

= Hibernian F.C. =

Hibernian Football Club (/ hɪˈbɪəriən /), commonly known as Hibs , are a Scottish professional football club based in Leith in the north of Edinburgh , which plays in the Scottish Championship , the second tier of the Scottish Professional Football League (SPFL) . It is one of three SPFL clubs in the city , the others being their Edinburgh derby rivals Hearts and Edinburgh City . Hibernian was founded in 1875 by Irish immigrants , but support for the club is now based on geography rather than ethnicity or religion . The Irish heritage of Hibernian is still reflected , however , in its name , colours and badge .

The name of the club is usually shortened to Hibs . The team are also called The Hibeas (pronounced / ˈhaʔbiʔz /) and The Cabbage , a shortening of the rhyming slang for Hibs of " Cabbage and Ribs " , by fans of the club , who are themselves also known as Hibbies . Home matches are played at the Easter Road stadium , in use since 1893 , when the club joined the Scottish Football League . Hibernian have played in the second tier of the Scottish football league system , known as the Scottish Championship , since being relegated in 2014 .

Hibernian have won the Scottish league championship four times , most recently in 1952 . Three of those four championships were won between 1948 and 1952 , when the club had the services of The Famous Five , a notable forward line . The club have won the Scottish Cup three times , in 1887 , 1902 and 2016 . Hibs have also won the Scottish League Cup three times , in 1972 , 1991 and 2007 .

= = History = =

= = = Foundation and early history (1875 ? 1939) = = =

The club was founded in 1875 by Irishmen from the Cowgate area of Edinburgh . The name is derived from Hibernia , the Roman name for Ireland . James Connolly , the famous Irish Republican leader , was a Hibs fan , while the club were " closely identified " with the Irish Home Rule Movement during the 1880s . There was some sectarian resistance initially to an Irish club participating in Scottish football , but Hibs established themselves as a force in Scottish football in the 1880s . Hibs were the first club from the east coast of Scotland to win a major trophy , the 1887 Scottish Cup . They went on to defeat Preston North End , who had won the 1887 FA Cup , in a friendly match described as the Association Football Championship of the World Decider .

Mismanagement over the next few years led to Hibs becoming homeless and the club temporarily ceased operating in 1891 . A lease on the Easter Road site was acquired in late 1892 and Hibs played its first match at Easter Road on 4 February 1893 . Despite this interruption , the club today views the period since 1875 as one continued history and therefore counts the honours won between 1875 and 1891 , including the 1887 Scottish Cup . The club were admitted to the Scottish Football League in 1893 , although they had to win the Second Division twice before being elected into the First Division in 1895 .

A significant change at this time was that players were no longer required to be members of the Catholic Young Men 's Society . Hibs are not seen today as being an Irish or Roman Catholic institution , as it was in the early years of its history . For instance , the Irish harp was only re @-@ introduced to the club badge when it was last re @-@ designed in 2000 . This design reflects the three pillars of the club 's identity : Ireland , Edinburgh (the castle) and Leith (the ship) . Geography rather than religion is now seen as the primary reason for supporting Hibs , who draw most of their support from the north and east of Edinburgh .

Hibs had some success after being reformed , winning the 1902 Scottish Cup and their first league championship a year later . After this , however , the club endured a long barren spell . The club lost its placing in the league , and were relegated for the first time in 1931 , although they were promoted back to the top division two years later . The notorious Scottish Cup drought began as they reached three cup finals , two in consecutive years , but lost each of them .

== The Famous Five (1939 ? 1959) ==

Hibs ' most successful era by far , was in the decade following the end of the Second World War , when it was " among the foremost clubs in Britain " . The forward line of Gordon Smith , Bobby Johnstone , Lawrie Reilly , Eddie Turnbull and Willie Ormond , collectively known as the Famous Five , is " regarded as the finest ever seen in Scottish football " . The quality of the Famous Five is shown by the fact that all five players scored more than 100 goals for the club , with the north stand at Easter Road now named in their honour .

Of the five , only Ormond cost Hibs a transfer fee , £ 1200 from Stenhousemuir . Reilly , Johnstone , Smith and Turnbull were all signed from youth or junior leagues . The first time Hibs used all five in the same team was on 21 April 1949 , in a friendly match against Nithsdale Wanderers . The forward line remained in place until 1955 , when Johnstone was sold to Manchester City . The great forward line , together with players like Bobby Combe and Tommy Younger , largely contributed to the winning of league championships in 1948 , 1951 and 1952 . The team were perhaps unfortunate not to win more trophies , as they finished second to Rangers in 1953 on goal average , and second to Rangers by a point in 1950 .

Despite only finishing fifth in the Scottish League in 1955 , Hibs were invited to participate in the first season of the European Cup , which was not strictly based on league positions at that time . Eighteen clubs who were thought would generate interest across Europe and who also had the floodlights necessary to play games at night , were invited to participate . Floodlights had been used at Easter Road for the first time in a friendly match against Hearts on 18 October 1954 . Hibs became the first British club in Europe because the Football League secretary Alan Hardaker persuaded Chelsea , the English champions , not to enter .

Hibs played their first tie against Rot @-@ Weiss Essen , winning 4 ? 0 in the Georg @-@ Melches @-@ Stadion and drawing 1 ? 1 at Easter Road . They defeated Djurgårdens IF to reach the semi @-@ final , but in that tie they were defeated 3 ? 0 on aggregate by Stade Reims , who had the famous France international player Raymond Kopa in their side . Reims lost 4 ? 3 to Real Madrid in the Final .

== Turnbull 's Tornadoes (1960 ? 1989) ==

Hibs frequently participated in the Fairs Cup during the 1960s , famously winning ties against Barcelona and Napoli . However , the club achieved little domestically until former player Eddie Turnbull was persuaded to return to Easter Road as manager in 1971 . The team , popularly known as Turnbull 's Tornadoes , finished second in the league in 1974 and 1975 , and won the League Cup in 1972 . The club also won the Drybrough Cup in 1972 and 1973 , and recorded a 7 ? 0 win over Edinburgh derby rivals Hearts , at Tynecastle on 1 January 1973 .

Performances went into decline after the mid @-@ 1970s , as Hibs were replaced by the New Firm of Aberdeen and Dundee United as the main challengers to the Old Firm . Turnbull resigned as manager and Hibs were relegated , for the second time in their history , in 1980 . They were immediately promoted back to the Scottish Premier Division in 1981 , but the club struggled during the 1980s , failing to qualify for European competition until 1989 .

== 1990s : Attempted takeover by Hearts ==

After mismanagement during the late 1980s , Hibs were on the brink of financial ruin in 1990 . Wallace Mercer , the chairman of Hearts , proposed a merger of the two clubs , but the Hibs fans believed that the proposal was more like a hostile takeover . They formed the Hands off Hibs group to campaign for the continued existence of the club . This succeeded when a prominent local businessman , Kwik @-@ Fit owner Sir Tom Farmer , acquired a controlling interest in Hibs . The fans were able to persuade Farmer to take control despite the fact that he had no great interest in football . Farmer was persuaded in part by the fact that a relative of his had been involved in the

rescue of Hibs from financial ruin in the early 1890s . After the attempted takeover by Mercer , Hibs had a few good years in the early 1990s , winning the 1991 Scottish League Cup Final and finishing in the top five in the league in 1993 , 1994 and 1995 . Soon after Alex McLeish was appointed as manager in 1998 , Hibs were relegated to the First Division , but immediately won promotion back to the SPL in 1999 .

= = = Recent history (2000 ? present) = = =

Hibs enjoyed a good season in 2000 ? 01 , as they challenged the Old Firm until Christmas , eventually finishing third in the league . Hibs also reached the 2001 Scottish Cup Final , but lost 3 ? 0 to Celtic . Manager Alex McLeish departed for Rangers in December 2001 ; team captain Franck Sauzée was appointed as the new manager , despite the fact that he had no previous coaching experience . A disastrous run of form followed , which was dragging Hibs into a relegation battle by the time he was sacked in February 2002 . Sauzée had been manager for just 69 days .

Kilmarnock manager Bobby Williamson was then hired , but he proved to be unpopular with Hibs supporters . However , a string of exciting young players emerged , including Garry O 'Connor , Derek Riordan , Kevin Thomson and Scott Brown . These players featured heavily as Hibs eliminated both halves of the Old Firm to reach the 2004 Scottish League Cup Final , only to lose 2 ? 0 to Livingston . Williamson departed near the end of that season to manage Plymouth Argyle and was replaced by Tony Mowbray . Mowbray promised fast @-@ flowing , passing football , with which Hibs finished third in his first season as manager , while Mowbray won the SFWA Manager of the Year award .

Mowbray left Hibs in October 2006 to manage West Bromwich Albion , and was replaced by former player John Collins . The team won the 2007 Scottish League Cup Final under his management , but the club sold Kevin Thomson , Scott Brown and Steven Whittaker for fees totalling more than £ 8 million . Collins resigned later that year , frustrated by the lack of funds made available to sign new players . Former Hibs player Mixu Paatelainen was hired to replace Collins , but he left after the end of his first full season .

Another former Hibernian player , John Hughes , was soon appointed in place of Paatelainen . Hughes , who made high profile signings such as Anthony Stokes and Liam Miller , led Hibs to a good start to the 2009 ? 10 season . " Unacceptable " performances in the early part of 2010 included a Scottish Cup defeat by Ross County . A 6 ? 6 draw with Motherwell , in which Hibs had led 6 ? 2 midway through the second half , broke the record for most goals scored in a SPL match . A win on the final day meant that Hibs finished fourth and qualified for the 2010 ? 11 UEFA Europa League . A poor start to the following season , including first round exits in Europe and the League Cup , led to Hughes leaving the club by mutual consent . Hughes was replaced by Colin Calderwood , who was himself sacked on 6 November 2011 .

Pat Fenlon was appointed to replace Calderwood . The club avoided relegation in 2011 ? 12 and reached the 2012 Scottish Cup Final , but this was lost 5 ? 1 to Hearts . Fenlon largely rebuilt the team after this defeat . This resulted in an improved league position in 2012 ? 13 and the team reaching the 2013 Scottish Cup Final , but this was lost 3 ? 0 to league champions Celtic . Losing the cup final to the league champions meant that Hibs qualified for the 2013 ? 14 UEFA Europa League , but Hibs suffered a Scottish record defeat in European competition , losing 7 ? 0 at home and 9 ? 0 on aggregate against Malmö . Fenlon resigned on 1 November and was replaced by Terry Butcher . A run of 13 games without a win to finish the 2013 ? 14 Scottish Premiership season meant that Hibs fell into a relegation play @-@ off , which was lost after a penalty shootout against Hamilton Academical . Butcher was sacked in June and was replaced by Alan Stubbs . Hibernian remain in the Scottish Championship but the 2015 @-@ 16 season saw considerable cup success , with a League Cup final loss to Ross County followed by victory in the Scottish Cup for the first time since 1902 , culminating in a cup final win against Rangers .

= = Colours and badge = =

The predominant club colours are green and white , which have been used since the formation of the club in 1875 . The strip typically has a green body , white sleeves and a white collar . The shorts are normally white , although green has been used in recent seasons . The socks are green , usually with some white detail . Hibs have used yellow , purple , black , white and a dark green in recent seasons for their alternate kits . In 1977 , Hibs became the first club in Scotland to bear sponsorship on their shirts . This arrangement prompted television companies to threaten a boycott of Hibs games if they used the sponsored kit , which resulted in the club using an alternate kit for the first time .

Hibs wore green and white hooped shirts during the 1870s , which was the inspiration for the style later adopted by Celtic . Hibs then wore all @-@ green shirts from 1879 until 1938 , when white sleeves were added to the shirts . This was similar in style to Arsenal , who had added white sleeves to their red shirts earlier in the 1930s . The colour of the shorts was changed to a green which matched the shirts in 2004 , to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of a friendly win in October 1964 against Real Madrid . Hibs had worn green shorts in that match to avoid a colour clash with the all @-@ white colours of Real Madrid . Hibs have worn green shorts in three seasons since the 2004 ? 05 season . For the 2012 ? 13 season , Hibs changed the primary colour of the shirts to a darker " bottle " green , instead of the normal emerald green . A darker green had been used until the 1930s . For the 2014 ? 15 season , Hibs removed the traditional white sleeves from their home kit as they changed to a darker green shirt in commemoration of the Famous Five forward line .

The badge used to identify the club has changed frequently over the years , which has reflected an ongoing debate about its identity . This debate has centred on whether its Irish heritage should be proudly displayed , or ignored for fear of being accused of sectarianism . The Irish harp was first removed in the 1950s , then re @-@ introduced to the club badge when it was last re @-@ designed in 2000 . Scottish Football Museum director Ged O 'Brien said in 2001 , that the current design shows that Hibs " are comfortable with all the strands of their tradition ? it has Leith , Edinburgh and Ireland in it . "

= = Stadium = =

Hibs played on The Meadows for the first two years of their history , before moving to grounds in Newington (Mayfield Park) and Bonnington Road , Leith (Powderhall) , in different spells between 1877 and 1879 . After the lease on Mayfield Park expired , Hibs moved to a ground known as Hibernian Park , on what is now Bothwell Street in Leith . Hibs failed to secure the ground lease and a builder started constructing houses on the site in 1890 . Hibs obtained a lease on a site that is now known as Easter Road in 1892 and have played their home matches there since February 1893 .

Before the Taylor Report demanded that the stadium be all @-@ seated , Easter Road had vast banks of terracing on three sides , which meant that it could hold crowds in excess of 60 @,@ 000 . The record attendance of 65 @,@ 860 , which is also a record for a football match played in Edinburgh , was set by an Edinburgh derby played on 2 January 1950 . Such vast crowds were drawn by the success of the Famous Five .

The pitch was noted for its pronounced slope , but this was removed in 2000 . The ground is currently all @-@ seated and has a capacity of 20 @,@ 421 . Easter Road is a modern stadium , with all four of its stands having been built since 1995 . The most recent redevelopment was the construction of a new East Stand in 2010 .

Scotland have played six of their home matches at Easter Road , all of them since 1998 . The most recent international match played at the ground was a friendly between Scotland and Qatar in June 2015 . The ground has hosted one international not involving Scotland , a friendly played between Ghana and South Korea preceding the 2006 FIFA World Cup . Easter Road has also sometimes been used as a neutral venue for Scottish League Cup semi @-@ final matches and once hosted a Scottish Challenge Cup final .

= = Rivalry = =

Hibs have a traditional local rivalry in Edinburgh with Hearts ; the Edinburgh derby match between the two clubs is one of the oldest rivalries in world football . Graham Spiers has described it as " one of the jewels of the Scottish game " . The clubs first met on Christmas Day 1875 , when Hearts won 1 ? 0 , in the first match ever contested by Hibs . The two clubs became preeminent in Edinburgh after a five @-@ game struggle for the Edinburgh Football Association Cup in 1878 , which Hearts finally won with a 3 ? 2 victory after four successive draws . The clubs have met each other in two Scottish Cup Finals , in 1896 and 2012 , both of which were won by Hearts . The 1896 match is also notable for being the only Scottish Cup Final to be played outside Glasgow .

Both clubs have been champions of Scotland four times , although Hearts have won more cup competitions and have the better record in derbies , with 273 wins to 198 in 615 matches . Approximately half of all derbies have been played in local competitions and friendlies . Hibs recorded the biggest derby win in a competitive match when they won 7 ? 0 at Tynecastle on New Year 's Day 1973 . While it has been noted that religious background lies behind the rivalry , that aspect is " muted " and is a " pale reflection " of the sectarianism in Glasgow . Although the clubs are inescapable rivals , the rivalry is mainly " good @-@ natured " and has had beneficial effects .

= = Supporters and culture = =

Hibernian are one of only two professional football clubs in Edinburgh , which is the capital of and second largest city in Scotland . The club had the fifth largest average attendance in the SPFL during the 2015 ? 16 season , with 9 @,@ 339 . In the period after the Second World War , Hibs attracted average attendances in excess of 20 @,@ 000 , peaking at 31 @,@ 567 in the 1951 ? 52 season . Since Easter Road was redeveloped into an all @-@ seater stadium in the mid @-@ 1990s , average attendance has varied between a high of 14 @,@ 488 in 2006 ? 07 and a low of 9 @,@ 150 in 2003 ? 04 . In the 1980s and 1990s , a minority of the club 's supporters had a reputation as one of Britain 's most prominent casuals groups , known as the Capital City Service .

= = = Literature = = =

The works of author Irvine Welsh , particularly Trainspotting , contain several references to Hibernian . The team is often mentioned in casual conversation and is the team many of his characters support . Visual references to Hibs are noticeable in Danny Boyle 's film adaptation of Trainspotting ; Begbie wears a Hibs shirt while he plays five @-@ a @-@ side football , while many Hibs posters and pictures can be seen on the walls of Mark Renton 's bedroom .

In the final short story of the trilogy The Acid House , Coco Bryce , a boy from the " Hibs firm " Capital City Service , is struck by lightning while under the influence of LSD in a Pilton park . His soul is then transferred to the body of an unborn child from one of the more affluent areas of Edinburgh .

Hibernian are also frequently referred to in the Inspector Rebus series of detective novels by Ian Rankin . Rebus himself is a Raith Rovers fan in the books , but he is a Hibs fan in the 2000s television adaptation of the series . Ironically , that version of Rebus is played by a Hearts supporter , Ken Stott . DS Siobhan Clarke , his colleague in the later books , is a " loyal supporter " of Hibs .

= = = Music = = =

The Hibs anthem Glory , Glory to the Hibeas was written and performed by Scottish comedian Hector Nicol . Former Marillion singer Fish is a Hibs fan ; Easter Road is mentioned in the song ' Lucky ' , from the album Internal Exile . The Proclaimers are lifelong Hibs fans , and were heavily involved with the " Hands off Hibs " campaign to save the club in 1990 . The title track from their Sunshine on Leith album has become a Hibs anthem , which is traditionally played before big matches at Easter Road and after cup final victories . In their song " Cap in Hand " , also from the Sunshine on Leith album , The Proclaimers sing :

The song Joyful Kilmarnock Blues , from the first album released by The Proclaimers , is about a

Hibs victory away from home . The song includes the following lyrics :

= = Ownership and finances = =

Although the football club was formed in 1875 , it was not incorporated until 1903 . The club remained a private company until 1988 , when it was publicly listed on the London Stock Exchange . This public listing , combined with poor financial performance , made Hibs vulnerable to an attempted takeover in 1990 by Hearts chairman Wallace Mercer . This attempt was averted when Mercer was unable to acquire the 75 % shareholding needed to liquidate the company .

The club 's parent company , Forth Investments plc , entered receivership in 1991 . Sir Tom Farmer acquired control of the club from the receiver for £ 3 million . Farmer has continued to fund developments of Easter Road and financial losses made by Hibs , although he has delegated control to other figures , such as Rod Petrie . As of 2014 , the club was 98 % owned by its holding company , H.F.C. Holdings Limited . This holding company is beneficially owned by Farmer (90 %) and Petrie (10 %) . In December 2014 , the club publicised plans to sell up to 51 % ownership of the club to its supporters . By the time the offer closed in August 2015 , supporters increased their shareholding in the club from about 2 % to just under 20 % .

= = Current squad and staff = =

= = = First @-@ team squad = = =

As of 22 : 21 , 11 July 2016 (UTC)

Note : Flags indicate national team as defined under FIFA eligibility rules . Players may hold more than one non @-@ FIFA nationality .

= = = Out on loan = = =

Note : Flags indicate national team as defined under FIFA eligibility rules . Players may hold more than one non @-@ FIFA nationality .

= = = Coaching staff = = =

= = = Board of directors = = =

Source :

= = Noted players = =

Arthur Duncan holds the record for most league appearances for Hibs , with 446 . All of the Famous Five ? Gordon Smith , Eddie Turnbull , Lawrie Reilly , Bobby Johnstone and Willie Ormond ? scored more than 100 league goals for Hibs .

Hibernian players have been capped at full international level for 18 different national teams , with 59 Hibernian players appearing for Scotland . Hibernian rank fifth amongst all clubs in providing players for Scotland , behind the Old Firm , Queen 's Park and Hearts . James Lundie and James McGhee were the first Hibs players to play for Scotland , in an 1886 British Home Championship match against Wales . Lawrie Reilly holds the record for most international caps earned while a Hibs player , making 38 appearances for Scotland between 1949 and 1957 . In 1959 , Joe Baker became the first player to play for England without having previously played for an English club .

To mark the club 's 135th birthday , the club created a Hall of Fame in 2010 . The first group of nominees , including 13 former players , were inducted at a dinner later that year .

= = Noted managers = =

From 1875 until 1903 , Hibs were managed by a committee , although Dan McMichael , who also acted as treasurer , secretary and a physiotherapist , was effectively the manager when the club won the 1902 Scottish Cup and the 1903 league championship . Willie McCartney took charge of part of the league @-@ winning 1947 ? 48 season , but he collapsed and died after a Scottish Cup match in January 1948 . Hugh Shaw inherited that team , and went on to win three league championships in the late 1940s and early 1950s . Alan Stubbs won the Scottish Cup in 2015 ? 16 , ending a 114 @-@ year drought in that competition . Eddie Turnbull , Alex Miller and John Collins all won one Scottish League Cup each . Bobby Templeton , Bertie Auld and Alex McLeish all won second tier championships .

= = Achievements = =

= = = Major honours = = =

Scottish league , first tierWinners (4) : 1902 ? 03 , 1947 ? 48 , 1950 ? 51 , 1951 ? 52
Runners @-@ up (6) : 1896 ? 97 , 1946 ? 47 , 1949 ? 50 , 1952 ? 53 , 1973 ? 74 , 1974 ? 75
Scottish CupWinners (3) : 1886 ? 87 , 1901 ? 02 , 2015 ? 16
Runners @-@ up (11) : 1895 ? 96 , 1913 ? 14 , 1922 ? 23 , 1923 ? 24 , 1946 ? 47 , 1957 ? 58 , 1971 ? 72 , 1978 ? 79 , 2000 ? 01 , 2011 ? 12 , 2012 ? 13
Scottish League CupWinners (3) : 1972 ? 73 , 1991 ? 92 , 2006 ? 07
Runners @-@ up (7) : 1950 ? 51 , 1968 ? 69 , 1974 ? 75 , 1985 ? 86 , 1993 ? 94 , 2003 ? 04 , 2015 ? 16

= = = Minor honours = = =

Scottish league , second tierWinners (5) : 1893 ? 94 , 1894 ? 95 , 1932 ? 33 , 1980 ? 81 , 1998 ? 99
Drybrough CupWinners (2) : 1972 , 1973
Summer CupWinners (2) : 1942 , 1964
Southern League CupWinners (1) : 1943 ? 44

= = = UEFA ranking = = =

As of 12 : 35 , 22 May 2016 (UTC)

= = Records = =

Attendance

Highest single game attendance : 65 @ , @ 860 vs Hearts , 2 January 1950

Highest average home attendance : 30 @ , @ 700 in the 1951 ? 52 season

Highest attendance for any match involving Hibs : 143 @ , @ 570 vs Rangers at Hampden Park , 27 March 1948

Single game

Biggest victory : 22 ? 1 vs Black Watch Highlanders , 3 September 1881

Biggest competitive victory : 15 ? 1 vs Peebles Rovers , 11 February 1961

Biggest league victory : 11 ? 1 vs Airdrie , 24 October 1959 and vs Hamilton , 6 November 1965

Biggest defeat : 0 ? 10 vs Rangers , 24 December 1898

Caps and appearances

Most capped player : Lawrie Reilly , 38 for Scotland

Most league appearances : Arthur Duncan , 446

Goals

Most competitive goals : Reilly , 234

Most league goals : Reilly , 187

Most competitive goals in a season : Joe Baker , 46 in 1959 ? 60

Most league goals in a season : Baker , 42 in 1959 ? 60

Transfers

Record fee paid : £ 700 @, @ 000 for Ulises de la Cruz to LDU Quito in 2001

Record fee received : £ 4 @, @ 400 @, @ 000 for Scott Brown from Celtic in 2007