



Irish Wolves News

Newsletter of the Official Irish Wolves Supporters Club

Website: www.irishwolves.org

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Happy New Year, New Manager and ???.....

Hi everyone.

Does anyone know what's in store for Wolves between now and the end of the season? One thing that's certain is that it won't be a quiet few months. Here's hoping that the new Manager, Dean Saunders, can give the squad the lift to get us moving up the table.

Back to matters nearer home and what's in this issue of *Irish*

Wolves News. Our Chairman's Message, outlining his view on the season so far and what's happening with the Supporters Club in the weeks ahead, can be found on **Page 2**.

A reminder of the exclusive Irish Wolves Supporters Club package for Wolves home games is on **Page 3**.

A selection of photos sent to us by supporters club members can be seen on **Page 4**

All the best for the New Year and Up the Wolves!

Tony Lawlor



Irish Wolves members at the Peterborough away game. Left to right; Mick McQuillan, Tony Lawlor, Steve Horton and Eric Hanlon.

We need your photos and stories

Have you been to a Wolves game recently? Do you have photos from days gone by?

Why not send your photos and stories to us and we will publish them in Irish Wolves News. We will also add the photos to the website Gallery Section.

Website: www.irishwolves.org
email: membership@irishwolves.org



Message from the Supporters Club Chairman

Dear all,

The last number of months have passed us by exceedingly quickly. As the saying goes, 'Time and tide wait for no man' and yet watching Wolves over the last 6 months and you would be forgiven for thinking that time was in standstill and every day, or at least, every Saturday was groundhog day. I'm sure like me, you were all optimistic about the recruitment of Stale Solbakken. Where did he come from and what was his pedigree and more importantly, his experience of the English game, were the questions being asked by us all. However, he spoke a good game and said the right things. According to the Express and Star, Stale Solbakken was going to have us playing total football and we were being mentioned as 'The Barcelona of the Black Country!'

So where did it all go wrong? We will all differ in giving our answers and that's what makes being a part of a supporters club a bit special. On the occasions of our meet ups in Ireland or at Molineux, there's never a shortage of banter and opinion. And for those of you who frequent the facebook page, there's never a dull moment when our good friend and hard working PRO, Mick McQuillan and Jim Deeley or Kevin Queripel 'share' their opinions all in good faith.

Anyhow, back to the question: Personally I can't purely lay the blame at Stale's door. I'm sure he had some very good footballing ideas. They just weren't going to work in the Championship and certainly not with this group of players. I won't go on about the general running of the club and the part played by a certain Steve Morgan and Jez Moxey, though I will say that no matter what, the players need to lift their game and play for the pride of wearing the famous old gold shirt.

So here we are in a new year with yet another new manager. Enter Dean Saunders... I wasn't sure what to make of this appointment at first. I was hoping for someone with more experience, but alas, he's apparently the latest up and coming new manager and again he's started off by making the right sounds. Two draws out of two at the time of writing hasn't got my pulse racing yet, though I am more confident that his McCarthy-esque work ethic will at least turn things around and help us avoid a second successive embarrassing relegation.

So what's new at Irish Wolves Towers? ...I hear you ask. Well having been stuck in groundhog day over the last few months, things have been a little slow. However, we do trust and hope that all paid up members have now received your membership card and this season's gift of an Irish Wolves key ring.

I must offer thanks and say fair play to Gary Cotter down in Munster for organising a regional meeting back in September and other subsequent meet ups for televised matches since.

Up here in Dublin, things have been a little slower to build steam. However, we will now be holding an open meeting in **Nancy Hands Bar on Saturday 23rd February with a 1pm start.** Nancy Hands can be found on Parkgate Street, opposite Hueston train station. All are welcome, both members and non members, so please come and give us your opinions/constructive criticism on how we can make this supporters club better.

In the longer term future, we also hope to hold a meeting in Galway for people who live in the west and eventually, later this year, a meeting in the north to facilitate fans in that part of the country.

With Easter coming early this year we have begun to put plans in place for our main annual Irish Wolves trip. Again this year we hope to take in a home game and an away game over the Easter weekend. This year we have been blessed with Middlesbrough at home and, wait for it... Birmingham City away. Details of ticket prices and official coach travel prices will be sent to members as soon as we have clarification from Wolves, but as per last year, we shall again be using the group booking scheme in order to gain discounted tickets. We are also driving a hard bargain to try and ensure that we can sit together in the new North Bank, having sat together in the Steve Bull stand last year. As many of you will remember, last year's plans were somewhat spoiled by changes to both matches to facilitate Sky TV. Hopefully, this year, no such bad luck will befall on us.



Irish Wolves Supporters with Stephen Ward at Compton Training Ground last Easter

To make the weekend a little more attractive, we also hope to enjoy a family friendly night in the Market Tavern in Bilston. An old pub, run by Wolves fanatics and friends of Irish Wolves, with plenty of Wolves pictures and memorabilia on the walls.

Also as part of the weekend, we again hope to visit the training ground and possibly meet some of the staff and players and again hand over our player of the season award. Last year, when we first attempted this, a number of people said it was too early in the season to choose. Nonetheless, the Easter weekend pro-

vides a great opportunity for a group of us to all visit the training ground together, and as we found out last year, blag our way inside and watch the players in the gym and have a chat with the manager. How many supporters clubs manage that?



The Irish Wolves polo shirt, pin badge and keyring

On the merchandise front, we will soon have a new batch of pin badges for sale. These proved extremely popular amongst members last season and they sold out at the Bray Wanderers friendly match last July. We also have a limited number of keyrings for sale. There are only three polo shirts available from the original order. One medium and two extra large. If you wish to purchase one of these (first come, first served), please email membership@irishwolves.org and James Kilcoyne (Treasurer) will sort you out.

Best Wishes,

Andy Taylor

Ticket News - a quick reminder

Exclusive to members of Irish Wolves Supporters Club only. Wolverhampton Wanderers have agreed to ensure tickets for home games through a special ticket package. Irish Wolves will be giving membership names and numbers to Wolves, so all you need to do is quote your name and **Irish Wolves Membership Number** when booking your tickets. Tickets are limited to 50 per match. The package at cost value includes a Billy Wright Stand Ticket (£30) - a match day programme (£3) and a £5 concourse food voucher to be used at the nearest food kiosk to your seat, all for cost price of £38. Child and OAP concessions are available. This package can be availed of for any home games and you may book your package in advance of tickets going on general sale! In fact, you can book your tickets for the games of your choice as far in advance as you wish!!

To order tickets you must EMAIL affinity@wolves.co.uk stating which game(s) you wish to attend, and providing the membership details of all those wishing to attend.

Please note that this is a trial package and is ONLY for member of Irish Wolves Supporters Club and all people wishing to avail of this opportunity must have a current Irish Wolves membership number. As this is a trial package it may be curtailed at any time. If this package is deemed successful, then Wolves may roll this out to other foreign supporters clubs to ensure Wolves fans abroad can gain tickets for matches of their choice, enabling them to organise transport as necessary.

Please make use of this package, even if you only go once or twice per season.

Leinster Branch

Leinster area supporters and anyone else from further afield, will be meeting on Saturday 23rd of February in Nancy Hands Bar, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8, (opposite Heuston Station).

Molineux Fan Wall



The new North Bank stand has introduced a fan wall in the Bar. On a recent visit I noticed that the youngest member of Irish Wolves, Mason Lang, son of our Secretary Craig, had his picture right in the middle of the wall. (see above 2nd from right).

If you have a picture you would like to see on the wall you can email it to fanwall@wolves.co.uk

IRISH WOLVES SUPPORTERS CLUB

To join just log on to the Irish Wolves website at www.irishwolves.org and complete the membership application form in the Membership Section.

E-mail:
membership@irishwolves.org

Find us at
www.irishwolves.org

Irish Wolves Committee:

Chairperson: Andy Taylor
Ph: 087 9569668

Secretary: Craig Lang
Ph: 087 1486877

Treasurer: James Kilcoyne
Ph: 087 2365294

Membership Sec: Tony Lawlor
Ph: 086 0538684

PRO: Mick McQuillan
Ph: 087 2235598



Irish Wolves member Ray Moore with Bully outside Molineux a few years ago (won't say when!)



Mick McQuillan with the late Dean Richards in 1996.



Ray with Colin Lee at the Wolves pre-season training camp in 2000.

Many thanks to Ray and Mick for sending me the above pictures.



Fame at last! Irish Wolves take centre stage on the Official Wolves Twitter page.

Next issue

News on Supporters Club meetings

Membership update.