

= Partick Thistle F.C. =

Partick Thistle Football Club (nicknamed the Jags) are a professional football club from Glasgow , Scotland . Despite their name , the club are based at Firhill Stadium in the Maryhill area of the city , and have not played in Partick since 1908 . The club have been members of the Scottish Professional Football League (SPFL) since its formation in 2013 and compete in the Scottish Premiership , the highest tier of the SPFL structure , following promotion from the 2012 ? 13 Scottish First Division . They are one of three Glasgow @-@ based teams competing in the Premiership , the others being Celtic and Rangers , with Queen 's Park playing in the Scottish League Two .

Since 1936 , Thistle have played in their distinctive red @-@ and @-@ yellow jerseys of varying designs , with hoops , stripes and predominantly yellow tops with red trims having been used , although in 2009 a centenary kit was launched in the original navy @-@ blue style to commemorate 100 years at Firhill . Since 1908 the club have won the Scottish Second Division once and the Scottish First Division (second tier , now the Scottish Championship) six times , most recently in 2013 . Thistle have won the Scottish Cup and the Scottish League Cup in 1921 and 1971 respectively .

The club are managed by former defender Alan Archibald , who took over the role on 30 January 2013 , following the departure of Jackie McNamara to Dundee United . Under Archibald 's management , the club achieved promotion to the newly formed Scottish Premiership in 2013 , and have remained there for three consecutive seasons .

= = History = =

= = = Formation and early years = = =

Partick Thistle Football Club was formed in 1876 in the burgh of Partick , which was at that time administratively independent of Glasgow (Partick was not subsumed into Glasgow until 1912) . The club 's first recorded match (and victory) took place in February against a local junior team , named Valencia . The location of this match , and thereby Thistle 's first home ground , was recorded as ' Overnewton Park ' , which is thought to have been located next to Overnewton Road , just south of Kelvingrove Park . In 1891 , Partick Thistle joined the Scottish Football Alliance , one of several competitions set up immediately after the formation of the Scottish Football League in 1890 . The club won the Second Division championship in 1897 and were elected to the First Division . The following season they were re @-@ elected after finishing in eighth place . In 1900 they were elected back to the top level , having finished as Second Division champions again , but were relegated the following season and then promoted in second place in 1902 . This would be the last time Thistle changed their division for almost 70 years . Since joining the Scottish professional leagues in 1893 , Thistle had been an unpredictable side , spending four years in the First Division and five in the Second , winning promotion three times . It was during the 1902 ? 03 Scottish Division One season in which Thistle set their highest finish in the Scottish league structure , finishing 8th in the table with 19 points . In the following 33 years , they moved from home to home , using parks at Kelvingrove , Jordanvale , Muirpark , Inchview among others . In 1891 they moved to Meadowside , where they played until 1908 . After being homeless for over a season , they moved to their present home , Firhill Stadium , in the Maryhill district of Glasgow . They played their first home match at Firhill , on 18 September 1909 , in a 3 ? 1 victory against Dumbarton Harp .

= = = Cup success and league progress = = =

In 1921 Thistle won the Scottish Cup , beating Rangers 1 ? 0 in the final . Johnny Blair scored the only goal of the game , which was held at Celtic Park . The Jags reached the final again nine years later , facing the same opposition , but Rangers won 2 ? 1 in a replay following a 0 ? 0 draw in the first match . In 1935 the Jags won both the Glasgow Cup and the Charity Cup , competitions that

were taken seriously at the time .

Although it was over 30 years before Thistle achieved further cup success they not only maintained their top tier status during this period but finished third in the league in 1947 ? 48 , 1953 ? 54 and 1962 ? 63 .

On 23 October 1971 Davie McParland 's team secured the club 's most famous result against Jock Stein 's Celtic in the League Cup final at Hampden Park , Glasgow . 62 @, @ 470 fans watched Thistle take a dramatic 4 ? 0 lead at half time with goals from Alex Rae , Bobby Lawrie and Jimmy Bone amongst the many emerging talents in the Thistle squad including Alan Rough , Alex Forsyth and Denis McQuade . Kenny Dalglish pulled a goal back for Celtic , however the final result was never in doubt as Thistle eased to a 4 ? 1 victory . Ironically before the match , former BBC sport broadcaster Sam Leitch stated that " In Scotland , it 's League Cup final day at Hampden Park , where Celtic meet Partick Thistle , who have no chance . "

= = = Decline and " Save the Jags " campaign = = =

Thistle 's fortunes on the pitch declined during the 1980s . Although the club had experienced difficult times before , having dropped into the second tier of Scottish football twice in the 1970s , they had bounced straight back up on both occasions . The relegation of 1982 led to the Club 's first sustained period outside the top tier since the late 19th century . Although this period of exile ended with promotion in 1992 , mounting financial problems , including a debt of over £ 1 @. @ 5 million , threatened to put the club out of existence . In 1998 in particular the club was close to going bankrupt and was only kept afloat by the fan @- @ organised " Save the Jags " campaign . Despite avoiding financial oblivion Thistle were relegated to the third tier of Scottish Football in 1997 ? 98 and only narrowly avoided a further relegation the following season , finishing in eighth place .

= = = Revival under John Lambie = = =

In 1999 John Lambie commenced his third period as manager of the club and under his stewardship Thistle enjoyed a brief revival , winning back @- @ to @- @ back promotions in 2000 ? 01 and 2001 ? 02 , the second of which earned the club a place in the Scottish Premier League .

SPL guidelines at the time stipulated that clubs would only be eligible for promotion to the league if their stadium had a minimum 10 @, @ 000 seated capacity . To comply with these guidelines the terraced section at the north end of Firhill was replaced with a 2000 @- @ seat stand . Speaking in 2004 Thistle chairman Tom Hughes argued the club did not at the time require a stadium with such a large capacity and building the new stand ' seriously affected [their] competitiveness ' . Thistle maintained their place in the SPL under Lambie by finishing 10th in 2002 ? 03 , despite being favourites for relegation .

= = = Successive relegations and play @- @ off promotion = = =

Following Lambie 's retirement at the end of the 2002 ? 03 season , Thistle struggled . Gerry Collins (Lambie 's previous assistant) was sacked mid @- @ season and replaced with joint player @- @ managers Derek Whyte and Gerry Britton . This change was not enough to revive the team , and Thistle were relegated at the end of the 2003 ? 04 season after Inverness , having won the First Division title , were permitted to groundshare with Aberdeen . In season 2004 ? 05 the team continued to struggle and Whyte and Britton were dismissed mid @- @ season . Dick Campbell , their successor , was unable to avoid relegation to the Second Division . He did return the club to the First Division the following season , through the newly introduced play @- @ off system , having finished 4th in the league . This brought to a close the club 's most unpredictable decade , in footballing terms at least : between 1996 and 2006 Thistle had been promoted three times and relegated four times . They were the first team in Scottish football to be relegated from the top flight through successive subsequent relegations (excluding those caused by league reconstruction) .

== Ian McCall 's tenure , 2007 ? 2011 ==

Despite starting well upon returning to the First Division , Dick Campbell was sacked on 27 March 2007 , following a succession of poor results . A caretaker management team of Jimmy Bone and Terry Butcher saw out the season before Ian McCall , a former player , was unveiled as manager . McCall 's first season saw Thistle finish 6th in the First Division and embark on a successful Scottish Cup campaign , reaching the quarter @-@ finals before being defeated by eventual winners Rangers after a 1 ? 1 draw at Ibrox , Thistle lost the replay 2 ? 0 at Firhill . League form further improved in season 2008 ? 09 with Thistle exceeding expectations to finish 2nd in the First Division , behind St Johnstone . This season saw midfielder Gary Harkins win the Irn Bru Phenomenal Player of the Year and Jonathan Tuffey become the club 's first full international for several years .

McCall quit his post as manager in April 2011 , citing personal reasons . Jackie McNamara was initially appointed as caretaker manager before being made full @-@ time manager of the club at the end of the 2010 ? 11 season .

== Jackie McNamara 2011 ? 2013 ==

McNamara and assistant Simon Donnelly guided Thistle to a sixth @-@ place finish in 2011 ? 12 season . The following season Thistle started well and emerged as promotion candidates , competing with Dunfermline and Greenock Morton for a place in the following season 's top flight . On 29 January 2013 the club gave permission to Dundee United to speak to McNamara about becoming their new manager . The following day McNamara and his assistant Simon Donnelly resigned , to become the new management team at United . Along with Donnelly , McNamara brought goalkeeper Craig Hinchcliffe , Paul Paton and Chris Erskine to Tannadice . Thistle were second in the league at the time and , because McNamara was under contract , compensation was owed to the club .

== Alan Archibald ==

On 30 January 2013 , Alan Archibald was appointed as the club 's interim manager , with former Thistle player Scott Paterson as his assistant . On 22 March , the duo were given the job on a permanent basis signing a one @-@ year rolling contract . The following month on 20 April 2013 , the club clinched promotion to the Scottish Premiership having sealed the First Division championship with a 2 ? 0 victory away to Falkirk . The title win meant Thistle returned to the top flight of Scottish football for the first time in nine years . Thistle 's initial return to the Premiership had mixed success . The team managed to maintain a relatively positive away record , however it was months before Thistle finally secured a home win , with them beating Aberdeen 3 ? 1 at Firhill in February 2014 . Thistle managed to avoid the relegation and play @-@ off spots , eventually finishing third @-@ bottom , following a 4 ? 2 win away to Hearts at Tynecastle .

The 2015 ? 16 Scottish Premiership season saw Thistle secure long @-@ term contracts for many of their key players , including Kris Doolan , Callum Booth , Tomá? ?erný and Mustapha Dumbuya .

On 7 May 2016 , Thistle secured their Premiership status with a 2 @-@ 0 away victory to Kilmarnock , with goals coming from Steven Lawless and Kris Doolan . This result meant that Archibald overtook former manager Johnny Davidson as the record holder of top @-@ flight victories .

== Club crest and colours ==

The first crest to appear on a Partick Thistle kit was a thistle design , and every logo since has featured a thistle . The thistle appeared first in 1902 , then again in 1909 . It remained until 1978 , when a new logo with the thistle housed inside a roundel was used . A modernist logo with the thistle on a rectangle was introduced in 1990 , and the current crest was introduced in 2008 .

The Jags flirted with a number of colour schemes in their early years . From their inception until

1900 the kits were predominantly blue with red and white trimmings . There was then a brief period in which the players wore an orange and black striped top with white shorts and black socks . This was replaced in 1905 by a colour scheme close to that used by Aston Villa , before the club reverted to the predominantly blue kits in 1909 . In season 1936 ? 37 they changed to , and settled upon , the red @-@ yellow @-@ and @-@ black attire for which they are best known , this change having been triggered initially by the club borrowing kits from the local rugby union team , West of Scotland Football Club .

In 2008 ? 09 and 2009 ? 10 , Thistle became the first football club in Scotland to use pink as the primary colour in their away kit . In 2008 ? 09 this took the form of silver- and pink @-@ hooped tops .

Since the 2013 ? 14 season , Partick Thistle 's kits have been manufactured by Joma Sports . During the 2014 ? 15 season , Partick Thistle supported the Breast Cancer Care Charity by wearing a black and pink away shirt , with the charity ribbon on the shirt . The partnership saw a portion of kit sale revenue being donated to Breast Cancer Care . Partick Thistle 's current home kit features a yellow and red hooped shirt , with a slight gradient pattern between each hoop . The kit features red shorts and socks , with a yellow trim . The away kit is sky blue , with thin white hoops on the jersey . Goalkeepers wear a generic kit design from Joma , and are either pink or grey .

= = Stadium = =

Before moving to the Maryhill area in 1909 , Partick Thistle hosted their home games over numerous sites in and around Glasgow including Kelvingrove Park , Jordanvale Park and Muir Park . In 1891 , the club moved to Meadowside , near the River Clyde . However , in 1908 Thistle were forced to vacate the area to make way for a new shipyard .

After playing at numerous other grounds in Glasgow , Greenock , Port Glasgow , Kilmarnock , Edinburgh and even Aberdeen for over a season , Partick Thistle moved to their present home , Firhill Stadium , in 1909 , when they purchased some spare Caledonian Railway land in Maryhill for £ 5 @, @ 500 . The stadium consists of three stands : the Main Stand , where the away support is housed , which was built in 1927 and can seat around 2 @, @ 900 supporters ; the Jackie Husband Stand , which was built in 1994 and has a capacity of approximately 6 @, @ 500 ; and the North Stand , which can house around 2 @, @ 000 supporters . On the south side of the stadium there is a grass embankment , known to home fans as " The Bing " , which had been open terracing until this was demolished in 2006 due to the stand failing to meet the criteria of Scottish Football Association safety regulations . There have been various plans to redevelop the south end of the stadium but thus far none have come to fruition .

Firhill has been used by other football teams and for rugby over the years . Between 1986 and 1991 Clyde ground shared with Thistle , following their eviction from Shawfield . Hamilton Academical also ground shared for two spells over seven years , following them being forced out of Douglas Park in 1994 . In December 2005 , Firhill also became the home of Glasgow 's professional rugby union team , Glasgow Warriors , when they moved from their previous base at Hughenden Stadium . After returning to Hughenden in 2006 , the Warriors took up a two @-@ year residency at Firhill from the start of the 2007 ? 08 Celtic League season . This was extended in April 2009 for a further five years . Glasgow Warriors left Firhill after the 2011 ? 12 season and moved to Scotstoun Stadium . During the 2012 ? 13 season the ground was also used by Celtic 's under @-@ 20 squad as their home ground , but following Partick 's promotion this stopped for the 2013 ? 14 season .

During the 2013 / 14 season , the Main Stand was re @-@ opened to seat the high number of away supporters . In one instance , the North Stand was used for Celtic supporters as fears grew over fire dangers . During early June 2016 the North Stand was renamed The Colin Weir Stand in honour of Colin Weir who was made the first ever patron of Partick Thistle after making numerous donations to the club 's youth team The Thistle Weir Academy .

Maryhill railway station , which is served by trains from Glasgow Queen Street , is the closest railway station to Firhill . The walk between the two sites takes between 20 and 25 minutes . On the Glasgow Subway network , Kelvinbridge and St George 's Cross are within 15 minutes walk of the

stadium . The A81 road (Maryhill Road) , leading to Firhill Road , runs from the M8 motorway .
The club train at the Garscube Sports Complex in Bearsden , East Dunbartonshire .

= = Notable former players = =

All former players or managers listed have been inducted into either the Scottish Football Hall of Fame or Partick Thistle 's own Hall of Fame . These include players who participated in both the 1921 Scottish Cup Final and the 1971 Scottish League Cup Final .

= = = Scottish Hall of Fame = = =

Mo Johnston
Alan Rough
Alan Hansen

= = = Club Hall of Fame = = =

= = Support = =

Thistle fans sing songs during matches , some of which are relatively generic but others which are unique . Choruses of " Rellow Army " , " Mary fae Maryhill " , " Over Land and Sea " , " Forever and Ever " , " We 've Followed the Thistle for Many a Day " , " Oh Maryhill is wonderful " , " Do Do Do Conrad Balatoni " and " Gerry Britton is the King of Spain " are commonly heard in the singing section of the home support , in the North Stand or " New Shed " .

During their previous foray into the top flight of Scottish football in season 2002 ? 03 attendances exceeded 6 @, @ 000 , whereas in the lower divisions they have tended to range between 2 @, @ 000 and 4 @, @ 000 .

On the day of their return to the top flight against Dundee United on 2 August 2013 , the attendance at Firhill was 7 @, @ 822 . Average home attendances for Thistle 's maiden season back in the Scottish Premiership was around 5 @, @ 000 , however the 2014 ? 15 season saw a 25 % drop with an average home crowd of only 3 @, @ 500 .

= = = Notable supporters = = =

Mhairi Black , MP for Paisley & Renfrewshire South .

Maryhill born actor Robert Carlyle is also a famous supporter , stating he would rather watch the Jags than watch Arsenal or Manchester United .

Craig Ferguson , former host of the popular American chat show The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson .

The historian Niall Ferguson was a supporter while growing up in Glasgow , stating that " they were the atheists ' team . You couldn 't believe in God and support Partick Thistle . "

Hollyoaks actor Chris Fountain

American actor David Hasselhoff , best known for Knight Rider and Baywatch , has stated his support for the club during his pantomime run in Glasgow , and mentioned they are his " favourite underdogs " .

Artist David Shrigley , who designed the club 's mascot Kingsley .

Juventus and French international footballer Paul Pogba , according to older brother Mathias (who plays for Thistle) , keeps track of Thistle 's results from Italy and is a fan of the club .

= = Sponsors = =

The club 's main sponsor is Kingsford Capital Management , which was confirmed at the start of the

2015 ? 16 season , taking over from beverage company MacB . The new sponsorship deal is thought to be worth around £ 200 @, @ 000 for two years , which includes shirt , mascot and stadium sponsor . Initially , MacB went into administration half way through the season , and was replaced by legal company Just Employment Law for the remainder of the 2011 ? 12 season . MacB resumed sponsorship of Partick Thistle in the summer of 2012 , and subsequently signed a two @-@ year extension , keeping them as main sponsors until the end of the 2014 ? 15 season . Scottish security system company Alarmfast also started sponsoring Thistle for the 2014 ? 15 season . Thistle 's mascot is a large yellow sun @-@ like character called Kingsley , who replaced MacB 's Jaggy MacBee at the start of Kingsford Capital 's tenure .

Thistle 's kit maker is Spanish manufacturers Joma , having replaced Puma Sports at the start of the 2013 ? 14 season .

= = Mascot = =

Partick Thistle 's current mascot is named Kingsley , and was designed by the Turner Prize nominated artist David Shrigley . Kingsley was unveiled on 22 June 2015 to coincide with Thistle 's new sponsorship with California based investment firm Kingsford Capital Management . The mascot gained widespread notoriety online , having trended worldwide on Twitter , as well as being publicised by major networks such as CNN and The Washington Post . Partick Thistle 's general manager Ian Maxwell hailed the success of Kingsley in drawing attention to the club , stating that the worldwide interest and TV coverage amounted to the " biggest amount of publicity from a sponsorship launch in Scottish football history " . The Kingsley mascot has become a major source of merchandising potential for the club , with demand outstripping supply .

Between 2011 ? 2015 , Thistle 's mascot had been Jaggy MacBee , a large bumble bee that had been introduced as part of the clubs sponsorship with MacB Water . Before that , Thistle had used a brightly coloured toucan called Pee Tee as its official mascot .

= = Community trust = =

= = = Partick Thistle Ladies = = =

Following a successful set @-@ up of women 's football in Glasgow , with teams such as Celtic L.F.C. and Glasgow City , Partick Thistle entered a women 's team into the 2013 Scottish Women 's Football League Second Division season .

The team train at the Firhill Complex in Maryhill .

= = = Thistle Weir Youth Academy = = =

In October 2013 , millionaires and long time Thistle fans Chris and Colin Weir donated £ 750 @, @ 000 to Partick Thistle to set up a new advanced youth academy . The academy was named the Thistle Weir Youth Academy and is run by former striker Gerry Britton .

= = Current squad = =

= = = First team squad = = =

As of 11 July 2016

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

For recent transfers , see List of Scottish football transfers summer 2015

= = Club staff = =

= = Individual achievements = =

= = Full internationalists = =

The following players have participated in full internationals for their respective countries whilst playing for Thistle . Statistics include all caps gained in their international career , including those before or after their Thistle careers .

= = Honours = =

= = = Major = = =

Scottish Cup :

Winners (1) : 1920 ? 21

Runners up (1) : 1929 ? 30

Scottish League Cup :

Winners (1) : 1971 ? 72

Runners up (3) : 1953 ? 54 , 1956 ? 57 , 1958 ? 59

= = = Minor = = =

Scottish Football League First Division , second tier : Winners (6) : 1896 ? 97 , 1899 ? 1900 , 1970 ? 71 , 1975 ? 76 , 2001 ? 02 , 2012 ? 13

Runners up (3) : 1901 ? 02 , 1991 ? 92 , 2008 ? 09

Scottish Football League Second Division , third tier :

Winners (1) : 2000 ? 01

Play @-@ off Winners (1) : 2005 ? 06

Scottish Challenge Cup : Runners up (1) : 2012 ? 13

Glasgow Cup :

Winners (7) : 1934 ? 35 , 1950 ? 51 , 1952 ? 53 , 1954 ? 55 , 1960 ? 61 , 1980 ? 81 , 1988 ? 89

Runners up (11) 1888 ? 89 , 1900 ? 01 , 1911 ? 12 , 1914 ? 15 , 1917 ? 18 , 1919 ? 20 , 1932 ? 33 , 1936 ? 37 , 1959 ? 60 , 1966 ? 67 , 1968 ? 69

British Cup :

Winners (1) : 1921

Glasgow Merchants ' Charity Cup :

Winners (3) : 1926 ? 27 , 1934 ? 35 , 1948 ? 49

Summer Cup :

Winners (1) : 1945

West of Scotland FA Cup :

Winners (1) : 1879

Glasgow Dental Cup :

Winners (1) : 1929

Greenock Charity Cup : Winners (1) : 1893

Paisley Charity Cup :

Winners (1) : 1936

Yoker Cup : Winners (3) : 1881 , 1882 , 1883

Arr Craib Trophy : Winners (1) : 2012

Tennents ' Sixes : Winners (1) : 1993 (final winners)

= = Club records = =

Highest record home attendance : 49 @, @ 838 vs Rangers , Scottish First Division , 18 February 1922

Most league appearances : Alan Rough , 410

Most league goals in a season : Alec Hair , 41 , 1926 ? 27

Record defeat : 0 ? 10 v Queen 's Park , Scottish Cup , 3 December 1881

Record victory : 16 ? 0 v Royal Albert , Scottish Cup 1st round , 17 January 1931

Record points total : 78 , Scottish First Division , 2012 ? 13

Record transfer fee paid : £ 85 @, @ 000 to Celtic for Andy Murdoch , February 1991

Record transfer fee received : £ 200 @, @ 000 from Watford for Mo Johnston 1982

= = European record = =

Thistle have participated in European competition on three different occasions . On the first occasion , they qualified having finished third in the First Division . They progressed to the second round of the Fairs Cup before being eliminated by Spartak Brno . They qualified for the UEFA Cup in 1972 ? 73 after winning the League Cup the previous season ; Hungarian side Honvéd eliminated them in the first round . Their most recent European campaign was the 1995 UEFA Intertoto Cup , when they finished 4th with four points in Group 6 .