

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2019/21 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



Slovenia

Stadion Stožice - Ljubljana

Friday 6 September 2019
20.45CET (20.45 local time)
Group G - Matchday -8



Poland

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Previous meetings

Head to Head

FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
09/09/2009	QR (GS)	Slovenia - Poland	3-0	Maribor	Dedič 13, Novakovič 44, Birsa 62
06/09/2008	QR (GS)	Poland - Slovenia	1-1	Wroclaw	Żewłakow 17 (P); Dedič 35

	Qualifying								Final tournament				Total					
	Home				Away													
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
EURO																		
Slovenia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FIFA*																		
Slovenia	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	0	4	1
Poland	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	2	0	1	1	1	4
Friendlies																		
Slovenia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	0	2	2	1	5
Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	2	0	5	1
Total																		
Slovenia	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	-	-	-	-	6	1	3	2	5	6
Poland	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	6	2	3	1	6	5

* FIFA World Cup/FIFA Confederations Cup

Squad list

Slovenia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Vid Belec	06/06/1990	29	APOEL	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Nejc Vidmar	31/03/1989	30	Olimpija Ljubljana	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Jan Oblak	07/01/1993	26	Atlético	-	4	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Uros Korun	25/05/1987	32	Piast	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Aljaž Struna	04/08/1990	29	Houston Dynamo	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Miha Mevlja	12/06/1990	29	PFC Sochi	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Miha Blažič	08/05/1993	26	Ferencváros	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Petar Stojanović	07/10/1995	23	Dinamo Zagreb	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Jure Balkovec	09/09/1994	24	Empoli	-	0	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	René Krhin	21/05/1990	29	Nantes	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Josip Iličić	29/01/1988	31	Atalanta	-	4	2	0	0		
-	Jasmin Kurtić	10/01/1989	30	SPAL	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Denis Popović	15/10/1989	29	Zürich	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Miha Zajc	01/07/1994	25	Fenerbahçe	-	4	2	0	0		
-	Domen Črnigoj	18/11/1995	23	Lugano	-	4	2	0	0		
-	Benjamin Verbić	27/11/1993	25	Dynamo Kyiv	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Žan Majer	25/07/1992	27	Lecce	-	1	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Roman Bezjak	21/02/1989	30	APOEL	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Tim Matavž	13/01/1989	30	Vitesse	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Robert Berić	17/06/1991	28	St-Étienne	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Luka Zahović	15/11/1995	23	Maribor	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Andraž Šporar	27/02/1994	25	Slovan Bratislava	-	3	1	0	0		
Coach											
-	Matjaž Kek	09/09/1961	57		-	4	0	0	0		

Poland

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season					
						Qual.		FT			
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls		
Goalkeepers											
-	Łukasz Fabiański	18/04/1985	34	West Ham	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Wojciech Szczęśny	18/04/1990	29	Juventus	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Łukasz Skorupski	05/05/1991	28	Bologna	-	0	0	0	0		
Defenders											
-	Maciej Rybus	19/08/1989	30	Lokomotiv Moskva	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Artur Jędrzejczyk	04/11/1987	31	Legia	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Michał Pazdan	21/09/1987	31	Ankaragücü	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Bartosz Bereszyński	12/07/1992	27	Sampdoria	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Thiago Cionek	21/04/1986	33	SPAL	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Tomasz Kędziora	11/06/1994	25	Dynamo Kyiv	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Jan Bednarek	12/04/1996	23	Southampton	-	3	0	0	0		
-	Krzystian Bielik	04/01/1998	21	Derby	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Robert Gumny	04/06/1998	21	Lech	-	0	0	0	0		
Midfielders											
-	Jakub Błaszczykowski	14/12/1985	33	Wisła Kraków	-	1	0	0	0		
-	Grzegorz Krychowiak	29/01/1990	29	Lokomotiv Moskva	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Kamil Grosicki	08/06/1988	31	Hull	-	4	1	0	0		
-	Mateusz Klich	13/07/1990	29	Leeds	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Piotr Zieliński	20/05/1994	25	Napoli	-	4	0	0	0		
-	Karol Linetty	02/02/1995	24	Sampdoria	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Jacek Góralski	21/09/1992	26	Ludogorets	-	2	0	0	0		
-	Sebastian Szymański	10/05/1999	20	Dinamo Moskva	-	0	0	0	0		
Forwards											
-	Robert Lewandowski	21/08/1988	31	Bayern	-	4	2	0	0		
-	Dawid Kownacki	14/03/1997	22	Düsseldorf	-	0	0	0	0		
-	Krzysztof Piątek	01/07/1995	24	Milan	-	4	3	0	0		
Coach											
-	Jerzy Brzęczek	18/03/1971	48		-	4	0	0	0		

Head coach

Matjaž Kek

Date of birth: 9 September 1961

Nationality: Slovenian

Playing career: Maribor (twice), Spittal/Drau, Grazer AK

Coaching career: Maribor, Slovenia (youth), Slovenia (twice), Al-Ittihad, Rijeka

- Born in Maribor, he began a long affiliation with the local club as a player. Featured from 1979 to 1984 in the Yugoslavian Federal League before a decade in Austria's lower leagues with Spittal/Drau and Grazer AK – earning one cap for Slovenia in 1992 while with the latter. Returned home to win a hat-trick of Slovenian titles at Maribor between 1997 and 1999 as well as two national cups.
- Turned to coaching immediately after hanging up his boots and was on the staff for four further Maribor championship wins before taking charge himself for the 2003/04 season.
- Appointed coach of Slovenia's Under-15 and U16 teams in 2006 before the call came to replace senior head coach Branko Oblak midway through UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying campaign in January 2007.
- Endured difficult start to reign with youthful team but came good to eventually steer Slovenia to 2010 FIFA World Cup finals after a famous away-goals victory over Russia in the play-offs. Oversaw creditable performances in South Africa although Slovenia failed to progress from group stage.
- Stepped down after failure to reach UEFA EURO 2012, going on to have a brief spell in Saudi Arabia with Al-Ittihad before resurfacing at Rijeka in February 2013. Kek proved a huge success in Croatia, winning the club's first title in 2016/17 when Rijeka completed the double by claiming the Croatian Cup for the second time in his reign; also took the club into the UEFA Europa League group stage in 2013/14 and 2014/15. Stepped down in October 2018 and reappointed as Slovenia coach the following month.

Jerzy Brzęczek

Date of birth: 18 March 1971

Nationality: Polish

Playing career: Olimpia Truskolasy (youth), Raków Częstochowa (youth), Olimpia Poznań, Lech Poznań, Górnik Zabrze, GKS Katowice, Tirol Innsbruck, LASK Linz, Maccabi Haifa, Tirol Innsbruck, Sturm Graz, FC Kärnten, Wacker Tirol, Górnik Zabrze, Polonia Bytom

Coaching career: Raków Częstochowa, Lechia Gdańsk, GKS Katowice, Wisła Płock, Poland

- Jerzy Brzęczek enjoyed a prolonged and eventful career as a midfielder. Known for his leadership skills, he was captain of most of the teams he played for. He is the uncle and mentor of Jakub Błaszczykowski, Poland's UEFA EURO 2012 captain who won his 100th cap at the 2018 FIFA World Cup.
- Brzęczek spent several years in Austria with a number of clubs, winning back-to-back Bundesliga titles with Tirol Innsbruck, the second in 2001/02 under Joachim Löw, to go with the 1992/93 Polish title he claimed with Lech Poznań. He amassed more than 500 league appearances in Poland, Austria and Israel.
- Was a key player and captain of the Poland side that won Olympic silver at the 1992 Games in Barcelona, losing narrowly to hosts Spain in the final (2-3) at the conclusion of a captivating, high-scoring campaign.
- Played 42 games for the senior Polish national team, some as captain, but did not take part in any major tournaments. Brzęczek scored four international goals, including one against Brazil in a friendly and one against England at Wembley (1-3) in a UEFA EURO 2000 qualifier.
- Started coaching in 2010 at Raków Częstochowa, where he remained for four years before experiencing his first taste of the Polish top flight with Lechia Gdańsk. He returned to the second division to coach GKS Katowice for two years before his first full season in the Ekstraklasa ended with a creditable fifth-place finish in charge of Wisła Płock – an achievement deemed worthy of promotion to the post of Poland coach in July 2018 to succeed Adam Nawałka.

Match officials

Referee	Sergei Karasev (RUS)
Assistant referees	Igor Demeshko (RUS) , Maksim Gavrilin (RUS)
Fourth official	Vitali Meshkov (RUS)
UEFA Delegate	Armen Minasyan (ARM)
UEFA Referee observer	Herbert Fandel (GER)

Referee

Name	Date of birth	UEFA EURO matches	UEFA matches
Sergei Karasev	12/06/1979	7	70

Sergei Karasev

Referee since: 1995
First division: 2008
FIFA badge: 2010

Tournaments: 2018 FIFA World Cup, 2017 FIFA U-20 World Cup, 2016 Olympic Games, UEFA EURO 2016, 2015 UEFA European Under-21 Championship, 2002 UEFA Regions' Cup

Finals
N/A

UEFA European Championship matches featuring the two countries involved in this match

No such matches refereed

Other matches involving teams from either of the two countries involved in this match

Date	Competition	Stage reached	Home	Away	Result	Venue
30/08/2012	UEL	PO	Hannover 96	WKS Śląsk Wrocław	5-1	Hanover
25/10/2012	UEL	GS	NK Maribor	Tottenham Hotspur	1-1	Maribor
21/08/2014	UEL	PO	FC Aktobe	Legia Warszawa	0-1	Aktobe
14/09/2016	UCL	GS	Legia Warszawa	Borussia Dortmund	0-6	Warsaw
20/11/2018	UNL	GS-FT	Portugal	Poland	1-1	Guimaraes

Match-by-match lineups

Slovenia

Final tournament - Qualifying round

Group G

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Poland	10	8	1	1	18	5	25
Austria	10	6	1	3	19	9	19
North Macedonia	10	4	2	4	12	13	14
Slovenia	10	4	2	4	16	11	14
Israel	10	3	2	5	16	18	11
Latvia	10	1	0	9	3	28	3

Matchday 1 (21/03/2019)

Israel 1-1 Slovenia

Goals: 0-1 Šporar 48, 1-1 Zahavi 55

Slovenia: Oblak, Aljaž Struna, Krhin, Iličič, Kurtič, Šporar (85 Bohar), Zajc (62 Črnigoj), Jokić, M. Mevlja, Stojanović, Verbić (90 Bijol)

Matchday 2 (24/03/2019)

Slovenia 1-1 North Macedonia

Goals: 1-0 Zajc 34, 1-1 Bardi 47

Slovenia: Oblak, Aljaž Struna, Krhin, Iličič, Kurtič, Šporar (71 Berić), Zajc (90 Zahović), Jokić, M. Mevlja, Stojanović, Verbić (84 Črnigoj)

Matchday 3 (07/06/2019)

Austria 1-0 Slovenia

Goals: 1-0 Burgstaller 74

Slovenia: Oblak, Aljaž Struna, Bijol (63 Popović), Iličič, Kurtič, Šporar, Zajc (69 Bohar), Jokić, Črnigoj (78 Berić), M. Mevlja, Stojanović

Matchday 4 (10/06/2019)

Latvia 0-5 Slovenia

Goals: 0-1 Črnigoj 24, 0-2 Črnigoj 27, 0-3 Iličič 29 (P) , 0-4 Iličič 44, 0-5 Zajc 47

Slovenia: Oblak, Aljaž Struna, Iličič, Kurtič, Zajc (64 Bijol), Jokić, Črnigoj (83 Majer), M. Mevlja, Popović (77 Zahović), Berić, Stojanović

Matchday 5 (06/09/2019)

Slovenia-Poland

Matchday 6 (09/09/2019)

Slovenia-Israel

Matchday 7 (10/10/2019)

North Macedonia-Slovenia

Matchday 8 (13/10/2019)

Slovenia-Austria

Matchday 9 (16/11/2019)

Slovenia-Latvia

Matchday 10 (19/11/2019)

Poland-Slovenia

Poland

Final tournament - Qualifying round

Group G

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Poland	10	8	1	1	18	5	25
Austria	10	6	1	3	19	9	19
North Macedonia	10	4	2	4	12	13	14
Slovenia	10	4	2	4	16	11	14
Israel	10	3	2	5	16	18	11
Latvia	10	1	0	9	3	28	3

Matchday 1 (21/03/2019)

Austria 0-1 Poland

Goals: 0-1 K. Piątek 69

Poland: Szczęsny, Bednarek, Milik (46 Frankowski), Lewandowski, Krychowiak, Grosicki (91 Pazdan), Klich, Glik, Bereszyński, Kędziora, Zieliński (59 K. Piątek)

Matchday 2 (24/03/2019)

Poland 2-0 Latvia

Goals: 1-0 Lewandowski 76, 2-0 Glik 84

Poland: Szczęsny, Pazdan, Lewandowski, Krychowiak, Grosicki (83 Frankowski), Reca, Klich (62 Błaszczykowski), Glik, Kędziora, Zieliński, K. Piątek (87 Milik)

Matchday 3 (07/06/2019)

North Macedonia 0-1 Poland

Goals: 0-1 K. Piątek 47

Poland: Fabiański, Bednarek, Lewandowski, Krychowiak, Grosicki (69 Rybus), Klich (90 Góralski), Glik, Kędziora, Bereszyński, Zieliński, Frankowski (46 K. Piątek)

Matchday 4 (10/06/2019)

Poland 4-0 Israel

Goals: 1-0 K. Piątek 35, 2-0 Lewandowski 56 (P) , 3-0 Grosicki 59, 4-0 Kędzior 84

Poland: Fabiański, Bednarek, Lewandowski, Krychowiak, Grosicki (77 Kędzior), Klich (75 Góralski), Glik, Kędziora, Bereszyński, Zieliński, K. Piątek (73 Milik)

Matchday 5 (06/09/2019)

Slovenia-Poland

Matchday 6 (09/09/2019)

Poland-Austria

Matchday 7 (10/10/2019)

Latvia-Poland

Matchday 8 (13/10/2019)

Poland-North Macedonia

Matchday 9 (16/11/2019)

Israel-Poland

Matchday 10 (19/11/2019)

Poland-Slovenia

Legend

:: Previous meetings

Goals for/against: Goal totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (e.g. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored during a penalty shoot-out after a tie ended in a draw

:: Squad list

Qual.: Total European Qualifiers appearances/goals for UEFA EURO 2020 only.

FT: Total UEFA EURO 2020 appearances/goals in final tournament only.

Overall: Total international appearances/goals.

DoB: Date of birth

Age: Based on the date press kit was last updated

D: Disciplinary (*: misses next match if booked, S: suspended)

:: Team facts

EURO finals: The UEFA European Championship was a four-team event in 1960, 1964, 1968, 1972 and 1976 (when the preliminary round and quarter-finals were considered part of qualifying).

From 1980 it was expanded to an eight-team finals and remained in that format in 1984, 1988 and 1992 until 1996, when the 16-team format was adopted. UEFA EURO 2016 was the first tournament to be played as a 24-team finals.

Records of inactive countries

A number of UEFA associations have been affected by dissolution or splits of member associations. For statistical purposes, the records of these inactive countries have been allocated elsewhere: therefore, all Soviet Union matches are awarded to Russia; all West Germany – but not East Germany – matches are awarded to Germany; all Yugoslavia and Serbia & Montenegro matches are awarded to Serbia; all Czechoslovakia matches are allocated to both the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Abandoned/forfeited matches

For statistical purposes, when a match has been started and then abandoned but later forfeited, the result on the pitch at the time of abandonment is counted. Matches that never started and were either cancelled or forfeited are not included in the overall statistics.

Competitions

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time

No.: Number

ag: Match decided on away goals

agg: Aggregate

AP: Appearances

Comp.: Competition

D: Drawn

DoB: Date of birth

ET: Extra Time

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

gg: Match decided by golden goal

L: Lost

Nat.: Nationality

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pens: Penalties

og: Own goal

P: Penalty

Pld: Matches played

Pos.: Position

Pts: Points

R: Sent off (straight red card)

Res.: Result

sg: Match decided by silver goal

t: Match decided by toss of a coin

W: Won

Y: Booked

Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)

N/A: Not applicable