

# Celtic



v

## ST MIRREN

SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

07/03/2020 • 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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# 'We're still pleased that, ahead of today's match, we extended our lead at the top of the table'



**GOOD afternoon and welcome to Celtic Park for today's Premiership match against St Mirren. As always, it's good to be back home and it's a game that we're all looking forward to.**

The match comes at the end of another busy week which presented us with a number of different challenges.

Last weekend, we took on St Johnstone in what was a difficult Scottish Cup tie at McDiarmid Park. We battled a tough opponent, as well as the elements and a tricky playing surface, to secure a good victory and a place in the semi-final of the competition.

We followed that up with another tough game, this time in the league, and at a venue that has proven difficult for us in the past couple of seasons.

We had to settle for a point against

Livingston, and although it was disappointing that it ended our 100 per cent domestic record in 2020, it showed the character and determination of this group of players.

I thought we were excellent on the night, and deserved more than the point but we're still pleased that, ahead of today's match, we extended our lead at the top of the table.

We face a St Mirren side who had proved difficult already this season in both of our previous meetings. Jim Goodwin has done a brilliant job there, and he's made St Mirren far more resilient than they were.

I was also delighted to join Doddie Weir at Celtic Park earlier in the week for the launch of Celtic FC Foundation's Lions' Roar Charity Match, which will take place here on Friday, May 8.

Doddie is an inspirational figure, and

is doing so much to raise awareness about Motor Neurone Disease which, sadly, he is now battling.

This match will raise vital funds to help research into the disease, and I'm sure that Celtic supporters, as well as sports fans in general, will come along on the night to support this and enjoy a great occasion.

Neil Lennon

**NB**  
new balance

THE NEXT WAVE



OF EXECUTION



**FURON**



# 'We will have to be on our toes, as usual, for another important game in our quest for another title'

**A WARM** welcome back to Celtic Park today for this afternoon's game against St Mirren and we fully aim to maintain our record of adding to our points tally, as we have done in every single SPFL game since the turn of the year.

That's now nine consecutive games without defeat and the only slip was in Wednesday night's 2-2 draw out at Livingston – but even then the team showed the relentlessness needed to come back and earn another important point right at the end of the game, and we could even have snatched all three had our luck been in.

Our resilience came through in the end and it proved to be a very important point as, despite missing out on another two points, we still

increased our lead at the top of the table to 13 points thanks to results elsewhere.

Our opponents today, St Mirren, also drew in midweek as they had a goal-less 90 minutes at home to St Johnstone and that shows their spirit as well, as they have lost only two league games since we last played them back on Boxing Day. Since then, they have racked up quite a few vital points with a string of drawn games.

So, we will be wary of them this afternoon as, despite being pleased about fighting back against Livingston in midweek, we aim to avoid dropping unnecessary points for two games in a row.

We have won both of our previous two games against St Mirren, although

they have managed to keep the scorelines quite tight as Jim Goodwin has done a good job since taking over there, and they will be eager to steer themselves away from the fight to stay up at the bottom of the table.

That alone makes them a dangerous opponent and we will have to be on our toes, as usual, for another important game in our quest for another title, and we know that you, the supporters will be right behind us in our task.

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# CELTIC STARS MEET SOME VERY SPECIAL SUPPORTERS



**OVER 150 supporters got the chance to meet their heroes on Monday as Celtic held a player meet and greet for some special supporters.**

Club captain, Scott Brown was joined by Fraser Forster, Greg Taylor, Moritz Bauer and Mohamed Elyounoussi to spend time signing autographs and taking pictures with fans.

The club worked alongside Celtic FC Foundation and external charities like Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity, Cash for Kids, CHAS and Ronald McDonald House to invite supporters to the event at Celtic Park.

Children and adults battling life-threatening illnesses, those living with long-term health

conditions and fans who can't attend matches due to mental or physical barriers, were among those at the event.

Supporters created their own lasting memory of the famous Treble Treble, with a photo opportunity with all three trophies! Fans were also able to score a goal at Paradise in a penalty shoot-out and Hoopy and Hailey the Huddle Hounds were also on hand for selfies.

Scott Brown said: "It was a privilege for us to meet these supporters today. They are facing difficult and challenging times and it is important for us as players to take some time out and hopefully help raise their spirits and put a smile of their faces."

