Liam Craig insists players' confidence has returned

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Hibs' skipper Liam Craig has insisted that the confidence within the squad has grown during pre-season and the team are determined to show the supporters the progress that's been made against Dundee United at Easter Road on Sunday (27 July, kick off 2pm).

The former St Johnstone midfielder told Hibernian TV: "Our belief and confidence is growing — hopefully the supporters, who have watched us in pre-season so far, have already seen some encouraging signs.

"Our pre-season has been first and foremost about building our fitness, but it's been a valuable opportunity for us to build our confidence up too.

"There is a big difference in the way we're playing — we've enjoyed how the pre-season friendlies have gone so far and it seems as if the supporters have appreciated it too.

"Sunday will be a great test for us against a good Dundee United side, but we're confident that we can produce another decent performance leading towards the Cup tie at Rangers.

"We're making progress, but our next task is to get the Easter Road crowd back onside and make our supporters believe we're capable of achieving success this season.

"At every home game, we want our fans to go home happy after watching us win and win in a way that's good to watch.

"Of course, some weeks we may win and it won't be pretty, but we want to bring the feelgood factor back to Easter Road. "When Easter Road is full and we win it's an incredible experience and that's what we want to see happen time and time again.

"We can't disguise the fact it was a tough summer, but we're now all looking forward to the start of the season and we're confident we can achieve something memorable."

Photo by John Preece

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