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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 in 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 influx of Irish. Brother Walfrid saw a 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 goal. 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. Its 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 equality, 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 associate 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 loves in football as a medium for ability, pleasure, entertainment and social integration. The Club always has been and always will simply aim to be the best team of the people.

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Manager's Notes...

BRENDAN RODGERS



We are fully focused on kicking off our campaign with a positive result today



GOOD afternoon and welcome to Celtic Park for today's game against Livingston. It's the start of the new Premiership season and we're looking forward to getting the campaign off and running, hopefully with a positive result this afternoon.

Prior to the game, of course, we will raise the flag here at Paradise in recognition of our achievement in winning the league title last season. It's always a special occasion and one that every Celtic supporter looks forward to.

It will be a special occasion, too, with the club having invited Danny McGrain to perform the flag unfurling ceremony. I know that Danny is a very humble man but this is an occasion when he can take centre-stage, and I'm sure it's a proud day for him and his family.

He is one of the greatest players ever to have worn the green and white Hoops, and someone that every Celtic supporter loves and admires.

Growing up, he was always one of

the players I looked upon as a Celtic hero, and throughout my time here as manager, Danny has continued to be an inspirational presence at the club, and someone who I continue to take inspiration from.

We also welcome Livingston to Celtic Park this afternoon, and we congratulate them for their achievement in securing promotion to the Premiership.

They have made a managerial change ahead of the new season, and I'm sure Kenny will be looking forward to the challenges ahead in his new role as a manager.

He does have a wealth of experience as a player to call upon, and I'm sure that his players will benefit from his presence, both on and off the park.

We go into today's game on the back of a positive result in Norway during the week, which secured our place in the third qualifying round of the Champions League.

It was a tough away game, as we anticipated, but having won the first leg so well at Celtic Park, we completed the job on Wednesday night, and there were positives to take from that game, not least the performances of our young central defenders.

We now face another tough challenge in the shape of AEK Athens, but we will only turn our attentions to that match after this afternoon's game.

Our focus is solely on kicking off our Premiership campaign with a good performance and positive result today at a packed Paradise, and I know that you will play your part in helping us try and achieve that. Enjoy the game.

Brendan Rodgers
Without Fear

new balance

AUDAZO

#RUNTHEGAME





A word with our captain...

SCOTT BROWN

Flag Day is always special and gives us an incentive to do everything we can to repeat last season's title success



FLAG Day at Celtic Park is always a special occasion, and no matter how many times I've experienced it over the years, it's still a great moment and something that all the lads enjoy.

It's an acknowledgement of our achievement in winning the Premiership title last season, something we're very proud of, and it also gives us that incentive to do everything we can to repeat it again this time around.

At the start of last season, I was lucky enough to have been invited to unfurl the league flag, and it was a great moment. This season, it's Danny McGrain who will do the honours, and all the lads are delighted that he has been invited to unfurl the flag.

Danny is a true Celtic legend, and what he did for the club over 20 years is incredible. It's still great to see him at Lennoxton every day, and it will be brilliant to see him out on the pitch before the game to unfurl the flag. I'm sure it will be a very special day for him and his family.

We want to start the new season with a win, of course, but we know that Livingston will come here looking to start their campaign with a positive result.

I know Kenny well, having been a team-mate of his in the past as well as playing against him on many occasions, and I know he'll be determined to be successful now that he's a manager. Livingston have

started their season well, with some good results in the League Cup, so we know they'll come here full of confidence.

We've started our season well, too, and we're got another big European tie to look forward to here on Wednesday night. We want to go into that game on the back of a good result today and, with your backing, hopefully we can do just that.

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB 1888

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