

**Kick-off: 7.45pm, Friday 9th September, UCD Bowl**



Friday night see Irish Daily Mail FAI Cup action return to the UCD Bowl for the third time this season as we host Premier Division leaders Dundalk FC in the cup quarter final. Speaking ahead of the game Collie O'Neill knows his side face a tough challenge, however believes this is the type of games his side want to be playing in week in week out as we continue our promotion push in the league over the coming weeks.

"Obviously drawing the league leaders is an extremely tough draw in anyone's eyes. However at this stage of the competition any draw is going to be tough and we have got to go into the game like any other and look to play our own game. Dundalk have had a fantastic season so far, they are top of the league, and of course are into the Group Stages of the Europa League. However, Stephen Kenny will also be looking to be successful in this competition."

Last week saw us overcome local rivals Cabinteely 2-0 in a tense game in Stradbrook. Gary O'Neill opened the scoring with his twelfth league goal, and fifteenth in all competitions as he continued his brilliant form this season. The result perhaps could have been very different only for Niall Corbet being at his very best with a brilliant save just after half time with the score at 1-0, before Jason Byrne scored to put the game to bed. The return of Tomas Boyle in defence was a massive boost for Collie O'Neill and he helped the side to their first clean sheet in almost three months (vs Shelbourne, 3 June).

The injury front is beginning to improve for Collie, with Tomas Boyle and Cathal Brady both returning to his starting line-up last week against Cabinteely after recovering from neck and hamstring injuries respectively. Conor O'Donnell also returned to training this week after the recovered from the knee injury which kept him out for a few weeks. Brian Shortall will continue to his out however with his long running hamstring injury.

Injured: Brian Shortall

Doubtful: None

Suspended: None

**Last 5 results this season:**

5/8: Shelbourne 1 – 2 UCD AFC (Gary O'Neill, Jason McClelland)

12/8: UCD AFC 1 – 1 Drogheda United (Ryan Swan)

20/8: UCD AFC 3 – 1 Janesboro FC (Ryan Swan, Kieran Marty Waters, Liam Scales)

28/8: UCD AFC 2 – 3 Limerick FC (Kieran Marty Waters, Maxi Kouogun)

2/9: Cabinteely 0 – 2 UCD AFC (Gary O'Neill, Jason Byrne)

**This season's top scorers (all competitions):**

15 – Gary O'Neill

9 – Kieran Marty Waters

7 – Ryan Swan

6 – Maxi Kouogun

5 – Greg Sloggett, Georgie Kelly

2 – Dylan Watts (now Leicester City), Jack Watson, Jason McClelland, Jason Byrne

1 – Tomas Boyle, Cathal Brady, Liam Scales