



OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

CELTIC v HIBERNIAN

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP • WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019
CELTIC PARK • KO 7.45PM • PRICE £3.50



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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.

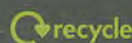


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Manager's Notes...

BRENDAN RODGERS



'We will be ready and focused on ensuring we deliver the result we all want to maintain our place at the top of the table'



GOOD evening and welcome to Celtic Park for tonight's match against Hibernian.

The games continue to come thick and fast but, as always, we're delighted to be playing at home and are looking forward to the 90 minutes ahead.

This fixture also breaks up our run of matches against St Johnstone, which will resume again this Sunday in the Scottish Cup.

We've enjoyed back-to-back wins over St Johnstone, with both games providing different challenges for us. Our home match was obviously our game in hand, carried over from the start of December when we were in the League Cup final, and the win gave us a six-point lead at the top of the table.

We knew, going into Sunday's match at McDiarmid Park, that it would take a victory to restore that lead, given results elsewhere the previous day, and we produced a very disciplined and determined

performance with no shortage of quality either.

Our two goals were superbly created and executed, the first the result of a brilliant piece of skill from Timothy Weah to set up James Forrest, and the second an excellent counter-attacking move, which Timothy finished off.

We had to contend with injuries, going down to 10 men after using all three substitutes, and then being further reduced to nine men with the red card to Kristoffer Ajer.

The players showed tremendous character throughout, led by Scott Brown in the middle of the park, who was absolutely outstanding.

We now look forward to our next challenge, which is the visit of Hibernian to Celtic Park tonight. Games against Hibs are always entertaining contests, and very difficult too, as we know from our most recent meeting back in December.

That has much to do with the

excellent job Neil Lennon did with the team throughout his time at the club, from winning promotion back to the Premiership, delivering a top-four finish last season to bring European football back to Easter Road, and producing a side that always tried to play good football.

Regardless of recent events at the club, they have a good squad of players and Eddie will have them well-organised and determined to try and get a positive result here tonight.

Over the course of a season, every member of the squad will be asked to play their part and that will continue this week as we contend with injuries and suspensions. Come 7.45pm tonight, we will be ready and focused on ensuring we deliver the result that we all want. Enjoy the game.

Brendan Rodgers

Without Fear



new balance

AUDAZO

#RUNTHEGAME



RUN
THE
GAME



A word with our captain...

SCOTT BROWN



Our focus is on the 90 minutes ahead and the need to maintain our lead at the top of the table

GAMES against Hibernian are always ones that we look forward to, and tonight's match is no different.

They're also entertaining contests, with two teams who like to play good football, and, more often than not, there are plenty of goals for the fans to enjoy.

Of course, we're enjoyed a good start to 2019, with five clean sheets so far, and that's something we're aiming to continue tonight against a Hibs side who had a good result against us in the game at Easter Road at the end of last year.

While that game is a reminder to us of the quality of our opponents, our only focus is on the 90 minutes ahead and the need to get all three points

and maintain our lead at the top of the Premiership table.

It's good to have that lead, although we know that there is still a lot of football to be played between now and the end of the season, so we're taking nothing for granted.

We enjoyed a good win on Sunday, and I thought the lads did brilliantly at a tough ground and against a St Johnstone side who always make it hard for us.

And while we did pick up some injuries over the course of the game, I know that the players who'll come into the team tonight will do a good job.

All our success here is a squad effort, and anything we achieve in the future will also be down to the whole

squad playing their part. As well as that, your support will be vital. It's something that all the lads appreciate and I would also like to thank everyone for their messages to me after I signed my new deal last week.

As I said at the time, Celtic really is home to me and I'm delighted to be here for the next two years to help in every way I can to deliver more success to this club that we all love.

A handwritten signature of Scott Brown in black ink.



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Win Valencia tickets in this week's Celtic View

THE Hoops have won their first five games of 2019 and in this week's Celtic View, Brendan Rodgers looks back at the start to the year as well as ahead to the coming games - and YOU could win tickets for one of those games, the UEFA Europe league tie against Valencia in this week's issue.

Among the many other features in this issue, we have:

- An exclusive interview with Scott Brown on signing his new two-year deal.
- A sit down with new Bhoys, Jeremy Toljan.

- Scott Bain speaking exclusively about his run in the team.
- New Bhoys, Maryan Shved speaking about joining the Hoops.
- A look at Brendan Rodgers' 100 league games.
- An interview with Reserve captain, Kerr McInroy.
- A superb centre-spread celebration poster of James Forrest.
- Billy Bremner featuring in They Played At Paradise.

And much more, in this week's Celtic View. On sale now.

