Cyprus
GSP Stadium - Nicosia
Friday 6 September 2019 - 18.00CET
Group I - Matchday 5

Kazakhstan

Last updated 02/09/2019 14:20CET

EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS

Head coach
Legend

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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, Bnei Yehuda Tel-Aviv, Bnei Yehuda, 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.

Michal Bílek

Date of birth: 13 April 1965  
Nationality: Czech  
Playing career: Sparta Praha (four times), Cheb, Real Betis, Viktoria Žižkov, Teplice  
Coaching career: Teplice, Cartaginés, Czech Republic Under-19, Chmel Blšany, Viktoria Plzeň, Sparta Praha, Ružomberok, Czech Republic, Dinamo Tbilisi, Jihlava, Zlín, Kazakhstan  
• A gritty midfielder who was an expert at free-kicks and penalties, Bílek had four spells at Sparta, the most memorable between 1986 and 1990 during which he won three league titles and two Czechoslovakian Cups.  
• Travelled to the 1990 FIFA World Cup as the reigning Czechoslovakian player of the year; featured in all five matches at right-back to help Czechoslovakia to quarter-finals, scoring from the penalty spot in the opening two matches against the United States and Austria. Extended his international career beyond break-up of Czechoslovakia, winning 35 caps and scoring 11 goals.  
• Had slow start to coaching career, including spell in Costa Rica, but eventually established himself at top level back at home and was appointed coach of Sparta in September 2006; won domestic double in his first season but dismissed in May 2008.  
• Led Slovakian club Ružomberok in 2008/09 before taking on assistant role to former team-mate Ivan Hašek with Czech national side. Promoted to top job in October 2009, as Hašek returned to his position as association president, and guided the Czechs to UEFA EURO 2012 via a play-off win against Montenegro.  
• Took the Czech Republic to the quarter-finals in Poland-Ukraine but left his post the following year. Went on to have a short spell in Georgia with Dinamo Tbilisi and brief stints in charge of both Jihlava and Zlín in his homeland before agreeing a return to international football with Kazakhstan in early 2019.
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.

Competition

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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