

# EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS - 2019/20 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



**San Marino**

**San Marino Stadium - Serravalle**

Monday 9 September 2019  
20.45CET (20.45 local time)

Group I - Matchday 6



**Cyprus**

Last updated 09/09/2019 15:15CET

## EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS OFFICIAL SPONSORS



Head coach

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Legend

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## Head coach

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### Franco Varrella

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**Date of birth:** 25 January 1953

**Nationality:** Italian

**Playing career:** Rimini, Urbino, Montecchio, Jesina

**Coaching career:** Bellaria, Pietri Carpi, Forli, Brescia, Monza, Casertana, Salernitana, Reggiana, Savoia, Padova, Triestina, Ravenna, San Marino

- A youth player with Juventus for a time, Varrella played at a senior level in the lower leagues in Italy before becoming a games teacher.
- Started coaching with Bellaria and later moved into Serie C2 with Forli in 1986/87, stepping up to Serie B to take charge of Brescia, Salernitana, Reggiana, Savoia and Ravenna.
- Won Serie C2 – the fourth highest division in Italy – with Padova in 2000/01. Hired as San Marino coach in January 2018.
- Worked as Arrigo Sacchi's assistant with Italy from 1995 onwards, culminating in a trip to EURO '96. Varrella continues to teach coaches at the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) technical centre in Coverciano and for UEFA Coach Education Programme.

### Ran Ben Shimon

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**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.

## Legend

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### :: 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

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### Other abbreviations

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**(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