

Shamrock Rovers FC v LA Galaxy International Club Friendly Tallaght Stadium * Saturday, February 21, 2015 Kick-off: 4pm



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Shamrock Rovers FC

- Roll of Honour -

League Champions (17) – 1922/23, 1924/25, 1926/27, 1931/32, 1937/38, 1938/39, 1953/54, 1956/57, 1958/59, 1963/64, 1983/84, 1984/85, 1985/86, 1986/87, 1993/94, 2010, 2011

First Division Winners (1) - 2006

FAI Cup Winners (24) – 1924/25, 1928/29, 1929/30, 1930/31, 1931/32, 1932/33, 1935/36, 1939/40, 1943/44, 1944/45, 1947/48, 1954/55, 1955/56, 1961/62, 1963/64, 1964/65, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69, 1977/78, 1984/85, 1985/86, 1986/87

Setanta Sports Cup (2) - 2011, 2013

President's Cup Winners (21) – 1929/30, 1933/34, 1940/41, 1941/42, 1943/44, 1944/45, 1945/46, 1948/49, 1954/55, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1959/60, 1962/63, 1968/69, 1969/70, 1970/71, 1972/73, 1984/85, 1985/86, 1986/97, 1987/88

League of Ireland Shield (18) – 1924/25, 1926/27, 1931/32, 1932/33, 1934/35, 1937/38, 1941/42, 1949/50, 1951/52, 1954/55, 1955/56, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1962/63, 1963/64, 1964/65, 1965/66, 1967/68

Leinster Senior Cup – 1923, 1927, 1929, 1930, 1933, 1938, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1964, 1969, 1982, 1985, 1997, 2012, 2013

Dublin City Cup – 1944/45, 1947/48, 1952/53, 1954/55, 1956/57, 1957/58, 1959/60, 1963/64, 1966/67, 1983/84

Top Four Competition – 1955/56, 1957/58, 1965/66

All Ireland Inter City Cup – 1942/43, 1945/46, 1946/47, 1948/49

League Cup - 1976/77, 2013

FAI Super Cup - 1998

FAI U21 Futsal League Champions – 2007





13

20

Page 5: Welcome from the Board

Page 6: Today's Opposition — LA Galaxy

Page 9: News from Around the Club

Page 13: Feature: We Are Rovers

Page 23: Half Time Quiz

Page 25: Feature: Wonders from the East Stand

Page 27: Across the Pitch Page 37: Team Line-Ups







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Print

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Club Advertising Design: Declan Swanton

Advertising Sales: Mark Lynch, Jonathan Roche

Welcome from

the board

Good afternoon, and welcome to this international club friendly between Shamrock Rovers and the LA Galaxy. We would particularly like to welcome all associated with today's opposition, including staff, manager, players and fans. You are all very welcome to Tallaght Stadium and Shamrock Rovers. We hope you have been enjoying your stay in Dublin and we wish you all the best for the new MLS season.

An extra special welcome also has to go to the Galaxy captain, Robbie Keane as he plays in his home town stadium for the first time. The club is delighted to be hosting this event and we hope you enjoy your homecoming game today.

As this is the first edition of Hoops Scene of 2015, the board would also like to welcome back all Rovers fans for the new season. There was good support for our first two friendly games against Athlone Town and FK Brann and today is set to be the highlight of our pre-season schedule. We hope you all enjoy the occasion and the match.

Today's match is kindly sponsored by the team at MAK Fastener Specialist Ltd and the club would like to sincerely thank them for their support.

Finally, we hope everyone enjoys the match, including all who are attending Tallaght for the first time. Here's to a great game.

Keep on Hooping!

The Board Shamrock Rovers FC

Noel Byrne, Michael Conroy, Paul Doolan, Martina Genockey, Eamonn Keenan, Mark Lynch, James Nolan, Alan O'Driscoll, Jonathan Roche, Ray Wilson By John Byrne



LA Galaxy

LA Story

Football in the USA is on the up and up and LA Galaxy are leading the charge from Tinseltown. As the mostdecorated club in the MLS. Galaxy have won the MLS (Major League Soccer) Cup five times, the MLS Supporters' Shield four times, and the Lamar Hunt US Open Cup twice They're also one of just two MLS teams to win the CONCACAF Champions' Cup (now replaced by the CONCACAF Champions League) which they achieved in 2000.

Based in the Los Angeles suburb of Carson, the club plays its home games at the StubHub Center, which has a capacity of 27,000. Founded in 1995, Galaxy was one of the founding members of the MLS when it was established in 1996. In the early days Galaxy's home was the Rose Bowl in Pasadena before relocating to Carson in 2003.

LA Galaxy's profile went global in 2007 when the club signed David Beckham from Real Madrid, and they're now the standard-bearers for US football. As for domestic spats, Chivas USA shared the StubHub Center until they folded in 2014, while games against San Jose Earthquakes are labelled the California Clásico.



Guardians of the Galaxy

Key players to look out for in the LA Galaxy squad . . .

needs

Keane

Robbie

introduction, but we're hardly going to ignore him, eh? The Tallaght native is a genuine sporting legend in Ireland, and is one of the greatest players to have ever donned the green jersey. Now 34, Robbie's played for many clubs and arrived in Los Angeles in 2011 where he's become club captain and is just as popular as he is at home ... Brazilian midfielder Juninho grew up in São Paulo and played for his local club until he moved to Los Angeles on loan in 2010, along with fellow Brazilians Alex Cazumba and Leonardo, A second loan period followed in 2012 and in 2013 he became a permanent fixture in Los Angeles . . . Brazilian defender Leonardo has followed a similar career path as Juninho. although he has been quite unfortunate on the injury front . . . Omar Gonzalez is a big, physical defender who is also a regular in the US national team. Bar a brief and painful loan spell in Germany (he did his cruciate in training with Nürnberg), he's been a one-club player since his arrival at Galaxy in 2009 . . . Stefan Ishizaki is a vastlyexperienced attacking midfielder and the Swede has played for AIK, Genoa Valerenga and Elfsborg before arriving in LA last year . . . Robbie Rogers can play as a winger or full back, and the US international played in Holland and England before returning to his native California - he's from Rancho Palos Verdes - in 2013.



Star Trek

In January 2007, LA Galaxy made international headlines and showed US football's growing prowess by signing English superstar Beckham from Real Madrid, which was the highest-profile signing in the history of MLS. Other significant signings include - of course - Republic of Ireland skipper Robbie Keane and Landon Donovan, widely regarded as the greatest player in USA football history.

Current Liverpool star Steven Gerrard recently signed for the club, but won't be joining LA Galaxy until after the completion of the current English football season.

Juninho

Bruce Almighty

LA Galaxy's current head coach is former US national team coach Bruce Arena. The 63-year-old New Yorker was once on the books of the legendary New York Cosmos, but made his senior debut in the then American Soccer League (ASL) in 1976 with Tacoma Tides. He also earned one USA cap, against Israel in 1973.

In 1978 he began coaching at the University of Virginia, and moved to DC United at the formation of the MLS in 1996, and led them to victory in the first MLS Cup. After three very successful seasons he was appointed coach of the USA national squad.

His eight years managing the national team saw unprecedented success for the USA, reaching the quarter-finals of the 2002 World Cup and a fourth-place FIFA ranking four years later. They also won two Gold Cup tournaments, the CONCACAF international championship.

After his contract wasn't renewed, he moved to the fledgling MSL, taking over at New York Red Bulls, whom he managed for a year-anda-half before an agreed parting of the ways.

In August 2008 he replaced Ruud Gullit at LA Galaxy, and over the intervening years he's led them to three MLS Cups, two MLS Supporters' Shields and four MLS Western Conference wins.

Order Your 2015 Rovers Season Ticket Now!



2015 prices are the same as the Early Bird prices from 2014 offering great value from €4.40 per game for kids & €11.75 for adults with family packages offering discounts of up to 40% on single match prices.

Next season features 17 home league games, with two each v Bohs, Pat's & Dundalk.

Price Examples:

Adult: €200 / OAP: €110 / Child: €75

2nd level student: €110 3rd level student: €130 1 Adult + 1 Child: €250

2 Adults + 2 Children: €430

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A MEETING WITH BRUCE ARENA

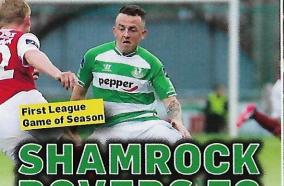
Did you know that a number of past players with Shamrock Rovers' connections came up against present LA Galaxy head coach Bruce Arena whilst on a visit to the United States in 1996? Stephen Geoghegan, Brian Morrisroe, Derek Tracey, Jason Colwell, Brian Byrne, Trevor Croly and Terry Palmer were all on a League of Ireland representative side that played against the United States Olympic Squad in Atlanta. The US team was managed by Arena, Tracey was the only one of the named players who was actually a Shamrock

Rovers' player at the time. The others, with the exception of Geoghegan who departed from the Hoops in 1994, had yet to play for the club. The teams met twice with the Americans winning 4-1 in the first game played in ninety degrees heat but the Irish lads had adjusted somewhat to the conditions by the time the second game was played and extracted some revenge on their hosts with a 1-0 nil. The scorer that day was none other than Derek Tracey who apparently gave Casey Keller no chance whatsoever with the goal.











pepper

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2015 Squad

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- Rob Cornwall
- Connor Kenna
- Simon Madden
- David Webster
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That's 17 home league games at Tallaght Stadium and Category B tickets for Ireland versus Poland in March, and then versus England and Scotland in June - all at the Aviva Stadium. That's 20 games for €350! This offer has limited availability and is applicable to Adult Season Tickets only.

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HOME

Fri. 6th Mar. 7.45pm St. Pat's Ath. League Fri. 20th Mar. 8.00pm Cork City League

Fri. 27th Mar. 8.00pm **Bohemians** League

Sat. 14th Mar. 7.30pm Longford Town League Mon. 23rd/Tue. 24th Mar. Sligo Rovers League



Tickets on sale in Club Ticket Office or order by phone (01-4605948) and collect at ticket booth on matchday. www.shamrockrovers.le facebook.com/shamrockrovers tickets@shamrockrovers.ie

twitter.com/shamrockrovers



TODAY'S MASCOT

Name: Robbie Crowe

Age: 12

Favourite Player: Gary McCabe
A message from Robbie's dad,

Eddie:

Robbie was born five minutes after Robbie Keane scored the equaliser against Germany in the 2002 World Cup. My wife and I were in the theatre and the nurses and doctors asked my wife if she could hold on until the end of the match. They watched the end match on a TV in the hall and then we heard this massive cheer. Such was the euphoria among the

nurses and doctors that when they saw it was a boy, they named him Robbie. We didn't have a choice in the matter. To say he's soccer mad would be an understatement and a big fan of Robbie Keane, so sincere thanks for this opportunity for Robbie to be a mascot.



Matchball Sponsor

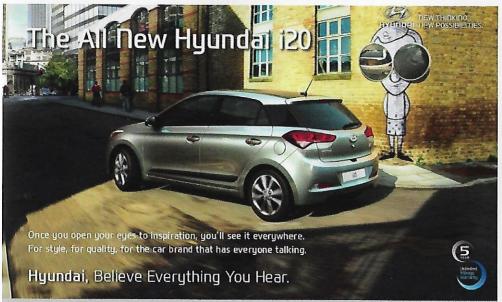
A big thank you to the Hoops Supporters Club, who are the sponsors of today's matchball. Your support is much appreciated.

Thank You

A big thank you from all at Shamrock Rovers FC to Trophies Online, a Tallaght-based company, which sponsored the silverware that will be presented to Robbie Keane from the club today.



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We Are Rovers

Number One: No monkeying about here



We Are Rovers!

Subject: Dermot O'Neill

What does he do?

Dermot has recently come in to Pat Fenlon's backroom team as Goalkeeping Coach

Tell us more about him

Not many people may know this but Dermot began his League of Ireland career with Shamrock Rovers back in 1978. That was during the Johnny Giles era when Milltown was a great place to be. The young goalkeeper came in to the Youth team, managed by John Wilkes, later moving up to the Reserves who were then managed by one Eamonn Dunphy. Dermot's older brother Alan was holding down the number one spot for the first team but had some competition from some young upstart by the name of Dave Henderson. As Dermot figured he was never going to get in ahead of either of these two he made a move to Dundalk but two years later was signed for Bohemians by Billy Young. Dalymount became his second home and he went on to give the Gypsy's ten years of loyal service. After Bohs he had spells at Derry City, Glenavon and Ballymena before finally calling it a day in between the posts. It was now the year 2000 and a coaching role beckoned for the experienced 'keeper. He worked at Longford Town, Bohs, Dundalk, St. Pat's and more recently at Drogheda United.

Remember the times Mick Smyth and Stephen O'Brien had to step in for a game?

Yeah well that won't be happening with Dermot; despite managing to retain an impressive head of black hair he's on the wrong side of fifty to be pulling that one off (an appearance that is, not his hair)

Did he drink loads of PG Tips tea in his younger years? How else could he have been given the nickname 'Monkey'?

Now just whose fans do you think could have come

up with such a gem? Ours of course! Apparently Dermo went over the top one day after Paul Doolin had scored a header to win a game for Bohs against Rovers. The Hoops' fans weren't impressed and thought they were insulting him by referring to him as a monkey but that kind of backfired on them as it became a pet name for the goalkeeper in the Boh's dressing room.

Was he always good with his hands?

We can't be sure how handy Dermot is around the house but in sport anyway he always wanted to make great use of his hands. Back in his youthful days at Shamrock Rovers Dermot had to make a decision as to whether he would devote himself to soccer or Gaelic football. He was quite talented at the latter as an outfield player and had represented Dublin at Minor level. He reached a point where he had to make a decision between the two codes. He says it wasn't a difficult one as soccer was his first love. The League of Ireland certainly won that one.

Given the rivalry that exists between the clubs did Dermot always get it in the neck from Rovers' fans?

Of course! But it has to be said that when you are the younger brother of the legendary Alan O'Neill and when you kept goal for an Irish club that beat Glasgow Rangers in a European game (even if it was Bohs) you tend to earn a certain amount of street cred with the Hoops' fans.

Will he do a good job in his current role here?

Too damn right he will. The name O'Neill in goalkeeping terms in Irish football means quality and this guy has the right temperament and experience to pass those qualities on to whomsoever he works with. As well as the young whippersnappers Barry Murphy (!) and Craig Hyland, Dermot will also work with our Under 19 net minders and those from the Schoolboy section of the club.





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- Logo in Shamrock Rovers Magazine in InTallaght.
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Package B

- · Pitchside Banner West Side (TV).
- Full Page in Match Programmes.
- Website Banner.
- · 2 Season Tickets.
- Access to Rovers Season Ticket Holders.
- · 1 Post on Facebook & 1 Post on Twitter.
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Package C

- Pitchside Banner East Side & West Side.
- · Full Page in Match Programmes.
- · Website Banner.
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Cost per Category A Match: €700

(Category A matches include Bohemian FC, St Patrick's Athletic, Dundalk FC and Cork City).

Cost per Category B Match: €550











Matchball Sponsorship

Sponsor the Matchball at any home game and be presented with a Shamrock Rovers ball signed by squad & management. Matchball Sponsors receive the following benefits:

- 2 match tickets.
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- · Public address acknowledgement.
- Presentation by a squad player of a signed ball on the pitch at half-time.
- · Club photographer in attendance.

Cost per Category A Match: €125

(Category A matches include Bohemian FC, St Patrick's Athletic, Dundalk FC and Cork City).

Cost per Category B Match: €100

"Hoops Scene" Match Programme Ads

Advertise in our matchday programme - every game (league, cup & European matches) for the entire season. We sell approx 1,300 programmes at every game which can add up to 25,000 copies over the course of a season. Hoops Scene is the biggest selling League of Ireland matchday programme. It is a 'must read' for many Rovers fans. Full Page: €1,000 (incl. 2 Season Tickets, value €400)

This works out at approx €50 per match! Half Page: €500 (incl. 1 Season Ticket, value €200)

This works out at only €30 per match! Quarter Page: €350

"Hoops Scene" Feature Sponsorship

Sponsor one of the regular matchday feature editorial pieces in the Matchday Programme for the entire season. Offer includes logo branding and the text " in association with Sponsor X" on the article.

Cost per season: €400



Leaflet Distribution

Have your leaflets distributed on matchday at Tallaght Stadium and also inserted in "Hoops Scene", Matchday Programme of Shamrock Rovers F.C. Leaflets to be supplied by advertiser.

Cost per game: €250

Matchday Mascot

Give a child a matchday to remember at Tallaght Stadium. Includes:

- · A complete SRFC kit.
- · Lead out the Shamrock Rovers team on to the pitch.
- 1 complimentary match ticket (and 1 for the mascot).
- · A commemorative photo as a memento of the day.
- A commemorative match programme with your picture & details.

Cost per mascot: €100

Website Advertising

www.shamrockrovers.ie received 1.1 million page views in 2014 and was visited by 181,905 different people. We can develop online advertising packages to suit your needs with skyscraper and leaderboard ad formats and links to your website.

Social Media

Shamrock Rovers has 44,000 plus Facebook 'likes' or followers on our facebook page along with over 13,800 Twitter followers. From time to time we can promote our sponsors with our social media followers (note: content and format need to be discussed).

Contact Details:

Shamrock Rovers Football Club, Tallaght Stadium, Whitestown Way, Dublin 24.

Tel: (01) 4605948 / Fax: (01) 4604875 e-mail: sales@shamrockrovers.ie www.shamrockrovers.ie

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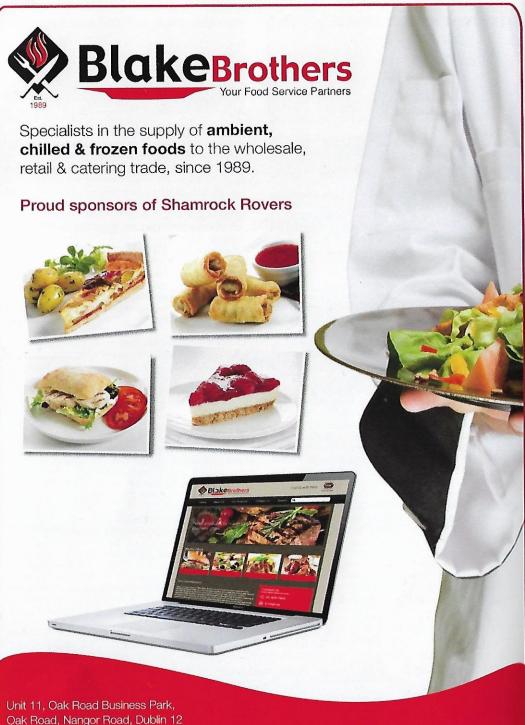












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HALF TIME

Compiled by Ian Kavanagh



SSE AIRTRICITY LEAGUE

- Q1 Name the striker that has left the league to join Cockburn City in Australia?
- **Q2** Who will manage Cabinteely FC in their inaugural league campaign?
- Q3 This season's FAI cup will be named after which new sponsor?
- Q4 Ryan Manning left Galway recently to join which Premier League club?
- Q5 Who was voted the 2014 SSE Airtricity/SWAI Personality of the Year?
- Q6 Name the former Chelsea youth player who has joined Sligo Rovers from German side, Rot-Weiss Erfurt.
- Q7 Former Ireland defender Jeff Kenna has managed which two league sides?

MIXED BAG

- QI Which stadium was home to LA Galaxy from 1996 to 2002?
- **Q2** Sunshine the Leith Lynx is the mascot of which Scottish Championship side?
- Q3 Robbie Keane won the English Football League Cup with which team?
- Q4 The California Clasico is played between which two sides?
- Q5 Which former European Footballer of the Year coached LA Galaxy in 2007 & 2008?
- Q6 Who is the manager of Championship side Bournemouth?
- Q7 Name the Los Angeles-based side which ceased operations after the 2014 MLS season.

INTERNATIONAL

- QI Ireland boss Martin O'Neill played for which current Premier League side during the 1981-82 season?
- Q2 The Euro '96 official song 'We're in this Together' was recorded by which band?
- Q3 Who is the USA's all time international record goal scorer with 57 strikes?
- **Q4** Clockwork Orange is a nickname of which European country?
- Q5 Which country won the 2015 African Cup of Nations beating Ghana on penalties in the final?
- Q6 Who is the current captain of the USA national team?
- **Q7** The Vasil Levski National Stadium is the home of which country?

ANSWERS

3. Clint Dempsey 4. Netherlands 5. The Ivory Coast 6. Clint Dempsey 7. Bulgaria

International

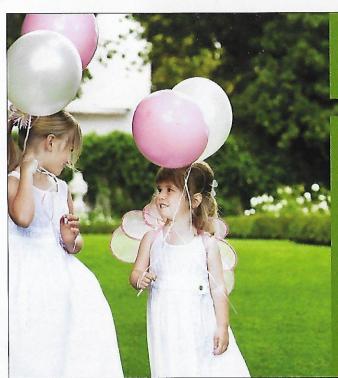
I. Manchester City

2. Simply Red

Mixed Bag
I. Rose Bowl in Pasadena
2. Hibernian FC
3. Toftenham in 2008
4. L Calaxy and San Jose
Earthquakes
5. Ruud Gullit
6. Eddie Howe
7. Chivas USA

Airthrick League

1. Rory Patterson
2. Eddie Gormley
4. Opp
5. Stephen Kenny
6. Morten Nielsen
7. Galway United & St Patrick's
Athletic





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The Pines

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Wonders from the East Stand

Today's friendly sees Robbie Keane come up against an old friend in Stephen McPhail. Keane and McPhail spent one and a half seasons together at Leeds United in the Premiership. However, they were on the pitch at the same time for just III minutes over three games in 2001. Of McPhail's ten caps for the Republic of Ireland, Keane featured in six, including his last appearance in May 2004.

Nigeria ran out 3-0 winners over Brian Kerr's men in London. Meanwhile, back home, Shamrock Rovers were beaten by Longford Town at Flancare Park. Rovers also played on the same day as Ireland in September 2010 and 2012, defeating Sligo in Tallaght after a Euro 2012 qualifier. It was Keith Fahey, the club's new international midfielder, who scored that crucial goal in Armenia.

You may remember the video of Robbie Keane being presented with the 2013 FAI Player of the Year award by Bruce Arena, who stared at the camera for a disturbingly long time while Robbie speaks. The duo pulled off a classic, off camera stunt at the end of the clip but the next time the LA Galaxy gaffer appeared on RTÉ television it was no laughing matter from my point of view.

Soccer Republic recruited Bruce for a competition last season in which a fan would receive an official Airtricity League match ball each week. One of the questions he asked was 'How many caps does Eamon Dunphy have for Ireland?' Using the hash tag 'soccerrepublic', I had the fastest fingers with the correct answer of 23 but they gave the ball to some lad in Derry instead!

Not only are McPhail and Fahey suspended for Rovers' league





Top: Bruce Arena and Robbie Keane Above: Colin Farrell on the set of True Detective

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"The	great	thing	about	that

The great thing about that Tallaght friendly is Bruce Arena will get to meet his Irish cousin National Basketball for the first time."

- Neil O'Riordan, The Irish Sun.

opener in two weeks' time but goalkeeper Barry Murphy and both Brennan brothers are unavailable against St. Pat's. Gavin was hit with an additional two game ban for a red card he received with Drogheda whereas Ryan and his other teammates miss out because

of bookings ridiculously being carried over to next season.

The Brennans could play together competitively for the first time against Athlone Town on Tuesday night. Rovers have never begun a season with a game against Athlone before and it marks the first meeting between the sides in the Leinster Senior Cup since 1969, when a Ray Bushe penalty eliminated the Hoops in the first round replay at a fog shrouded Tolka Park

Christy and Danny O'Callaghan, Tommy and Eamonn Farrell and Jimmy and Eamonn Gregg are the most famous siblings to wear the green and white shirt. Tommy won his first FAI Cup medal in 1962 alongside Eamonn, his brother and the father of movie actor Colin Farrell. Colin admits that he dreamed of following in their footsteps and becoming a professional footballer.

"My dad was kicking a punctured tennis ball up against the wall in his back garden from the time he was four, on his own, six hours a day," he said. "I just...didn't want it enough. He always used to say that to me, 'You're not hungry enough,' and he was right." The Dubliner has been filming the second series of True Detective in California, sporting a thick moustache and cowboy gear on the show.

Shamrock Rovers v Americans

1995 US Tour USIFL All Stars 2 Rovers 1 South Carolina 2 Rovers 7 Albany Alleycats 2 Rovers 1 Long Island Rough Riders 3 Rovers 2

2005 friendly in La Manga FC Dallas 1-0 Rovers





ACROSS THE PITCH

BY ROBERT GOGGINS

CÉAD MIELE FAILTE

A big welcome to all of the new additions to the first team squad; especially to those who have by now made it as far as this column in Hoops Scene! Some of our more esteemed supporters have been overheard at the pre-season games wondering if Brandon Miele has anything to do with the German-made hoover. No doubt Brandon does like to do a fair bit of cleaning up on the pitch but just because Jamie Duffy who signed for us in 2006 was actually related to Duffy's Circus it doesn't necessarily follow that Brandon is connected to the hoover manufacturer. In fact, Brandon tells us he has more of an Italian connection - his grandfather came from a town in Southern Italy by the name of Cassino, located in the province of Frosinone. The motto of the Hoover manufacturer is "Forever Better" so maybe our Irish-Italian midfielder does have something in common with them after all.

BEST OF LUCK GUYS

With the demise of the B team a number of our young players have moved on to pastures new. Gone are Conor O'Malley, Shane Fagan, Liam Traynor, Conor Dunne, Alan Kehoe, Michael Kelly (midfielder), Ryan Doolin, Jack Watson, Daniel Purdy, Gavin Boyne, Muhanned Bukhatwa, Adam Whelan, Azeez Yusuff, Chris Lyons and Mark Sandford.

Conor Dunne and Jack Watson had remained with our Under 19 team up to this year but Conor has since signed for Longford Town and Jack has been signed up by UCD. No doubt we will see plenty of Chris Lyons as he is now plying his trade with Bray Wanderers. We will miss Mark Sandford this season as 'Sanfo' is now with Shelbourne. Conor O'Malley has joined St. Patrick's



The players from the Under 14 team watch on anxiously during the penalty shoot-out to decide the All Ireland Cup game against Bonagee United last Saturday. The Hoops took the lead early in the game through Kevin Mare but were pegged back to level terms. Extra time failed to separate the teams and a penalty shoot-out became necessary from which the Hoops lost 4-3. It was a super game to watch and it was a pity that the outcome did not go in favour of the Hoops. Photograph: Robert Goggins

Athletic. Daniel Purdy, Ryan Doolin and Gavin Boyne are all now on the books of Athlone Town. Incidentally, former Rovers' Under 19s striker Dean Ebbe is also now at Athlone Town having begun his second spell with the midlanders in January of this year. Drogheda United have made a good signing in Adam Whelan. Expect to hear positive things about Adam this coming season. Alan Kehoe now makes up part of Shelbourne's 2015 squad. Evan Osam has been loaned out to the Tolka Park outfit. Having already proven he is fully up to competing in the First Division Evan will be hoping to build further on his already rapid progress since linking up with the Hoops a year and a half ago. Sean Heaney has also been loaned out to the Reds and like Evan has the opportunity to improve his game further whilst playing in a very competitive environment.

Just a word of welcome to two players who have moved in the opposite direction. The Under 195 have recently signed Stephen Kelly (Bohs) and Tunde Carter (St. Kevin's Boys). Welcome to both lads and hopefully you will have a successful time at Shamrock Rovers for both yourselves and for the club.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAT!

Today is Patrick Cregg's 29th birthday. A year older but still on the right side of 30. Happy Birthday Pat; you can relax tonight and have a couple of non-alcoholic beers.

ON INTERNATIONAL DUTY

Congratulations to Sean Heaney, Shane Hanney, Darragh Gibbons and Sean Callan — all of whom have been given call ups by the Republic of Ireland. Hanney and Gibbons were amongst six home-based players in the twenty-strong Under 17 squad

that will travel to Croatia next week for two friendly games there. Sean Heaney is in the Under 19 squad for the two friendly games next week against Azerbaijan - both games will be played here at Tallaght Stadium. Sean Callan, a centre half from our Under 16 team received some fantastic recognition when he was included in the Under 16 international squad for the four nations' tournament involving Ireland. Czech Republic Austria. Denmark, staged in Dublin this week. All of this is encouraging news and recognition that the youth policy at the club is beginning to show rich dividends.

Meanwhile. Rob Cornwall, Brandon Miele and Mikey Drennan were also all named in Noel King's home-based Under 21 squad due to take on the Amateur International squad at the AUL today.

THE COLD WAR

It beats me as to why some people are in favour of a switch back to winter football. The cold weather we experienced in the early weeks of this year were a reminder to me anyway that I certainly wouldn't be in favour of abandoning the summer season. Take the Under 19s game at the AUL on 10th January. It was so cold in north Dublin that afternoon that I couldn't keep my hands on the camera, let alone take notes for the match report. I decided to do a Sean O'Connor at half time and ran out to the car to find a pair of gloves. At the Brandywell the following week the temperature was only marginally better. The following week again at the AUL when the Under 19s took on Wexford Youths the place was like one big open air freezer. It certainly didn't get any better a week further on at the Under 19s game away to Bray Wanderers played at Wayside Celtic's mountainside venue in Glenamuck. At one point the assistant referee asked me if I was



The Shamrock Rovers Under 14 girls team looking splendid in their new kit kindly sponsored for them by Crumlin Print Ltd. Photograph: Fionn Lynch

cold because I had that look on me. I replied that I was and that I didn't have the benefit that he was enjoying of running up and down the line. I know some people yearn for the days when we all cuddled together in the shed behind the goal at St. Mel's Park and enjoyed the welcome cup of Bovril at half time wherever we went but no thanks. You would want to be mad to go back to all that. You can't beat a lovely warm summer evening sitting in the stand at Tallaght and watching the game in comfort. Even Gary McCabe and Sean O'Connor dispense with their black gloves for that time of the year.

BROTHERLY LOVE

Not since Lee and Aidan Roche played made an appearance on the first team together back in 2005 have we experienced such an event here at Shamrock Rovers, Last year Daniel and Richard Purdy lined out together for the First Division team but the significance of that is diluted somewhat by the fact that the team in reality was the Shamrock Rovers' reserve team. Now we have the Brennans, Ryan and Gavin, together here at on the same team. Although in the very distant past the club would have had on the books players from the Dunne, Gregg and Fullam families for example on the League of Ireland and Leinster League teams the fact that Killian, Ryan and Gavin Brennan have all played for the Hoops' first team in such a short period of time in all probability represents a most unique fact.

GIRLS ALOUD

Shamrock Schoolgirls are delighted to have four players on the MGL Representative squads for this year. All four girls are playing at Under 14 Premier despite being eligible to play at a younger age. Orla Prendergast and Emma Crowley are both in their 4th year with MCL and are members of the Under 13 squad that beat Northern Ireland last week. Orla is member of interprovincial squads at Hockey and Cricket, an all-round sportswoman indeed. Emma also plays basketball and likes gymnastics. Aoife O'Leary and Ciara Kavanagh are the youngest members of our Under 14s, both playing two years ahead of themselves in our full back positions. Both girls are on the MGL Under 12 representative squad, this is Ciara's second year and Aoifes' first. Aoife also enjoys playing GAA and hurling. Ciara, who is a member of her local youth club, is always proudly supported at games by grandfather Derek who is a life-long Rovers fan. (Many thanks to Karen McSweeney for providing us with this update).

SPONSOR A MATCHBALL FOR €100/€125

The Matchball Sponsorship includes:

- · 2 match tickets and access to the Glenmalure Suite pre-match and at half-time
- Company name/logo in programme notes.
- Stadium P.A. announcements during game.
- · Ball signed by squad/management and presented at half-time on the pitch by a squad player.
- Souvenir photograph of the presentation. €125 for Category A games (Bohemians, St Patrick's Athletic, Dundalk FC & Cork City).

Contact the Sales Department: 01-4605948 sales@shamrockrovers.ie / www.shamrockrovers.ie

Fri. 6 Mar.
Fri. 20 Mar.
Fri. 27 Mar.
Fri. 3 Apr.
Fri. 17 Apr.
Fri. 1 May
Fri. 15 May
Fri. 5 June
Fri. 3 July
Fri. 17 July
Fri. 24 July
Fri. 7 Aug.
Mon. 17 Aug.
Sat. 5 Sept.
Fri. 25 Sept.
Fri. 9 Oct.
Fri. 30 Oct.

v Cork City	Available
v Bohemians	Available
v Galway Utd.	Available
v Dundalk F.C.	Available
v Drogheda	Available
v Longford Tn.	Available
v Sligo Rovers	Available
v Derry City	Available
v Bray Wand.	Available
v Limerick F.C.	Available
v St. Pat's Ath.	Available
v Cork City	Available
v Bohemians	Available
v Galway Utd.	Available
v Dundalk F.C.	Available
v Drogheda	Available

Available

v St. Pat's Ath.

SPONSOR A MASCOT FOR €100

Sponsor the mascot for a match and receive a Rovers kit for the mascot who will lead the team on to the pitch and receive a photo of the occasion. The mascot will meet the players and will be featured in the match programme. Included is admission for 1 guardian. Multiple mascots per game allowed.

Contact the Sales Department: 01-4605948 sales@shamrockrovers.ie / www.shamrockrovers.ie

Fri. 6 Mar.	v St. Pat's Ath.	Available
Fri. 20 Mar.	v Cork City	Available
Fri. 27 Mar.	v Bohemians	Available
Fri. 3 Apr.	v Galway Utd.	Available
Fri. 17 Apr.	v Dundalk F.C.	Available
Fri. 1 May	v Drogheda	Available
Fri. 15 May	v Longford Tn.	Available
Fri. 5 June	v Sligo Rovers	Available
Fri. 3 July	v Derry City	Available
Fri. 17 July	v Bray Wand.	Available
Fri. 24 July	v Limerick F.C.	Available
Fri. 7 Aug.	v St. Pat's Ath.	Available
Mon. 17 Aug.	v Cork City	Available
Sat. 5 Sept.	v Bohemians	Available
Fri. 25 Sept.	v Galway Utd.	Available
Fri. 9 Oct.	v Dundalk F.C.	Available
Fri. 30 Oct.	v Drogheda	Available

HAVE HOOPERMAN AT YOUR BIRTHDAY PARTY!



ooperman is ready and able to help celebrate all young Hoops birthday parties with this fantastic Hooperman birthday package. Hooperman will call to the party and bring your own special Hooperman birthday cake and a Hoopy birthday card signed by the man himself for the birthday boy or girl. Then it is time for photos and more fun as Hooperman gets to meet all your friends & family. The cost of the package is €50 and bookings can be made by calling the club office at 01-4605948. Payment must be made in advance and Hooperman will stay at the party location for thirty minutes. This price is for any location within 5 miles of Tallaght, locations outside this radius will cost more.

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Plan B for Shamrock Rovers

Sporting history was happening 8 March 2014 in both Dublin and Cork. In Ireland's capital city, it would be the last home playing appearance of the most-capped international rugby player in the game's history. His mother remarked in the Irish Times following the game "the atmosphere in that stadium to celebrate his career extraordinary. Everyone stayed back to a person."

Sorry to disappoint you Mrs. O'Driscoll but not every person stayed back to see your son Brian do his lap of honour following the win over Italy in the Six Nations. With 10 minutes remaining in the Aviva, I was leaving early to make the 530km round trip to St. Colman's Park. I was more interested in a small piece of football history taking was that place in Cobh as the Shamrock Rovers B-team in were playing their first ever competitive match.

The last time I had attended a game in the Cobh venue it was also for a First Division fixture but in quite different circumstances. Back in 2006. Rovers travelled to play Cobh Ramblers where a late Tadhy Purcell goal earned the Hoops the First Division title. The team received the trophy and celebrated promotion back to the Premier Division at the first time of asking in chaotic fashion after the final whistle. Everyone at Rovers couldn't wait to leave the First Division behind back then and yet here in 2014 we were back in it again but this time of our own choosing.

The Hoops had made the decision to put a team into the First Division with the aim of providing a playing bridge between the Under 19 level and the first team squad. This team would play in front of a much smaller Rovers crowd in Cobh for their B-team debut compared with 2006. Just eight people stood in the away end last March but I'm told there were a handful of Hoops fans in the home stand that night.

Colin Hawkins was the man in charge of the Hoops and the team was a mix of players from his under 19 team and a few more experienced players brought in to bolster the squad. To be honest under the floodlights it was difficult to tell who the players were. The fact that two of the eight people in the away section were Rovers non-playing squad members, meant we got to ask them which player was which!

The Hoops took the lead through a superb Daniel Purdy goal scored on the player's 21st Birthday and Rovers were only robbed of the win when Cobh found a goal two minutes from time. A good start to a campaign, one that at times the team would struggle with against the more experienced sides in the Division.

For most of the season I would watch the B team play from the vantage point of the Tallaght Stadium pressbox. There were a few weeks when there was only three people in the press box. There would be a Rovers stalwart juggling multiple roles DI/Stadium Announcer/Teamsheet author/scoreboard updater, I'd be doing minute by minute updates for extratime, ie and there would be one journalist doing multiple various for organisations.

Other weeks in Tallaght, it could nearly be a full house in the media zone bolstered by those covering the opposition. The seats would be filled with the opposition media officer tweeting their take on affairs. there would from journalists competing provincial papers and then there would be the local radio station commentators.

The latter generated one of my highlights of the season when during one game the commentator disagreed with his radio colleague on a penalty call made by the referee. As the exchange became heated on air, the co-commentator threw off his headphones and microphone and stormed off down the West Stand. After the game, the two had to pretty much be separated as they squared up to each other but don't worry next time I saw them working at a game in Tolka Park they were back on friendly terms!

Rovers' first win of the season came against Longford in a very satisfying result against a very strong Town squad, containing no less than six former Rovers players. game where maybe unsurprisingly Pat Flynn was sent off and Pat Sullivan booked for the visitors, Rovers' injury time winner meant a lot to the Hoops young team.

The Hoops had to use squad

rotation for much of the year especially as some of the younger players had already played a full season at Under 19 level. Some of the squad were able to take a break from football in early June, but that was only because a number of them were sitting their Leaving Cert Examinations!

In an 11 game spell mid-season the Hoops wouldn't win a game, suffering nine defeats in a row and going 1,025 minutes without scoring a goal. Thankfully they ended that run in August with a 2o away win in Waterford, followed by an impressive 6-0 victory at home of Cobh Ramblers.

The reaction of the team to the win over Cobh reflected the good bond within the group as the players sprayed the manager with water bottles during the warm down as it was his birthday! The tightness of the group was also reflected in the win the following week against Finn Harps and it wasn't simply because the Hoops had won three in a row.

At the end of the season when I asked Colin Hawkins what was the standout moment from the year, he chose that Harps win for a very personal and poignant reason. "It is a strange game that stands out for me as I wasn't even there when we played Finn Harps. My father had passed away and I was at the wake.

"For the lads to win that night 1o up there was a special night for me. I got the game recorded and I watched it back. There was a minute silence for my Dad and I got a lot of pride in that. That is the memory that stands out, as the lads dug out a result for me that night."

For many opposition fans coming to Tallaght for the Sunday afternoon kick-offs it was there first time in the stadium and were able to take it all in - including the Glenmalure Suite at half-time where both sets of supporters would chat about what they'd seen in the first half over a half-time cup of tea.

Eight players dropped down from Rovers' Premier Division squad during the season with a few. like Sean Heaney, Cian Kavanagh and Even Osam, going the other way. It was great to see the reaction of Osam's team mates when he came to sit with the nonplaying members of the squad a couple of days after making his league debut in the Premier Division with Rovers. All of his teammates in the stand stood up to shake his hand or pat him on the back leaving him with a grin from ear to ear.

The penultimate game of the season was a trip to Longford Town, Tony Cousins' men needed a win to earn themselves the First Division title and they dispatched the Hoops B team 6-0 with little mercy. They received the trophy after the game and standing just to the side of the big Longford Town crowd on the pitch the young Rovers players watched on and clapped the champions.

"I wanted them to see what it is all about," said Hawkins, "That is where they want to be later in their career, winning trophies in the

First Division or the Premier Division."

The team played their final game of what would turn out to be their one and only season the weekend following against Waterford United in Tallaght, They had the target of a win so that they could leap above the Blues into sixth spot so it was a great feeling watching the one season wonders win with a comprehensive 3-0 victory that final day.

The players had developed over the season, and not just physically which was the case for all of the players who had come through the Under 19 Rovers team.

Back in the dressing room after the game, the Hoops players and coaching staff watched back video highlights of the season and when it concluded it drew a warm round of applause that could be heard outside the home dressing room.

Rovers took the reluctant decision at the end of the season to fold the second team as the club felt it wasn't viable to continue with two squads and the associated cost and administration work required.

This was especially the case with the club planning on fielding a new team in the national under 17 league next August. The bulk of the squad returned to the Hoops' Under 19 team for the 2014/15 season, with others heading to various clubs.

However, all those involved on the playing and coaching side can be really proud of what they had achieved during a unique season of League of Ireland football.

DATE	H/A	OPPONENTS	KO/SCORE	GOALSCORERS
Feb 24	Α	Athlone Town (LSC 4R)	8.oopm	
Mar 6	Н	St. Patrick's Athletic	7.45pm	
it Mar 14	Α	Longford Town	7.30pm	
i Mar 20	Н	Cork City	8.oopm	
	Α	Sligo Rovers		
ri Mar 27	Н	Bohemians	8.oopm	
ri Apr 3	Н	Galway United	8.oopm	
		LEAGUE CUP (2R)		
ri Apr Io	Α	Derry City	7.45pm	
ri Apr 17	Н	Dundalk	8.oopm	
Aon Apr 20	Α	Bray Wanderers	7.45pm	
at Apr 25	Α	Limerick	7.00pm	
ri May I	Н	Drogheda United	8.oopm	
ri May 8	Α	St. Patrick's Athletic	7.45pm	
ri May 15	Н	Longford Town	8.oopm	The second
		LEAGUE CUP (QF)		
ri May 22	Α	Cork City	7.45pm	
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ri Jun 26	A	Galway United	7.45pm	The state of the s
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ri Jul 24	Н	Limerick	8.oopm	
ri Jul 31	A	Drogheda United	7.45pm	
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Sat Aug 29	A	Sligo Rovers	7.45pm	
Sat Sep 5	Н	Bohemians		
		FAI CUP (QF)		
Fri Sep 18	A	Derry City	7.45pm	
Sat Sep 19		LEAGUE CUP (F)		
Fri Sep 25	Н	Galway United	8.oopm	
Sun Oct 4		FAI CUP (SF)		
Fri Oct 9	Н	Dundalk	8.oopm	-
Sat Oct 17	Α	Bray Wanderers	5.45pm	
Sat Oct 24	Α	Limerick	7.00pm	
Fri Oct 30	Н	Drogheda United	7.45pm	
Sun Nov 8	N	FAI CUP (F)		

KEY:

EL: Europa League

FAI: FAI Cup SC: Setanta Cup LC: League Cup LSC: Leinster Senior Cup



THE STATS

It's back!

The Shamrock Rovers Golf Classic 2015

Lisheen Springs Golf Club, Brittas.

Thurs. June 25th, 2015

Teams of 4: €300
Tee reserved from 12pm-5pm
Limited to 30 teams, so register early.

1000

Dinner & Prize-giving after Golf in the Clubhouse.

Tee Box Sponsorship: €100 Green,Sponsorship: €100

Contact: Peter Madden 086-2416870 Info@shamrockrovers.le

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The strength of Shamrock Rovers is built on the club's membership. The club members are the owners of Shamrock Rovers F.C. and it is the membership that dictates the destiny of the club since taking control of the club in 2005. It has been a hugely successful model to date and we intend to build on this with your help. There are approx. 380 members at the start of 2015 and the club still needs the continued support of the membership to drive forward on and off the pitch. Membership of SRFC includes:

- · Part ownership of Shamrock Rovers.
- · Attendance and voting rights at AGMs.
- · A season ticket for home games (on application).
- · Stadium car park space on match days.
- Access to Glenmalure Suite at home games.
- Priority ticket access for Cup & European games.
 Invitation to exclusive member events.
- Newsletters to keep you up to date with club affairs.
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Being a member means contributing to YOUR club & helping to build its future. Make the right move and sign up for membership today!

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Matchday Sponsorship offers a day to entertain your clients, customers or friends. The day can be tailored to suit the individual needs of the client to promote their company identity and market their products and services.

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- Meet and greet with SRFC players and management.
- · A signed and framed Shamrock Rovers jersey.
- Private car parking in stadium car park for up to 4 cars.
- Full page ad in the Matchday Programme.
- · Complimentary Matchday Programmes.
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Category A Match: €700 Category B Match: €550

Further Details: 01-4605948

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1st and 2nd Jerseys also available. Adults: €60 Children: €45

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2015: THE STATS

APPEARANCES AT A GLANCE

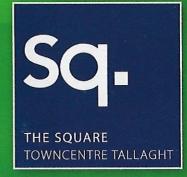
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Starting lineup
Substitute appearance

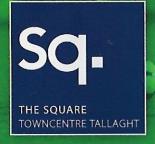
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Proud Sponsors of Shamrock Rovers F.C.



The Square Tallaght





- 1. All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and Regulations of Shamrock Rovers Football Club and the Football Association of Ireland (FAI). Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations.
- 2. Fireworks, laser pens, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, offensive flags, offensive banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the ground, and any person in possession of such an article may be refused entry or ejected from the ground.
- 3. The consumption of intoxicating liquors is not permitted and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground.
- 4. The climbing of floodlight pylons, stands, fences or other buildings in the ground is forbidden.
- 5. Unnecessary noise such as that from the use of radio sets and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind including foul or abusive language is not permitted in any part of the ground.
- 6. Any person using racist taunts or language or behaving in a manner likely to be deemed racist towards any other person may be refused entry or ejected from the ground. This applies equally to offensive behaviour of any sort.
- 7. Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object onto the pitch.
- 8. Spectators are not permitted to enter upon the field of play; anybody who does so will be ejected from the ground and banned from attending future games.
- 9. Any person who fails to comply with the instructions from a steward may be ejected from the ground.
- 10. In general, the right of admission is reserved by Shamrock Rovers FC.
- II. Shamrock Rovers FC reserves the right to refuse admission or eject any person who refuses to be searched by a police officer or steward.
- 12. Any person who remains in a gangway may be ejected from the ground.
- 13. Shamrock Rovers FC reserve the right for its servants or agents to remove from the ground any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence on the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.

Shamrock Rovers FC



A Message to Fans

Supporters are asked to treat Tallaght Stadium and their fellow fans with the utmost respect at all times.

This is our home and we encourage all fans to treat it as such. Please do not stand on the seats, or carry out any other activities that could damage the facilities in the around. Be sure to make your way to the section of the around that best suits your needs; don't stand in an area where others are sitting and please watch your language and manner if you are in the family section. Everyone is welcome at Shamrock Rovers, and we want to ensure that they feel this way while supporting the

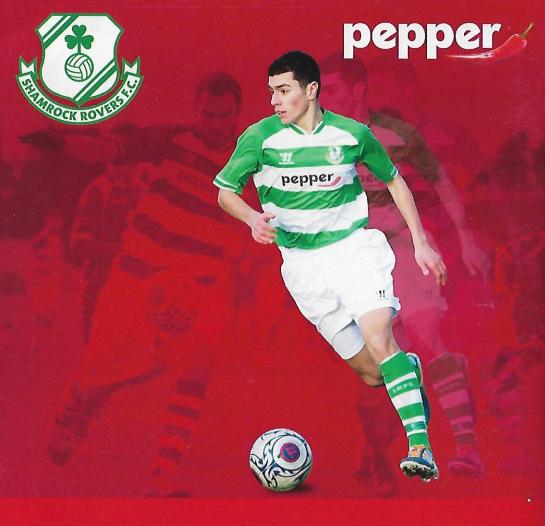
SAFETY NOTICE

Shamrock Rovers Football Club is committed to ensuring that the safety of all supporters on match days is of paramount importance. We are grateful to all attending this fixture for your cooperation with regards to the following points: In the interests of safety please note and acquaint yourself with the position of the exits. If it becomes necessary to evacuate the stadium, patrons should proceed to the nearest exit and must not re-enter under any circumstances. Should you require medical attention please proceed to the first aid room where medical assistance will be available. Paramedics are on duty at all home games and can be contacted in the main stand at the half way line. Parents and guardians are required to supervise children at all times and in an emergency are requested to supervise and evacuate their charges. The use of smoke canisters and flares in the stadium is prohibited. We don't make the rules and apart from the safety aspect, if supporters breach this regulation the club – your club – will be heavily fined. Please heed the advice of stewards and club officials at all times. Patrons are requested to ensure that all cigarettes are properly extinguished and disposed of and remember there is no smoking allowed in the stands.

REMEMBER - SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S GAME!

The 2015 SSE Airtricity League 13 days, 3 hours and 45 minutes, but who's counting!





PEPPER FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP is proud to sponsor SHAMROCK ROVERS