

Naismith boosted by Burnley pre-season challenge

Hearts' head coach, Steven Naismith, looked back at their closed-doors challenge against English side Burnley and declared: "It was really good. We are in a good place."

They played two 75 minute matches at Barnfield against the EFL Championship side and Naismith added that it showed the quality and competition for places that exists in the group.

The coach (pictured) told Hearts TV: "The two elevens played at the same time and and we played for 75 minutes and so everybody got more minutes on the pitch.

"When you play big clubs in England there are lways so many aspects to it that are positive. You come down and you see the conditions, you see the level of player you are up against and that provides a challenge, can we be brave enough on the ball, can we press and trap them and win the ball back and can we take chances.

"There were good bits. There were bits when I would like to see us being more bold and believe in ourselves individually, but, on the whole it has been really good. Really good performances, really tight games and, like Spurs, you need to accept that you will not have the ball.

"It is about how do we work out an opportunity to get it back and both games were really close."