

Kick-off: 8pm, Tallaght Stadium, Friday 29 March



After last week's game against Cork City was postponed due to international call-ups, Friday night sees the return of SSE Airtricity League Premier Division football as we face a tough trip to league leaders Shamrock Rovers. Speaking ahead of the game, Collie knows his side will be in for a tough test against the league leaders who will be looking to extend their advantage at the top of the table.

"It's going to be tough on Friday night. Shamrock Rovers are flying, playing some great football, they are top of the league and they'll certainly get a big crowd which will get behind them."

Last time out we faced Finn Harps in a battle of the two promoted sides. Collie O'Neill's side came out on top with a 3-0 victory thanks to three second half goals, with Timmy Molloy grabbing the first before a brace from Richie O'Farrell secured the three points. Collie was pleased with his side's performance, and is hoping his side can build on it over the coming weeks.

"We played very well against Finn Harps. We created plenty of chances, and managed to keep a clean sheet also. It's important now that we look to build on that now and push on over the coming weeks, and if we play the way we know we can we certainly believe we can come away with a result."

Last week saw a number of our players on Irish international duty, with Neil Farrugia and Liam Scales both in Stephen Kenny's under 21's squad, whilst Richie O'Farrell was with the under 19s for their Elite Qualifiers in Russia. Neil started the game against Luxembourg, as his corner created the opening goal, before his brilliant chip secured the second of the game on the way to a comfortable 3-0 victory. Richie came on as a sub in the opening group game, and started the final game against hosts Russia, as the under 19s won all three of their games to secure their place in this summer's UEFA U19 European Championships in Armenia.

"It was great for the three lads to be involved with the international sides last week. Neil Farrugia grabbed the headlines for the 21s with a goal and an assist, however they will take a lot from the experience and will hope to be back involved for the next round of games, and Richie will be looking to secure his place in the squad for the U19 European Championships."

Evan Osam will be missing for Friday night's game, as he continues his recovery after rupturing his achilles on the eve of the season. Paul Doyle will return to the squad however after recovering from an ankle injury which ruled him out of the games against Sligo Rovers and Finn Harps. Conor Davis is a doubt for the game, as he faces a late fitness test as he hopes to return from a knee injury which forced him to miss the game against Finn Harps.

It will be a busy week for us this week, with a trip to Shamrock Rovers on Friday night, before a trip to Tolka Park to face Shelbourne in the EA Sports Cup on Tuesday, before we host Waterford FC at the UCD Bowl next Friday night at 7.45pm.

Injured: Evan Osam (achilles)

Doubtful: Conor Davis (knee)

Suspended: None

Last 5 Results (UCD scorers in brackets):

22 Feb: UCD AFC 0 – 2 Bohemian FC

25 Feb: Dundalk FC 2 – 1 UCD AFC (Farrugia)

1 Mar: UCD AFC 1 – 1 St Patrick's Athletic (Davis)

9 Mar: Sligo Rovers 1 – 0 UCD AFC

15 Mar: UCD AFC 3 – 0 Finn Harps (Molloy, O'Farrell x 2)

Next 5 Fixtures

29 Mar: Shamrock Rovers vs UCD AFC, Tallaght Stadium @ 8pm

2 April: Shelbourne vs UCD AFC, Tolka Park @ 7.45pm (EA Sports Cup)

5 April: UCD AFC vs Waterford FC, UCD Bowl @ 7.45pm

12 April: UCD AFC vs Derry City, UCD Bowl @ 7.45pm

15 April: UCD AFC vs Cork City, UCD Bowl @ 7.45pm

2019 Appearances:

League

Cup

Total

Apps

Goals

Apps

Goals

Apps

Goals

Timmy Molloy

6 (0)

1

0 (0)

0

6 (0)

1

Conor Kearns

6 (0)

0

0 (0)

0

6 (0)

0

Dan Tobin

6 (0)

0

0 (0)

0

6 (0)

0

Liam Scales

6 (0)

0

0 (0)

0

6 (0)

0

Josh Collins

6 (0)

0

0 (0)

0

6 (0)

0

Gary O'Neill

6 (0)

0

0 (0)

0

6 (0)

0

Jason McClelland

6 (0)

0

0 (0)

0

6 (0)

0

Mark Dignam

6 (0)

0

0 (0)

0

6 (0)

0

Neil Farrugia

4 (1)

1

0 (0)

0

4 (1)

1

Conor Davis

4 (0)

1

0 (0)

0

4 (0)

1

Richie O'Farrell

3 (2)

2

0 (0)

0

3 (2)

2

Kevin Coffey

3 (1)

0

0 (0)

0

3 (1)

0

Yoyo Mahdy

2 (4)

0

0 (0)

0

2 (4)

0

Paul Doyle

2 (1)

0

0 (0)

0

2 (1)

0

Sean McDonald

0 (3)

0

0 (0)

0

0 (3)

0

*brackets denotes substitute appearances

**cup includes EA Sports Cup, IDM FAI Cup, and Leinster Senior Cup