

# **Darren McGregor's youngsters claim CAS Elite Under-18 League title**

**Darren McGregor's youngsters secured the CAS Elite Under-18 League title with a dominant 4-0 away victory over Kilmarnock on Friday evening.**

Hibs took the lead in the fourth minute through a magnificent 25-yard strike from Jamie McMurdo that left Kilmarnock keeper Craig Campbell stranded in the centre of his goal.

The youngsters doubled their lead in the 20<sup>th</sup> minute when Josh McDonald's corner evaded everyone curled in at the back post.



Hibernian U18s Photo Maurice Dougan

Thirteen minutes later with the hosts committed men forward, Logan Jimenez spearheaded a lightning-quick counter and effortlessly squared the ball to Dean Cleland, who stabbed the ball home into an empty net.

That was the last of the scoring in the first half and the visitors took a 3-0 lead into the changing room.

Six minutes after the restart, Jimenez and Cleland broke through Killie's high line to recreate a carbon copy of their earlier goal, stretching Hibs lead to an unassailable four goals.

With 25 to play, centre-back Lewis Gillie came very close to finding a fifth as his glancing header from a near-post corner delivery whistled past the back post.

Jimenez would tee up his strike partner for a third time with 15 minutes remaining, though a fine stop from outstretched leg of Killie keeper Campbell denied Cleland his hat-trick.

Hibs comfortably saw out the remainder of match to seal the league title, as well as confirm their involvement in the

2025/26 UEFA Youth League next season, with one match remaining.

Hibs XI: Mallon, Whittaker (Sporran), Calder, Gillie, McGrath, Bruce, Cleland, Buckley (McNeill), Jimenez (Macdonald), McDonald, McMurdo (Davidson).

Unused Substitute: Vautherin.