

2015 Scottish Women's Cup

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S

CUP COMPETITIONS



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scotswomensfootball.wordpress.com

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The 2015 Scottish Women's Cup provided the third and final act of the battle between Glasgow City and Hibernian.

However, to describe the tournament in terms of those two teams would be to discredit the roles the other teams played in an astonishing tournament. For example, Rangers Development, Cumbernauld Colts, FC Kilmarnock Ladies and Motherwell Ladies all reached the Quarter-Finals.

There were large margin victories (Queen's Park beating Forfar Farmington Ladies 18-1 in the Preliminary Round stands out), and high scoring ties.

I hope this review manages to tell the story of each of the Scottish Women's Football League sides, as they tried to reach the Final.

And the two teams who did that were Glasgow City and Hibernian Ladies, who battled out in the title race and for the SWP League Cup Final. There is a peculiar symmetry in that in both the SWP League Cup and the Scottish Women's Cup, Hibernian matched Glasgow City's Semi-Final result.

And whilst Glasgow City may have won the Cup again, it is another sign of the gap being closed between the two signs, making 2016 seem even more exciting.

I have taken the information in this review from the club's Twitter profiles or club websites. If I have made a mistake, please contact me to let me know and I will make the changes.

Hope You Enjoy.

Tim Oliver

P.S. Have you checked out either my 2015 SWPL review, or my 2015 SWP League Cup review yet?

Next in the series will be either the First or Second Divisions.



scottish women's cup history

Here is a brief piece I wrote for the Cup Final Programme about the history of the competition.

The history of the Scottish Women's Cup is a tale of women fighting for the right to play up to today's state of play where women's football is getting unprecedented recognition.

The first ever Scottish Cup took place in the 1970-71 season, around the time that women's football was growing at an accelerated rate. Both UEFA and FIFA were being forced to take the sport seriously, and UEFA would vote to take charge of developing it in 1971, with Scotland the only country (out of 32) to vote against it.

However, just because the vote took place, it was not to say that it was treated with respect. For example, it would take until 1991 for sponsorship to enter the game, despite it being accepted in the men's game since the 1966 World Cup.

The first team to lift the Scottish Cup are the country's oldest associated club Stewarton Thistle (now FC Kilmarnock Ladies) who beat Aberdeen Prima Donnas 4-2 on the 18 April 1971. Amongst their team was a unique Scottish footballer, who most likely is unknown to the wider public. Rose Reilly - the only Scottish player who has won the (unofficial) World Cup. She would also win the Scottish Cup in the third season for Westthorn United, and play in the first two English FA Women's Cup finals.

To make a living from football, she moved first to Reims in France and Milan in Italy. In the 1978-79 season, she would play in Italy for Lecce in the Saturday and France on the Sunday at first. During her club career in continental Europe, she would win: eight Serie A titles, French League once and for Italian Clubs.

Internationally, she played first for Scotland and then for Italy for whom she won the (unofficial) World Cup – despite having no links to the country.

The results of the early years of Scottish Cup finals are hard to track down, but Hutchison Vale and Cove Rangers were amongst the winners during the nineties.

The first final of the millennium saw Stenhousemuir thrash Clyde 9-0 in a match where it was the Clyde keeper Susan Flannigan who was awarded the player of the match. FC Kilmarnock won the next two tournaments: the first beating Ayr United on penalties before beating Glasgow City 5-0.

However, the history of the Scottish Women's Cup since 2003 has been a story of today's finalists: Hibernian have won five cups whilst Glasgow City have won seven.

Hibernian triumphed in 2003 after beating Kilmarnock on penalties after the scores were 2-2 after extra-time. It was City's turn to win next season as they beat Queen's Park 3-0, whilst Hibs regained the trophy in 2005 after thrashing ex-winners Cove Rangers 8-0.

The two sides have met three times in Scottish Cup Finals with Hibs winning once and City winning the other two. In 2007, Hibs thrashed City 5-1, completing the domestic double after winning the league with a 100% record.

Hibs would make it two in a row by beating Celtic 3-1 after extra time, but since then it has really been the tale of Glasgow City. City have won five of the last six tournaments, with the exception coming in 2010 when Hibs beat Rangers Ladies 2-1.

In 2011, City beat Hibs in the final 3-0 with Christie Murray scoring the opener before Lisa Evans got onto the scoresheet twice. The 2012 final was a tight affair between City and Forfar Farmington with Danica Dalziel's first-half goal the difference.

The 2013 Final was between Hibs and City, played at Broadwood Stadium, and for a while, it looked like it go the distance until the 88th minute when the Hibs keeper Shannon Lynn deflected in a Jess Fishlock corner into her net.

Last season, City won the Cup in style by beating Spartans 5-0 with Fiona Brown and Jo Love scoring twice and Denise O'Sullivan scoring once.

So the question that had to be answered going into 2015 was this:

Who was going to win the 2015 Cup?

Note:

The Past Winners below have been taken from the website:

<http://www.rsssf.com/tablescot-womcuphist.html>

which obviously has certain information from past finals left out. If you have any information regarding the missing facts, please contact me with sourced material.

Thank You.

Past Winners

1970-71: **Stewarton Thistle*** 4-2 Aberdeen
Prima Donnas
1971-72: **Edinburgh Dynamos** 5-3 Cambuslang
Hooverettes
1972-73: **Westthorn United** 7-3 Edinburgh
Dynamos
1973-74: **Motherwell** 1-0 Westthorn United
1974-75: **Unknown**
1975-76: **Unknown** vs Dundee
1976-77: **Unknown** vs Dundee
1977-78: **Dundee** 9-3 Whitehill
1978-79: **Unknown**
1979-80: **Motherwell** vs Unknown
1980-81: **Motherwell** 2-0 Edinburgh Dynamos
1981-82: **Unknown**
1982-83: **Whitehill** vs Unknown
1983-84: **Allanton Ladies** vs Whitehill Ladies
1984-85: **Wishaw Ladies** 4-3 Edinburgh
Dynamos
1985-86: **Inveralmond Thistle** vs Unknown
1986-87: **Inveralmond Thistle** vs Unknown
1987-88: **Inveralmond Thistle** vs Whitehill
Ladies
1988-89: **Unknown**
1989-90: **Unknown**

1990-91: **Cumbernauld United** vs Inveralmond
Thistle
1991-92: **Hutchison Vale** vs Unknown
1992-93: **Hutchison Vale** vs Unknown
1994: **Hutchison Vale** vs Cumbernauld United
1995: **Cove Rangers** vs Cumbernauld United
1996: **Cove Rangers** 5-1 Aberdeen
1997: **Cove Rangers** 5-4 Ayr United
1998: **Cumbernauld United** 3-1 Giulianos
1999: **Cumbernauld United** 1-0 Ayr United
2000: **Stenhousemuir** 9-0 Clyde
2001: **FC Kilmarnock** 3-3 aet (3-2 pens) Ayr
United
2002: **FC Kilmarnock** 5-0 Glasgow City
2003: **Hibernian** 2-2 aet (5-4 pens) FC
Kilmarnock
2004: **Glasgow City** 3-0 Queen's Park
2005: **Hibernian** 8-0 Cove Rangers
2006: **Glasgow City** 5-1 Aberdeen
2007: **Hibernian** 5-1 Glasgow City
2008: **Hibernian** 3-1 aet Celtic
2009: **Glasgow City** 5-0 Rangers
2010: **Hibernian** 2-1 Rangers
2011: **Glasgow City** 3-0 Hibernian
2012: **Glasgow City** 1-0 Forfar Farmington
2013: **Glasgow City** 1-0 Hibernian
2014: **Glasgow City** 5-0 Spartans
*Stewarton Thistle is now FC Kilmarnock

preliminary round

The 2015 Scottish Women's Cup began with the Preliminary Round on the 19th April. It involved all 57 sides in the Scottish Women's Football Leagues (SWFL), with 23 teams being drawn a bye into the First Round

match of the round

The game of the Preliminary Round may look obvious from the scoreline, with Queen's Park Ladies beating Forfar Farmington Ladies 18-1, but even that scoreline ignores the story.

Queen's Park took the lead when the Forfar keeper brought down Marie McGuinness in the box, and the keeper was shown a red card. The spotkick was converted by Suzie Smith.

Mhairi Lyle's through-ball sent McGuinness through, and her clinical finish made it 2-0 before tenacious play from Lyle made it 3-0.

Helen McLeod headed in Ambur Clark's corner for the fourth before a horrible injury saw Forfar's substitute goalkeeper injured with concussion.

And with an outfield player in goal, the goals kept on coming with McGuinness scoring a hat-trick and an own goal as they quickly found themselves 8-1 up.

The final score was 18-1 with Ashley McEwan, Nicky Bell and Susan Hamilton each scoring a brace with Jeffrey and McCluskey both scoring once.

results

Elgin City 1-2 **Central Girls Academy**

East Fife 3-0 Luthermuir

Cumbernauld Colts 1-0 Falkirk Ladies

FC Kilmarnock 11-0 East Fife Violet

Spartans Reserves 3-4 **Glasgow Girls**

Glasgow City Development 6-0 Dunfermline Development

Jeanfield Swifts 2-0 Glasgow Girls Development

Queen's Park 18-1 Forfar Farmington Ladies

Kemnay 1-6 **Blackburn United**

Buchan Youth 0-2 **Kilwinning**

Hutchison Vale Development 0-6 **Dee Vale**

Buchan Ladies 6-0 Bishopton

Dunfermline Athletic 1-4 **Motherwell**

Seton Ladies 2-5 **Harmony Row**

Mill United 5-0 Murieston United

Queen of the South 2-1 Claremont

Byes:

Stenhousemuir, Westerlands, Tayside Ladies, Stonehaven, Aberdeen Reserves, Caithness Ladies, United Glasgow, Celtic Academy, Hibernian Development, Kilwinning, Dee Ladies, Hearts Development, Edinburgh Caledonia, Turriff United, Riverside, Aberdeen Development, Stranraer, Partick Thistle, Forfar Farmington Development, Dundee City, Falkirk FC, Edinburgh South

first round

The First Round was played on the 17th May, with all the winners from the Preliminary Round along with the sides given a bye competing for a place in the Second Round

match of the round

The game of the First Round required penalties to separate Aberdeen Development and Jeanfield Swifts.

It was the Aberdeen Development side who took the lead when a long ball was fired home by Brown. Jeanfield Swifts soon equalised when a Danni McGinley cross was turned in by an Aberdeen player.

And just before half-time, Aberdeen once again took the lead and Buchan superbly danced through the Swifts' defence before beating the keeper with an equally fine finish.

Jeanfield Swifts came out in the second half on top and dominating play, but for a long time, they struggled to find a way past the keeper.

But eventually, they got their reward as McGinley's cross picked out Robyn Smith, whose finish gave the keeper no chance.

For the rest of the game, including extra-time, Swifts dominated possession with Aberdeen threatening on the counter, but neither side could find the breakthrough.

Aberdeen won the penalty shootout 5-4, with Swifts' Louise McClelland shooting over with the crucial kick.

results

Stenhousemuir 0-5 **Dee Vale**

Glasgow City Development 6-2 Westerlands

Rangers Development 7-0 Tayside Ladies

Buchan Ladies 1-3 **Glasgow Girls**

Stonehaven 1-0 Harmony Row

Motherwell 9-1 Aberdeen Reserves

Caithness Ladies 3-0 United Glasgow

Celtic Academy 2-3 **Hibernian Development**

Queen's Park 13-1 Kilwinning

Mill United 5-1 Dee Ladies

FC Kilmarnock 2-0 Hearts Development

Edinburgh Caledonia 3-0 Turriff United

Cumbernauld Colts 15-1 Riverside

Aberdeen Development 2-2 (a.e.t) Jeanfield Swifts
(**Aberdeen Development** wins 5-4 on penalties)

Stranraer 0-10 **Partick Thistle**

Forfar Farmington Development 3-0 Queen of the South

Central Girls Academy 3-4 **Dundee City**

Blackburn United 3-0 Falkirk FC

East Fife 12-0 Edinburgh South

2015 Scottish Women's Cup Review

Note

Dundee United Ladies were due to play Boroughmuir Thistle, but withdrew from the Scottish Cup.

This meant that Boroughmuir Thistle progressed through to the Second Round without kicking a ball.

second round

The Second Round was played on the 21st June, with the 12 SWPL sides joining the all the winners from the Preliminary Round for a place in the Third Round

match of the round

The original Scottish Women's Cup winners FC Kilmarnock Ladies required penalties to beat Mill United. Kirsty Munro gave Kilmarnock the lead in the first minute, but before full-time, Mill United had equalised. Neither side could find a winner in extra-time so penalties were required. Both sides missed one kick each, and at 3-3 in the shootout, Mill United's Fleming missed her kick. That gave Killie's Kirsten Rolph the chance to be a hero, and she fired her kick high into the net.

Glasgow Girls progressed after beating Stonehaven 3-1, thanks to goals from Megan Logan, Sammy Davies and Louise Noon.

Second Division Motherwell Ladies caused an upset as they knocked out SWPL side Hutchison Vale. Motherwell took the lead from Stacey Cook's penalty and just before Pamela Liddell doubled their lead – incredibly, her 70th goal of the 2015 season. And in the second half, Well's captain Cook completed her hat-trick to complete a 4-0 win.

Hibernian Ladies beat Glasgow City's Development side 7-0, as Lia Tweedie scored five times with Chelsea Cornet and Lucy Graham getting the other goals.

Cumbernauld Colts knocked out Boroughmuir Thistle thanks to a 60th minute strike from Lynne Jackson.

Due to numerous injuries, Inverness City sadly had to withdraw from the competition, sending Rangers' Development side through to the Third Round.

Aberdeen Development knocked out Partick Thistle 3-0.

In one of three all-SWPL ties, Forfar Farmington just managed to overcome Hearts. Forfar took the lead when Keira Johnstone rounded the Hearts' keeper before Jade McLaren's header gave them a 2-0 half-time lead.

In the second half, Hearts pulled a goal back through Amy Harrison before Forfar reinstated their two goal lead through Lindsey Dunbar. In the 87th minute, Forfar's Gemma Collier was sent off by handballing in the box and Diey converted for Hearts, but the Edinburgh side could not find the equaliser.

Unlike the rest of the ties, the game between Dee Vale and Queen's Park Ladies was played on the 2nd August, and it was worth the wait. The tie was 3-3 at full-time, but it was Dee Vale who would triumph, scoring three goals in extra-time.

Aberdeen knocked out Hibernian Development 2-0 thanks to goals from Grimshaw and Fitzpatrick.

Celtic produced an incredible performance as they thrashed Dundee City 29-0, after being 18-0 up at half-time. Ruesha Littlejohn scored eight, Chloe Craig and Mairead Fulton both scored five, Niamh Johnston scored a hat-trick, Kirstin McGuire scored twice whilst Ellis Dalglish, Kylla Sjoman, Sam McManus, Joanne Paton and Connolly all scored one goal. The other goal came from an own goal.

In another all-SWPL tie, there was twists and turns as Stirling University eventually beat Hamilton Academical 4-3. Stirling took a 2-0 lead, before Hamilton pulled a goal back before half-time through Megan Quinn's free-kick.

After a handball in the box by a Stirling player, Hamilton equalised through Gillian Inglis' penalty. But Stirling soon retook the lead, and then it was their time to be awarded a penalty as they made it 4-2.

Seagrave pulled a goal back late on for Hamilton, but they could not find the crucial equaliser as Stirling progressed.

Holdes Glasgow City progressed into the Third Round after beating Spartans 2-0 at Ainslie Park. They took the lead when Leanne Ross' driven free-kick found Jo Love and her first-time shot ended up in the net, despite the Spartans' keeper Rachel Harrison getting a hand to it. Clare Shine got their second after nutmegging Harrison and then firing the ball into the empty net.

results

Stonehaven 1-3 **Glasgow Girls**
Hutchison Vale 0-4 **Motherwell**
Hibernian 7-0 Glasgow City Development
Cumbernauld Colts 1-0 Boroughmuir Thistle
Rangers Development 3-0 Inverness City
Aberdeen Development 3-0 Partick Thistle
Kilmarnock 1-1 (aet) Mill United
Kilmarnock wins 4-3 on penalties
Forfar Farmington 3-2 Hearts
Hibernian Development 0-2 **Aberdeen**
Celtic 29-0 Dundee City
Hamilton Academical 3-4 **Stirling University**
Spartans 0-2 **Glasgow City**
Edinburgh Caledonia 4-1 Caithness Ladies
Rangers 14-0 Forfar Farmington Development
East Fife 3-1 Blackburn United
Dee Vale 6-3 (aet) Queen's Park (2/8)

Edinburgh Caledonia required extra-time to beat Caithness Ladies. After the scores were level 1-1 at full-time, the Edinburgh side scored three times to secure a hard fought 4-1 win.

East Fife also progressed after beating Blackburn United 3-1.

third round

The Third Round was played on the 9th August with the sides competing for a place in the Quarter-Finals

match of the round

The game between the Second Division side Motherwell and First Division team Glasgow Girls, ended with a 4-3 win for Motherwell. Glasgow Girls took a 3-0 lead with goals from Lauren Evans, Nicola Hardie and their captain Lauren Coleman, with the third scored with just 22 minutes left.

But in the league, Motherwell have hardly struggled for goals, and this was shown with what happened next as they scored four goals to secure an astonishing 4-3 win.

Cumbernauld Colts continued their superb cup run with a defeat over Edinburgh Caledonia. First half goals from Michelle Keating, Gillian Downie and Rebecca Young, plus a late strike from Lynsay Guthrie secured a 4-0 win.

Rangers Development side continued their run to beat East Fife 2-0.

The Rangers main side also continued their run by knocking out Aberdeen's Development team 7-1 thanks to braces from Lisa Swanson, Katey Turner, and one goal each from Sinclair, Kirsty Howat and O'Neil.

Hibernian progressed to the Quarter-Finals with a win over fellow SWPL side Forfar Farmington. Hibs took a 4-0 lead at half-time thanks to two goals from Abigail Harrison, and one each from Cailin Michie and Lia Tweedie. Hibs got one more goal in the second half from Chloe Arthur to secure a 5-0 victory.

Celtic continued their progression with a 2-0 win over Stirling University.

Holdes Glasgow City progressed into the Quarter-Finals with a win over Aberdeen. City took the lead when Jo Love headed in a Leanne Ross corner. They doubled their lead through a stunning long-distance Abbi Grant strike.

In the second half, Erin Cuthbert twisted away from her marker to find the bottom corner to

score City's third. And in the 83rd minute, City got their fourth when Denise O'Sullivan's super through-ball sent Leanne Ross through and she calmly finished. Aberdeen pulled a goal back through Rachel Small's header to make it 4-1, but they couldn't get another.

FC Kilmarnock progressed with a win over Dee Vale. Dee Vale took the lead but Kilmarnock came back from behind to secure a 2-1 win.

results

Edinburgh Caledonia 0-4 **Cumbernauld Colts**

East Fife 0-2 **Rangers Development**

Forfar Farmington 0-4 **Hibernian**

Stirling University 0-2 **Celtic**

Glasgow Girls 3-4 **Motherwell**

Aberdeen 1-4 **Glasgow City**

Dee Vale 1-2 **Kilmarnock**

Aberdeen Development 1-7 **Rangers**

quarter-finals

The Quarter-Finals were either played on the 11th or 13th September

match of the round

Glasgow City picked up a comprehensive 11-0 win over FC Kilmarnock with goals from Nicola Docherty, Susan Fairlie, Julie Fleeting, Abbi Grant, Rhonda Jones, Lauren McMurchie, Kerry Montgomery, Denise O'Sullivan, Leanne Ross and a brace from Hayley Lauder.

results

Rangers Development 0-5 **Rangers** (11/9)

Cumbernauld Colts 0-7 **Hibernian** (11/9)

Glasgow City 11-0 Kilmarnock (13/9)

Celtic 7-0 Motherwell (13/9)

Hibernian travelled away to Cumbernauld Colts and secured their place in the Semi-Finals with a 7-0 win. Lizzie Arnot scored twice as did Lia Tweedie and Chloe Arthur, with Cailin Michie getting the seventh goal. One of Arthur's goals was a stunning volley from 25 yards.

Celtic overcame Motherwell 7-0 with the goals coming from a brace from Cara McBrearty, a brace from Kelly Clark, a superb individual goal from Joanne Paton, a tap-in from Kirstin McGuire and a Motherwell own-goal.

There was a strange Quarter-Final as Rangers Senior side played their Development team. The Seniors won 5-0 after being 2-0 up at half-time.

semi-finals

The Semi-Finals were played at Spartans' Ainslie Park on the 11th October 2015. The first tie at 12pm and the second at 3pm.



Rangers **0-2** Glasgow City
Shine 67, Hughes o.g. 79



starting lineups



22 Rachel Halbert
11 Gillian Sloey ← 87
31 Megan Fisher
4 Chelsea Watson
8 Megan Foley
12 Leanne Hughes
15 Clare Gemmell (c)
16 Kirsty Howat
14 Kirsty McLaughlin
10 Lisa Swanson
9 Katey Turner

Megan Cunningham 25
64 → Rhonda Jones 5
73 → Rachel Corsie (c) 21
Cheryl McCulloch 14
64 → Georgie Rafferty 3
Lauren McMurchie 2
Courtney Whyte 13
77 → Abbi Grant 18
Kerry Montgomery 8
80 → Susan Fairlie 20
Clare Shine 10



substitutes made

2 Stephanie Knox → 87

substitutes made 4 Hayley Lauder → 64
11 Nicola Docherty → 73 16 Leanne Ross → 64
19 Sarah Crilly → 80 22 Erin Cuthbert → 77

Referee: Lorraine Clark **Assistant 1:** Emma Hingant **Assistant 2:** Nathan Duncan

The Scottish Women's Cup holders Glasgow City reached their fifth consecutive final as their hunt for a domestic treble continued. Rangers defended brilliantly, and frustrated City for the majority of the game and could count themselves unlucky not to take the lead when Chelsie Watson's free-kick possibly crossed the line.

With their mind on the Champions League, Scott Booth rested several of his key players, and when he introduced them, City finally broke down Rangers. They took the lead when lovely interplay played Clare Shine into the box and she placed the ball into the bottom right corner. Their second goal came when a Leanne Ross corner came off the unfortunate Rangers player Leanne Hughes and into the net.

City dominated the early stages, but struggled to break down the disciplined Rangers defence and often relied upon long distance. Susan Fairlie was the first to see her long-range effort go wide, but Kerry Montgomery's dipping volley nearly crept in.

Rangers knew they could not afford any errors, and it was one that nearly handed City the lead. Keeper Rachel Halbert mishit her goal-kick straight to Abbi Grant, but her effort lacked the power to punish the goalkeeper.

Slowly, Rangers built in confidence and started to threaten the City box. Katey Turner saw her shot deflected just wide of the near post, and then from Clare Gemmell's resulting corner, Kirsty McLaughlin fired wide.



Photograph - Tim Oliver: Rangers and Glasgow City lineup before the Semi-Final

Then Rangers nearly took the lead, from a free-kick 25 yards from goal. Chelsie Watson curled her effort towards the near post where City Megan Cunningham caught it, but there were appeals that the ball had crossed the line.

But, on the edge of the first half, City should have taken the lead. Megan Foley's missed interception allowed Grant space down the right, and she crossed to Fairlie who somehow shinned wide of the right post.

Fairlie could have given City the lead early in the second half as she was played into the box by Montgomery, but her left-footed shot curled wide of the far post.

City kept on pressing, but everything they threw at Rangers, they dealt with. But, the introduction of Hayley Lauder and Leanne Ross seemed to spark City's creativity to take

the lead. Quick, incisive passing dissected the Rangers defence and played Clare Shine into the box, and she calmly placed the ball into the bottom-right corner.

Rangers could have immediately equalised as Lisa Swanson broke into the left side of the box, but she was left frustrated as her shot smashed off the near post.

But City kept on pressing for the vital second goal and nearly gained it as Ross' cross picked out Erin Cuthbert, but her volley was superbly saved by Halbert. However, from the resultant corner, City got their second as Ross' corner came off Rangers' Leanne Hughes and into the net.

In the closing stages, City nearly found a third as Cuthbert's through-ball was deflected by Foley into the path of Shine, but her shot was saved at close range.



Hibernian 2-0 Celtic

Arthur 19
Harrison 75



starting lineups



- 13 Jenna Fife
- 24 Emma Brownlie
- 17 Joelle Murray (c)
- 4 Siobhan Hunter
- 11 Kirsty Smith
- 6 Lisa Robertson
- 77 Chloe Arthur
- 23 Heather Richards
- 21 Abigail Harrison
- 5 Lia Tweedie ← 37
- 7 Lizzie Arnot

- Gemma Fay 1
- Danielle Connolly 21
- Jade Lindsay 20
- Chloe Craig (c) 6
- 34 → Beatriz Regalado 10
- Kirstin McGuire 23
- 76 → Colette Cavanagh 16
- Ruesha Littlejohn 7
- Kelly Clark 15
- Cara McBrearty 3
- Joanne Paton 11



substitutes made

19 Chelsea Cornet → 37

substitutes made

12 Lauren Steel → 34

19 Megan Heafey → 76

Referee: Hayley Irvine **Assistant 1:** Nathan Duncan **Assistant 2:** Dougie Kerr

Hibernian set up a third major showdown with Glasgow City this season, as they defeated Celtic 2-0 in a dominant performance. The Edinburgh side took the lead early in the first half through Chloe Arthur's 20-yard screamer.

Hibs kept on dominating but were not taking their chances and mid-way through the second half, they were nearly punished. Celtic's captain Chloe Craig's header looped over the Hibs' keeper, and Joelle Murray acrobatically cleared the ball off the line.

But Hibernian finally got their second goal as Abigail Harrison scored from just outside the box to secure their place in next month's Final.

Hibernian came out strongly at the kick-off, and could have taken the lead when Emma Brownlie's cross picked out Lia Tweedie, but her side-footed volley was caught by Celtic keeper Gemma Fay. Abigail Harrison was threatening to cause the Celtic troubles, but couldn't find the final touch to score.

But it was not Harrison who would break the

deadlock. Celtic had failed to fully clear a Hibs' attack, and from 20 yards, Chloe Arthur's dipping effort landed in the top-left corner, giving Fay no chance.

Hibs kept up the pressure but weren't creating clear-cut chances, with Tweedie having her shot blocked and Lizzie Arnot shooting over. Lisa Robertson also saw her long-range effort go just over.

Celtic then nearly created a golden chance when Cara McBrearty's free-kick was headed back across goal by Beatriz Regalado, but Kelly Clark failed to get the crucial touch to divert goalwards. And then, late on in the first half, Craig headed a corner just wide.

Hibs kept up the pressure in the second half but were still finding it hard to create the clear cut chances. Siobhan Hunter tried her luck from 40 yards, but Fay caught the ball. Robertson's free-kick picked up Brownlie, but she headed wide.

However, when the clear-cut chance presented



Photograph - Tim Oliver: The Hibs and Celtic players shake hands before their Semi-Final

itself, they failed to take advantage. Brownlie's shot hit Clark, and this set the ball up kindly at the far post, but Arnot failed to get the required power to trouble Fay.

And this was nearly punished minutes later. McBrearty's free-kick picked out Craig at the far post, her header looped over the Hibs keeper Jenna Fife, but Joelle Murray was there to acrobatically clear the ball off the line.

It was Celtic's turn to have luck on their side. Harrison's cross deflected off Clark towards goal, but the ball ricocheted off Danielle Connolly and clear.

But then Hibs finally took advantage of their pressure. Smith broke into the box and saw her shot smash off the far post. But they recycled the ball back towards Harrison who from 20 yards fired the ball into the bottom-right corner.

Late on Hibernian had more chances to extend their lead even further. Chelsea Cornet played Harrison into the box and saw her superbly saved by Fay low down at the near post. Then Smith once again hit the woodwork, this time her 35-yard effort smashed off the crossbar. And then Cornet saw her shot blocked before Heather Richards had her effort saved by Fay.

Semi-Finals

Ties Played On 11th October 2015

Rangers 0-2 **Glasgow City**

Hibernian 2-0 Celtic

final

The Final was played at Spartans' Ainslie Park on the 8th November 2015

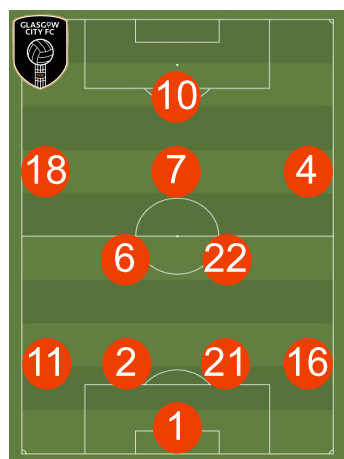


Glasgow City **3-0** Hibernian

Shine 43, 86, 90+3



starting lineups



1	Lee Alexander	Jenna Fife	13
16	Leanne Ross (c)	87 → Emma Brownlie	24
21	Rachel Corsie	Joelle Murray (c)	17
2	Lauren McMurchie ← 90	Siobhan Hunter	4
11	Nicola Docherty ← 29	Kirsty Smith	11
22	Erin Cuthbert	Lisa Robertson	6
6	Jo Love	78 → Heather Richards	23
4	Hayley Lauder	Chloe Arthur	77
7	Denise O'Sullivan	Abigail Harrison	21
18	Abbi Grant ← 68	69 → Lia Tweedie	5
10	Clare Shine	Lizzie Arnot	7



substitutes made

14 Cheryl McCulloch → 90 19 Sarah Crilly → 68
20 Susan Fairlie → 29

substitutes made

2 Claire Williamson → 69 9 Caroline Heron → 78
19 Chelsea Cornet → 78

Referee: Morag Pirie **Assistant 1:** Hayley Irvine **Assistant 2:** Vikki Robertson

It took City just two minutes to create a great chance, and it was Shine who got on the end of it. A quickly taken free-kick allowed Hayley Lauder to get a cross in, but despite the ball being just behind Shine, she expertly flicked the ball over Fife but the ball hit the crossbar and bounced over.

The miserable conditions seemed to dampen both sides attacking potential with Shine heading wide and Abigail Harrison shooting well wide the only other chances in the opening quarter.

But City nearly took the lead, via the conditions. Fife had come out of her box to deny Shine a shooting opportunity, but her clearance was blown back towards the goal by the wind, and she could only watch as the ball

rolled just past the post for a corner.

City then created a chance through more conventional means as Cuthbert set up Shine, but she shot straight at Fife. Hibs launched a counter attack, but Lisa Robertson's cross was just too high for Lia Tweedie. Seconds later, Chloe Arthur had a go from distance and was unlucky to see her shot go just wide.

In the 25th minute, City came the closest to a goal as Hayley Lauder cut off the right-wing, and curled a shot towards the far corner, but the ball smashed off the post.

Hibs created their best chance so far from a free-kick as Harrison crossed to the far post where Siobhan Hunter's volley was well saved by Lee Alexander. Minutes later, Hibs nearly



Photograph - Tim Oliver: The teams lineup before the Final

created a great chance but Heather Richards' dangerous cross was superbly cleared by Rachel Corsie.

And just before half-time, City took the lead. Hibs' Emma Brownlie lost possession, the ball fell to Shine who took full advantage of the opportunity by blasting the ball past Fife as the ball smashed off the underside of the bar and over the line.

Hibs had the first chance of the second half when Lizzie Arnot's cross picked out Abigail Harrison at the far post and her volley was blocked into Alexander's arms.

Cuthbert threatened from distance with her shot smashing off the crossbar.

But Hibs were looking more dangerous in the second half. Brownlie slid Harrison into the box, she cut back towards the sliding Tweedie whose effort was superbly saved by Alexander.

There was worrying scenes as City's Abbi Grant went down with what looked like a shoulder injury, and she required several minutes of treatment before being stretchered off.

The game was becoming more stretched. City came close when Leanne Ross' cross picked out O'Sullivan who chested the ball to Fife. Then Cuthbert once again went close from distance but she was denied by Fife's superb flying save.

Hibs nearly found the breakthrough through Harrison's mazy run, only to be denied by Lauder's block.

But then City got the crucial second goal with four minutes remaining. Cuthbert's through-ball played Shine behind the Hibs defence and placed it under Fife.

And then, deep into stoppage time, Shine completed her hat-trick. A long ball looked like it would be cleared by Joelle Murray, but she miskicked, allowing Shine the chance to chip the ball over the diving Fife and into the bottom corner.