## Michael Smith Joins Hearts (and so does Ashley Smith-Brown)

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On a busy day at Tynecastle, Hearts have made two further additions to their squad for the new season. Northern Ireland international defender Michael Smith has signed a two-year deal with the Maroons after joining from English League One club Peterborough United. The 28-year-old right back joins fellow Northern Ireland internationalists Aaron Hughes and Kyle Lafferty at Tynecastle with Hearts Assistant Head Coach Austin MacPhee also an assistant coach for the Northern Ireland national side.

Hearts followed up this signing with the arrival of left back Ashley Smith-Brown on a season-long loan deal from English Premiership side Manchester City. The 21-year-old left back has been at City for more than a decade and has come through the club's impressive youth academy. Smith-Brown was loaned out to Dutch side NAC Breda last season and the youngster helped them win promotion to the top-flight of Dutch football.

Meanwhile, Hearts have announced they have sold over 13,000 season tickets for the forthcoming campaign. Supporters wishing to secure their season for the new season can do so by clicking <u>here</u>.

Hearts head to Livingston tomorrow for a pre-season friendly with a squad likely to contain mainly fringe players. Kick-off at the Tony Macaroni Stadium is 3.00pm