

## UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE - 2020/21 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



**Arsenal FC**

**Arsenal Stadium - London**

Thursday 29 October 2020

21.00CET (20.00 local time)

Group B - Matchday 2



**Dundalk FC**

Last updated 29/10/2020 17:27CET



Match background	2
Legend	3

## Match background

---

Arsenal face opposition from the Republic of Ireland for the first time in UEFA competition as they welcome Dundalk to north London.

- The Gunners came from behind to beat Rapid Wien 2-1 in Vienna on the opening night of Group B action, preserving their perfect record on Matchday 1 of the UEFA Europa League thanks to goals from David Luiz and substitute Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang. Dundalk, meanwhile, endured the opposite fate, failing to hold on to a first-half lead provided by Sean Murray's header as they went down 2-1 at home to Molde.

### Previous meetings

- This is Dundalk's first official match in England for 38 years, since a 1-0 defeat by Liverpool at Anfield in the 1982/82 European Cup first round, which followed a 4-1 first-leg defeat in Ireland. That was the club's second UEFA match in England, the first having come the previous season when they also lost 1-0, against Tottenham Hotspur in the European Cup Winners' Cup second round, following a 1-1 first-leg draw.

### Form guide

#### Arsenal

- A disappointing eighth in the 2019/20 Premier League, Arsenal ensured a 25th consecutive season in Europe by winning the FA Cup – their record 14th triumph in the competition – with a 2-1 victory over London rivals Chelsea in the final. Their third successive UEFA Europa League campaign ended in the round of 32 with an extra-time away goals defeat by Olympiacos (1-0 a, 1-2 h).

- UEFA Champions League ever-presents for 19 seasons in a row from 1998/99 to 2016/17, Arsenal reached the UEFA Europa League semi-finals at the first attempt in 2017/18, losing to eventual winners Atlético de Madrid, before going one step further and making it to the 2018/19 final, where they were defeated 4-1 by Chelsea in Baku. They have been group winners on all three of their appearances.

- The 1999/2000 UEFA Cup runners-up have lost two of their last four European home games but their overall UEFA Europa League record at the Arsenal Stadium is W12 D3 L3 (W6 D1 L1 in the group stage).

#### Dundalk

- Dundalk retained the League of Ireland title in 2019, making it five triumphs in six years and 14 overall. Runners-up also in the FAI Cup, losing on penalties in the final to league runners-up Shamrock Rovers after a 1-1 draw, their 2019/20 European campaign ended in the third qualifying round of the UEFA Europa League against Slovan Bratislava (0-1 a, 1-3 h). They had been eliminated from the UEFA Champions League a round earlier by Qarabağ (1-1 h, 0-3 a).

- Beaten 3-0 at Slovenian champions Celje in their UEFA Champions League first qualifying round tie this term, Dundalk came through three subsequent UEFA Europa League qualifiers – 1-0 at Inter d'Escaldes of Andorra, 5-3 on penalties after a 1-1 draw away to Sheriff of Moldova, and 3-1 at home to KÍ of the Faroe Islands – to book their second appearance in the competition's group stage following a 2016/17 campaign in which they registered four points to finish bottom of a section including Zenit, AZ Alkmaar and Maccabi Tel-Aviv. The only other Irish participants in the UEFA Europa League group stage are Shamrock Rovers, who lost all six fixtures in 2011/12.

- Penalty shoot-outs notwithstanding, Dundalk have won only two of their last 16 European away fixtures (D5 L9). In 2016/17 they drew their opening away game in the group, 1-1 at AZ, before losing the other two. Home and away, they have lost their last five UEFA Europa League group fixtures.

### Links and trivia

- Dundalk's Jordan Flores is English and played in his homeland for Wigan as well as having loan spells with Blackpool, Chesterfield and Fylde.

- Also born in England but now representing Nigeria, Nathan Oduwa started his career with Arsenal's London rivals Tottenham before playing on loan for three other English sides – Luton, Colchester and Peterborough.

- Several other Dundalk players have spent time with English clubs – Andy Boyle (Preston, Doncaster loan), Patrick Hoban (Bristol City, Oxford, Stevenage loan, Grimsby loan, Mansfield), Murray (Watford, Wigan loan, Swindon, Colchester), Cameron Dummigan (Burnley, Oldham), Patrick McEleney (Oldham) and Aaron McCarey (Wolves, Telford loan, Walsall loan, York loan, Portsmouth loan, Bury loan).

- Aubameyang's winning goal in Vienna on Matchday 1 was his 20th in the UEFA Europa League, group stage to final, putting him joint fourth in the competition's all-time listing with only Radamel Falcao (30), Aritz Aduriz (26) and Kevin Gameiro (22) ahead of him.

# Legend

## Competitions

### Club competitions

**UCL:** UEFA Champions League  
**ECCC:** European Champion Clubs' Cup  
**UEL:** UEFA Europa League  
**UCUP:** UEFA Cup  
**UCWC:** UEFA Cup Winners' Cup  
**SCUP:** UEFA Super Cup  
**UIC:** UEFA Intertoto Cup  
**ICF:** Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

### National team competitions

**EURO:** UEFA European Football Championship  
**WC:** FIFA World Cup  
**CONFCUP:** FIFA Confederations Cup  
**FRIE:** Friendly internationals  
**U21FRIE:** Under-21 friendly internationals  
**U21:** UEFA European Under-21 Championship  
**U17:** UEFA Under-17 Championship  
**U16:** UEFA European Under-16 Championship  
**U19:** UEFA Under-19 Championship  
**U18:** UEFA European Under-18 Championship  
**WWC:** FIFA Women's World Cup  
**WEURO:** UEFA European Women's Championship

## Competition stages

**F:** Final  
**GS1:** First group stage  
**GS2:** Second group stage  
**3QR:** Third qualifying round  
**R2:** Second round  
**R4:** Fourth round  
**SF:** Semi-finals  
**R16:** round of 16  
**R32:** Round of 32  
**1st:** first leg  
**2nd:** second leg  
**PO:** Play-off  
**Rep:** Replay  
**PO - FT:** Play-off for Final Tournament  
**GS:** Group stage  
**GS1:** First round  
**GS2:** Second round  
**PR:** Preliminary round  
**QF:** Quarter-finals  
**QR:** Qualifying round  
**1QR:** First qualifying round  
**2QR:** Second qualifying round  
**FT:** Final tournament  
**ELITE:** Elite round  
**3rdPO:** Third-place play-off  
**GS-FT:** Group stage – final tournament

## Other abbreviations

**(aet):** After extra time  
**No.:** Number  
**ag:** Match decided on away goals  
**Pld:** Matches played  
**Pos.:** Position  
**Pts:** Points  
**R:** Sent off (straight red card)  
**Res.:** Result  
**sg:** Match decided by silver goal  
**GF:** Goals for  
**gg:** Match decided by golden goal  
**Y/R:** Sent off (two yellow cards)  
**f:** Match forfeited  
**pens:** Penalties  
**og:** Own goal  
**P:** Penalty  
**agg:** Aggregate  
**AP:** Appearances  
**Comp.:** Competition  
**D:** Drawn  
**DoB:** Date of birth  
**ET:** Extra Time  
**GA:** Goals against  
**t:** Match decided by toss of a coin  
**W:** Won  
**Y:** Booked  
**L:** Lost  
**Nat.:** Nationality  
**N/A:** Not applicable

## Statistics

**-:** Denotes player substituted  
**\***: Denotes player sent off

**+**: Denotes player introduced  
**+/-:** Denotes player introduced and substituted

## Squad list

**D:** Disciplinary  
**\***: Misses next match if booked

**S:** Suspended

**QUAL:** All UEFA qualifiers

**UEL:** Current season total UEFA Europa League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday

**UEL:** Total appearances in the UEFA Europa League, group stage to final only

**UEFA:** All-time total appearances in UEFA club competition including qualifying

**Disclaimer:** Although UEFA has taken all reasonable care that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or guarantee (including liability towards third parties), expressed or implied, is made as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness. Therefore, UEFA assumes no liability for the use or interpretation of information contained herein. More information can be found in the competition regulations available on UEFA.com.