we can to return to winning ways'



GOOD afternoon and welcome to Celtic Park for today's Premiership match with Ross County, and I would like to extend that welcome to our visitors.

It's good to be back home and it's a game we're all looking forward to. As always, we're determined to do everything we can to win, but given our most recent two league results on the road against Hibernian and Livingston, it's important that we return to winning ways.

Certainly, that's our focus and that's what we've been preparing for over these past two weeks.

Obviously, with the latest round of international fixtures, many of our players have been away representing their respective countries, so it has only been over the past few days that

we've been able to get the full squad together again.

That is something we're used to, however, and it's a sign of the quality within our squad that so many players are selected for international duty. As Celtic manager, of course, my main concern is that all of our players report back injury-free, particularly given the heavy schedule of games that lie ahead between now and the winter break at the end of the year.

Ross County will come here full of confidence following their strong start to the season. They did very well to bounce straight back up to the Premiership, and they have done well so far, sitting in the top half of the table.

So we are well aware of the potential threat they pose to us today. It means that we will have to be at our

best in order to ensure a successful afternoon, and as recent league results have shown, there are no easy games in this league.

Confidence is high within our squad, however, and the players are looking forward to the 90 minutes ahead.

As always, the backing from our supporters is absolutely vital for us. That bond between the players and the fans is so important and can help us, not only today, but in every game we play. So let's hope that, together, we can deliver all three points this afternoon. Enjoy the game.

Neil Lennon



CELTIC FC ▼



new balance

2019/20



NEW BALANCE ▲

ON TO VICTORY



HOME KIT

5 5 . 8 4 9 7 . N , 4 . 2 0 5 5 . W





'We will be going all out for three points today in front of our home crowd'

WELCOME back to Celtic Park for today's game against Ross County and I don't have to tell you how determined we are to win this afternoon's match following our last game before the international break.

We have to bounce back from that at the earliest opportunity and, although that game was a fortnight ago, today is the day we get a chance to do that – and do it in front of our own supporters.

People can talk about the artificial pitch and the red card, but we have won games with 10 men before, and we have also won matches on those surfaces, but the fact is that Livingston won 2-0 and spoiled our winning start to the season – so we

aim to get back on track today.

We've assessed what went wrong in that game and we know we have to defend from the front to maintain the sort of form we know we are capable of.

It's just a pity that the result came before the international break but, on the other hand, it has given us more time to focus on what we intend to do about it, and we will be going all out for three points today in front of our home crowd.

Ross County won't make it easy for us, though. They've had a marvellous start to the season and we know that they will fight until the last kick of the ball if they can take anything from the game, so it's up to us to ensure that the visitors aren't in that position as

the game nears its end.

It just wasn't our day against Livingston, so we just have to make sure it's our day today and start pulling in full points once again.

We have the grit and willingness to win games no matter what the circumstances, and those are the sort of qualities we have to show today right from the first whistle.

We know, that with your backing from the stands, we have the ability and desire to do just that.

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MAGNERS
IRISH CIDER

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CELTIC APPOINT NICK HAMMOND AS HEAD OF FOOTBALL OPERATIONS

CELTIC Football Club is delighted to announce that it has appointed Nick Hammond as the club's new Head of Football Operations.

Nick, who worked with the club as a consultant during the summer transfer window will, with immediate effect, take up this position and oversee the club's football operations working alongside Neil Lennon.

Nick is very highly regarded across football, having held Director of Football and Technical Director positions at Reading FC and West Bromwich Albion FC respectively.

In recent months, Nick has worked to bring a number of quality new signings to the Celtic, working closely with Neil Lennon and Chief Executive, Peter Lawwell.

Nick has already undertaken a review of the club's recruitment and scouting functions and he will work immediately to implement his recommendations to support the football function.

Nick Hammond said: "Celtic is a very special football club and I am delighted to take up this position with such an iconic institution. I have enjoyed my connection immensely with the club so far and I was very keen to join Celtic.

"We have done some good work over the summer. I wanted to play my part in continuing to improve the club's processes and ultimately ensure that we continue to recruit and develop the best possible players we can at Celtic.

"I have experience of many football clubs and I know that Celtic is a club of the highest quality, a club with the highest standards and that it is blessed with some great people.

"Across the Football Department we will work together to ensure that we continue to meet these high standards and do all we can ultimately to play our part in bringing success to the club and our supporters.

"This was very important for me and a huge factor in deciding to move to Glasgow."

Celtic Chief Executive, Peter Lawwell said: "We are delighted to appoint Nick to the position of Head of Football Operations. He has provided excellent advice to the club over the summer period and his wealth of knowledge and expertise will be invaluable to Celtic going forward.

"We are delighted that he has agreed to join the club permanently and having worked so successfully with the club already, we have ensured important



continuity for the future. This is a hugely important role at the club and in Nick we have appointed a man who we know will deliver excellent results.

Celtic manager Neil Lennon added: "I have known Nick for some time and I know I can trust him and rely on him to produce excellent work across our football operation.

"He has considerable experience, great knowledge of the game, great insight into players and a tremendous work ethic. We know he has a huge appetite for this new role and I know he will be a very important addition to our team.

"Having already worked with Nick, we know that we are appointing a man with first-class credentials and I am delighted to welcome him to the club on a permanent basis."