

After a number of eye catching performances this season, Neil Farrugia has been named in the Ireland under 19s squad for their upcoming UEFA Qualifiers.



Republic of Ireland Under 19 Head Coach Tom Mohan has named his squad for the forthcoming UEFA Under 19 Championships Qualifying Round mini-tournament which takes place in the South East.

The Irish squad will meet Azerbaijan on Wednesday, October 4 (3.00pm) at the RSC then meet Greece in the same venue on Saturday, October 7 (7.00pm) before the RSC hosts the meeting of the Irish and Serbia on Tuesday, October 10 (1.00pm).

With Cappoquin native Jayson Molumby, Waterford's Lee O'Connor, New Ross's Thomas O'Connor and Kilkenny's John Martin in his squad, Mohan's charges should feel right at home next week.

"Anytime we play in Waterford we're well supported so with so many local lads playing we'll be hoping the public comes out to support the lads," said Mohan.

The top two teams from each group progresses to the Elite Round, played in spring 2018, in seven mini-tournament groups of four. The group winners then join the hosts in the finals.

Finland will host the final tournament from July 16 to 29 next summer.

Mohan will not be looking too far down the line as he recognises that this is a tough Qualifying Round grouping and the primary goal is to make the Elite Round.

"There'll be three tough games but really our only focus is on Azerbaijan as they're our first challenge. We've looked at a lot of their games and their squad is technically good and they have quick players. They've beaten Scotland and drew with Belgium in the past while so it'll be very competitive," he said.

"You're main focus is qualifying but you just can't look beyond first game.

"This is a good group of players and these lads were together for two games against the Czech Republic recently and did very well but we know there is still room for improvement.

"A lot of the players are around first team level with their clubs so their individual confidence is high. We're also pleased that we have six home-based players plus six players that could still play U18 level this season so there's a good mix in the squad."

Waterford FC season ticket holders and Waterford IT students will be permitted free entry to the three games, along with FAI Season Ticket holders.

Republic of Ireland U19 Squad

Goalkeepers: Mark Travers (Bournemouth - On Loan at Weymouth), Brian Maher (St Patrick's Athletic)

Defenders: Tyreke Wilson (Manchester City), Dara O'Shea (West Bromwich Albion - On loan at Hereford Utd), Canice Carroll (Oxford United), Warren O'Hora (Bohemians), Lee O'Connor (Manchester United), Jordan Doherty (Sheffield United)

Midfielders: Daniel McKenna (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Rian O'Sullivan (Brighton & Hove Albion - On loan at Worthing), Jayson Molumby (Brighton & Hove Albion), Aaron Bolger (Shamrock Rovers), Thomas O'Connor (Southampton), Kian Flanagan (Crystal Palace), Anthony Scully (West Ham United)

Neil Farrugia named in Ireland U19 Squad

Saturday, 30 September 2017 08:07

Forwards: Michael Obafemi (Southampton), John Martin (Waterford), Thomas Byrne (Drogheda United), Jonathan Afolabi (Southampton), Neil Farrugia (UCD)

Fixtures - UEFA Under-19 Championship 2018 Qualifying Round Group 7

Wednesday, October 4 - Azerbaijan vs Republic of Ireland, RSC (15:00)

Saturday, October 7 - Republic of Ireland vs Cyprus, RSC (19:00)

Tuesday, October 10 - Republic of Ireland vs Serbia, RSC (13:00)