# Police investigate Dundee United fan over Ibrox disaster mockery during Premiership match



A police investigation has been launched following an incident during a recent Premiership match between Rangers and Dundee United, where a Dundee United fan is alleged to have mocked the Ibrox disaster. This tragedy, which occurred in January 1971, claimed the lives of 66 fans in a crush on a stairway during an Old Firm match, and continues to evoke deep emotional responses within the football community.

The footage, which has circulated online, reportedly shows a supporter in the away section making gestures that have been interpreted as mocking the loss of life associated with the disaster. Police Scotland has acknowledged the existence of the footage and confirmed that inquiries are ongoing, despite no formal complaints being lodged. A police spokesperson stated, “We are aware of the footage and are carrying out inquiries. No complaints have been received.”

This disturbing episode follows closely on the heels of a previous incident where a Celtic supporter was caught taunting Rangers fans about the Ibrox tragedy during a derby match. That individual faced swift repercussions; he was banned from Parkhead and subsequently lost his job, illustrating that football clubs are increasingly taking a firm stance against such intolerable behaviour.

Rangers have condemned the actions of the Dundee United supporter, describing them as "abhorrent" and "deeply upsetting." A spokesperson for the club emphasised that the Ibrox disaster remains the darkest day in their history, casting a long shadow over many families even decades later. They stated, “The mocking and celebration of any tragedy is abhorrent and has no place in any football stadium or society as a whole,” calling for justice to be served in response to these actions.

This pattern of behaviour is alarming, reflecting a broader issue within Scottish football, where mocking tragedies has become a contentious subject. For instance, Hibernian FC recently banned a supporter for life after similar behaviour during a match against Rangers. The club discovered graffiti and stickers referencing the disaster in their away end, sparking a review of stadium CCTV to identify other individuals involved. Hibernian condemned the act as intolerable, vowing to take appropriate action.

The ramifications of such actions extend beyond the pitch, as they can lead to severe social consequences. The individual implicated in the Celtic fixture was dismissed from his job at Advance Construction Scotland, with the employer stating that his conduct was "completely unacceptable."

As football authorities grapple with these recurring incidents, it becomes increasingly clear that measures must be robustly enforced to curtail offensive behaviour that plays on past tragedies. Fans and clubs alike would benefit from taking a united stand against mockery of such significant and painful histories, fostering an environment of respect within the sport.

The focus now shifts to how the justice system will respond to these disturbing trends, as both police and clubs are urged to act decisively. The hope is that meaningful consequences will deter future incidents, ensuring that the memory of those lost in tragedies like the Ibrox disaster is treated with the dignity and respect it deserves.

### Reference Map

1: Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2: Paragraphs 1, 4, 5
3: Paragraph 3
4: Paragraph 5
5: Paragraph 3
6: No references used
7: Paragraph 4

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5247126/dundee-united-fan-ibrox-disaster-police/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://news.stv.tv/west-central/police-investigating-after-video-shows-fan-mocking-ibrox-disaster-during-sundays-old-firm> - Police Scotland has initiated an investigation into a video showing a man allegedly mocking the 1971 Ibrox disaster during a recent Old Firm match between Rangers and Celtic. The footage depicts a supporter among Celtic fans holding a mobile phone displaying the number 66, chanting, and raising six fingers, referencing the 66 victims of the tragedy. Both Rangers and Celtic have condemned the behavior, with Rangers emphasizing that such conduct has no place in football or society. The incident is under investigation by both the police and the clubs involved.
3. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/67203435> - Hibernian FC has banned a supporter for life after he was found mocking the 1971 Ibrox disaster during a match against Rangers. Graffiti and stickers depicting the number 66 and images of Stairway 13, where the disaster occurred, were discovered in the away end. Hibernian condemned the act as intolerable and vowed to identify other individuals involved. The club is collaborating with Rangers to review stadium CCTV footage and take appropriate action against those responsible.
4. <https://news.stv.tv/west-central/fan-caught-mocking-ibrox-disaster-at-old-firm-match-sacked-from-job> - A man filmed appearing to mock the 1971 Ibrox disaster during an Old Firm match has been dismissed from his employment. The footage shows the individual among Celtic supporters holding a mobile phone with the number 66 visible, chanting, and raising six fingers. His employer, Advance Construction Scotland, confirmed his dismissal, stating that the behavior was completely unacceptable. Police Scotland is also investigating the incident, and further comments are pending.
5. <https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/sport/football/hibs/exclusive-hibs-ban-fan-involved-in-vile-mocking-of-ibrox-disaster-4382468> - Hibernian FC has banned a supporter for life after he was found mocking the 1971 Ibrox disaster during a match against Rangers. Graffiti and stickers depicting the number 66 and images of Stairway 13, where the disaster occurred, were discovered in the away end. Hibernian condemned the act as intolerable and vowed to identify other individuals involved. The club is collaborating with Rangers to review stadium CCTV footage and take appropriate action against those responsible.
6. <https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/23820009.behind-sticker-mocking-ibrox-disaster-called-celtic-fan/> - A sticker mocking the 1971 Ibrox disaster was found on a fence outside high-rise flats in Parkhead, Glasgow. The sticker, reading 'RIP RFC' with a tombstone graphic and '+ 66', was condemned by a Celtic fan who reported it. Dave Scott, director of Nil By Mouth, a charity combating sectarianism, described the act as 'sick' and called for an end to such behavior. The incident highlights ongoing issues with mocking the tragedy, which resulted in 66 deaths.
7. <https://news.stv.tv/west-central/celtic-suspend-fan-caught-mocking-ibrox-disaster-from-all-matches> - Celtic FC has indefinitely suspended a supporter who appeared to mock the 1971 Ibrox disaster during an Old Firm match at Ibrox. The footage shows the individual among Celtic supporters holding a mobile phone displaying the number 66, chanting, and raising six fingers. Celtic condemned the conduct and took appropriate action against the individual. The incident is under investigation by both the police and the club, with further comments pending.