

2013 UEFA EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

2011/13 SEASON
MATCH PRESS KIT



England



Norway

Group A - Matchday 2
Ha Moshava, Petah Tikva
Saturday 8 June 2013
18.00CET (19.00 local time)

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Previous competitive meetings

Head to Head

UEFA European Under-21 Championship

Date	Stage	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
10/09/12	QR (GS)	England - Norway	1-0	Chesterfield	Wickham 43
10/10/11	QR (GS)	Norway - England	1-2	Drammen	Berisha 24; Dawson 3, Henderson 7

UEFA European Under-21 Championship

Date	Stage	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
01/06/93	QR (GS)	Norway - England	1-1	Stavanger	Østenstad 70; Cole 82
13/10/92	QR (GS)	England - Norway	0-2	Peterborough	Strandli 2, Håland 69

UEFA European Under-21 Championship

Date	Stage	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
06/09/77	QR (GS)	England - Norway	6-0	Brighton	
01/06/77	QR (GS)	Norway - England	1-2	Bergen	

	Home				Away				Final				Total					
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
England	3	2	0	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	1	1	12	5
Norway	3	0	1	2	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	6	1	1	4	5	12

Match background

England and Norway will both be seeking a first win at the UEFA European Under-21 Championship when the teams cross swords at Ha Moshava Stadium in Petah Tikva in the second round of Group A games.

- While England's nine-game unbeaten run was ended by Italy on Wednesday night courtesy of Lorenzo Insigne, Norway twice fought back from a goal down to rescue a point against hosts Israel on the opening day. Marcus Pedersen and, in added time, Harmeet Singh struck for Norway, who had been reduced to ten men in the first half following Vegar Hedenstad's dismissal.
- The teams were drawn together in the same qualifying group, England winning both fixtures to continue their strong record in competitive fixtures between the sides, which shows only one defeat in six such contests.

Previous meetings

- Paired together in qualifying Group 8, the teams met for the first time in Drammen on 10 October 2011. Early goals from Craig Dawson (3) and captain Jordan Henderson (7) put Stuart Pearce's England in command, and the visitors held on despite Valon Berisha (24) reducing the deficit for Norway, then coached by Per Joar Hansen.

- The teams for that fixture at the Marienlyst Stadium were:

Norway: Johansen, Hedenstad, Rogne, Strandberg, Nordtveit, Singh (Borven 84), Henriksen, Kastrati (Konradssen 63), Berge, Berisha (De Lanlay 73), Pedersen.

England: Butland, Smith, Baker (Flanagan 72), Lowe, R Bennett, Dawson, Henderson, Lansbury, Barkley (Gardner 55), Oxlade-Chamberlain, Sordell (Shelvey 81).

- England again enjoyed victory when the teams met in the reverse fixture in Chesterfield on 10 September 2012, the final round of group games. Connor Wickham scored the only goal two minutes before half-time.

- Those sides were:

England: Steele, Kelly (Clyne 46), Rose, Caulker, R Bennett, Marshall, Shelvey, Henderson, Ince, Wickham (Lees 77), Waghorn (Zaha 77).

Norway: Østbø, Hedenstad, Rogne, Strandberg, Konradssen, Singh, Berisha (Skjelvik 87), Elabdellaoui, Ulvestad (De Lanlay 55), Berget (Bakenga 68), Nielsen.

- England have also had the better of the sides' recent friendly meetings, running out 3-1 winners in Reading on 28 February 2006 thanks to a David Bentley double. It was even more emphatic in Sandefjord on 27 March 2009, Matt Derbyshire scoring twice and Frazier Campbell, Adam Johnson and Tom Huddlestone also on target in a 5-0 away win.

- Goals from Daniel Sturridge and Danny Rose helped England to a 2-0 defeat of Norway in Southampton in their final warm-up friendly for the last UEFA European Championship on 5 June 2011.

- Rose aside, Henderson and Jack Rodwell started for Pearce's England, Henri Lansbury and Nathan Delfouneso coming on and Jason Steele and Wickham unused substitutes. Arild Østbø, Hedenstad, Simen Wangberg, Thomas Rogne, Stefan Strandberg, Harmeet Singh, Flamur Kastrati, Remi Johansen and Berisha all started for Norway with Mushaga Bakenga a late substitute. Orjan Nyland Haskjold, Martin Linnes and Thomas Drage were unused replacements.

- The 2013 qualification series marked the third time the teams had been paired together in U21 competition. England won 2-1 in Bergen on 1 June 1977 and then 6-0 in Brighton on 6 September the same year in qualifying for the inaugural 1978 edition. While Norway were eliminated in that initial group stage, England went on to lose to Yugoslavia in the semi-finals.

- Norway came out on top when the teams' paths crossed again, in the preliminaries for the 1994 competition. Goals from Frank Strandli and captain Alf Inge Håland – who would both later have spells in England with Leeds United AFC, Håland also representing Nottingham Forest FC and Manchester City FC – gave the visitors a 2-0 success in the first game in Peterborough on 13 October 1992.

- Another player who would later play his club football in England, Egil Østenstad, scored Norway's goal in the Stavanger return on 1 June 1993. Though Andrew Cole's equaliser earned England a point, neither team reached the finals in France, Norway finishing third and England fourth in a qualifying section won by Poland.

Match background

- Champions in 1982 and 1984, England are in a fourth successive U21 final tournament and were runners-up to Germany in 2009. Semi-finalists on a further five occasions, in 2011 they failed to progress beyond the group stage.

- England won nine of their ten qualifiers this time round, scoring 26 goals and conceding only three. They kept eight competitive clean sheets including five in succession prior to their first game against Italy.
- Norway have featured in just one finals to date, back in Romania in 1998. Having qualified ahead of France, they defeated Sweden 1-0 in the quarter-finals thanks to a Steffen Iversen goal but lost by the same scoreline to Spain in the last four. Nils Johan Semb's side bounced back to defeat the Netherlands 2-0 in the third place play-off, however, Iversen scoring in each half (17, 74) to secure the spoils.
- The Scandinavian side lost three times in qualifying; twice to England, to whom they finished second in Group 8 and then 1-0 in the first leg of their play-off against France, but a 5-3 home victory in the return gave them a 5-4 aggregate success.
- Having overseen Norway's qualifying campaign, Hansen departed for Rosenborg BK in December; the following month, his former assistant Tor Ole Skullerud was named his successor with the national side.

Team ties

- Håvard Nordtveit left FK Haugesund for Arsenal FC in summer 2007 but, after several loan spells elsewhere, did not make a first-team appearance and joined VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach four years later.
- Joshua King joined Manchester United FC in 2008, departing for Blackburn Rovers FC in November 2012.
- Omar Elabdellaoui joined Manchester City FC in 2008 and spent the 2012/13 campaign on loan at Feyenoord before joining TSV Eintracht Braunschweig.
- Suspended Hedenstad was on target as England defeated Norway 4-1 in a U17 match in August 2007 to claim third place in the four-team Nordic Championship.

England news

- The players who did not feature in England's opening game defeat at the hands of Italy trained on Thursday morning, while those who played had a low-key warm down session.
- Wilfred Zaha was an unused substitute in England's first Group A fixture owing to an ankle complaint but Stuart Pearce confirmed the Manchester United FC forward trained on Thursday morning and will be in contention for the Norway game.
- Tom Ince and Danny Rose are available again following suspension. The England squad were given the afternoon off to spend time with their families, go to the beach or relax.
- While the players had Thursday afternoon to do as they please, the English journalists following the team took part in a golf day at the team's training base in Caesarae.

Norway news

- Markus Henriksen, Valon Berisha, Joshua King and Håvard Nordtveit were all involved in the senior team's 1-1 draw against Albania in FIFA World Cup qualifying on Friday. They flew directly to Israel after the game and are now available to Skullerud.
- Jo Inge Berget went off against Israel with a cut head and subsequently had to have stitches in hospital, but joined the rest of his team-mates on the beach on Thursday.
- Hedenstad is suspended after being sent off against Israel.
- Only those players who played for 45 minutes or less against Israel were involved in training on Thursday morning. The rest had a gentle gym session before going surfing and conducting interviews on the beach.

Team facts

England

Final tournament record

2011: group stage

2009: runners-up

2007: semi-finals

2002: group stage

2000: group stage

1988: semi-finals

1986: semi-finals

1984: winners

1982: winners

1980: semi-finals

1978: semi-finals

All-time competitive record

P190 W111 D45 L34

2013 qualifying (including play-off)

P10 W9 D0 L1 F26 A3

Top scorers: Craig Dawson (5)

Ever presents: Jordan Henderson

England U21s capped at senior level

Jack Butland (1 cap), Steven Caulker (1), Jordan Henderson (5), Jonjo Shelvey (1), Wilfried Zaha (1)

Players with previous U21 final tournament experience

Denmark 2011: Jordan Henderson, Danny Rose, Jason Steele, Henri Lansbury, Connor Wickham

Sweden 2009: Danny Rose

Most capped player

All-time: James Milner (46)

Current: Danny Rose (27)

Leading scorer

All-time: Alan Shearer, Francis Jeffers (13)

Current: Craig Dawson, Henri Lansbury, Connor Wickham (5)

Biggest wins

Final tournament:

England 6-0 Turkey 29/05/2000

2000 group stage, Tehelne Pole, Bratislava

Qualifying:

England 8-1 Finland 12/10/1977

1978 qualifying group stage, Boothferry Park, Hull

Heaviest defeats

Final tournament:

Germany 4-0 England 29/06/2009

2009 final, Malmö New Stadium, Malmö

Qualifying:

Romania 4-0 England 14/10/1980

1982 qualifying group stage, Ilie Oana, Ploiesti

Norway

Final tournament record

1998: third place

All-time competitive record

P146 W65 D28 L53

2013 qualifying (including play-off)

P10 W7 D1 L2 F13 A7

Top scorers: Jo Inge Berget, Marcus Pedersen, Thomas Rogne, Harmeet Singh (all 2)

Ever presents: Harmeet Singh, Stefan Strandberg, Vegar Hedenstad

Norway U21s capped at senior level

Markus Henriksen (16 caps), Valon Berisha (9), Magnus Eikrem (9), Håvard Nordtveit (9), Joshua King (5), Vegar Hedenstad (4), Harmeet Singh (3), Jo Inge Berget (3), Anders Konradssen (2), Thomas Rogne (2), Marcus Pedersen (2), Fredrik Semb Berge (2), Yann-Erik de Lanlay (2), Håvard Nielsen (2)

Players with previous U21 tournament experience

None

Most capped player

All-time: Tommy Svindal Larsen (41)

Current: Harmeet Singh (36)

Leading scorer

All time: Trond Fredrik Ludvigsen (16)

Current: Marcus Pedersen (7)

Biggest wins

Final tournament:

Norway 2-0 Netherlands, 31/05/1998

1998 third-place play-off, Cotroceni, Bucharest

Qualifying:

Norway 6-0 Italy 05/06/1991

1992 qualifying group stage, Viking stadion, Stavanger

Heaviest defeats

Final tournament:

Spain 1-0 Norway 27/05/1998

1998 semi-final, Cotroceni, Bucharest

Qualifying:

England 6-0 Norway 06/09/1977

1978 qualifying group stage, Goldstone Ground, Brighton

Squad list

England

No	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season				Overall	
						Qual.		FT		U21	
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers											
1	Jack Butland	10/03/93	20	Stoke City FC	-	8	-	1	-	9	-
13	Jason Steele	18/08/90	22	Middlesbrough FC	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
23	Declan Rudd	16/01/91	22	Norwich City FC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders											
2	Nathaniel Clyne	05/04/91	22	Southampton FC	*	3	-	1	-	4	-
3	Adam Smith	29/04/91	22	Tottenham Hotspur FC	-	5	-	-	-	5	-
4	Steven Caulker	29/12/91	21	Tottenham Hotspur FC	-	6	2	1	-	7	2
5	Andre Wisdom	09/05/93	20	Liverpool FC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Craig Dawson	06/05/90	23	West Bromwich Albion FC	-	9	5	1	-	10	5
7	Tom Lees	18/11/90	22	Leeds United AFC	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
9	Jack Robinson	01/09/93	19	Liverpool FC	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
10	Jason Lowe	02/09/91	21	Blackburn Rovers FC	*	6	-	1	-	7	-
12	Nathaniel Chalobah	12/12/94	18	Chelsea FC	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Midfielders											
8	Jordan Henderson	17/06/90	22	Liverpool FC	-	10	2	1	-	18	3
11	Danny Rose	02/07/90	22	Tottenham Hotspur FC	-	5	-	-	-	18	1
14	Josh McEachran	01/03/93	20	Chelsea FC	-	4	-	1	-	5	-
15	Wilfried Zaha	10/11/92	20	Manchester United FC	-	5	-	-	-	5	-
16	Thomas Ince	30/01/92	21	Blackpool FC	-	4	-	-	-	4	-
17	Henri Lansbury	12/10/90	22	Nottingham Forest FC	-	4	4	-	-	9	4
18	Jonjo Shelvey	27/02/92	21	Liverpool FC	-	5	1	1	-	6	1
19	Nathan Redmond	06/03/94	19	Birmingham City FC	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Forwards											
20	Nathan Delfouneso	02/02/91	22	Aston Villa FC	-	5	-	1	-	9	1
21	Marvin Sordell	17/02/91	22	Bolton Wanderers FC	-	9	1	1	-	10	1
22	Connor Wickham	31/03/93	20	Sunderland AFC	-	5	2	1	-	6	2
Coach											
-	Stuart Pearce	24/04/62	51	-	-	9	-	1	-	42	-

Norway

No	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	Current season				Overall	
						Qual.		FT		U21	
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers											
1	Arild Østbø	19/04/91	22	Viking FK	-	7	-	-	-	8	-
12	Orjan Nyland Haskjold	10/09/90	22	Molde FK	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
23	Gudmund Kongshavn	23/01/91	22	Vålerenga Fotball	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders											
2	Martin Linnes	20/09/91	21	Molde FK	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
3	Thomas Rogne	29/06/90	22	Celtic FC	-	7	2	-	-	10	2
4	Stefan Strandberg	25/07/90	22	Rosenborg BK	-	10	-	1	-	13	-
5	Vegar Hedenstad	26/06/91	21	SC Freiburg	S	10	-	1	-	12	-
Midfielders											
7	Harmeet Singh	12/11/90	22	Feyenoord	-	10	2	1	1	18	4
9	Valon Berisha	07/02/93	20	FC Salzburg	-	6	1	-	-	6	1
13	Markus Henriksen	25/07/92	20	AZ Alkmaar	-	4	1	-	-	5	2
15	Håvard Nordtveit	21/06/90	22	VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach	-	4	-	-	-	11	-
16	Yann-Erik de Lanlay	14/05/92	21	Viking FK	-	6	1	1	-	7	1
17	Anders Konradssen	18/07/90	22	Stade Rennais FC	*	9	1	1	-	10	1
18	Magnus Eikrem	08/08/90	22	Molde FK	-	3	1	1	-	4	1
20	Stefan Johansen	08/01/91	22	Strømsgodset IF	-	2	-	1	-	3	-
22	Abdissalam Ibrahim	01/05/91	22	Strømsgodset IF	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Forwards											
6	Omar Elabdellaoui	05/12/91	21	TSV Eintracht Braunschweig	-	5	-	1	-	6	-
8	Jo Inge Berget	11/09/90	22	Molde FK	-	7	2	1	-	11	4
10	Marcus Pedersen	08/06/90	23	Vitesse	-	7	2	1	1	9	3
11	Håvard Nielsen	15/07/93	19	FC Salzburg	-	4	1	1	-	5	1
14	Fredrik Semb Berge	06/02/90	23	Odd Grenland	-	3	-	1	-	5	-
19	Flamur Kastrati	14/11/91	21	FC Erzgebirge Aue	-	3	-	-	-	3	-
21	Joshua King	15/01/92	21	Blackburn Rovers FC	-	4	1	-	-	4	1
Coach											
-	Tor Ole Skullerud	10/12/70	42	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	-

Head coach

England: Stuart Pearce

Date of birth: 24 April 1962

Nationality: English

Playing career: Wealdstone FC, Coventry City FC, Nottingham Forest FC, Newcastle United FC, West Ham United FC, Manchester City FC, England

Coaching career: Nottingham Forest FC, Manchester City FC (coach, manager), England Under-21s

- Pearce played non-league football and was a part-time electrician before his professional career got going in 1983 at Coventry City. The left-back spent two years there and then moved on to Nottingham Forest, coming under the tutelage of Brian Clough.
- The first of his 78 England caps arrived the same year. He missed a penalty in the semi-final shoot-out defeat by West Germany at the 1990 FIFA World Cup, but Pearce successfully converted against Spain and Germany again in EURO '96 – although England lost the latter encounter, again in the last four.
- Won the League Cup in 1989 and 1990 with Forest, where he became player-manager in 1996/97, but was unable to keep his side in the top division. Left to continue playing, at Newcastle and West Ham. Pearce was first team coach to Kevin Keegan at Manchester City in 2001 and took over four years later but was sacked in May 2007.
- Three months beforehand, he had been appointed Under-21 coach on a part-time basis. He took the role permanently after leaving City and guided England to the UEFA European Championship semi-finals in 2007 and the final, where they lost 4-0 to Germany, in Sweden two years later. They again qualified for Denmark in 2011, but could not progress past the group stage.

Norway: Tor Ole Skullerud

Date of birth: 10 December 1970

Nationality: Norwegian

Playing career: Kongsvinger IL, IF Ready, SK Frigg, Grue IL, Ullern IF

Coaching career: Ullern IF, Bærum SK, Norway Under-18s, Norway Under-19s, Vålerenga Fotball, Norway Under-21s (assistant coach), Norway Under-21s

- Having plied his trade as a midfielder in the lower reaches of Norwegian football, Skullerud turned his hand to coaching at Ullern. He consequently steered Bærum to promotion to Norway's elite division in 2002 at the tender age of 31.
- Negotiated Norway's safe passage to the UEFA European U19 Championship three years later and was rewarded with the Vålerenga job in 2008. The club lifted the Norwegian Cup by overwhelming Stabæk Fotball 4-1 in the final, but Skullerud resigned the following season, citing a string of poor results as reason for his departure.
- Became Per Joar Hansen's assistant in the Norway U21 set-up in 2010, and continued in that role as they qualified for this summer's finals in Israel, courtesy of a 5-4 aggregate defeat of France in the play-offs.
- When Hansen left for Rosenborg BK in early 2013, Skullerud was chosen to fill the void. "I'm really looking forward to working with this great group of players that have shown a great togetherness," he said, on accepting the role.

Match officials

Referee	Serhiy Boiko (UKR)
Assistant referees	Haralds Gudermanis (LVA), Dmitri Zhuk (BLR)
Additional assistant referees	Ivan Kružliak (SVK), Halis Özkahya (TUR)
Fourth official	Sandro Pozzi (SUI)
UEFA Delegate	Kazimierz Oleszek (POL)
UEFA Referee observer	Vladimir Sajn (SVN)

Referee

Name	Date of birth	Under-21 matches
Serhiy Boiko	30/06/1977	2

UEFA European Under-21 Championship matches featuring teams from the two countries involved in this match

No matches found

Other matches

Date	Competition	Stage	Home	Away	Result	Venue
07/10/11	U21	QR	FYROM	Serbia	1-1	Skopje
07/10/11	U21	QR	FYROM	Serbia	1-1	Skopje

Match-by-match lineups

Final tournament Group A

Standings

	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Italy	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Israel	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Norway	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
England	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

Matchday 1 (05/06/13)

Israel 2-2 Norway

Goals: 1-0 Biton 16(pen), 1-1 Pedersen 24, 2-1 Turgeman 71, 2-2 Singh 90+1

Norway: Nyland Haskjold, Strandberg, Hedenstad, Elabdellaoui, Berget (Nielsen 76), Pedersen, Semb Berge, de Lanlay (Linnes 46), Konradssen (Singh 76), Eikrem, Johansen

England 0-1 Italy

Goals: 0-1 Insigne 79

England: Butland, Clyne, Caulker, Dawson, Henderson, Robinson, Lowe, Shelvey (McEachran 75), Redmond, Sordell (Chalobah 65), Wickham (Delfouneso 82)

Matchday 2 (08/06/13)

England v Norway

Matchday 3 (11/06/13)

Israel v England

Norway v Italy

Competition facts

Under-21 historical statistics (competitive matches)

Champions (hosts)

2011 Spain (Denmark)*
2009 Germany (Sweden)*
2007 Netherlands (Netherlands)*
2006 Netherlands (Portugal)*
2004 Italy (Germany)*
2002 Czech Republic (Switzerland)*
2000 Italy (Slovakia)
1998 Spain (Romania)
1996 Italy (Spain)
1994 Italy (France)
1992 Italy
1990 USSR
1988 France
1986 Spain
1984 England
1982 England
1980 USSR
1978 Yugoslavia

*Current format

Leading scorers

All-time

15 Lampros Choutos (Greece), Tomáš Pekhart (Czech Republic)
14 Roy Makaay (Netherlands), Klaas-Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands)

In a final tournament since 2000

7 Marcus Berg (Sweden, 2009)
5 Adrián López (Spain, 2011)
4 Andrea Pirlo (Italy, 2000), Alberto Gilardino (Italy, 2004), Klaas Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands, 2006), Maceo Rigters (Netherlands, 2007), Johan Elmander (Sweden, 2004)
3 Ola Toivonen (Sweden, 2009), Robert Acquafresca (Italy, 2009), Thomas Kahlenberg (Denmark, 2006) Leroy Lita (England, 2007), Massimo Maccarone (Italy, 2002), Giorgio Chiellini (Italy, 2007), Nicky Hofs (Netherlands, 2006), Hugo Almeida (Portugal, 2004), Markus Rosenberg (Sweden, 2004)

Leading scorers per U21 campaign (qualifying to final) since 1990

2011: 10 Tomáš Pekhart (Czech Republic)
2009: 8 Robert Acquafresca (Italy)
2007: 4 Theo Walcott (England), Maceo Rigters (Netherlands), Igor Denisov (Russia), Nikita Bazhenov (Russia), Dragan Mrdja (Serbia)
2006: 14 Klaas Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands)
2004: 11 Alberto Gilardino (Italy)
2002: 9 Ricardo Cabanas (Switzerland)
2000: 15 Lampros Choutos (Greece)
1998: 9 Steffen Iversen (Norway)
1996: 10 Roy Makaay (Netherlands), Ole Gunnar Solskjær (Norway)
1994: 8 Nicolas Ouedec (France), Nelson Antonio Soares Gama (Portugal)
1992: 9 Peter Møller (Denmark)
1990: 9 Igor Kolyvanov (USSR)

Biggest win:

All-time

14-0: Spain v San Marino 08/02/2005
2006 qualifying group stage, Santo Domingo, El Ejido

Final tournament

6-0: England v Turkey 29/05/2000
2000 final tournament group stage, Tehelné Pole Stadium, Bratislava

Final

4-0: Germany v England 29/06/2009
2009, Malmö New Stadium, Malmö, Sweden

Most goals in a game:

14: Spain 14-0 San Marino 08/02/2005
2006 qualifying group stage, Santo Domingo, El Ejido

Final tournament

7: Czech Republic 4-3 Croatia 01/06/2000
2000 group stage, Mestský Stadium, Trenčín, Slovakia

Final

8: Yugoslavia 4-4 German Democratic Republic 31/05/1978
(second leg, Yugoslavia won 5-4 on agg), Mostar, Yugoslavia

Record attendance:

42,000: Turkey 1-1 Germany 18/11/2003
2004 qualifying play-off, Sükrü Saraçoğlu Stadium, Istanbul

Final tournament

35,500: Italy 1-1 Spain (Italy won 5-4 on pens) 31/05/1996
1996 final, Olímpico de Montjuïc, Barcelona

Competition information

- **Eligibility:** Players are eligible to play in the competition if they were born on or after 1 January 1990.
- **Qualifying:** Qualifying began on 25 March 2011 and ran until 16 October 2012 with a group stage followed by play-offs to determine which seven nations joined Israel, who qualified automatically as hosts, at the eight-team final tournament.
- **How the 2013 finals works:** The group stage is based on a league system (three points for a win, one for a draw, none for a defeat) to produce four semi-finalists.

If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of all the matches in their group, the following criteria will be used to determine the rankings in the order given:

- a) number of points obtained in the matches between the teams in question;
- b) goal difference in the matches between the teams in question;
- c) number of goals scored in the matches between the teams in question (if more than two teams finish equal on points);
- d) goal difference in all the group matches;
- e) number of goals scored in all the group matches;
- f) position in the coefficient ranking used for the final draw;

If two teams with the same number of points, goals scored and conceded play their last group match against each other and are still equal at the end of that match, the ranking of the two teams will be determined by penalties, provided that no other team within the group has the same number of points on completion of all group matches.

The final tournament consists of two groups of four, with the top two from each progressing to the semi-finals (A1 v B2 and B2 v A1) where it becomes a knockout competition (extra time and then penalties apply).

- **Disciplinary information:** Yellow cards that do not result in a suspension expire at the end of the group stage and are not carried forward to the semi-finals.
- **Top scorer:** adidas will award a golden boot to the leading scorer at the tournament after the final, along with silver and bronze boots for the players finishing second and third in the scoring chart.
- **Official ball:** The official match ball of the tournament was unveiled during the finals draw in November. Made by adidas, it features the blue and white colours of hosts Israel and its design has the same thermally bonded triangular patterns as the adidas Tango 12, match ball of UEFA EURO 2012.
- **Official song:** Former player Eyal Golan collaborated with some of Israel's best musicians to help produce Always My Number 1, the official tune of the finals. The 42-year-old sung it at the opening ceremony at the Netanya Municipal Stadium on 5 June; it will be subsequently played at every match.
- **Match officials:** Six referees were chosen to officiate in Israel: Ivan Bebek (Croatia), Antony Gautier (France), Pawel Gil (Poland), Ovidiu Hategan (Romania), Matej Jug (Slovenia) and Serhiy Boiko (Ukraine). Also, for the first time at an Under-21 finals, there will be a team of additional assistant referees.
- **Trophy:** The original trophy, which is used for the official presentation ceremony at the final, remains in UEFA's keeping at all times. A full-size replica is awarded to the winning association. Each association that competes in the final tournament will receive a commemorative plaque.
- **Medals:** 35 gold medals are presented to the winning team and 35 silver medals to the runners-up. The teams beaten in the semi-finals will each receive 35 bronze medals.
- **Ambassadors:** Avi Nimni and Eli Ohana are the tournament's two ambassadors. With over 130 caps between them, they are two of Israel's foremost former players. Nimni is also Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC's all-time leading goalscorer while Ohana won the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1988 with KV Mechelen.
- **UEFA.com:** A team of reporters in Israel will provide unrivalled coverage in ten languages, with live coverage, player interviews, full statistics and video. There is also full social media coverage including dedicated Twitter (@UEFAUnder21) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/under21>) pages.
- **Next finals:** The Czech Republic were selected as hosts of the 2015 UEFA European Under-21 Championship finals at the UEFA Executive Committee meeting on 20 March 2012. Players are eligible to play in the competition if they were born on or after 1 January 1992.

Legend

:: Squad list

No: number **DoB:** date of birth **Qual:** qualifying **FT:** final tournament **Pld:** played **Gls:** goals **Overall U21:** final tournament only

:: Match officials

Nat: nationality **DoB:** date of birth

Under-21: Total matches officiated in the UEFA European U21 Championship including all qualifying round matches. Matches as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

UEFA: Total matches officiated in all UEFA competitions including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

:: Group statistics/Tournament schedule

Pos: position **Pld:** played **W:** won **D:** drawn **L:** lost **GF:** goals for **GA:** goals against **Pts:** points

:: NOTE: All-time statistics

Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (eg. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored from the penalty mark during a penalty shoot-out.

:: Competitions

Club competitions

UCL: UEFA Champions League

ECCL: European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

UEL: UEFA Europa League

UCUP: UEFA Cup/UEFA Europa League

UCWC: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup

SCUP: UEFA Super Cup • **UIC:** UEFA Intertoto Cup

ICF: Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

National team competitions

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship

WC: FIFA World Cup • **CONFCUP:** FIFA Confederations Cup

FRIE: Friendly internationals • **U21FRIE:** Under-21 friendly internationals

U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship

U17: UEFA Under-17 Championship • **U16:** UEFA European Under-16 Championship

U19: UEFA Under-19 Championship • **U18:** UEFA European Under-18 Championship

WWC: FIFA Women's World Cup • **WCHAMP:** UEFA European Women's Championship

:: Competition stages

F: Final

GS: Group stage

GS1: First group stage

GS2: Second group stage

KO1: First knockout round

PR: Preliminary round

QF: Quarter-finals

QR: Qualifying round

QR1: First qualifying round

QR2: Second qualifying round

FT: Final tournament

ELITE: Elite round

3rdPO: Third-place play-off

GS-FT: Group stage – final tournament

3QR: Third qualifying round

R1: First round

R2: Second round

R3: Third round

R4: Fourth round

SF: Semi-finals

R16: round of 16

R32: Round of 32

1st: first leg

2nd: second leg

PO: Play-off

(Rep) : Replay

PO - FT: Play-off for Final Tournament

Prom/rel PO: Promotion/relegation play-off

:: Statistics

(-) : Denotes player substituted

(*) : Denotes player sent off

(+) : Denotes player introduced

(+/-) : Denotes player introduced and substituted

:: Squad list

D: Disciplinary

S: Suspended

Overall U21: Total appearances in the UEFA European Under-21 Championship final tournament only

*****: Misses next match if booked

#: Suspended for at least one match

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