

History of the Irish Football Association

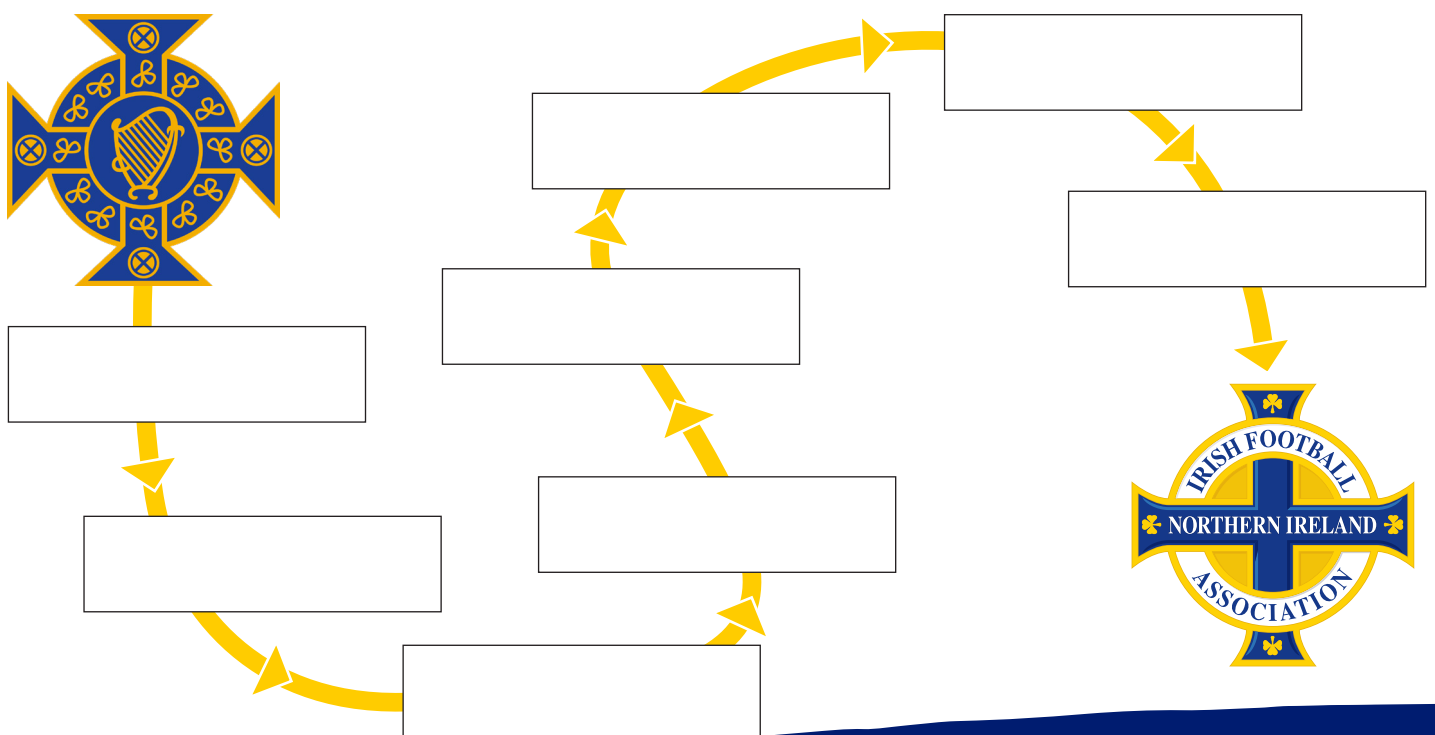


Foundation

The Irish FA, its members and its players have plenty of football history and have left their mark on the game globally.

Can you read through the facts below, find the year and put them into order on the timeline provided?

- BEST NAMED THE BEST:** Former international George Best is regarded by many fans as having been the best player in the world. While playing for Manchester United he won the European Cup (now known as the UEFA Champions League) and in 1968 Best was voted as the European Footballer of the Year!
- WORLD CUP QUARTER FINALS:** Northern Ireland reached their first World Cup quarter finals in the 1958 World Cup which was held in Sweden.
- PENALTY KICK:** The penalty kick wasn't always part of the rules of football. It wasn't introduced to the game until 1890 when Irish FA member William McCrum came up with the idea and invented the rule.
- EUROS:** In 2016 Northern Ireland qualified for and played in their first ever UEFA European Championship Finals, which took place in France.
- WHITESIDE BECOMES YOUNGEST WORLD CUP PLAYER:** Former Northern Ireland player Norman Whiteside became the youngest player ever to play at a World Cup. He was only 17 when he played at the 1982 World Cup in Spain!
- HEALY SCORES AGAINST ENGLAND:** David Healy is Northern Ireland's record goal scorer with 36 goals. His most memorable goal came in a 1-0 win against England in 2005.
- BRITISH CHAMPIONS:** The British Home Nations Championship was a competition played between the United Kingdom's four national teams, England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It is the oldest international football tournament in the world and the Irish team first won the trophy in 1913.
- IRISH FA FOUNDED:** The Irish Football Association was formed in 1881 and is the fourth oldest football association in the world.



LET THEM PLAY