

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2019/20 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



England

Wembley Stadium - London

Saturday 7 September 2019
18.00CET (17.00 local time)

Group A - Matchday 5



Bulgaria

Last updated 18/10/2019 18:49CET

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS



Head coach

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Legend

3

Head coach

Gareth Southgate

Date of birth: 3 September 1970

Nationality: English

Playing career: Crystal Palace, Aston Villa, Middlesbrough

Coaching career: Middlesbrough, England Under-21s, England

- Came through the ranks at Palace, initially as a midfielder, becoming captain and leading the club to promotion to the Premier League in 1993/94. Moved on to Villa following relegation in 1995 and was converted into a centre-back, winning the League Cup in his first season and helping the team reach the 2000 FA Cup final.
- Won 57 caps for England, although perhaps best known for missing a crucial penalty against Germany in the EURO '96 semi-final at Wembley; also appeared at the 1998 FIFA World Cup and UEFA EURO 2000.
- Left Villa for Middlesbrough in 2001 and became the first Boro captain to lift a trophy, skippering the side to victory against Sam Allardyce's Bolton in the 2004 League Cup final; also helped Boro reach the UEFA Cup final in memorable fashion two years later.
- Defeat by Sevilla in Eindhoven proved Southgate's last game as he moved into the Middlesbrough dug-out to succeed Steve McClaren following the latter's departure for England; kept them in the Premier League until 2009, when they were relegated with Southgate dismissed that October.
- Joined the Football Association in 2011, initially as head of elite development before taking over as Under-21 coach two years later; appointed caretaker manager of the national side in September 2016 following Allardyce's departure. Subsequently took the role full time and led the side to the 2018 World Cup in Russia, England ultimately reaching the semi-finals for the first time since 1990. Southgate subsequently guided his side to the first UEFA Nations League Finals ahead of Spain and Croatia.

Krassimir Balakov

Date of birth: 29 March 1966

Nationality: Bulgarian

Playing career: Etar Veliko Turnovo, Sporting CP, Stuttgart

Coaching career: Grasshopper-Club, St Gallen, Chernomorets Burgas, Hajduk Split, Kaiserslautern, Litex Lovech, Etar Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria

- Made his name in the late 1980s as a midfielder with hometown side Etar, who won the Bulgarian title in 1990/91, but Balakov had already departed for Portuguese giants Sporting CP during the winter break.
- Under Sir Bobby Robson Balakov developed into a fine playmaker, and helped Sporting to win the 1995 Portuguese Cup; he moved to Stuttgart that summer, and the club won the German Cup in 1997 before reaching the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup a year later.
- Balakov was a key member of the Bulgaria side that reached the semi-finals of the 1994 FIFA World Cup – still regarded as the nation's biggest footballing achievement – and was named in the official Team of the Tournament. Bulgarian Player of the Year in 1995 and 1997, he scored 16 goals in 92 internationals between 1988 and 2003, captaining the side in the last three years.
- Hung up his boots in 2003 and moved into coaching in Switzerland, leading Zurich-based Grasshoppers and then St Gallen. He was the first Bulgarian to coach in the Bundesliga when Kaiserslautern hired him in March 2012.
- Ended a 16-month spell back at Etar to become Bulgaria coach on 14 May 2019, succeeding his former international team-mate Petar Hubchev.

Legend

:: Previous meetings

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

:: Squad list

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

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

Overall: Total international appearances/goals.

DoB: Date of birth

Age: Based on the date press kit was last updated

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

:: Team facts

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

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

Records of inactive countries

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

Abandoned/forfeited matches

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

Competitions

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time

No.: Number

ag: Match decided on away goals

agg: Aggregate

AP: Appearances

Comp.: Competition

D: Drawn

DoB: Date of birth

ET: Extra Time

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

gg: Match decided by golden goal

L: Lost

Nat.: Nationality

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pens: Penalties

og: Own goal

P: Penalty

Pld: Matches played

Pos.: Position

Pts: Points

R: Sent off (straight red card)

Res.: Result

sg: Match decided by silver goal

t: Match decided by toss of a coin

W: Won

Y: Booked

Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)

N/A: Not applicable