

12TH MAN



**NETHERLANDS v
NORTHERN IRELAND
THURSDAY 10 OCT**

**CZECH REPUBLIC v
NORTHERN IRELAND
MONDAY 14 OCT**

 @NorthernIreland  Northern Ireland National Team

For full info visit www.irishfa.com **#GAWA**

WELCOME FROM MICHAEL O'NEILL



We always knew the four matches at the end of our Qualifying Group C campaign for Euro 2020 would provide the biggest hurdles.

Unfortunately we lost out to Germany in the first of those four games.

I felt it was a missed opportunity. We created some great chances in Belfast against the Germans, but you have to take your chances if you want to succeed in international games and we did not do that.

The 2-0 defeat means we go in to our two qualifiers against Netherlands needing to extract four points.

Can it be done? Well, myself and the players believe it is possible, starting with the game in Rotterdam.

Of course it's going to be a huge, huge challenge, as the Dutch team is packed with players who ply their trade at the top of the pyramid in European club football.

However, if we can reach the levels we produced against Germany then we will give ourselves a fighting chance.

There's no doubt Conor Washington's injury is a blow to us – as is Jordan Jones's continued absence.

But I believe we have the players at our disposal who can rise to the occasion in Rotterdam and do themselves and our country proud.

Meanwhile, the game against Czech Republic, like the Luxembourg game last month, will be important to give some of our fringe players game time.

I am keen that everyone in the squad gets the opportunity to have a taste of international football so that they are ready to make the step up if called upon.

Enjoy the games – and thanks as always for your continued support.

Michael O'Neill
Senior Men's Team Manager

WELCOME FROM GARY MCALLISTER

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the 12th Man guide.

After the disappointment of last month's defeat to Germany the two games against the Dutch have taken on an even greater importance. This will be our first competitive meeting with Netherlands since 1977.

The last time we visited the home of Feyenoord we came away with a magnificent 2-2 draw thanks to goals from Chris McGrath and Derek Spence. More of the same would do nicely!

Rotterdam is a wonderful city with plenty of places to eat and drink – the Cool, Oude Haven and Stadhuisplein areas are well worth a visit.

If you're staying in Amsterdam the quickest and easiest way to travel to Rotterdam is by train.

There's a fans' game on Thursday afternoon. It's at Sportpark Varkenoord, which is opposite the De Kuip stadium and kick-off is at 3.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

More than 3000 Northern Ireland fans will be in Rotterdam, with 300 travelling on to the friendly in Prague.

You can keep up to date with matchday and other important information via our Facebook page TheAmalgamation, our Twitter @AoNISC_Travel and @WGMac. Our Northern Ireland Fans' Embassy mobile phone will also be in operation. The number is +44 7943 542100.

Remember: we're representing Northern Ireland too. Have a safe and enjoyable trip.

Gary McAllister
Chairman, AONISC

Getting there: ROTTERDAM

In Rotterdam the official travel route will be from Central (Centraal) Station direct to the Feyenoord Stadium (De Kuip).

Northern Ireland fans will be guided to specified trains at Central Station and will arrive at a dedicated entry point for away fans at De Kuip.



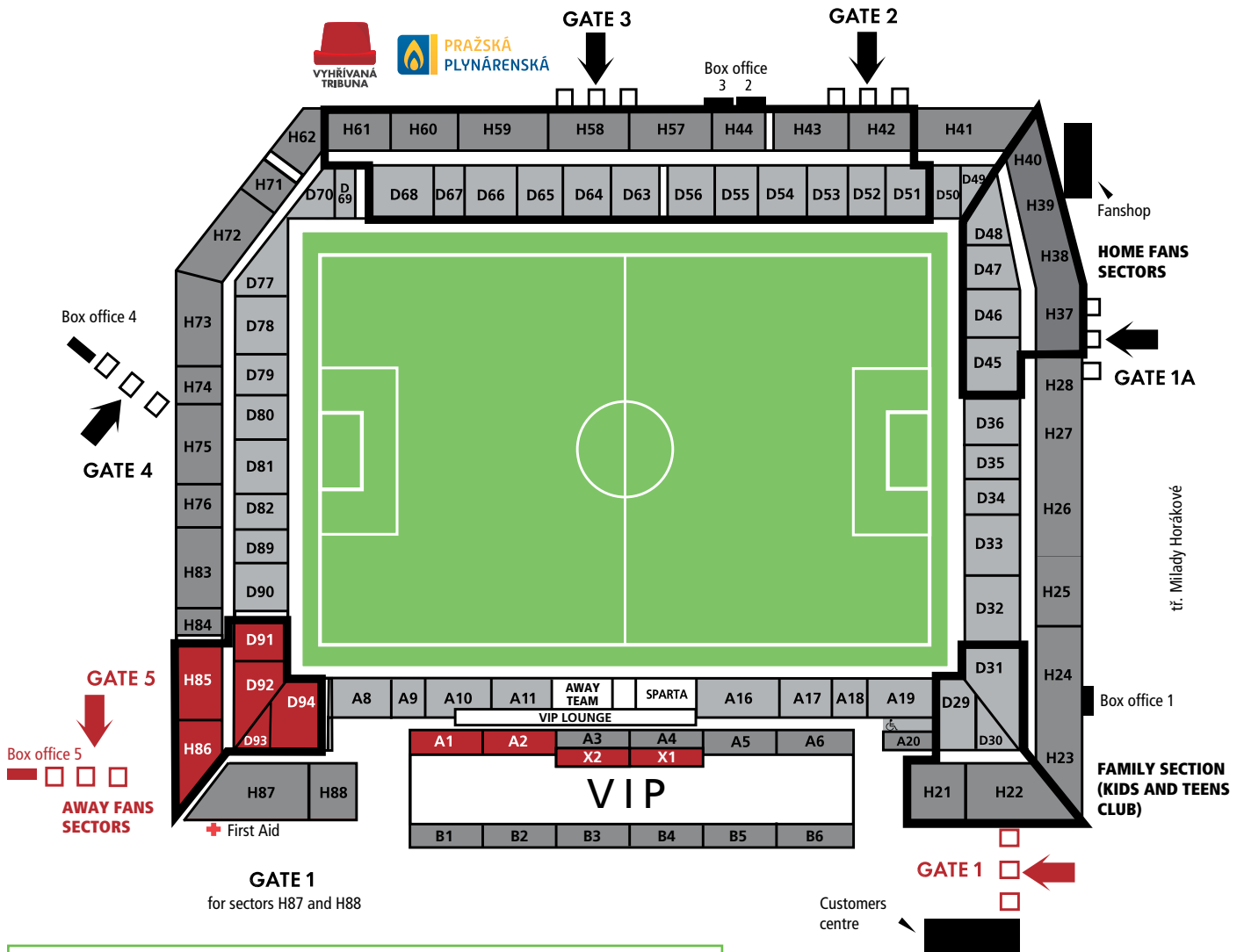
Getting there: PRAGUE

Northern Ireland fans should study the plan for the Generali Arena (home of Sparta Prague) as it shows Metro and tram links to the stadium.

STADIUM PLAN



Getting there: PRAGUE



NORTHERN IRELAND SQUAD

Goalkeepers:

Michael McGovern (Norwich City)

Bailey Peacock-Farrell (Burnley)

Conor Hazard (Motherwell)

Defenders:

Jonny Evans (Leicester City)

Craig Cathcart (Watford)

Conor McLaughlin (Sunderland)

Tom Flanagan (Sunderland)

Callum Morris (Ross County)

Ciaron Brown (Cardiff City)

Midfielders:

Steven Davis (Glasgow Rangers)

Niall McGinn (Aberdeen)

Corry Evans (Blackburn Rovers)

Stuart Dallas (Leeds Utd)

Shane Ferguson (Millwall)

Patrick McNair (Middlesbrough)

George Saville (Middlesbrough)

Gavin Whyte (Cardiff City)

Jordan Thompson (Blackpool)

Liam Donnelly (Motherwell)

Matthew Kennedy (St Johnstone)



Forwards:

Kyle Lafferty (Sarpsborg 08)

Josh Magennis (Hull City)

Liam Boyce (Burton Albion)

Shayne Lavery (Linfield)



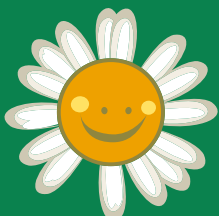
Irish FA proudly supporting Cancer Fund for Children's Road Miles Scheme

helping local families cover the cost of travelling to and from the main cancer treatment centres in Northern Ireland.



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To donate £5

Texts cost £5 plus network charge. Cancer Fund for Children receives 100% of your donation. Obtain bill payer's permission. Customer care 028 9080 5599. NI Charity Commission No. NIC100532.



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