Alan Stubbs determined to go up as champions

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Hibs' Head Coach Alan Stubbs is determined to gain promotion to the SPFL as champions and therefore miss out on the uncertainty of the play-offs.

Much will depend on whether Rangers overcome Motherwell over two legs as the Ibrox side are likely to strengthen next season, whilst Motherwell will have to cut costs.

Already Stubs is preparing for the next campaign with club captain Liam Craig leaving the club and vice-captain David Gray extending his contract until the summer of 2017.

Talks are continuing with other out of contract players and fans are waiting to hear whether favourites Dylan McGeouch and Fraser Fyvie will sign up.

Speaking to Hibs TV, Stubbs said: "I honestly believe we've got all the ingredients — now we need to go and bake the cake.

"We've got some really good players. We've come a long way — on and off the pitch.

"We've seen progress with the Share Issue, the players and all the programmes designed to give the fans their club back again.

"I think all of that will stand us in really good stead for next season.

"What's the ultimate aim? I will tell you straight away - it's to go up automatically next season.

"I was proud of the team and also proud of the way the fans

backed the players and hopefully at the end of next season we'll have our own party here to celebrate."