Paul Hanlon returns to action against Selkirk at Yarrow Park

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Hibs' long serving defender Paul Hanlon made his return to action yesterday against Selkirk in the Bobby Johnstone Memorial Cup at Yarrow Park.

Hanlon has been out through injury effectively since January, only making one appearance following Hibs' 3-0 win over Dundee United at Easter Road and he insisted that he is eager to get back into the first-team fold.

Following the game which Hibs lost on penalties after a 0-0 draw, Hanlon told Hibernian media. "I've been desperate to get back involved as it's been a long, frustrating road with injury. It's just a case of getting fit again, getting sharpness back and the minutes on the pitch against Selkirk helps with that.

"It was great to get out on the pitch for an hour or so. It's been a long summer trying to get fit, so I'm just delighted to be back out on the pitch and getting the minutes back under my belt again.

"I'm looking forward to hopefully getting a few more training sessions with the first team. I still feel a bit rusty, but that's to be expected after effectively seven months out.

"Looking ahead, I'm hoping to get back involved with the team as soon as I possibly can. It's the manger's decision regarding when I am back in contention, but I'm looking forward to getting back to training and playing."

Photo by John Preece