EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2019/20 SEASON
MATCH PRESS KITS

Cyprus
GSP Stadium - Nicosia
Saturday 16 November 2019
15.00CET (16.00 local time)
Group I - Matchday 9

Scotland

Last updated 12/11/2019 12:17CET

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS

Head coach 2
Legend 3
Head coach

Ran Ben Shimon

Date of birth: 28 November 1970
Nationality: Israeli
Playing career: Maccabi Petach-Tikva, Hapoel Haifa, Hapoel Petach-Tikva, Bnei Yehuda Tel-Aviv
Coaching career: Hapoel Haifa, Hapoel Kiryat Shmona (twice), Maccabi Tel-Aviv, AEK Larnaca, Hapoel Tel-Aviv, Maccabi Petach-Tikva, Beitar Jerusalem, Ashdod, Cyprus

- Capped 34 times as a defender for Israel, Ben Shimon spent much of his career with home-town clubs Maccabi Petach-Tikva and Hapoel Petach-Tikva, but was perhaps in his prime during a six-year spell at Hapoel Haifa, during which he won the 1998/99 Israeli championship – the club’s first league title.
- After hanging up his boots in 2003 following a stint at Bnei Yehuda, Ben Shimon was in charge of Maccabi Tel-Aviv’s youth teams, taking his first senior jobs in the second tier with Hapoel Haifa and then Kiryat Shmona, whom he led to promotion in his first campaign at the helm.

- Briefly in the Maccabi Tel-Aviv hot seat in 2008, he guided Kiryat Shmona to another promotion after rejoining them in 2009, then masterminded their shock title success of 2011/12. He moved abroad for the first time in 2012 to coach Cypriot club AEK Larnaca, earning a third-placed finish in his sole season in command.
- Returning to Israel in 2013, he subsequently held the reins at Hapoel Tel-Aviv, Maccabi Petach-Tikva, Beitar Jerusalem and – in 2016/17 – Ashdod.

- Ben Shimon accepted the Cyprus post in July 2017, filling the void left by Christakis Christoforou’s departure, and the following month oversaw a memorable 3-2 home win against Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifying.

Steve Clarke

Date of birth: 29 August 1963
Nationality: Scottish
Playing career: St Mirren, Chelsea
Coaching career: Newcastle (caretaker), West Brom, Reading, Kilmarnock, Scotland

- Born in Saltcoats on the west coast of Scotland, Clarke started out on a part-time contract at St Mirren, training as a defender while serving an apprenticeship as an instrument engineer, but – after making his debut in 1982 – eventually established himself as the Paisley side’s first choice right-back.
- Signed by Chelsea in February 1987, Clarke would make over 400 appearances for the club, and featured in the sides that won the 1997 FA Cup and the League Cup the following season; his final appearance was in the 1998 UEFA Cup Winners’ Cup final, the Blues beating Stuttgart 1-0 in Stockholm.
- Capped just six times by Scotland, Clarke moved into coaching as assistant to his former Stamford Bridge teammate Ruud Gullit at Newcastle United, from 1998/99, taking caretaker command for one match. Then returned to Chelsea, initially as a youth team coach, before assisting José Mourinho (during two title-winning campaigns) and Avram Grant.
- Assisted another Stamford Bridge alumnus, Gianfranco Zola, at West Ham from 2008 to 2010, and was Kenny Dalglish’s assistant at Liverpool before taking sole command at West Brom in 2012/13.
- Following a spell in charge at Reading, he was assistant to Roberto Di Matteo at Aston Villa in 2016, and then returned to management in 2017 with Kilmarnock – the club his brother Paul represented between 1974 and 1986; hired to coach Scotland in May 2019 after being named the Scottish Premiership’s manager of the year.
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
Pld: Matches played
Pos.: Position
Pts: Points
R: Sent off (straight red card)
Res.: Result
sg: Match decided by silver goal
t: Match decided by toss of a coin
W: Won
Y: Booked
Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)
N/A: Not applicable

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