



SEAGULL



SEVILLA

SUNDAY 02 AUGUST 2015 • KICK-OFF 4.00PM

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY





NEW BOYS FLY IN

Albion have been active in the transfer window this summer with six new arrivals at the Amex.

Full-back Liam Rosenior was the first through the door, having arrived following his release from Hull City.

The 31-year-old has a wealth of experience, both of the Championship and Premier League, having played for Bristol City, Fulham, Reading and the Tigers.

Israeli international striker Tomer Hemed, 28, arrived from Almeria, where he scored eight times in La Liga last season. He also played top-flight football in Spain for Mallorca and started his career with Maccabi Haifa in his homeland.

Another international, Cameroon defender Gaetan Bong, became Albion's third summer signing, after his release from Wigan Athletic.

Starting his career in France with Metz, he moved on to Valenciennes before joining Greek side Olympiakos in August 2013. He featured in four Champions League games, before joining the Latics on a free transfer in February 2015.

Albion have also brought in another keeper, Finland international goalkeeper Niki Maenpaa, after the 30-year-old left Dutch club VVV-Venlo at the end of last season.

Maenpaa began his career with French side RC Lens in 2003, and has played for Dutch sides Den Bosch, Willem II and AZ Alkmaar, followed by a switch to VVV-Venlo in 2012.

Highly-rated Scottish youngster, Jack Harper, changed the white of

Real Madrid for the blue-and-white stripes of Albion as the 19-year-old striker signed from the ten-time European champions.

Harper was born in Malaga to Scottish parents and joined Spanish giants Real Madrid at 13, having been on the verge of signing for Sevilla.

He graduated through Real's youth system and last season played for the club in the under-19 UEFA Youth League – facing the likes of Liverpool, Basel and Ludogorets – and scored three goals in six appearances.

Finnish under-21 striker Vahid Hambo left his native land for the south coast, penning a two-year deal with the Seagulls. Hambo began his career as a trainee at HJK Helsinki, before spending two years in the academy at Sampdoria. In 2014 he signed for Finnish side FC Ilves before switching to Inter Turku this year.

FOREST UP FIRST

A reminder that our opening game of the season takes place at the Amex next Friday, August 7, against Nottingham Forest, kick-off 7.45pm.

The game was originally pencilled in for the Saturday but has been switched as it will be shown live on Sky Sports and Albion chief executive, Paul Barber, said: "It's a great privilege and an honour to be chosen as the very first live TV game of the new season for the Football League and Premier League.

"Forest fans travel well, so we're hoping for a full house here, and a Friday night game under the lights at the Amex in the summer months will be a special occasion."

Please note, our home match against Ipswich Town over the festive period has been moved back 24 hours to Tuesday 29th December, kick-off 7.45pm.

Albion's game against Fulham at the Amex has also been switched, being brought forward to Friday 15th April, as that is the weekend of the Brighton Marathon, with the course under construction on the Saturday.



Ben is back

Ben Roberts has returned to the Albion as first-team goalkeeping coach.

Roberts, 40, joins Albion from Charlton Athletic, and replaces Antti Niemi who recently returned to Finland for family reasons after joining the club last summer.

He was part of Albion's play-off winning side of 2004, appearing in the Millennium Stadium 1-0 win over Bristol City before retiring the following year due to a back injury.

He said: "I'm ecstatic to be back at Brighton. I've made no secret that my happiest years as a professional footballer were spent down here, as I had a special affinity with the fans at Witheadan.

"After speaking to Chris Hughton and Paul Barber, I am in no doubt that the time is right - the infrastructure already in place and vision of the club for the future really excites me."



NEW SEASON, NEW KITS

Albion have revealed two new 2015/16 Nike change strips – which are now available at seagullsdirect.co.uk.

The club's new away kit is a vibrant 'Volt' yellow with a two-button neck and collar. It features a black stripe that runs down the shoulders and neck, plus the black transfer sponsor logo and detailing.

The shorts are a new black design featuring black-on-black gradated hoops and 'Volt' yellow detailing, including a stripe that continues down the sides. 'Volt' yellow socks with black side stripe complete the kit.

The new third kit is a crimson pinstripe with a round-neck design. The pinstripe splits alternate Dri-FIT weaves, creating a subtle striped effect.

The shorts and socks to accompany this kit are the same black designs that were used with the 2014/15 away and third kits.

The club will be sporting black numbers and lettering on the back of the new shirts, with white numbers on the front of the shorts to ensure maximum visibility.

Our iconic blue-and-white striped home kit will continue into 2015/16 for a second year and prices on replica kits are frozen at £45 for adult shirts and £35 for juniors. Full details of prices are available at www.seagullsdirect.co.uk/kit.

The new shirts are available in junior sizes (XS to XL); and adult sizes (S to XXL) – please see www.seagullsdirect.co.uk/size-guide for further detail on sizing.

Chris Hughton

Welcome back to the Amex and a special welcome to our illustrious visitors from Spain, Sevilla

It is a privilege for us to host the back-to-back Europa League winners today and we are looking forward to the test they will provide us ahead of the new season kicking off for real when we play Nottingham Forest on Friday evening.

We know Sevilla possess real quality and it is ideal preparation for us to face a side of that level this close to the season opener.

It has been a busy summer but it has also seemed incredibly short as we find ourselves on the brink of a new season.

Over the summer we brought four new senior players into the first-team squad – with others on the fringes, who I hope can push on in training and in the under-21s and make that step up to the senior squad over the course of the season. Each of the new faces has settled in well and I'm pleased to welcome each of them to the club.

We have made it no secret that we still have work to do in terms of recruitment. In an ideal scenario we would have all this work done before the start of the season – but that's almost impossible when the transfer window closes nearly a month after the season begins. Most clubs are in the same position as us, still with work to do. What's important is we do our best to land our key targets.

Today's match gives me and the players one last chance to see where we are before our attention turns to the Nottingham Forest game on Friday. Looking ahead to the season, we know the areas we need to improve. We need to be more clinical and more dangerous in attack. I've also told the players we need to develop a winning mentality to give us the consistency to significantly improve on last season.

We are confident we can make those improvements; how much we improve will ultimately define how successful we are. We are fortunate to be backed by the terrific supporters we have here, and I hope together we can make the upcoming campaign one to remember. For now though, let's enjoy welcoming one of Europe's finest outfits to the Amex.



TODAY'S CAPTAIN'S MASCOTS

Joseph O'Rourke
Age: Ten today!
From: Northiam
Fav player: Bruno



Benjamin Saych
Age: Eight
From: Chichester
Fav player: Inigo Calderon





FRIENDS REUNITED

Bruno played for Sevilla manager Unai Emery at both Almeria and Valencia, so he's clearly looking forward to renewing acquaintances at the Amex this afternoon

You have a close association with Unai Emery – tell us more...

Yes, he was my manager at Valencia and before that at Almeria. I have a good association with him, and the assistant manager [Juan Carlos Carcedo], but this will be the first time we've seen each other face to face since I played for him. It's going to be nice meeting up because he has been one of the most important managers in my career.

With back-to-back Europa League wins, he's clearly a top coach. What makes him so good?

He works so hard for every single game. He knows everything about the opposition, he's very good analytically, very good in his preparation with his players, and it has shown, with the Europa League wins in succession. He had offers this summer to move on, but decided to stay in Sevilla because he's happy there.

He's only 43 so has plenty of time on his side...

I think he was only 34 when he took his first coaching role. He was playing [for Lorca Deportiva] until the December but was injured so took over as a coach and led the side to promotion into the second division that season. He didn't have the most successful of playing careers; I remember marking him, but he always said that he was too slow and wasn't strong enough mentally, but from that first coaching role he has

always done well and I think that one day he will go on to coach a really big team. He's also a funny guy and good company off the pitch.

What memories do you have of playing Sevilla?

I've played against them a few times and my best memory was with Almeria. Sevilla are a big team now, but maybe even bigger a few years ago and we beat them at their place 4-1 – which was arguably Almeria's biggest win for years. It was a great performance from the team.

They've won the Europa League four times in the past decade, a great achievement...

It's really difficult to win it just once, so imagine winning it four times. They have quality, international players and, as I said, years ago they were maybe even stronger. They had the likes of Luis Fabiano, Freddie Kanoute, Dani Alves, Christian Poulsen, but now they have a really strong squad. They are a real team now, rather than just individuals, a team that works really hard for each other.

They're gearing up for the Champions League soon, so it's going to be a tough game isn't it?

It will be a difficult game for us, for sure, but we know how we need to play and we know we have to give 100 per cent. Some might think it's not great for our confidence playing a team like this so close to the season but I think it's a good test. You can learn

a lot from these games and it's attractive for the fans. It will be a good game.

“It's going to be nice meeting up because he has been one of the most important managers in my career”

Are you feeling confident ahead of the new season?

Yes, we are working hard and we hope that the new faces brought in will help us improve. It's been important to add more quality to the squad if we want to have a successful season. Every year I've been here we've had a lot of new faces and they need time to adapt, but the advantage for us this season is that the manager has been in place for some time now; he knows the club and we know what he wants from us. We're confident that we can make a good start but, like every other team, it might take a while until we are really settled with the new players before we really find our best form.



Introducing... Sevilla

Sevilla are La Liga stalwarts, having spent 66 seasons playing in the top tier of Spanish football, but they have gained immense credibility outside their own country for their exploits on the European stage this past decade

Indeed, the 'Sevillistas' have won the Europa League a record four times, first picking up the trophy in 2005/06 with a 4-0 defeat of Middlesbrough, before repeating the feat the following season with a penalty shoot-out victory against Espanyol following a 2-2 draw.

Another spot-kick success came against Benfica in 2014, while in May of this year they triumphed over Ukrainian side Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk 3-2 in a thriller in Warsaw. A brace from star striker Carlos Bacca edged the game for Unai Emery's side, who will be playing Champions League football this season as a result of their success.

Emery, 43, was linked with moves to West Ham and Napoli earlier this summer before penning a contract extension until 2017. "I am happy to continue with Sevilla and to be able to enjoy something we have been fighting for together, the Champions League," he said.

"Which coach or player has the possibility to play in the finals? I already have the European Super Cup against Barcelona and then we will play in the Champions League. Sevilla gives me this possibility. Moreover, we have managed to create a culture of work at all levels.

"My choice to continue is made with the highest managerial credibility that I have as a manager, due to the possibility to continue growing [as a club]."

Sevilla face Barca in Tbilisi, Georgia, on August 11 and Emery will have to plan ahead without top scorer Bacca, who joined AC Milan last month. Aleix Vidal has left for Barcelona, Stephane M'bia has joined



Europa League triumphs

4

Star man Yevhen Konoplyanka

Yevhen Konoplyanka was born on 29th September 1989.

He began his professional career at Dnipro, where he made his debut in 2007 and featured in 211 matches across all competitions, scoring 45 goals. He helped them to this year's Europa League Final, and then moved to the team who won that match, Sevilla. A full international since 2010, he has won over 40 caps for Ukraine, and scored 10 international goals. He played for Ukraine when they co-hosted Euro 2012 and he is a three-time Ukrainian Footballer of the Year.



The Gaffer

Unai Emery was born on 3rd November 1971. During his playing days he spent most of his career in the Segunda División – making 215 appearances in seven years – as a left midfielder. He subsequently embarked on a managerial career, spending several seasons in La Liga with Valencia, where he led the team to several third-place finishes. He moved to Sevilla in 2013, taking the club to consecutive Europa League victories.



characteristics very well. I've come to grow and Sevilla are the perfect club for me. "I hope to win something with this shirt. I spoke to my Spanish team-mates at Stoke [Bojan Krkic and Marc Muniesa] when I

"I am happy to continue with Sevilla and to be able to enjoy something we have been fighting for together, the Champions League"

Unai Emery



appearances is a club record for Juan Arza

414

Trabzonspor while Fernando Navarro has moved to Deportivo La Coruna and Alejandro Arribas has also made the switch to the Riazor.

However, there have been plenty of new signings too, with ex-Chelsea man Gael Kakuta arriving from Stamford Bridge, defenders Adil Rami and Sergio Escudero arriving from AC Milan and Getafe respectively, while Danish international midfielder Michael Krohn-Dehli became the club's first signing of the summer after signing from Celta Vigo. The much lauded Yevhen Konoplyanka – a target of Tottenham and Stoke – has also signed from Dnipro, likewise Steven Nzonzi from Stoke City and Italian international Ciro Immobile has arrived on a season-long loan from Borussia Dortmund.

"I'm very happy to be at Sevilla," said the former Potters star. "They're a very good team, and so are Stoke, but Sevilla suit my

45,500

is the capacity of Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan





ALBION

Manager: Chris Hughton

- BRUNO ○
- Gordon GREER ○
- Lewis DUNK ○
- Dale STEPHENS ○
- Adrian COLUNGA ○
- Andrew CROFTS ○
- Sam BALDOCK ○
- Chris O'GRADY ○
- David STOCKDALE ○
- Inigo CALDERON ○
- Adam CHICKSEN ○
- Casper ANKERGREN ○
- Jake FORSTER-CASKEY ○
- Danny HOLLA ○
- Rohan INCE ○
- Kazenga LUALUA ○
- Glen REA ○
- Solly MARCH ○
- Beram KAYAL ○
- Niki MAENPAA ○
- Tomer HEMED ○
- Liam ROSENIOR ○
- Gaetan BONG ○
- Vahid HAMBO ○
- Daniel AKINDAYINI ○
- Jack HARPER ○

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Andy Davies
 Assistant: William Bull
 Assistant: Dean Treleaven
 Fourth Official: Craig Hicks



SEVILLA

Manager: Unai Emery

- Sergio RICO ○
- BETO ○
- CICINHO ○
- COKE ○
- Diogo FIGUEIRAS ○
- Timothee KOLODZIEJCZAK ○
- Nicolas PAREJA ○
- Benoit TREMOULINAS ○
- Daniel CARRICO ○
- Adil RAMI ○
- Ever BANEGA ○
- Antonio COTAN ○
- Sebastian CRISTOFORO ○
- Denis SUAREZ ○
- Vicente IBORRA ○
- Grzegorz KRYCHOWIAK ○
- LUISMI ○
- Francisco TENA ○
- VITOLO ○
- Michael KROHN-DEHLI ○
- Jose ANTONIO-REYES ○
- Carlos FERNANDEZ ○
- Kevin GAMEIRO ○
- Gael KAKUTA ○
- Juan MUNOZ ○
- Steven NZONZI ○
- Yevhen KONOPLYANKA ○
- Mariano FERREIRA ○
- Ciro IMMOBILE ○



NEXT AT THE AMEX

NOTTINGHAM FOREST
 Sky Bet Championship
 Friday 7th August
 Kick-off 7.45pm



STANDING IN SEATED AREAS

Persistent standing in seated areas is in breach of the Ground Regulations which are required under the Safety Certificate that allows the club to operate the Amex Stadium.
 Ground Regulation 10 states:

Nobody may stand in any seating area while play is in progress.

Persistent standing in seated areas while play is in progress is strictly forbidden and may result in ejection from the ground. Ground Regulations, including Regulation 10 are posted by each turnstile and ticket holders have made an

undertaking to observe this and all other ground regulations when purchasing their tickets.

The reasons for the outlawing of standing in seated areas are clear:

- It is not safe and can lead to a 'domino' effect as seat backs provide insufficient support to prevent fans toppling forward.

- It interferes with the enjoyment of other fans who may want to sit down during the game.
- The club recognises that supporters may stand at exciting times of the match but that at all other times, supporters should sit. Ground Regulations are in place to ensure everyone's safety.

Please observe the Ground Regulations and comply with stewards' requests. We all have a duty to keep the Amex Stadium operating within current legal requirements.