



Institute Football Club

Newsletter



ISSUE No.2

14 December 2019



Merry  *Christmas*

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Message from the Manager

I would like to welcome Gary Hamilton and his squad, along with all the Directors and supporters of Glenavon F.C. to the Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium today. Gary is a bona fide Irish League legend (I tried to sign him on two occasions, whilst at Sligo Rovers and Bohemians, unfortunately it was not to be). He is, for sure, one player I would have

loved to have worked with. Today we will do battle and I hope we can reverse the result from a few weeks ago.

We are coming into this game on the back of two disappointing results (not performances). The League Cup semi-final defeat, although disappointing, was still a great occasion for all the players and you, our supporters. Hopefully we can get back to another good cup run sooner rather than later and get a more positive result.

Saturday's defeat away to Carrick, hurt me, and the players more, as I am sure it did you. However, I believe this reaction, one of expecting a result away to Carrick, just shows us all how far we have come over the past 12 weeks. The players have raised the bar in terms of their performance level, and as a result your expectation levels.

Today, we enter a run of fixtures no easier than last month, the only advantage is 3 out of the 4 games are at home. It is vital that during this period you stick with the team and give them your full support. For our club to truly compete in this league we all need to be fully united behind the team. I know we have raised your expectations, I am glad we have, but we need you to stay with us. We will have bad days and good days ahead. Our target is to remain in this division, and we will fight right to the last game to achieve this.

Today's game is followed by an away game against Dungannon next Saturday, and then two consecutive home games against over the Christmas period. Warrenpoint Town and Carrick Rangers. A warm and festive welcome is extended to all who are associated with both clubs. Behaviour is controlled by its consequences or the responses it receives. From the moment I arrived at the club I have asked for the players to behave and act as professionals and we have established our core values as a team. They now know what I expect of them as individuals. Therefore, my strategy has been to reward the behaviours I seek. Even more important, is how we behave as a team. The level of individual and collective desire, belief, commitment, trust and resilience that we show during our games is crucial. I know, like myself and the coaching staff, you will all accept the result of a game, if we get a performance full of our values and work ethic. We demand and ask for nothing less.

As we get closer to the January transfer window, I will be looking to add to the squad. This may have an impact on some of our existing squad, but it is a necessity to both freshen and strengthen

the squad as we enter the second half of the season. We have already started this process, with the signing of Oran Brogan (17yrs) on a two-and-a-half-year contract. I am excited by Oran's potential, and I know with the right guidance, he has a big future in the game. In addition, we are in the process of offering extended contracts to a number of core players, including Conor Tourish, who from my perspective, has been our most consistent performers over the past 12 weeks.



In addition to these two pieces of business, we have had several players come to us on trial, as a result of my contacts in college soccer in the USA. All 4 players are under 21 and they travelled at their own expense. All 4 have impressed and we will sit down as a coaching staff before approaching the board about any potential signings from this group. Sean Friars and I have also had talks with a number of experienced players with direct league experience and are hopeful that one of these can come to fruition over the next few weeks. Throughout this whole process, we are conscious of the wage protocol the club must adhere to. Whilst this makes the process more difficult for us, it also provides the motivation for us as a group to be creative and think outside the box with our player recruitment. With that in mind Sean Friars, is now in the process of recruiting several players who will initially play with our U20 squad. These players have been signed with an eye to the future.

The key to good coaching and developing an intrinsically motivating environment, for me, is primarily about believing in someone and then taking action to help that person achieve his full potential. What we must do is create a climate for our players to take ownership of their career and development. This is very much in our thought process with any new signing we make. Our budget dictates, that we need to sign players with potential and then develop them into the player we see. At times the player himself does not or cannot see his own potential.. This also applies to several players already on our books, who we all feel can improve and develop over the next 12 months.

Finally, I want to wish you all a happy and spiritual Christmas and best wishes for the new year. This time of year is full of fun and festivities, but alas, it can also be a sad time of the year, as we think of family and friends who have passed. I would also ask us all to think of those who live alone and are suffering from any form of addiction or mental health issue which may have caused them to lose contact with friends and family. Lets all pray for them and make the effort to show compassion to those in need when we can.

Sean Connor

Manager



Chairman's Message

Firstly I would like to thank all our supporters and sponsors who have provided the moral and financial support to ensure that the Institute flame continues to burn brightly as we approach the winter months.

The increased support at away games has been particularly

encouraging and I would like to thank Ian Culbert and Lee Curry from

our supporters club for their sterling efforts on that front. If you want to book a seat on the supporters bus for any away game their contact details are:

Ian 07874 279607 or Lee 07592 301394.

The raised expectations engendered by our new manager and some excellent individual and team performances have not yet paid dividends in terms of our league position.

Nonetheless, with one or two exceptions, I remain convinced that we continue to make positive progress on and off the pitch.

A difficult and demanding match schedule has taken its toll recently. Five games in two weeks, four of them away from home, is a lot to ask from part-time players. In addition, now that we are almost half way through the season, we are starting to feel the negative impact of injuries and suspensions. This is always problematic when your overall squad size is relatively small and your budget is limited.

Nonetheless, our hopes and aspirations are undiminished. We are noted as one of the most resilient clubs in the country, and I assure you that we will work tirelessly at all levels of the club to maintain our Premiership status, whilst also laying the foundations for a bigger and brighter future.

With a bit of luck, and a lot of hard work, our league position may be a little healthier by the time the festive schedule is completed. I hope to see you all again on both the 26th and 28th December when the Council are kindly opening the Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium to facilitate our home games against Warrenpoint and Carrick Rangers.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a peaceful and enjoyable festive holiday and encourage you to care for those who are less fortunate or less able than ourselves.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

Bill Anderson

Club Chairman

Club News

INSTITUTE SUPPORTERS' CLUB CHRISTMAS DAY OUT

It is planned that the Christmas Day out for supporters will be our away fixture Vs Dungannon Swifts on Saturday 21st December. The bus will leave the Three Mile Pub in Drumahoe at 12:30pm. It will return straight after the match. The price of the bus is £10 per head. To book your place just contact Ian Culbert or Lee Curry at the supporters' club. Make sure you wear your Christmas Jumper!!!

INSTITUTE CHRISTMAS BALL DRAW

The supporters Christmas Draw winner will be chosen tonight (Saturday 14th December). The number of the bonus ball which comes out in the English National Lotto draw will be the number which wins the supporters draw! Good luck everyone!!!



Country Comes To City

Mike Denver Cliona Hagan Paul Kelly Clodagh Lawlor

Saturday 27th June 2020

**First 100 Early Bird
Tickets Will Enter Into Draw
For An Overnight Stay
In A Local Hotel For Only £20 Each**

Subject to all Approvals and Licence.

**Institute fans
can buy their
tickets from
Louise Connor**

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

Institute vs Glenavon

Saturday 14th December

Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium

Kick-off: 3pm

Our most grateful thanks are extended to our sponsors for this fixture:



Match Sponsor: Bridies Drumahoe

Drumahoe Shopping Centre, Glenshane Rd, L'derry



Ball Sponsor: Roxborough Electrics Ltd

4 Rathbuan Business Park, Limavady

Dungannon vs Institute

Saturday 21st December

Stangmore Park, Dungannon

Kick-off: 3pm

Institute vs Warrenpoint

Saturday 26th December

Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium

Kick-off: 3pm

Institute vs Carrick Rangers

Saturday 28th December

Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium

Kick-off: 3pm

Linfield vs Institute

Wednesday 1st January

NFS Windsor Park

Kick-off: 3pm

Institute vs Dungannon

Saturday 4th January

5th Round Irish Cup

Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium

Kick-off: 3pm

Glenavon v Institute

Saturday 11th January

Mourneview Park, Lurgan

Kick-off: 3pm

Institute vs Glentoran

Saturday 18th January

Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium

Kick-off: 3pm

Our most grateful thanks are extended to our sponsors for this fixture:



Cable and Accessories N.I. Ltd.

Match Sponsor: Cable & Accessories

**Unit 6, Springtown Industrial Estate,
L'Derry**

Dungannon vs Institute

Saturday 25th January

Stangmore Park, Dungannon

Kick-off: 3pm

Match Sponsorship

Income from Match & Ball Sponsors is a very important element towards running costs for home matches. If you are aware of any company or individual who would be willing to sponsor our matches, please contact a member of the Board for more details.

Under 20 YOUTH ACADEMY FIXTURES FOR DECEMBER**Glenavon vs Institute**

Saturday 14th December

Mourneview Park

Kick-off 2pm

Institute vs Dungannon Swifts

Saturday 21st December

Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium

Kick-off 2pm

Warrenpoint v Institute

Thursday 26th December

Milltown

Kick-off 12.30pm

INSTITUTE FC

FIRST TEAM SQUAD

2 Ryan Morrow

3 Colm Mc Laughlin

4 Caoimhan Bonner

5 Dean Curry (Captain)

7 Jamie Dunne

8 Niall Grace

9 Stephen Curry

12 Mark Scoltock

14 Jake Morrow

15 Conor Tourish

16 Gareth Brown

17 Jamie McIntyre

19 Joe McCready

20 Brendan McLaughlin

21 Paul Wells (Goalkeeper)

24 Aidan McCauley

27 Evan Tweed

28 Shaun Leppard

29 Graham Crown

30 Shane McNamee

31 Rory Brown (Goalkeeper)

32 Cormac Burke

33 Aaron Mc Gurk

34 Jack Bradley

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