

# 'Super' John McGinn's sensational overhead kick rescues a point for Scotland

A sensational overhead kick by former Hibs' star 'Super' John McGinn rescued a point for Scotland in their World Cup qualifier against Austria at Hampden last night.

The Scots displayed great character to twice come from behind to secure a share of the points.



Hampden Park

After a lacklustre opening period, Steve Clarke's men rallied and dominated the latter part of the first-half which ended goalless.

Sasa Kalajdzic gave the visitors the lead 10-minutes after the restart when he was first to react to a save from David Marshall.

Scotland equalised in the 71<sup>st</sup> minute when Grant Hanley headed home a Stephen O'Donnell free-kick for his first international goal in eight years.

With ten-minutes remaining Kalajdzic headed in his second goal of the night but the Scots refused to lie down and McGinn's acrobatic effort made the final score 2-2.

This was the midfielder's eighth goal in 16 games for his country and after the final whistle he told BBC Scotland: "I was lucky, I thought I was offside. VAR down the road has got

a lot of negatives but the positive is you're trained and used to just putting it in the net and dealing with it after.

"I was just waiting on the flag going up. Delighted, really important goal, really important test of character for us. Before, we could easily have crumbled and lost 3-1 or 4-1, but we've got belief and we showed that second-half.

"That's something that we're known for now – we've got a brilliant team spirit," McGinn added. "No-one blames each other, we're all fighting for our country and a place at the World Cup. It won't be easy but we know we're more than capable.

"The only disappointment tonight is knowing how important the home games are. Teams concede goals and it's how you react to that and we reacted in the best possible way.

"The way we set up at the start maybe wasn't allowing us to get up the park, but we've got flexible players; we made a little change and it certainly helped us. I've no idea if it was a good game to watch but in the end it was a good point."

Scotland: Marshall; Hendry, Hanley, Tierney; O'Donnell, McTominay, McGinn, Armstrong (Adams, '66), Robertson; Christie (McLean, 88'), Dykes (McGregor, '78)

Unused subs: Gordon, McLaughlin, Fleck, Gallagher, McKenna, Fraser, Nisbet, McBurnie, Palmer,

Austria: Schlager; Lainer, Dragovic, Lienhart, Alaba; Baumgartner, Ilsanker, Grillitsch, Schlager; Grbic (Schaub, '68), Kalajdzic

Unused subs: Pervan, Lindner, Ulmer, Ranftl, Trauner, Sabitzer, Gregoritsch, Trimmel, Schopf, Onisiwo, Friedl