

TOURNAMENT REVIEW



**WOMEN'S
EURO 2017**
THE NETHERLANDS







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Dutch fans on
the march in Enschede

SETTING NEW STANDARDS

Such top-quality football is why the women's game is now a major attraction

The FC Twente Stadion in Enschede was a sea of orange as the Dutch team and their delighted fans savoured the thrill of winning UEFA Women's EURO 2017. The hosts' outpouring of joy after the final whistle was a fitting way to bring the curtain down on a football festival that made history.

Over 22 days, we were captivated by a tournament that epitomised why the women's game is now so firmly established on the European football landscape. We were privileged to see Europe's top players show their skills in front of record attendances for a Women's EURO final round. Interest was high from start to finish, and the number of TV viewers and people who kept in touch with the event on digital platforms also rose to unprecedented levels.

These facts go to show that women's football has arrived as a significant attraction. The tournament shone brightly, thanks to the quality of the football, the

brilliance of individual performances and a host of excellent matches and high-calibre goals. The final itself was exhilarating, the Netherlands and Denmark providing a wonderful showpiece with the accent on attack and entertaining a packed crowd.

UEFA's decision to increase the tournament field to 16 certainly proved its worth. More players and associations than ever relished the opportunity to perform on such a prominent stage. New teams have joined the established countries as European women's football powers, new stars have stepped into the limelight, and the overall quality of the 16 participants emphasised the splendid development work that is taking place across the continent.

I have identified the further progress of women's football as a major priority, and UEFA will continue to work in tandem with its member associations to promote and nurture the women's game at all levels. It

is our firm belief as well that the Together #WePlayStrong campaign, launched by UEFA ahead of the Women's EURO, will convince an increasing number of women and girls to play and become involved in football.

As we reflect on a memorable tournament, I would like to close by extending my heartfelt thanks to the Royal Netherlands Football Association (KNVB), its president Michael van Praag, the host venues and everybody in the Netherlands who joined forces to make UEFA Women's EURO 2017 such a resounding success. New standards were set in sporting, infrastructure and organisational terms – and I have no hesitation in predicting that the development curve of women's football will continue onwards and upwards in the years to come.

Aleksander Čeferin
UEFA President

A TIME TO CELEBRATE

Passionate fans at home and abroad contributed to a memorable tournament

The Netherlands hosted the UEFA Women's EURO for the first time in 2017, and with 240,000 visitors attending matches, we can certainly say it was a very successful tournament. It was also the biggest UEFA Women's EURO ever held, with 16 teams taking part in 31 matches across seven host cities.

From the opening match in Utrecht to the final in Enschede, we enjoyed the terrific atmosphere in the stadiums, as well as great support from the fans. The many visitors to the seven host cities were warmly welcomed in the fan zones, and the large groups of supporters that gathered there before walking together to the stadiums to watch the matches were a memorable feature of the tournament. In Enschede on the day of the final, an incredible 10,000 people took part in the fan walk to the stadium.



UEFA and KNVB
Presidents Aleksander
Čeferin and Michael
van Praag

The tournament was also avidly followed on television. They say records are meant to be broken, and never before has a UEFA Women's EURO attracted so many viewers. More than 5,476,000 people tuned in for the final in the Netherlands, but the competition's popularity was not confined to the host country, with 165 million viewers overall watching the tournament from around the world.

I would like to thank everybody who was involved in UEFA Women's EURO 2017. I am very grateful that the Netherlands was selected to host this great tournament. I would also like to give a special thank you to UEFA for its cooperation – we enjoyed sharing all those great moments with you!

Michael van Praag
KNVB President

Sweden midfielder
Caroline Seger addresses
her team-mates ahead
of the quarter-final
against the Netherlands



TECHNICAL REPORT

THE ROAD TO ENSCHEDE

The hosts rode the crest of an orange wave all the way to the final of a tournament full of surprises

"Life has its ups and downs. And so does football." Sweden's Pia Sundhage, one of only two coaches to have survived from Women's EURO 2013, was not alone in switching to reflective mode after elimination from a final tournament that yielded unexpected ups for some and unwelcome downs for others.

Vivianne Miedema scores the hosts' second goal in their 2-0 quarter-final win against Sweden

GROUP A

The eventual finalists take top spots as Norway draw a blank

Norway were among those who fell into the category of a team enduring an unwelcome downturn. The 2013 finalists, having been handed the poisoned chalice of an opening game against the hosts, could hardly have imagined the worst-case scenario of zero goals, zero points and last place in a Group A where six fixtures produced nine goals and only one game in which both teams found the net.

The battle between the Netherlands' broad 1-4-3-3 and Norway's narrow 1-4-4-2 was settled by the hosts' wingers. Lieke Martens' cross from the left was headed home by Shanice van de Sanden, who had cut in from the right to get across a surprised defender. Norway's downhill start was accelerated by Belgium's courageous game plan in their second match. Disturbing the Norway build-up with high pressing, working with heart and spirit and attacking in numbers when opportunities arose, Ives Serneels' team struck gold after a cross-header-rebound combination and then when a long throw on the right was allowed to bounce untouched across the Norway goal area until the head of Janice Cayman nudged it into the net.

This left Norway the challenge of putting a hatful of goals past Denmark in the last match and hoping for the best. Instead, they received the worst – an early goal conceded after a ball-loss in midfield, a solo run by Pernille Harder and a clinical finish by Katrine Veje. The remainder of the match echoed the blues lyric: "If I didn't have bad luck, I wouldn't have no luck at all." Martin Sjögren's side hit the bar twice, the post once and had a penalty saved by Stina Lykke Petersen.

The result was enough to send Denmark through as runners-up after three 1-0 scorelines: two in their favour and one against. Another early goal (a rebound after a free-kick) had felled Belgium, whereas a contact in

the area had allowed the Netherlands to defeat them from the penalty spot. Even with six points in the bag, the hosts needed to avoid defeat in their final game against Belgium who, again, set about their task with courage and conviction – even when trailing to another penalty. Countering the width of Dutch attacking with a 1-4-3-1-2 formation, Belgium put a cat among the home pigeons by equalising when a cross-cum-shot looped over Sari van Veenendaal into the net. But a deflected shot by Martens beat Justien Odeurs in similar fashion and, with Sarina Wiegman adjusting her formation to accommodate a second screening midfielder, the Dutch defended their 100% record to top the group.



Germany's Anna Blasse tries to control the ball during the Group B match against Russia in Utrecht



Norway's Caroline Graham Hansen feels the pain of defeat



Russia's Elena Morozova on the run against Italy



Daniela Sabatino scored twice as Italy beat Sweden



Belgium goalkeeper Justien Odeurs keeps Denmark at bay

GROUP B

Holders Germany take their chances as Italy rue their luck

The hard-luck blues were sung by Italy in a Group B that respected the form book – but only just. Antonio Cabrini's side, struggling to retain possession against Russia's compact 1-4-1-4-1 defend-and-counter structure, fell 0-2 behind thanks to the opportunism of striker Elena Danilova and a conclusive header by Elena Morozova from a corner. Losing influential right-back Sara Gama to injury after barely 25 minutes was a further blow. Switching to 1-4-4-2 for the last half-hour by injecting Cristiana Girelli as second striker, Italy rallied after the break but could score only once against the flagging Russians.

A glaring defensive error then put them 0-1 down to Germany and increased the feeling that everything

was going against them. But Italy replied with a copybook counter, Barbara Bonansea rounding off a long sprint on the left with a low cross met superbly by striker Ilaria Mauro at the near post. But the hard-luck story continued when Mauro limped off injured; Germany regained the lead from the penalty spot; and Elisa Bartoli was red-carded. In the face of adversity, Italy still pressed forward – but failure to find a second equaliser spelt elimination.

In theory, this converted their final game against Sweden into a formality. Pia Sundhage's team had opened their campaign with a point against Germany in a high-intensity match that had just about everything except goals. They had then defeated the compact, industrious Russian team thanks to the misjudged handling of a free-kick and an intercepted goal-kick that let in Stina Blackstenius. But Sweden's normally impermeable defensive tapestry was unstitched by the vertical attacking and counterattacking of a re-shaped Italy who, even though Sweden battled back to equalise twice, took the three points with three finishes of exceptional technical quality.

Fortunately for Sweden, Germany defeated Russia 2-0 in a game that, as Elena Fomina commented afterwards, "could have become more exciting without the two penalties". Steffi Jones' side, without scoring in open play, topped the group while Sweden edged second place at the expense of two teams that had made a positive contribution to a fascinating group.

GERMANY TOPPED GROUP B WITHOUT SCORING IN OPEN PLAY, WHILE SWEDEN FINISHED SECOND AT THE EXPENSE OF TWO POSITIVE TEAMS



Sweden coach Pia Sundhage



Shanice van de Sanden enjoys the Netherlands' win against Norway

GROUP C

Debutants Austria impress to force France into second

A similar tale unfolded in Group C where the favourites, France, failed to score in open play and two teams went unrewarded for impressive efforts. In the opening match, Austria's high pressing pre-empted Switzerland's attempts to construct and condensed play into one half of the pitch for the opening 45 minutes, during which an intercepted clearance by the goalkeeper allowed striker Nina Burger to score what turned out to be the only goal of the game.

Swiss coach Martina Voss-Tecklenburg admitted: "I tried to get the message across to the players that we couldn't keep trying to play the ball out from the back under such pressure." Despite a positive response, Switzerland's fate seemed to be sealed when defender Rahel Kiwic was dismissed after an hour. On the contrary, the ten threw off their shackles – but failed to break down Austria's obdurate 1-5-4-1 deep defensive block.

Other opponents were to encounter similar problems. France needed a corner to take a point after an Austria throw-in had nudged them into a 1-0 lead. And Iceland's hitherto solid structure was demolished by two Austrian crosses and a corner.

Portugal's Carolina Mendes opens the scoring against Scotland



Fielding three centre-backs and two wing-backs, Freyr Alexandersson's team had countered French technique in their opening game with industry, intensity and organisation, only to be defeated by a penalty. Despite taking the lead against Switzerland, they were caught out twice by deliveries from the wide areas and a final switch to 1-3-4-3 failed to avoid a 1-2 defeat.

That result kept Swiss hopes alive. Progress depended on defeating France – and a surprise appeared to be on the cards when a through pass led to a red card for Eve Perisset and a superb header by Ana-Maria Crnogorčević from the ensuing free-kick. With urgency bred of necessity, Olivier Echouafni's side pushed forward in 1-4-2-3 formation and scraped into the quarter-finals when a Camille Abily free-kick found its way into the roof of the net via a dejected Gaëlle Thalmann. Their 3-0 win against Iceland meant that debutants Austria topped the group.

Swiss captain Lara Dickenmann (right); Iceland pushed France to the limit



Austria's Stefanie Enzinger completes the scoring against Iceland



PORTUGAL POSTED THEIR FIRST-EVER VICTORY IN A FINAL TOURNAMENT AGAINST SCOTLAND

GROUP D

Dominant England take control while Spain scrape through

Group D was a story of domination by one team – England – and topsy-turvy results among the other three. Mark Sampson's team ran up the largest winning margin of the tournament by converting total control and one-on-one superiority into a 6-0 win against Scotland that included some spectacular moves and a hat-trick by striker Jodie Taylor. In the other opening fixture, Francisco Neto set Portugal up in deep-defending mode but failed to prevent Spain from piercing the armour twice. Jorge Vilda's team then enjoyed a similar share of possession (74%) against England in rain-drenched Breda but, after falling behind within two minutes, were unable to find a way through a compact, narrow defensive block and conceded a second five minutes before time.

Portugal posted their first-ever victory in a final tournament when a defensive lapse and a fast counter earned them a 2-1 win against Scotland and, with morale reinforced, fought back to equalise at 1-1 against England – a score that would have sent them into the last eight. But they conceded a second soon after the break while Scotland were springing a surprise, capitalising on a lofted through pass and a rebound to take the lead against Spain and then stoutly defending their advantage. One more goal could have taken Anna Signeul's team through. In the event, however, Scotland and Portugal were the goal-difference losers in a three-way tie on three points after a nerve-wracking denouement to the final fixtures of the group phase.

Spain's Amanda Sampedro fends off Portugal's Silvia Rebelo (above); England got the better of Scotland in the all-British duel (left)

QUARTER-FINALS

Underdogs show their teeth as heavyweights bow out

Had anyone predicted that Germany, France, Spain and Sweden would emerge victorious from the quarter-finals, few eyebrows would have been raised. But the eyebrow-stretching outcome was that the opposite occurred. This turned out to be the casualty list as the quarter-finals unfolded.

Pia Sundhage's cycle in charge of Sweden came to an end at a packed stadium in Doetinchem. Her set-up was a clear declaration of attacking intent, with Fridolina Rolfö and Stina Blackstenius as the striking partnership with Lotta Schelin ready to burst forward from the right side of midfield. The Netherlands faced the opponents' 1-4-4-2 by remaining loyal to their 1-4-3-3 structure with two wingers starting from chalk-on-the-boots positions and Jackie Groenen and Danielle van de Donk ready to support from midfield.

The game-changing moment came after just over half an hour of cut and thrust, during which neither goalkeeper had been unduly troubled. After Vivianne Miedema had fallen, the German referee, Bibiana Steinhaus, awarded the hosts a free-kick on the edge of the box. Amid questionable positioning of the goalkeeper and defensive wall, Lieke Martens hit the ball calmly into the far corner to secure the crucial opening goal. The 2-0 victory was secured by a coaching-manual counterattack in the second half. Martens hit a perfectly weighted diagonal pass to the right; the perfect first touch by Shanice van de Sanden allowed her to break into the Sweden box at full gallop and her precise low cross was turned in from point-blank range by Miedema.

An untimely deluge in Rotterdam meant that the date between Germany and Denmark coincided with Sunday lunch instead of Saturday dinner. And, when guests at the postponed feast had barely been given time to lift their cutlery, Denmark had already been served a bitter starter. Germany's right-footed left-back Isabel Kerschowski cut inside to unleash a shot that somehow found its way past Stina Lykke Petersen



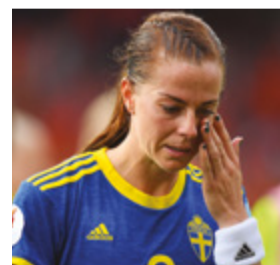
Anna Mittag contemplates Germany's shock exit, as Theresa Nielsen (right) shares the moment of triumph with Denmark fans



The final whistle blows to signal victory for England against France



Amandine Henry keeps a close eye on Jordan Nobbs



Sweden's Stina Blackstenius hangs her head as the Dutch advance; Sweden captain Lotta Schelin (below left)

NIELSEN HEADED IN THE CROSS AND GERMANY'S 22-YEAR REIGN AS CHAMPIONS WAS OVER



Manuela Zinsberger saves Silvia Mesequer's penalty (above) to set up Austria's shoot-out victory against Spain after their goalless quarter-final

into the roof of the net. To her credit, the Denmark keeper re-armed herself and made a series of valuable saves during the remaining 87 minutes.

It took half an hour of living dangerously for Denmark to fully engage Nils Nielsen's game plan based on right-back Theresa Nielsen pushing into midfield and enabling 1-3-5-2 attacking, with right-side midfielder Sanne Troelsgaard tucking in to create midfield overloads and open spaces for Nielsen to exploit. With Pernille Harder posing questions with well-timed movements between German lines, Denmark's endeavours were rewarded shortly after the break. With the troops assembled in the box for a corner, a clearance was picked up by Denmark centre-back Stine Larsen on the right. With two German players paying attention to the assistant referee's flag rather than the referee's application of the advantage rule, Larsen crossed for Nadia Nadim to head an equaliser. Then, with seven minutes remaining, Nielsen played the ball to the right, continued her diagonal run into the box, and headed in the cross. Germany's 22-year reign as champions of Europe was over.

Next on stage: Austria v Spain in Tilburg. As opposed to the thrilling dialogue between Germany and Denmark, the fixture was essentially a monologue with Spain bashing their attacking heads against the brick wall of Austria's deep 1-5-4-1 defending. Jorge Vilda's team were comfortably ahead on points (20 goal attempts to 4) but failed to find a knockout blow and, after 120 goalless minutes, were defeated 5-3 in the shoot-out after Manuela Zinsberger had saved from Silvia Mesequer.

A similar chapter was written in Deventer, where France dominated England in terms of possession and goal attempts but failed to break through stalwart 1-4-1-4-1 deep defending. But, unlike Austria, England found a decisive counterattack to break the deadlock. After a regain in midfield, right-back Lucy Bronze made a central run, feeding a pass between centre-back and full-back for striker Jodie Taylor to beat Sarah Bouhaddi and extend France's record of falling at quarter-final hurdles. England had, as Mark Sampson put it, "ground out another result" and earned a semi-final against the hosts.

SEMI-FINALS

DENMARK 0-0 AUSTRIA

(aet; Denmark win 3-0 on penalties)

Denmark survived an early scare in Breda when Sarah Puntigam, scorer of Austria's winning penalty in the shoot-out against Spain, struck a spot kick over the bar. With Nadia Nadim and Pernille Harder trying to find chinks between the compact lines of Austria's defensive armour, Nils Nielsen's team looked the more likely to score against opponents who focused on setting striker Nina Burger off on counterattacking runs. But hurried passing and off-target long-range shooting undermined their efficiency in the final third and, with Denmark failing to deliver telling blows at the other end, extra time was required. With Nicole Billa having added to Austria's injury list during the first half, Dominik Thalhammer made only two of his four permitted substitutions and conceded "our game is very physical and we were tired". In a shoot-out where only three of seven penalties hit the net, Austria accounted for three of the four misses and ran out 0-3 losers.

Theresa Nielsen and her Denmark team-mates are thrilled to reach the final by beating Austria in a penalty shoot-out



Stina Lykke Petersen saves Viktoria Pinther's penalty



Austria's Sarah Puntigam (left) with Denmark's Line Røddik



Vivianne Miedema scores the opener for the Netherlands against England (above) as the Dutch were roared on by a record-breaking semi-final crowd

NETHERLANDS 3-0 ENGLAND

A crowd of just over 27,000 created a superb atmosphere for the Netherlands v England semi-final in Enschede – a fascinating contest that could easily have passed for the grand finale. Against England's 1-4-4-2, the hosts' 1-4-3-3 coped effectively with theoretical numerical inferiority in midfield with intelligent positional play by wingers and full-backs. The individual duel between Lucy Bronze and Lieke Martens emerging as one of the most fascinating contests of the tournament. Danielle van de Donk produced a commanding performance alongside Jackie Groenen in the engine room of Sarina Wiegman's team, linking vertical attacking transitions and providing support in the final third. England relied on accurate diagonals to switch play from flank to flank and on direct attacking with sharp movements, with Francesca Kirby dropping to receive in the slipstream of the threatening deep runs by Jodie Taylor.

The hosts made the crucial breakthrough when Martens played a diagonal to the right flank, where Groenen had switched positions with winger Shanice van de Sanden. Her cross was met by a looping far-post header by Vivianne Miedema that opened the game. Although they hit the woodwork from a corner during a surging second-half, England's search for a reply was undermined by a defensive error, when Jade Moore attempted to head the ball to her keeper from long range. Van de Donk accepted the gift and a deceptive scoreline was confirmed when a cross was deflected into her own net by centre-back Millie Bright during added-time. After all the ups and downs, the hosts had earned a second match against Denmark – this time with the European crown at stake.



Danielle van de Donk turns away after scoring the Netherlands' second goal against England

THE DUEL BETWEEN BRONZE AND MARTENS WAS ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING IN THE TOURNAMENT

DUTCH MACHINE HITS TOP GEAR

The hosts held their nerve to take the title for the first time

It was an unexpected one-night stand at the end of a protracted concert season. As if to harmonise with a sudden switch from Gregorian chant to rock'n'roll, the grey skies and rain that had dogged – but not dampened – the tournament gave way to radiant sunlight, adding a warm glow to the red-and-orange tide that flowed into the stadium in Enschede. More than 28,000 fans were witnesses to a final that was not the culmination of a story related by 30 previous matches. It was a thrilling stand-alone event.

It took no more than a couple of minutes for this to become obvious. Denmark, holding a high line with goalkeeper Stina Lykke Petersen prowling outside the penalty area, fired a warning shot across the hosts' advancing bows with a fast, menacing counterattack. It took only three more minutes to demonstrate that the threats were not empty. Katrina Veje sped down the left flank and her cross found Pernille Harder. The Denmark captain extended the pass to midfielder Sanne Troelsgaard who, when swivelling away, was brought down. Nadia Nadim struck the penalty



The triumphant Netherlands players show off their prize

firmly into the back of the Netherlands net. The hosts were behind for the first time in the tournament. And the scene had been set for a final that showcased, as Denmark coach Nils Nielsen put it, “two teams trying with everything they had to score more than the other”.

The adversaries expressed their attacking intentions with different lexicons. In some ways, Denmark had the louder voice during the first 45 minutes of dialogue. They displayed fluent transitions to attacking play – threatening quickly whenever opportunities arose. As in previous matches, during the construction phase, right-back Theresa Nielsen pushed forward to give her team a 1-3-5-2 attacking shape with Troelsgaard cutting in to open spaces for her to occupy. Centre-back Simone Boye Sørensen showed her ability to carry the ball forward and prompt forward movement with well-weighted passes. On the left, the high-speed dribbling skills of Veje caused problems. Striker Nadim was a threat when given space to turn, dribble and shoot. And, above all, Harder interrogated the Netherlands’ defensive set-up with her ability to win possession in seemingly impossible situations, to drive at opponents and to cleverly find and exploit spaces between lines.

Defensively, Nielsen’s team rapidly regrouped in 1-4-4-2 formation, countering counters with immediate pressure on the ball, making effective recovery runs and narrowing passing channels. When pressing higher, the two forwards efficiently controlled the hosts’ centre-backs and the wide midfielders tucked neatly into a narrow defensive block. But, as an exception to the tournament norm, the final was not about the efficiency of defensive blocks.

Sarina Wiegman’s team, although far from comfortable against the feisty underdogs, found replies to the early blow. First, Sherida Spitse, drawn out of her midfield holding role, fed Jackie Groenen after winning the ball wide on the right. The Netherlands’ No14 lofted a pass over the left-back for Shanice van de Sanden to move through her sprinting gears and deliver a low cross to the far post, where striker Vivianne Miedema applied the finishing touch.

Second, another combination on the right culminated in a square pass to Lieke Martens who turned and drove a shot from outside the area into the corner of the Denmark net. Five minutes later, effective pressing by Troelsgaard and Maja Kildemoes allowed the latter to dribble past the advanced Kika van Es and loop a pass into the area left vacant by the left-back. Harder, peeling off intelligently to avoid an offside flag, ran clear to beat Sari van Veenendaal. At the end of a tournament marked by a goal famine, four goals within 33 minutes. But no more before Swiss referee Esther Staubli whistled for half-time.

Wiegman had work to do during the interval. Despite the goals, the Dutch machinery was misfiring. Although the wingers in the 1-4-3-3 structure looked threatening in the final third,



Sherida Spitse’s free-kick puts the Netherlands 3-2 up



Kika van Es enjoys the taste of victory (middle) as Sanne Troelsgaard comes to terms with defeat



WHEN WIEGMAN WAS HANDED HER GOLD MEDAL SHE LOOKED AT IT WITH AN EXPRESSION OF DISBELIEF



Dominique Janssen (left) tries to stop the forward run of Denmark’s Katrine Veje



Nadia Nadim (No9) opened the scoring from the spot

Nielsen’s advanced position forced Martens to drop deeper than usual. Veje was challenging right-back Desiree van Lunteren. And Harder’s dangerous prowling between the lines pulled screening midfielder Spitse deeper than usual, stretching the midfield triangle, allowing Kildemoes and Sofie Pedersen to shackle the linking play by Groenen and Danielle van de Donk.

While tactical adjustments were being implemented, the deadlock was broken by a set play. Defending a free-kick outside the box, Denmark erected a five-player wall with Dutch centre-back Anouk Dekker sidling in as bookend on the far-post side. Spitse,

as she had done against Sweden, sidefooted her shot between Dekker and the out-rushing Kildemoes, making it 3-2 to the Netherlands.

The goal prompted Nils Nielsen to withdraw Kildemoes and insert Frederikke Thøgersen as the right-sided element in a 1-4-3-3 formation with Harder slipstreaming Nadim to form an attacking diamond. Curiously, the hosts appeared to be more comfortable against a formation they were more familiar with – left-back Van Es, for example, at greater ease facing a winger than when required to patrol a vacant zone. The Netherlands machine eased into top gear with a good supply of diagonal openings from centre-backs to wingers; neat passing and quick support from midfield; and effective running and ball-shielding from Miedema, offering fans her most influential performance of the tournament.

With the crowd roaring them on, the adversaries threw everything at each other. Nielsen, in black shirt and shorts, constantly delivered advice from the touchline. Cameras, on the other hand, needed to penetrate the shade in the Netherlands dug-out to locate the less visible Wiegman. Local hearts were in mouths when Troelsgaard’s powerful drive drifted narrowly past the top corner and then, suddenly, with the clock ticking down, it was all over. A neat four-player combination in midfield ended with a long pass over the defence and Miedema, turning inside Cecilie Sandvej to tee up her right foot, settled the issue.

During the wait for the final whistle, the occupants of the Netherlands bench linked arms along the touchline. When it sounded, Nielsen and Wiegman embraced. When Harder led the Danish team up for their silver medals, they were given a standing ovation for their contribution to a thrilling spectacle. When Wiegman, extending the tradition of victorious female coaches at EUROS, was handed her gold medal, she looked at it with an expression of disbelief that she had won it. And when Player of the Match Spitse and squad captain Mandy van den Berg jointly hoisted the trophy into the Enschede sky to end decades of German domination, the singing started. And it was not Gregorian chant.

MATCH STATISTICS

NETHERLANDS 4-2 DENMARK

6 August 2017
FC Twente Stadion, Enschede

GOALS
0-1 Nadim 6 (P), 1-1 Miedema 10, 2-1 Martens 28, 2-2 Harder 33, 3-2 Spitse 51, 4-2 Miedema 89

NETHERLANDS
Van Veenendaal; Van Lunteren (Janssen 57), Dekker, Van der Gragt, Van Es (Van den Berg 90+4); Groenen, Van de Donk, Spitse; Van de Sanden (Jansen 90), Miedema, Martens

DENMARK
Petersen; Nielsen, Boye Sørensen (Røddik 77), Larsen, Sandvej; Troelsgaard, Kildemoes (Thøgersen 61), Pedersen (Christiansen 82), Veje; Harder, Nadim

REFEREE
Esther Staubli (SUI)

ATTENDANCE
28,182

NED	GOALS	DEN
4	GOALS	2
10	TOTAL ATTEMPTS	11
7	ON TARGET	4
2	OFF TARGET	6
1	BLOCKED	1
0	WOODWORK	0
0	CORNERS	4
3	YELLOW CARDS	1
80%	PASSING ACCURACY	76%
16	FOULS COMMITTED	10
50%	POSSESSION	50%



WIEGMAN'S SUDDEN IMPACT

After only six months in charge, Sarina Wiegman inspired the Netherlands to their first senior title



**'THERE WAS
TEAMWORK,
FIGHTING
SPIRIT AND
GOOD FOOTBALL'**

"Before the finals, we spoke about our aims. We agreed to show who we are, show what we can do and show that we can play together as a team." The Netherlands showed who they were by winning all six games, scoring 13 goals and conceding three, to become the fourth country to lift the trophy and the first host nation to do so since Germany in 2001. It represented a major achievement for Sarina Wiegman, who had been in charge of the team for only six months.

However, that is not the whole story about a person whose national team experience started with 104 caps as midfielder or defender between 1987 and 2001. Wiegman's name also appeared on the teamsheets of North Carolina, where she sampled the more professional world of women's soccer in the United States. She then became the third woman in the Netherlands, after Vera Pauw and Hesterine de Reus, to earn the UEFA Pro licence, doing her reality-based learning with the men's team at Sparta Rotterdam.

Before taking the helm of the national team, Wiegman had been assistant coach from August 2014. When she was promoted to head coach on 13 January 2017, she set about welding a solid team-behind-the-team. To assist her, she drew on the big-tournament experience of veteran coach Foppe de Haan, winner of the UEFA

Sarina Wiegman holds aloft the trophy (top) after leading her side to six wins from six games

European Under-21 Championship in 2006 and 2007, along with the more youthful enthusiasm of FC Twente coach Arjan Veurink. She also absorbed wisdom from other sporting disciplines via performance managers Minke Booij and Peter Blangé, Olympic medallists in hockey and volleyball respectively. Leiden University chipped in with analytical work on player performance. And the KNVB's coach education specialists contributed with analysis of potential opponents.

Wiegman was also aware that the preparation of a host team is something special. "Playing on home soil means there is pressure. So we took a mental coach on board. We prepared well and the players knew their tasks. But if you also prepare them for the things that can go on around the tournament, that already does a lot." She invested a lot of time in the collective preparation of a strong fighting unit, but also tailored pre-tournament work to the individual needs of her players.

After a nervous opener against the 2013 silver-medallists Norway, Wiegman said: "There was teamwork, there was fighting spirit and we also wanted to play good football." She described the victory over Norway as a breakthrough – and it was certainly a major step on a pathway that had begun in 2007 and continued with the laying, at UEFA Women's EURO 2009, of defensive foundations on which traditional Dutch attacking qualities had been built in time for 2017. "We grew up with 4-3-3," Wiegman said. "But at times it's a 4-4-2 or a 4-5-1, then something else. We start with a 4-3-3 but it always changes. You have to be able to adapt." The same applied to her team selection, where brave decisions needed to be made – such as dropping her captain, Mandy van den Berg. "She wasn't in the team but she was always there for the team and for the media. She was an example of why we were such a strong team."

Wiegman also kept feet on the ground, keeping a calm demeanour in the technical area. "We tried to take the pressure off throughout, saying we were just going to do our best and to show ourselves in our best light. That took us all the way. But the important thing is that people started to love the women's game and I hope this adds to the development of women's football." The team showed itself in its best light – and so did Sarina Wiegman.

TECHNICAL TOPICS

Defences dominated a low-scoring tournament, but UEFA's technical observers found plenty of positives to take from the Netherlands

THE CASE FOR THE DEFENCE

Ball domination fails to result in more goals

"The tournament confirmed a steady trend towards a possession-based combination game." The observation, culled from the technical report on UEFA Women's EURO 2013, was bluntly contradicted by a EURO 2017 of a very different complexion. Spain's Jorge Vilda summarised a tournament that showcased "two different approaches. One is collective combination football

based on possession and passing with the emphasis on playing your way into scoring positions. The other approach sees teams who focus on staying compact, shutting down spaces, defending quite close to their own goal and then trying to hit opponents with counterattacks. The more defensive style was generally getting the edge over the teams who prefer the more attacking approach and who, in my opinion, try to offer the fans a more attractive way of playing."

This polarisation emerged as the main topic from the tournament. As UEFA technical observer Jarmo Matikainen remarked: "The defensive discipline we saw in Sweden was already good. In the Netherlands, it was even better."

First: the facts. France, Germany and Spain were the only nations who comfortably wore the label of 'possession teams' in that their share of the ball never dropped below 50%. The champions could be added to that list, as Sarina Wiegman's side averaged 53% of possession.



France's Eugénie Le Sommer tussles with Switzerland's Ramona Bachmann

On the other hand, the fact that the Dutch had 50-50 shares with England and Denmark in the semi-final and final suggests that possession was not an objective. Of the 26 games that produced a result, eight were won by the team with a lesser share of the ball – nine if the Austria v Spain quarter-final (0-0 plus shoot-out) is included. The differences were not marginal. England beat Spain with 26% possession; Scotland did the same with 31%. Denmark eliminated Germany with 42%. Russia beat Italy with 39%. Austria reached the semis and went home unbeaten with an average that was hauled up to 40% by a 51% share against Iceland.

In their 12 games, the trio of eminently possession-based teams scored ten goals – seven of which were set plays. All three were eliminated in the quarter-finals. As the table shows, the nations who focused on a passing game were, this time, unsuccessful. The third column, marked PPP, indicates the average number of passes per phase of possession – a reasonable indicator of styles of play. It reveals, for example, that a move by Spain involved three times as many passes as a move by Austria. The two beaten semi-finalists were among the bottom five in this category. As Hesterine de Reus commented: “There was no correlation between passes and scoring potential.”

PASSES PER GAME			
TEAM	PASSES	ACCURACY	PPP
Spain*	627	86%	3.60
Germany	566	86%	3.54
France	474	83%	2.73
Sweden	400	76%	2.28
Denmark*	368	77%	2.22
Norway	362	73%	2.01
Netherlands	352	77%	1.90
Portugal	338	73%	1.90
Italy	331	74%	1.96
Switzerland	315	72%	1.83
England	304	69%	1.65
Belgium	302	73%	1.80
Iceland	249	67%	1.47
Scotland	247	70%	1.43
Austria*	224	61%	1.20
Russia	212	62%	1.17

*Figures from matches with extra time have been adjusted to 90-minute values
PPP = passes per phase of possession

OPTIONS GOING FORWARD

New ideas were needed to break down improving defences

The coaches of the teams who set out to dominate games via possession acknowledged their frustrations. “We play an offensive game,” said France coach Olivier Echouafni. “But other teams refuse to play and concentrate only on defending. It’s very difficult to play against them. We try to find solutions against low blocks by animating our attacking, varying the execution and working on set plays that might give us the breakthrough.” Spain’s Jorge Vilda said: “The problem is that when you have an opponent who shuts it down at the back and is able to sustain pace and power over the 90 minutes, you have to find solutions to the lack of space in the final third. You can go back and start again, maybe switching to the other flank. Then, when you manage to get a centre across, they are stronger and jump higher than you do.”

Denmark coach Nils Nielsen neatly described the antidote to the possession teams: “If they want to pass it around, we can wait for them to make a mistake, we can sit back and we can score.”

Discussion among the technical observers therefore focused on the way to find attacking solutions against teams who challenge their opponents to break them down. “I suspect that many of the players will not have encountered these levels of fitness and preparation in their club football,” said Jarmo Matikainen. “So, in terms of player development, I think we need to focus on aspects like changes of tempo and the sort of purposeful possession that can hurt opponents before they can organise their defensive block.” Hesterine de Reus agreed: “I felt that the possession teams didn’t have enough changes of pace in their attacking game – whereas teams like Denmark and, especially, England were able to do a lot of damage with direct, fast-forward attacking.”

Anne Noé added: “The ability to engage defences at a higher tempo is important when you are given no time to control and look. We need to work on anticipating defensive movements and be more proactive with runs off the ball, rather than just reacting when the ball is played to feet.”

“What I missed,” said Patricia González, “was greater bravery in going one-on-one in the final third. Players like Nadia Nadim, Lieke Martens or Pernille Harder stood out because they were willing to create disbalance by taking on opponents.” “Could it be,” asked De Reus, “that coaches are under-estimating the value of one-on-one abilities, not basing game plans on them, not encouraging players to use them – or even discouraging players from using them?” Jarmo

Matikainen added: “We saw excellent one-on-one defending – but not so much at the other end. There was a tendency to be very disciplined in applying game plans, and maybe not enough room for improvisation.”

Many of the coaches in the Netherlands agreed on a need to develop attacking strategies. “Teams can defend better for a longer time so something has to be done for attacking,” said England’s Mark Sampson. “To be successful in the future,” said Norway’s Martin Sjögren, “we need more variety and flexibility in our attacking options.” “Teams in possession didn’t seem to find solutions,” agreed Iceland’s Freyr Alexandersson. “For us, and in general, the problem was that the options in the final third were not good enough.”



The Dutch focus on the task ahead against England

LEARNING TO KEEP IT TIGHT

A focus on defending in training made teams tougher to beat

“We’ve got to make life as hard as possible for our opponents. If a team wants to beat us, they will have to give 110 per cent.” The comment can be traced back to 2013 and to Italy’s Antonio Cabrini, one of only two coaches to survive from EURO 2013. But it was equally applicable to the 2017 event. “The tournament demonstrated high levels of preparation and discipline in terms of defensive systems,” Patricia González said, “and Austria provided a prime example of a



Iceland's Dagný Brynjarsdóttir (left) and Austria's Sarah Zadrazil

strategy built on defensive efficiency.” “We prioritised good defending,” Austria coach Dominik Thalhammer said. “We based our game on deep defence with five at the back and transitions to 4-2-3-1 attacking, knowing that we wouldn’t have a lot of possession of the ball.” But there was a lot more to Austria’s game than parking the bus. They kick-started their campaign with high pressing against fellow debutants Switzerland and were good value for a 1-0 lead after a first half when they had effectively prevented their opponents from playing their way out. “I like to play with high pressure,” Thalhammer commented. “We started

implementing this in 2013 and trained it a lot. The problem, of course, is that you cannot sustain it for a long time. An alternative was to play midfield pressure during the whole game – but this wasn’t a good option for us, as we gave away too much space. So we decided to mix high pressure with a deep defensive block. We started training this in blocks of ten minutes of high pressure and ten of deep block during training matches and, during the weeks before the tournament, we helped the players to recognise the right moments – the trigger points – for the start of the pressure. And I think it worked out well.”

Austria’s more advanced pressure was based on two lines of four with striker Nina Burger supported by Nicole Billa in the vanguard of attempts to disrupt the opponents’ build-up. Transitions to the deep block were fast and disciplined, with players prepared to sprint back into positions behind the ball. Screening midfielder Sarah Puntigam slotted quickly into the space between the left-back and the left centre-back to complete the line of five. The four midfielders set up shop close to the defensive line, with Burger retreating to a position ten metres inside her own half. With good one-on-one defenders to cope with penetrations, the block shifted and tilted well, making it difficult for opponents to break through. In 510 minutes of football, Austria conceded one goal – from a corner, when Amandine Henry was allowed to head France’s equaliser.

THE COUNTER ARGUMENT

The Netherlands and England reap rewards from going direct

The ability to counterattack is almost a given with deep defensive strategies and almost one-quarter of open-play goals could be directly attributed to counters. In Austria’s case, possession was not about a patient build-up. Nor was it about simply clearing the ball. There was a rationally designed counterattacking strategy. The preference was to play

as directly as possible into the final third, exploiting Burger's intelligent off-the-ball running and composure on the ball. Second-ball support was provided at sprint speed, with Laura Feiersinger breaking out fast on the right to play a key transition role in an effective defence-to-attack strategy that was not always achieved by the teams who focused on goal-prevention. "We did not use the transition moments as well as we could have," admitted Iceland's Freyr Alexandersson. "We should have passed to the transition player instead of clearing the ball away. We gave the ball away too easily."

In a tournament where direct attacking paid greater dividends than more elaborate approach work, semi-finalists England were among the teams who most frequently hit the fast-forward button. "When England played the long ball," said Sarina Wiegman after the semi-final, "it was not a game we were used to playing against. So we had to focus on winning the second ball and keeping possession with the ball on the ground from there."

As Jarmo Matikainen said: "Netherlands and England scored 24 goals between them. The speed factor was present for both nations when attacking – speed of thought, change of direction, tempo, movement, technique, final ball or finishing touch. For me, speed and efficiency were the defining factors of successful attacking."

As an aside, the trend towards more direct attacking could also be correlated with an upturn in the number of offsides – from 3.6 per match in 2013 to 5.2 in 2017 – an increase of 44%.

HIGH AND WIDE

Width offers the key to finding a way through defensive blocks

"Crosses!" exclaimed Pia Sundhage. "The quality has not been good enough. All teams can defend well in the box, so we need to look for other solutions – different kinds of crosses, running pathways into the area, overloads with overlapping players. We need more possibilities." The difficulties in finding



routes through deep defensive blocks highlighted the need to go round them. In build-up play, opening the game via passes from centre-backs to wide areas was almost standard procedure. What happened after that was critical. "Once there, we counted on our two wide players to give us depth in attack – which, ultimately, we did not achieve," said Spain's Jorge Vilda. "The supply to the wide areas was generally very good," added Hesterine de Reus. "Nowadays we see teams, such as Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, Spain who switch play efficiently from wing to wing. Players are equipped to hit 40-metre passes which was not always the case in the past."

The technical observers highlighted the Netherlands wingers – Shanice van de Sanden and Lieke Martens – as prime examples of players equipped not only to deliver crosses but also to make penetrating runs at high speed and use their one-on-one skills to reach the byline through inside channels and supply cut-backs. Training-ground work on relationships between wingers,

wide midfielders and full-backs also emerged as an important element in the defence-dominated tournament.

Job descriptions could easily focus on the contributions by England right-back Lucy Bronze or, in a different way, her Denmark equivalent Theresa Nielsen. The latter appeared as right-back in her team's 1-4-4-2 defensive structure but, when in possession, she pushed into midfield to create a 1-3-5-2 attacking structure, with the left-back stepping in as third centre-back. Wide midfielder Sanne Troelsgaard tucked in to overload the midfield and open spaces for Nielsen to exploit with overlapping or underlapping runs. Her attacking role was illustrated by the winning goal against Germany. Nielsen, working the inside channel, won a second ball and fed a short forward pass to Nadim. The striker opened play to Frederikke Thøgersen on the right and her cross was headed in by Nielsen who, with courage of convictions, had prolonged her run to appear, unmarked, in the German penalty box.



CROSS EXAMINATION

The Netherlands scored four of their 13 goals from crosses

Even though deliveries from the wide areas accounted for 28% of open-play goals, tournament statistics provoke reflections on the quality of crossing, accuracy and the off-ball movements required to capitalise on them. The Netherlands, by no means the most prolific or the most accurate in terms of crossing, nevertheless scored four crucial goals in this way. The table provides details, with the column labelled 'success' indicating the percentage of crosses that reached a team-mate.

TEAM	CROSSES	AVERAGE	SUCCESS
Spain*	111	27.75	59%
France	103	25.75	41%
Germany	101	25.25	45%
Sweden	74	18.50	39%
Norway	51	17.00	51%
Netherlands	102	17.00	44%
Italy	51	17.00	35%
Belgium	50	16.67	48%
Denmark*	99	16.50	47%
Scotland	45	15.00	31%
Austria*	73	14.60	45%
England	72	14.40	53%
Iceland	42	14.00	40%
Switzerland	39	13.00	49%
Russia	23	7.67	39%
Portugal	21	7.00	33%

*Including extra time

CATCHING THE NETTLE

Keepers emerge as a 'weaker link' despite impressing in 2013

UEFA's technical reports do not set out to be critical. Mistakes happen. But, in an honest review of UEFA Women's EURO 2017, goalkeeping is a nettle that has to be grasped. But for goalkeepers' errors, the goal tally would have fallen even further below its record low. A compilation of important – many of them match-changing – errors might give goalkeeper coaches sleepless nights. Crosses misjudged or mishandled; shots palmed into the net; questionable positioning of keeper and wall; passes directly to the opposition striker. On the other hand, the tournament was painted in *chiaroscuro* – light and shade – as the errors were mixed with a large number of outstanding saves.

On the positive side: the mental fortitude exemplified by Denmark's Stina Lykke Petersen who, after an error had allowed Germany to take the lead in the third minute, bounced back and contributed to her team's victory with a string of outstanding saves. The same applied to many others. But, in terms of goalkeeping technique, the overall reaction among the UEFA technical observers was one of surprise – especially bearing in mind the benchmarks set at EURO 2013 where, to quote the technical report, "narrowing the field to three for UEFA's All-Star Squad proved to be problematical" and a keeper – Germany's Nadine Angerer – had been named UEFA's Player of the Tournament.

The observers in the Netherlands were therefore puzzled when goalkeeping emerged as one of the tournament's "weaker links", as they put it. There was debate about whether deeper defending equals less visibility and more obstacles when coming off the line. There was debate about the coaching received at club level (if any). And there was

debate about whether the growing emphasis on playing with feet and initiating build-up from the back had subtracted from work on other basics. The proliferation of incidents where keepers opted to parry or punch instead of catching the ball was thought-provoking as, apart from the errors that led directly to the net, failure to catch the ball often prolonged the opposition's attack by keeping the ball in play and creating scenes of chaos in the box. France coach Olivier Echouafni commented: "Goalkeepers now have good technique and athletic qualities but they still have to improve their vision and reading of the game. And they still struggle with crosses." UEFA technical observer – and former international goalkeeper – Anne Noé said: "Goalkeeper development has come on in leaps and bounds in recent years. But we mustn't overlook the importance of catching the ball properly."

STRUCTURAL CHANGES

Flexible approaches provided greater variety in formations

One of the salient features of EURO 2013 was that the final tournament in Sweden accentuated the preference for a 1-4-2-3-1 formation, with half of the dozen finalists using it as a default setting. In the Netherlands, this trend was comprehensively reversed. Flexibility was the name of the game. But half the teams preferred 1-4-4-2 or variations thereupon. Italy's structure, for example, often metamorphosed into 1-4-5-1 according to opponents or match situation; Portugal's 1-4-4-2 featured a midfield diamond and some eyes would register it as a 1-4-3-3. And so on. Belgium, Russia and Scotland could be listed as 1-4-1-4-1; Iceland were alone in fielding a back line of three in a 1-3-5-2 structure, along with Denmark when they moved into attacking mode with right-back Nielsen advancing.

THE ART OF SCORING

Quality of finishing leaves room for improvement as goals dry up

Even though the shortage of goals could be regarded as a homage to the art of defending, the quality of finishing evidently came into the equation. The number of goal attempts (773) represented an increase of 18.5% in relation to EURO 2013 yet the goalscoring average – despite the six-goal final – reached an all-time low. The ratio between on-target and off-target finishing was of some concern for France, Spain, Sweden, Scotland and – especially – Iceland, while Austria’s statistics were inflated by playing a full hour of extra time. The champions needed 5.77 attempts to score a goal; England 5.18; Germany 17.6; France 21.67; and Spain 36.5.

TEAM	ATTEMPTS	AV.	ON TARGET	AV.	OFF TARGET	BLOCKED	WOODWORK	GOALS
Germany	88	22.00	34	8.50	33	21	4	5
Spain*	73	18.25	22	5.50	31	20	1	2
France	65	16.25	19	4.75	29	17	1	3
Austria*	69	13.80	27	5.40	25	17	0	5
Sweden	55	13.75	13	3.25	27	15	3	4
Netherlands	75	12.50	31	5.17	31	13	0	13
Denmark*	74	12.33	29	4.83	29	16	2	6
Norway	36	12.00	10	3.33	16	10	3	0
England	57	11.40	21	4.20	25	11	1	11
Italy	33	11.00	16	5.33	12	5	1	5
Belgium	33	11.00	10	3.33	13	10	0	3
Scotland	30	10.00	7	2.33	16	7	0	2
Switzerland	26	8.67	9	3.00	8	9	0	3
Iceland	21	7.00	1	0.33	12	8	0	2
Russia	20	6.67	6	2.00	10	4	0	2
Portugal	18	6.00	6	2.00	7	5	0	3

*Including extra time; Attempts striking the woodwork are included in the on-target total if deflected by goalkeeper or defender and in the off-target total if the attempt strikes the woodwork directly



Nina Burger and Sarah Zadrazil celebrate the No10's goal against Switzerland that resulted in Austria's first ever finals win

GROWING INTENSITY

Tournament conditions put spotlight on player demands

“During the run-up to the final tournament, the emphasis was on physical preparation. The players had to get used to intensity.” England coach Mark Sampson was by no means alone in highlighting the physical and psychological demands of a high-intensity event. England’s fitness programmes paid dividends in terms of their ability to sustain very aggressive forward pressing throughout the 90 minutes. Finland’s Jarmo Matikainen remarked: “Most teams were equipped to sustain game intensity. It meant that concentration had to be maintained and, in most games, players could not afford to switch off for a single moment.”

Technical observer Hesterine de Reus highlighted the emotional intelligence required by players who had not previously experienced such big-match conditions. “The tournament demonstrated that the environment can be difficult to handle. I think that mental coaching support becomes really important in these circumstances. Attitudes can be crucial on the pitch. The Netherlands No7 Shanice van de Sanden illustrated how you channel environmental pressures into positive energy. The Italian players were totally unaccustomed to such big crowds – but they loved the attention and performed really positively except for the first half against Russia.” On the other hand, Iceland’s Freyr Alexandersson admitted that his players had been “a little bit overwhelmed” and felt that this had affected performance: “When we had the ball, we should have relaxed a bit more.”

Apart from champion Sarina Wiegman (see pages 24-25), other coaches had placed importance on psychological aspects. Dominik Thalhammer, for example, said: “We paid a lot of attention to the mental preparation of our players – and having had a mental coach since 2011 has been



Germany's Steffi Jones and Denmark's Nils Nielsen share a joke

a valuable asset. She comes in during training camps and has an hour a day with the players. Apart from working on mental strengths, she also helps with visualisations of some technical topics, which is also a positive contribution.” Bearing in mind the parameters of club football in many areas of the women’s game, mental preparations for stepping on to the big stage arguably assume even greater relevance.

WET BEHIND THE EARS?

Fourteen of the 16 coaches were in charge for their first EURO

Could similar observations be applied to coaches? The fact that Antonio Cabrini and Pia Sundhage (both of whom stepped down immediately after UEFA Women’s EURO 2017) were the only survivors from 2013 meant that 14 coaches were gaining their first experience of a EURO. The issue is not to question coaching abilities – far from it – but rather to debate the value of

experience in women’s football when it comes to a major international event. Importing professional elements from the men’s game has undoubtedly been beneficial. The tournament, however, raised questions about coaches’ behaviour in terms of engaging in mind games with colleagues when they become the next opponent. “For me, the principles of fair play are very important,” Pia Sundhage said. “We don’t want to be like the men’s game.”

The special camaraderie among coaches was illustrated by Nils Nielsen and Sarina Wiegman after the final whistle in Enschede. Apart from their embrace on the pitch, they were generous of spirit. “At times we were like Bambi on ice,” Nielsen told the media, “struggling to both defend and attack. The Dutch were the team of the tournament. They deserved to win. I enjoyed being part of this.” Sarina Wiegman declared: “Denmark deserved to be here. Both teams wanted to play football and six goals in an exciting final was a great advert for the women’s game.” The climax of a tournament that showcased the arts of defending was a final that showcased the arts of attacking.

DEFENCES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Better fitness and focus caused the goal rate to drop

One of the salient features of UEFA Women's EURO 2013 had been a 25% downturn in scoring to the lowest average of goals per game since the group stage was introduced in 1997. At the expanded 16-team tournament in the Netherlands, the downward trend continued with a further reduction, which was masked by the six-goal final that hauled the average up from 2.07. "I think this illustrates the high levels of preparation in defensive mechanisms," UEFA technical observer Patricia González said, "along with the continued improvement in discipline and the ability to focus throughout games."

To put EURO 2017 into context, the figure compares with 3.21 goals per game in the knockout rounds of the 2016/17 UEFA Women's Champions League or the average of 2.81 at the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup. In the Netherlands, the host team and England accounted for 35% of the goals, due largely to the latter's 6-0 victory over Scotland in their opening game. In other words, the other 14 contestants shared 44 goals at an average of 3.14 apiece. The expanded final tournament produced three goalless draws, two of them involving Austria who played four hours of football in the knockout rounds without scoring or conceding. En route to the final, the hosts and Denmark had conceded one and two goals respectively in their five fixtures. Apart from the three 0-0 draws, both teams scored in only 11 of the remaining 28 fixtures.

YEAR	MATCHES	GOALS	AVERAGE
2017	31	68	2.19
2013	25	56	2.24
2009	25	75	3.00
2005	15	50	3.33
2001	15	40	2.66
1997	15	35	2.33

England forward Jodie Taylor celebrates the last of her tournament-high five goals in the quarter-finals against France

FIRST GOAL WINS?

88% of games with goals were won by the team that scored first

Only three teams came back from 0-1 down to win: Switzerland against Iceland; Denmark in the quarter-finals against Germany; and the Netherlands in the final against Denmark. In other words, 23 of the 26 games that produced victories were won by the team scoring first. Even though this represented an improvement on the previous EURO in Sweden, where nobody rebounded from 0-1 down to win, the statistic strongly suggests that teams were equipped to defend advantages. As the first goal in half of those matches hit the net during the opening half-hour (six in the first ten minutes), it cannot be argued that there was no time for opponents to find a reply.

The statistic that ten of the crucial opening goals were scored from dead-ball situations (five penalties and five free-kicks) and a further two spot kicks were awarded with the score still at 0-0 (to Norway v Denmark and to Austria in the semi-final, also against Denmark) highlights the fact that the referees – many of them as unaccustomed to the big-match atmospheres as the players themselves – were required to take big, game-changing decisions.

GOAL TYPES

A rise in penalties and goals from crosses caught the eye

Set-play goals
Almost a third of the goals (32%) scored in the Netherlands stemmed from set plays, compared with just under 27% at UEFA Women's EURO 2013 and 33% at the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup. The most notable increase, however, was the number of goals scored from the penalty spot: eight, a leap from the two in Sweden. The beneficiaries were Germany (three), the hosts (two), France, Denmark and Sweden.

As opposed to 2013, when no direct free-kicks were converted, three goals were scored in this fashion in the Netherlands. However, the successes, it has to be said, were not alien to defensive errors – the handling by the keeper that allowed France to equalise against Switzerland and the positioning by keepers and defensive walls that led to the hosts' opening goal in the quarter-final against Sweden and the important third against Denmark in the final. Goalkeeping coaches will also have taken note of the situations that allowed five indirect free-kicks to find their way into the net.

Another category that had registered a zero on the scoring chart in Sweden was the throw-in. In the Netherlands, a number of goals could, in theory, be traced back to throw-ins but two could clearly be attributed to them. Belgium cashed in against Norway when a long throw from the right was allowed to bounce into the Norway goal area for Janice Cayman to nod into the net. France, despite having nine players in the box, then allowed a long throw by Verena Aschauer on the left to reach Lisa Makas, whose right-footed drive put Austria 1-0 ahead. "These were by no means the only examples," UEFA observer Jarmo Matikainen remarked, "and it's good to see something of a renaissance. Other types of dead-ball situations might have been thoroughly scouted but maybe not the throw-in."

The other salient feature in the set-

TOP SCORERS

5 JODIE TAYLOR
ENGLAND
0 assists | 328 minutes played

4 VIVIANNE MIEDEMA
NETHERLANDS
0 assists | 536 minutes played

3 LIEKE MARTENS
NETHERLANDS
2 assists | 525 minutes played

3 SHERIDA SPITSE
NETHERLANDS
1 assist | 540 minutes played

play category was the decline in the number of successful corners – a facet mentioned elsewhere in this report.

Set-play goals

Once again, wing-play was the most fertile route to the net, with crosses and cut-backs providing almost one-third (32.61%) of the tournament’s open-play goals, as they had done in 2013. However, cut-backs led to only two goals (for Switzerland against Iceland – rebound included – and Portugal against England). Through passes enjoyed a lesser degree of success than in Sweden, with England’s direct attacking accounting for half the 2017 total and Scotland achieving an historic debut win with a long pass over the Spain defence followed by rebounds. Otherwise, penetration through or over dense defensive blocks proved to be problematic. The same applied to long-range shooting. With defences dropping deep, many teams (notably France) were unafraid to deliver goal attempts from the less populated areas around the box. Accuracy, however, was below par and goalkeepers generally dealt competently with shots from long distance.

If penalties are subtracted from the equation, headers accounted for 25% of the tournament’s goals. Nine of the 15 headed goals were from set plays – four

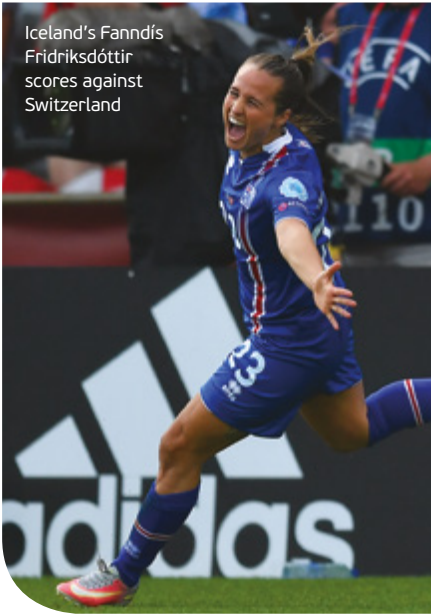
from corners, the same number from free-kicks and one from a long throw.

Counterattacking generated 24% of the open-play goals, though most teams were equipped to counter the counter by keeping balancing players behind the ball while attacking or defusing fast breaks with offences. The total could even be inflated, as some goals were difficult to clearly assign to this category, especially in matches marked by rapid turnovers in possession. Italy, however, provided some classic counterattacks based on the left-wing solo gallops by Barbara Bonansea (not a starter in the opening defeat by Russia), which set up the equaliser against Germany and the winner against Sweden. The former was an end-to-end counter; the latter derived from a regain in midfield. A coaching-manual break also sealed the Netherlands’ 2-0 win against Sweden: a piercing diagonal pass by Lieke Martens; a perfect first touch that allowed Shanice van de Sanden to race into the box in top gear; and a deadly low cross for Vivianne Miedema to tap into the net. The hosts’ equaliser in the final adhered to a very similar script, while Denmark’s equaliser was derived from a counterattack of a different nature – Pernille Harder peeling off to spring the offside trap set by a high defensive line and embarking on a solo run into the Netherlands’ box.

CATEGORY	ACTION	GUIDELINES	GOALS
SET PLAY	Corner	Direct from or following a corner	4
	Free-kick (direct)	Direct from a free-kick	3
	Free-kick (indirect)	Following a free-kick	5
	Penalty	Spot kick (or follow-up)	8
	Throw-in	Following a throw-in	2
TOTAL SET-PLAY GOALS			22
OPEN PLAY	Combination	Wall pass or combination move	10
	Cross	Cross from the wing	13
	Cut-back	Pass back from the byline	2
	Diagonal	Diagonal pass into the penalty box	3
	Run with the ball	Dribble and close-range shot or dribble and pass	4
	Long-range shot	Direct shot or shot and rebound	2
	Forward pass	Through pass or pass over the defence	7
	Defensive error	Bad back pass or mistake by the keeper	4
	Own goal	Goal by the opponent	1
TOTAL OPEN-PLAY GOALS			46
TOTAL			68

GOAL TIMES

At UEFA Women’s EURO 2009, 69% of the goals were scored after the half-time interval. In 2013, the goals were evenly shared between the first and second periods. And the trend continued in the Netherlands, where 55% of the goals were scored during the first half and 40% hit the net during the opening 30 minutes. After the break, the most fertile quarter-hour was the first and the fact that the final 15 minutes were among the least productive segments could be interpreted as evidence to support theories that, right across the board, fitness levels have risen sufficiently to avoid fading symptoms in terms of physical performance – and offered vindication to the coaches who, aware of the demands at top international level, had prioritised collective and individual fitness programmes prior to the event.



MINUTES	GOALS	%
1-15	13	19
16-30	14	21
31-45	10	15
45+	0	0
46-60	12	18
61-75	8	12
76-90	9	13
90+	2	3

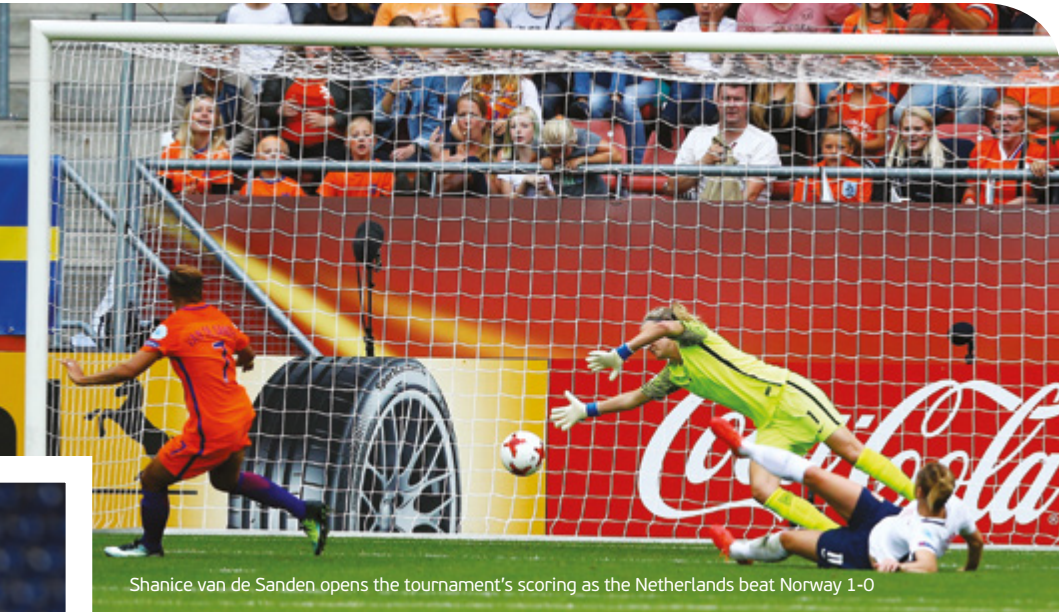
Decimal points account for the extra 1%



Spain's Vicky Losada (top); Ana Leite of Portugal

ANALYSING
THE SCORERS

England’s Jodie Taylor, topping the charts after a flying-start hat-trick against Scotland, symptomised the dominance by strikers in the list of goalscorers. The tournament’s goals were shared among 46 players, 13 of whom put their names on scoresheets more than once. Excluding penalties, 32 goals were scored by strikers; 13 by central midfielders; ten by wingers; three by full-backs; and one by central defenders. The own goal attributed to England defender Millie Bright during added-time of the semi-final against the hosts was the only one of the tournament. Only five goals were scored by substitutes and only two of those five (Italy’s Cristiana Girelli against Sweden and Portugal’s Ana Leite against Scotland) were match-winners.



Shanice van de Sanden opens the tournament's scoring as the Netherlands beat Norway 1-0

TOP TEN
GOALS

UEFA’s technical observers chose their top ten goals of the tournament, with two for Netherlands striker Vivianne Miedema. The goals, in chronological order, are:

SHANICE VAN DE SANDEN
NETHERLANDS 1-0 NORWAY

Keeper to Groenen to Martens. Solo run on left and cross. Winger gets across her marker to head in the first goal of the tournament.

VICKY LOSADA
SPAIN 2-0 PORTUGAL

Cool finish from a diagonal through pass to culminate an elaborate combination build-up.

JODIE TAYLOR
ENGLAND 6-0 SCOTLAND

Diagonal to left channel; delightful headed through pass; and conclusive finish for striker’s hat-trick.

ILARIA MAURO
GERMANY 2-1 ITALY

Classic counterattack with Bonansea breaking fast on the left; superb one-touch shot at near post.

FANNDÍS FRÍÐRIKSDÓTTIR
ICELAND 1-2 SWITZERLAND

Counterattacking diagonal pass to the No10 in inside-left channel; solo run and precise strike.

DANIELA SABATINO
SWEDEN 2-3 ITALY

Partially cleared corner on the left returned to box with diagonal pass; technically brilliant finish for Sabatino’s second goal of the match.

ANA-MARIA CRNOGORČEVIĆ
SWITZERLAND 1-1 FRANCE

Bachmann run earns a free-kick; great delivery and outstanding muscular header into top corner.

VIVIANNE MIEDEMA
NETHERLANDS 2-0 SWEDEN

Rapid counter; diagonal by Martens to Van de Sanden; excellent control, fast run, low cross to Miedema in front of goal.

THERESA NIELSEN
GERMANY 1-2 DENMARK

Nielsen takes part in combination on right; continues run into centre of box to score with downward header.

VIVIANNE MIEDEMA
NETHERLANDS 3-0 ENGLAND

Martens diagonal to Groenen on right; deep cross and excellent looping header at far post for first goal of semi-final meeting.

See all the goals on UEFA.com



TALKING POINTS

The success of set pieces and how to bridge the gap between Under-19 and senior football were up for discussion

CUTTING CORNERS?

Despite practice in training, only four goals derived from corners

Statistics reveal that almost one-third of the goals came from set plays. And that, in a tournament where only three teams came from 0-1 down to win, ten of the opening goals were scored from dead-ball situations. A survey among the coaches in the Netherlands revealed that most of them understandably devoted large chunks of their training-ground time to rehearsals of set plays.

France coach Olivier Echouafni went through set-play routines “in great detail”, regarding them as “a key element”. Francisco Neto included dead-ball rehearsals in all the Portugal training sessions. Antonio Cabrini estimated that around one-third of Italy’s training-ground work was on set pieces. Martin Sjögren said Norway had placed “lots of emphasis on set plays from pre-camp onwards” and that they “played a major part in every third practice session”. Austria’s Dominik Thalhammer “paid a lot of attention to set pieces – almost every training session”. Scotland provided something of an exception by dedicating only around 10% of training time to dead-ball situations, while England’s Mark Sampson used “a combination of work on the training field and sessions in the meeting room” on an aspect of play where the players themselves were encouraged to assume responsibilities. And so it went on.

Sweden, however, deserve special mention. After the draw against Germany, the feedback from UEFA’s technical observers included comments on “a very interesting team regarding set plays” and “five different options for corners in attack”, among them a novel ploy of situating four good headers of the ball in a line beyond the far post. Pia Sundhage explained: “During the tournament it was a big

part of training – very important to me, so we worked on that quite a bit.”

By this stage, you might be wondering why this is being presented as a talking point. The explanation is in the statistics for set-play goals. Only four of them stemmed from corners: two on the opening matchday; one (France’s equaliser against Austria) on the second matchday; one (Austria’s second against Iceland) on the third; and none in the knockout phase. The cruel reality was that the tournament’s 303 corners yielded a success ratio that nudged 1:76. To put the stats into perspective, the success rate at EURO 2013 had been 1:29.

Apart from discussing the time dedicated to set plays, the coaches had also stressed the relevance of thorough scouting of opponents. In-depth analysis evidently included mechanisms at corners. Once a strategy had been used, it was unlikely to surprise opponents again – which makes it understandable that, after the opening matchday, only two goals resulted from corners. The tournament suggested strongly that teams had efficiently done their homework on defending against corner-kicks.

The talking point is therefore quite simple. If 76 corners are necessary for a goal to be scored, is it worth investing training-ground time to rehearsing them? Would this time be better dedicated to aspects such as finding attacking antidotes to deep defensive blocks?

MIND THE GAP

How can players be helped to make the step up to senior level?

In the Netherlands, one in seven of the players had yet to reach her 22nd birthday. The England and Germany squads contained no players aged 21 or younger; Sweden fielded one. Final tournament debutants Austria and Switzerland accounted for 29% of the under-22 contingent.

During the group phase, when all 16 teams were in action, 17 of the 52 players in that age bracket

remained unused. Six played 45 minutes or less. A further six accumulated fewer than 90 minutes.

The statistics highlighted one of the major concerns among the coaches at the final tournament. As England’s Mark Sampson remarked: “Our biggest challenge is bridging the gap between the Under-19s and the senior team.” After Iceland’s elimination, Freyr Alexandersson admitted: “The gap between players at 19 and senior levels is too large and we need to address it.”

Some national associations are addressing or are planning to address the issue. Belgium’s Ives Serneels, for example, said: “Up until now, players with real talent have come straight into the A team. But we now realise that we have more talented players coming through in the ages of 19, 20 or 21 and that’s a thing we’re planning to discuss with a view to working on players with



At 21, Margarita Chernomyrdina was one of the younger members of the Russia squad

‘THE GAP BETWEEN PLAYERS AT 19 AND SENIOR LEVELS IS TOO LARGE AND NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED’



Fridolina Rolfö (second left) lines up Sweden’s wall against the Netherlands



Amandine Henry (left) rises to meet a corner for France’s equaliser against Austria

talent who are still at a level a little below the standard of the A team. We don’t have this project in place at the moment but it’s one of the things we want to implant after this EURO.”

Italy coach Antonio Cabrini added: “We have attempted during this last year to fill the gap with a new U23 side.” Sweden’s Pia Sundhage said: “Our U23 team is very important for this aspect of development.” Others have nothing to plug the gap. Scotland’s Anna Signeul said: “We have no teams nor activities.” France coach Olivier Echouafni commented: “We have our U20s and then nothing.”

It has to be said that the alternatives to ‘nothing’ are limited. The national associations who have intermediate teams often run into problems when it comes to organising, for example, U23 games of a truly competitive nature. Another aspect is that such games tend to lack pulling-power among the public, which leads to a shortfall in terms of preparing players for high-profile

matches played before large crowds on the big international stage. Those with no intermediate teams underline the risk of drop-outs. “We have to do something to avoid players leaving the game completely,” said Spain coach Jorge Vilda. “We are starting to build a pyramid,” Russia coach Elena Fomina agreed, “because after the U19s we often lose players who are not immediately ready for the senior team.”

A further perspective to fuel debate is to define the aspects for coaches to work on during an age-bracket that is not generally regarded as a ‘development phase’. In the Netherlands, there was, at the same time, diversity and consensus. Ives Serneels, on one hand, pointed out: “It’s not easy for players to make the step up. This is something we’ve been addressing in recent years. We were working with players who were training three times a week. We knew that if we wanted to have realistic chances of qualifying for a EURO we had to increase this. If we want to maintain our level, we need to have players who train five or six times a week at their clubs.”

Despite very diverse parameters, even Germany are on a similar wavelength. “The challenge for the players,” Steffi Jones said, “is the increase in tempo and power.” Though domestic competition in Italy differs substantially from the Bundesliga, Antonio Cabrini agreed: “The greatest challenge is to enhance the playing level from the physical and tempo points of view.” Switzerland coach Martina Voss-Tecklenburg said: “We need to help players to make the jump in terms of athletic ability, reaction times and the increase in the level of intensity.”

In other words, there was general recognition of the need to guide players through a period described by Olivier Echouafni as “the transition phase towards professional level at their clubs and the standards required in the senior national team”. The debating point to emerge from their comments is quite simple. In the absence of an U21 championship, what more can be done to help players to bridge the crucial gap between U19 football and the high-intensity senior-team football displayed at UEFA Women’s EURO 2017?

BEST OF THE BEST

Lieke Martens led the way as Dutch players dominated the honours board

TEAM OF THE TOURNAMENT

UEFA's technical observers faced the challenge of choosing a 'starting XI' from the array of talent on display. In-depth discussions were required to prune a list of 68 outfield players (20 defenders, 32 midfielders and

16 attackers). By contrast, Sari van Veenendaal had little opposition in a tournament where the level of goalkeeping emerged as a talking point. The elimination of outstanding players was a source of regret – the

jury feeling that no fewer than 15 of them warranted special mention. Deliberations resulted in a team to play in 1-4-4-2 formation with Denmark right-back Theresa Nielsen in her more advanced attacking position.



PLAYER OF THE TOURNAMENT

For the second time, UEFA's technical observers named a single Player of the Tournament and the custom-designed award was presented on the pitch in Enschede to Netherlands midfielder Lieke Martens.

The tournament statistics reveal that she scored three and provided assists for two more of her team's 13 goals. The award, however, was a reward for her overall contribution to the Netherlands' success. Apart from being a creative, skilful left-winger eager to use her one-on-one abilities against opposing full-backs, she made incisive diagonal runs into shooting positions; played quick combinations with striker Vivianne Miedema or left-side midfielder Danielle van de Donk; made an impact with

intelligent runs on and off the ball; and opened the game with some superb diagonal crossfield passes to right-winger Shanice van de Sanden.

Martens was always ready to drop deep and make herself available to receive passes during the build-up phase. She also displayed great tactical awareness during epic battles with England's Lucy Bronze and Denmark's Theresa Nielsen in the semi-final and final, with both opponents making heavy demands on her concentration and defensive potential. The UEFA award signified a recognition of her creative talents and reading of the game, which allowed her to make a sustained impact throughout the tournament.



Lieke Martens
Netherlands



PLAYER OF THE MATCH

At least two members of the UEFA technical team were responsible for selecting a Player of the Match at each of the 31 fixtures. The winner was announced by the stadium speaker immediately after the final whistle and, up until the semi-finals, the award was presented pitchside by one of the UEFA technical observers.

The awards signified recognition of an important or decisive contribution to the outcome of the particular game. In the Netherlands, 14 of the awards went to midfielders, ten to forwards, five to defenders, and two to goalkeepers – by coincidence to the two keepers who went on to dispute the final.

There were, evidently, shades of meaning to be drawn about categorisation into playing categories with, for example, Theresa Nielsen 'officially' a right-back but, in practice, operating for much of the tournament in an advanced role. Ramona Bachmann and UEFA Player of the Tournament Lieke Martens were the only two players to win the award more than once.

MATCH	PLAYER OF THE MATCH	POS.
Netherlands v Norway	Lieke Martens	FW
Denmark v Belgium	Sanne Troelsgaard	MF
Italy v Russia	Elena Morozova	MF
Germany v Sweden	Dzsenifer Marozsán	MF
France v Iceland	Wendie Renard	DF
Austria v Switzerland	Sarah Puntigam	MF
England v Scotland	Jodie Taylor	FW
Spain v Portugal	Amanda Sampedro	MF
Norway v Belgium	Tessa Wullaert	FW
Netherlands v Denmark	Sari van Veenendaal	GK
Sweden v Russia	Lotta Schelin	FW
Germany v Italy	Linda Dallmann	MF
Iceland v Switzerland	Ramona Bachmann	FW
France v Austria	Nicole Billa	MF
Scotland v Portugal	Dolores Silva	DF
England v Spain	Lucy Bronze	DF
Belgium v Netherlands	Lieke Martens	FW
Norway v Denmark	Pernille Harder	FW
Russia v Germany	Babett Peter	DF
Sweden v Italy	Daniela Stracchi	MF
Iceland v Austria	Nina Burger	FW
Switzerland v France	Ramona Bachmann	FW
Portugal v England	Toni Duggan	FW
Scotland v Spain	Caroline Weir	MF
Netherlands v Sweden	Jackie Groenen	MF
Germany v Denmark	Theresa Nielsen	DF
Austria v Spain	Laura Feiersinger	MF
England v France	Amandine Henry	MF
Denmark v Austria	Stina Lykke Petersen	GK
Netherlands v England	Danielle van de Donk	MF
Netherlands v Denmark	Sherida Spitse	MF

SCORES AND TABLES

All the games, goals and line-ups from the Netherlands

Group A								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	
Netherlands	3	3	0	0	4	1	9	
Denmark	3	2	0	1	2	1	6	
Belgium	3	1	0	2	3	3	3	
Norway	3	0	0	3	0	4	0	

Netherlands 1-0 Norway Utrecht, 16 July

Goal 1-0 Van de Sanden 66
Netherlands Van Veenendaal; Van Lunteren, Dekker, Van den Berg (Van der Gragt 80), Van Es; Groenen, Van de Donk (Roord 90+1), Spitse; Van de Sanden (Beerensteyn 77), Miedema, Martens
Norway Hjelmseth; Wold, Mjelde, Berge, Thorsnes; Schjelderup (Reiten 75), Thorisdottir, Maanum (Isaksen 58); Ada Hegerberg, C Hansen, Minde (Haavi 66)
Yellow cards Groenen 90+1 (NED); Ada Hegerberg 9 (NOR)
Referee Frappart ARs Nicolosi, Kyriakou

Denmark 1-0 Belgium Doetinchem, 16 July

Goal 1-0 Troelsgaard 6
Denmark Petersen; Boye Sørensen, Arnth, Røddik; Troelsgaard, Jensen; Nielsen, Harder, Veje; Larsen (Kildemoes 60), Nadim (Thøgersen 71)
Belgium Odeurs; Coutereels, Zeler, Jaques, Philtjens (Daniels 86); Biesmans (Coryn 82), De Caigny, Onzia, Van Gorp (Vanmechelen 62); Wullaert, Cayman
Yellow cards Nadim 51, Røddik 65, Nielsen 86, Kildemoes 89 (DEN); Philtjens 83 (BEL)
Referee Monzul ARs Striletska, Ardasheva

Norway 0-2 Belgium Breda, 20 July

Goals 0-1 Van Gorp 59, 0-2 Cayman 67
Norway Hjelmseth; Wold (Sønstevoll 46), Berge, Spord, Thorsnes (Haavi 75); Schjelderup (Utland 78), Mjelde, Andrine Hegerberg; Ada Hegerberg, C Hansen, Minde
Belgium Odeurs; Deloose, Zeler, Jaques, Coutereels; Van Gorp (Daniels 88), Onzia, De Caigny, Philtjens (Coryn 76); Cayman (Biesmans 90+5), Wullaert
Yellow cards Sønstevoll 90 (NOR); Zeler 23, Jaques 48 (BEL)
Referee Mularczyk ARs Dabrowska, O’Neill

Netherlands 1-0 Denmark Rotterdam, 20 July

Goal 1-0 Spitse 20 (P)
Netherlands Van Veenendaal; Van Lunteren, Dekker, Van den Berg (Van der Gragt 54), Van Es; Groenen, Van de Donk, Spitse; Van de Sanden (Beerensteyn 88), Miedema, Martens (Jansen 78)
Denmark Petersen; Nielsen, Boye Sørensen, Jans, Sandvej; Troelsgaard, Jensen, Christiansen (Kildemoes 64), Veje (Larsen 69); Nadim, Harder
Yellow cards Troelsgaard 49, Kildemoes 77, Sørensen 82 (DEN)
Referee Hussein ARs Biehle, Kouroumpylia

Germany 0-0 Sweden Breda, 17 July

Germany Schult; Blässe (Maier 73), Peter, Henning, Simon; Demann; Magull, Marozsán, Däbritz; Mittag (Kayikci 65), Huth (Islacker 39)
Sweden Lindahl; Samuelsson, Fischer, Sembrant, Andersson (Ericsson 87); Asllani, Dahlkvist, Seger, Schough (Rubensson 56); Rolfö (Blackstenius 56), Schelin
Yellow card Magull 75 (GER)
Referee K Kulcsár ARs J Kulcsár, Bakker

Sweden 2-0 Russia Deventer, 21 July

Goals 1-0 Schelin 22, 2-0 Blackstenius 51
Sweden Lindahl; Samuelsson, Fischer, Sembrant, Ericsson; Asllani, Seger, Dahlkvist (Folkesson 63), Schough (Rolfö 46); Blackstenius (Hammarlund 73), Schelin
Russia Shcherbak; Ziyastinova, Makarenko, Kozhnikova, Solodkaya; El. Morozova; Sochneva (Kiskonen 81), Cholovyaga, Smirnova, Chernomyrdina (Fedorova 66); Danilova (Karpova 72)
Yellow cards Ericsson 17 (SWE); Sochneva 21, Morozova 55 (RUS)
Referee Frappart ARs Nicolosi, Kyriakou

Germany 2-1 Italy Tilburg, 21 July

Goals 1-0 Henning 19, 1-1 Mauro 29, 2-1 Peter 67 (P)
Germany Schult; Maier, Peter, Henning (Hendrich 46), Kerschowski; Dallmann (Magull 88), Demann, Däbritz; Mittag, Marozsán, Islacker (Petermann 79)
Italy Giuliani; Guagni, Linari, Salvai, Bartoli (69 so); Carissimi, Stracchi, Cernoia (Cimini 73), Bonansea; Mauro (Girelli 45+2), Gabbiadini (Sabatino 84)
Yellow cards Henning 39, Maier 81, Mittag 85 (GER); Carissimi 53, Bartoli 64, 69, Stracchi 66 (ITA)
Red card Bartoli 69 (ITA)
Referee Monzul ARs Striletska, Ardasheva

Sweden 2-3 Italy Doetinchem, 25 July

Goals 0-1 Sabatino 4, 1-1 Schelin 14 (P), 1-2 Sabatino 37, 2-2 Blackstenius 47, 2-3 Girelli 85
Sweden Lindahl; Rubensson, Sembrant, Ericsson, Andersson; Asllani (Rolfö 46), Folkesson, Seger (Dahlkvist 45), Schough (Spetsmark 79); Blackstenius, Schelin
Italy Giuliani; Guagni, Linari, Di Criscio, Cimini (Giugliano 60); Galli, Stracchi, Rosucci (Carissimi 84); Gabbiadini, Sabatino (Girelli 77), Bonansea
Yellow cards Di Criscio 13, Cimini 26 (ITA)
Referee Staubli ARs Brem, Karšić

Russia 0-2 Germany Utrecht, 25 July

Goals 0-1 Peter 10 (P), 0-2 Marozsán 56 (P)
Russia Shcherbak; Ziyastinova, Makarenko (Ek. Morozova 28), Kozhnikova, Solodkaya; El. Morozova; Sochneva, Smirnova (Fedorova 46), Cholovyaga, Chernomyrdina (Karpova 63); Danilova
Germany Schult; Blässe, Goessling, Peter, Simon; Doorsoun-Khajeh, Demann, Däbritz (Magull 68); Mittag (Kemme 75), Marozsán, Islacker (Kayikci 46)
Yellow card Kozhnikova 43 (RUS)
Referee Mularczyk ARs Dabrowska, O’Neill

Group C								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	
Austria	3	2	1	0	5	1	7	
France	3	1	2	0	3	2	5	
Switzerland	3	1	1	1	3	3	4	
Iceland	3	0	0	3	1	6	0	

Austria 1-0 Switzerland Deventer, 18 July

Goal 1-0 Burger 15
Austria Zinsberger; Schiechl (Schnaderbeck 77), Wenninger, Kirchberger, Aschauer; Feiersinger, Zadrzil, Puntigam, Billa (Pinther 83), Makas (Prohaska 39); Burger
Switzerland Thalmann; Crnogorčević, Kiwic (60 so), Abbé (Bernauer 57), Maritz; Reuteler (Brunner 62), Wälti, Moser, Dickenmann; Bachmann, Humm (Aigbogun 57)
Yellow cards Kirchberger 55, Burger 71 (AUT); Abbé 19 (SUI)
Red card Kiwic 60 (SUI)
Referee Steinhaus ARs Rafalski, Massey

France 1-0 Iceland Tilburg, 18 July

Goal 1-0 Le Sommer 86 (P)
France Bouhaddi; Houara-D’Hommeaux, Georges, Renard, Karchaoui; Thomis (Delie 77), Abily, Henry, Bussaglia (Thiney 64), Le Bihan (Diani 43); Le Sommer
Iceland G Gunnarsdóttir; Viggósdóttir, Atladóttir, Kristjansdóttir; Magnúsdóttir (Jónsdóttir 51), Brynjarsdóttir, S Gunnarsdóttir, Gísladóttir; Albertsdóttir (Jessen 83), Thorsteinsdóttir (Thorvaldsdóttir 71), Fridriksdóttir
Austria Zinsberger; Schiechl, Wenninger, Kirchberger, Aschauer; Zadrzil (Schnaderbeck 72), Puntigam; Feiersinger, Billa (Enzinger 86), Makas (Prohaska 56); Burger
Yellow cards Kristjansdóttir 48 (ISL); Zadrzil 54 (AUT)
Referee Hussein ARs Biehle, Kouroumpylia



Iceland 1-2 Switzerland Doetinchem, 22 July

Goals 1-0 Fridriksdóttir 33, 1-1 Dickenmann 43, 1-2 Bachmann 52
Iceland G Gunnarsdóttir; Viggósdóttir, Atladóttir, I Sigurdardóttir; Jónsdóttir (Magnúsdóttir 83), S Gunnarsdóttir, Gardarsdóttir (Thorsteinsdóttir 88), Gísladóttir; Ásbjörnsdóttir (Albertsdóttir 66), Brynjarsdóttir, Fridriksdóttir
Switzerland Thalmann; Crnogorčević, Brunner, Wälti, Maritz; Zehnder, Moser (Aigbogun 57), Bernauer, Dickenmann; Bürki (Humm 76), Bachmann (Rinast 90+10)
Yellow cards Jónsdóttir 44 (ISL); Dickenmann 7 (SUI)
Referee Pustovoitova ARs Kurochkina, Bilić

France 1-1 Austria Utrecht, 22 July

Goals 0-1 Makas 27, 1-1 Henry 51
France Bouhaddi; Houara-D’Hommeaux (Karchaoui 63), M’Bock Bathy, Renard, Perisset; Geyoro, Henry, Bussaglia (Abily 78); Delie, Thiney (Diani 70), Le Sommer
Austria Zinsberger; Schiechl, Wenninger, Kirchberger; Feiersinger, Schnaderbeck, Puntigam, Aschauer; Burger (Pinther 75), Billa (Eder 85), Makas (Prohaska 69)
Yellow cards Houara-D’Hommeaux 44 (FRA); Feiersinger 20 (AUT)
Referee Adámková ARs Ratajová, Sukenikova

Iceland 0-3 Austria Rotterdam, 26 July

Goals 0-1 Zadrzil 36, 0-2 Burger 44, 0-3 Enzinger 89
Iceland G Gunnarsdóttir; Viggósdóttir, Atladóttir, Kristjansdóttir; Magnúsdóttir (Jónsdóttir 51), Brynjarsdóttir, S Gunnarsdóttir, Gísladóttir; Albertsdóttir (Jessen 83), Thorsteinsdóttir (Thorvaldsdóttir 71), Fridriksdóttir
Austria Zinsberger; Schiechl, Wenninger, Kirchberger, Aschauer; Zadrzil (Schnaderbeck 72), Puntigam; Feiersinger, Billa (Enzinger 86), Makas (Prohaska 56); Burger
Yellow cards Kristjansdóttir 48 (ISL); Zadrzil 54 (AUT)
Referee Hussein ARs Biehle, Kouroumpylia

Switzerland 1-1 France Breda, 26 July

Goals 1-0 Crnogorčević 19, 1-1 Abily 76
Switzerland Thalmann; Crnogorčević, Kiwic, Wälti, Maritz; Zehnder (Reuteler 79), Bernauer, Moser (Calligaris 65), Dickenmann; Bachmann, Aigbogun (Terchoun 79)
France Bouhaddi; Perisset (17 so), M’Bock Bathy, Renard, Karchaoui; Henry, Abily (Thiney 87), Geyoro; Diani (Houara-D’Hommeaux 83), Lavogez (Delie 71); Le Sommer
Yellow cards Bernauer 66, Calligaris 68, Dickenmann 72 (SUI); Renard 14, Henry 43 (FRA)
Red card Perisset 17 (FRA)
Referee K Kulcsár ARs J Kulcsár, Kurochkina

Group D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
England	3	3	0	0	10	1	9
Spain	3	1	0	2	2	3	3
Scotland	3	1	0	2	2	8	3
Portugal	3	1	0	2	3	5	3

Spain 2-0 Portugal Doetinchem, 19 July

Goals 1-0 Losada 23, 2-0 Sampedro 42
Spain Paños; Torrejón, Paredes, Pereira, Ouahabi (León 89); Sampedro, Mesequer, Losada; Mariona, Hermoso (Paz 65), Alexia (Latorre 81)
Portugal Morais; Borges, Rebelo, Carole Costa, Dolores Silva; Marques, Pinto, Pires (Antunes 71); Leite (Mendes 59), Neto, Diana Silva (Luis 85)
Yellow cards None
Referee Larsson ARs Iugulescu, Tepusa

England 6-0 Scotland Utrecht, 19 July

Goals 1-0 Taylor 11, 2-0 Taylor 26, 3-0 White 32, 4-0 Taylor 53, 5-0 Nobbs 87, 6-0 Duggan 90+3
England Bardsley; Bronze, Houghton, Bright, Stokes; Moore, Scott; Nobbs, Kirby (Parris 65), White (Carney 74); Taylor (Duggan 59)
Scotland Fay; Fi. Brown (Clelland 46), Dieke, Barsley, Arthur; Corsie (Love 76); Evans, Crichton, Weir, Fr. Brown; Ross (Cuthbert 63)
Yellow cards Houghton 55, Scott 62 (ENG); Weir 84 (SCO)
Referee Staubli ARs Brem, Karšić

Scotland 1-2 Portugal Rotterdam, 23 July

Goals 0-1 Mendes 27, 1-1 Cuthbert 68, 1-2 Leite 72
Scotland Fay; McLauchlan (Love 82), Dieke, Barsley, Smith; Corsie; Evans, Crichton, Weir, Fi. Brown (Lauder 67); Clelland (Cuthbert 54)
Portugal Morais; Borges, Rebelo, Carole Costa, Dolores Silva; Da Costa (Pires 76), Pinto, Marques; Neto; Mendes (Leite 70), Diana Silva (Luis 90+2)
Yellow cards Corsie 74 (SCO); Carole Costa 2, Diana Silva 47, Rebelo 76, Morais 86, Neto 89 (POR)
Referee K Kulcsár ARs J Kulcsár, Bakker

England 2-0 Spain Breda, 23 July

Goals 1-0 Kirby 2, 2-0 Taylor 85
England Bardsley; Bronze, Houghton, Bright, Stokes; Moore, Scott; Nobbs, Kirby (Christiansen 69), White (Duggan 79); Taylor (Potter 89)
Spain Paños; Torrejón, Pereira, Paredes; Corredera, Losada (García 73), Meseguer, Alexia, Ouahabi (Latorre 89); Hermoso, Sampedro (Torrecilla 89)
Yellow cards Paredes 31, Pereira 69 (ESP)
Referee Vitulano **ARs** Abruzzese, Kourompylia

Scotland 1-0 Spain Deventer, 27 July

Goal 1-0 Weir 42
Scotland Fay; Fr. Brown, Dieke, Corsie, Arthur; Crichton; Evans, Love (Fi. Brown 73), Weir, Cuthbert; Ross (Clelland 46)
Spain Paños; Torrejón, Pereira, Paredes, Ouahabi (Corredera 56); Sampedro, Meseguer, Losada; Mariona (Latorre 79), Hermoso (Paz 45), Alexia
Yellow cards Fay 40, Brown 44 (SCO); Ouahabi 54 (ESP)
Referee Adámková **ARs** Ratajová, Sukenikova

Portugal 1-2 England Tilburg, 27 July

Goals 0-1 Duggan 7, 1-1 Mendes 17, 1-2 Parris 48
Portugal Morais; Borges, Rebelo, Carole Costa, Dolores Silva; Antunes, Pinto, Pires (Da Costa 79); Mendes (Leite 64), Neto, Diana Silva (Luis 87)
England Chamberlain; Scott, Bassett, Bright (Nobbs 60), Greenwood; Williams, Potter; Carney, Duggan (Stokes 81), Christiansen; Parris
Yellow cards Williams 5, Christiansen 27 (ENG)
Referee Monzul **ARs** Striletska, Ardasheva

Quarter-finals

Netherlands 2-0 Sweden Doetinchem, 29 July

Goals 1-0 Martens 33, 2-0 Miedema 64
Netherlands Van Veenendaal; Van Lunteren, Dekker, Van der Gragt (Van den Berg 46), Van Es; Groenen, Van de Donk, Spitse; Van de Sanden (Jansen 76), Miedema, Martens (Beerensteyn 87)
Sweden Lindahl; Samuelsson, Fischer, Sembrant, Andersson (Larsson 81); Schelin, Dahlkvist, Seger, Asllani; Blackstenius, Rolfö (Folkesson 73)
Yellow cards Samuelsson 43, Asllani 90+1 (SWE)
Referee Steinhaus **ARs** Rafalski, Kourompylia



Germany 1-2 Denmark Rotterdam, 30 July

Goals 1-0 Kerschowski 3, 1-1 Nadim 49, 1-2 Nielsen 83
Germany Schult; Blässe, Goessling, Peter, Kerschowski; Doorsoun-Khajeh (Magull 45), Demann (Islacker 62), Däbritz; Mittag, Marozsán, Dallmann (Petermann 88)
Denmark Petersen; Nielsen, Sørensen, Larsen, Røddik (Sandvej 69); Troelsgaard, Jensen, Kildemoes (Thøgersen 66), Veje; Nadim, Harder
Referee K Kulcsár **ARs** J Kulcsár, Iugulescu

Austria 0-0 Spain Tilburg, 30 July
(aet; Austria win 5-3 on penalties)

Penalty shoot-out 1-0 Feiersinger, 1-1 García, 2-1 Burger, 2-2 Sampedro, 3-2 Aschauer, 3-2 Meseguer (saved), 4-2 Pinther, 4-3 Corredera, 5-3 Puntigam
Austria Zinsberger; Schiechtl, Wenninger, Schnaderbeck, Aschauer; Zadrazil (Pinther 110), Puntigam, Billa (Kirchberger 81); Feiersinger, Burger, Makas (Prohaska 42)
Spain Paños; Corredera, Torrejón, Paredes, León; Losada (Alexia 68), Meseguer, Sampedro; Latorre (Hermoso 76), Paz (Torrecilla 112), Mariona (García 56)
Yellow cards Wenninger 75, Aschauer 119 (AUT); León 30, Torrejón 88 (ESP)
Referee Frappart **ARs** Nicolosi, Massey

England 1-0 France Deventer, 30 July

Goal 1-0 Taylor 60
England Bardsley (Chamberlain 75); Bronze, Houghton, Bright, Stokes; Moore, Scott; Nobbs, Kirby, White; Taylor
France Bouhaddi; Houara-D’Hommeaux, Georges, M’Bock Bathy, Karchaoui; Diani (Thomis 65), Geyoro, Henry, Abily (Lavogez 78); Delie (Le Bihan 90), Le Sommer
Yellow cards Scott 33, Taylor 62 (ENG); M’Bock Bathy 81 (FRA)
Referee Staubli **ARs** Brem, Karšić

Semi-finals

Denmark 0-0 Austria Breda, 3 August
(aet; Denmark win 3-0 on penalties)

Penalty shoot-out 1-0 Nadim, 1-0 Feiersinger (missed), 2-0 Harder, 2-0 Pinther (saved), 2-0 Pedersen (saved), 2-0 Aschauer (saved), 3-0 Boye Sørensen
Denmark Petersen; Nielsen, Boye Sørensen, Larsen, Røddik (Sandvej 46); Troelsgaard, Kildemoes (Thøgersen 52), Jensen (Pedersen 69), Veje (N Sørensen 120+1); Nadim, Harder
Austria Zinsberger; Schiechtl, Wenninger, Kirchberger; Feiersinger, Schnaderbeck, Puntigam (Pinther 91), Aschauer; Zadrazil; Burger, Billa (Prohaska 39)
Yellow cards Kildemoes 36, Harder 80 (DEN); Schiechtl 56, Zadrazil 97 (AUT)
Referee Monzul **ARs** Striletska, Iugulescu

Netherlands 3-0 England Enschede, 3 August

Goals 1-0 Miedema 22, 2-0 Van de Donk 62, 3-0 Bright (OG) 90+3
Netherlands Van Veenendaal; Van Lunteren, Dekker, Van der Gragt (Zeeman 70), Van Es; Groenen, Van de Donk (Roord 90+1), Spitse; Van de Sanden (Jansen 89), Miedema, Martens
England Chamberlain; Bronze, Houghton, Bright, Stokes; Moore (Carney 76), Williams (Duggan 67); Nobbs, Kirby, White; Taylor
Yellow cards Van Lunteren 13, Van de Donk 59 (NED); Bright 15, Moore 47 (ENG)
Referee Frappart **ARs** Nicolosi, Kourompylia

Vivianne Miedema scores the first of her two goals in the hosts’ final triumph



Final

Netherlands 4-2 Denmark Enschede, 6 August

Goals 0-1 Nadim 6 (P), 1-1 Miedema 10, 2-1 Martens 28, 2-2 Harder 33, 3-2 Spitse 51, 4-2 Miedema 89
Netherlands Van Veenendaal; Van Lunteren (Janssen 57), Dekker, Van der Gragt, Van Es (Van den Berg 90+4); Groenen, Van de Donk, Spitse; Van de Sanden (Jansen 90), Miedema, Martens
Denmark Petersen; Nielsen, Boye Sørensen (Røddik 77), Larsen, Sandvej; Troelsgaard, Kildemoes (Thøgersen 61), Pedersen (Christiansen 82), Veje; Harder, Nadim
Yellow cards Groenen 21, Dekker 43, Van der Gragt 72 (NED); Nadim 45 (DEN)
Referee Staubli **ARs** Brem, Karšić

RESPECT FAIR PLAY
RANKING

Germany topped UEFA’s Respect Fair Play ranking in the Netherlands. Points are awarded for criteria such as cards, positive play, fan behaviour and respect shown to opponents and referees.

1		GERMANY POINTS 9.050	MATCHES 4
2		NETHERLANDS POINTS 8.966	MATCHES 6
3		AUSTRIA POINTS 8.960	MATCHES 5
4		SWEDEN POINTS 8.900	MATCHES 4
5		RUSSIA POINTS 8.833	MATCHES 3
6		NORWAY POINTS 8.800	MATCHES 3
7		SPAIN POINTS 8.775	MATCHES 4
8		DENMARK POINTS 8.766	MATCHES 6
9		BELGIUM POINTS 8.733	MATCHES 3
10		SCOTLAND POINTS 8.666	MATCHES 3
11		FRANCE POINTS 8.550	MATCHES 4
12=		ICELAND POINTS 8.533	MATCHES 3
12=		PORTUGAL POINTS 8.533	MATCHES 3
14		ENGLAND POINTS 8.320	MATCHES 5
15		SWITZERLAND POINTS 8.133	MATCHES 3
16		ITALY POINTS 8.000	MATCHES 3

MATCH OFFICIALS

For the expanded final tournament, a team of 11 referees was selected, with two more acting as fourth officials. A total of 21 assistant referees were also in the Netherlands to add to their international experience. Eight of the officials appointed (six referees and two assistants) had been at UEFA EURO 2013 in Sweden, and three (Kateryna Monzul and Bibiana Steinhaus, along with assistant referee Judit

Kulcsár) had also been selected for UEFA EURO 2009 in Finland. During the tournament in the Netherlands, referees awarded 748 free-kicks for fouls at an average of 24.12 per match. They were punished by 90 yellow cards at an average of one per 8.31 fouls. There were also three red cards, for Italy (v Germany), Switzerland (v Austria) and France (v Switzerland) players, all in the group phase.

REFEREES

Jana Adámková (Czech Republic)

Stéphanie Frappart (France)

Riem Hussein (Germany)

Katalin Kulcsár (Hungary)

Pernilla Larsson (Sweden)

Kateryna Monzul (Ukraine)

Monika Mularczyk (Poland)

Anastasia Pustovoitova (Russia)

Esther Staubli (Switzerland)

Bibiana Steinhaus (Germany)

Carina Vitulano (Italy)

ASSISTANT REFEREES

Lucia Abruzzese (Italy)

Oleksandra Ardasheva (Ukraine)

Nicolet Bakker (Netherlands)

Christina Biehl (Germany)

Svetlana Bilić (Serbia)

Belinda Brem (Switzerland)

Anna Dabrowska (Poland)

Petruta Iugulescu (Romania)

Chrysoula Kourompylia (Greece)

Judit Kulcsár (Hungary)

Ekaterina Kurochkina (Russia)

Angela Kyriakou (Cyprus)

Sian Massey (England)

Manuela Nicolosi (France)

Michelle O’Neill (Rep. of Ireland)

Katrin Rafalski (Germany)

Lucie Ratajová (Czech Republic)

Sanja Rodjak Karšić (Croatia)

Maryna Striletska (Ukraine)

Maria Sukenikova (Slovakia)

Mihaela Tepusa (Romania)

FOURTH OFFICIALS

Lorraine Clark (Scotland)

Lina Lehtovaara (Finland)



AUSTRIA

GROUP C AUSTRIA (7pts), FRANCE (5), SWITZERLAND (4), ICELAND (0)



SQUAD

		BORN	G	A	SUI	FRA	ISL	ESP	DEN	CLUB
					W1-0	D1-1	W3-0	D0-0*	D0-0**	
GOALKEEPERS										
1	Manuela Zinsberger	19/10/95			90	90	90	120	120	FC Bayern München
21	Jasmin Pfeiler	28/07/84								SKV Altenmarkt
23	Carolin Grössinger	10/05/97								FC Bergheim
DEFENDERS										
2	Marina Georgieva	13/04/97								1. FFC Turbine Potsdam
3	Katharina Naschenweng	16/12/97								SK Sturm Graz
5	Sophie Maierhofer	09/08/96								Kansas University
6	Katharina Schiechl	27/02/93			77↓	90	90	120	120	SV Werder Bremen
7	Carina Wenninger	06/02/91			90	90	90	120	120	FC Bayern München
13	Virginia Kirchberger	25/05/93			90	90	90	39↑	120	MSV Duisburg
19	Verena Aschauer	20/01/94			90	90	90	120	120	SC Sand
MIDFIELDERS										
8	Nadine Prohaska	15/08/90	1		51↑	21↑	34↑	78↑	81↑	SKN St Pölten
9	Sarah Zadrazil	19/02/93	1	2	90		72↓	110↓	120	1. FFC Turbine Potsdam
11	Viktoria Schnaderbeck	04/01/91			13↑	90	18↑	120	120	FC Bayern München
14	Barbara Dunst	25/09/97								Bayer 04 Leverkusen
16	Jasmin Eder	08/10/92				5↑				SKN St Pölten
17	Sarah Puntigam	13/10/92			90	90	90	120	91↓	SC Freiburg
18	Laura Feiersinger	05/04/93			90	90	90	120	120	SC Sand
20	Lisa Makas	11/05/92	1		39↓	69↓	56↓	42↓		MSV Duisburg
22	Jennifer Klein	11/01/99								SV Neulengbach
FORWARDS										
4	Viktoria Pinther	16/10/98			7↑	15↑		10↑	29↑	SKN St Pölten
10	Nina Burger	27/12/87			90	75↓	90	120	120	SC Sand
12	Stefanie Enzinger	25/11/90	1				4↑			SK Sturm Graz
15	Nicole Billa	05/03/96			83↓	85↓	86↓	81↓	39↓	TSG 1899 Hoffenheim

*After extra time; Austria won 5-3 on penalties; **After extra time; Denmark won 3-0 on penalties
Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

DOMINIK THALHAMMER

BORN: 02/10/70

NATIONALITY: Austrian

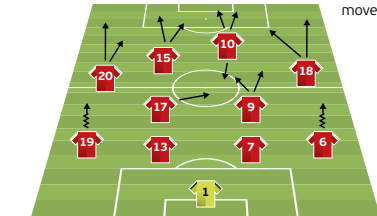


STATISTICS

16 PLAYERS USED	5 GOALS SCORED
251* AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 298 v Denmark
*224 if extra time excluded	Min: 180 v France
61% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 70% v Iceland
	Min: 56% v France
40% POSSESSION	Max: 51% v Iceland
	Min: 34% v France

TEAM SHAPES

↗↘ Runs with the ball
→ Player movement



ATTACK: Fast transitions on wings; 15 quickly up to support reference point 10 in central area



DEFENCE: 15 quickly back into midfield quartet; 17 dropping alongside left-back to form back five

KEY FEATURES

- Team organisation based on 1-4-4-2; high press or 1-5-4-1 defence in own half
- Direct attacking approach; keeper, full-backs playing towards final third
- Collective movement defending and attacking; combinations in final third
- 18 Feiersinger key player in transitions, running with ball on right flank
- 10 Burger the main target; excellent off-ball movement, composed on ball
- Deep, watchful defensive block of nine; 15 Billa back in midfield four
- Midfielder 17 Puntigam in beside left centre-back to form line of five
- Aerial dominance in both areas = danger on crosses and set plays
- Use of collective high pressing to win ball, to buy time to re-organise
- Disciplined power-play team with self-belief, commitment to cause



BELGIUM

GROUP A NETHERLANDS (9pts), DENMARK (6), BELGIUM (3), NORWAY (0)



SQUAD

		BORN	G	A	DEN	NOR	NED	CLUB
					LO-1	W2-0	L1-2	
GOALKEEPERS								
1	Justien Odeurs	30/05/97			90	90	90	FF USV Jena
12	Diede Lemey	07/10/96						RSC Anderlecht
21	Nicky Evrard	26/05/95						FC Twente
DEFENDERS								
2	Davina Philtjens	26/02/89			86↓	76↓	90	AFC Ajax
3	Heleen Jaques	20/04/88			90	90	90	RSC Anderlecht
4	Maud Couteriels	21/05/86			90	90	45↓	LOSC Lille
5	Lorca van de Putte	03/04/88						Kristianstads DFF
19	Imke Courtois	14/03/88						R. Standard de Liège
22	Laura Deloosse	18/06/93	1			90	90	RSC Anderlecht
23	Elien Van Wynendaele	19/02/95						KAA Gent
MIDFIELDERS								
6	Tine De Caigny	09/06/97			90	90	90	RSC Anderlecht
7	Elke Van Gorp	12/05/95	1		62↓	88↓	57↓	RSC Anderlecht
8	Lenie Onzia	30/05/89			90	90	76↓	RSC Anderlecht
13	Sara Yuceil	22/06/88						PSV Eindhoven
16	Nicky Van Den Abbeele	21/02/94						RSC Anderlecht
18	Laura Deneve	09/10/94						RSC Anderlecht
20	Julie Biesmans	04/05/94			82↓	1↑		R. Standard de Liège
FORWARDS								
9	Tessa Wullaert	19/03/93	1	1	90	90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
10	Aline Zeler	02/06/83			90	90	90	RSC Anderlecht
11	Janice Cayman	12/10/88	1		90	89↓	90	Montpellier Hérault SC
14	Davinia Vanmechelen	30/08/99			28↑		45↑	Ladies Genk
15	Yana Daniels	08/05/92			4↑	2↑	14↑	Bristol Academy WFC
17	Jana Coryn	26/06/92			8↑	14↑	33↑	LOSC Lille

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off

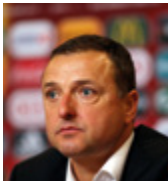


COACH

IVES SERNEELS

BORN: 16/10/72

NATIONALITY: Belgian

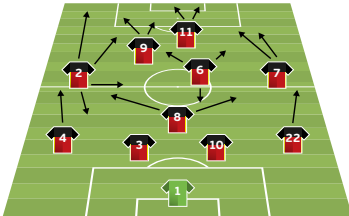


STATISTICS

15 PLAYERS USED	3 GOALS SCORED
302 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 365 v Denmark
	Min: 261 v Netherlands
73% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 77% v Denmark
	Min: 70% v Netherlands
47% POSSESSION	Max: 47% v Denmark, Norway
	Min: 46% v Netherlands

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Wingers combining with advanced full-backs; 9 + 11 interchanging in centre of attack



DEFENCE: Wide midfielders tucking into line of three; 8 covering in front of high defensive line

KEY FEATURES

- Equipped to operate in 1-4-1-4-1 or 1-4-1-3-2 formations
- Set out to construct quickly through thirds with forward passing
- Fast transitions to compact defending, pressing ball, aiming to hold high line
- Both full-backs active in supporting attacks; good combinations on wings
- Wide midfielders 7 Van Gorp, 2 Philtjens making useful high-intensity runs
- Good positional permutations by front two: 9 Wullaert, 11 Cayman
- 8 Onzia in key anchor role; intelligent movement, available to build from back
- Good deliveries from wings by able, talented wide midfielders
- Dangerous, well-organised set plays with centre-backs using aerial presence
- Strong team spirit, work ethic, commitment; stayed focused when behind



DENMARK

GROUP A NETHERLANDS (9PTS), DENMARK (6), BELGIUM (3), NORWAY (0)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	BEL	NED	NOR	GER	AUT	NED	CLUB
				W1-0	LO-1	W1-0	W2-1	D0-0*	L2-4	
GOALKEEPERS										
1	Stina Lykke Petersen	09/02/86		90	90	90	90	120	90	Kolding Boldklub
16	Maria Christensen	03/07/95								Fortuna Hjørring
22	Line Johansen	26/07/89								Vejle BK
DEFENDERS										
2	Line Røddik	31/01/88		90		90	69↓	45↓	13↑	FC Barcelona
3	Janni Arnth	15/10/86		90						Linköpings FC
5	Simone Boye Sørensen	03/03/92		90	90	90	90	120	77↓	FC Rosengård
8	Theresa Nielsen	20/07/86	1	90	90	90	90	120	90	Vålerenga FD
18	Mie Jans	06/02/94			90					Manchester City Women's FC
19	Cecilie Sandvej	13/06/90			90	9↑	21↑	75↑	90	1. FFC Frankfurt
20	Stine Pedersen	03/01/94								IK Skovbakken
23	Luna Gewitz	03/03/94								Fortuna Hjørring
MIDFIELDERS										
4	Maja Kildemoes	15/08/96	1	30↑	26↑	S	66↓	52↓	61↓	Linköpings FC
6	Nanna Christiansen	17/06/89			64↓	1↑			8↑	Brøndby IF
7	Sanne Troelsgaard	15/08/88	1	90	90	90	90	120	90	FC Rosengård
11	Katrine Veje	19/06/91	1	90	69↓	89↓	90	119↓	90	Montpellier Hérault SC
13	Sofie Junge Pedersen	24/04/92						51↑	82↓	FC Rosengård
17	Line Jensen	23/08/91		90	90	90	90	69↓		Washington Spirit
21	Sarah Hansen	14/09/96								Fortuna Hjørring
FORWARDS										
9	Nadia Nadim	02/01/88	2	71↓	90	81↓	90	120	90	Portland Thorns
10	Pernille Harder	15/11/92	1	2	90	90	90	120	90	VfL Wolfsburg
12	Stine Larsen	24/01/96	1	60↓	21↑	90	90	120	90	Brøndby IF
14	Nicoline Sørensen	15/08/97				12↑		1↑		Brøndby IF
15	Frederikke Thøgersen	24/07/95	1	19↑		78↓	24↑	68↑	29↑	Fortuna Hjørring

*Denmark won 3-0 on penalties
Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

NILS NIELSEN

BORN: 03/11/71

NATIONALITY: Danish

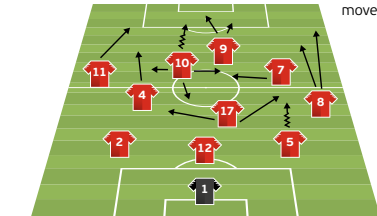


STATISTICS

18 PLAYERS USED	6 GOALS SCORED
394 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED *368 if extra time excluded	Max: 597 v Austria Min: 319 v Germany
77% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 81% v Belgium Min: 75% v Netherlands (group)
50% POSSESSION	Max: 59% v Austria Min: 42% v Germany

TEAM SHAPES

↗↘ Runs with the ball
→ Player movement



ATTACK: 8 up to midfield; overlapping, underlapping runs; 10 roaming between opponents' lines



DEFENCE: Fast transitions; wide players tucking into narrow defensive block; 9 + 10 high for counters

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-4-2 defending with high line, changing the shape to 1-3-5-2 attacking
- Right-back 8 Nielsen up to midfield; well-timed deep runs on open right flank
- Passing game with back three initiating construction through thirds
- Deep in-depth passing an option under pressure = dangerous counters
- Striker 9 Nadim an excellent target for long diagonal or deep passes
- 10 Harder linking play, breaking lines with penetrating passes, solo runs
- Well-timed running, combinations between strikers and wide midfielders
- Compact defence; good interceptions, ability to read forward passes
- Set plays well planned and executed; good timing of runs, heading ability
- Well-organised resilient team; character, determination, playing to strengths



ENGLAND

GROUP D ENGLAND (9PTS), SPAIN (3), SCOTLAND (3), PORTUGAL (3)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	SCO	ESP	POR	FRA	NED	CLUB
				W6-0	W2-0	W2-1	W1-0	LO-3	
GOALKEEPERS									
1	Karen Bardsley	14/10/84		90	90		75↓		Manchester City Women's FC
13	Siobhan Chamberlain	15/08/83				90	15↑	90	Liverpool Ladies FC
21	Carly Telford	07/07/87							Chelsea LFC
DEFENDERS									
2	Lucy Bronze	28/10/91	2	90	90		90	90	Manchester City Women's FC
3	Demi Stokes	12/12/91		90	90	9↑	90	90	Manchester City Women's FC
5	Steph Houghton	23/04/88	1	90	90		90	90	Manchester City Women's FC
6	Jo Potter	13/11/84			1↑	90			Reading FC
12	Casey Stoney	13/05/82							Liverpool Ladies FC
15	Laura Bassett	02/08/83				90			unattached
20	Alex Greenwood	07/09/93				90			Liverpool Ladies FC
22	Alex Scott	14/10/84				90			Arsenal Women FC
MIDFIELDERS									
4	Jill Scott	02/02/87	1	90	90		90	S	Manchester City Women's FC
7	Jordan Nobbs	08/12/92	1	1	90	90	30↑	90	Arsenal Women FC
8	Isobel Christiansen	20/09/91	1		21↑	90			Manchester City Women's FC
10	Fara Williams	25/01/84				90		67↓	Arsenal Women FC
11	Jade Moore	22/10/90		90	90		90	76↓	Reading FC
14	Karen Carney	01/08/87		16↑		90		14↑	Chelsea LFC
16	Millie Bright	21/08/93		90	90	60↓	90	90	Chelsea LFC
FORWARDS									
9	Jodie Taylor	17/05/86	5	59↓	89↓		90	90	Arsenal Women FC
17	Nikita Parris	10/03/94	1	25↑		90			Manchester City Women's FC
18	Ellen White	09/05/89	1	2	74↓	79↓		90	Birmingham City LFC
19	Toni Duggan	25/07/91	2	31↑	11↑	81↓		23↑	FC Barcelona
23	Fran Kirby	29/06/93	1	65↓	69↓		90	90	Chelsea LFC

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

MARK SAMPSON

BORN: 18/10/82

NATIONALITY: Welsh



STATISTICS

21 PLAYERS USED	11 GOALS SCORED
304 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 429 v Portugal Min: 167 v Spain
69% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 80% v Scotland Min: 56% v Spain
45% POSSESSION	Max: 57% v Scotland Min: 26% v Spain

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Fast transitions; full-backs working box-to-box; 23 supporting striker 9 in direct attacking



DEFENCE: Wide midfielders tucking into narrow, compact defensive block holding high line

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-4-2 the default formation; direct, quick attacking the first option
- Also combination play, building from back; centre-backs opening the game
- Excellent off-ball movement, well-timed line-breaking runs by front four
- Full-backs supporting attacks; wide players to inside pockets to open spaces
- Variety of options in final third; top-quality final passes and finishing
- High-intensity power-game executed with commitment, physicality
- Fast transitions to compact, narrow, active defensive block in midfield
- Back four efficiently led by composed 5 Houghton; positional awareness
- Well-timed pressing; accurately triggered and executed ball-winning
- Well-organised set plays in both areas; aerial power, athletic qualities



FRANCE

GROUP C AUSTRIA (7PTS), FRANCE (5), SWITZERLAND (4), ICELAND (0)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	ISL	AUT	SUI	ENG	CLUB
				W1-0	D1-1	D1-1	L0-1	
GOALKEEPERS								
1	Laetitia Philippe	30/04/91						Montpellier Hérault SC
16	Sarah Bouhaddi	17/10/86		90	90	90	90	Olympique Lyonnais
21	Méline Gérard	30/05/90						Montpellier Hérault SC
DEFENDERS								
2	Eve Perisset	24/12/94			90	17so	S	Paris Saint-Germain
3	Wendie Renard	20/07/90		90	90	90	S	Olympique Lyonnais
4	Laura Georges	20/08/84		90			90	Paris Saint-Germain
8	Jessica Houara-D'Hommeaux	29/09/87		90	63↓	7↑	90	Olympique Lyonnais
14	Aissatou Tounkara	16/03/95						Paris FC
19	Griedge M'Bock Bathy	26/02/95		90	90	90		Olympique Lyonnais
MIDFIELDERS								
5	Sandie Toletti	13/07/95						Montpellier Hérault SC
6	Amandine Henry	28/09/89	1	90	90	90	90	Portland Thorns
9	Eugénie Le Sommer	18/05/89	1	90	90	90	90	Olympique Lyonnais
10	Camille Abily	05/12/84	1	90	12↑	87↓	78↓	Olympique Lyonnais
11	Claire Lavogez	18/06/94				71↓	12↑	Olympique Lyonnais
15	Élise Bussaglia	24/09/85	1	64↓	78↓			FC Barcelona
23	Grace Geyoro	02/07/97		90	90	90		Paris Saint-Germain
FORWARDS								
7	Clarisse Le Bihan	14/12/94		43↓			1↑	Montpellier Hérault SC
12	Élodie Thomis	13/08/86		77↓			25↑	Olympique Lyonnais
13	Camille Catala	06/05/91						Paris FC
17	Gaëtane Thiney	28/10/85	26↑	70↓	3↑			Paris FC
18	Marie-Laure Delie	29/01/88	13↑	90	19↑	89↓		Paris Saint-Germain
20	Kadidiatou Diani	01/04/95	47↑	20↑	83↓	65↓		Paris FC
22	Sakina Karchaoui	26/01/96	90	27↑	90	90		Montpellier Hérault SC

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

OLIVIER ECHOUAFNI

BORN: 13/09/72

NATIONALITY: French



STATISTICS

18 PLAYERS USED	3 GOALS SCORED
474 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 594 v Austria Min: 347 v England
83% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 87% v Switzerland Min: 76% v England
62% POSSESSION	Max: 67% v Iceland Min: 53% v England

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Combination play in wide areas with full-backs up; 10 + 23 supporting attacks; 6 covering



DEFENCE: 23 quickly back to provide second screen; wingers tucking into ball-pressing line of three

KEY FEATURES

- Generally 1-4-2-3-1; same shape in attacking and defensive play
- Emphasis on possession-play based on neat combinations through thirds
- Direct supply from keeper or centre-backs to striker as attacking option
- High level of technique; composure on ball even in tight situations
- Wide players cutting inside to open space for overlapping full-backs
- Wing play often culminating in cut-backs for long-range shooting
- High defensive line; fierce pressure on ball-carrier in midfield
- Midfielders 6 Henry, 10 Abily the influential box-to-box linking elements
- Centre-back 3 Renard the defensive organiser; keeper sweeping behind
- Aerial power in both areas; dangerous set plays based on good deliveries



GERMANY

GROUP B GERMANY (7PTS), SWEDEN (4), RUSSIA (3), ITALY (3)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	SWE	ITA	RUS	DEN	CLUB
				D0-0	W2-1	W2-0	L1-2	
GOALKEEPERS								
1	Almuth Schult	09/02/91		90	90	90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
12	Laura Benkarth	14/10/92						VfL Wolfsburg
21	Lisa Weiß	29/10/87						SGS Essen
DEFENDERS								
2	Josephine Henning	08/09/89	1	90	45↓			Olympique Lyonnais
3	Kathrin-Julia Hendrich	06/04/92			45↑			1. FFC Frankfurt
4	Leonie Maier	29/09/92		17↑	90			FC Bayern München
5	Babett Peter	12/05/88	2	90	90	90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
6	Kristin Demann	07/04/93		90	90	90	62↓	FC Bayern München
7	Carolin Simon	24/11/92		90		90		SC Freiburg
14	Anna Blässe	27/02/87		73↓		90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
17	Isabel Kerschowski	22/01/88	1		90		90	VfL Wolfsburg
MIDFIELDERS								
8	Lena Goessling	08/03/86				90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
10	Dzsenifer Marozsán	18/04/92	1	90	90	90	90	Olympique Lyonnais
13	Sara Däbritz	15/02/95		90	90	68↓	90	FC Bayern München
15	Sara Dooroun-Khajeh	17/11/91				90	45↓	SGS Essen
16	Linda Dallmann	02/09/94			88↓		88↓	SGS Essen
20	Lina Magull	15/08/94		90	2↑	22↑	45↑	SC Freiburg
22	Tabea Kemme	14/12/91				15↑		1. FFC Turbine Potsdam
FORWARDS								
9	Mandy Islacker	08/08/88		51↑	79↓	45↓	28↑	1. FFC Frankfurt
11	Anja Mittag	16/05/85		65↓	90	75↓	90	FC Rosengård
18	Lena Petermann	05/02/94				11↑	2↑	SC Freiburg
19	Svenja Huth	25/01/91		39↓				1. FFC Turbine Potsdam
23	Hasret Kayikci	06/11/91		25↑		45↑		SC Freiburg

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

STEFFI JONES

BORN: 22/12/72

NATIONALITY: German

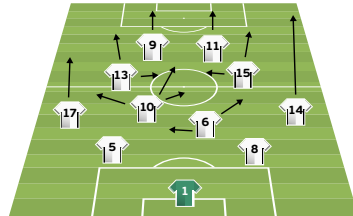


STATISTICS

21 PLAYERS USED	5 GOALS SCORED
567 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 646 v Russia Min: 503 v Denmark
86% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 90% v Russia Min: 84% v Sweden, Denmark
65% POSSESSION	Max: 71% v Russia Min: 58% v Denmark

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Full-backs up; centre-backs splitting wide with 6 covering; other midfielders committed to attack



DEFENCE: Fast transitions into compact unit, pressing ball and holding high line

KEY FEATURES

- Variations on 1-4-4-2, committing players to 1-3-5-2 attacking
- Attacking philosophy; emphasis on overloading opponents' back four
- Positional possession game; patient build-up, acceleration into final third
- Compact 1-4-4-2 defending led by strong centre-backs with aerial power
- 6 Demann in holding role in front of back four when full-backs advanced
- Wingers into inside pockets; full-backs overlapping, supplying low crosses
- 10 Marozsán the attacking catalyst, free-moving in middle-to-front areas
- Attacking in numbers = platform for aggressive high pressing after ball loss
- Positional interchanging, neat one-touch combinations in final third
- High-speed counterattacks; effective switches of play; deliveries into box



ICELAND

GROUP C AUSTRIA (7PTS), FRANCE (5), SWITZERLAND (4), ICELAND (0)



SQUAD

		BORN	G	A	FRA LO-1	SUI L1-2	AUT LO-3	CLUB
GOALKEEPERS								
1	Gudbjörg Gunnarsdóttir	18/05/85			90	90	90	Djurgården IF DFF
12	Sandra Sigurdardóttir	02/10/86						Valur Reykjavík
13	Sonny Thrainsdóttir	09/12/86						Breidablik
DEFENDERS								
2	Sif Atladóttir	15/07/85			90	90	90	Kristianstads DFF
3	Ingibjörg Sigurdardóttir	07/10/97			90	90		Breidablik
4	Glódís Viggósdóttir	27/06/95			90	90	90	Eskilstuna United DFF
11	Hallbera Gísladóttir	14/09/86			90	90	90	Djurgården IF DFF
14	Málfríður Erna Sigurdardóttir	30/05/84						Valur Reykjavík
19	Anna Björk Kristjansdóttir	14/10/89					90	IF Limhamn Bunkeflo 2007
21	Arna Ásgrímsdóttir	12/08/92						Valur Reykjavík
22	Rakel Hönnudóttir	30/12/88						Breidablik
MIDFIELDERS								
5	Gunnhildur Jónsdóttir	28/09/88			90	83↓	39↑	Vålerenga FD
6	Hólmfríður Magnúsdóttir	20/09/84				7↑	51↓	KR Reykjavík
7	Sara Björk Gunnarsdóttir	29/09/90			90	90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
8	Sigríður Gardarsdóttir	11/03/94			75↓	88↓		ÍBV Vestmannaeyjar
10	Dagný Brynjarsdóttir	10/08/91	1		90	90	90	Portland Thorns
FORWARDS								
9	Katrin Ásbjörnsdóttir	11/12/92			29↑	66↓		Stjarnan
15	Elín Jensen	01/03/95			8↑			Valur Reykjavík
16	Harpa Thorsteinsdóttir	27/06/86			15↑	2↑	71↓	Stjarnan
17	Agla Maria Albertsdóttir	05/08/99			61↓	24↑	83↓	Stjarnan
18	Sandra Jessen	18/01/95					7↑	Thór/KA
20	Berglind Björg Thorvaldsdóttir	18/01/92					19↑	Breidablik
23	Fanndís Fridriksdóttir	09/05/90	1		82↓	90	90	Breidablik

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

FREYR ALEXANDERSSON

BORN: 18/11/82

NATIONALITY: Icelandic

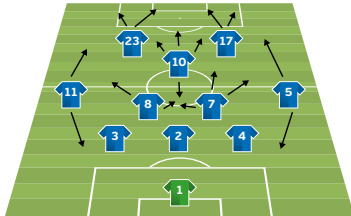


STATISTICS

18 PLAYERS USED	1 GOALS SCORED
250 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 278 v Austria Min: 198 v France
67% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 68% v Switzerland, Austria Min: 65% v France
41% POSSESSION	Max: 49% v Austria Min: 33% v France

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Direct supply to front, leaving two balancing players to protect back three



DEFENCE: Quick transitions with wing-backs forming line of five, protected by narrow midfield

KEY FEATURES

- 1-3-4-3 with rapid transitions to 1-5-2-3 or 1-5-3-2 defending
- Set out to play from back with centre-backs split and wing-backs advanced
- Well-organised, communicative defending led by centre-back 2 Atladóttir
- Goal-orientated possession aiming to exploit the pace of front three
- 10 Brynjarsdóttir playing key linking role in transitions, delivering set plays
- Fast, precise combination moves through midfield and on the flanks
- Solo skills, in-depth runs by attackers; 23 Fridriksdóttir drifting wide to space
- Good supply of crosses from both flanks – unrewarded by final touch
- Spells of aggressive high defending; pressing by forwards, wing-backs
- Strong, athletic, hard-working team; great spirit and mental strength



ITALY

GROUP B GERMANY (7PTS), SWEDEN (4), RUSSIA (3), ITALY (3)



SQUAD

		BORN	G	A	RUS L1-2	GER L1-2	SWE W3-2	CLUB
GOALKEEPERS								
1	Laura Giuliani	05/06/93				90	90	SC Freiburg
12	Chiara Marchitelli	04/05/85			90			Brescia Femminile
22	Katja Schroffenegger	28/04/91						AFC Unterland
DEFENDERS								
2	Cecilia Salvai	02/12/93			90	90		Brescia Femminile
3	Sara Gama	27/03/89			27↓			Brescia Femminile
5	Elena Linari	15/04/94			90	90	90	Fiorentina Women's FC
7	Alia Guagni	01/10/87			71↓	90	90	Fiorentina Women's FC
13	Elisa Bartoli	07/05/91			90	69so	S	Fiorentina Women's FC
14	Linda Tucceri Cimini	04/04/91	1		63↑	17↑	60↓	USD San Zaccaria
17	Federica Di Criscio	12/05/93					90	ASD Verona
MIDFIELDERS								
4	Daniela Stracchi	02/09/83			90	90	90	ASD Mozzanica
10	Martina Rosucci	09/05/92					84↓	Brescia Femminile
11	Barbara Bonansea	13/06/91	2		19↑	90	90	Brescia Femminile
15	Laura Fusetti	08/10/90						FCF Como 2000
16	Manuela Giugliano	18/08/97			90		30↑	ASD Verona
19	Aurora Galli	13/12/96					90	ASD Verona
20	Valentina Cernoia	22/06/91				73↓		Brescia Femminile
21	Marta Carissimi	03/05/87			61↓	90	6↑	Fiorentina Women's FC
FORWARDS								
6	Sandy Iannella	06/04/87						ASD Cuneo CF
8	Melania Gabbiadini	28/08/83			90	84↓	90	ASD Verona
9	Ilaria Mauro	22/05/88	2		90	45↓		Fiorentina Women's FC
18	Daniela Sabatino	26/06/85	2			6↑	77↓	Brescia Femminile
23	Cristiana Girelli	23/04/90	1	1	29↑	45↑	13↑	Brescia Femminile

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

ANTONIO CABRINI

BORN: 08/10/57

NATIONALITY: Italian



STATISTICS

20 PLAYERS USED	5 GOALS SCORED
331 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 430 v Russia Min: 161 v Germany
74% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 83% v Sweden Min: 60% v Germany
48% POSSESSION	Max: 61% v Russia Min: 31% v Germany

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Fast attacks with full-backs supporting high-speed counters along wings



DEFENCE: Quick transitions into 1-4-5-1 with 4 operating in close proximity to back four

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3 with switches to 1-4-4-2; single midfield screen in both structures
- Quick transitions to 1-4-5-1 defending with two close, compact lines
- Fast counters; direct supply to striker 9 Mauro or solo runs on wings
- Tried to play out from back with neat combinations, advanced full-backs
- Good positional and passing interchanges in middle-to-front play
- Attacking support by two midfielders; 4 Stracchi in holding/organising role
- 5 Linari the strong leader in defence; holding high line while attacking
- Effective pressing mechanisms; good anticipation, interceptions
- Technically well-executed finishing; 11 Bonansea fast threatening runs on left
- Outstanding team ethic, mental resilience in adverse situations



NETHERLANDS

GROUP A NETHERLANDS (9PTS), DENMARK (6), BELGIUM (3), NORWAY (0)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	NOR	DEN	BEL	SWE	ENG	DEN	CLUB
		W1-0	W1-0	W2-1	W2-0	W3-0	W4-2			
GOALKEEPERS										
1	Sari van Veenendaal	03/04/90		90	90	90	90	90	90	Arsenal Women FC
16	Angela Christ	06/03/89								PSV Eindhoven
23	Loes Geurts	12/01/86								unattached
DEFENDERS										
2	Desiree van Lunteren	30/12/92	1	90	90		90	90	57↓	AFC Ajax
3	Stephanie van der Gragt	16/08/92		10↑	36↑	90	45↓	70↓	90	AFC Ajax
4	Mandy van den Berg	26/08/90		80↓	54↓		45↑		1↑	Reading FC
5	Kika van Es	11/10/91		90	90	90	90	90	89↓	FC Twente
6	Anouk Dekker	15/11/86		90	90	90	90	90	90	Montpellier Hérault SC
17	Kelly Zeeman	19/11/93				15↑		20↑		AFC Ajax
20	Dominique Janssen	17/01/95							33↑	Arsenal Women FC
22	Liza van der Most	08/10/93				90				AFC Ajax
MIDFIELDERS										
8	Sherida Spitse	29/05/90	3	1	90	90	90	90	90	FC Twente
10	Danielle van de Donk	05/08/91	1		89↓	90	75↓	90	89↓	Arsenal Women FC
12	Jill Roord	22/04/97			1↑		10↑		1↑	FC Bayern München
14	Jackie Groenen	17/12/94	2	90	90	80↓	90	90	90	1. FFC Frankfurt
15	Sisca Folkertsma	21/05/97								AFC Ajax
19	Sheila van den Bulk	06/04/89								Djurgården IF DFF
FORWARDS										
7	Shanice van de Sanden	02/10/92	1	2	77↓	88↓	90	76↓	89↓	Liverpool Ladies FC
9	Vivianne Miedema	15/07/96	4		90	90	86↓	90	90	Arsenal Women FC
11	Lieke Martens	16/12/92	3	2	90	78↓	90	87↓	90	FC Barcelona
13	Renate Jansen	07/12/90				12↑		14↑	1↑	FC Twente
18	Vanity Lewerissa	01/04/91					4↑			PSV Eindhoven
21	Lineth Beerensteyn	11/10/96			13↑	2↑		3↑		FC Bayern München

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

SARINA WIEGMAN

BORN: 26/10/69

NATIONALITY: Dutch



STATISTICS

19 PLAYERS USED	13 GOALS SCORED
352 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 416 v Sweden Min: 301 v Belgium
77% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 80% v Denmark (final) Min: 73% v England
52% POSSESSION	Max: 56% v Norway Min: 50% v Denmark (final), England

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Fast supply to wide areas; full-backs supporting wingers; 10 + 14 supporting striker



DEFENCE: 14 quickly back alongside 8 in front of high line; wingers tucking into narrow midfield; 9 up

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3 with one or two screening midfielders, two very wide wingers
- Assured patient build-up waiting for good open line for forward passing
- 8 Spitse holding; 14 Groenen, 10 Van de Donk supporting attacks
- Centre-back 6 Dekker organising, supplying good diagonal or deep passes
- Counters exploiting pace, creativity of 7 Van de Sanden, 11 Martens on wings
- Rational support by both full-backs – infrequent overlapping runs
- Strong central defenders, good in air, well backed by competent goalkeeping
- Deep defending of set plays with all players in or around penalty area
- Aggressive pressure on ball-carrier; wingers back to cover, compress spaces
- Strong team and work ethics; mentally equipped for host-nation pressures



NORWAY

GROUP A NETHERLANDS (9PTS), DENMARK (6), BELGIUM (3), NORWAY (0)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	NED	BEL	DEN	CLUB
		LO-1	LO-2	LO-1			
GOALKEEPERS							
1	Ingrid Hjelmseth	10/04/80		90	90	90	Stabæk Fotball
12	Cecilie Fiskerstrand	20/03/96					LSK Kvinner FK
23	Oda Bogstad	24/04/96					Klepp IL
DEFENDERS							
2	Ingrid Wold	29/01/90		90	45↓	90	LSK Kvinner FK
3	Maria Thorisdottir	05/06/93		90		90	Klepp IL
9	Elise Thorsnes	14/08/88		90	75↓		Avaldsnes Idrettslag
11	Nora Holstad Berge	26/03/87		90	90	90	FC Bayern München
13	Stine Pettersen Reinås	15/07/94					Stabæk Fotball
16	Anja Sønstevold	21/06/92			45↑		LSK Kvinner FK
21	Kristine Leine	06/08/96					Røa IL
MIDFIELDERS							
4	Guro Reiten	26/07/94		15↑		90	LSK Kvinner FK
5	Tuva Hansen	04/08/97					Klepp IL
6	Maren Mjelde	06/11/89		90	90	90	Chelsea LFC
7	Ingrid Schjelderup	21/12/87		75↓	78↓	56↓	Eskilstuna United DFF
8	Andrine Hegerberg	06/06/93			90		Birmingham City LFC
17	Kristine Minde	08/08/92		66↓	90	90	Linköpings FC
18	Frida Maanum	16/07/99		58↓		34↑	Stabæk Fotball
19	Ingvild Isaksen	10/02/89		32↑			Stabæk Fotball
22	Ingrid Marie Spord	12/07/94			90	79↓	LSK Kvinner FK
FORWARDS							
10	Caroline Graham Hansen	18/02/95		90	90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
14	Ada Hegerberg	10/07/95		90	90	90	Olympique Lyonnais
15	Lisa-Marie Utland	19/09/92			12↑	11↑	Røa IL
20	Emilie Haavi	16/06/92		24↑	15↑		Boston Breakers

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

MARTIN SJÖGREN

BORN: 07/04/77

NATIONALITY: Swedish

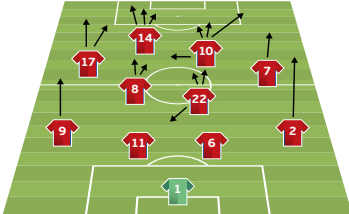


STATISTICS

18 PLAYERS USED	0 GOALS SCORED
362 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 474 v Denmark Min: 292 v Netherlands
73% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 81% v Denmark Min: 66% v Netherlands
50% POSSESSION	Max: 53% v Belgium, Denmark Min: 44% v Netherlands

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Wing play with overlapping full-backs; wide midfielders working inner channels



DEFENCE: 10 + 14 first line of pressing; wide midfielders dropping into two narrow lines

KEY FEATURES

- Variations on 1-4-4-2; one midfielder quickly up for 1-4-3-3 attacking
- Controlled build-up from keeper; centre-backs split; both full-backs advanced
- Infield runs by wide midfielders to open channels for full-backs
- 22 Spord dropping from central midfield to initiate attacking moves
- 10 Graham the free spirit in attack, dropping to receive, supplying passes, crosses
- 14 Hegerberg the target striker; runs in depth to open spaces for support runs
- Fast attack-to-defence transitions; press ball-carrier, rest into compact block
- Possession-play; short passing into midfield, then long delivery to wingers or striker
- Strong collective defending, coping with speed on wings, shot-blocking
- Aerial power; well-organised set plays; frequent middle-to-front positional changes



PORTUGAL

GROUP D ENGLAND (9PTS), SPAIN (3), SCOTLAND (3), PORTUGAL (3)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	ESP LO-2	SCO W2-1	ENG L1-2	CLUB
GOALKEEPERS							
1	Jamila Marreiros	30/05/88					Clube Futebol Benfica
12	Patrícia Morais	17/06/92		90	90	90	Sporting Clube de Portugal
22	Ana Costa	01/06/94					SC Braga
DEFENDERS							
2	Mónica Mendes	16/06/93					FC Neunkirch
3	Raquel Infante	19/09/90					Levante UD
4	Sílvia Rebelo	20/05/89		90	90	90	SC Braga
5	Matilde Fidalgo	15/05/94					Clube Futebol Benfica
9	Ana Borges	15/06/90		90	90	90	Sporting Clube de Portugal
14	Dolores Silva	07/08/91		90	90	90	FF USV Jena
15	Carole Costa	03/05/90		90	90	90	BV Cloppenburg
MIDFIELDERS							
6	Andreia Norton	15/08/96					SC Braga
7	Cláudia Neto	18/04/88		90	90	90	Linköpings FC
10	Ana Leite	23/10/91	1	59↓	20↑	26↑	Bayer 04 Leverkusen
11	Tatiana Pinto	28/03/94		90	90	90	Sporting Clube de Portugal
13	Fátima Pinto	16/01/96					Sporting Clube de Portugal
17	Vanessa Marques	12/04/96		90	90		SC Braga
19	Amanda Da Costa	07/10/89	1		76↓	11↑	Boston Breakers
21	Diana Gomes	26/07/98					Valadares Gaia FC
23	Melissa Antunes	08/01/90		19↑		90	SC Braga
FORWARDS							
8	Laura Luis	15/08/92		5↑	1↑	3↑	FF USV Jena
16	Diana Silva	04/06/95	1	85↓	89↓	87↓	Sporting Clube de Portugal
18	Carolina Mendes	27/11/87	2	31↑	70↓	64↓	Grindavik
20	Suzane Pires	17/08/92		71↓	14↑	79↓	Santos FC

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

FRANCISCO NETO

BORN: 11/07/81

NATIONALITY: Portuguese



STATISTICS

15 PLAYERS USED	3 GOALS SCORED
340 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 429 v England Min: 203 v Spain
73% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 81% v Scotland Min: 61% v Spain
42% POSSESSION	Max: 54% v Scotland Min: 24% v Spain

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: 7 at edge of midfield diamond when operating 1-4-4-2; full-backs up; 11 screening



DEFENCE: Same-shape defensive set-up, quickly dropping deep; midfielders close to or in back line

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3 or 1-4-4-2 with 7 Neto as cutting edge of midfield diamond
- Set out to build through thirds with fluent combination moves
- Under pressure, played direct to front runners with second-ball support
- Keeper invariably playing long to crowded midfield area; back line up
- Dangerous counters via two fast strikers supported by skilful Neto
- Quick transitions to 1-4-5-1 or 1-4-3-3 defence crowding area around ball
- Full-backs ready to advance (notably 9 Borges on right) when allowed space
- High level of technique in all departments; quick feet, fluent movements
- Hard-working midfield with 11 Pinto screening the back four
- Strong team spirit, mental strength and tactical discipline on debut



RUSSIA

GROUP B GERMANY (7PTS), SWEDEN (4), RUSSIA (3), ITALY (3)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	ITA W2-1	SWE LO-2	GER LO-2	CLUB
GOALKEEPERS							
1	Tatyana Shcherbak	22/10/97		90	90	90	WFC Kubanochka
12	Alena Belyaeva	13/02/92					WFC Chertanovo
21	Yulia Grichenko	10/03/90					WFC CSKA
DEFENDERS							
3	Anna Kozhnikova	10/07/87		90	90	90	WFC CSKA
5	Viktoriya Shkoda	21/12/99					WFC Kubanochka
8	Daria Makarenko	07/03/92		90	90	28↓	Ryazan-VDV
13	Anna Belomytseva	24/11/96					Ryazan-VDV
18	Elvira Ziyastinova	13/02/91		90	90	90	WFC CSKA
19	Ekaterina Morozova	26/03/91				62↑	WFC Chertanovo
MIDFIELDERS							
2	Natalya Solodkaya	04/04/95		90	90	90	WFC Kubanochka
4	Tatiana Sheykina	14/11/91					Ryazan-VDV
7	Anastasia Pozdeeva	12/06/93					WFC Zvezda-2005
9	Anna Cholovyaga	08/05/92		59↓	90	90	WFC CSKA
10	Nadezhda Smirnova	22/02/96		90	90	45↓	WFC CSKA
11	Ekaterina Sochneva	12/08/85	2	89↓	81↓	90	WFC CSKA
14	Nasiba Gasanova	15/12/94					WFC Kubanochka
20	Margarita Chernomyrdina	06/03/96		90	66↓	63↓	WFC Chertanovo
23	Elena Morozova	15/03/87	1	90	90	90	WFC Kubanochka
FORWARDS							
6	Nadezhda Karpova	09/03/95		16↑	18↑	27↑	WFC Chertanovo
15	Elena Danilova	17/06/87	1	74↓	72↓	90	Ryazan-VDV
16	Marina Fedorova	10/05/97			24↑	45↑	Ryazan-VDV
17	Ekaterina Pantyukhina	09/04/93		31↑			WFC Zvezda-2005
22	Marina Kiskonen	19/03/94		1↑	9↑		WFC Chertanovo

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

ELENA FOMINA

BORN: 05/04/79

NATIONALITY: Russian



STATISTICS

16 PLAYERS USED	2 GOALS SCORED
212 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 244 v Italy Min: 177 v Germany
62% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 63% v Sweden, Germany Min: 59% v Italy
35% POSSESSION	Max: 39% v Italy Min: 29% v Germany

TEAM SHAPES

→ Player movement



ATTACK: Fast transitions; wingers cutting in, quick midfield support for isolated striker 15



DEFENCE: Very deep, compact defensive block; all players in own half; 23 shielding back four

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-1-4-1 with late switch to 1-4-4-2 when trailing to Germany
- Deep 1-4-5-1 defending when high or midfield pressing not viable
- Compact structure: 3 Kozhnikova, 23 Morozova, 15 Danilova the central core
- Kozhnikova the leader in defence; positional sense, well-timed tackles, interceptions
- Morozova tirelessly screening, conducting the midfield, playing out from back
- Under pressure, emphasis on direct supply from deep to striker Danilova
- Midfield four making supporting runs, enabling crossfield switches of play
- 11 Sochneva, 20 Chernomyrdina working hard to provide width
- Good reflex saves on her line by goalkeeper 1 Shcherbak
- Committed tackling, fast transitions, strong work ethic and discipline



SCOTLAND

GROUP D ENGLAND (9PTS), SPAIN (3), SCOTLAND (3), PORTUGAL (3)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	ENG LO-6	POR L1-2	ESP W1-0	CLUB
GOALKEEPERS							
1	Gemma Fay	09/12/81		90	90	90	Stjarnan
12	Shannon Lynn	22/10/85					Vittsjö GIK
21	Lee Alexander	23/09/91					Glasgow City FC
DEFENDERS							
2	Vaila Barsley	15/09/87		90	90		Eskilstuna United DFF
3	Joelle Murray	07/11/86					Hibernian Ladies FC
4	Ifeoma Dieke	25/02/81		90	90	90	Vittsjö GIK
14	Rachel Corsie	17/08/89		76↓	90	90	Seattle Reign FC
15	Sophie Howard	17/09/93					TSG 1899 Hoffenheim
17	Frankie Brown	08/10/87		90		90	unattached
18	Rachel McLauchlan	07/07/97			82↓		Hibernian Ladies FC
20	Kirsty Smith	06/01/94			90		Hibernian Ladies FC
23	Cloe Arthur	21/01/95		90		90	Bristol Academy WFC
MIDFIELDERS							
5	Leanne Ross	08/07/81				45↓	Glasgow City FC
6	Joanne Love	06/12/85		14↑	8↑	73↓	Glasgow City FC
7	Hayley Lauder	04/06/90			23↑		Glasgow City FC
8	Erin Cuthbert	19/07/98	1	27↑	36↑	90	Chelsea LFC
9	Caroline Weir	20/06/95	1	1	90	90	Liverpool Ladies FC
10	Leanne Crichton	06/08/87		90	90	90	Glasgow City FC
19	Lana Clelland	26/01/93		45↑	54↓	45↑	UPC Tavagnacco
FORWARDS							
11	Lisa Evans	21/05/92		90	90	90	Arsenal Women FC
13	Jane Ross	18/09/89		63↓			Manchester City Women's FC
16	Christie Murray	03/05/90					Doncaster Rovers Belles LFC
22	Fiona Brown	31/03/95		45↓	67↓	17↑	Eskilstuna United DFF

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

ANNA
SIGNEUL

BORN: 20/05/61

NATIONALITY: Swedish



STATISTICS

18 PLAYERS USED	2 GOALS SCORED
247 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 321 v Portugal Min: 168 v Spain
70% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 79% v Portugal Min: 62% v Spain
40% POSSESSION	Max: 46% v Portugal Min: 31% v Spain

TEAM SHAPES



ATTACK: Rational attacking with support for striker by wide midfielders; 9 in linking role



DEFENCE: Deep block; midfield aligning with 6 in front of back four; 8 isolated as countering option

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-1-4-1 retaining same shape in attacking and defensive modes
- Set out to build from back, channelling play via screening midfielder
- Good use of width; crosses + strong dribbling skills (e.g. 22 Fiona Brown)
- Keeper often opting to play long; strong second-ball game
- 9 Weir the key player in transitions; good movement, penetrating passes
- Deep vertical, diagonal runs by main striker behind opponents' back four
- Quick regrouping around halfway line after ball-loss in final third
- Compact, disciplined midfield, defence lines with good lateral movements
- Ball-winning in midfield the cue for fast direct attacking in numbers
- Strong work ethic; mental resilience after heavy defeat on debut



SPAIN

GROUP D ENGLAND (9PTS), SPAIN (3), SCOTLAND (3), PORTUGAL (3)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	POR W2-0	ENG LO-2	SCO LO-1	AUT DO-0*	CLUB
GOALKEEPERS								
1	Dolores Gallardo	10/06/93						Club Atlético de Madrid
12	Mariasun	29/10/96						Real Sociedad de Fútbol
13	Sandra Paños	04/11/92		90	90	90	120	FC Barcelona
DEFENDERS								
2	Celia Jiménez	20/06/95						Alabama Crimson Tide
3	Marta Torrejón	27/02/90		90	90	90	120	FC Barcelona
4	Irene Paredes	04/07/91		90	90	90	120	Paris Saint-Germain
5	Andrea Pereira	19/09/93	1	90	90	90		Club Atlético de Madrid
16	Alexandra	28/02/89						Club Atlético de Madrid
20	María León	13/06/95		1↑			120	Club Atlético de Madrid
21	Leila Ouahabi	22/03/93		89↓	89↓	56↓		FC Barcelona
23	Paula Nicart	08/09/94						Valencia CF
MIDFIELDERS								
6	Virginia Torrecilla	04/09/94			1↑		8↑	Montpellier Hérault SC
8	Amanda Sampedro	26/06/93	1	90	89↓	90	120	Club Atlético de Madrid
11	Alexia Putellas	04/02/94		81↓	90	90	52↑	FC Barcelona
14	Vicky Losada	05/03/91	1	90	73↓	90	68↓	FC Barcelona
15	Silvia Meseguer	12/03/89		90	90	90	120	Club Atlético de Madrid
22	Mariona Caldentey	19/03/96	1	90		79↓	56↓	FC Barcelona
FORWARDS								
7	Marta Corredera	08/08/91			90	34↑	120	Club Atlético de Madrid
9	María Paz	01/02/88		25↑		45↑	112↓	Valencia CF
10	Jennifer Hermoso	09/05/90		65↓	90	45↓	44↑	Paris Saint-Germain
17	Olga García	01/06/92				17↑	64↑	FC Barcelona
18	Esther Gonzalez	08/12/92						Club Atlético de Madrid
19	Bárbara Latorre	14/03/93		9↑	1↑	11↑	76↓	FC Barcelona

*After extra time; Austria won 5-3 on penalties
Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

JORGE
VILDA

BORN: 07/07/81

NATIONALITY: Spanish



STATISTICS

17 PLAYERS USED	2 GOALS SCORED
677* AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 739 v Portugal Min: 535 v Scotland
86% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 89% v Portugal Min: 81% v Austria
71% POSSESSION	Max: 76% v Portugal Min: 64% v Austria

TEAM SHAPES



ATTACK: Full-backs opening to combine with wingers; variety of midfield/second-ball support



DEFENCE: Same-shape defensive set-up with wingers tucking in to strengthen pressing in midfield

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3 with wingers; switch to 1-3-5-2 with wing-backs v England
- Possession-based game; excellent individual technique in all departments
- Patient construction from back; short, long passing by keeper and centre-backs
- Attacking strategy based on wing play supported by full-backs + crosses
- Extensive use of diagonal passes to break opponents' deep defence
- Balancing midfielder 15 Meseguer behind ball, ready to receive and distribute
- Good movement, positional switches by front five; options for player on ball
- 8 Sampedro the live wire in attack; dropping deep, through passes, solo runs
- Quick transitions to well-organised defence, holding high line, closing spaces
- Commitment to attacking philosophy, domination based on attractive ball-play



SWEDEN

GROUP B GERMANY (7PTS), SWEDEN (4), RUSSIA (3), ITALY (3)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	GER	RUS	ITA	NED	CLUB
				DO-0	W2-0	L2-3	LO-2	
GOALKEEPERS								
1	Hedvig Lindahl	29/04/83		90	90	90	90	Chelsea LFC
12	Hilda Carlén	13/08/91						Piteå IF
21	Emelie Lundberg	10/03/93						Eskilstuna United DFF
DEFENDERS								
2	Jonna Andersson	02/01/93		87↓		90	81↓	Linköpings FC
3	Linda Sembrant	15/05/87		90	90	90	90	Montpellier Hérault SC
4	Emma Berglund	19/12/88						FC Rosengård
5	Nilla Fischer	02/08/84		90	90		90	VfL Wolfsburg
6	Magdalena Ericsson	08/09/93	1	3↑	90	90		Linköpings FC
15	Jessica Samuelsson	30/01/92		90	90		90	Linköpings FC
16	Hanna Glas	16/04/93						Eskilstuna United DFF
MIDFIELDERS								
7	Lisa Dahlkvist	06/02/87		90	63↓	45↑	90	KIF Örebro DFF
9	Kosovare Asllani	29/07/89		90	90	45↓	90	Manchester City Women's FC
10	Julia Spetsmark	30/06/89				11↑		KIF Örebro DFF
13	Josefin Johansson	17/03/88						Piteå IF
14	Hanna Folkesson	15/06/88			27↑	90	17↑	FC Rosengård
17	Caroline Seger	19/03/85		90	90	45↓	90	Olympique Lyonnais
22	Olivia Schough	11/03/91		56↓	45↓	79↓		Eskilstuna United DFF
23	Elin Rubensson	11/05/93		34↑		90		Kopparbergs/Göteborg FC
FORWARDS								
8	Lotta Schelin	27/02/84	2		90	90	90	FC Rosengård
11	Stina Blackstenius	05/02/96	2		34↑	73↓	90	Montpellier Hérault SC
18	Fridolina Rolfö	24/11/93	1	56↓	45↑	45↑	73↓	FC Bayern München
19	Pauline Hammarlund	07/05/94			17↑			Kopparbergs/Göteborg FC
20	Mimmi Larsson	09/04/94					9↑	Eskilstuna United DFF

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

PIA SUNDHAGE

BORN: 13/02/60

NATIONALITY: Swedish



STATISTICS

18 PLAYERS USED	4 GOALS SCORED
400 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 519 v Russia Min: 353 v Italy
76% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 82% v Russia Min: 68% v Netherlands
49% POSSESSION	Max: 63% v Russia Min: 39% v Germany

TEAM SHAPES



ATTACK: Whole block pushing forward; advanced full-backs, wide midfielders crossing to strikers



DEFENCE: Fast transitions to deep same-shape defending by two compact lines pressing ball

KEY FEATURES

- Classic 1-4-4-2 with twin screen; excellent fast transitions in both directions
- Emphasis on direct attacking; long lofted diagonals to strikers by centre-backs
- Also build-up via 17 Seger, 7 Dahlkvist; one pushing forward, other screening
- Runs by wide midfielders to inside pockets = space for in-depth runs by strikers
- High-tempo power-play; overloads in wide areas = dangerous crosses, cut-backs
- Fierce pressure on ball after loss of possession; fast recovery of defensive shape
- Centre-back 5 Fischer organising strong back four; full-backs generally cautious
- Disciplined zonal defence in narrow lines of four; strikers staying high for counters
- Synchronised movements as compact unit; 1v1 ability; strong team ethic
- Dangerous set plays; aerial power; wide variety of creative options at corners



SWITZERLAND

GROUP C AUSTRIA (7PTS), FRANCE (5), SWITZERLAND (4), ICELAND (0)



SQUAD

	BORN	G	A	AUT	ISL	FRA	CLUB
				LO-1	W2-1	D1-1	
GOALKEEPERS							
1	Gaëlle Thalmann	18/01/86		90	90	90	ASD Verona
12	Stenia Michel	23/10/87					FC Basel
21	Seraina Friedli	20/03/93					FC Zürich Frauen
DEFENDERS							
2	Jana Brunner	20/01/97		28↑	90		FC Basel
4	Rachel Rinast	02/06/91			1↑		FC Basel
5	Noelle Maritz	23/12/95	1	90	90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
9	Ana-Maria Crnogorčević	03/10/90	1	90	90	90	1. FFC Frankfurt
14	Rahel Kiwic	05/01/91		60so	S	90	1. FFC Turbine Potsdam
15	Caroline Abbé	13/01/88		57↓			FC Zürich Frauen
17	Sandra Betschart	30/03/89					MSV Duisburg
MIDFIELDERS							
3	Meriam Terchoun	27/10/95				11↑	FC Zürich Frauen
7	Martina Moser	09/04/86	1	90	57↓	65↓	FC Zürich Frauen
8	Cinzia Zehnder	04/08/97			90	79↓	FC Zürich Frauen
11	Lara Dickenmann	27/11/85	1	90	90	90	VfL Wolfsburg
13	Lia Wälti	19/04/93		90	90	90	1. FFC Turbine Potsdam
18	Viola Calligaris	17/03/96				25↑	BSC Young Boys
20	Sandrine Mauron	19/12/96					FC Zürich Frauen
22	Vanessa Bernauer	23/03/88		33↑	90		VfL Wolfsburg
23	Vanessa Bürki	01/04/86			76↓		FC Bayern München
FORWARDS							
6	Géraldine Reuteler	21/04/99		62↓		11↑	FC Luzern
10	Ramona Bachmann	25/12/90	1	1	90	89↓	Chelsea LFC
16	Fabienne Humm	20/12/86		57↓	14↑		FC Zürich Frauen
19	Eseosa Aigbogun	23/05/93		33↑	33↑	79↓	1. FFC Turbine Potsdam

Numbers in match columns represent minutes played; G = goals; A = assists; ↑ = brought on; ↓ = taken off; S = suspended; so = sent off



COACH

MARTINA VOSS-TECKLENBURG

BORN: 22/12/67

NATIONALITY: German



STATISTICS

19 PLAYERS USED	3 GOALS SCORED
315 AVE. PASSES ATTEMPTED	Max: 393 v Austria Min: 216 v France
72% PASSING ACCURACY	Max: 73% v Austria, Iceland Min: 71% v France
53% POSSESSION	Max: 63% v Austria Min: 39% v France

TEAM SHAPES



ATTACK: Attacking full-backs supporting combination attacks; central midfielders balancing



DEFENCE: Full-backs, wide midfielders tucking into two narrow lines; two front players high for counters

KEY FEATURES

- Variations on 1-4-4-2 (midfield diamond v Iceland); 1-4-1-4-1 v France
- Direct attacking; long from centre-backs to wide areas, well-used by full-backs
- Quick dangerous counterattacking via penetrating runs on wings
- 10 Bachmann the attacking reference; skill, industry in striker or support roles
- Fast transitions to 1-4-4-2 defending; compact, deeper 1-4-1-4-1 v France
- 7 Moser the mobile linking player; neat combinations in middle-to-front area
- Keeper trying to build via centre-backs; played long to wings under pressure
- Striker aiming to hold the ball up, waiting to combine with wide players
- Defence marshalled by 14 Kiwic; good leadership qualities in each line
- Strong work ethic, commitment, mental resilience in adverse situations

EVENT REPORT



LET'S CELEBRATE!

The tournament lived up to its slogan as the hosts organised a party that acclaimed the women's game



Huge crowds turned out to see the victorious Netherlands players take to the water in Utrecht



The Netherlands fans (top) get in the mood for their semi-final against England; supporters displayed their colours in a wide range of ways (above and right), whether in the fan zones or in the stadiums



THE AIM WAS TO CREATE A FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE AND TO OFFER A SPORTING INCENTIVE FOR THE NEW GENERATION



Iceland's Málfríður Erna Sigurðardóttir hugs her daughters after playing Switzerland



Germany coach Steffi Jones is greeted by a fan (left); face painting gave fans a way to show off their allegiances (above)

The tournament slogan 'Let's celebrate' expresses the philosophy. Apart from successfully organising 31 games of football, the aim was to create a festive atmosphere, to invite all and sundry to join the fun, to create a legacy and, maybe most importantly, to offer a sporting incentive for the new generation of women.

Encouraging girls to play football is not a 90-minute fixture. The project can be traced back to 4 April 2017, when a 100-day warm-up programme was launched in all seven host cities – or even earlier if the countdown takes into account the 14 football festivals aimed at giving girls – and their mums – a first taste of football.

The KNVB certainly had plenty to be proud of, beyond their team's exceptional results and the record crowds that flocked to the matches. Notably, there was a huge appetite for the campaigns that were launched to broaden interest in the women's game.

A football lessons pack that focused on women's football was taken up by some 1,000 primary schools all over the Netherlands, while the Share Your Talent programme enabled around 2,000 students at the universities in the host cities to take a good look at the organisational skills required to stage a major international tournament. Via internships or volunteer work they were also able to gain practical experience of how the event worked. In all, 1,500 volunteers, many of whom were young professionals and students, contributed to the success of the tournament, and will hopefully have been inspired to go on and further the development of the game – particularly women's football.

As well as the concrete legacy provided by stadium upgrades at the tournament venues, on an organisational level KNVB and stadium staff will have benefited from the experience of hosting such a major tournament, which also helped to increase cooperation between the seven host cities, particularly in terms of promotion and ticket sales.

Other events included a national

RECORD CROWDS

The tournament set new benchmarks for attendances at a UEFA Women's EURO with the 240,045 total surpassing the record 216,888 set four years previously in Sweden. Three of the top six single-match UEFA Women's EURO record attendances took place during the tournament while the Netherlands became the first UEFA Women's EURO hosts to sell out all their matches. Their six games were watched by a total of 110,897 people, with the 27,093 crowd in Enschede for their victory against England on 3 August a record for a UEFA Women's EURO semi-final. "It really gives you a massive boost," Netherlands forward Vivianne Miedema said. "They helped throughout the tournament. You can feel it. Everywhere you look you see orange and they cheer every time we've got the ball."

STADION GALGENWAARD

UTRECHT

TOURNAMENT CAPACITY 23,372

GROUP MATCHES

21,732 Netherlands 1-0 Norway

6,458 Russia 0-2 Germany

4,387 France 1-1 Austria

5,587 England 6-0 Scotland

AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE 38,164

STADION DE VIJVERBERG

DOETINCHEM

TOURNAMENT CAPACITY 11,311

GROUP MATCHES

4,565 Denmark 1-0 Belgium

3,776 Sweden 2-3 Italy

5,647 Iceland 1-2 Switzerland

2,424 Spain 2-0 Portugal

QUARTER-FINAL

11,106 Netherlands 2-0 Sweden

AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE 27,518

RAT VERLEGH STADION BREDA

TOURNAMENT CAPACITY 15,454

GROUP MATCHES

8,477 Norway 0-2 Belgium

9,276 Germany 0-0 Sweden

3,347 Switzerland 1-1 France

4,879 England 2-0 Spain

SEMI-FINAL

10,184 Denmark 0-0 Austria**

AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE 36,163



SPARTA STADION ROTTERDAM

TOURNAMENT CAPACITY 10,306

GROUP MATCHES

10,087 Netherlands 1-0 Denmark

1,269 Italy 1-2 Russia

4,120 Iceland 0-3 Austria

3,123 Scotland 1-2 Portugal

QUARTER-FINAL

5,251 Germany 1-2 Denmark

AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE 23,850

STADION DE ADELAARSHORST

DEVENTER

TOURNAMENT CAPACITY 6,931

GROUP MATCHES

5,885 Norway 0-1 Denmark

5,764 Sweden 2-0 Russia

4,781 Austria 1-0 Switzerland

4,840 Scotland 1-0 Spain

QUARTER-FINAL

6,283 England 1-0 France

AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE 27,553

WILLEM II STADION TILBURG

TOURNAMENT CAPACITY 13,280

GROUP MATCHES

12,697 Belgium 1-2 Netherlands

7,108 Germany 2-1 Italy

4,894 France 1-0 Iceland

3,335 Portugal 1-2 England

QUARTER-FINAL

3,488 Austria 0-0 Spain*

AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE 31,522

FC TWENTE STADION ENSCHEDE

TOURNAMENT CAPACITY 28,745

SEMI-FINAL

27,093 Netherlands 3-0 England

FINAL

28,182 Netherlands 4-2 Denmark

AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE 55,275

*aet, Austria win 5-3 on pens; **aet, Denmark win 3-0 on pens



championship for female students that was staged at the KNVB campus for the first time in 2017, and will now become an annual fixture. Then there were the Football Fridays, the events pegged to Mother's and Father's Days to promote ticket sales. Meet the Teams activities, meanwhile, took place to introduce the visiting teams to the Dutch public.

Sponsors also played their part, allowing kids to attend matches during the final tournament while ambassadors travelled the length and breadth of the country, along with Kicky the mascot, spreading the tournament message. Another key promotional tool, the UEFA Women's EURO Trophy Tour, introduced local fans to a prize they would get to know well during a whistle-stop journey taking in eight towns between 7 April and 9 June. And so it went on ...

The festivities stepped up several

TOP SIX UEFA WOMEN'S EURO CROWDS

41,301 Germany 1-0 Norway, 2013 Final, Stockholm

29,092 England 3-2 Finland, 2005 Group stage, Manchester

28,182 Netherlands 4-2 Denmark, 2017 Final, Enschede

27,093 Netherlands 3-0 England, 2017 Semi-final, Enschede

25,694 England 0-1 Sweden, 2005 Group stage, Blackburn

21,732 Netherlands 1-0 Norway, 2017 Group stage, Utrecht

240,045

THE AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE WAS A RECORD FOR A UEFA WOMEN'S EURO

ON BRAND

The distinctive UEFA Women's EURO brand ensured a consistent look and feel across the tournament, from the visual identity prominent in the stadiums, host cities and TV graphics to advertising backdrops and brand elements created for everything from print materials to microphone heads.



gears when the tournament kicked off on 16 July. Pictures of the fan zones are worth many more than a thousand words. Set up in prime locations at the heart of the host cities, they offered live music, DJs, giant screens, father-daughter tournaments, pole soccer, football clinics and, above all, interaction between the fans and every possible opportunity to share all the fun in a party atmosphere.

In all 72,916 people attended fan zones during the tournament, including those from abroad who travelled to support their teams and added even greater buzz and colour to the fan walks as supporters made their way arm-in-arm to the stadiums. Apart from the orange-and-red tide that flowed into the FC Twente Stadion for the final in Enschede, there were memorable images of, for example, the thousands of Iceland supporters who joined their opponents on the fan walks in Tilburg, Doetinchem and Rotterdam. UEFA Women's EURO 2017 was a great event – and the atmosphere it generated even greater.

FANS TAKE HEALTH CHALLENGE TO HEART

UEFA joined forces with the World Heart Federation to promote the importance of a healthy lifestyle, among a number of social responsibility initiatives



The Enschede fan zone promoted the role of sport in keeping healthy

UEFA's football and social responsibility efforts during the tournament focused most sharply on the 'A Healthy Heart Your Goal' programme led by its core partner, the World Heart Federation (WHF).

The aim of the campaign was to get women and girls to take better care of themselves, as UEFA and the World Heart Federation teamed up with the Dutch Heart Foundation, the Royal Netherlands Football Association (KNVB) and the European Healthy Stadia Network to promote active, healthy lifestyles.

With heart disease and strokes being major causes of death for women across Europe – and most cardiovascular disease is preventable, with even 30 minutes' moderate daily exercise helping to keep hearts healthy – 'A Healthy Heart Your Goal' offered advice and fitness tips, as well as #MatchFitWoman activity challenges.

And since children who exercise from an early age reduce their chances

of heart disease and strokes in later life, a supplementary 'Speel je Fit' (Play Yourself Fit) campaign enlisted Dutch celebrities and international athletes to get kids active – including in the tournament's fan zones.

'A Healthy Heart Your Goal' was complemented by a no-smoking policy at all seven championship arenas, which guaranteed a tobacco free tournament. The no-smoking message was reiterated on both the big screens at matches and by the stadium announcer, as were appeals to stay #MatchFit and to Respect Diversity.

A dedicated No To Racism page appeared in the official UEFA Women's EURO programme, and team captains wore No to Racism armbands. UEFA also worked with the local organising committee (LOC) and its disability partner organisation, the Centre for Access to Football in Europe (CAFE), to ensure proper accessibility at games, with wheelchair and easy-access tickets a staple of the ticketing programme.



Away from the stadiums, perhaps the greatest burst of activity witnessed at the final tournament came courtesy of the fan walks initiative. Dovetailing with the 'Healthy Heart' programme, a free-to-use 'Active Match App' encouraged fans

to walk – or cycle – to games. Developed by the European Healthy Stadia Network in partnership with UEFA and the World Heart Federation, the mobile app not only helped users boost their activity levels, but also gave directions and, upon

arrival, details of distance travelled, calories burned and CO₂ emissions saved. Indeed, it was thanks in part to the app that approximately 10,000 people participated in the fan walk held on the day of the Netherlands-Denmark final.

YOUNG LEARN THE WRITE WAY

A group of 11 young reporters from 11 different countries linked up with UEFA and international sports journalists' association AIPS for a first major championship experience.

AIPS has been developing its Young Reporters programme for six years, and this marked its third venture with UEFA after the 2013 and 2015 UEFA European Under-21 Championships.

Besides learning how to interview or write match reports against deadlines, the young reporters also 'competed' against experienced journalists in the stadiums. What seemed a daunting assignment was made easier by three mentors – Keir Radnedge, Martin Mazur and Riccardo Romani – as the apprentices learned to explore, develop and practise the requisite skills.

The lectures covered topics such as questioning, preparation and styles, while the mentors' personal insights showed what it takes to succeed.

APP GETS THOUSANDS WALKING

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

A series of popular activities and social media campaigns generated widespread interest in UEFA's drive to get girls playing the game

If lifting the trophy was the ultimate goal, there was also a wider ambition for Europe's elite players during UEFA Women's EURO 2017 – inspiring girls and women to take up the game.

That is the aim of UEFA's Together #WePlayStrong campaign, and with the tournament showcasing the best of European women's football, the stars were happy to lend a hand.

"The Women's EURO is really important to us, because it creates role models in our country and all over the world where people are watching," Sweden striker Kosovare Asllani said. "Our hope is to inspire a whole generation. To me personally, it means so much that women's football is getting bigger and bigger. We've seen the development over the years that I've been playing, and the sport has clearly progressed enormously since then. And it's a great joy to see, because I believe it's very important for young girls to have role models and goals to aspire to."

Together #WePlayStrong was launched on 1 June 2017, ahead of the UEFA Women's Champions League final. Research shows that playing football can significantly boost confidence, happiness and self-image among girls, and the campaign encourages them to take up – and continue – playing the game, with the target of making football the No1 sport for women across Europe by 2020.

An inspirational film premiered at the UEFA Women's Champions League final in Cardiff has already been viewed by 25 million people, and activities around the campaign were stepped up during UEFA Women's EURO 2017.

Each player wore a badge of the

#WePlayStrong logo on their shirts, and the branding also appeared prominently at the seven venues on pitchside advertising boards, as well as on a banner displayed in front of the teams before kick-off. A new film entitled I Am a Footballer conveyed the strong message that all girls can play football, and it was promoted by the players themselves with video pieces-to-camera.

A Photo of the Day focusing on skill, fun, friendship and aspiration reinforced the #WePlayStrong values, while animated skills video compilations highlighted the quality of the women's game, with 350,000 people watching the most popular goalkeeper saves montage. This was complemented by skills films created by freestyle world champion Liv Cooke, whose trick tutorials were viewed on average 150,000 times across Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat and Musical.ly.

Social media played a key role in promoting the campaign, which really caught the imagination. The #WePlayStrong Squad – a grassroots team of 45 superfans from the 16 competing nations – created 4,200 pieces of content, generating 61,500 interactions that reached 1.7 million people. The #SheShootsSheScores activation, meanwhile, encouraged youngsters to film themselves scoring a goal, before then posting their content on Musical.ly for the chance to win an all-expenses-paid trip to the final. Around 2,200 pieces of user-generated content were created.

As Dutch forward Lieke Martens explained, there is no better platform than the EURO to show what women's

football in Europe is all about. "It's great for women's football," the player of the tournament said. "You see young girls starting out now and training a lot more and at a higher level, which can only be good for the development of women's football. There's more strength in depth now, and we're trying to help the Netherlands reach the top. The game is constantly improving and it's so great to be part of all that."

To make your own #WePlayStrong posters, watch a skills tutorials, find a club near you and much more, visit WePlayStrong.org.



The #WePlayStrong logo was displayed on player shirts, advertising boards and on a pitch banner ahead of each match

A PIVOTAL PARTNERSHIP

A winning combination of global
and national sponsors underpinned the
success of UEFA Women's EURO 2017

The commercial programme for UEFA Women's EURO 2017 consisted of nine global sponsors and five national sponsors. This approach allowed the global sponsors, each with a longstanding commitment to national team football, extensive worldwide marketing rights to associate with and promote the championship. It

also secured the support of a strong group of national sponsors who came on board to lend a special insight into the host market. Together, the two sets of sponsors generated awareness of the tournament in order to attract fans to the stadiums, while also supplying vital products and services to produce a well-run finals.



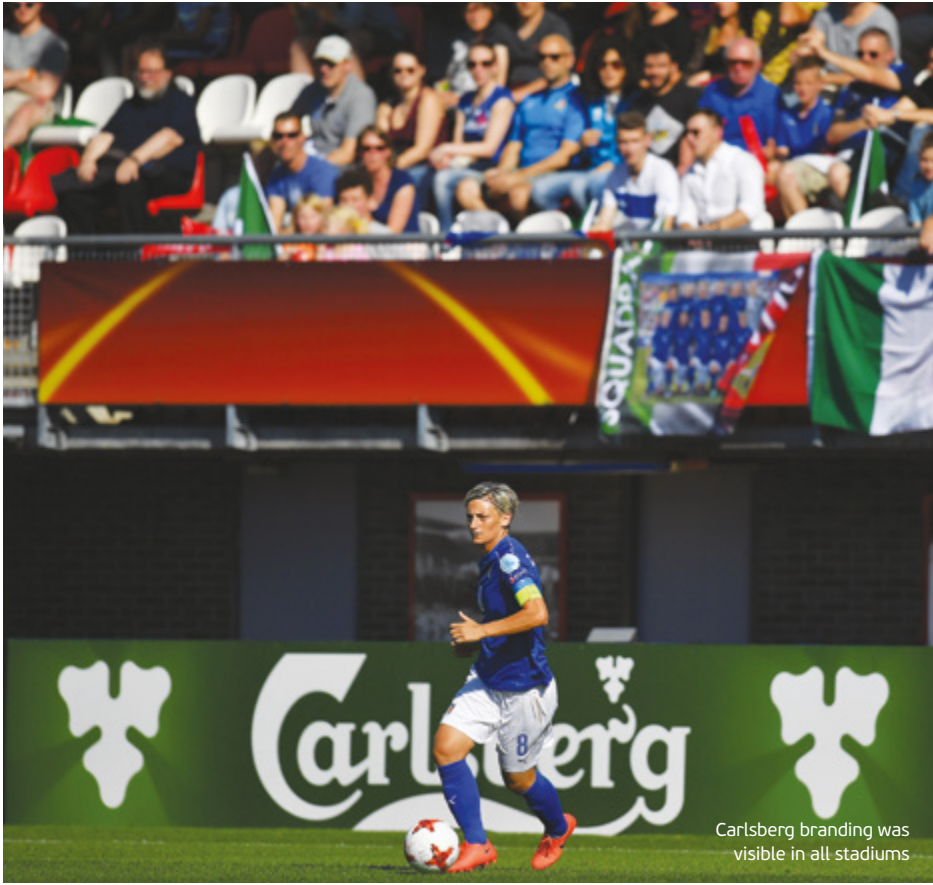
GLOBAL SPONSORS



In supplying the official match ball for UEFA Women's EURO 2017, adidas took the best elements from its Brazuca FIFA World Cup and UEFA EURO 2016 balls while making further improvements to the surface structure and panelling to offer improved grip and enhanced in-flight visibility for players. Meanwhile the visibility of the actual adidas brand was heightened by the manufacturer providing quality sportswear for the tournament's youth programme participants, volunteers and staff. Additionally, adidas designed and produced the official licensed products sold at INTERSPORT fan shops within all seven stadiums. The sports brand was also presenting partner of the adidas Golden Boot, creating a bespoke award for England's five-goal finals top scorer Jodie Taylor.



The global brewer's partner in the Netherlands, De Kikvorsch, activated its sponsorship of the tournament, with the Carlsberg brand prominent throughout the three weeks of action. Thus Carlsberg's core brand messaging featured heavily on perimeter boards, and the brewer supplied Carlsberg products and branded service materials to key areas at all seven stadiums. Carlsberg also made sure neither fans nor staff went thirsty via on-site refreshment stalls and other equipment. In fact, Carlsberg's contribution went as far as producing and presenting custom-made player of the match awards at both semi-finals – to the Netherlands' Danielle van de Donk and Denmark's Stina Lykke Petersen – and the final, to Dutch star Sherida Spitse.





One of the biggest supporters of women's football worldwide, Coca-Cola was again a key sponsor for the UEFA Women's EURO. As a long-term UEFA national team football partner, the multinational beverage corporation purveyed a high standard of service and products to all stakeholders on site – from participating squads to staff, media representatives and fans. The Coca-Cola team even contributed products to help the competing teams and referees rehydrate during the tournament. Its brand was afforded strong visibility on perimeter boards, as well as online and offline, while the Coca-Cola festival mobile trailer experience kept fans entertained in several fan zones – offering the chance to win an assortment of prizes.



Coca-Cola's brand was seen on perimeter boards



After a hugely successful debut at UEFA EURO 2016, Hisense carried on its partnership with UEFA national team football by activating all its key rights for this edition of the Women's EURO. Since the consumer electronics brand seeks to continue expanding its footprint across Europe, the competition represented an ideal window to develop yet further its brand recognition and awareness. It followed then that Hisense used assets such as tickets for the purpose of B2B and B2C engagement.



The Hisense presence was prominent at the tournament

Young fans flocked to enjoy the on-site activities organised by Continental



For Continental, this event was a wonderful opportunity to continue its backing of women's football, complementing its partnerships with the English and Dutch sides. Continental duly developed its brand association with the finals via on-site activation in the fan zones, giant screen spots, an official programme advert and perimeter-board publicity. It also produced a video series about England's participation in the tournament, which was hosted by ex-England goalkeeper David James and featured UEFA women's football advisor Nadine Kessler. One of the driving forces behind the Women's EURO, the automotive manufacturing company continues to strengthen its relationship with the female game.



The tournament provided another terrific opportunity for the automotive brand to activate its partnership, given that the Netherlands is an important market for Kia and considering how UEFA national team football – in particular the Women's EURO – has been a big part of its global sponsorship strategy. So the company had a busy tournament, not least by laying on the vehicles to support all finals operations, but also through Kia running nationwide test drive/ticket promotions as part of its official match ball carrier programme, which helped attract fans to the stadiums. Once there, supporters were further engaged by Kia's commercial display stands, offering various activities including the Kia Dome penalty shoot-out as well as Kia tiger ears for fans to wear.



The Kia Dome was popular with fans



A seasoned partner of UEFA national team football, McDonald's lent its customary backing to the Women's EURO – centring its energies around the well-established McDonald's Player Escorts programme. This gave a unique and exclusive chance to children to experience the build-up to the big game and walk hand-in-hand with star players on to the field, then line up with them as the national anthems were played. The lucky children were recruited mainly in the host country although some were invited from the UK as part of McDonald's partnership with Community Football in the UK.



McDonald's gave a lucky group of children an unforgettable experience



SOCAR's profile was evident throughout



SOCAR's involvement with UEFA Women's EURO 2017 was another way for the Azerbaijani energy company to keep building its brand awareness and identity on a global stage. The competition brought substantial visibility to SOCAR at the stadiums – via LED boards, giant screen spots and official programme adverts – as well as on TV. Throughout the event, SOCAR also pushed its official statistic provider status and received added visibility for its brand and logo thanks to official videos posted by UEFA on the Women's EURO social media channels, teasing fans with key tournament stats.



Turkish Airlines had a significant pitchside exposure



The official airline partner of UEFA national team football, Turkish Airlines was particularly proud to be a global partner of the Women's EURO in the Netherlands. This status made the airline a significant presence at the championship, courtesy of pitchside brand exposure and on-site visibility on key tournament and other promotional materials. Turkish Airlines also benefited from considerable exposure on social media via its digital sole and exclusive promotion: the 'Turkish Airlines Magic Moment' comprised a match footage video clip with graphic overlays of one of the best moments of each matchday.

NATIONAL SPONSORS



Not only was global employment agency Adecco involved in the recruitment and selection of volunteers, it also provided tournament organisers with essential expertise and technology by using an advanced planning tool to manage the approximately 1,500 volunteers helping out the various stakeholders on site. Moreover, Adecco handled the training of volunteers to welcome fans and guests, and also ran a number of events and activities including an end-of-tournament farewell party at which the CEO of Adecco's Dutch operation acted as DJ.



Adecco handled the recruitment and training of 1,500 volunteers



A proud supporter of Dutch football and KNVB partner, ING enriched the finals with eye-catching activations – chief among them, the chance for 496 children to carry the national-team flags on the pitch ahead of the teams' entrance. Supplementing the flag-bearers programme, ING set up a dedicated branded hospitality truck for the Netherlands' matches. The banking and financial services corporation also drafted photographers into the grounds to take souvenir photos which fans could share on social media platforms; posted tournament content on its 'Only Football' YouTube channel; and provided punters with the opportunity to play pole football in the fan zones. ING had also helped fill the stadiums with ticket sales and exclusive offers via its loyalty scheme.



ING gave fans the chance to play and relax



Persgroep/AD was involved in fan activities



The largest media outlet in the Netherlands – and widely followed across a variety of platforms including newspapers, magazines and online – Persgroep/AD's diverse portfolio enabled tournament organisers to successfully communicate using both online and offline channels, which contributed to the overall success of the finals. Certainly, effective advertising led to impressive coverage. Persgroep/AD also connected with the football public by being active in the fan zones with on-site photo booths, and by offering newspapers to supporters. Furthermore, it participated in the championship's diversity programme alongside PwC.



INTERSPORT had dedicated shops at every venue in the tournament



As national sponsor, INTERSPORT seized the chance to interact with fans through a series of pre-finals ticket promotions that served to intensify the tournament build-up. As the event's official sports shop of licensed products, meanwhile, the retailer sold products through specially branded areas within its classic retail stores as well as having dedicated shops at every venue of the championship. The official licensed product range – developed specifically for the finals – consisted of striking adidas items as well as the replica shirts of the participating teams, official match balls and charming fan bracelets from official licensee Brappz.



PricewaterhouseCoopers is a long-term sponsor of the KNVB and supports all aspects of the game in the Netherlands. For UEFA Women's EURO 2017, its splendid hospitality programmes gave clients and customers a truly special experience. PwC's commitment was also underlined when, together with Persgroep/AD, the professional services network arranged a seminar about diversity at the FC Twente Stadion, in keeping with the values promoted by the tournament.



Special visitor guides helped people get to know the surroundings



LICENSED TO THRILL

The first UEFA Women’s EURO Panini sticker album was a highlight of an extensive licensed product range

UEFA’s successful licensing programme for the Women’s EURO in the Netherlands was especially notable for its link-up with the Panini Group – meaning that for the first time the tournament had its own dedicated sticker collection. As a result of this major innovation, all participating teams and players were featured in the championship’s album and stickers. Moreover, the UEFA Women’s EURO 2017 sticker album – available at retailers and newsagents across the continent – was supplemented by a digital equivalent for the online market: a collection of Panini

Adrenalyn trading cards. It was a promotional coup to have football fans collecting and swapping the best players from the tournament before, during and after the finals. If Panini stickers are a traditional staple of big championships, so too is the presence of the adidas brand. For this Women’s EURO, adidas was responsible for the official licensed product range – comprising various attractive items of clothing – as well as the official match ball range. The ball itself took the best elements from its best-selling UEFA EURO 2016 predecessor and added new

performance-improving features. There was novelty too in the component parts of the licensing programme, through the involvement of emerging Swiss company Brappz and British publisher Trinity Media. It was Brappz that produced the eye-catching official fan bracelets that enabled supporters to display their team colours in a stylish but subtle way. Trinity Media’s role was to work in tandem with the UEFA communications team to deliver the official match programme and subsequently guarantee its widespread availability in both the Netherlands and assorted markets throughout Europe. Meanwhile, INTERSPORT again signed up as the official sports shop of licensed products for the UEFA Women’s EURO – and duly offered fans the best possible access to licensed merchandise. The international sporting goods retailer used both its brick-and-mortar stores and dedicated shops at each tournament venue to achieve this purpose.



Scotland goalkeeper Gemma Fay takes time out with a player escort



PICTURE PERFECT

TV viewing figures were higher than ever in a number of key markets as across the world fans tuned in to the EURO

A global cumulative live audience of 178 million people followed the action at UEFA Women's EURO 2017, with 33 broadcasters screening matches in 154 territories around the world. Record viewing figures were achieved in a number of markets, notably in the Netherlands where the hosts' six matches were the most-viewed women's games ever broadcast in that country. In countries where no broadcast partner was appointed, fans also watched live streams and highlights of every game on UEFA's official YouTube channel UEFA.tv and on UEFA.com, ensuring the tournament was a truly global experience.

HIGHLIGHTS

The key viewing figures from UEFA Women's EURO 2017

GROUP STAGE

The opening match between the Netherlands and Norway was watched by 2.1m (49.4% share) on NPO1. The Netherlands' other two Group A games against Denmark and Belgium attracted 2.2m and 2.4m viewers respectively; the latter was the most-watched broadcast of the day.

7.1m viewers (24.1% share) watched Germany play Russia on ZDF, an increase of 36.7% on Germany's group games in 2013. Germany's other Group B games against Sweden and Italy on ARD drew 6.1m (22.4% share) and 5.8m (23.2% share) viewers respectively.

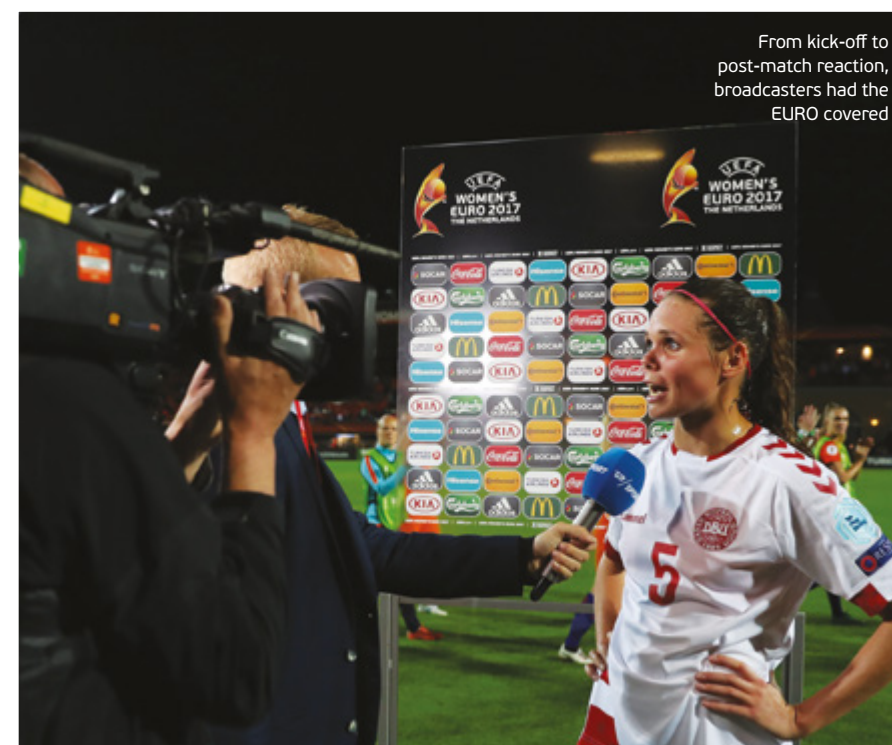
In the UK, 1.7m viewers (8.8% share) watched England v Scotland on Channel 4 – a bigger audience than for any England game at the 2009 and 2013 Women's EUROs, including the 2009 final loss to Germany on BBC2 (1.4m viewers, 10.3% share).

In France, viewing figures were well up on the 2013 tournament as well as 90% higher than for any of Les Bleues' 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup group matches. There were 3.3m viewers on France 2 for their opening match against Iceland, then 3.2m for both their matches against Austria and Switzerland.

In Scandinavia, Sweden (TV4) and Norway (TV2) consistently achieved market shares between 40% and 50% for their group games. Denmark's market share on DR1 increased as the group stage progressed, with a 29% share (416,000 viewers) for their opening match against Belgium growing to 38.4% (555,000 viewers) for their third match against Italy.

Viewing figures in Iceland were reminiscent of UEFA EURO 2016, with market shares for each match topping 80% and peaking at 92.9% for Iceland's opening match against France.

Debutants Belgium (VRT/RTBF), Portugal (RTP), Austria (ORF), Scotland (Channel 4) and Switzerland (SRG SSR) also attracted significant interest: 900,000 viewers (30% share) watched Austria's final group game against Iceland on ORF; SRG's Swiss-German channel SRF achieved a 23.4% share for Switzerland v Austria (complemented by a 9% share on both the French and Italian language channels operated by SRG); an impressive 43.7% share (900,000 viewers) watched Belgium's game against the Netherlands on Belgian Dutch language channel VRT. This was complemented by a 14.4% share (200,000 viewers) on Belgian French language channel La Deux.



From kick-off to post-match reaction, broadcasters had the EURO covered



Tournament ambassador Pierre van Hooijdonk's movements are closely monitored

QUARTER-FINALS

The Netherlands' quarter-final against Sweden attracted 2.1m viewers (54.1% share) on NPO1, the best-watched broadcast of the day. In Sweden, the match produced an audience of 900,000 viewers (47.2% share) on SVT2, 12.7% up on Sweden's 2013 quarter-final versus Iceland on TV4.

800,000 viewers (38.2% share) watched Austria's quarter-final against Spain on ORF1, with 500,000 (5% share) tuning in on Teledporte in Spain, more than double for the Hungarian Formula One Grand Prix on Movistar.

The rescheduled match between Germany and Denmark was watched by 5.9m (39% share) on ZDF, while 58.5% of the lunchtime audience (471,253 viewers) tuned into the action on DR1 in Denmark.

France 2 attracted 3.7m viewers (17.8% share) for England v France, more than any audience for the 2013 UEFA Women's EURO and more than double France's quarter-final against Denmark on W9 that year (1.8m viewers, 8.9% share).

178M
PEOPLE WATCHED
THE TOURNAMENT
WORLDWIDE

15M
PEOPLE
WATCHED THE
FINAL LIVE

5.9M
MINUTES OF LIVE
STREAMS WATCHED
ON UEFA.tv

The match was watched by 2.4m people (11.8% share) in the UK on Channel 4, more than any audience of the previous two tournaments and 62.8% higher than England's 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup quarter-final win against hosts Canada on BBC1 (1.5m viewers, 33.3% share).

SEMI-FINALS

NETHERLANDS v ENGLAND

England's semi-final against the Netherlands on Channel 4 attracted a British record 3.2m viewers for a women's game. 2.9m (50.7% share) watched the match on NPO1 in the Netherlands, an increase of 84.8% on the 2009 semi-final between the same teams, also broadcast on NPO1 (1.6m viewers, 36.6% share).

DENMARK v AUSTRIA

TV2 in Denmark enjoyed an exceptional audience of a little over 1m viewers (66.6% share) for their nation's win against Austria, 49.8% up on Denmark's 2013 semi-final against Norway on DR1 that attracted around 700,000 viewers (41.1% share). There were also impressive neutral market audiences for the two semi-finals, with over 3.2m viewers in Germany watching the Netherlands v England and 55.9% and 61.8% shares on RUV in Iceland for the two games.

FINAL

NETHERLANDS v DENMARK

The final set audience records in both the Netherlands and Denmark. In the Netherlands 4.1m viewers (83.2% share) watched the final live, with a peak of 5.4m viewers (85.3% share) tuning in for the trophy lift. Denmark's first UEFA Women's EURO final appearance attracted approximately 1.4m viewers (82% share): 0.8m viewers, 46.7% share on DR1 and 0.6m viewers, 35.4% share on TV2. ZDF attracted its highest neutral audience of the tournament in Germany for the final, with 3.4m viewers (21.1% share) – 91.3% higher than the 2017 German women's Cup final on ARD (1.8m viewers, 17.2% share). Other neutral markets also enjoyed good audiences for the final: 800,000 viewers (6.3% share) for Channel 4 in the UK; 1.1m viewers (11.4% share) for France 2; 643,000 viewers (36.9% share) on SVT in Sweden and a 21% share (180,000 viewers) for Canvas in Belgium.

BROADCAST NETWORK

The tournament was screened in 154 territories across the world

EUROPE

Albania	Eurosport
Andorra	France Télévisions Eurosport
Armenia	Eurosport
Austria	ORF Eurosport
Azerbaijan	Eurosport
Belarus	Eurosport
Belgium	RTBF VRT Eurosport
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Eurosport
Bulgaria	Eurosport
Croatia	Eurosport
Cyprus	Eurosport
Czech Republic	Eurosport
Denmark	DR TV2 Eurosport
Faroe Islands	DR TV2
Estonia	Viasat
Finland	YLE Eurosport
France	France Télévisions
FYR Macedonia	Eurosport
Georgia	Eurosport
Germany	ARD/ZDF Eurosport
Greece	Eurosport
Hungary	Eurosport
Iceland	RUV Eurosport
Israel	Eurosport
Italy	Nuvola61 Rai Eurosport
Kazakhstan	Eurosport
Kosovo	Eurosport
Latvia	Eurosport
Liechtenstein	Eurosport
Lithuania	Eurosport
Luxembourg	Eurosport
Malta	Eurosport
Moldova	Eurosport
Monaco	France Télévisions Eurosport
Montenegro	Eurosport
Netherlands	NOS Eurosport
Norway	NRK TV2 Eurosport
Poland	Eurosport

Portugal	RTP Eurosport
Republic of Ireland	Eurosport
Romania	Eurosport
Russia	Match TV Eurosport
Serbia	Eurosport
Slovakia	Eurosport
Slovenia	Eurosport
Spain	RTVE Eurosport
Sweden	TV4 SVT Eurosport
Switzerland	SRG Eurosport
Turkey	Eurosport
Ukraine	Eurosport
United Kingdom	Channel 4 Eurosport



NON-EUROPE

Africa and the Middle East	Eurosport (Northern Africa) beIN SPORTS (MENA) Kwesé (Sub-Saharan Africa)
Americas	ESPN (USA and Caribbean) Globosat (Brazil) Univision (USA)
Asia	Astro Measat (Malaysia) i-Cable (Hong Kong) MNC/RCTI (Indonesia)

UEFA.tv

LIVE STREAMS WERE
POPULAR ON UEFA'S
YOUTUBE CHANNEL

UEFA's official YouTube channel, UEFA.tv, hosted live streams of every game in countries without a broadcast partner, in line with UEFA's distribution strategy. This approach ensured a truly global coverage for the tournament, as seen by the interest attracted in countries such as Mexico, Thailand and Canada, which respectively enjoyed 15%, 10% and 8.4% of the total live stream audience.

There were 472,313 live stream views on UEFA.tv, generating 5,929,479 minutes watched, at an average of 12:33 minutes per game. The average viewing time was similar to the 2017 UEFA European Under-21 Championship (approximately 13 minutes) but saw spikes of over 20 minutes for England v France, Netherlands v Sweden and Austria v Spain, comparable with the average viewing time (22:12 minutes) for the 2017 UEFA Women's Champions League final. The UEFA Women's EURO 2017 final was the seventh most-watched live event on UEFA.tv and attracted a larger female audience than normal. This was particularly noticeable in the 13-17 and 18-24 age groups, where it exceeded 30% of the total viewers (compared to UEFA.tv's normal average female audience of between 5% and 10%) – a clear growth area for female grassroots engagement in line with UEFA's #WePlayStrong initiative.



The jubilant Netherlands players face the cameras after winning the final in Enschede

LIGHTS, CAMERAS, ACTION!

Eurosport and UEFA teamed up to provide the images from the Netherlands

A global television audience was able to follow all the drama of UEFA Women's EURO 2017 thanks to a prolific partnership between the tournament's host broadcaster Eurosport and UEFA TV Production.

This operation relied on the successful dovetailing between two production teams overseen by TV match directors Jean-Marc Stabler and Danny Melger, with support from a broadcast manager working at each of the seven tournament venues. The images delivered were the fruits of a 12-camera production for every game from group stage to final, with 14 cameras used for the Netherlands-Denmark showpiece itself. Viewers enjoyed this offering in full HD with Dolby 5.1 surround sound.

Prior to the tournament, UEFA had also provided broadcasters with a preview show and additional programming material, including team profiles and host city promos. Update packages and social media vignettes were supplied, and there was an equally comprehensive in-tournament offering that featured behind-the-scenes filming as well as interview and training packages. This additional programming owed to the

combined efforts of a number of different on-site crews, including one dedicated to the women's football promotional campaign, Together #WePlayStrong.

In tandem, Eurosport and UEFA's broadcaster services team furnished broadcasters with unilateral services that enabled them to tailor their own specific coverage. In total, 45 broadcasters, comprising 33 TV and 12 radio outlets, were serviced during the tournament. Meanwhile, 600 bookings were taken for the world feed service, at an average of nearly 20 per match – indicating the burgeoning popularity of the Women's EURO.

Broadcasters were also provided with unprecedented live and 360° virtual reality coverage, including Matchday-1 activities. Their reach spanned everything from pre- and post-match action to behind-the-scenes activities on a matchday – and ultimately the trophy lift earned by the winning Dutch side.

For UEFA, there was also the satisfaction of the successful implementation of a new digital remote delivery platform for the distribution of images to broadcasters around the world from the very heart of the stadiums.

#WEURO2017: A DIGITAL SUCCESS

The tournament established a new benchmark for digital coverage of a women's football event

In the four years since the previous UEFA Women's EURO tournament in Sweden, women's football had enjoyed a veritable boom on the back of a hugely successful FIFA Women's World Cup in Canada and the subsequent expansion of the 2017 UEFA Women's EURO from 12 to 16 teams.

The challenge had been set for UEFA to again raise the bar in terms of coverage, reaching as many fans as possible and promoting the competition in the best way. By the end of the tournament in the Netherlands, if the swathes of Oranje fans celebrating the hosts' triumph didn't paint a picture of success, the numbers certainly did.

In line with a booming TV audience, UEFA Women's EURO 2017 made major strides on UEFA's digital platforms, with over four million visits to the official website during the course of the tournament – more than double the total number from 2013.

Coverage was revamped, with specialist women's football reporters providing insight and analysis from every match and visiting the teams in their camps, interviewing the players and coaches to build a rapport that resulted in behind-the-scenes access and exclusive content.

Following on from the hugely successful men's equivalent in 2016, UEFA Women's EURO 2017 focused around the UEFA.com MatchCentres, with live data, photography and insight from reporters. Three games attracted six-figure visits, with Germany's quarter-final against Denmark attracting the largest number of users, closely followed by England's semi-final clash with the Netherlands.

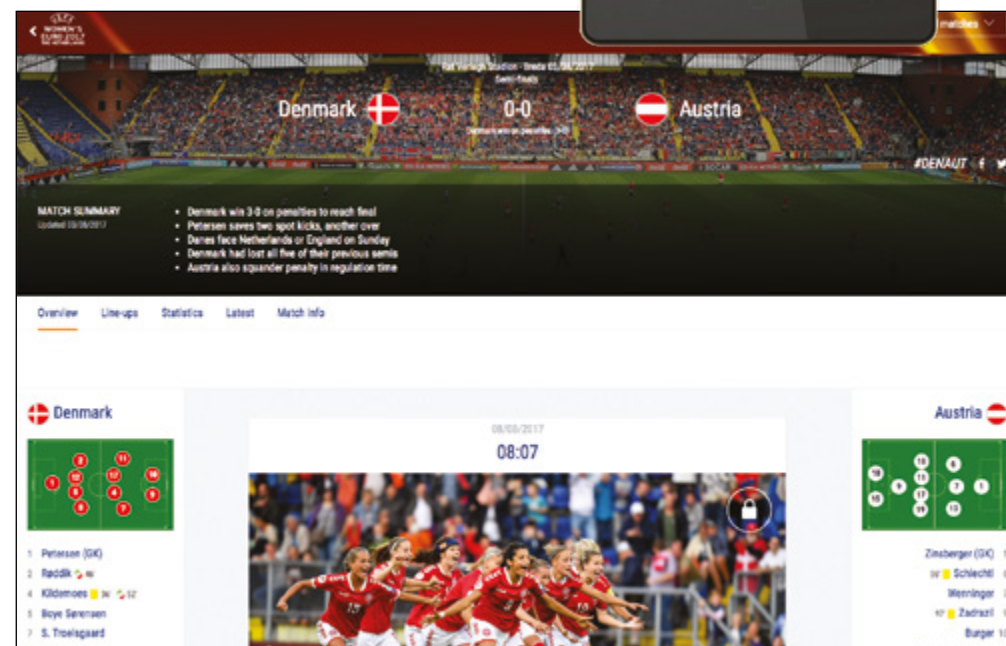
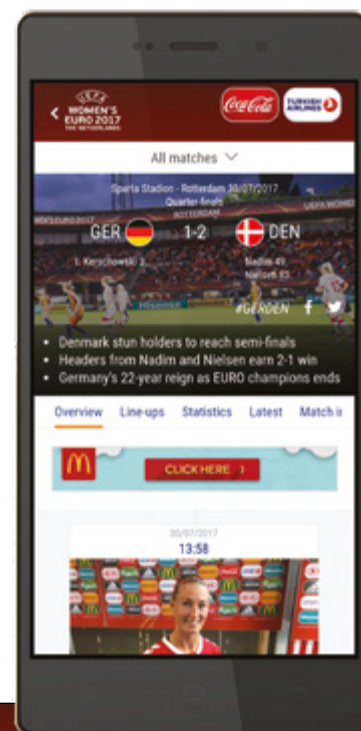
#WEURO2017 was also a massive

success on social media, generating more than 550,000 interactions across the official Facebook, Twitter and Instagram channels, as well as over 4.4 million video views.

Highlights included Austria's superbly entertaining crossbar challenge, former Arsenal and Netherlands star Anouk Hoogendijk joining our reporter Laure James to preview the opening game and plenty of match action, all delivered in a fresh tone of voice more appealing to the younger generation of female football fans.

Put simply, UEFA Women's EURO 2017 was the biggest ever in every sense, setting a new standard for digital coverage of a women's football event and reflecting a growing movement to make football the No1 women's sport across Europe by the next tournament in 2021.

UEFA's new women's football app proved a big hit



The players contributed to the social media buzz around the tournament (above); UEFA.com reporter Laure James interviews Anouk Hoogendijk

4.1M

VISITS TO
THE UEFA.COM
WOMEN'S EURO
WEBSITE

↑173%

INCREASE
ON THE 2013
TOURNAMENT

4.4M

VIDEO VIEWS
ON SOCIAL
MEDIA

550k

INTERACTIONS
ON FACEBOOK,
TWITTER AND
INSTAGRAM

ROLL OF
HONOUR

- 2017 Netherlands
- 2013 Germany
- 2009 Germany
- 2005 Germany
- 2001 Germany
- 1997 Germany
- 1995 Germany
- 1993 Norway
- 1991 Germany
- 1989 West Germany
- 1987 Norway
- 1984 Sweden

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The UEFA Technical Observers Group in Enschede (from left): Ioan Lupescu, Hesterine de Reus, Anne Noé, Patricia González and Jarmo Matikainen

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Player of the tournament
Lieke Martens on the run
against Denmark



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