



### TIME TO TAKE ADVANTAGE

WELSH ON A BIG WEEKEND FOR THE CALEY JAGS

PLUS YOUTH CUP SEMIFINAL, JOHN ROBERTSON & A JOHNNY HAYES HOWITZER

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## MANAGER PREVIEW

WITH JOHN ROBERTSON

Good afternoon and welcome to this afternoons Ladbrokes Championship match against Dundee United here at the Caledonian Stadium. I would like to warmly welcome Robbie Nielson, his staff and players to the stadium, and of course, the visiting directors and fans of the Arabs who have made the journey north today, especially at this time of year.

We fought out an entertaining draw with United at Tannadice in Robbie Nielson's first home game in charge and I am sure it will be similar to today's match with both teams going all out for a win. United have been going very well under his leadership and, aside from the Ayr Utd game, they have closed the gap on Ross County and will be there at the business end of the season.

Without a doubt our game versus Ayr was cancelled at the last minute but, whilst it is frustrating to have travelled all the way down there, it was the correct decision by Craig Thomson. The pitch was just about playable but the overhead conditions would have made it a complete farce.

The wind is something we don't always take in when factoring conditions, but is the one weather that players really dislike as it makes any decent football virtually impossible. Craig gave the game every chance but simply had no choice in the end but to cancel the match.

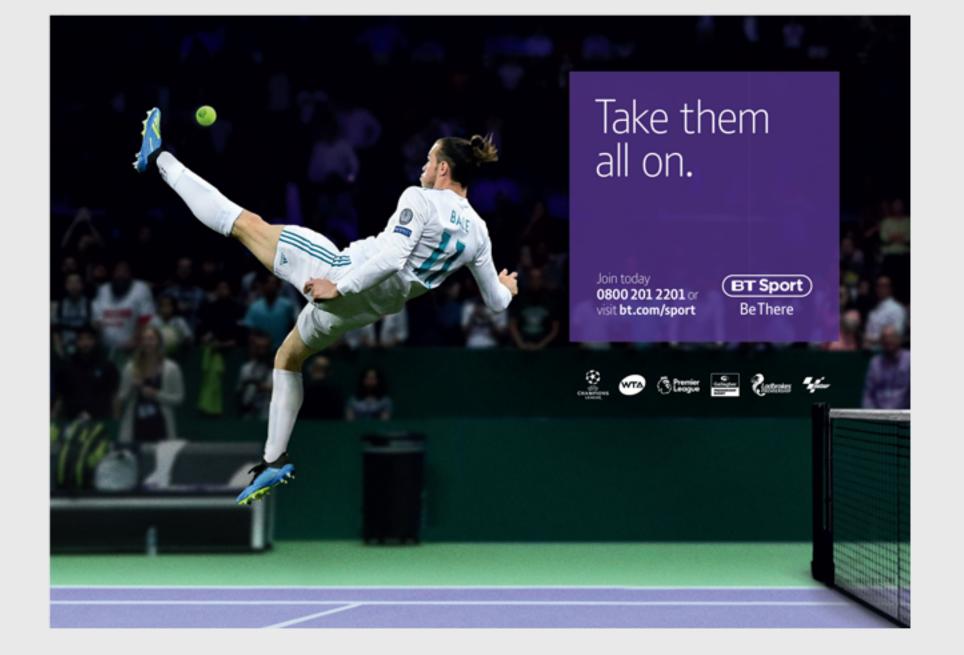


So today we must get back to winning matches and the players should be raring to go with fresh memories of scoring 6 in the replay against Edinburgh City, we should approach the game with confidence and go all out for a victory.

As today is the last home match of 2018, may I wish every ICT fan a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I look forward to seeing another big away support in Dingwall before seeing you all here for our match against Queen of the South on the 5th January. I send these wishes from everyone connected with the club.

Enjoy the match,

Robbo



## CAPTAIN CARL

### TREMARCO'S MATCH PREVIEW

Welcome to this afternoon's match against Dundee Utd, I hope you're all well.

I'm looking to be back in training next week so it's good news for me. I'm looking forward to getting back involved with the team.

I was buzzing that our game against Ayr was called off as it is another game that I don't miss. These things happen, as there is nothing you can do about the weather, but now we have to focus on the task at hand against Dundee United.

No matter who comes to our place we are always looking to win, we're going to need to do what we do and exploit their weaknesses which every team has. We're hoping we can put our game plan into action and get the win.

Let's get behind the boys, enjoy the game!

**Carl Tremarco** 

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I am delighted you could join us today here at Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC. We extend a warm welcome to the representatives of Dundee United FC. We look forward to great football and a competitive match, fairly played and with no injuries.

Competing in the Scottish Championship is very competitive and I am reminded of something the great Michael Jordan once shared.

"Talent wins games, but teamwork, attitude and intelligence wins championships. I've missed many shots in my career. Obstacles don't have to stop you - never give up. Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen".

What's important is that as loyal and steadfast supporters, we get behind our team, and continue to demonstrate our collective passion and patronage for this proud Club. As always, if you have any feedback on how we are doing or suggestions on how we can improve, please send them to me at graham.rae@ictfc.co.uk - I'd be pleased to hear from you.

Let me finish by saying thank you for your loyal support - it really does make a huge difference and everyone at the Club is most grateful.

#### **Graham Rae**

Chairman

## COMMUNITY NEWS



CODE	DAY	DATES	VENUE	COURSE NAME	TIME	AGE	PRICE
HSS1	Mon	14th Jan-1st April	Hilton Primary (Hall)	S. School	4-4.45pm	5-6	38.50
HSS2	Mon	14th Jan-1st April	Hilton P <mark>rimary (Hall</mark> )	S. School	4.50-5.35pm	7-8	38.50
HSS3	Mon	14th Jan-1st April	Hilton Primary (Hall)	S. School	5.40-6.25pm	9-14	38.50
ML1	Tues	15th Jan-2nd April	MOL (Hall)	Nessie	4.30-5.15pm	3-4	38.50
ML2	Tues	15th Jan-2nd April	MOL (Hall)	4v4 Centre	5.20-6.05pm	5-7	38.50
ML3	Tues	15th Jan-2nd April	MOL (Hall)	4v4 Centre	6.10-6.55pm	8-14	38.50
			Smithton Primary				
SP1	Wed	16th Jan-3rd April	(Hall)	S. School	4-4.45pm	5-8	38.50
		A STATE OF THE STA	Smithton Primary				
SP2	Wed	16th Jan-3rd April	(Hall)	S. School	4.50-5.35pm	9-14	38.50
HN3	Thurs	17th Jan-4th April	Hilton Primary (Hall)	Nessie	4-4.45pm	3-4	42.00
HN5	Thurs	17th Jan-4th April	Hilton Primary (Hall)	S. School	4.50-5.35pm	5-6	42.00
	1000		Hilton Primary		2000		
HSS4	Thurs	17th Jan-4th April	(Hall)	Girls ONLY	5.40-6.25pm	5-12	42.00
GK1	Fri	18th Jan-5th April	MOL School (Astro)	Safe Hands	4-4.45pm	6-10	42.00
GK2	Fri	18th Jan-5th April	MOL School (Astro)	Safe Hands	4.50-5.35pm	11-16	42.00

<sup>\*</sup> Excluding Monday 17th Feb

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Excluding Wednesday 19th Feb

Feb-01 Mon-Wed 17th,18th,19th Feb	MOL (Astro)	Hotshots	10-11.30pm	5-8Yrs	15.00
Feb-02 Mon-Wed 17th,18th,19th Feb	MOL (Astro)	Hotshots	12.30-2.00pm	9-14Yrs	15.00
Feb-03 Mon-Wed 17th,18th,19th Feb	MOL (Astro)	Hotshots	10am-2pm	5-14Yrs	30.00
Feb-04 Mon-Wed 17th, 18th, 19th Feb	MOL (Astro)	Invite Only	10am-2pm //	7-10Yrs	30,00

<sup>\*\*</sup> Excluding Tuesday 18th Feb







Sean Welsh is enjoying himself with the Caley Jags after signing for the club in the summer. Welsh has become one of the first names on the team sheet since he has broke into the starting eleven.

Welsh has enjoyed his time with the Caley Jags thus far and is glad to be back from a slight injury which ruled him out of the Edinburgh City match.

He said: "I've enjoyed it, it has been good for myself coming here. It took a little bit of time for me to get fit but as soon as I got fit I was in the team and it has gone well for me so far. Hopefully, I just keep that going."

"I'm fully fine now, I had a tight thigh and that's why I came off against Falkirk and why I missed Edinburgh City last mid-week. I was fit for the Ayr game and I have trained this week fine so I'm fully fit for Saturday."

Caley Thistle haven't been in action since the 6-1 win over Edinburgh City as last Friday's match against Ayr was postponed less than an hour before the match was due to start. Welsh admits it was frustrating but said the team have to move on from it.

The midfielder said: "It's one of these things that you have to deal with in football, at the end of the day the referee makes the call and you have to deal with it as players."

"The conditions weren't great and it wouldn't have been a great game if it had gone ahead. We are just going to get on with it as it's out of our hands as that's gone now and we're focused on this weekend's game now."

Welsh knows that today's match against Dundee United will be a tough one as the Arabs have improved under new boss Robbie Neilson.

Welsh said: "I'm looking forward to the game against Dundee United, they've been going well since Robbie Neilson has come but they've had a couple of slip ups recently so hopefully if we are at it from the start then we can go take advantage of that and get a positive result."

Welsh knows that today's match presents Caley Thistle with a good opportunity to make up points on the leaders as Ayr face Ross County at Somerset Park. Last Saturday's Championship results also went in favour of the Caley Jags too, even though they weren't in action.

He said: "Even though we didn't play the other results were good for us on Saturday. We've got to go try and build on that and get a positive result on Saturday to make our way back towards the top. Obviously we have now slipped from the play-offs now with having a game in hand but if we go and win on Saturday then it pulls us towards the top three."

"Two of the top three will drop points and, if we win then, it'll give us a good chance to get closer to them this weekend."

### THANK YOU TO OUR KIT SPONSORS









### MANAGER ROBBIE NEILSON

### **PAST RESULTS**

**D** 1-1 AWAY, 20.10.18 LEAGUE

**W** 1-0 HOME, 27.03.18 LEAGUE

L 1-1 AWAY, 17.03.18 LEAGUE

# DUNDEE UNITED THE OPPONENT

Dundee United have had a mixed season to date, they started the season with Csaba Laszlo in charge but he was replaced by, former Hearts boss, Robbie Neilson after a heavy 5-1 loss against Ross County. Neilson has come in and made a good impact but his side recently lost 5-0 to Ayr United at Tannadice after going 6 matches unbeaten.

United responded to their heavy loss against Ayr with a 1-1 draw against Morton as, centre-half, Frederic Frans got the goal for United. Neilson's first home match in charge of United was against the Caley Jags and it ended 1-1 after Jordan White's header cancelled out Pavol Safranko's opener. Safranko has been in the goals this season for United as he has netted 6 this season in the Championship.

It's been a season of much change at United in the ownership and management as they look to return to the Premiership after three seasons in the Championship. Fraser Fyvie is United's captain and is a key player, he had a bad injury which ruled him out of the majority of last season but he is back now.

United have a slight advantage in the head-to-head between the two sides with them winning 17 previous encounters. There has been 19 draws between the sides and 16 wins for the Caley Jags. The last meeting at the Tulloch Caledonian Stadium between the sides ended in a 1-0 win for ICTFC with Aaron Doran scoring the only goal of the game in the first-half.

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It has to go down as one of the best goals scored at the Tulloch Caledonian Stadium....

It was a pure Christmas cracker by Jonny Hayes as his goal secured a point against title chasing Rangers.

Hayes' long range strike against Rangers will be remembered by all ICTFC fans due to it's brilliance.

Hayes went on a mazy run from his own box, as he recieved the ball from Ryan Esson, and unleashed an effort which left fans speechless as the game was televised across the country.

Scotland international Alan McGregor had absolutely no chance in reaching the effort as it sailed past him from around 30 yards and into the top corner.

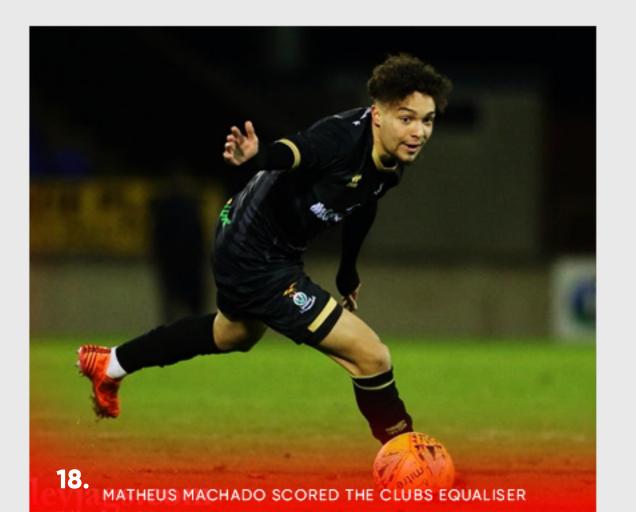
The match ended 1-1 as Kenny Miller levelled the game on the 57th minute and Rangers would have won it if it wasn't for Caley Jags number one Ryan Esson who saved a penalty from Miller.

**ICTFC XI that day:** Esson, Tokely, Munro, Shinnie, Duff, Cox, Duncan, Hayes, Odhiambo (McBain 76), Foran, (Sutherland 90+2), Rooney.





### UNDER 18'S SCOTTISH CUP



### **Match Report**

#### ICTFC U18s 1-1 Celtic

### Celtic win 4-3 on penalty kicks

The Caley Thistle Under 18s pushed Celtic all the way to penalties as they narrowly lost out in their Scottish Youth Cup tie on penalty kicks.

Celtic took the lead in the first half as Paul Kennedy's free-kick flew in from 25 yards.

ICT responded well and Maheus Machado's close range header flew past Hughes to level the game.

Roddy MacGregor could have put the Caley Jags ahead but his shot was inches wide of the post.

In the second-half, Kennedy's shot was palmed away and MacGregor went close with a couple of chances with 15 minutes to play.

In extra time, Shane Harkness had two big chances to win it as one hit the side netting while the other was kept out by an unbelievable save from Hughes.

The sides couldn't be separated after extra time and it went to penalties. Celtic won the shoot-out 4-3.

### ICTFC CODE OF CONDUCT

Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC will not tolerate unacceptable conduct at the Tullloch Caledonian Stadium or any away football stadia.

Unacceptable conduct is conduct which is deemed violent or disorderly.

Violent conduct is any actual, attempted or threatened physical violence against any person, or intentional damage to property.

**Disorderly conduct includes:** 

Conduct which stirs up or sustains or is likely to or is designed to stir up or sustain hatred or ill will towards people or groups of people based on their membership of the following categories:

- Gender, Race, Nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origin.
- Membership or presumed membership of a religious group or a social or cultural group with perceived religious affiliation.
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender Identity
- Disability
- Or against an individual who is perceived to be a part of such group
- Using threatening, abusive or insulting words or conduct
- Displaying or writing anything which is abusive or insulting
- Using words or conduct or displaying any writing or other thing which indicated the support or affiliation to, or the celebrating of, or opposition to an organisation or group proscribed in the terms of the terrorism act of 2000

All persons entering the Tulloch Caledonian Stadium on a matchday are subject to these rules, including employees and volunteers of ICTFC whilst discharging their duties.

Any person who engages in unacceptable conduct will be liable for sanctions imposed by the club, which may involve possible

## SQUADS

#### MATCH OFFICIALS

WILLIE COLLUM, DAVID DIOG AND BARRY REID

### ICTFC

#### JOHN ROBERTSON & SCOTT KELLACHER

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1 M	IAR	K	ΚI	יט	G	ы	3

- 2 SHAUN ROONEY
- 3 CARL TREMARCO
- 4 JOE CHALMERS
- 5 COLL DONALDSON
- 6 JAMIE MCCART
- 7 LIAM POLWORTH
- 8 ANGUS BEITH
- 9 NATHAN AUSTIN
- 10 AARON DORAN
- 11 TOM WALSH
- 14 GEORGE OAKLEY

- 15 SEAN WELSH
- 19 JORDAN WHITE
- 22 BRAD MCKAY
- 23 DANIEL MACKAY
- 24 CHARLIE TRAFFORD
- 25 OWAIN FON WILLIAMS
- 31 CAMERON MACKAY
- 35 RODDY MACGREGOR
- 37 JACK BROWN
- **42** DANIEL HOBAN
- 40 CAMERON HARPER

### **DUNDEE UNITED**

#### ROBBIE NEILSON & LAURIE ELLIS

- 2 STEWART MURDOCH 16 MATTY SMITH
- 3 CALLUM BOOTH
- 4 FREDERIC FRANS
- 5 ADAM BARTON
- 6 LEWIS TOSHNEY
- 7 PAUL MCMULLAN
- 8 FRASER FYVIE
- 9 CRIAG CURRAN
- 10 NICKY CLARK
- 11 BILLY KING
- 12 SAM STANTON

- 1 BENJAMIN SIEGRIST 14 PAVOL SAFRANKO

  - 17 JAMIE ROBSON
  - 19 RACHID BOUHENNA
  - 20 CHRISTOPH RABITSCH
  - 21 DENIZ MEHMET
  - 22 SAM WARDROP
  - 24 WILLIAM EDJENGUELE
  - 33 FRASER AIRD
  - 34 MATEJ RAKOVAN
  - 44 PAUL WATSON
  - 90 YANNICK LOEMBA