

Stanes

2014/15



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Ross County v Celtic

SPFL SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP

Saturday 18th October 2014 | Kick Off 12.45pm

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Matchday programme

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 Vice Chairman: Mike Kydd

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 Ronnie Fraser, Gavin Ryder,
 Leo Daly, James MacDonald,
 Duncan MacKenzie

Manager - Jim McIntyre
 Assistant Manager - Billy Dodds
 Sports Scientist - Ross Hughes
 Club Physiotherapist - Crawford Quinn
 Video Analysis - Ian Mackinnon
 Goalkeeping Coach - Scott Thomson
 Head of Youth Development - Steven Ferguson
 Club Doctor - Mike Hunter MBE
 Club Ambassador - Donnie MacBean
 Kit Controller - Susan Wilson

Club **honours**

First Division Championship: 2011/12
Scottish Cup: Runners Up 2009/10
Challenge Cup: 2006/07, 2010/11
Second Division Championship: 2007/08
Third Division Championship: 1998/99
Highland League Championship: 1966/67,
 1990/91, 1991/92
Highland League Cup: 1949/50, 1968/69,
 1978/79, 1991/92
North of Scotland Cup: 1929/30, 1969/70,
 1971/72, 1991/92, 2006/07
Scottish Qualifying Cup: 1973/74, 1993/94
Inverness Cup: 1930/31, 1959/60, 1964/65,
 1966/67, 1978/79, 1979/80, 1991/92,
 1992/93, 2000/01, 2002/03, 2003/04

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Jim McIntyre

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the Global Energy Stadium for our Scottish Premiership fixture with Celtic FC. It has been an enjoyable fortnight after picking up points in our last two games. It's given everyone a bit of a boost so the spirit in the squad going into today's game is good.

Usually during the international break we'd give the boys time off but we took it as an opportunity to top their fitness levels up. The players have been in every day, worked really hard and responded well to the extra time we've had with them.

The performance in the Dundee game a couple of weeks ago was excellent and what was really pleasing for me was the reaction when we conceded. The boys dug deep and the subs came on too and played their part and we were able to win in the last minute. It was an important result and winning so late on was a shot in the arm for the playing staff as much as it must have been for the fans.

“I'm starting to see the togetherness of the squad growing with each passing week. It was evident in scoring late against Dundee and in how we defended in Inverness with all the players battling for each other. I can see the confidence growing in the squad.”

We took that positivity into the Highland derby and I was really satisfied to be one up at the end of the first half even though we'd had two or three more clear cut chances that we did not take. But that just comes down to being more ruthless in front of goal and adding the finishing touch to the good chances we're creating.

After 90 minutes I was happy with the point away from home against a team that has been on a good run. In the first half in Inverness we were excellent and would have been three goals to the good at half time but for some excellent saves from Dean Brill. By

the same token, our opposition put good pressure on in the second half with Mark Brown making some tremendous saves, so a point was a fair result.

What is pleasing is that I'm starting to see the togetherness of the squad growing with each passing week. It was evident against Dundee and in how we defended in Inverness with all the players battling for each other. I can see the confidence growing in the squad now and we've also been able to add three new faces to the group.

Rocco Quinn and Richie Brittain both need operations so midfield was an area we had to strengthen. Richie has been doing fantastically well playing on with his injury until we could get some cover in so I appreciate him playing a real captain's part.

Martin Woods has played at a very high level so he's got an opportunity to come in and stake his claim for a longer deal. Terry Dunfield, at 32, also brings great experience. Lewis Toshney has also come in as we look to strengthen our options at full back and considering he hasn't played for a year he's been exceptional. All three are good players who have fitted in really well and will challenge the good players we already have for a place in the starting line up.

Turning our attention to today's opposition, we know Celtic will be hurting after their defeat to Hamilton but they have players capable of hurting anybody so we will go into it with a strong game plan and try to win the match.

Celtic have a team of internationals but we are the home team so we'll be positive, look to put them under pressure and have a go at them. We have to be composed on the ball, take our chances when they come and show a belief that we can win the game. I'd ask you to get behind the boys for what should be a great football match.

Jim



Ross County Football Club have a strict behavioural policy. Racial or sectarian abuse will not be tolerated at any time. Repeated use of foul or abusive language will be regarded as verbal assault and offenders will be ejected from the Stadium. Ross County Football Club would like to thank fans of both teams for their co-operation in this regard.





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Roy MacGregor

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to the Global Energy Stadium for our Scottish Premiership fixture with Celtic Football Club. With both teams adjusting to life under new management it should make for a fascinating contest.

We know only too well that it takes time for a group of players to adjust and implement the ideas of a new management team on match day. But after arresting a poor run of form to take four points from our last two league games we can approach what is always a difficult fixture on a positive footing.

Thankfully, after our worst ever start in the top flight, we have started to see the green shoots of recovery in Dingwall as Jim and his team's hard work with the squad on the training ground has begun to pay dividends. The home win against Dundee, when the team played some fantastic football and probably deserved to be out of sight at half time, and a point away at our local rivals Inverness Caledonian Thistle where, again, we could have wrapped up the three points in the first period, hasn't come a moment too soon.

The visit of a top Scottish side like Celtic, replete with a number of internationals, inevitably comes with its unique challenges but always has the feeling of an occasion about it too. In fact it is always a good opportunity to reflect on how far we have come as a club in such a short time. Once upon a time the visit of a leading Scottish Premiership team to Dingwall would have been a rare treat but now we are enjoying our third consecutive season in the top flight it is something we can look forward to every fortnight.

From what we've seen in recent weeks I'm sure we can expect plenty more hard work and passion on the park and the sidelines from Jim, Billy and the players as they strive to climb the table and help the Club secure that precious Premiership status. But it is important that we all play our part too. The atmosphere at recent games following the introduction of a Singing Section in the East Stand Extension has been excellent and I'd urge you all to be vocal in your support of the team again today for what will be a difficult game.

From what we've seen in recent weeks

I'm sure we can expect plenty more hard work and passion on the park and the sidelines from Jim, Billy and the players as they strive to climb the table and help the Club secure its Premiership status.

Finally, I'd like to welcome players, officials and fans of Celtic Football Club to the Global Energy Stadium. Celtic always bring with them a noisy and partisan traveling support which makes for a fantastic atmosphere at our games so your presence is appreciated.

Enjoy the game!

Roy



Ross County 0 Hibernian 2

GLOBAL ENERGY STADIUM

23/09/14



ACTION REPLAY

County's disappointing start to the season continued, when they went out of League Cup to First Division side Hibernian at the Global Energy Stadium.

A double from Dominique Malonga saw his side progress to the Quarter Final draw by virtue of a 2-0 victory. The opening nineteen minutes saw the staggies in complete control, with Hibernian struggling to get out of their own penalty box.

However, the pattern of match changed a minute later, when skipper Liam Craig crossed for Malonga to power a header past the outstretched hands of Mark Brown. County retaliated, with Yoann Arquin dragging two efforts wide of the target as the home side looked to get back on level terms.

Nine minutes from the interval, and the visitors doubled their lead when Lewis Stevenson sent over a cross for Malonga to head a carbon copy of the opener.

The Staggies replied and a Filip Kiss header was headed of the line by Hibs skipper Liam Craig. The home side continued to press, but found the Hibs defence a stubborn nut to crack.

Hibs reduced to ten men, when with nine minutes remaining, midfield man Dylan McGeouch received a straight red card for a desperate tackle on Joe Cardle on the standside touchline.



"We started the game really well. We had a real go at Hibs but what we're not doing is putting the final touch on the ball.

When we're not defending well properly at the other end it's a recipe for not winning football matches. We need to give ourselves a chance in games by taking the chance when we have pressure."

Jim MCINTYRE

ROSS COUNTY

Mark BROWN
Jim FENLON (Richard BRITTAIN 41)
Tim DREESEN
Ben FREMPAH
Graham CAREY
Rocco QUINN
Jackson IRVINE
Filip KISS (Liam BOYCE 58)
Melvin De LEEUW (Michael GARDYNE 53)
Joe CARDLE
Yoann ARQUIN

SUBSTITUTES NOT USED

Antonio REGUERO (gk)
Jake JERVIS
Darren MAATSEN
Jordi BALK

HIBERNIAN

Mark OXLEY
David GRAY
Paul HANLON
Liam FONTAINE
Jordan FORSTER
Scott ROBERTSON
Liam CRAIG
Lewis STEVENSON
Dylan McGEOUCH
Dominique MALONGA (Paul HEFFERNAN 86)
Jason CUMMINGS (Scott ALLAN 83)

SUBSTITUTES NOT USED

Callum BOOTH (gk)
Kleton PERNTREOU
Alex HARRIS
Jake SINCLAIR
Matthew KENNEDY

GOAL SCORERS

Dominique MALONGA (21)
Dominique MALONGA (36)

SENT-OFF

Dylan McGEOUCH (81)

REFEREE: Stephen FINNIE

ATTENDANCE: 1,819



Ross County 2 Dundee 1

GLOBAL ENERGY STADIUM

27/09/14



ACTION REPLAY

An injury time winner from substitute Darren Maatsen earned the Staggies their opening league win of the season.

There was little doubt that the home side deserved the points. The home side were definitely up for the fight against their Tayside opponents, but had only a Michael Gardyne striker to show for their efforts at half-time.

The Dingwall side opened with former Celtic & Dundee defender Lewis Toshney in at right back, in a re-shuffled back four that also saw Jackson Irvine partner Ben Frenpah.

Michael Gardyne gave the home side the lead on 27 minutes. Carey and Arquin combined to release Filip Kiss, and the Cardiff City man crossed to the back stick for Gardyne to fire home the opener. Substitute David Clarkson grabbed the equaliser after 69 minutes, just four minutes after entering the fray, converting a Martin Boyle cross at the near post.

Both teams went in search of the winner, and it was County who had the last say when substitute Darren Maatsen smashed home a Joe Cardle at the back post to give the home side a dramatic victory - no more than their performance merited.



"Credit to the boys. I thought they gave absolutely everything. We should have been comfortably ahead in the first half. We really were excellent.

The late Dundee goal was the least we deserved. But we kept going. That's the big things we've been trying to work on, showing a reaction to a setback."

Jim McIntyre

ROSS COUNTY

Mark BROWN
Lewis TOSHNEY (Melvin De LEEUW 74)
Jackson IRVINE
Ben FREMPAH
Graham CAREY
Rocco QUINN
Richard BRITTAIN
Yoann ARQUIN
Michael GARDYNE (Darren MAATSEN 52)
Filip KISS (Liam BOYCE 82)
Joe CARDLE

SUBSTITUTES NOT USED

Antonio REGUERO (gk)
Jake JERVIS
Tim DREESEN
Jordi BALK

GOAL SCORERS

Michael GARDYNE (27)
Darren MAATSEN (90)

DUNDEE

Kyle LETHEREN
Paul MCGINN
James McPAKE
Gary IRVINE
Jim McALISTER (Cameron KERR 42)
Martin BOYLE
Paul MCGOWAN
Simon FERRY (David CLARKSON 70)
Greg STEWART
Gary HARKINS
Luka TANKULIC

SUBSTITUTES NOT USED

Scott BAIN (gk)
Craig WIGHTON
Philip ROBERTS
Kevin McBRIDE
Peter McDONALD

GOAL SCORERS

David CLARKSON (74)

REFEREE: Craig CHARLESTON

ATTENDANCE: 3,118

