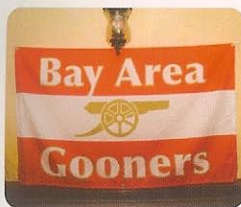


Club Culture

NEWS FROM OUR MANY SUPPORTERS CLUBS AROUND THE WORLD

THE BAY AREA GOONERS – SAN FRANCISCO



Every weekend, loyal Arsenal supporters gather at Emirates or travel to away matches, in order to cheer, sing, and help push their beloved Gunners to victory. Meanwhile just over 5,000 miles away,

another group of Arsenal supporters gather in a San Francisco pub and are just as loyal, vocal, and dedicated as their North London counterparts. These fans represent the local branch of Arsenal America, the official United States Supporters Club.

Known as the Bay Area Gooners, they have almost 100 members, who pack Maggie McGarry's Pub in San Francisco's North Beach neighbourhood, to watch the matches being broadcast live in the wee hours of the morning. Recently, when the kick-off was 5.30am local time for the Tottenham Hotspur match, almost 50 supporters showed up to cheer on the Arsenal side.

These Gooners are a diverse lot. Men, women, black, white, Asian, Latino, straight, gay, English, American, Hungarian, African, from all walks of life, brought together by their unceasing support for what they believe is "by far the greatest team, the world has ever seen". Some have made the pilgrimage to see Arsenal in person, some were once season ticket holders, while others dream of some day being at Emirates for a match. All truly love the Arsenal.

And in those rare moments when the early morning crowd is a bit too quiet, Patrick, the London-born bartender can be heard to shout "GOONERS!" as he rallies the supporters present. Some say he can be heard all the way in North London!



Patrick the bartender



The Bay Area Gooners!