

MATCHDAY

EDITION 26

TUE 14TH MAY **VS** DUNDEE UTD



THE NEW HIGHLANDER

JAMES KEATINGS ON HIS NEW NORTHERN CHAPTER

**PLUS TRIUMPH OVER AYR UNITED AT THE WEEKEND
& WORDS FROM OUR CAPTAIN**



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MANAGER PREVIEW

WITH JOHN ROBERTSON

Good evening and welcome to today's Premiership Play-Off Semi-Final first leg match against Dundee United at the Caledonian Stadium.

Today is the first game of two, in the same respect as the first Ayr United game we have to stay in the tie and you have to make sure there's all to play for in the Second Leg. Like the first match against Ayr, we'd like a lead going into the second leg but we don't have a crystal ball and even if we're behind going to Tannadice, we still have the capability.

The first tie against Ayr was strange, for the first 20 minutes it was cagey because neither side knew whether to come out and go for it or sit in and play your way through it. In the Play-Offs I think you have to manage each game as they come along, slit the game into segments to try and come out on top, and that is the aim for us and it'll be the aim for Dundee United too.

The results against United have been a mixed bag this season, there's been wins for both sides and draws. They'll point to the fact that they won here the last time they played here and we'll point to the fact we won the last time we played them at Tannadice.

There's not much in it between the sides. United do have the benefit of rest but we think momentum can help too. United have had a few days, they've had "me" time as Robbie has put it but that can sometimes mean players switch off and that's what we have to look at.

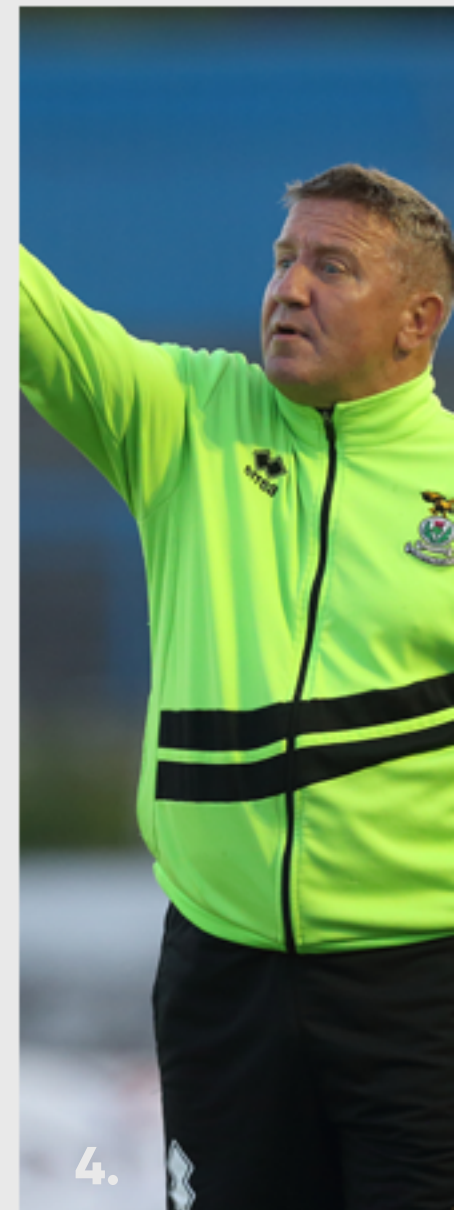
We had a terrific run last year, we won seven and drew one of our last eight games. That's what we said to the players when we went to the first match at Ayr, that this could be the first of six matches. We've done it before, we're capable of it and can create a bit of history by becoming the first side from third or fourth to go all the way.

We've got a couple of players back but we've lost a couple from Saturday. That's the downside of having two matches of high intensity before we played United is that we have picked up injuries. We have to look at the fact we've played two games, we're into play-off mode and we have to use that experience to count. It's high stakes for both clubs, we want to go into tonight's match with a front foot performance to try and use our home advantage to take a decent result to Tannadice for Friday.

Let's get behind the team and roar us on tonight in another big game,

Enjoy the match

Robbo



CAPTAIN CARL

TREMARCO'S MATCH PREVIEW

Good evening and welcome to today's Premiership Play-Off Semi-Final against Dundee United.

We got the job done on Saturday against Ayr to set up today's fixture against Dundee United. The games against United have been close this season , there's been wins for both sides. United will come here with a game plan and it'll be a tough match as we know their qualities but we believe in ourselves.

A result today would be huge to take down to Tannadice for the second-leg this Friday.

Thanks for your support,

Carl Tremarco



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would like to welcome the directors, players and supporters of Dundee United Football Club to Inverness.

ICTFC has completed the regular Championship season timetable finishing in third place, with victory secured against Ayr United in the initial round of the promotion play-offs. Now, all our focus is on the second round home and away matches against Dundee United.

There are a lot of games to be played in a short number of days. Let's stand together, make some noise and really get behind our team and the manager and coaching staff. The most certain way to remain competitive is to be creative, work hard and never give up. Getting good results and winning games becomes a habit, and this in turn creates momentum and builds confidence. Here's to a competitive game of football and no injuries. Please join me in wishing our team the very best for today's match.

I would like to thank all of our steadfast supporters, shareholders, sponsors, stakeholders, suppliers, partners and patrons for their brilliant backing and good cheer throughout the season. Additionally, here's to the football management team, players and support staff who work so hard at delivering great football every week. Finally, I would like to say a gigantic thank you to all of our amazing employees and volunteers who do so much to keep the wheels turning across all facets of this football club.

I'm always keen to receive your feedback – good or bad. Please get in touch by emailing graham.rae@ictfc.co.uk or come by for a coffee and a chat.

Graham Rae

Chairman

Ladbrokes

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18+

MATCH REPORT

11.05.19, CALEDONIAN STADIUM,
PLAY-OFF QUARTER FINAL, 2ND LEG

INVERNESS CT 1 (4)

AYR UTD 1 (2)



DONALDSON SEALS THE DEAL LATE ON

Coll Donaldson's second half header helped Caley Thistle to a 1-1 draw against Ayr United on Saturday and to a 4-2 win on aggregate to advance to the Premiership Play-Off Semi-Final.

John Robertson named the same starting eleven which beat Ayr United on Tuesday night at Somerset Park.

Ayr started brightly and it was a great clearance from Donaldson which prevented the visitors getting their first chance as Shankland linked up with McDaid.

ICTFC had their first chance after 19 minutes as Polworth played in White but he saw his effort saved by Ross Doohan, who was quick off his line.

Ayr did take the lead moments later, Shankland found McDaid and the winger's cross found Luke McCowan to fire home from around six yards out.

Jordan White tested Ross Doohan with a half volley from but Ross Doohan collected it.

After the break, Tom Walsh was forced off through injury as Anthony McDonald replaced him.

McDaid had an effort from around 20 yards which was fired over the crossbar.

Crawford then cut inside from 20 yards but his effort was over the bar too.

Caley Thistle did get their goal on the 79th minute, Coll Donaldson nodded in from close range as he glanced in Liam Polworth's free-kick.

That goal from Coll helped calm the nerves as the Caley Jags saw out the game to secure their Semi Final place.



MCCART ATTEMPTS A CRUCIAL BLOCK & DONALDSON CELEBRATES HIS WELCOME EQUALISER

COMMUNITY NEWS

Summer Hotshots

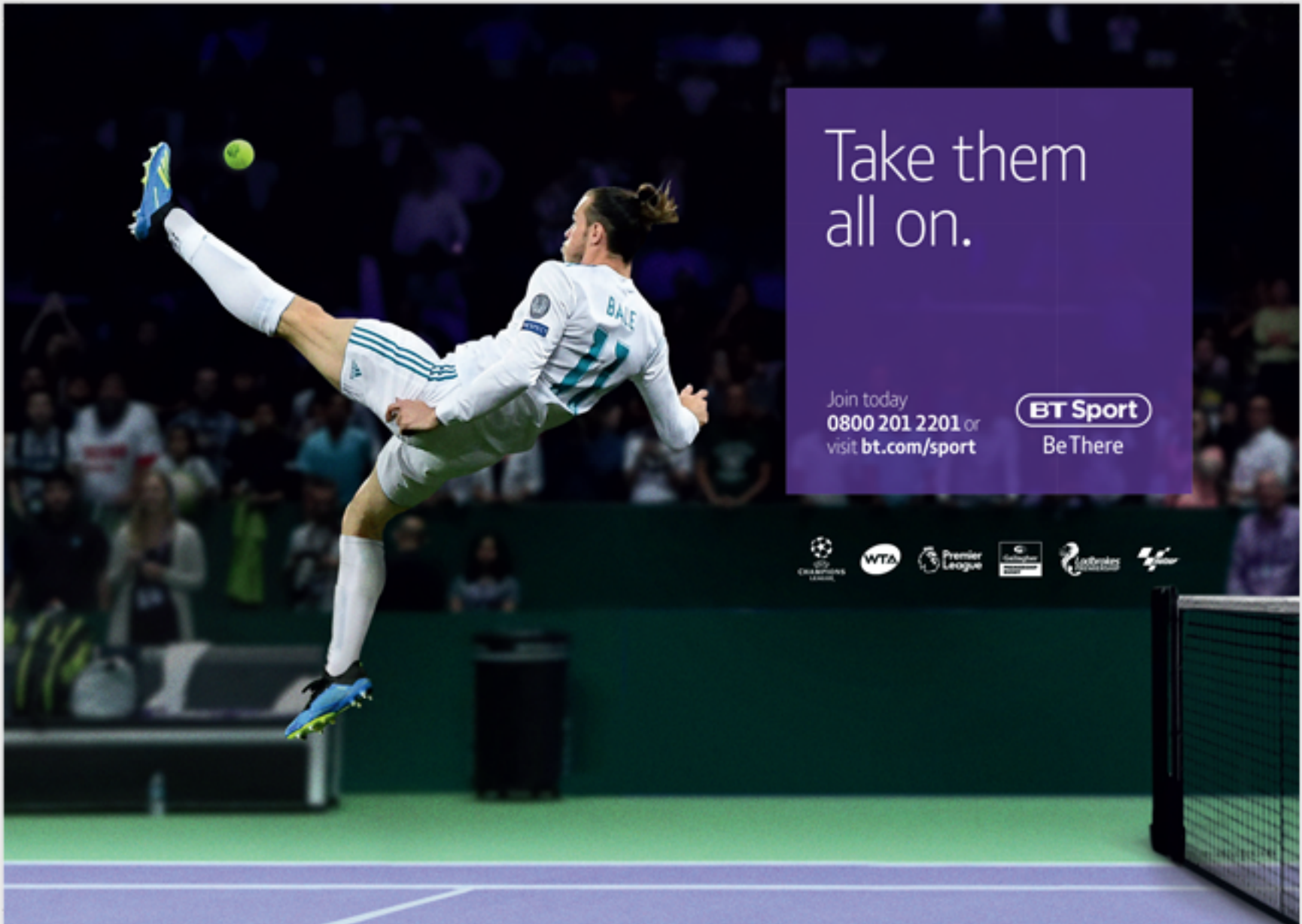
Our summer hotshot dates are up on the website and available to book on your kids now. Our camps are designed for kids ages 5-14 years old and of all abilities. Whether it's your first time kicking a ball or if you have experience then we cater for it and make our drills challenging and fun. Our sessions are taken by qualified coaches with the aim of making the days as fun as possible. Our week long hotshots will be visiting Millburn, Forres, Nairn, Fort William, Aviemore and Milton of Leys during the summer holidays. For more information and to sign up your child then visit the website www.ictfc.com/hotshots

Birthday Parties

This weekend we host another birthday party at the stadium. The community team have been delivering Birthday Parties over many years and offer various different options to the birthday boy or girl who wants to take part in a football party. Parties can be delivered at a venue of your choice or at the stadium. There are many different options which do include a stadium tour, a signed ball and a football session. For further information and bookings, contact Craig Masterton on 07754 609425 or community@ictfc.co.uk

Double Walking Football

We have doubled our sessions of walking football. We will be having it every Tuesday at the Milton of Leys Astro 6pm-7pm for £3. Walking football is everything you love about football, with the only difference it is a foul to run! It is designed to give you the chance to play the beautiful game you love but reduces the chance of injury. Its adapted format of the game provides light physical activity, providing a great way to keep fit, learn new skills and socialise at the same time! Come along and give it a shot

A full-page background image of Gareth Bale in a white Real Madrid kit, captured mid-air performing a bicycle kick. He is wearing blue and yellow boots. A yellow ball is suspended in the air near his right foot. The background shows a blurred stadium crowd.

Take them
all on.

Join today
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visit **bt.com/sport**

BT Sport

Be There





JAMES KEATINGS

TALKS JOINING ICTFC



Caley Thistle began preparations for next season yesterday as James Keatings became the first signing for the 2019/20 season as he joined on a pre-contract agreement from Hamilton Accies.

Keatings will join on a 2-year deal in the summer and he says he can't wait to get started with the Caley Jags.

James Keatings said: "Going over the past few seasons I've had a few injuries and stuff like that. I know John Robertson well from my time at Hearts and I've always kept in contact so I just felt this was the right move."

"The club have massive games coming up, hopefully they can get through them and get into the Premiership. It's a great time for the club, there is a buzz around it and I'm looking forward to getting started. I'm hoping to bring plenty goals, assists and experience."

"I think Caley Thistle are a very good team, they play good football. They are competing well, getting results and have had a great season. It's up to them to keep going, keep pushing and I'm sure they'll fancy themselves in the play-offs too."

Keatings knows the play-off will be tough as there is still good sides left in them, including his former clubs Dundee United and Hamilton, but he thinks the Caley Jags will believe now is their chance.

The Striker said: "Hamilton, Dundee United and St Mirren are strong sides. Dundee United's squad is massive, they've got two elevens. With the amount of games you play in such a short period you pick up knocks, and with the size of squad United have they can easily fill spaces if they pick up injuries."

"However, it's the play-off, it can be anyone's and it is just up to whoever believes and has the confidence to put the performances in and with a run of performances they can do it. I can't play this season, I'll be watching and supporting the boys and hopefully they get the job done."

He continued: "The team are in a great position and they are looking forward to it, there is a buzz around it and that's where you want to be. You want to be around a team where there's excitement

and people are enjoying it and you can see people here are enjoying it.”

“I’m not sure what league I’ll be playing in next season, but I’m looking forward to it anyway. Just getting back on the pitch and working under the manager with the other players.”

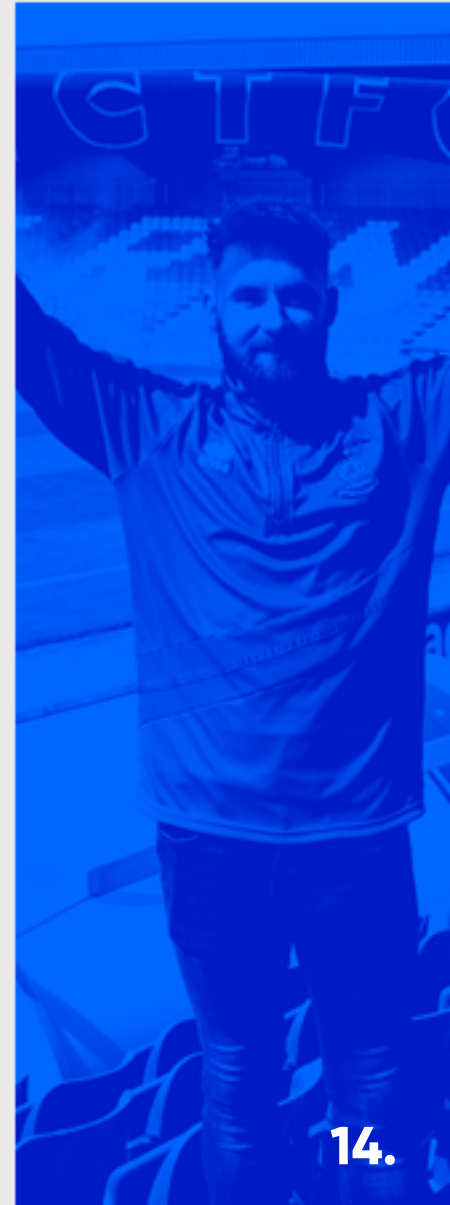
Keatings also elaborated on his close relationship with Caley Thistle boss John Robertson, who he remembered from his time at Hearts, where he would give Keatings advice.

Keatings said: “Leaving Hamilton a couple of weeks ago was obviously what I wanted to happen. I spoke to John and had other teams in contact but I thought this was the right place for me. I thought he was the right person for me and I’m just looking forward to it now.”

“I have known John for a good few years now and he was brilliant with me when I was at Hearts. He used to give me a lot of encouragement. Being a striker himself, and what he has done in the game, he was always in my ear after games.”

He continued: “He always spoke to me ever since, he texts at the weekends and asks about performances. Obviously the last couple of years have been stop-start in my career with niggles and stuff like that but I felt this was the right place to come, it felt good and it felt right with John.”

THANK YOU TO OUR KIT SPONSORS



MANAGER
**ROBBIE
NEILSON**

PAST RESULTS

L 2-0

HOME, 20.04.19
LEAGUE

W 2-1

AWAY, 03.03.19
SCOTTISH CUP

L 1-0

AWAY, 26.02.19
LEAGUE

DUNDEE UNITED

THE OPPOSITION



Dundee United head to the Caledonian Stadium this evening having not played in nine days. The Arabs' second place finish meant they could just sit back and watch as the Caley Jags had two matches over Ayr United in the Premiership Play-Off Quarter-Finals.

United lost their last game of the season against Morton as they rested key players looking towards tonight's match. The Arabs finished 6 points behind, Champions, Ross County but were clear in second place as they finished nine points ahead of the Caley Jags.

United have snapped up Ayr United right-back Liam Smith on a pre-contract agreement for next season and also signed Mark Reynolds up next season. The last meeting between United and the Caley Jags 2-0, thanks in-part to a stunning strike from Pavol Safranko.

The overall record between the sides slightly favours United as it reads:

ICTFC wins- 17, Draws- 20, Dundee United wins- 19



TAKE YOUR SEAT

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feel it all

ICTFC CODE OF CONDUCT

Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC will not tolerate unacceptable conduct at the 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 criminal proceedings, ejection from the stadium, withdrawal of a season ticket and/or exclusion from future matches at the club.

INVERNESS CALEDONIAN THISTLE FC
WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME ALL SUPPORTERS TO
CALEDONIAN STADIUM

WE BELIEVE THAT ALL SUPPORTERS ARE ENTITLED TO ENJOY THE MATCH DAY EXPERIENCE IN A SAFE AND PLEASANT ENVIRONMENT WITHOUT HAVING TO TOLERATE OFFENSIVE OR UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR FROM PEOPLE WHO FEEL THAT IT IS APPROPRIATE TO BEHAVE IN THIS MANNER

INVERNESS CALEDONIAN THISTLE, ALONG WITH OTHER CLUBS IN THE SPFL, ARE NO LONGER PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE BEHAVIOUR OF THESE INDIVIDUALS AND ARE TAKING STEPS TO STAMP IT OUT

WE CANNOT ACHIEVE THIS ALONE AND THEREFORE REQUEST THE HELP OF YOU, THE REAL SUPPORTERS, IN IDENTIFYING THOSE ENGAGED IN UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT TO HELP FACILITATE THIS IN A SAFE MANNER WE HAVE INTRODUCED A CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE FOR MATCH DAYS TO ALLOW FANS TO TEXT THE CLUB IMMEDIATELY THEY WITNESS ANY FORM OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

REPORTS WILL BE ACTED ON QUICKLY AND YOU WILL NOT BE IDENTIFIED IN ANY ACTION TAKEN

IF YOU WITNESS ANY FORM OF UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT CONTACT THE CLUB IMMEDIATELY AND IN CONFIDENCE ON

07858 929642

This number is only routinely monitored on match days from 1 hour before until 30 minutes after the match.

Any reports outwith this time may not be picked up until much later.

Any reports requiring a quick response outwith these times should be called directly to the club on 01463 222880

SQUADS

MATCH OFFICIALS

NICK WALSH, RALPH GORDON, GRAHAM CHAMBERS, STEVEN KIRKLAND

ICTFC

JOHN ROBERTSON & SCOTT KELLACHER

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 MARK RIDGERS | 17 ANTHONY MCDONALD |
| 2 SHAUN ROONEY | 19 JORDAN WHITE |
| 3 CARL TREMARCO | 21 CAMERON MACKAY |
| 4 JOE CHALMERS | 22 BRAD MCKAY |
| 5 COLL DONALDSON | 23 DANIEL MACKAY |
| 6 JAMIE MCCART | 24 CHARLIE TRAFFORD |
| 7 LIAM POLWORTH | 25 OWAIN FON WILLIAMS |
| 8 DARREN MCCAULEY | 29 KEVIN MCHATTIE |
| 9 NATHAN AUSTIN | 35 RODDY MACGREGOR |
| 10 AARON DORAN | 37 JACK BROWN |
| 11 TOM WALSH | 40 CAMERON HARPER |
| 15 SEAN WELSH | |

DUNDEE UNITED

ROBBIE NEILSON & GORDON FORREST

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 BENJAMIN SIEGRIST | 20 CHRISTOPH RABITSCH |
| 3 CALLUM BOOTH | 22 SAM WARDROP |
| 4 FREDERIC FRANS | 25 CAMMY SMITH |
| 7 PAUL MCMULLAN | 29 LOGAN CHALMERS |
| 9 OSMAN SOW | 30 MARK REYNOLDS |
| 10 NICKY CLARK | 34 ROSS LAIDLAW |
| 12 SAM STANTON | 44 PAUL WATSON |
| 14 PAVOL SAFRANKO | 47 IAN HARKES |
| 16 MATTY SMITH | 50 PETER PAWLETT |
| 17 JAMIE ROBSON | 55 MARK CONNOLLY |
| 18 CALUM BUTCHER | 90 YANNICK LOEMBA |
| 16 RACHID BOUHENNA | |