# Violence mars Irish Cup final in Belfast with missiles thrown at PSNI



Violence erupted in Belfast following the Irish Cup final at Windsor Park on Saturday, as police were targeted with missiles, including fireworks, bottles, and bricks. Several bins and traffic cones were set ablaze during the disturbances. The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) responded to the unrest, which occurred after the conclusion of the match.

The PSNI has initiated an investigation into the incidents to identify those responsible and determine if any offences were committed. Authorities are reviewing available CCTV footage and have urged the public to come forward with any information that could assist in their inquiries.

The Irish Football Association (IFA) has also acknowledged the disturbances and is conducting its own investigation. A spokesperson stated, "We are aware of a number of incidents that took place at the Clearer Water Irish Cup final. As per normal procedure, the report of the independent match observer will be considered when received."

The IFA has indicated that both Linfield and Cliftonville, the clubs involved in the final, may face disciplinary charges following the spectator misconduct. The charges stem from several incidents during the match, which was attended by 14,898 spectators—the largest attendance at a domestic match in Northern Ireland this century.

In response to the events, Cliftonville chairman Kieran Harding expressed his concerns, stating, "We asked the Irish FA what more could Cliftonville Football Club do? No one could answer us."

The PSNI has urged anyone with information about the disturbances to contact them on 101. The IFA has also called for cooperation from both clubs and their supporters to ensure that such incidents do not recur in future matches.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.psni.police.uk/latest-news/six-arrests-relating-public-order-offences-following-football-final> - This official PSNI statement details six arrests made for public order-related offences following a football match at Windsor Park, corroborating the claim of police targeting with missiles and disturbances after the match.
2. <https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/belfast-news/two-injured-six-arrested-after-26455759> - This article reports on two individuals injured and six arrests made after the BetMcLean Cup final between Linfield and Coleraine at Windsor Park, supporting the information about the disturbances and police response.
3. <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/sport/football/irish-league/cliftonville-chairman-kieran-harding-hits-out-after-4k-irish-cup-final-sanction/a236168366.html> - This article quotes Cliftonville chairman Kieran Harding expressing dismay over a £4,000 fine imposed after incidents at the Irish Cup Final, aligning with the claim about the IFA's investigation and potential disciplinary charges.
4. <https://www.newsletter.co.uk/sport/football/nifl-say-they-will-review-cctv-footage-after-reports-of-crowd-trouble-during-betmclean-cup-final-5026672> - This report mentions the Northern Ireland Football League's plan to review CCTV footage following crowd trouble during the BetMcLean Cup final, supporting the claim about authorities reviewing available footage.
5. <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/sport/football/irish-league/a-small-minority-ruined-the-experience-for-other-football-fans-psni-responds-to-cup-final-crowd-trouble/a223482307.html> - This article includes a statement from PSNI Chief Inspector Mark Conway addressing crowd trouble during the BetMcLean Cup final, supporting the claim about the PSNI urging the public to come forward with information.
6. <https://www.cliftonvillefc.net/2024/06/26/its-unfair-to-put-blame-at-feet-of-linfield-and-cliftonville-for-irish-cup-final-crowd-disorder/> - This article discusses Cliftonville chairman Kieran Harding's comments on the club's response to the Irish FA's sanctions following the Irish Cup Final, corroborating the claim about Harding's concerns and the club's actions.
7. <https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/sport/football/irish-league/fireworks-bottles-and-bricks-thrown-at-police-as-violence-flares-following-irish-cup-final/a1665424297.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data