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LOCHABER

FERGUSON TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING BALLIEMORE CUP FINAL



SPEAN BRIDGE 26TH JULY 2025 1430 THROW UP

INVERARAY



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President's Welcome

On behalf of the Camanachd Association, I would like to extend to you all a warm welcome to the Ferguson Transport and Shipping Balliemore Cup Final, the National Intermediate Championship. Once again, we are grateful to the title sponsors, under Group Managing Director, Ally Ferguson, for the support they give to shinty, and this competition in particular.

Today's finalists, Lochaber and Inveraray have had periods of success throughout their respective histories, and both have seen an increase in their playing strength over recent years. Lochaber will start as favourites as they currently sit in top position in the National Division. Inveraray have struggled to find consistency in the league, but their cup form has been much better. If both teams can reach the levels of shinty they are capable of playing at, the spectators can look forward to a thrilling encounter.

Again, the Association is grateful to Lochaber Camanachd Club for hosting this final, and to all the volunteers who assisted in the preparation of the pitch and the facilities. Spean Bridge has witnessed many great shinty occasions over the years and we hope that today's match will follow that tradition.

I would like to extend my best wishes to both teams, and also to match referee Jamie MacPherson and his team of officials, as we look forward to a fast open and skilful match demonstrating all that is good in shinty.

Burton Morrison

President, Camanachd Association / Ceann-suidhe, Comann na Camanachd

Sponsor's Welcome

Ferguson Transport & Shipping is an integrated logistics company supplying to local, national and international companies in the aquaculture, forestry, aluminium, energy and renewables sectors. We welcome everyone to today's Balliemore Cup Final, sponsored by our company.

Shinty is played in all the areas throughout Scotland where we supply our services and employ a good number of our 160 staff, in particular the Highlands and Islands. Our distribution network is throughout the UK but invariably starts and finishes in the Highlands.

Today's game is between one of the most successful cup teams in Argyll over many years, Inveraray and local Spean Bridge team and hosts today, Lochaber Camanachd Club.

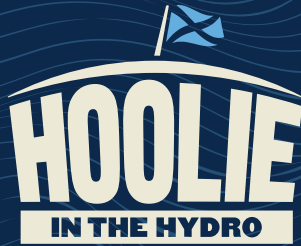
Inveraray, managed by Scott Robertson and John Smylie, progressed to the final by seeing off Inverness 4-1 at Taynuilt. Two very experienced individuals in the game and Camanachd Cup winners in the past who will be looking to cause an upset against the team in very good form and possible favourites Lochaber, who beat Col Glen in the semi-final of this cup competition, also 4-1, and are top of the Mowi National Division, having only lost this season so far to top opposition in Kingussie and Lovat from the Mowi Premiership in the Camanachd Cup and MacTavish Cup respectively. Games in the past between the two teams have always been very competitive and close affairs.

It's all on the day and may the best team win and hope everyone enjoys this show case final which we are, as always, delighted to support!

Carol MacKinnon

*Group Finance Director
Ferguson Transport & Shipping*





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A MESSAGE FROM **LOCHABER**



Lochaber Camanachd Club are proud to be taking part the final of the 2025 Ferguson Transport and Shipping Balliemore Cup Final. This is a competition in which we have a strong track record, appearing in the final for the sixth time, having won the trophy on four occasions, with the last time being 2023.

Lochaber, like fellow finalists this year Inverary have a long and storied shinty tradition. In both communities, shinty is a real focal point, bringing people together, young and old. At Lochaber we have around 100 men, women and youths training and playing shinty regularly, which is quite incredible for a small community such as ours. It is completely voluntary run, which makes it even more special.

We fully appreciate all of the efforts over the whole season of everyone who makes a day like this possible. Firstly our First Team coaching staff including Manager Ally Ferguson and coaches Angus Morrison and John 'Dino' MacDonald, who are as dedicated and talented a coaching team as you could wish for.

They have a very strong squad of players, led by Captain Ben Delaney, who have always had undoubted shinty talent but recently, having increased levels of determination and commitment have turned the promise into delivering silverware, and we fully appreciate the commitment to the cause of all our players. In the background we have a very strong committee and army of volunteers to run the club who give up their time for the good of the club and community.

We would also like to thank the the competition sponsors Ferguson Transport, and the Camanachd Association, plus the match officials for their support. We would like to thank Caley Timber, our main First Team sponsors, and all the club sponsors and supporters of both teams.

We look forward to what will be a fantastic shinty occasion at Spean Bridge, whatever the result on the day!

Bruno Berardelli
Club President
Lochaber Camanachd Club

PLAYER PROFILES

LOCHABER

1. Brennan MacDonald (31) Sawmill Worker

Stepped up from second team to good effect in goals. A real leader and motivator in the changing rooms.

2. Jack Dignan (30) Electrical Engineer

Not always been available this season through work, but a strong tackler and a strong powerful hitter of the ball. A very good man to have in your team.

3. Barry MacDonald (29) Rail Worker

Coming into his own this season, strong hitter of the ball, covers the ground, and a stand out in the defence this year.

4. Max Campbell (22) Plumber

Playing at the back this season to great effect, at times on a different level, capable of being one of the best in the game and one to watch.

5. Calum "Roy" MacDonald (26) Mechanical Engineer

A defender by trade with a very long reach, nobody in the game will shy better, strong tackler with a big hit. Missed games this season unfortunately through injury and other commitments this season, but a player who trains well and works hard.

6. Pat Toal (31) Arboricultural Surveyor

Pacy wing centre with a good engine who likes to get forward, scores the odd crucial goal, and good team leader, previous winning Captain of the Balliemore Cup.

7. Martin Johnstone (34) College Lecturer

Very experienced, strong with a good hit, and leader on the park to good effect.

9. Shaun Nicholson (38) Joiner

One of our regular goal scorers, up front with good reach, close ball control who is strong on both sides and likes to take players on and run at opposition defences.

10. Ben Delaney (Captain) (33) Machine Operator

Arguably one of the games best goal scorers for years now, very difficult to mark, very strong, determined and scores good goals out of nothing.

11. Findlay MacDonald (26) Plant Operator

We are only just starting to see and get the best out of Findlay, good striker of the ball, takes on players, difficult to mark and scores good goals.

12. Gregor Cameron (26) Fish Farmer

Our jewel in the crown this year, our most improved player by far, a great engine in him with energy, drive and strong tackler. Never gives up.

15. Ryan Johnstone (28) Electrician

Our full back, and to great effect, strong tackler, great hitting of either side with good pace.

16. Ben MacDonald (20) Plumber

One of our bright young prospects who has had a stop start season this year, not quite got going yet, through injury and illness this season but one to watch, good engine on him and an eye for goal.

18. Iain Fyfe (28) Brewer

A very good defender who has shown appetite to play further forward. A good versatile player, with a good engine and eye on him.

19. Conor Sweeney (32) Civil & Structural Engineer

The legend of the team who travels week in week out 250 - 300 round trip miles to play shinty for the team. Has a great engine, and a player who wins the ball distributes well and never gives up.

20. Kevin Ferguson (37) Operations Director

Got back involved this year after some years away from the sport, strong tackler with a good head on him, looking for the goals to follow up the hard work he puts into training and in games.

22. Seonaidh MacDonald (18) Lifeguard

Our young under 17 Scotland player with pace, strength and a very good head on him.

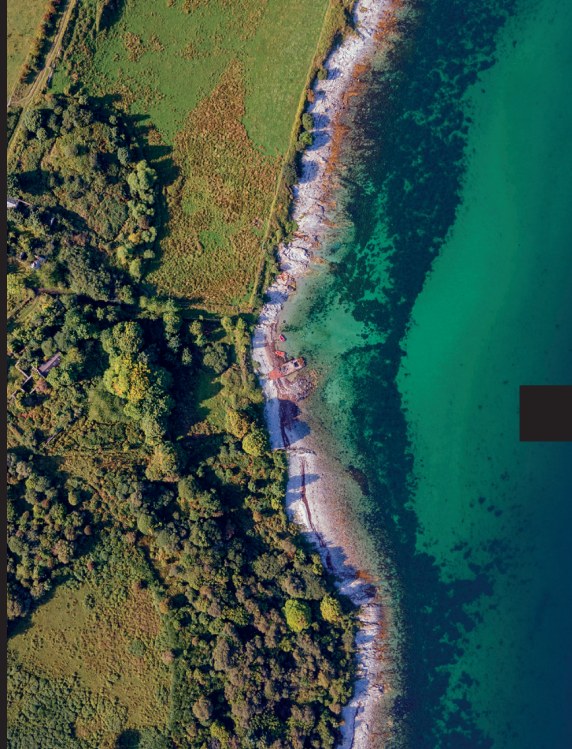
Manager: Ally Ferguson

Ally was appointed 1st team Manager in May 2022. In first full season he won the National and Balliemore, leading Lochaber back to the Mowi Premiership. Despite being a successful businessman, Ally is a very dedicated coach who has stabilised and brought success back to Lochaber.

Assistant Managers/ Coaches:

Angus Morrison

John "Dino" MacDonald



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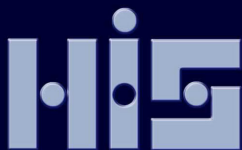
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A MESSAGE FROM **INVERARAY**



On behalf of everyone at Inveraray Shinty Club, it's a great honour to once again be competing in the Balliemore Cup Final. It's extra special for the club as this year is the centenary of the our first Camanachd Cup win in 1925. We are looking forward to facing a strong Lochaber side today in what promises to be a thrilling contest at Spean Bridge.

Lochaber have been in outstanding form this season and are rightly regarded as the form team in this season's MOWI National Division. Their consistency and attacking threat have made them tough opponents for every team they've faced. With the added advantage of playing at home, backed by what will no doubt be a large and passionate support, we know we are in for a real challenge.

While our league campaign has not gone the way we had hoped this season, the players have produced some tremendous performances across all competitions, showing the skill, spirit, and determination that we associate with Inveraray Shinty Club. Training has been focused and positive in recent weeks, and I know the team is ready, confident, and determined to give a strong account of themselves in today's final.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Ferguson Transport and Shipping for their valued sponsorship of the Balliemore Cup Final. Their continued support of our sport is hugely appreciated and plays a vital role in making days like today possible.

Finally, I would like to wish John Smylie, Scott Robertson, Garry MacPherson and the team the very best of luck in this year's final. May it be a great advert for shinty - hard-fought, respectful, and memorable for all the right reasons.

Andy Watt
Chairperson
Inveraray Shinty Club

PLAYER PROFILES

INVERARAY

1. Scott MacLachlan (26) Firefighter

Scott has consistently shown over a number of seasons he is an excellent goalkeeper, with an ability to pull off instinctive saves. Guarantees the team are able to gain good field position with his long hitting from defence.

2. Allan MacDonald (37) HGV Driver

"Halpy" brings a huge amount of experience to the team and his will to win has never diminished, always ensures teammates know what's at stake. Adept at either full back or full forward.

3. Ally Munro (33) Chef

Another player with plenty experience who is hugely committed, a good man marker and very strong tackler who doesn't give opponents an inch.

4. Calum MacDonald (22) Sports Attendant

Calum has been a regular in defence this season, having established his place in the team over the past couple of seasons. Extremely fit and determined with a great attitude.

5. Nicky Crawford (37) Mechanical Fitter

Great to see Nicky playing again after a back injury last season meant a lengthy spell out of the team. Quietly leads by example in the way he plays with years of experience behind him.

6. Coll MacKay (20) Joiner

Despite his age, Coll has been part of the first team for a number of years now. He's played in a defence, midfield and up front this season, showing his all round skills and versatility to play many positions.

7. Ross Montgomery (25) Electrician

Ross has a huge drive to win and motivate his teammates to be the best they can. Tremendous stick work and ability to dominate the middle of the park.

8. Ruairaidh Graham Jnr (Captain) (24) Overhead Linesman

Ruairaidh has returned this season following a serious knee injury that he sustained last season. Powerful presence in the middle of the park and always fully committed.

9. Campbell Watt (22) Plumber

Campbell brings a huge amount of energy, pace and work rate to the forward line. Great attitude which has been evident when asked to play in different positions over the past couple of seasons.

10. Fraser Watt (26) Plumber

Probably seen as the main attacking threat in the forward line with the ability to create and finish goal scoring opportunities out of nothing. Has been top goal scorer for a number years.

11. Ewan Donnan (18) Apprentice Maintenance Engineer

Has stepped up to the first team in recent seasons and is beginning to establish himself within the squad. Ewan has a real ability to get himself into goal scoring positions and is a natural finisher.

12. Lewis Montgomery (27) Joiner

Lewis has moved into the forward line from midfield this season and has shown his ability to link play from full forward and contribute with goals, as we saw in the semi-final.

14. Alan Cameron (26) C&I Technician

Alan has a high level of fitness which can be seen in the way he plays, full of energy and totally committed, never taking a backward step. Alan is also Club Captain and demonstrating great off the field leadership and representing the players at committee.

15. Neil Campbell (36) Machine Operator

Ability to cover both full back and full forward and just as effective in both positions. Reads the game well and great at encouraging and motivating others around him.

16. Garry MacPherson (49) Fire Service Watch Commander

Garry has been player/coach for the past two seasons and brings a wealth of experience to the team both on and off the park. Still has the ability to influence games either in defence or attack.

17. Ruairaidh Graham Snr (51) Civil Engineer

"Teuch" has played for both the first and second teams over the past couple of seasons. Played a vital role in helping our young second team win the Mow South Division 2 last season. Still extremely fit.

18. Alexander McKinlay (17) Apprentice Joiner

Youngest member of the squad. Alexander has continued to develop in the last few seasons in the second team and his performances have been rewarded with a number first team appearances. Scored two goals on his first team debut last season.

Co-Managers – John Smylie/Scott Robertson

John was involved with the first team as coach over the past two seasons and is now in his second spell as first team manager. John won the Celtic Cup twice as manager between 2010 and 2012. Scott has previously coached the Second team and stepped up to First team coach last season. Both are supported by Garry MacPherson who is first team player/coach.

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THE TEAMS

LOCHABER CAMANACHD CLUB



1. Brennan MacDonald
2. Jack Dignan
3. Barry MacDonald
4. Max Campbell
5. Callum "Roy" MacDonald
6. Pat Toal
7. Martin Johnstone
9. Shaun Nicolson
10. **Ben Delaney (C)**
11. Findlay MacDonald
12. Gregor Cameron
15. Ryan Johnstone
16. Ben MacDonald
18. Iain Fyfe
19. Conor Sweeney
20. Kevin Ferguson
22. Seonaidh MacDonald

Manager: Ally Ferguson

Assistant Manager: Angus Morrison

Assistant Manager: John "Dino"
MacDonald



INVERARAY SHINTY CLUB

1. Scott MacLachlan
2. Allan MacDonald
3. Ally Munro
4. Calum MacDonald
5. Nicky Crawford
6. Coll MacKay
7. Ross Montgomery
8. **Ruaridh Graham Jr (C)**
9. Campbell Watt
10. Fraser Watt
11. Ewan Donnan
12. Lewis Montgomery
14. Alan Cameron
15. Neil Campbell
16. Garry MacPherson
17. Ruaraidh Graham Sr
18. Alexander McKinlay

Co-Manager: John Smylie

Co-Manager: Scott Robertson

Referee: Jamie MacPherson

Goal Judges: Graham Cameron & James Munro

Linesmen: Arran MacPhee & TBA

RULES

If the scores are level after 90 minutes, extra time of 15 minutes each way will be played. If the scores are level after extra time, a penalty play off will determine the winners.

At Full Time, the trophy, medals and Silver Mounted Caman will be presented by Ferguson Transport & Shipping Group Finance Director Carol MacKinnon

ROAD TO THE FINAL

Lochaber W-O Kilmorey
Kilmorey unable to field a team, walkover to Lochaber

Oban Celtic 1-2 **Lochaber**

Kyle MacFarlane (39')
Shaun Nicolson (66', 85')

Lochaber 4-1 **Col Glen**

Shaun Nicolson (4') Ben Delaney (6') Finlay MacDonald (10') Max Campbell (69' P)
Neilly McNaughton (5')

Bute 1-1 **Inveraray**

Dean Robertson (12') Cameron McMillan (5/0)
Ewan Donnan (78')

Inveraray won 2 - 1 on Penalties

Inveraray 4-0 **Aberdour**

Fraser Watt (6') Lewis Montgomery (22', 62', 75')

Inveraray 4-1 **Inverness**

Lewis Montgomery (26', 37') Fraser Watt (47') Jack Perry (75' OG)
Charlie MacDonald (27')

PREVIOUS WINNERS OF

THE BALLIEMORE CUP

1985 Bute	2005 Kyles Athletic
1986 Strathglass	2006 Bute
1987 Lochaber	2007 Kinlochshiel
1988 Glengarry	2008 Skye Camanachd
1989 Glengarry	2009 Strathglass
1990 Glenurquhart	2010 Kinlochshiel
1991 Glenurquhart	2011 Bute
1992 Kilmallie	2012 Lochaber
1993 Kilmallie	2013 Bute
1994 Lochaber	2014 Skye Camanachd
1995 Caberfeidh	2015 Beaully
1996 Caberfeidh	2016 Kilmallie
1997 Caberfeidh	2017 Fort William
1998 Caberfeidh	2018 Kilmallie
1999 Lochcarron	2019 Fort William
2000 Caberfeidh	2020 No Competition
2001 Inveraray	2021 Skye Camanachd
2002 Lochcarron	2022 Beaully
2003 Strathglass	2023 Lochaber
2004 Bute	2024 Glasgow Mid-Argyll

**Today's match is being filmed
and will be available to view
on the official Camanachd
Association YouTube Channel.**



Rathbones is delighted to be a supporter of the Camanachd Association and wishes everyone an enjoyable day

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2025 SEASON

KEY DATES

Glasgow Celtic Society Cup Final

Winners: Oban Camanachd

W M Donald MacTavish Cup Final

Winners: Kingussie

Cheftain's Cup

Winners: Oban Celtic

26th July

Ferguson Transport & Shipping

Balliemore Cup Final

Spean Bridge

Lochaber vs Inveraray

9th August

Tulloch Homes

Camanachd Cup Semi Final

Venue: An Aird

Oban Camanachd vs Newtonmore

16th August

Bullough Cup Final

Venue TBC

Glasgow Mid Argyll II vs Lochside Rovers

6th September

MOWI

WCA Finals Day

The Eilan, Newtonmore

Badenoch vs Lochaber / Badenoch II vs Inverness II

6th September

Caol Cup

(North v South u21)

The Winterton, Inveraray

25th October

MOWI

SHINTY/HURLING INTERNATIONAL

Bught Park, Inverness



Scottish
Sea Farms

WINNERS:

Glasgow Celtic Society Challenge

DATES

2nd August

Tulloch Homes

Camanachd Cup Semi Final

Venue: Bught Park

Fort William vs Kingussie

16th August

Strathdearn Cup Final

Venue TBC

Fort William II vs Skye II

23rd August

Artemis

Macaulay Cup Final

Mossfield Park, Oban

13th September

Highland Industrial Supplies

Sutherland Cup Final

Blairbeg Park, Drumnadrochit

20th September

Tulloch Homes

Camanachd Cup Final

Bught Park, Inverness

RS

Challenge Cup Final



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Community

1987
Inverness
Community

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SHINTY MEMORIES SCOTLAND



**CAMANACHD
ASSOCIATION**
COMANN NA CAMANACHD

The past year was a mixed but active year for Shinty Memories Scotland. Some local groups solidified their work, while expansion opportunities remain in Glasgow, Skye/Wester Ross, and Lochaber - where a year-end newsletter and a successful West Highland Museum exhibition ahead of the Camanachd Cup Final stood out.

Badenoch remains the leading group, benefitting from increased external funding and a strong partnership with the Highland Folk Museum - serving as a model for developments in places like Inveraray, Oban, and Lochaber.

Post-Covid challenges persist, especially around group engagement and national coordination. There is a growing need for support, including potential national sponsorship, to meet demands related to dementia, loneliness, and preserving shinty history. Shinty Memories Scotland has provided equipment such as scanners and screens to support both new and existing groups.

The network continues to grow, led by Chair David MacMaster and Vice-Chair Keith Loades, with key support from figures like Ambassadors John MacKenzie and Iain MacPhee. SCIO charitable status is being pursued, and groups like Lovat, Ballachulish, and Glenurquhart are thriving.

The national group uses shinty archives to support people with dementia, depression, and isolation, and contributes to the Camanachd Association's Heritage Committee. In 2025, it will feature in the new "Sgeul na Camanachd - Shinty's Story" exhibition in Inverness. Collaboration with the new Camanachd Association CEO Ruari Davidson and Development Officers is also underway.

Groups are open to all and receive materials like memory cards and image sets. Activities include quizzes, veterans' matches, and memory work, supported by a training handbook and digitisation of resources, such as Glasgow Mid Argyll's Minute Book.

Two major digitisation projects were launched in 2024: the full Shinty Yearbook series by Andrew MacKenzie and Donald Mackay's extensive photographic archive (in partnership with Stirling University).

The Shinty Memories Golf Championship continued, despite a weather delay, with 17 teams participating. Winners included The Evan Cheyne Gang (Scratch) and the Achmore MacRaes (Handicap).

If you would like to know more about setting up, joining or helping with Shinty Memory Groups, make a donation to help with costs, or can help supply materials for the memory boxes, please contact: Ambassadors John MacKenzie or Ian MacPhee, Chairman David MacMaster or committee members Jeya Calder, Hugh Dan MacLennan and David Thomson at shintymemories@gmail.com

PLAYER OF THE MATCH

The player of the match award for today's Ferguson Transport and Shipping Balliemore Cup Final is presented in the memory of Captain Archibald Macra Chisholm of Glassburn. Captain Chisholm was the founding father and first President of Strathglass Shinty Club in 1879. He then went on to produce the "Rules and Regulations for the Game of Shinty" in 1880 which is universally recognised as the first formal rules of the sport.

Instrumental in the formation of the Camanachd Association, Captain Chisholm also served as its first Chief from 1893 until his death in 1897.



As well as his affinity with shinty, Captain Chisholm, a native Gaelic speaker, was one of the first members of the Inverness Gaelic Society. He was also an accomplished musician and was a member of the renowned Highland Society of London.

As a distinguished bagpipe player he also acted as a judge for thirty years at the Northern Meeting Piping Competitions.

The player of the match award is presented by Strathglass Shinty Club in Captain Chisholm's memory.

President of Strathglass Shinty Club, Roddie MacLennan said; "As a club we are delighted to work with the Camanachd Association to present this award in memory of Captain Chisholm. We feel it is a fitting way to honour and recognise the important contribution he made to the sport of shinty, the Camanachd Association and importantly to our own club."

The player of the match award was introduced for the first time in 2022, winners are detailed below:

2022: Ryan MacKay (Beauly)
2023: Jack Dignan (Lochaber)
2024: Andrew Morrison
(Glasgow Mid Argyll)

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ASTIE.CAMERON@SHINTY.COM

SPORT FOR LIFE

Our vision is an active Scotland where everyone benefits from sport.

In an active Scotland we will all find ways to be physically active every day. Keeping moving at home and at work. Taking an active approach to getting around. Choosing to be active in our leisure time.

An active Scotland is one where people are encouraged to take part in sport at all levels, meeting fewer barriers and feeling more included.

sportforlife.org.uk

#SportForLife



STAT PACK

LOCHABER

TOP SCORERS

12

SHAUN
NICOLSON

10

BEN
DELANEY

7

FINDLAY
MACDONALD

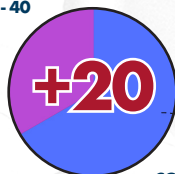
12 WON 1 DRAWN 2 LOST

FORM
GUIDE



GOAL DIFFERENCE

SCORED - 40



CONCEDED - 20

MINUTES

GOALS SCORED

0-15	11
15-30	6
30-45	5
45-60	6
60-75	6
75-90	6

MINUTES

GOALS CONCEDED

0-15	2
15-30	2
30-45	3
45-60	3
60-75	8
75-90	2

INVERARAY

TOP SCORERS

15

FRASER
WATT

5

EWAN
DONAN

5

LEWIS
MONTGOMERY

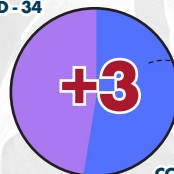
5 WON 2 DRAWN 8 LOST

FORM
GUIDE



GOAL DIFFERENCE

SCORED - 34



CONCEDED - 31

MINUTES

GOALS SCORED

0-15	4
15-30	7
30-45	8
45-60	3
60-75	8
75-90	5

MINUTES

GOALS CONCEDED

0-15	6
15-30	4
30-45	1
45-60	6
60-75	7
75-90	7



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25TH OCTOBER - BUGHT PARK, INVERNESS



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12-14 SEP 2025

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