

Football – Edinburgh City 2 Raith Rovers 2



City & Rovers warm up
before the game – photo:
Mike Smith

Pre-season Friendly, Wednesday 9 July 2014 – Meadowbank Stadium

There may have been the not so small matter of a World Cup semi-final live on television but this didn't prevent about 150 people heading to Meadowbank Stadium on Wednesday evening to see Lowland League side Edinburgh City take on SPFL Championship side Raith Rovers in a pre-season friendly.

On a beautiful summer's evening, possibly the hottest day of the year, it was shirt-sleeve time in the east end of Edinburgh and the non-league side gave an honourable account of themselves against more senior opposition.

Raith Rovers, with a smattering of former Hearts players in their side, including the much-maligned Christian Nade partnering fellow ex-Jambo Calum Elliot up front, began sprightly although the best chances, what there were of them, fell to the home side.

It wasn't until the 24th minute that the first real goalscoring opportunity arrived. Rovers Mark Stewart was fouled in the penalty box – Elliot stroked home the resultant penalty kick and the visitors were ahead.

Ten minutes later, City were level thanks to another penalty kick although the foul by Laurie seemed soft. Nico Gibson duly despatched the penalty and the home side were level.

Four minutes before half-time, Ross Allum took advantage of poor defensive play from Rovers to hook the ball home and put the home side 2-1 ahead at the interval.

Ten minutes into the second half, Rovers drew level when a fine effort from Ross Callachan crashed off the crossbar only to fall kindly for Christian Nade who tapped home the rebound.

A few minutes later, Nade was involved in an altercation with City's Joe Mbu and the referee seemed to gesture to the Rovers bench to substitute Nade before a red card came his way. The former Hearts man was none too pleased at coming off.

The game ended at 2-2, a fine result and display from Edinburgh City who thoroughly deserved their draw against their higher league opponents.