

= Liam Miller =

Liam William Peter Miller (born 13 February 1981) is an Irish footballer who plays for Wilmington Hammerheads in the United Soccer League . Miller began his career with Celtic and was later loaned to Aarhus in 2001 . He returned to Celtic Park and broke into the first @-@ team squad during the 2003 ? 04 season . Rejecting the offer of a new contract from Celtic , he joined Manchester United in 2004 on a free transfer under the Bosman ruling . Loaned to Leeds United during the 2005 ? 06 season , Miller made 22 first @-@ team appearances for Manchester United .

In 2006 , he joined Sunderland , but was linked with a move away from the club because of alleged timekeeping issues . He joined Queens Park Rangers in January 2009 and was released at the end of the 2008 ? 09 season . Miller joined Hibernian at the start of the 2009 ? 10 Scottish Premier League season on a free transfer . He moved to Australian A @-@ League club Perth Glory in 2011 after his contract with Hibernian expired . Miller represents the Republic of Ireland team internationally , making his debut in 2004 against the Czech Republic .

= = Background = =

Miller was born in Ballincollig , Cork , Ireland . He attended Coachford College . In a web chat , Miller revealed that family has been his largest influence in football , and that Martin O 'Neill and Sir Alex Ferguson were also influential to his career . Miller is married and has one son .

= = Club career = =

= = = Celtic = = =

Miller then joined Celtic in 1997 as a youth player , and made his professional league debut against Dundee United on 21 May 2000 . His UEFA Cup debut came against Luxembourg @-@ based club Jeunesse Esch on 24 August 2000 in a 7 ? 0 win , and came close to scoring in the 64th minute . During his time at Celtic Park , he had been on a six @-@ month loan spell with Danish football club AGF Aarhus during the 2001 ? 02 season , making 18 appearances without scoring a goal . They considered signing him permanently for £ 300 @, @ 000 .

His first Scottish Premier League goals came in a 5 ? 0 win over Hearts on 18 October 2003 ; his first goal came after nine minutes when Stilian Petrov drilled the ball in low and Miller finished it off , and completed the scoring in the 50th minute with five @-@ yard finish . Miller scored a goal in a 2 ? 0 Champions League win against Lyon ; Martin O 'Neill then offered him a long @-@ term contract , attempting to keep Miller at the club . Despite this , Miller signed a pre @-@ contract agreement in January 2004 with Manchester United . This move greatly disappointed Martin O 'Neill , who had intended to build a new Celtic team around Miller . According to Irish Abroad , " His departure from the Glasgow giants , after only 26 appearances for the Bhoys , led to outrage among the club 's supporters who perceived Miller to be showing a distinct lack of loyalty considering the Celts ' support of him through long @-@ term injury . "

= = = Manchester United = = =

Miller joined Manchester United for free on 1 July 2004 , and scored his first goal for the club on 26 October 2004 against Crewe Alexandra in the League Cup . After the start of his career for the Red Devils , he found first @-@ team opportunities rare towards the end of the 2004 ? 05 season . He was given a rare first @-@ team start in January 2005 in an FA Cup tie against non @-@ league Exeter City , but turned in a poor performance and was substituted in the second half . In his entire time at the club he made only 22 first @-@ team appearances . Miller later commented that " Man Utd didn 't work out but I have no regrets about giving it a go . "

In July 2006 , The Telegraph reported that Miller would be allowed to leave Manchester United ,

should the Red Devils receive a suitable offer . It was made clear that Miller was not part of Alex Ferguson 's plans when , despite the huge number of senior players missing , he was still only a substitute in the opening game of the Red Devils ' tour of South Africa against Orlando Pirates on 16 July 2006 . On 31 August 2006 , he moved to Sunderland for free on a three @-@ year deal , joining up with new Sunderland manager and former team @-@ mate Roy Keane . He left Manchester United after playing just nine league games in two seasons .

= = = Leeds United loan = = =

On 4 November 2005 , Miller joined Leeds United on loan for three months , though this was later extended to the end of the 2005 ? 06 season . He scored one goal during his time at Leeds , the winning goal in the 4 ? 3 away win against Southampton on 19 November 2005 and helped Leeds to reach the Championship play @-@ off final with a 3 ? 1 on aggregate over Preston North End . Miller featured in the play off final . However , Leeds failed to overcome Watford ; they were beaten 3 ? 0 and so missed out on promotion to the Premier League . During his time at Elland Road , he had scored one goal in 28 games .

= = = Sunderland = = =

Miller made his debut for Sunderland in a 2 ? 1 win over Derby County on 9 September 2006 at the Stadium of Light , and scored his first goal in the following game against Leeds United on 13 September 2006 in a 3 ? 0 win shooting across the goalkeeper from 14 yards .

On 6 January 2007 , he was sent off by referee Iain Williamson in the 37th minute of an FA Cup match against Preston North End , after receiving his second yellow card for a foul on David Nugent ; Sunderland went on to lose the match 1 ? 0 . He scored his first Premier League goal for Sunderland on 22 September 2007 against North @-@ East rivals Middlesbrough in the 89th minute with a 20 yard left @-@ footed shot . He was sent off for the second time in his Sunderland career by Peter Walton ; against Chelsea on 8 December 2007 for a push on Claudio Pizarro . Sunderland went on to lose the game 2 ? 0 .

Manager Roy Keane placed him on the transfer list on 27 February 2008 due to a ' lack of discipline ' and ' poor timekeeping ' , evidenced by his frequent lateness arriving to training sessions . He was linked with a move to Toronto FC , a Canadian club with ties to former Sunderland players Danny Dichio , Carl Robinson and Andy Welsh .

= = = Queens Park Rangers = = =

Miller received interest in January 2009 as Queens Park Rangers expressed their wishes to secure a loan deal . Sunderland manager Ricky Sbragia said " There 's been some interest in Liam from QPR , so something might happen there " . The following day , Miller signed a permanent contract until the end of the season for an undisclosed fee . However , on 19 May 2009 , just six months after joining , QPR released Miller along with five other players .

= = = Hibernian = = =

Miller was left without a club after the summer transfer window closed on 31 August 2009 , and he was training with clubs in Ireland to maintain his fitness . He called Hibs manager John Hughes to offer his services . Hughes , who was surprised that Miller was available to him on a free transfer , quickly offered a two @-@ year deal , which Miller signed in September 2009 . Miller quickly established himself in the Hibs first team , with Graham Spiers describing him as the " king of Hibs " after a 1 ? 1 draw against Rangers at Ibrox . His early performances for Hibs were rewarded with the Scottish Premier League player of the month award for October 2009 .

Miller 's form mirrored the rest of the Hibs team as it went into a slump in 2010 , leading to the departure of Hughes . New manager Colin Calderwood signed three new midfielders in January

2011 and left Miller out of the starting lineup for two games soon afterwards . Calderwood expressed hope that improved results would bring better form out of Miller , who he described as a top @-@ level player . Miller expressed a desire to stay at Hibs in March 2011 , but the two parties did not agree a new contract , which allowed him to leave the club .

= = = Perth Glory = = =

Australian A @-@ League club Perth Glory signed Miller on a two @-@ year contract on 3 June 2011 . He scored his first goal against Adelaide United as Perth Glory won the game 3 ? 0 . On 17 April 2013 , it was announced he would not be signing a new deal with Perth Glory , despite an offer being on the table .

= = = Brisbane Roar = = =

On 22 May 2013 , it was announced that Miller had joined Brisbane Roar on a free transfer , following his release from Perth Glory . He was given a two @-@ year contract , while wearing the number 11 shirt .

On 20 July 2013 , Miller started for the A @-@ League All Stars in the inaugural A @-@ League All Stars Game against Manchester United , a match in which the A @-@ League All Stars were thrashed 5 ? 1 , courtesy of goals from Danny Welbeck , Jesse Lingard and Robin van Persie . Miller was substituted off in the 45th minute of the match , and was replaced by Melbourne Victory midfielder Billy Celeski .

On 30 October 2014 , Miller was released by Brisbane Roar after asking to have his contract terminated following being dropped from the squad for two games with no explanation , which he found unprofessional and disrespectful .

= = = Melbourne City = = =

On 11 November 2014 , 11 days after leaving the Roar , Miller signed for another A @-@ League club , Melbourne City , on a short @-@ term contract as a National Replacement Player in place of Aaron Mooy , joining fellow Irish international Damien Duff . After playing a good game for on his short @-@ term contract , Miller signed another contract with Melbourne City as an Injury Replacement Player in place of Jonatan Germano until the end of December .

= = = Cork City = = =

Miller joined League of Ireland outfit Cork City on 15 January 2015 . Miller made his debut for local team in the 1 ? 1 away draw with Sligo Rovers .

= = = Wilmington Hammerheads = = =

Miller signed with American third @-@ tier United Soccer League side Wilmington Hammerheads on 18 February 2016 .

= = International career = =

Miller was part of the Irish squad that won the UEFA European Under @-@ 16 Football Championship in 1998 . He made nine appearances for the Republic of Ireland at under @-@ 16 level . He then progressed to the Ireland under @-@ 21 team . He was fielded in a game against Albania despite having been suspended after receiving two yellow cards in UEFA European Under @-@ 21 Football Championship games against Switzerland and Albania . The Football Association of Ireland admitted the mistake and apologised to UEFA .

Miller 's debut for the first team came on 31 March 2004 against Czech Republic in a 2 ? 1 win ; he

came on as a substitute for Matt Holland . His first goal for Ireland came in a 3 ? 0 win over Sweden on 1 March 2006 where he had made a run and a 25 yard shot rifled into the top of the net . Despite Miller being without a club during the summer of 2009 , manager Giovanni Trapattoni continued to select him for the Ireland squad . Miller later commented that " I am very grateful to the manager . He didn 't need to pick me in the squad but he showed faith in me and I 'm delighted with that " .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Club = = =

As of 16 March 2014

1 - includes A @-@ League final series statistics 2 - AFC Champions League statistics are included in season commencing during group stages (i.e. ACL 2010 and A @-@ League season 2009 ? 2010 etc .) 3 - Includes other competitive competitions , including the FA Community Shield , UEFA Super Cup , Intercontinental Cup , FIFA Club World Cup and Football League playoff matches .

= = = International goals = = =

Score and results list Republic of Ireland 's goal tally first .

= = Honours = =

Republic of Ireland

UEFA European Under @-@ 16 Football Championship : 1998

Celtic

Scottish Premier League (1) : 2003 ? 04

Sunderland

Football League Championship (1) : 2006 ? 07

Brisbane Roar

A @-@ League (1) : 2013 ? 14

A @-@ League Finals (1) : 2014