Georgia

Boris Paichadze Erovnuli Stadioni - Tbilisi
Saturday 23 March 2019 - 15.00CET
Group D - Matchday 1

Switzerland

Last updated 26/06/2019 03:10CET

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS

Head coach 2
Legend 3
Head coach

Vladimír Weiss

Date of birth: 22 September 1964
Nationality: Slovakian
Playing career: Agro Hurbanovo, Inter Bratislava, Sparta Praha, Dmavice, Dunajská Streda, Košice, Artmedia
Coaching career: Artmedia (twice), Saturn Moskovskaya Oblast, Slovakia, Slovan Bratislava, Kairat Almaty, Georgia

- Bratislava-born, Weiss spent six and a half years developing his talent as a defensive midfielder with local club Inter. First capped by Czechoslovakia in 1988, he won three of his 19 caps at the 1990 FIFA World Cup.
- Had brief spell at Sparta Praha, winning the final Czechoslovakian championship in 1993. Won a further dozen caps for Slovakia, scoring his country’s first post-independence goal, against United Arab Emirates in February 1994. Ended playing career with Artmedia, serving as an assistant coach until 2000 when he took the top job.
- Led Artmedia to Slovakian league title and cup final in 2005 before knocking out Celtic and Partizan to reach UEFA Champions League group stage, where they registered a famous 3-2 win at Porto. Left for Russian club Saturn in early 2006 but returned to Artmedia 18 months later and masterminded domestic double.
- Appointed national team coach in June 2008 in place of Ján Kocian and steered Slovakia to first appearance at a World Cup finals as qualifying group winners, including historic 2-1 win away to the Czech Republic. Even better followed in South Africa, Slovakia reaching the last 16 by eliminating holders Italy before losing to the Netherlands.
- Coached Slovakia in tandem with Slovan Bratislava in 2011/12 and led his home-town club into their first UEFA Europa League group stage. Nearly did the same with Kairat, only losing against Bordeaux on away goals in play-offs. Left Almaty in November 2015 having won Kazakhstan Cups in successive seasons. Hired by Georgia in March 2016, he was unable to oversee a win in 2018 World Cup qualifying as his team picked up five points from ten matches but did guide them to promotion in the inaugural UEFA Nations League.

Vladimir Petković

Date of birth: 15 August 1963
Nationality: Swiss
Playing career: Sarajevo (twice), Rudar Ljubija, Koper, Chur 97 (twice), Sion, Martigny-Sports, Bellinzona (twice), Locarno
Coaching career: Bellinzona (twice), Malcantone Agno, Lugano, Young Boys, Samsunspor, Sion, Lazio, Switzerland

- Started his career in midfield with Sarajevo, losing in the 1983 Yugoslavian Cup final but featuring twice as his team took the 1984/85 league title, the only major honour of his playing days. Moved to Switzerland in 1987, playing for second-tier Chur and then ascending to the top flight with Sion in 1988/89; returned to the second division to represent Martigny, Bellinzona and Locarno.
- Petković hung up his boots in 1999, aged 36, following a season as player-coach at Bellinzona. Then led Malcantone Agno to promotion from the third division in 2002/03 before becoming the first coach of AC Lugano – successors to FC Lugano.
- Rejoined Bellinzona in October 2005, steering them to the 2007/08 Swiss Cup final, where they lost 4-1 to Basel, but consolation came two weeks later as victory in a relegation/promotion play-off against St Gallen gave Bellinzona a Super League berth.
- Was appointed Young Boys coach in August 2008, guiding them to second-placed finishes in his first two campaigns in charge as well as the 2008/09 Swiss Cup final. After short spells in charge of Turkey’s Samsunspor and Sion back in Switzerland, was named Lazio coach in June 2012 and won the Coppa Italia in his first term in Italy, also helping the side to seventh position in the final standings.
- Left in January 2014 after being appointed Switzerland coach Ottmar Hitzfeld’s successor, taking the reins after the 2014 FIFA World Cup. Promptly guided his charges to UEFA EURO 2016, where they lost to Poland in the last 16, and to the same stage of the 2018 World Cup, where they were beaten by Sweden. Switzerland did, however, reach the first UEFA Nations League Finals, ahead of Belgium and Iceland.
Legend

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

:: Squad list

Qual.: Total European Qualifiers appearances/goals for UEFA EURO 2020 only.
FT: Total UEFA EURO 2020 appearances/goals in final tournament only.
Overall: Total international appearances/goals.
DoB: Date of birth
Age: Based on the date press kit was last updated
D: Disciplinary (*: misses next match if booked, S: suspended)

:: Team facts

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

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

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

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

Competitions

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time
No.: Number
ag: Match decided on away goals
agg: Aggregate
AP: Appearances
Comp.: Competition
D: Drawn
DoB: Date of birth
ET: Extra Time
GA: Goals against
GF: Goals for
gg: Match decided by golden goal
L: Lost
Nat.: Nationality

pens: Penalties
og: Own goal
P: Penalty
Pl: Matches played
Pos.: Position
Pts: Points
R: Sent off (straight red card)
Res.: Result
sg: Match decided by silver goal
t: Match decided by toss of a coin
W: Won
Y: Booked
Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)
N/A: Not applicable

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