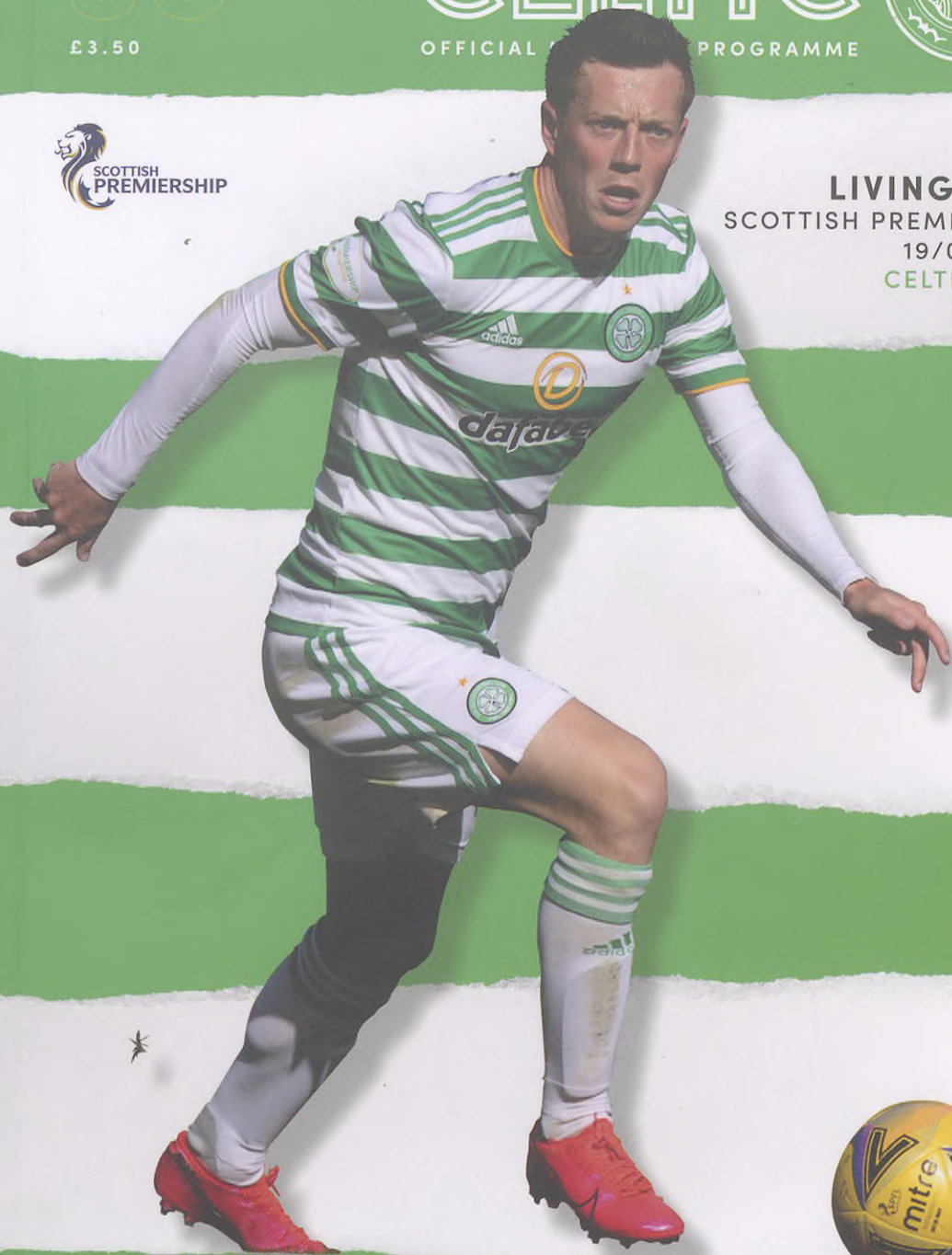


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CELTIC

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME



LIVINGSTON

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

19/09/2020

CELTIC PARK

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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.

WHAT'S INSIDE



Manager - Neil Lennon



Captain - Scott Brown



Interview - Callum McGregor



Stars In Stripes



George McCluskey



On This Day



Quiz

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NEIL LENNON

'We now face a new challenge in the shape of Livingston, and we are fully focused on what lies ahead over the course of the next 90 minutes'

WE'RE back home again after the international break and a couple of games on the road, and it's always good to be playing at Celtic Park.

Our trip to the Highlands last weekend proved to be successful as we won 5-0, with the goals coming from five different goalscorers, which is always pleasing. And though I've had to write these programme notes ahead of Wednesday night's visit to St Mirren, it goes without saying that I hope we're going into today's match on the back of another positive result.

Our last game here at Celtic Park had been a good win over Motherwell, and it was important to follow that up when we returned to action last Saturday at Ross County.

It was a good performance from the team, and it was great to see a couple of our new recruits on the scoresheet. Shane Duffy made his debut, which is always a special occasion for every Celtic player, and to mark it with a goal as well just made it all the more memorable for him.

And I was delighted to see Albian Ajeti get his third league goal in consecutive matches. He's working hard to get fully up to speed, but he's already shown what he can bring to the team.

We now face a new challenge in the shape of Livingston, and we are fully focused on what lies ahead over the course of the next 90 minutes.

They might have experienced a difficult start to the new season, but Gary's side are always very well-organised, competitive and difficult to beat, and I'm sure that will be the case again this afternoon.

However, we are determined to ensure that the three points stay here, and we'll be doing everything we can to ensure that is the end result.

As has been the case since the start of this season, we will be playing here without any fans in the stadium.

It was encouraging that there were two test events last weekend – our game against Ross County and Aberdeen's match with Kilmarnock

– where 300 fans were allowed into each stadium.

It is a positive move, and I hope it's one that can be extended and enlarged to other clubs in Scottish football in the not too distant future.

I know it's what our supporters want, and it's certainly what the management and players here want too. Until then, I want to thank all our fans for their support. Stay safe and hopefully, before too long, we can all be together again at Celtic Park. Enjoy the game.

Neil Lennon



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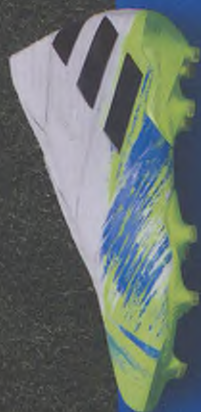
COPA



PREDATOR



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The Adidas logo, consisting of three slanted parallel bars above the word "adidas" in a lowercase sans-serif font.



SCOTT BROWN



'A win and the three points available is the aim for this afternoon although we know the visitors will have other plans and will not make it easy for us'

WE'RE back home at Celtic Park today following two away games after the international break and it's certainly good to be back on our own turf this afternoon for our first game here since the 3-0 win over Motherwell three weeks ago.

I'm writing these notes ahead of our midweek trip to St Mirren so I obviously can't comment on how that game went, but it goes without saying we travelled to Paisley intent on carrying on from our 5-0 win over Ross County last Saturday.

We thoroughly enjoyed that win at a ground where it can be difficult to get a good result at, and I think it's fair to say that big Shane Duffy enjoyed that 90 minutes more than most. Making his debut for Celtic would have been memorable enough, but to score, especially as a centre-half, that was great for him and you could see exactly how much it meant to him.

All the new lads have slotted in well and I'm sure we're all going to see the full benefits of this squad as the season progresses and it's a season we are all very excited about.

Today we welcome Livingston and they are a side we will be wary of as they caused us problems on their own patch last season, although a repeat of our 4-0 win here last November would suit us right down to the ground – especially as I found the net in that game!

No matter who the goals come from though, a win and the three points available is the aim for this afternoon although we know the visitors will have other plans and will not make it easy for us.

Another good thing about last weekend's visit to Dingwall to play Ross County was that limited numbers of supporters were allowed into the stadium for the match. It may have

only been 300, and obviously there were no Celtic fans there, but it's a start.

We don't know how long this road is going to be, but hopefully that is the first step towards safely allowing fans back into football grounds as I know you are all missing games at Celtic Park as much as we are missing playing in front of you.

Enjoy the game wherever you are and we aim to give you a win to celebrate even if you aren't here at Celtic Park.

Scott Brown



OFFICIAL RETAIL PARTNER



I AM 



Words: Joe Donnelly

Ajeti delighted with his start to life as a Celt



ALBIAN Ajeti's Celtic goals-to-games record prior to the midweek clash with St Mirren stood at three-for-three, having found the net against Dundee United and Motherwell before scoring again against Ross County in Dingwall last weekend.

The Switzerland internationalist hopes to continue his scoring streak in green and white, and has enjoyed building relationships with his team-mates all over the pitch.

Speaking at Lennoxton ahead of the Premiership encounter with St Mirren, Ajeti said he's thoroughly enjoyed his time in Glasgow so far, and feels better and fitter with every passing week of training at Lennoxton, and matchday at Paradise or further afield.

The 23-year-old likened the intensity and aggressiveness of the Scottish game to his experiences in the English Premier League, and said the conversations he had with Neil Lennon beforehand were crucial in his decision to join the biggest team in the country.

"Celtic have given me this opportunity to show my qualities and they believed in my ability, that's why I signed for Celtic," Ajeti continued. "I feel better as a player, too. Much better than when I came.

"This was my first start in seven or eight months. My last start was January, and it takes a little bit of time to get back to 90 minutes, but I was happy to play 60 on Saturday.

"I see Celtic as a big club. Everyone knows Celtic and when

I signed the main reason was the gaffer. I spoke a couple of times with him and he gave me the confidence and made it an easy decision.

"This was one of the main reasons I signed and also another important point was I had to get back to be playing football. A striker not playing, there's nothing worse than that."

Albian Ajeti

Position: Forward

Squad Number: 10

D.O.B: 26/02/1997

Born: Basel, Switzerland

Height: 6'0"

Signed: 13/08/20

Debut: v KR Reykjavik (h) 6-0, (CL) 18/08/20

Previous Clubs: West Ham, Basel, St Gallen, FC Ausburg, Basel