

Coaching Staff

Martin Rennie, head coach

Martin Rennie is the head coach of the Carolina RailHawks. In 2009, his first season with Carolina, Rennie guided the RailHawks to a 16-7-7 regular-season record, a runner-up finish in the USL First Division and a berth in the USL-1 quarterfinals. In just one season under Rennie, the RailHawks established new team records for wins, points, shutouts, goals scored, goals allowed and longest winning streak, among others.

Rennie, a native of Thurso, Scotland, holds UEFA "A" and Youth coaching licenses, one of only a handful of coaches in the world to hold both. In all, he has attained 12 coaching credentials from UEFA or the Scottish Football Association.

Prior to joining the RailHawks, Rennie coached the USL-2's Cleveland City Stars. In two seasons in Cleveland, Rennie compiled a 23-5-16 record and won the 2008 USL Second Division championship. He was twice named the USL-2 coach of the year.

Rennie began his coaching career in 2005 with the Cascade Surge of the USL's Premier Development League. The Surge placed sixth (12-2-2, 38 points) in the 54-team PDL. They also won their division and the league's Fair Play award, and qualified for the U.S. Open Cup for the only time in club history.

Upon being named to the head coach of the expansion City Stars in 2007, Rennie made an instant impact. Rennie guided the team to a 10-1-9 regular season and runner-up finish in the USL-2 table. The City Stars outscored their opponents 30-15 during the regular season and posted eight shutouts. They reached the semifinals of the USL-2 playoffs.

Despite replacing more than three-quarters of the roster for 2008, the City Stars posted a 10-3-7 record and finished third in the USL-2 table. They outscored their opponents 41-18 and logged 11 shutouts on the year. After failing to win three straight matches at any point during the regular season, Cleveland won three straight playoff matches and claimed the league championship in just their second season of existence.

Brian Irvine, assistant coach

Brian Irvine is an assistant coach with the RailHawks. The 2009 season was his first with the organization. Irvine spent the 2007-08 seasons next to Rennie on the Cleveland City bench, and he helped the franchise make an instant impact in the USL Second Division from its inception.

Irvine enjoyed a long and prosperous playing career in Scotland. Irvine, a defender, made his mark with Aberdeen of the Scottish Premier League, where he appeared 306 times in 12 seasons and scored 28 goals. He was a member of the Dons's 1990 club that won the Scottish Cup. After a two-year spell at Dundee United, where he appeared 69 times and scored four goals, Irvine played out his career at Ross County from 1999-2003. In his club career, Irvine played in 1,053 matches and scored more than 100 goals. He also earned nine caps with the Scotland national team from 1990-94.

Irvine holds UEFA 'A' and 'B' coaching licenses. And, he has authored two autobiographies: 'What a Difference A Day Makes,' which was released in 1996, and 'Winning Through,' which was released in 2006.